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21 April 2022

Activities of the Assembly's Bureau and Standing Committee (28 January-21 April 2022)

Progress report

Bureau of the Assembly

Rapporteur: Mr Ian LIDDELL-GRAINER, United Kingdom, European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance

1. Introduction

At its meeting on 28 January 2022, the Bureau appointed me as rapporteur for this report, which covers its activities over the period from the last Bureau meeting of the first part-session of 2021 (Friday 28 January) to the pre-session Bureau meeting of the second part-session (Thursday 21 April).

Chapter 2 presents a list of decisions taken by the Bureau over the reported period which do not require ratification.

Chapter 3 presents a list of decisions taken by the Bureau over the reported period which have been already ratified by the Assembly.

An addendum to this report will be issued after the Bureau meeting of 21 April, which will include decisions to be ratified by the Assembly at the opening of the 2022 second part-session, on 25 April. Another addendum will be issued after the Bureau meeting of 28 April. It will include only the decisions to be ratified by the Assembly on the same day, notably the references and transmissions to committees which will have been approved by the Bureau.

The Bureau will hold its next meeting on Monday 30 May 2022 in Dublin. The next meeting of the Standing Committee will be held in Dublin on 31 May 2022.

2. Activities of the Bureau since the last part-session and decisions not requiring ratification by the Assembly

2.1. Follow-up to the first part-session of 2022 (Strasbourg, 25-29 January)

On 28 January, the Bureau approved the follow-up proposals to the Assembly's first part-session, made by the Secretary General of the Assembly, as follows:

- Current affairs debate on *Recent challenges to security in Europe: what role for the Council of Europe?*, decided to seize the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for report on this issue.
- [Resolution 2414 \(2022\)](#) on *The right to be heard: child participation, a foundation for democratic society* and [Resolution 2415 \(2022\)](#) *Inaction on climate change – a violation of children's rights*, asked the Secretary General of the Assembly and the secretariats of Assembly committees to seek practical ways to put child participation in practice in the work of the Assembly, on the basis of proposals contained in these two resolutions.



- [Resolution 2417 \(2022\)](#) *Combating rising hate against LGBTI people in Europe*, invited the Committee on Equality and non-Discrimination to consider the proposal of setting up a parliamentary network promoting full and effective equality for LGBTI people throughout the continent.

2.2. Follow-up to the meeting of the Joint Committee (Strasbourg, 25 February 2022)

On 25 February, the Bureau took note of the decision of the Ministers' Deputies to suspend the Russian Federation from its rights of representation in the Committee of Ministers and in the Parliamentary Assembly in accordance with Article 8 of the Statute of the Council of Europe with immediate effect, and held an exchange of views.

2.3. Extraordinary plenary session of the Parliamentary Assembly (Strasbourg, 14-15 March 2022)

On 25 February, the Bureau took note of the President's decision to convene an extraordinary session of the Assembly, in Strasbourg in a hybrid manner on 14-15 March 2022, and it drew up the preliminary draft agenda. On 11 March, it drew up the draft agenda.

2.3.1. Requests for a debate under urgent procedure

On 11 March, the Bureau took note of the request to hold a debate on *Consequences of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine*, tabled by the five political groups.

On the same day, it also took note of the Ministers' Deputies' Decision of 10 March 2022 on *Consequences of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine* and of the request by the Committee of Ministers, under Statutory Resolution (51)30, to consult the Parliamentary Assembly "on potential further use of Article 8 of the Statute of the Council of Europe".

The Bureau also decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold the debate on *Consequences of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine* and to consider and adopt within this debate the Assembly's Opinion, requested by the Committee of Ministers under Statutory Resolution (51)30, and referred the matter to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for report.

2.4. Standing Committee (Berlin, 11 March 2022)

On 28 January, the Bureau took note of the draft agenda. On 25 February, it took note of the President's decision to postpone the meeting in Berlin to a later date.

2.5. Second part-session of 2022 (Strasbourg, 25-28 April)

On 28 January, the Bureau took note of the information provided by the Secretary General of the Assembly. On 11 March, the Bureau decided to propose to the Assembly to hold a debate on general policy on *Consequences of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine* and to seize the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for report, and it drew up the draft agenda.

2.6. Communications

On 28 January, the Bureau took note of the statement by the President of the Assembly. On 11 March, the Bureau took note of the communication by the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe and held an exchange of views with the Secretary General.

2.7. Election observation

2.7.1. Serbia: presidential and early parliamentary elections (3 April 2022)

On 28 January, the Bureau approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe this election and appointed Mr Aleksander Pocij (Poland, EPP/CD) as its chairperson (Appendix 1).

