



SECRETARIAT

AS/Mon (2023) CB 01

30 January 2023

To the members of the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 24 and 26 January 2023

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Strasbourg on 24 and 26 January 2023 in camera, with Mr Bernard Fournier (France, EPP/CD), oldest member present, Mr Piero Fassino (Italy, SOC) and Mr Joseph O'Reilly (Ireland, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

- **on Tuesday, 24 January 2023 at 2.00 pm.**, as regards:
 - **Election of the Chairperson of the Committee:** elected Mr Piero Fassino (Italy, SOC), Chairperson by acclamation;
 - **Election of the three Vice-Chairpersons of the Committee:** elected the following Vice-Chairpersons by acclamation:
 - Mr Samad Seyidov (Azerbaijan, EC/DA), First Vice-Chairperson,
 - Mr Joseph O'Reilly (Ireland, EPP/CD), Second Vice-Chairperson,
 - Mr Eerik-Niiles Kross (Estonia, ALDE), Third Vice-Chairperson;
 - **Sub-Committee on Conflicts concerning Council of Europe Member States:** decided to re-constitute the Sub-Committee (the list of members is attached in appendix);
 - **Post-monitoring dialogue with Montenegro** (*Co-rapporteurs: Mr Damien Cottier, Switzerland, ALDE and Mr Nicos Tornaritis, Cyprus, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the co-rapporteur;
 - **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Hungary** (*Co-rapporteurs: Mr Eerik-Niiles Kross, Estonia, ALDE and*): elected and, after hearing his declaration of absence of conflict of interest, appointed Mr Eerik-Niiles Kross (Estonia, ALDE) as co-rapporteur; elected Mr George Papandreu (Greece, SOC) with a view to appointing him as co-rapporteur, subject to hearing his declaration of absence of conflict of interest at the next meeting;
 - **Council for Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission:** decided to propose to the Bureau the following nominations to the Council for Democratic Elections (Venice Commission) for 2023: Mr Aleksander Pocij (Poland, EPP/CD) as member and Ms Laura Castel (Spain, UEL) as substitute;
 - **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Türkiye** (*Co-rapporteurs: Mr John Howell, United Kingdom, EC/DA and Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC)*): considered an information note following the fact-finding visit of the rapporteurs (12-13 January 2023); took note of Mr John Howell's intention to introduce technical amendments and agreed to declassify the amended note; heard a declaration of absence of conflict of interest by Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) and appointed him as co-rapporteur to replace Mr Boriss Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC);
 - **Post-monitoring dialogue with Bulgaria** (*Co-rapporteurs: Ms Thórhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir, Iceland, SOC and Ms María Valentina Martínez Ferro, Spain, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the co-rapporteurs;

- **on Thursday, 26 January 2023 at 8.30 am.**, as regards:
Mr Joseph O'Reilly (Ireland, EPP/CD) and then Mr Piero Fassino (Italy, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:
- **Relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan** (*Co-rapporteurs for Armenia: Mr Kimmo Kiljunen, Finland, SOC and Ms Boriána Åberg, Sweden, EPP/CD and Co-rapporteurs for Azerbaijan: Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, United Kingdom, EC/DA and Ms Lise Christoffersen, Norway, SOC*): heard a statement by the co-rapporteurs and held an exchange of views;
Mr Joseph O'Reilly (Ireland, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:
- **The progress of the Assembly's monitoring procedure (January-December 2022)** (*Rapporteur: Mr Piero Fassino, Italy, SOC*): took position on 2 amendments tabled to the draft resolution;
Mr Piero Fassino (Italy, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:
- **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Ukraine** (*Co-rapporteurs: Mr Alfred Heer, Switzerland, ALDE and Mr Birgir Þórarinnsson, Iceland, EPP/CD*): agreed to request a Venice Commission opinion on Ukrainian law on the "Prevention of Threats to National Security Related to the Excessive Influence of Persons who have Significant Economic or Political Weight in Public Life (Oligarchs)" (Reg. No. 5599) and on the law on National Minorities (Communities) of Ukraine;
- **The honouring of obligations and commitments by the Republic of Moldova** (*Co-rapporteurs: Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez, Switzerland, SOC and ...*): took note that no amendments have been tabled to the draft resolution; made a call for candidates to replace Ms Inese Lībiņa-Egnere (Latvia, EPP/CD);
- **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia** (*Co-rapporteurs: Mr Claude Kern, France, ALDE and Ms Edite Estrela, Portugal, SOC*): heard a declaration of absence of conflict of interest by Ms Edite Estrela (Portugal, SOC) and appointed her as co-rapporteur to replace Mr Titus Corlăţean (Romania, SOC);
- **The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by San Marino** (*Co-rapporteurs: Mr Andrej Hunko, Germany, UEL and Mr Joseph O'Reilly, Ireland, EPP/CD*): heard a declaration of absence of conflict of interest by Mr Joseph O'Reilly (Ireland, EPP/CD) and appointed him as co-rapporteur to replace Mr Viorel-Riceard Badea (Romania, EPP/CD);
- **Call for candidates:** made a call for candidates for the following reports:
 - The honouring of obligations and commitments by Albania**
Co-rapporteurs: Mr Asim Mollazada, Azerbaijan, EC/DA and...
to replace Mr Joseph O'Reilly (Ireland, EPP/CD);
 - The honouring of obligations and commitments by Bosnia and Herzegovina**
Co-rapporteurs: Mr Zsolt Németh, Hungary, EC/DA and...
to replace Ms Ekaterina Zaharieva (Bulgaria, EPP/CD);
 - The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by the Netherlands**
Co-rapporteurs: Ms Stephanie Krisper, Austria, ALDE and...
to replace Mr Antonio Gutiérrez Limones (Spain, SOC);
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize:** took note of the details concerning submission of candidates for the 2023 Prize;
- **Next meetings:** confirmed its next meetings as follows:
 - Paris, 21 March 2023 (Council of Europe office);
 - Strasbourg, during the second part-session 2023 of the Assembly (24-28 April);
 - Rome (tbc) 30-31 May 2023, subject to receiving an official invitation letter and the authorisation by the Bureau of the Assembly;
 - Strasbourg, during the third part-session 2023 of the Assembly (19-23 June);
 - Paris, 14 September 2023 (Council of Europe office);
 - Strasbourg, during the fourth part-session 2023 of the Assembly (9-13 October);
 - Paris, 13 December 2023 (Council of Europe office).

