Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire
https://pace.coe.int

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Resolution 2148 (2017)[1]

Challenge on procedural grounds of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of the Slovak Republic

Parliamentary Assembly

1. On 23 January 2017, at the opening of the Parliamentary Assembly session, the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of the Slovak Republic were challenged on procedural grounds, in accordance with Rule 7.1 of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure, on the ground that the delegation comprised no female representative, in violation of Rule 6.2.*a* of the Rules of Procedure.

2. The Parliamentary Assembly reiterates its commitment to promoting the balanced representation of women and men in political and public decision making and to applying the principle of gender equality in its internal structures, in particular by encouraging a balanced representation of women and men in national delegations. The Assembly also recalls its Resolution 2111 (2016) "Assessing the impact of measures to improve women's political representation" and its support for the principle of gender parity as the ultimate goal in political representation.

3. The Assembly notes that the composition of the Slovak delegation does not fulfil the conditions laid down in Rule 6.2.*a* of the Rules of Procedure and that its credentials have been legitimately challenged. It notes that the delegation has stated that it undertakes to ensure full compliance with the condition laid down by the Rules of Procedure at the earliest opportunity.

4. Accordingly, the Assembly decides to ratify the credentials of the Slovak parliamentary delegation, but to suspend the voting rights of its members in the Assembly and its bodies in accordance with Rule 10.1.*c* of the Rules of Procedure, with effect from the beginning of the Assembly's April 2017 part-session, if the composition of the delegation has not been brought into conformity with Rule 6.2.*a* of the Rules of Procedure insofar as it relates to the appointment in the delegation of, at a very minimum, one member of the under-represented sex as a representative.

1. *Assembly debate* on 26 January 2017 (7th Sitting) (see Doc. 14247, report of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, rapporteur: Mr Jordi Xuclà; and Doc. 14252, opinion of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, rapporteur: Ms Elena Centemero). *Text adopted by the Assembly* on 26 January 2017 (7th Sitting).