

SECRETARIAT

AS/Bur (2024) CB 05 rev
29 May 2024

To the Members of the Bureau of the Assembly

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 19 April 2024

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Friday 19 April 2024, in Strasbourg, with Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Communication**: took note of the statement by the President of the Assembly;
- **Follow-up to the second part-session of 2024 (Strasbourg, 15-19 April)**: approved the follow-up proposals made by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly to texts adopted by the Assembly, as set out in Appendix 1;
- **Standing Committee in Vilnius (24 May 2024)**: took note of the draft agenda;
- **Organisation of the Parliamentary Assembly's part-sessions as from June 2024**: took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly and decided the modalities as presented in Appendix 2;
- **Co-Presidency in the Group of the Unified European Left (UEL)**: on the understanding that only one of the co-presidents can participate in each meeting, the Bureau decided that the UEL Group will always inform about its representation ahead of the meetings of:
 - the Presidential committee
 - the Bureau
 - the Standing Committee

The Chairpersons of political groups are also *ex officio* members of:

- the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy
- the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights
- the Monitoring Committee
- the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs

For the above-mentioned committees, the UEL Group will inform the Bureau of its decision as to which of his co-presidents will seat as an *ex officio* member.

- **References and transmissions to committees:** approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix 3, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report;
- **Elections observation:**
 - Bulgaria: early parliamentary elections (9 June 2024): approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections and appointed Mr Oleksii GONCHARENKO (Ukraine, EC/DA) as its Chairperson (Appendix 4);
- **Ad hoc committee to participate in an event on “The role of national parliaments in supporting the Belarusians in exile” (Luxembourg, 6-7 June 2024):** approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to participate in the event and appointed Mr Paul GALLES (Luxembourg, EPP/CD) as its Chairperson (Appendix 5);
- **Ad hoc committee to visit the ICRC headquarters in Geneva as well as other Geneva based international organisations/agencies in the framework of the follow-up to Resolution 2529 (2024) on “The situation of the children of Ukraine” (dates tbc):** approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to participate in the visit (Appendix 6);
- **Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (19 April – 24 June 2024):** appointed Mr Ian LIDDELL-GRAINGER (United Kingdom, EC/DA) as rapporteur;
- **Analysis of the use made by the Assembly’s political groups of their allocations for 2023:** approved the draft communication submitted by the Committee on Rules of Procedures, Immunities and Institutional Affairs;
- **European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) - List of candidates in respect of Poland:** take note of the letter by the Chairperson of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights;
- **Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris:** authorised
 - The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons to meet in Ljubljana, on 17-18 October 2024;
 - the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development and the Network of Contact Parliamentarians for a healthy environment, to hold a meeting in Lisbon, on 12-13 September 2024;
 - the Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development to meet in Vilnius on 3-4 July 2024;
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize:** took note of the prolongation, until 30 June 2024, of the deadline to submit candidatures for the 2024 edition of the Prize;
- **Dates and places of next meetings:**

Thursday 23 May 2024, 10 am, Vilnius
Monday 24 June 2024, 8 am, Strasbourg (part-session)
Friday 28 June 2024, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session)
Friday 6 September 2024, 9.30 am, Paris.

Copy to:

Secretary General of the Assembly
Director and all staff of the Secretariat of the 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 – Follow-up to the first part-session of 2024 (Strasbourg, 15-19 April)

Resolution 2538 (2024) on “Promoting the revised Code of Good Practice on Referendums” (§ 10.4)

- ❖ Follow up: Instructed the secretariat to prepare the draft terms of reference of a Parliamentary Assembly Network of Election Observers.

Resolution 2540 (2024) on “Alexei Navanly’s death and the need to counter Vladimir Putin’s totalitarian regime and its war on democracy” (§ 29)

- ❖ Follow up: Invited the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy to adopt the Terms of Reference of the new General Rapporteur on the Russian democratic forces.

Resolution 2544 (2024) on “The honouring of obligations and commitments by Albania”

- ❖ Follow up: Decided to seize the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) for report on “Post-monitoring dialogue with Albania”.

Current affairs debate on “Responding to the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza and preventing further escalations in the Middle East following the recent Iranian attack against Israel”

- ❖ Follow up: Decided to seize the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy on this issue to be taken into account in the preparation of the report on “Situation in the Middle East”.

Resolution 2547 (2024) on “The protection of children against online violence” (§ 9)

- ❖ Follow up: Taking also into consideration the motion tabled by the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, decided to seize the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination for report, and the Committee on Social Affairs, Health, and Sustainable Development for opinion, on “Violent pornography”.

