Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
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1949 - 2024
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Doc. 16045 Add. 1
30 September 2024

Activities of the Assembly's Bureau and Standing Committee (30 September 2024)

Progress report
Bureau of the Assembly
Rapporteur: Mr Iulian BULAI, Romania, Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe

1. Decisions of the Bureau of 30 September 2024 requiring ratification by the Assembly

1.1. Election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights

The Bureau took note of the report drawn up by the Committee on the election of judges following interviews with candidates for the post of judges in respect of Cyprus and Poland, including its decision to proceed with the interviews of candidates for the post of judge in respect of Slovenia during its next meeting and its recommendation to reject the list as regard Cyprus, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the progress report (Doc. 16045 Add. 2).

1.2. Composition of the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)

On the basis of a proposal by the EPP/CD Group, the Bureau nominated Ms Marija Petrushevska (North Macedonia) as a member.

On the basis of proposals by the EC/DA Group, the Bureau nominated as members: Lord David Blencathra (United Kingdom) instead of Ms Jill Mortimer (United Kingdom); Sir Christopher Chope (United Kingdom); Ms Victoria Tiblom (Sweden) instead of Ms Beatrice Timgren (Sweden); Mr Norbert Kleinwächter (Germany); Ms Alexandra Schoos (Luxembourg).

On the basis of a proposal by the ALDE Group, the Bureau nominated Mr Petri Honkonen (Finland) as a member.

1.3. Composition of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs

On the basis of a proposal by the EC/DA Group, the Bureau nominated Mr Marco Dreosto (Italy) as a member.

1.4. Composition of the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

On the basis of proposals by the EC/DA Group, the Bureau nominated as members: Lord David Blencathra (United Kingdom) and Mr Harald Weyel (Germany).

The Assembly is invited to ratify these Bureau decisions.

2. Other decisions by the Bureau

2.1. Fourth part-session of 2024 (Strasbourg, 30 September - 4 October)

2.1.1. Requests for debates under urgent procedure

The Bureau took note of the request tabled by the leaders of the five political groups to hold a debate on:

– *Missing persons due to the war of aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine: prisoners of war and civilians in captivity*: decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate; agreed to modify the title as follows: Missing persons, prisoners of war and civilians in captivity, due to the war of aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, and to refer the matter to the Committee Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*.

The Bureau also took note of the request tabled by the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development to hold a debate on:

– *The emergency healthcare and humanitarian situation of women and children in Gaza*, and decided to recommend to the Assembly not to hold this debate.

2.1.2. Requests for current affairs debates

The Bureau took note of the requests for the Assembly to hold current affairs debates on:

– *Deteriorating situation of human rights, Rule of law and democracy in Azerbaijan*, tabled by the leaders of the five political groups: decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate and appointed Ms Lise Christoffersen (Norway, SOC) as the first speaker;

– *Situation in the Middle-East: escalation of violence and mounting humanitarian crisis particularly in Gaza*; tabled by leaders of the EPP/CD, EC/DA and ALDE political groups: decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate and appointed Ms Saskia Kluit (Netherlands, SOC) as the first speaker.

2.1.3. Draft agenda

The Bureau updated the agenda of the part-session.

2.1.4. Joint Committee

The Bureau prepared the meeting of the Joint Committee.

2.2. Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (28 June- 29 September 2024)

The Bureau approved the Progress report (Doc. 16045).

2.3. Election observation

2.3.1. Bulgaria – early parliamentary elections (27 October 2024)

The Bureau approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix).

2.3.2. Republic of Moldova: Presidential election and Constitutional Referendum (20 October 2024)

The Bureau took note of the statement of the pre-electoral mission held on 17-18 September 2024.

2.3.3. Georgia: Parliamentary elections (26 October 2024)

The Bureau took note of the statement of the pre-electoral mission held on 23-24 September 2024.

2.4. Communications

The Bureau took note of the communications by the President of the Assembly, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe. It held an exchange of views with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

Appendix – List of members of the ad hoc committee to observe the early parliamentary elections in Bulgaria (27 October 2024)

Chairperson / Président: Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine

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

– Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Türkiye
– Ms / M^{me} Bisera KOSTADINOVSKA-STOJCHEVSKA, North Macedonia / Macédoine du Nord
– Mr / M. Saša MAGAZINOVIĆ, Bosnia and Herzegovina / Bosnie-Herzégovine
– zz
– zz
– zz

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

– Mr / M. Corneliu-Mugurel COZMANCIUC, Romania / Roumanie
– Ms / M^{me} Andrea EDER-GITSCHTHALER, Austria / Autriche
– Mr / M. Chris SAID, Malta / Malte
– Ms / M^{me} Maria SYRENGELA, Greece / Grèce
– zz
– zz

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

– Mr / M. Mehmet AKALIN, Türkiye
– Mr / M. Alfred HEER, Switzerland / Suisse
– Ms / M^{me} Lucia PLAVAKOVA, Slovak Republic / République slovaque
– zz

Substitutes / Suppléant·es

– Ms / M^{me} Carla MOONEN, Netherlands / Pays- Bas

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

– Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine
– Mr / M. Daniel MILEWSKI, Poland / Pologne
– Ms / M^{me} Heather WHEELER, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
– zz

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

– Ms / M^{me} Sevilay ÇELENK ÖZEN, Türkiye

Co-rapporteur·es AS/MON (ex officio)

– Ms / M^{me} Deborah BERGAMINI, Italy / Italie – EPP/CD (TBC) (excused)

– Ms / M^{me} Thórhildur Sunna ÆVARSDÓTTIR, Iceland / Islande – SOC (excused)

Venice Commission / Commission de Venise

– Mr / M. Richard BARRETT, Ireland / Irlande – Member of the Venice Commission / membre de la Commission de Venise

– Mr / M. Domenico VALLARIO, Venice Commission Secretariat

/ Secrétariat de la Commission de Venise