



SECRETARIAT

**AS/Bur (2023) CB 12**

28 November 2023

## To the Members of the Bureau of the Assembly

### Synopsis

### of the meeting held in Vaduz on 27 November 2023

**The Bureau of the Assembly**, meeting on Monday 27 November 2023, in Vaduz, with Mr Tiny Kox, 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 Secretary General;
- **Follow-up to the Reykjavik Summit:** heard a presentation by the Director of Committees - Human Dignity and Sustainable Development, and took note of the information provided;
- **Standing Committee in Vaduz (28 November 2023):**
  - took note of the requests to hold current affairs debates on:
    - “Spain and rule of law: current situation”, tabled by the EC/DA group, and decided to recommend to the Standing Committee not to hold this debate;
    - “Spiral of violence and humanitarian crisis in the Middle-East: finding a peaceful way out”, tabled by leaders of political groups, decided to recommend to the Standing Committee to hold this debate and appointed Mr Aleksander POCIEJ (Poland, EPP/CD) as the first speaker;
    - “Budget and priorities of the Council of Europe and follow up to the Reykjavik Summit”, tabled by leaders of political groups, decided to recommend to the Standing Committee to hold this debate and appointed Ms Ingjerd Schie SCHOU (Norway, EPP/CD) as the first speaker;
  - updated the draft agenda;
- **First part-session of 2024 (Strasbourg, 22-26 January):**
  - agreed to hold the forthcoming part-session along the modalities and according to the schedule presented by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly, as laid down in the preliminary draft agenda;
  - decided that the Assembly shall proceed to 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 standard secret voting procedure laid down in the Rules of Procedure (art. 40.11), using ballot papers and boxes;
  - drew-up the preliminary draft agenda;

- **Application for membership set out in the letter of 12 May 2022 addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, in line with Statutory Resolution (51) 30:** took note of the report by the two eminent lawyers appointed by the Bureau, who, according to established practice, drew up a report for the attention of the Bureau assessing the conformity of the applicant's legal system with Council of Europe standards, and decided to [declassify](#) it;
- **References and transmissions to committees:** approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix 1, subject to ratification by the Standing Committee;
- **Elections observation:**
  - Poland: parliamentary elections (15 October 2023): approved the report by the observation mission;
  - Serbia: early parliamentary elections (17 December 2023): took note of the statement by the pre-electoral observation mission and approved the final list of members of the ad hoc committee (appendix 2);
- **The situation of the children of Ukraine (Paris, 15 December 2023):** approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee and appointed Ms Olena KHOMENKO (Ukraine, EC/DA) as Chairperson (appendix 3);
- **Issues raised by committees:**
  - Committee on Legal Affairs and Human rights: authorised Ms Azadeh ROJHAN (Sweden, SOC) to carry-out a fact-finding visit to Kosovo\* in early December 2023 (dates to be confirmed), in her capacity as Rapporteur for opinion on the *Statutory Opinion on the application for membership set out in the letter of 12 May 2022 addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, in line with Statutory Resolution (51) 30*;
  - Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination: authorised Ms Béatrice FRESKO-ROLFO (Monaco, ALDE) to carry-out a fact-finding visit to Kosovo\* in early December 2023 (dates to be confirmed), in her capacity as Rapporteur for opinion on the *Statutory Opinion on the application for membership set out in the letter of 12 May 2022 addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, in line with Statutory Resolution (51) 30*;
- **Composition of the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights:** on the basis of proposals by:
  - the SOC group, nominated Ms Gala VELDHOEN (Netherlands) as a member;
  - the UEL group, nominated Mr Frédéric MATHIEU (France) as a member;
- **Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris:** authorised the ad hoc sub-committee to participate in the Helsinki Dialogue of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, to meet in Helsinki on 11-12 January 2024;
- **Date and place of next meetings:**
  - Thursday 14 December 2023, 9 am, Paris
  - Monday 22 January 2024, 8 am, Strasbourg (part-session)
  - Friday 26 January 2024, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session).

Isild Heurtin / Greta Faggiani

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\* All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

Copy to:

Secretary General of the Assembly  
Directors 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 – References and transmissions to committees

### A. REFERENCES TO COMMITTEES

- Responding to the violent attacks in the North of Kosovo\*, [Doc. 15845](#): transmission to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for consultation*
- Tools to prevent and address transnational repression, [Doc. 15847](#): transmission to Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for information* [to be taken into account in the follow-up to the report on “Transnational repression as a growing threat to the rule of law and human rights”]
- Strengthening democracy through participatory and deliberative processes, [Doc. 15848](#): reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*

### B. REQUEST FROM A COMMITTEE

- Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development (letter of 23 October 2023) : The Council of Europe Development Bank: implementing the Reykjavík Declaration, Bureau decision: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report*

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\* Throughout this text, all reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

**Appendix 2 – List of members of the ad hoc committee for the observation of the early parliamentary elections in Serbia (17 December 2023)**

**Chairperson / Président: Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH**

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

Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche\*  
Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland / Suisse  
Mr / M. Givi MIKANADZE, Georgia / Géorgie  
Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Türkiye  
Mr / M. Antonio GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES, Spain / Espagne  
Ms / Mme Gökçe GÖKÇEN, Türkiye

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

Ms / Mme Jorida TABAKU, Albania / Albanie  
Mr / M. Pauli AALTO-SETÄLÄ, Finland / Finlande  
Mr / M. Corneliu-Mugurel COZMANCIUC, Romania / Roumanie\*  
Mr / M. Andreas NIKOLAKOPOULOS, Greece / Grèce  
Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce\*\*