The Sub-Committee on Conflicts concerning Council of Europe Member States, meeting in Strasbourg on 26 January 2023 in camera, with Mr Piero Fassino (Italy, SOC) oldest member present and Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez (Switzerland, SOC), Vice-Chairperson, as regards:

- **Election of the Bureau of the Sub-Committee:** elected Mr Claude Kern (France, ALDE), Chairperson and Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez (Switzerland, SOC) Vice-Chairperson by acclamation;
- **Workplan of the Sub-Committee:** held an exchange of views on the Seminar on the human rights aspects of the Transnistrian settlement process and the role for the Council of Europe which will be held on 30 March 2023 in Strasbourg;
- **Date and place of the next meeting:** 30 March 2023, Strasbourg.

Agnieszka Nachilo, Bas Klein, Sylvie Affholder, Matthieu Monin

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

**Sub-Committee on Conflicts concerning Council of Europe Member States /
Sous-commission sur les conflits concernant les États membres du Conseil de l'Europe**

List of members / Liste des membres

- Co-rapporteurs on Armenia / Corapporteurs sur l'Arménie

KILJUNEN Kimmo (SOC, Finland / Finlande)

ÅBERG Borianana (EPP/CD, Sweden, Suède)

- Co-rapporteurs on Azerbaijan / Corapporteurs sur l'Azerbaïdjan

LIDDELL-GRAINGER Ian (EC/DA, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni)

CHRISTOFFERSEN Lise (SOC, Norway / Norvège)

- Co-rapporteurs on Georgia / Corapporteurs sur la Géorgie

KERN Claude (ALDE, France) – **CHAIRPERSON**

ESTRELA Edite (SOC, Portugal)

- Co-rapporteurs on the Republic of Moldova / Corapporteurs sur la République de Moldova

FRIDEZ Pierre-Alain (SOC, Switzerland / Suisse) – **VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

.....

- Co-rapporteurs on Türkiye / Corapporteurs sur la Türkiye

HOWELL John (EC/DA, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni)

SCHENNACH Stefan (SOC, Austria/ Autriche)

- Co-rapporteurs on Ukraine / Corapporteurs sur l'Ukraine

HEER Alfred (ALDE, Switzerland / Suisse)

THÓRARINSSON Birgir (EPP/CD, Iceland / Islande)

Member of the Monitoring Committee of each of the member States that are party to the conflicts under the terms of reference of the sub-committee: / Membre de la commission de suivi au titre de chacun des Etats membres qui sont parties aux conflits en vertu du mandat de la sous-commission

Armenia / Arménie

RUBINYAN Ruben, EPP/CD

Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan

SEYIDOV Samad, EC/DA

Cyprus / Chypre

LOUCAIDES George, UEL

Georgia / Géorgie

CHIKOVANI Irakli, SOC

Republic of Moldova / République de Moldova

POPSOI Mihail, EPP/CD

Türkiye

KOÇ Haluk, SOC

Ukraine

SOBOLIEV Serhii, EPP/CD

Ex officio:

Chair of the Monitoring Committee / Président de la commission de suivi

FASSINO Piero (Italy / Italie)

Chairs of political groups (not included above) / Président(e)s des groupes politiques (qui ne figurent pas déjà ci-dessus):

Group of the European People's Party / Groupe du Parti populaire européen

POCIEJ Aleksander (Poland / Pologne)

Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group / Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts

SCHWABE Frank (Germany / Allemagne)

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe / Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe

BULAI Iulian (Romania / Roumanie)

European Conservatives Group & Democratic Alliance / Groupe des Conservateurs européens & Alliance démocratique – CE/AD

LIDDELL-GRAINGER Ian (United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni)

Group of the Unified European Left / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne

KATROUGALOS George (Greece / Grèce)

Chairs of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy and of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Président·e·s de la Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie et de la Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme:

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

Damien COTTIER, Chairperson of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Président de la commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme