

SECRETARIAT

AS/Bur (2024) CB 09  
9 September 2024

## To the Members of the Bureau of the Assembly

### Synopsis

### of the meeting held in Paris on 6 September 2024

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Friday 6 September 2024, in Paris, with Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Communications:** took note of the communications by the President of the Assembly, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and held an exchange of views with the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- **Fourth part-session of 2024 (Strasbourg, 30 September - 4 October):**
  - *Requests for debates under urgent procedure:* took note of the requests tabled by the leaders of the political groups to hold debates on:
    - *Deteriorating situation of human rights, Rule of Law and democracy in Azerbaijan;*
    - *Missing persons due to the war of aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine: prisoners of war and civilians in captivity;*
  - *Draft agenda:* updated the draft agenda of the part-session;
- **References and transmissions to committees:** approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix 1, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report;
- **Election observation:**
  - *Republic of Moldova: Presidential election and Constitutional Referendum (20 October 2024):* approved the updated list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix 2);
  - *Georgia: Parliamentary elections (26 October 2024):* approved the updated list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix 3);
  - *Bulgaria: Early parliamentary elections (27 October 2024):* decided to observe these elections and to set up an ad hoc committee composed of 20 members (SOC: 6 ; EPP/CD: 6 ; EC/DA:4 ; ALDE:3 ; UEL: 1) as well as the co-rapporteurs of the monitoring committee; given the very short timeframe since the last early parliamentary elections of 9 June 2024, decided to maintain the same list of members and the same Chairperson of the ad hoc committee, Mr Oleksii Goncharenko (Ukraine, EC/DA), while filling the previously vacant seats (Appendix 4);
  - *Uzbekistan: Parliamentary elections (27 October 2024):* decided not to observe these elections;
- **Modalities of participation of a representative delegation of Belarusian democratic forces in the work of the Assembly:** heard a presentation by the Director of Committees - Democracy and Rule of Law, Sonia Sirtori; took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly and approved the proposals for the implementation of paragraph 12.1 of Resolution 2530 (2024), subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report (Appendix 5);

- **Follow-up to the Reykjavík Summit:** heard a presentation by the Director of Committees - Human Dignity and Sustainable Development, Louise Barton, and took note of the information provided;
- **Meetings of the Standing Committee and the Bureau in 2025:** approved the proposals contained in the memorandum prepared by the Secretariat (Appendix 6);
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize:** took note of the shortlist made by the Selection Panel at its meeting in Prague on 27 August 2024, consisting of (in alphabetical order): Akif Gurbanov (Azerbaijan), María Corina Machado (Venezuela) and Babutsa Pataraiia (Georgia);
- **Issues raised by committees:**
  - *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy:* authorised Mr Lulzim Basha (Albania, EPP/CD), in his capacity as rapporteur for follow-up on “Support for the reconstruction of Ukraine”, to participate in a hearing of the Sub-committee on Europe of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives of the United States, in Washington (United States), between the 16 and the 30 September 2024 (date to be confirmed), at no cost to the Assembly;
- **Dates and places of next meetings:** decided to hold its next meetings as follows:
  - Monday 30 September 2024, 8 am, Strasbourg (part-session);
  - Friday 4 October 2024, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session).

Isild Heurtin

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Copy to:

Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly  
Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly  
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly  
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations  
Secretary General of the Congress  
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers  
Directors General  
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights  
Director of Communication  
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

**Appendix 1 – References and transmissions to committees****A. References to committees**

- *Role of the Council of Europe in countering the sanctions’ evasion and creating a Register of entities assisting the Russian Federation in circumventing restrictive measures*, motion for a resolution, [Doc. 16014](#): transmission to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for information*;  
(to be taken into account in the follow-up to the reports on “Legal and human rights aspects of the Russian Federation’s aggression against Ukraine”, Doc. 15998, Resolution 2556 (2024), Recommendation 2279 (2024) and “The role of sanctions in countering the Russian Federation’s war of aggression against Ukraine”, Doc. 16000, Resolution 2557 (2024))
- *Fighting back against transnational repression*, motion for a resolution, [Doc. 16017](#): reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*.