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

Ms / Mme Tamara VONTA, Slovenia / Slovénie\*  
Mr / M. Mehmet AKALIN, Türkiye  
Mr / M. Damien COTTIER, Switzerland / Suisse  
Mr / M. Sjoerd WARMERDAM, Netherlands / Pays-Bas  
Ms / Mme Liliana TANGUY, France (EPP/CD's seat)

**Substitutes / suppléant.e.s**

Mr / M. Dean PREMIK, Slovenia / Slovénie  
Mr / M. Jean-Pierre GRIN, Switzerland / Suisse

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

Mr / M. José María SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA, Spain / Espagne  
Mr / M. Harald WEYEL, Germany / Allemagne  
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**Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE)**

Ms / Mme Laura CASTEL, Spain / Espagne\*

**Substitutes / suppléant.e.s**

Mr / M. Antón GÓMEZ-REINO, Spain / Espagne  
Ms / Mme Sevilay ÇELENK ÖZEN, Türkiye

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

Mr / M. Axel SCHÄFER, SOC / Germany / Allemagne

**Venice Commission / Commission de Venise**

Mr / M. Óscar SÁNCHEZ MUÑOZ, Substitute member, Spain / member suppléant, Espagne  
Mr / M. Michael JANSSEN, Administrator, Venice Commission / Administrateur, Commission de Venise

\* members of the pre-election delegation / membres de la délégation préélectorale

\*\*awaiting non-conflict of interest declaration / en attente de la déclaration de non-conflit d'intérêt

**Appendix 3 – List of members to participate in a PACE co-operation activity on “The situation of the children of Ukraine” (Paris, 15 December 2023)**

**Chairperson / Présidente : Ms / Mme Olena KHOMENKO (Ukraine, EC/DA / Ukraine, CE/AD)**

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

Ms / Mme Laryza BILOZIR (Ukraine, ALDE / Ukraine, ADLE)  
Ms / Mme Sena Nur ÇELİK (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)  
Mr / M. Murat Cahid CINGI (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)  
Mr / M. Jean-Pierre GRIN (Switzerland, ALDE / Suisse, ADLE)  
Ms / Mme Olena KHOMENKO (Ukraine, EC/DA / Ukraine, CE/AD)  
Ms / Mme Evhenia KRAVCHUK (Ukraine, ALDE / Ukraine, ADLE)  
Ms / Mme Carmen LEYTE (Spain, EPP/DC / Espagne, PPE/DC)  
Ms / Mme Luz MARTINEZ SEIJO (Spain, SOC / Espagne, SOC)  
Mr / M. Alain MILON (France, EPP/CD / France, PPE/DC)  
Mr / M. Simon MOUTQUIN (Belgium, SOC / Belgique, SOC)  
Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)  
Ms / Mme Maria SYRENGELA (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)  
Ms / Mme Liliana TANGUY (France, ALDE / France, ADLE)

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

Ms / Mme Nerea AHEDO (Spain, ALDE / Espagne, ADLE)  
Ms / Mme Aysu BANOĞLU (Türkiye, SOC)  
Mr / M. Paul GAVAN (Ireland, UEL / Irlande, GUE)  
Ms / Mme Meryem GÖKA (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)  
Lord Leslie GRIFFITHS (United Kingdom, SOC / Royaume-Uni, SOC)  
Mr / M. Konur Alp KOÇAK (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)  
Ms / Mme Ada MARRA (Switzerland, SOC / Suisse, SOC)  
Ms / Mme Mariia MEZENTSEVA (Ukraine, EPP/CD / Ukraine, PPE/DC)  
Ms / Mme Ester MIELI (Italy, EC/DA / Italie, CE/AD)  
Ms / Mme Esther PEÑA (Spain, SOC / Espagne, SOC)  
Mr / M. Paulo PISCO (Portugal, SOC)  
Mr / M. Theodoros ROUSOPOULOS (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)  
Lord Simon RUSSELL (United Kingdom, EC/DA / Royaume-Uni, CE/AD)  
Ms / Mme Domenica SPINELLI (Italy, EC/DA / Italie, CE/AD)  
Mr / M. Ionuț-Marian STROE (Romania, EPP/CD / Roumanie, PPE/DC)  
Ms / Mme Khatia TSILOSANI (Georgia, SOC / Géorgie, SOC)  
Ms / Mme Pelin YILIK (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)  
Ms / Mme Sandra ZAMPA (Italy, SOC / Italie, SOC)

**Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media / Commission de la culture, de la science, de l'éducation et des médias**

Mr / M. Pauli AALTO-SETÄLÄ (Finland, EPP/CD / Finlande, PPE/DC)  
Mr / M. Rino Roland Rino BÜCHEL (Switzerland, ALDE / Suisse, ADLE)  
Lord George FOULKES (United Kingdom, SOC / Royaume-Uni, SOC)  
Mr / M. Claude KERN (France, ALDE / France, ADLE)  
Ms / Mme Mirosława NYKIEL (Poland, EPP/CD / Pologne, EPP/CD)  
Ms / Mme Fiona O'LOUGHLIN (Ireland, ALDE / Irlande, ADLE)  
Mr / M. Pavlo SUSHKO (Ukraine EC/DA / Ukraine, CE/AD)  
Mr / M. Birgir THÓRARINSSON (Iceland EPP/CD / Islande, PPE/DC)

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

Mr / M. Pablo HISPAN (Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC)  
Ms / Mme Anna-Kristiina MIKKONEN (Finland, SOC / Finlande, SOC)  
Ms / Mme Susana SUMELZO (Spain, SOC / Espagne, SOC)

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

Ms / Mme Elena BONETTI (Italy, ALDE / Italie, ADLE)  
Ms / Mme Zanda KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA (Latvia, EPP/CD / Lettonie, PPE/DC)  
Mr / M. Gonzalo ROBLES (Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC)  
Ms / Mme Oleksandra USTINOVA (Ukraine, ALDE / Ukraine, ADLE)