Appendix 2 – Organisation of the Parliamentary Assembly’s part-sessions as from June 2024

Within the framework of its competence for the organisation of the Assembly’s part-sessions and plenary sittings, the Bureau of the Assembly approved the following modalities for the organisation of the work of the Assembly and of its part-sessions as from the June 2024 part-session.

1. Format of part-session related to the agenda

Plenary sittings will be held as follows:

- on Mondays from 11:30 to 13:00 and from 15:30 to 17:30,
- on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 to 13:00 and from 15:30 to 20:00,
- on Fridays from 10:00 to 13:00.

The Bureau reserves flexibility to optimise the time allocated to the discussion of reports submitted by committees and may decide, when considering a draft agenda, to adjust the number of sittings to reflect the number of reports to be debated.

2. Meetings of committees and political groups, non-official meetings (side-events)

The schedules of committee and political group meetings shall be revised in accordance with the standard calendar of meetings and sittings for the whole session week set out below.

The overall hourly volume of these meetings remains the same:

- up to four committee meetings may be held in parallel (24 one-and-a-half hour slots for an overall volume of 36 hours);
- the political groups shall continue to meet three times a week, on Mondays (two meetings) and Wednesdays (one meeting), for the same total time of 5.30 hours allocated to each group;
- side events/non official meetings may be held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from from 13:00 to 14:00. (one per day, i.e. three non official meetings per part-session), unless the organisation of the Assembly’s work, for example the holding of a Joint Committee meeting, makes it impossible to maintain the availability of these slots. During these time slots, two Assembly networks may also meet in parallel.

3. Elections

On 14 September 2023 and again on 27 November 2023, the Bureau decided that the Assembly would proceed with the election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights and other high-level personalities of the Council of Europe in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 40.11 of the Rules of Procedure, by means of ballot papers, polling booths and ballot boxes, and to maintain the practice of appointing tellers by political groups. Since the January 2024 part-session, the attendance sheets have been replaced by a system of verification and electronic signature by validating the voting member’s badge. As of the June 2024 part-session, voting will take place in the perimeter of the rotunda of the Chamber behind the Presidency in accordance with the same arrangements.

The Bureau instructed the Secretariat to organise the elections to be held during the June 2024 part-session in such a way that a possible second round could be held on the same day.

4. Standard timetable for the session week

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8h00-9h30: Bureau	8h30-10h00: 4 committees	8h30-10h00: political groups	8h30-10h00: 4 committees	8h30-10h00: Bureau
9h30-11h30: political groups				
11h30-13h00: plenary sitting (opening, credentials, elections President and vice- presidents)	10h00-13h00: plenary sitting	10h00-13h00: plenary sitting	10h00-13h00: plenary sitting	10h00-13h00: plenary sitting
	13h00-14h00: parliamentary networks and side events	13h00-14h00: parliamentary networks and side events	13h00-14h00: parliamentary networks and side events	
14h00-15h30: 4 committees	14h00-15h30: 4 committees	14h00-15h30: 4 committees	14h00-15h30: 4 committees	
15h30-17h30: plenary sitting	15h30-20h00: plenary sitting	15h30-20h00: plenary sitting	15h30-20h00: plenary sitting	
17h30-19h30: political groups				

PM – Monday morning 10.00-11.00: meeting of secretaries of delegations.

Appendix 3 – References and transmissions to committees**References to committees**

- Promoting the Istanbul Convention and improving its implementation: building on lessons learnt, [Doc. 15942](#) Motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report*
- A shared European approach to address migrant smuggling, [Doc. 15963](#) Motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*
- Violent pornography, [Doc. 15972](#) Motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report* and to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health, and Sustainable Development *for opinion*

Reply after consultation

- Self-determination and territorial integrity in the 21st century, [Doc. 15816](#) Motion for a resolution: transmission to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for information*

Requests for extensions of references

- Promoting inclusive participation in parliamentary and political life, [Doc. 15291](#): extension until 27 June 2025.
- The situation of national minorities in Ukraine (initial title: The ongoing worsening of the access of Ukraine's national minorities to education in their mother tongues: need for a follow-up to Parliamentary Assembly Resolution 2189 (2017)), [Doc. 15334](#): extension until 3 October 2025.
- Increasing members' active participation in and contribution to the work of the Parliamentary Assembly and its committees, [Doc. 15518](#): extension until 20 June 2025.

