



Doc. 16484 Add. 1
28 September 2026

Activities of the Assembly's Bureau and Standing Committee (28 September 2026)

Progress report
Bureau of the Assembly

1. Decisions of the Bureau of 28 September 2026 requiring ratification by the Assembly

1.1. References and transmissions to committees

The Bureau considered and approved the following references and transmissions:

- *A constitutional right to reliable information: safeguarding democracy in the age of artificial intelligence and platform power*, [Doc. 16449](#), motion for a resolution: transmission to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for information*;
- *Integrity of electoral registers in Council of Europe member States with high emigration rates: the need for digital modernisation*, [Doc. 16452](#), reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *to be taken into account in the preparation of the report on "Out-of-country voting"*;
- *Towards a European strategy on arbitrary detention and hostage taking of European and dual national citizens*, [Doc. 16453](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*;
- *Quantum technologies and artificial intelligence: the need for a European anticipation and governance strategy*, [Doc. 16455](#), and *Regulatory sandboxes for quantum technologies: enabling innovation in line with Council of Europe values*, [Doc. 16457](#), motion for a resolution, reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report* and to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for opinion, for a single report on "Quantum technologies and artificial intelligence: the need for a European anticipation and governance strategy"*;
- *Supporting the establishment of a United Nations Special Rapporteur on Democracy*, [Doc. 16456](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *to be taken into account in the preparation of the report on "Shaping the Parliamentary Assembly's relations with the United Nations Human Rights Council"*;
- *The Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine and the need to combat sanctions evasion*, [Doc. 16458](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *to be taken into account in the preparation of the reports on "Accountability for the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine" and "Strengthening safeguards against the misuse of dual-use goods by authoritarian regimes"* and reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *to be taken into account in the preparation of the report on "Political consequences of the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine"*;
- *The cultural situation of the Kurds*, [Doc. 16459](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for report*;



- *Anti-personnel mines and cluster munitions: reaffirming humanitarian commitments in a new security context*, [Doc. 16463](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *to be taken into account in the preparation of the report on “The need to modernise International Humanitarian Law”*;
- *Protecting Europe's cultural diversity and sovereignty by promoting access to European cinematographic and audiovisual works*, [Doc. 16466](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for report*;
- *Towards a United Nations Convention on the prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity*, [Doc. 16471](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*;
- *Solidarity with Ceuta, a test case for Europe*, [Doc. 16479](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Migration, International Protection and Economic Co-operation *for report*, with a view to a possible debate at the January 2027 part-session.

1.2. Modification of references

The Bureau considered and approved the following modifications of references:

- *Strengthening the affective and emotional dimension of comprehensive sexuality education to prevent and combat discrimination, hate crime and gender-based violence*, [Doc. 16318](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report* and to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for opinion*;
- *Protecting the right to education in Gaza*, [Doc. 16445](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for report* and to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for opinion*.

1.3. 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 to the European Court of Human Rights concerning the list of the candidates to the Court in respect of Bosnia and Herzegovina, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report ([Doc. 16484 Add. 2](#)).

1.4. 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 SOC Group, the Bureau nominated Mr Kimmo Kiljunen (Finland) as member,
- on the basis of a proposal by the EPP/CD Group, the Bureau nominated Mr Márton Hajdu (Hungary) as member.

1.5. Composition of the Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities

On the basis of a proposal by the SOC Group, the Bureau nominated Ms Gökçe Gökçen (Türkiye) as member.

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

On the basis of a proposal by the ECPA Group, the Bureau nominated Ms Martina Kempf (Germany) as member.

1.7. [Resolution 2530 \(2024\)](#) on A democratic future for Belarus

The Bureau approved the revised list of members of the representative delegation of Belarusian democratic forces for 2026:

Members:

- Mr Astapenka Vladzimir (“Latushka Coalition and the Movement ‘For Freedom’” faction), Head of the delegation

- Mr Latushka Pavel (“Latushka Coalition and the Movement ‘For Freedom’” faction)
- Ms Lutschina Kseniya (“European Choice” faction)

Substitutes:

- Mr Andreichyk Evgeny (“Nastup” faction)
- Ms Mamaeva Alexandra (Non-affiliated)
- Ms Skryhan Hanna (“United Civic Platform” faction)

The Assembly is invited to ratify these Bureau decisions.

2. Other decisions by the Bureau

2.1. Fourth part-session of 2026 (Strasbourg, 28 September – 2 October)

2.1.1. Requests for debates under urgent procedure

The Bureau took note:

- of the request tabled by Mr Sam Rushworth and 21 other members of the Assembly: *Repression and targeted attacks on LGBTI persons and defenders in Türkiye*: decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and to refer the matter to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination for report;
- of the request tabled by the leaders of the Assembly’s five political groups: *Fake “elections” in Russia and its destabilising attacks on Europe*: decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and to refer the matter to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for report.

