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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Activities of the Assembly's Bureau and Standing Committee (31 January 2025)

Progress report
Bureau of the Assembly
Rapporteur: Mr Pablo HISPÁN, Spain, Group of the European People's Party

1. Decisions of the Bureau of 31 January 2025 requiring ratification by the Assembly

1.1. References to committees

The Bureau considered and approved the following references:

– *The role of diasporas and migrants in building social cohesion and progress*, Doc. 16095, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*;

– *A closer co-operation between the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the United States Congress*, Doc. 16109, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*.

1.2. Issues raised by committees

1.2.1. Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

The Bureau considered and approved the terms of reference of the *Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence* (Appendix 1) and of the *No Hate Parliamentary Alliance* (Appendix 2).

1.3. Composition of committees

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

On the basis of proposals by the EPP/CD Group, the Bureau nominated Mr Christophe Brico (Monaco); Ms Carmen Leyte (Spain), Ms Saara-Sofia Sirén (Finland) and Ms Albana Vokshi (Albania) as members.

On the basis of a proposal by the SOC Group, the Bureau nominated Ms Wanda Nowicka (Poland) as member.

On the basis of a proposal by the ALDE Group, the Bureau nominated Mr Régis Bergonzi (Monaco) as member.

1.3.2. Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs

On the basis of proposals by the EPP/CD Group, the Bureau nominated Mr Gustaf Göthberg (Sweden) and Mr Niklaus-Samuel Gugger (Switzerland) as members.

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

On the basis of a proposal by the EPP/CD Group, the Bureau nominated Mr Benjamin Dalle (Belgium) as an alternate.

1.4. PACE Youth Rapporteurs

The Bureau took note of the list of the Assembly Youth Rapporteurs and decided to set up an *ad hoc* committee of the Bureau, composed of the PACE Youth Rapporteurs, to participate in the Youth Conference organised under the chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers, in Malta on 8-9 October 2025.

1.5. Black Sea Security Forum, Odessa, Ukraine, 30-31 May 2025

The Bureau decided to set up an *ad hoc* committee of the Bureau to participate in this event.

1.6. Meeting between parliamentarians from the Nordic Council and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), Kristiansand, Norway, 4-5 May 2025

The Bureau decided to revise the composition of the *ad hoc* Committee of the Bureau to include members of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons and the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination.

The Assembly is invited to ratify these Bureau decisions.

Appendix 1 – Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence

Terms of Reference

1. The Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence ("the Network") was established under the auspices of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, following the Council of Europe campaign "Stop domestic violence against women" in 2006.

Aim of the Network

1. In accordance with Resolution 1512 (2006) "Parliaments united in combating domestic violence against women", it is the task of the Network to facilitate co-operation between national parliaments aimed at ending violence against women and domestic violence throughout the continent, and at promoting the ratification and implementation of the Istanbul Convention.

Composition of the Network

1. The Network is composed of:

    1.1. In respect of Council of Europe member States: each national delegation appoints members from each parliamentary chamber;

    1.2. In respect of the parliaments with Observer or Partner for Democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe: for each unicameral parliament, one member of parliament, appointed by the national parliament; for each for bicameral parliament, one member of each chamber of the parliament, appointed by their chamber.

2. The members of the Bureau of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination are *ex officio* members of the Network.

3. The Network may invite members of other similar interparliamentary networks to participate in its work.

Working methods of the Network

1. All members of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination are entitled to attend the meetings of the Network.

2. The working languages of the Network are English and French.

3. The Network is co-ordinated and its meetings chaired by the General Rapporteur on violence against women. In the absence of the General Rapporteur, a meeting of the Network may exceptionally be chaired by a member of the Bureau of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, or, in their absence, by the oldest member present.

4. The Network shall submit to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, for approval and transmission to the Bureau of the Assembly any decisions that may have consequences for the ordinary budget of the Assembly.

5. Except where alternative arrangements are expressly made, the costs of participation of members of the Network in its events shall be borne by their national parliaments.

6. In fulfilling its task set out in paragraph 1 of these terms of reference, the Network shall be inspired by the European Convention on Human Rights, the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention), and other relevant international and European treaties, texts adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly, as well as by other relevant international declarations and reports relevant to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence.

7. The Network may co-operate with parliamentarians and national parliaments outside of Europe, as well as with parliamentary networks and regional and international parliamentary assemblies.

8. The dissolution of the Network shall be subject to a decision of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination and to the latter's approval by the Bureau.

Appendix 2 – No Hate Parliamentary Alliance

Terms of Reference

1. The No Hate Parliamentary Alliance ("the Alliance") shall be established under the auspices of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, following the Resolution 1967 (2014) "A strategy to prevent racism and intolerance in Europe".

Aim of the Alliance

1. In accordance with the Resolution 1967 (2014), it is the task of the Alliance to facilitate co-operation between national parliaments aimed at tackling racism, hate speech and hate crime, intolerance, antisemitism, islamophobia, anti-Gypsyism, homophobia and transphobia in Europe.

Composition of the Alliance

1. The Alliance shall be composed of:

   1.1. In respect of Council of Europe member States: each national delegation appoints multiple members from each parliamentary chamber;

   1.2. In respect of the parliaments with Observer or Partner for Democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe: for each unicameral parliament, one member of parliament, appointed by the national parliament; for each for bicameral parliament, one member of each chamber of the parliament, appointed by their chamber.

2. The members of the Bureau of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination shall be *ex officio* members of the Alliance.

3. The Alliance may invite members of other similar interparliamentary networks to participate in its work.

Working methods of the Alliance

1. All members of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination shall be entitled to attend the meetings of the Alliance.

2. The working languages of the Alliance shall be English and French.

3. The Alliance shall be co-ordinated and its meetings chaired by the General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance. In the absence of the General Rapporteur, a meeting of the Alliance may exceptionally be chaired by a member of the Bureau of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, or, in their absence, by the oldest member present.

4. The Alliance shall submit to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination for approval and transmission to the Bureau of the Assembly any decisions that may have consequences for the ordinary budget of the Assembly.

5. Except where alternative arrangements are expressly made, the costs of participation of members of the Alliance in its events shall be borne by their national parliaments.

6. In fulfilling its task set out in paragraph 2 of these terms of reference, the Alliance shall be inspired by the European Convention on Human Rights and other relevant international and European treaties, texts adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly, as well as by other relevant international declarations and reports.

7. The Alliance may co-operate with parliamentarians and national parliaments outside of Europe, as well as with parliamentary networks and regional and international parliamentary assemblies.

8. The dissolution of the Alliance shall be subject to a decision of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination and to the latter's approval by the Bureau.