



General rapporteur on democracy: Terms of reference¹

Denomination: General rapporteur on democracy

Term of office: Two years, renewable once (rule 50.7 of the Rules of procedure)

Mandate: The general rapporteur on democracy ensures the visibility and coherence of the Assembly's actions to strengthen democracy, counter its backsliding and promote innovative practices to enhance citizens' trust in democratic institutions and their participation in political decision-making, in line with the Reykjavik Principles of Democracy and the approach endorsed by the Heads of State and Government at the Fourth Council of Europe Summit (16-17 May 2023).

Responsibilities: The role of the general rapporteur is to:

- *enhance the capacity of the Assembly to identify and address emerging trends, tools, initiatives, challenges, and opportunities in the area of democracy, and enhance the quality of democratic life;*
- *follow activities and maintain relations with the Council of Europe organs, bodies and structures which deal with issues relating to democracy and the delivery of the Reykjavík Principles for Democracy, representing the Assembly as appropriate;*
- *follow activities and maintain, when appropriate, relations with bodies and agencies of the United Nations, the European Union, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and with other international governmental and inter-parliamentary organisations;*
- *contribute to promoting the role of the Assembly as a platform to promote exchange of best practice and innovations in the area of democracy, establishing dialogue with civil society and non-governmental organisations with special expertise in this field, in Europe and beyond;*
- *enhance the external visibility and outreach of the work and role of the Assembly on democracy, including the follow-up and promotion of adopted resolutions and recommendations of the Assembly and, in appropriate cases, make public statements, launch appeals, or propose to do so to the committee.*

The general rapporteur on democracy periodically reports to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy.

¹ As approved by the Bureau of the Assembly and ratified by the Assembly in plenary during the 2023 October part-session.