

AS/RUL(2025)15

11 April 2025

Terms of reference: General Rapporteur on Ethical Standards and Anti-Corruption

Term of office: two years, renewable once

¹Mandate

The General Rapporteur on Ethical Standards and Anti-Corruption promotes good ethical standards and practices in the national parliaments of the Council of Europe's member States and other parliaments with which the Parliamentary Assembly has relations. The General Rapporteur keeps the Assembly's own ethical and integrity framework under review and can propose to the Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities actions to improve the framework or, in line with the code of conduct for members of the Assembly, to take steps to ensure that it is respected.

Responsibilities

The role of the General Rapporteur is to:

- follow activities and maintain working relations, on the topic of anti-corruption, ethical standards, and in particular parliamentary ethical standards, with
 - Council of Europe institutions and bodies, including GRECO and the Council of Europe ethics officer;
 - ethics officers, ethics committees and other bodies and agencies of national parliaments;
 - international governmental and non-governmental organisations, including the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the European Union, and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE);
- represent the Assembly vis-à-vis any of the above-mentioned bodies or groups, when relevant and appropriate;
- keep the Assembly's ethics and integrity framework under review by:
 - following up previous resolutions and recommendations of the Assembly on issues related to ethical standards and anti-corruption;
 - studying the effective functioning of the Assembly's ethics and integrity framework and identifying areas for its improvement; and
 - promoting the development of a solid ethical culture within the Assembly;
- participate in, and develop, initiatives for promoting and strengthening ethical standards and practices in the national parliaments of the Council of Europe's member States and other parliaments with which the Assembly has relations.

The General Rapporteur can, in accordance with the code of conduct for members of the Assembly, and in particular its paragraphs 19 and 22, refer to the Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities concerns in relation to individual allegations of breaches of the code of conduct. It remains a matter for the Committee to consider whether or not to take any action pursuant to the code of conduct, such as by launching an investigation, in full accordance with its role under the code of conduct. The General Rapporteur's mandate does not extend to making statements on individual cases.

The General Rapporteur shall report, at least annually, to the Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities on the functioning and effectiveness of the Assembly's ethics and integrity framework. This report shall contain

¹ As approved by the Bureau on 11 April 2025, and subsequently ratified by the assembly on 11 April 2025

any proposals for the Committee to consider for improving the functioning of the Assembly's ethics and integrity framework, and any proposals for better promoting strong ethical standards in national parliaments.