2.1.2. Requests for current affairs debates

The Bureau took note:

- of the request tabled by the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination: *Targeted attacks on the LGBTI community and its rights in Türkiye: a further alarming sign of democratic backsliding*: decided to recommend to the Assembly not to hold this debate;
- of the request tabled by the leaders of the Assembly’s five political groups: *Solidarity with Ceuta: a test case for Europe*: decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and appointed Lord Michael German (United Kingdom, ALDE) as the first speaker.

2.1.3. Draft agenda

The Bureau updated the draft agenda of the part-session and decided to limit the speaking time to two minutes on Tuesday and Wednesday.

2.1.4. General policy debate

The Bureau took note of the decision of the President of the Parliamentary Assembly, together with the leaders of the Assembly’s five political groups, to hold a general policy debate on *Council of Europe: grounded in core values to meet the challenges ahead*, and decided to appoint Mr Knut Abraham (Germany, EPP/CD) as the first speaker. It also decided that the debate will consist of interventions by the leader of the Assembly’s five political groups and by the chairpersons of committees.

2.1.5. Joint Committee (Strasbourg, 30 September 2026)

The Bureau prepared the meeting of the Joint Committee.

2.2. Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (26 June – 28 September 2026)

The Bureau approved the Progress report ([Doc. 16484](#)).

2.3. Election observation

2.3.1. Armenia: parliamentary elections (7 June 2026)

The Bureau approved the report on the observation of these elections.

*2.3.2. Assembly of Kosovo*¹: early elections (7 June 2026)*

The Bureau approved the revised report on the observation of these early elections.

2.3.3. Morocco: parliamentary elections (23 September 2026)

The Bureau took note of the statement by the observation mission.

2.3.4. Bosnia and Herzegovina: general elections (4 October 2026)

The Bureau took note of the statement of the pre-electoral delegation and approved the revised list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix 1).

2.3.5. Serbia: early parliamentary elections (25 October 2026)

The Bureau approved the revised list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections, subject to receiving an invitation (Appendix 2).

2.4. World Forum for Democracy, Strasbourg, 2-3 November 2026

The Bureau approved the revised list of members of the ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in this event (Appendix 3).

2.5. Extension of reference

The Bureau approved the following extension of reference:

- *The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Sweden*, Monitoring Committee decision, Reference 4781 of 22 January 2024 – validity: 22 January 2027: extension until 22 January 2029.

2.6. Communications

The Bureau took note of the communication by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly and held an exchange of views with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

2.7. Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris

The Bureau authorised the Committee on Migration, International Protection and Economic Co-operation to meet in Istanbul on 16-17 November 2026.

1. *All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council [Resolution 1244](#) and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

Appendix 1 – Revised list of members of the ad hoc committee for the observation of the general elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina (4 October 2026)

Chairperson / Président: Mr / M. Jone BLIKRA, Norway / Norvège

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-présidente: Ms / M^{me} Yevheniia KRAVCHUK, Ukraine

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

- Ms / M^{me} Aysu BANKOGLU, Türkiye
- Mr / M. Jone BLIKRA, Norway / Norvège *
- Mr / M. Piero FASSINO, Italy / Italie
- Ms / M^{me} Bisera KOSTADINOVSKA-STOJCHEVSKA, North Macedonia / Macédoine du Nord
- Mr / M. António MENDONÇA MENDES, Portugal
- Mr / M. Mike READER, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

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

- Mr / M. Ricardo CARVALHO, Portugal *
- Ms / M^{me} Andrea EDER-GITSCHTHALER, Austria / Autriche
- Mr / M. Tekke PANMAN, The Netherlands / Pays-Bas
- Mr / M. Marko PAVIĆ, Croatia / Croatie
- Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce

European Conservatives, Patriots & Affiliates (ECPA) / Conservateurs européens, Patriotes et Affiliés (CEPA)

- Ms / M^{me} Elisabetta GARDINI, Italy / Italie *
- Mr / M. José María SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA, Spain / Espagne
- 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. Nikolla CAMAJ, Montenegro / Monténégro
- Ms / M^{me} Yevheniia KRAVCHUK, Ukraine
- Ms / M^{me} Lucia PLAVÁKOVÁ, Slovak Republic / République slovaque *

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

- ZZ

Co-rapporteur.e.s AS/MON (ex officio)

- Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN, Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC *
- Ms / M^{me} Oana MURARIU, Romania, ALDE / Roumanie, ADLE *

* Pre-electoral mission / Mission préélectorale

** Subject to receiving the declaration of interest / sous réserve de recevoir la déclaration d'intérêts

One seat was allocated by the SOC group to ALDE / Un siège a été attribué par le groupe SOC au groupe ADLE

Appendix 2 – Revised list of members of the ad hoc committee for the observation of the early parliamentary elections in Serbia (25 October 2026)