**B. Request for an extension of reference**

- *Analysis and guidelines to guarantee the right to housing and to decent housing*, motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15566](#) (Reference 4670 of 10 October 2022 – validity: 10 October 2024): extension until 10 October 2025.

**Appendix 2 – List of members of the ad hoc committee for the observation of the Presidential election and the Constitutional Referendum in the Republic of Moldova (20 October 2024)**

**Chairperson / Présidente** : Ms / Mme Thórhildur Sunna ÆVARSDÓTTIR, Iceland / Islande

**Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group / Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts (SOC)**

Mr / M. Constantinos EFSTATHIOU, Cyprus / Chypre  
Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche  
Ms / Mme Thórhildur Sunna ÆVARSDÓTTIR, Iceland / Islande \*  
Ms / Mme Petra BAYR, Austria / Autriche  
Mr / M. Jone BLIKRA, Norway / Norvège  
Ms / Mme Sascha FAXE, Denmark / Danemark

**Substitutes / Suppléant-e-s**

Ms / Mme Aurora FLORIDIA, Italy / Italie  
Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Türkiye  
Ms / Mme Edite ESTRELA, Portugal  
Mr / M. Antonio GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES, Spain / Espagne

**Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD) / Groupe du Parti populaire européen (PPE/DC)**

Mr / M. Corneliu-Mugurel COZMANCIUC, Romania / Roumanie  
Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN, Spain / Espagne  
Mr / M. Jan Filip LIBICKI, Poland / Pologne  
Mr / M. Chris SAID, Malta \*

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**Substitutes / Suppléant-e-s**

Mr / M. Christian BUCHMANN, Austria / Autriche  
Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce  
Mr / M. Cristian-Augustin NICULESCU-ȚĂGÂRLAȘ, Romania / Roumanie  
Ms / Mme Belén HOYO, Spain / Espagne

**European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance (EC-DA) / Groupe des Conservateurs européens et Alliance démocratique (CE-AD)**

Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine\*  
Mr / M. Harald WEYEL, Germany / Allemagne  
Mr / M. Andrew PERCY, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni  
Mr / M. José María SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA, Spain / Espagne

**Substitutes / Suppléant-e-s**

Ms / Mme Pauline LATHAM, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni  
Mr / M. Armen GEVORGYAN, Armenia / Arménie

**Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) / Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)**

Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO, Italy / Italie\*  
Mr / M. Petri HONKONEN, Finland / Finlande  
Ms / Mme Yuliia OVCHYNNYKOVA, Ukraine

**Substitutes / Suppléant-e-s**

Ms / Mme Lucia PLAVÁKOVÁ, Slovak Republic / République Slovaque  
Ms / Mme Rian VOGELS, Netherlands / Pays Bas  
Mr / M. Arminas LYDEKA, Lithuania / Lituanie  
Mr / M. Mehmet AKALIN, Türkiye  
Mr / M. Alfred HEER, Switzerland / Suisse

**Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE)**

Ms / Mme Laura CASTEL, Spain / Espagne \*

**Substitutes / Suppléant-e-s**

Ms / Mme Nina KASIMATI, Greece / Grèce

**Co-rapporteur-e-s AS/Mon (ex officio)**

Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland / Suisse – SOC \*

Ms / Mme Zanda KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA, Latvia / Lettonie - EPP/CD \*

**Accompanying person**

XXX, accompanying Mr Jan Filip LIBICKI

**Secretariat of political groups / Secrétariat des groupes politiques**

Ms / Mme Marianna Ntalla, SOC

\* pre-electoral mission / mission préélectorale

**Appendix 3 – List of members of the ad hoc committee for the observation of the Parliamentary elections in Georgia (26 October 2024)**

**Chairperson / Président :** Mr / M. Iulian BULAI, Romania / Roumanie

**Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group / Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts (SOC)**

Mr / M. Frank SCHWABE, Germany / Allemagne \*

Ms / Mme Anna-Kristiina MIKKONEN, Finland / Finlande

Mr / M. Yves CRUCHTEN, Luxembourg

Mr / M. Andrea ORLANDO, Italy / Italie

Ms / Mme Aurora FLORIDIA, Italy / Italie

Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland / Suisse

Mr / M. Didier MARIE, France

Mr / M. Antonio GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES, Spain / Espagne

