

SECRETARIAT

AS/PoI (2024) CB 04
19 April 2024

To the members of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

Synopsis of the meetings held in Strasbourg from 15 to 18 April 2024

The **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**, meeting in Strasbourg from 15 to 18 April 2024, with Mr Bertrand Bouyx (France, ALDE), Chairperson, in the Chair:

- **on Monday 15 April 2024 at 14:00**, as regards:
 - **Election of the Bureau of the Committee**: elected, by acclamation, Ms Elisabetta Gardini (Italy, EC/DA) 3rd Vice-Chairperson, with a mandate to take effect as of 24 April 2024;
 - **Promoting the revised Code of Good Practice on Referendums** (*rapporteur*: Ms Isabel Meirelles, Portugal, EPP/CD): due to the absence of the rapporteur, appointed Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD) to present the report in the plenary debate and took position on the amendment to the draft resolution;
 - **Relationship between the parliamentary majority and the opposition in a democracy** (*rapporteur*: Ms Elvira Kovács, Serbia, EPP/CD): took note that no amendments had been tabled to the draft resolution;
 - **Support for the reconstruction of Ukraine** (*rapporteur*: Mr Lulzim Basha, Albania, EPP/CD): took position on the amendments to the draft resolution and the amendment to the draft recommendation;
 - **The situation in Iran and the protection of Iranian human rights defenders in Council of Europe member States** (*rapporteur*: Mr Max Lucks, Germany, SOC): heard a statement by the rapporteur;
- **on Tuesday 16 April 2024 at 10:30**, as regards:
 - **Application by Kosovo* for membership of the Council of Europe** (*rapporteur*: Ms Dora Bakoyannis, Greece, EPP/CD): took position on the amendments to the draft Opinion;
- **on Wednesday 17 April 2024 at 10:30**, as regards:
 - **Call for Famagusta's return to its lawful inhabitants** (*rapporteur*: Mr Piero Fassino, Italy, SOC): heard a statement by the rapporteur and considered a preliminary draft report;
 - **Strengthening democracy through participatory and deliberative processes** (*rapporteur*: Mr George Papandreou, Greece, SOC): considered an introductory memorandum;

* 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.

- **on Thursday 18 April 2024 at 14:00**, as regards:
- ***The role of sanctions as a protective measure for human rights and democracy*** (*rapporteur: Ms Yelyzaveta Yasko, Ukraine, EPP/CD*): held a hearing with the participation of Ms Nataliia Shapoval, Chairman of the Kyiv School of Economics Institute (online), and Ms Anna Vlasyuk, Research fellow at the Kyiv School of Economics Institute (online), and considered an introductory memorandum;
- ***Work programme***: appointed the following members to:
 - the ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the event organised on 6 and 7 June 2024, in Luxembourg, on “The role of national parliaments in supporting the Belarusians in exile”:
 - Mme Marietta Karamanli (France, SOC)
 - Mr Kimmo Kiljunen (Finland, SOC)
 - Mr Bogdan Klich (Poland, EPP/CD)
 - Mr Arminas Lydeka (Lithuania, ALDE)
 - Mr Serhii Soboliev (Ukraine, EPP/CD)
 - Ms Lesia Vasylenko (Ukraine, ALDE)
 - Mr Emanuelis Zingeris (Lithuania, EPP/CD)
 - the ad hoc committee of the Bureau, follow up to Resolution 2529 (2024) “The situation of the children of Ukraine” (Geneva, Switzerland, date to be confirmed):
 - Mr Piero Fassino (Italy, SOC)
 - Ms Zanda Kalnina-Lukasevica (Latvia, EPP/CD)
 - and Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE) should a member be unable to attend;
- ***Meeting of the Committee in Oslo***: took note of the preliminary draft programme and the practical information;
- ***Sub-Committees***: approved the changes as highlighted in bold in the Appendix;
- ***Other business***: appointed Mr George Papandreou (Greece, SOC), in his capacity as General Rapporteur on Democracy, to participate in the meeting of the GR-DEM on 23 April 2024;
- ***Meetings in 2024***: confirmed that its meetings in 2024 will be held as follows:
 - 30 and 31 May 2024, Oslo
 - June part-session (24-28 June 2024), Strasbourg
 - 9 September 2024, Paris
 - October part-session (30 September - 4 October 2024), Strasbourg
 - 11 December 2024, Paris

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The **Sub-Committee on the Middle East and the Arab World** of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, meeting in Strasbourg on Wednesday 17 April 2024, with Mr Piero Fassino (Italy, SOC), in the Chair, as regards:

- ***Election of the Bureau***: postponed the election of the Vice-Chairperson to its next meeting;
- ***Conflict in the Middle East***: held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Boaz Bizmuth, member of the Observer Delegation of Israel to the Parliamentary Assembly (online), and Mr Rawhi Fattouh, President of the Palestinian National Council (online);
- ***Date and place of the next meeting***: left it to its Chairperson to convene the next meeting.

Sonia Sirtori, Ágnes Kertész, Pavel Chevchenko, Cesare Colombo, John Dorber

cc. 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

**Sub-Committee on External Relations
of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**

**Sous-commission des relations extérieures
de la Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie**

29 seats / 29 sièges

LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairperson / Présidente

Mme KARAMANLI Marietta (SOC) France

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-président-e

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Full Members / Membres titulaires

Alternates / Remplaçant-e-s

1.	Mr RUBINYAN Ruben (EPP/CD)	Armenia / Arménie	Mr VARDANYAN Vladimir (EPP/CD)
2.	Mr LOPATKA Reinhold (EPP/CD)	Austria / Autriche	
3.	Ms BALIĆ Marijana (EPP/CD)	Croatia / Croatie	
4.	Mr LOUCAIDES George (UEL)	Cyprus / Chypre	
5.	Mr BOUCHEZ Georges-Louis (ALDE)	Belgium / Belgique	Mr DAEMS Rik (ALDE)
6.	Mr BENEŠIK Ondřej (EPP/CD)	Czechia/ Tchèque	
7.	Mr KILJUNEN Kimmo (SOC)	Finland / Finlande	
8.	Mme KARAMANLI Marietta (SOC)	France	M. MARIE Didier (SOC)
9.	Mr MIKANADZE Givi (SOC)	Georgia / Géorgie	
10.	Ms BAKOYANNIS Dora (EPP/CD)	Greece / Grèce	Mr CHATZIVASILEIOU Anastasios (EPP/CD)
11.	Mr NÉMETH Zsolt (EC/DA)	Hungary / Hongrie	
12.	Mr TROY Robert (ALDE)	Ireland / Irlande	Ms O'LOUGHLIN Fiona (ALDE)
13.	Ms GARDINI Elisabetta (EC/DA)	Italy / Italie	
14.	Ms KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA Zanda (EPP/CD)	Latvia / Lettonie	
15.	Mr CRUCHTEN Yves (SOC)	Luxembourg	
16.	Ms Maja VUKIČEVIĆ (NR)	Montenegro / Monténégro	Mr KONATAR Miloš (SOC)
17.	Mr Krzysztof TRUSKOLASKI (EPP/CD)	Poland / Pologne	
18.	Ms ESTRELA Edite (SOC)	Portugal	Mme MEIRELLES Isabel (EPP/CD)
19.	Mr STROE Ionuț-Marian (EPP/CD)	Romania / Roumanie	Mr CORLĂȚEAN Titus (SOC)
20.	Ms PANTIĆ PILJA Biljana (EPP/CD)	Serbia / Serbie	
21.	Mr GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES Antonio (SOC)	Spain / Espagne	Mr ROBLES Gonzalo (EPP/CD)
22.	Ms ÅBERG Boriána (EPP/CD)	Sweden / Suède	
23.	Ms ARSLAN Sibel (SOC)	Switzerland / Suisse	M. COTTIER Damien (ALDE)
24.	Mr TÜRKES Yıldırım Tuğrul (NR)	Türkiye	Mr TAN Namık (SOC)
25.	Ms YASKO Yelyzaveta (EPP/CD)	Ukraine	Mr KAMELCHUK Yuriy (EPP/CD)
26.	Lord BLENCATHRA David (EC/DA)	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni	
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Ex officio: M. Bertrand Bouyx (France, ALDE)

Chairperson of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy
Président de la Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie

**Sub-Committee on the Middle East and the Arab World
of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**

**Sous-commission sur le Proche-Orient et le monde arabe
de la Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie**

29 seats / 29 sièges

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Chairperson / Président

M. FASSINO Piero (SOC) Italy / Italie

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-président-e

...

Full Members / Titulaires

Alternates / Remplaçant-e-s

1.	Mr VARDANYAN Vladimir (EPP/CD)	Armenia / Arménie	
2.	Mr LOPATKA Reinhold (EPP/CD)	Austria / Autriche	
3.	Mr MOUTQUIN Simon (SOC)	Belgium / Belgique	Ms Van VAERENBERGH Kristien (NR)
4.	Mr LOUCAIDES (UEL)	Cyprus / Chypre	
5.	M. KERN Claude (ALDE)	France	
6.	Mr LUCKS Max (SOC)	Germany / Allemagne	Mr ULLRICH Volker (EPP/CD)
7.	Mr TSIPRAS Alexis (UEL)	Greece / Grèce	Ms BAKOYANNIS Dora (EPP/CD)
8.	Ms O'LOUGHLIN Fiona (ALDE)	Ireland / Irlande	
9.	Ms BERGAMINI Deborah (EPP/CD)	Italy / Italie	
10.	M. FASSINO Piero (SOC)	Italy / Italie	
11.	Mr ZINGERIS Emanuelis (EPP/CD)	Lithuania / Lituanie	
12.	Mr GRAAS Gusty (ALDE)	Luxembourg	
13.	M. Christophe BRICO (EPP/CD)	Monaco	
14.	Mr WILDERS Geert (NR)	Netherlands / Pays-Bas	
15.	Mr Krzysztof TRUSKOLASKI (EPP/CD)	Poland / Pologne	
16.	Ms ESTRELA Edite (SOC)	Portugal	
17.	Mr CORLĂȚEAN Titus (SOC)	Romania / Roumanie	Mr COZMANCIUC Corneliu M. (EPP/CD)
18.	Ms PANTIĆ PILJA Biljana (EPP/CD)	Serbia / Serbie	
19.	Mr ROBLES Gonzalo (EPP/CD)	Spain / Espagne	
20.	Mr HEER Alfred (ALDE)	Switzerland / Suisse	M. COTTIER Damien (ALDE)
21.	Ms ÇELİK KANAT Sena Nur (NR)	Türkiye	Mr KOÇAK Konur Alp (NR)
22.	Mr SHEPPARD Tommy (NR)	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni	Mr MORRIS David (EC/DA)
23.	Mr SOBOLEEV Serhii (EPP/CD)	Ukraine	Ms YASKO Yelyzaveta (EPP/CD)
24.	Ms VASYLENKO Lesia (ALDE)	Ukraine	
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