



Opinion 242 (2003)¹

Draft Protocol amending the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The changes introduced by the draft protocol amending the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism (ETS No. 90) to a large extent reflect the concerns which the Parliamentary Assembly has expressed in the past.
2. Nevertheless, the Assembly regrets that the changes made to the current Article 13 are not as far-reaching as it recommended, since it still allows for reservations which may defeat the purpose of the convention. It does, however, recognise that there are significantly fewer possibilities of entering reservations and specific conditions which must be respected, as well as a special follow-up procedure.
3. The Assembly also considers that, like the Committee of Ministers, it should receive the report of the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC), foreseen in the new Article 10, which instructs that committee to follow the application of the convention.
4. The Assembly believes that it would be appropriate, in due course, to consider the possibility of drawing up a general Council of Europe anti-terrorism convention, taking account of the work being carried out by the United Nations.
5. The Assembly therefore proposes the following amendments to the draft protocol:
 - 5.1. in Article 6, paragraph 2.g, after "Committee of Ministers", add the following words: "which will subsequently be transmitted to the Parliamentary Assembly";
 - 5.2. in Article 12, paragraph 6, replace the last sentence by the following sentence: "Such reservations may be renewed only once for a period of the same duration".

1. Assembly debate on 31 January 2003 (8th Sitting) (see [Doc. 9649](#), report of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, rapporteur: Mrs Alvarez-Arenas). Text adopted by the Assembly on 31 January 2003 (8th Sitting).