Ms / Mme Aysu BANKOĞLU, Türkiye

**Substitutes / Suppléant-e-s**

Ms / Mme Blerina GJYLAMETI, Albania / Albanie

Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Türkiye

Mr / M. Christophe CHAILLOU, France

Mr / M. Jone BLIKRA, Normay / Norvège

Mr / M. Namik TAN, Türkiye

Ms / Mme Sibel ARSLAN, Switzerland / Suisse

Ms / Mme Franziska KERSTEN, Germany / Allemagne

**Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD) / Groupe du Parti populaire européen (PPE/DC)**

Ms / Mme Boriana ÅBERG, Sweden / Suède

Ms / Mme Deborah BERGAMINI, Italy / Italie

Mr / M. Christophe BRICO, Monaco

Ms / Mme Linda Hofstad HELLELAND, Norway / Norvège

Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN, Spain / Espagne

Mr / M. Reinhold LOPATKA, Austria / Autriche

Mr / M. Nicos TORNARITIS, Cyprus / Chypre

Mr / M. Emanuelis ZINGERIS, Lithuania / Lituanie\*

**Substitutes / Suppléant-e-s**

Mr / M. Corneliu-Mugurel COZMANCIUC, Romania / Roumanie

Mr / M. Chris SAID, Malta / Malte

Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce

**European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance (EC-DA) / Groupe des Conservateurs européens et Alliance démocratique (CE-AD)**

Mr / M. Simone BILLI, Italy / Italie \*

Lord David BLENCATHRA, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Ms / Mme Olena KHOMENKO, Ukraine

Mr / M. Fabio PIETRELLA, Italy / Italie

Mr / M. Armen GEVORGYAN, Armenia / Arménie

Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine

**Substitutes / Suppléant-e-s**

Mr / M. Harald WEYEL, Germany / Allemagne

Mr / M. José María SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA, Spain / Espagne

**Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) / Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)**

Mr / M. Iulian BULAI, Romania / Roumanie \*

Mr / M. Olivier BITZ, France

Ms / Mme Béatrice FRESKO-ROLFO, Monaco

Ms / Mme Yevheniia KRAVCHUK, Ukraine

Mr / M. Ryszard PETRU, Poland / Pologne

**Substitutes / Suppléant-e-s**

Mr / M. Arminas LYDEKA, Lithuania / Lituanie

Ms / Mme Rian VOGELS, Netherlands / Pays Bas

Ms / Mme Lucia PLAVÁKOVÁ, Slovak Republic / République Slovaque

Mr / M. Damien COTTIER, Switzerland / Suisse

**Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE)**

Ms / Mme Nina KASIMATI, Greece / Grèce

Mr / M. Andrej HUNKO, Germany / Allemagne \*

**Co-rapporteur-e-s AS/Mon (ex officio)**

Mr / M. Claude KERN, France – ALDE

Ms / Mme Edite ESTRELA, Portugal – SOC \*

**Accompanying person / personne accompagnante**

Lady Tara BLENCATHRA, accompanying/accompagne Lord David BLENCATHRA

**Secretariat of political groups / Secrétariat des groupes politiques**

Ms / Mme Denise O'Hara, EPP/CD

\*Pre electoral mission / mission préélectorale

**Appendix 4 – List of members of the ad hoc committee to observe the Early parliamentary elections in Bulgaria (27 October 2024)**

**Chairperson / Président :** Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine

**Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group / Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts (SOC)**

Mr / M. Saša MAGAZINOVIĆ, Bosnia and Herzegovina / Bosnie-Herzégovine

Ms / Mme Kate OSBORNE, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Türkiye

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**Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD) / Groupe du Parti populaire européen (PPE/DC)**

Mr / M. Corneliu-Mugurel COZMANCIUC, Romania / Roumanie

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**European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance (EC/DA) / Groupe des conservateurs européens et Alliance démocratique (CE/AD)**

Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine

Mr / M. Morten WOLD, Norway / Norvège

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ZZ

**Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) / Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)**

Mr / M. Mehmet AKALIN, Türkiye

Mr / M. Damien COTTIER, Switzerland / Suisse

ZZ

**Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE)**

Ms / Mme Sevilay ÇELENK ÖZEN, Türkiye

**Co-rapporteur-e-s AS/Mon (ex officio)**

Ms / Mme Deborah BERGAMINI, Italy/ Italie\_ EPP/CD

Ms / Mme Thórhildur Sunna ÆVARSDÓTTIR, Iceland / Islande\_SOC

**Venice Commission / Commission de Venise**

Mr / M. Michael JANSSEN, Legal Advisor / Conseiller juridique

Ms / Mme Katharina PABEL, Austria / Autriche, representative of the Venice Commission / représentante de la Commission de Venise

<b>Appendix 5 - Modalities of participation of a representative delegation of Belarusian democratic forces in the work of the Assembly</b>
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**Proposals for the implementation of paragraph 12.1 of Resolution 2530 (2024)**

With a view to implementing paragraph 12.1 of Resolution 2530 (2024) on *A democratic future for Belarus*, it is proposed that the Bureau decide to invite the Belarusian democratic forces to designate a delegation to participate in the work of the Assembly and its bodies, according to the modalities and conditions set out below:

- the delegation of the Belarusian democratic forces shall be composed of 3 representatives and 3 substitutes to be designated by the Coordination Council amongst its members;
- the delegation shall be composed to ensure a fair representation of the political parties, groups or factions within the Coordination Council<sup>1</sup> and to include at least the same percentage of the under-represented sex as is present in the Coordination Council;
- the Coordination Council shall transmit to the President of the Assembly no less than one week before the opening of the session the list of the members of its delegation, appointed for the duration of the entire session. The list should be submitted to the Bureau for approval and subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report;
- as a transitional measure for 2024, following elections held in May 2024, the Coordination Council shall transmit the list of members of its delegation to the President of the Assembly no less than one week before the opening of the first part-session of the Assembly following the Bureau decision as ratified by the Assembly through its Progress report;
- following future elections to the Coordination Council, appointments to the Assembly shall be made within six months of the election. The existing delegation shall expire at the opening of the first sitting of the Assembly or meeting of the Standing Committee following the appointment of the new delegation by the Coordination Council or following the expiry of the six months' period after the election date;
- members of the delegation shall have the right to participate in the work of committees (including sub-committees and ad hoc sub-committees) and networks during part-sessions, with the exception of the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, and the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights;
- members of the delegation participating in the above-mentioned meetings may speak if authorised by the chairperson. They shall not have the right to vote;
- secretaries of the delegation may attend the meetings of committees of the Assembly, except those of the Monitoring Committee, the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, and the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights;
- members of the delegation of Belarusian democratic forces may participate in the work of political groups according to the conditions established by the groups;
- the Bureau shall take stock of the implementation of this decision in one year time, or before should it be considered necessary. This may include modalities for the presence of the representative delegation of Belarusian democratic forces in the Assembly chamber.

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<sup>1</sup> It should be noticed that the [Protocol for Cooperation between National Leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, the Coordination Council of Belarus, the United Transitional Cabinet of Belarus, and the Office of Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya](#), signed in Vilnius on 4 August 2024, recognises the competence of the Coordination Council of participating in international inter-parliamentary cooperation (paragraph 3.1.5).

**Appendix 6 - Meetings of the Standing Committee and the Bureau in 2025**

Monday 27 January, 8 am Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 31 January, 8.30 am Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Thursday 6 March, 9.30 am, Paris	Bureau
Monday 7 April, 8 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 11 April, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Thursday 22 May, 3 pm, Malta	Bureau
Friday 23 May, 9 am, Malta	Standing Committee (CM Presidency)
Monday 23 June, 8 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 27 June, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 5 September, 9.30 am, Paris	Bureau
Monday 29 September, 8 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 3 October, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Thursday 20 or 27 November, 3 pm, Chişinău	Bureau
Friday 21 or 28 November, 9.30 am, Chişinău	Standing Committee (CM Presidency)
Friday 12 December, 9.30 am, Paris	Bureau