2.7.2. Schedule of the elections

On 28 January, the Bureau took note of the calendar for 2022.

2.8. European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) – Lists of candidates in respect of the Republic of Moldova, Spain and Sweden

On 28 January, the Bureau approved the lists of candidates in respect of these countries to be forwarded to the Committee of Ministers.

2.9. Parliamentary co-operation activities: work plan 2022

On 28 January, the Bureau took note of the information provided in the document.

2.10. Issues raised by committees

2.10.1. Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

On 28 January, the Bureau authorised the ad hoc sub-committee of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy to participate in the meeting of the Global Parliamentary Network of the OECD, on 17-18 March 2022, in Paris.

2.11. Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2022

On 28 January, the Bureau approved the appointments as set up in the table and agreed to complete the appointments at one of its next meetings, subject to the reception of additional proposals from committees.

2.12. Meetings of the Standing Committee and the Bureau in 2022

On 28 January, the Bureau approved the proposals contained in the document (Appendix 2).

2.13. Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris

On 28 January, the Bureau authorised the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media to meet in Rome on 9-10 May 2022.

On 11 March, the Bureau authorised:

- the Sub-Committee on Children of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development to meet in Rome on 7-8 April 2022,
- the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination to meet in Stockholm on 12 May 2022,
- the Committee in the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States (Monitoring Committee) to meet in Ankara on 24-25 May 2022.

3. Decisions taken by the Bureau at its meeting on 11 March, and subsequently ratified by the Assembly

On 11 March, the Bureau approved the following references which were subsequently ratified by the Assembly on 14 March:

3.1. References to committees

- [Doc. 15474](#) Motion for a resolution, *Humanitarian consequences and internal and external migration in connection with the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine*: reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*,
- [Doc. 15446](#) Motion for a resolution, *Examining the legitimacy and legality of the ad hominem term-limit waiver for the incumbent President of the Russian Federation*: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*.

Appendix 1 – List of members of the ad hoc committee for the observation of the presidential and early parliamentary elections in Serbia (3 April 2022)

Chairperson / Président: Mr / M. Aleksander POCIEJ, Poland / Pologne (PPE/DC)

Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group / Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts (SOC)

- Ms / M^{me} Petra BAYR, Austria / Autriche *
- Ms / M^{me} Heike ENGELHARDT, Germany / Allemagne
- Mr / M. Mogens JENSEN, Denmark / Danemark
- Mr / M. André VALLINI, France
- Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland / Suisse
- Mr / M. Andrzej SZEJNA, Poland / Pologne
- Ms / M^{me} Marina BERLINGHIERI, Italy / Italie

Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD) / Groupe du Parti populaire européen (PPE/DC)

- Mr / M. Uldis BUDRIKIS, Latvia / Lettonie
- Mr / M. Christian KLINGER, France
- Mr / M. Kęstutis MASIULIS, Lithuania / Lituanie
- Mr / M. Aleksander POCIEJ, Poland / Pologne *
- Mr / M. Theodoros ROUSOPOULOS, Greece / Grèce
- Mr / M. Birgir THORARINSSON, Iceland / Islande

European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance (EC-DA) / Groupe des Conservateurs européens et Alliance démocratique (CE-AD)

- Mr / M. Alberto RIBOLLA, Italy / Italie *
- Mr / M. Norbert KLEINWÄCHTER, Germany / Allemagne

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) / Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)

- Ms / M^{me} Liliana TANGUY, France *
- Mr / M. Iulian BULAI, Romania / Roumanie
- Ms / M^{me} Krista BAUMANE, Latvia / Lettonie

Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE)

- Mr / M. Andrej HUNKO, Germany / Allemagne*

Venice Commission / Commission de Venise

- Mr / M. Eirik HOLMØYVIK, Norway / Norvège

* members of the pre-election delegation / membres de la délégation préélectorale

Appendix 2 – Meetings of the Standing Committee and the Bureau in 2022

Friday 21 January, 9.30 am, Strasbourg	Bureau
Friday 28 January, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 11 March, 10 am, Strasbourg	Bureau
Thursday 21 April, 10 am, Strasbourg	Bureau
Friday 28 April, 2 pm, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Monday 30 May, 3.00 pm, Dublin	Bureau
Tuesday 31 May, 9.00 am, Dublin	Standing Committee (CM Presidency)
Monday 20 June, 8.00 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 24 June, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Monday 12 September, 9.00 am, Paris	Bureau
Monday 10 October, 8.00 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 14 October, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Thursday 24 November, 3.00 pm, Reykjavik	Bureau
Friday 25 November, 9.30 am, Reykjavik	Standing Committee (CM Presidency)
Friday 9 December, 9.00 am, Paris	Bureau