Chairperson / Président: Mr / M. Piero FASSINO, Italy / Italie

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-président: Mr / M. Dominik OBERHOFER, Austria / Autriche

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

- Mr / M. Denis BEGIC, Sweden / Suède
- Mr / M. Piero FASSINO, Italy / Italie *
- Mr / M. Per Vidar KJØLMOEN, Norway / Norvège
- Ms / M^{me} Bisera KOSTADINOVSKA-STOJCHEVSKA, North Macedonia / Macédoine du Nord
- Ms / M^{me} Wanda NOWICKA, Poland / Pologne
- Ms / M^{me} Agnes Sirkka PRAMMER, Austria / Autriche
- Mr / M. Namik TAN, Türkiye

Substitutes / Suppléant·es

- Mr / M. Roberto SPERANZA, Italy / Italie

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

- Mr / Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN, Spain / Espagne **
- Ms / M^{me} Albana VOKSHI, Albania / Albanie* **
- ZZ
- ZZ
- ZZ

Substitutes / Suppléant·es

- Mr / M. Márton HAJDU, Hungary / Hongrie **
- Mr / M. Tilman KUBAN, Germany / Allemagne **
- Mr / M. Jan Philip LIBICKI, Poland / Pologne **
- Mr / M. Cristian-Augustin NICULESCU-ȚĂGÂRLAȘ, Romania / Roumanie **
- Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce **

European Conservatives, Patriots & Affiliates (ECPA) / Conservateurs européens, Patriotes et Affiliés (CEPA)

- Ms / M^{me} Cristina Gabriella DUMITRESCU, Romania / Roumanie *
- ZZ
- 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. Dominik OBERHOFER, Austria / Autriche *

- Ms / M^{me} Lucia PLAVÁKOVÁ, Slovak Republik / République slovaque

Substitutes / Suppléant·es

- Ms / M^{me} Sena Nur ÇELİK KANAT, Türkiye
- Ms / M^{me} Liliana TANGUY, France

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

- Ms / M^{me} Semra ÇAĞLAR GÖKALP, Türkiye *

Substitutes / Suppléant·es

- Mr / M. George LOUCAIDES, Cyprus / Chypre **

Co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee (ex-officio) / Co-rapporteur·es de la commission de suivi (membres de droit)

- Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Türkiye, SOC *
- Ms / M^{me} Victoria TIBLOM, Sweden / Suède, ECPA / CEPA *

* Pre-electoral mission / *mission pré-électorale*

** Subject to receiving the declaration of interest / *sous réserve de recevoir la déclaration d'intérêts*

Appendix 3 – Revised list of members of the ad hoc Committee of the Bureau to participate in the World Forum for Democracy, Strasbourg, 2-3 November 2026

Chairperson / Président·e: ZZ...

Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy / Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie

- Ms / M^{me} Sena Nur ÇELİK KANAT (Türkiye, NR / NI)
- ZZ...
- ZZ...

Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme

- Ms / M^{me} Louise MOREL (France, ALDE / ADLE)
- Ms / M^{me} Lesia VASYLENKO (Ukraine, ALDE / ADLE)
- Mr / M. Emanuelis ZINGERIS (Lithuania, EPP/CD, Lituanie, PPE/DC)

Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) / Commission pour le respect des obligations et engagements des Etats membres du Conseil de l'Europe (commission de suivi)

- Mr / M. Piero FASSINO (Italy / Italie, SOC)
- Mr / M. Ricardo CARVALHO (Portugal, EPP/CD / PPE/DC)
- Ms / M^{me} Albana VOKSHI (Albania, EPP/CD, Albanie, PPE/DC)
- Mr / M. Pablo HISPAN (Spain, EPP/CD, Espagne, PPE/DC)

Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development / Commission des questions sociales, de la santé, et du développement durable

- Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)
- ZZ...
- ZZ...

Committee on Migration, International Protection and Economic Co-operation / Commission des migrations, de la protection internationale et de la coopération économique

- Ms / M^{me} Albana VOKSHI (Albania, EPP/CD, Albanie, PPE/DC)
- ZZ...

Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media / Commission de la culture, de la science, de l'éducation et des médias

- ZZ...
- ZZ...
- ZZ...

Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination / Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination

- Mr / M. Francesco VERDUCCI (Italy / Italie, SOC)
- Baroness Lyn BROWN (United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni, SOC)

- ZZ...

Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities / Commission du Règlement, de l'éthique et des immunités

- Mr / M. Yunus EMRE (Türkiye, SOC)
- Ms / M^{me} Victoria TIBLOM (Sweden, ECPA / Suède, CEPA)
- ZZ...

Special committee on the New Democratic Pact / Commission spéciale sur le Nouveau Pacte Démocratique

- Sir Christopher CHOPE (United Kingdom, ECPA / Royaume-Uni, CEPA)
- Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN (Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC)
- Ms / M^{me} Yelyzaveta YASKO (Ukraine, EPP/CD / PPE/DC)