



## Resolution 2320 (2020)<sup>1</sup>

# Challenge, on substantive grounds, of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of the Russian Federation

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Parliamentary Assembly refers to its [Resolution 2287 \(2019\)](#) on strengthening the decision-making process of the Parliamentary Assembly concerning credentials and voting, which, following a period of non-co-operation at the parliamentary level, led to the Russian delegation's return to the Assembly and confirmed the Assembly's commitment to dialogue as a means of finding lasting solutions for outstanding issues.
2. Furthermore, the Assembly refers to its [Resolution 2292 \(2019\)](#) on the challenge, on substantive grounds, of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of the Russian Federation, in which it resolved to ratify the credentials and called on the Russian delegation to comply with all recommendations included in [Resolution 1990 \(2014\)](#) on reconsideration on substantive grounds of the previously ratified credentials of the Russian delegation, [Resolution 2034 \(2015\)](#) on the challenge, on substantive grounds, of the still unratified credentials of the delegation of the Russian Federation and [Resolution 2063 \(2015\)](#) on the consideration of the annulment of the previously ratified credentials of the delegation of the Russian Federation (follow-up to paragraph 16 of [Resolution 2034 \(2015\)](#)), co-operate with the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) and engage in a meaningful dialogue on the fulfilment of its commitments and obligations. It invited the Monitoring Committee to present a report on the honouring of the obligations and commitments by the Russian Federation at its earliest convenience, no later than April 2020.
3. The Monitoring Committee has resumed its work with regard to the Russian Federation and organised a number of hearings, which will be taken into account by the co-rapporteurs in their ongoing preparation of the report. The Russian delegation has co-operated fully with the Monitoring Committee.
4. The Assembly notes that, in the six months since the Russian Federation's return to the Assembly, some other recommendations included in [Resolution 2292 \(2019\)](#) have also been addressed by the Russian Federation. In particular, all 24 illegally detained Ukrainian sailors captured in the Kerch Strait were returned to Ukraine as part of a hostage exchange. This included one person wanted for questioning in connection with the shooting down of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17. Some progress has been made with regard to the implementation of the Minsk Agreements. The Russian Federation has participated in the so-called mutual release of detainees and, alongside Ukraine, is preparing other exchanges.
5. With regard to its financial obligations towards the Council of Europe, the Russian Federation has paid all due contributions to the ordinary budget and partial agreements. Unpaid interest is the subject of discussions in the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

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1. *Assembly debate* on 29 January 2020 (6th Sitting) (see [Doc. 15050](#), report of the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), rapporteur: Mr Tiny Kox; and [Doc. 15054](#), opinion of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, rapporteur: Mr Alvis Maniero). *Text adopted by the Assembly* on 29 January 2020 (6th Sitting).



6. The Assembly acknowledges that the general assessment of the state of compliance of the Russian Federation with its commitments and obligations towards the Council of Europe, and [Resolutions 1990 \(2014\)](#), [2034 \(2015\)](#), [2063 \(2015\)](#) and [2292 \(2019\)](#) is subject to the monitoring report under preparation. The Assembly recalls its position on the illegal annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation.
7. Furthermore, the Assembly invites the Monitoring Committee to follow closely the ongoing legislative process with regard to the constitutional amendments currently underway in the Russian Federation and explicitly underlines each member State's obligation to abide by the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.
8. The Assembly resolves to assess the progress made in this respect in the course of 2020 and invites the Monitoring Committee to present the full monitoring report as soon as possible.
9. The Assembly emphasises that it constitutes the most important pan-European parliamentary platform where political dialogue on the Russian Federation's obligations under the Statute of the Council of Europe (ETS No. 1) can take place with the participation of all those concerned, and where the Russian Federation can be held accountable on the basis of the Council of Europe's values and principles.
10. Therefore, the Assembly does not consider Rule 8.2.a or 8.2.b of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly to be applicable and resolves to ratify the credentials of the Russian Federation.