Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

**Resolution 1284 (2002)**[1]

# Membership of the immediate past Parliamentary Assembly President and the Chairpersons of political groups in the Assembly's Political Affairs Committee

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Parliamentary Assembly notes that according to the current Rules of Procedure, the chairpersons of the Assembly's political groups may participate in the meetings of the Political Affairs Committee, but are not ex officio members of it.

2. The Assembly also notes that the current rules give no status to the immediate past President of the Parliamentary Assembly, despite the fact that during his or her term of office he or she has had the opportunity to gather considerable expertise through the contacts established with leading personalities around the world.

3. It considers that in the period immediately following the end of his or her presidency, the Assembly should take advantage of the political experience of the immediate past President by allowing him or her to actively participate in the work of the Political Affairs Committee, as an ex officio member.

4. Furthermore, chairpersons of the political groups should, unless they have been appointed to the Political Affairs Committee under Rule 43.6, be ex officio members of that committee.

5. Consequently, the Assembly decides:

*to modify the heading of Rule 18 as follows : "President and immediate past President"*

*to insert a new paragraph 3 in Rule 18 worded as follows: "The immediate past President as long as he or she remains a representative or substitute in the Assembly without interruption, shall be an ex officio member of the Political Affairs Committee, but may not take part in votes, nor be appointed rapporteur, nor be elected to the Bureau of that committee and its sub-committees."*

*to amend Rule 17.5 as follows: "Chairpersons of political groups, who are not appointed to the Political Affairs Committee according to Rule 43.6 shall be ex officio members of that committee, including participation as a rapporteur, but may not take part in votes, nor be elected to the Bureau of that committee and its sub-committees."*

1. Text adopted by the Standing Committee, acting on behalf of the Assembly, on 29 May 2002 (see Doc. 9455, report of the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities, rapporteur: Mr Magnusson).