Appendix 4 – List of members of the ad hoc committee for the observation of the early parliamentary elections in Bulgaria (9 June 2024)

Chairperson / Président : Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO (Ukraine, EC/DA / CE/AD)

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

Mr / M. Jone BLIKRA, Norway / Norvège

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

Mr / M. Pauli AALTO-SATÄLÄ, Finland / Finlande

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

Mr / M. Reinhold LOPATKA, Austria / Autriche

Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce

ZZ

ZZ

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

Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO, Italy / Italie

Ms / Mme Rian VOGELS, Netherlands / Pays Bas

Mr / M. Mehmet AKALIN, Türkiye

Substitutes / suppléant.e.s

Mr / M. Damien COTTIER, Switzerland / Suisse

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

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

Ms / Mme Thórhildur Sunna ÆVARSDÓTTIR, Iceland / Islande_SOC

Ms / Mme Deborah BERGAMINI, Italie/ Italie_ EPP/CD

Venice Commission / Commission de Venise

Mr / M. Michael JANSSEN, Legal Advisor

Ms / Mme Katharina PABEL, Austria / Autriche, representative of the Venice Commission

Appendix 5 – List of members of the ad hoc committee to participate in an event on “The role of national parliaments in supporting the Belarusians in exile” (Luxembourg, 6-7 June 2024)

Chairperson / Président : Mr / M. Paul GALLES, Luxembourg (EPP/CD / PPE/DC)

Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons / Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacée

Ms / Mme Larysa BILOZIR, Ukraine (ALDE / ADLE)
Mr / M. Christian BUCHMANN, Austria / Autriche (EPP/CD / PPE/DC)
Mr / M. Paul GALLES, Luxembourg (EPP/CD / PPE/DC)
Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine (EC/DA / CE/AD)
Ms / Mme Octavie MODERT, Luxembourg (EPP/CD / PPE/DC)
Lord Simon RUSSELL, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni (EC/DA / CE/AD)
Mr / M. Birgir THÓRARINSSON, Iceland / Islande (EPP/CD / PPE/DC)
Ms / Mme Ana TSITLIDZE, Georgia / Géorgie (EPP/CD / PPE/DC)

Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy / Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie

Ms / Mme Marietta KARAMANLI, France (SOC)
Mr / M. Kimmo KILJUNEN, Finland / Finlande (SOC)
Mr / M. Bogdan KLICH, Poland / Pologne (EPP/CD / PPE/DC)
Mr / M. Arminas LYDEKA, Lithuania / Lituanie (ALDE / ADLE)
Mr / M. Serhii SOBOLIEV, Ukraine (EPP/CD / PPE/DC)
Ms / Mme Lesia VASYLENKO, Ukraine (ALDE / ADLE)
Mr / M. Emanuelis ZINGERIS, Lithuania / Lituanie (EPP/CD / PPE/DC)

Appendix 6 – List of members of the ad hoc committee to visit the ICRC headquarters in Geneva as well as other Geneva based international organisations or agencies, in the framework of the follow-up to Resolution 2529 (2024) on “The situation of the children of Ukraine” (dates to be confirmed)

Chairperson / Président : Mr / M. Theodoros ROUSOPOULOS, Greece / Grèce (EPP/CD / PPE/DC)

Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy / Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie

Members / membres :

Mr / M. Piero FASSINO, Italy / Italie (SOC)

Ms / Mme Zanda KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA, Latvia / Lettonie (EPP/CD / PPE/DC)

Sustitute / remplaçante :

Ms / Mme Béatrice FRESKO-ROLFO, Monaco (ALDE / ADLE)

Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme

Members / membres :

Ms / Mme Lucia PLAVÁKOVÁ, Slovak Republic / République slovaque (ALDE / ADLE)

Ms / Mme Lesia VASYLENKO, Ukraine (ALDE / ADLE)

Sustitute / remplaçant :

Mr / M. Damien COTTIER, Switzerland / Suisse (ALDE / ADLE)

Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development / Commission des questions sociales, de la santé et du développement durable

Members / membres :

Ms / Mme Olena KHOMENKO, Ukraine (EC/DA / CE/AD)

Mr / M. Simon MOUTQUIN, Belgium / Belgique (SOC)

Ms / Mme Minna REIJONEN, Finland / Finlande (EC/DA / CE/AD)

Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce (EPP/CD / PPE/DC)

Sustitutes / remplaçantes :

Ms / Mme Larysa BILOZIR, Ukraine (ALDE / ADLE)

Ms / Mme Lesia ZABURANNA, Ukraine (ALDE / ADLE)

Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons / Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées

Members / membres :

Ms / Mme Lise SELNES, Norway / Norvège (SOC)

Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine (EC/DA / CE/AD)

Sustitute / remplaçant :

Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland / Suisse (SOC)