Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire
https://pace.coe.int

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Doc. 16257 Add. 1
29 September 2025

Activities of the Assembly's Bureau and Standing Committee (29 September 2025)

Progress report
Bureau of the Assembly
Rapporteur: Mr Zsolt NÉMETH, Hungary, European Conservatives, Patriots & Affiliates

1. Decisions of the Bureau of 29 September 2025 requiring ratification by the Assembly

1.1. References and transmissions to committees

The Bureau considered and approved the following references:

– *The functioning of democratic institutions in the Slovak Republic,* Doc. 16215, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) *for report*;

– *Justice delayed: the unfinished implementation of the Daphne Caruana Galizia case,* Doc. 16223, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report;*

– *Climate and gender equality – Strengthening the protection of women's rights in the face of climate disruption,* Doc. 16224, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report* and to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for opinion*;

– Ensuring accountability for the downing of Azerbaijan Airlines flight 8243 and preventing risks of military targeting of civil aircrafts, Doc. 16234, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*.

1.2. 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 for the post of judges in respect of Cyprus and Hungary (Doc. 16257 Add. 2);

– that, subsequent to the committee's meeting and to the publication of its report, the election procedure in respect of Cyprus has been suspended, in accordance with paragraph 2 of the Appendix to Resolution 1432 (2005) as Ms Elena Efrem, one of the three candidates, has withdrawn her candidature. The Government of Cyprus has been invited to complete the list by replacing Ms Efrem.

1.3. 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 European Conservatives, Patriots and Affiliates Group, the Bureau nominated Ms Pavela Mitova (Bulgaria) as a member.

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

On the basis of a proposal by the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Group, the Bureau nominated Mr Andries Gryffroy (Belgium) and Ms Rian Vogels (Netherlands) as members.

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

On the basis of a proposal by the Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group, the Bureau nominated Ms Naomi Cachia (Malta) as an alternate.

The Assembly is invited to ratify these Bureau decisions.

2. Other decisions by the Bureau

2.1. Fourth part-session of 2025 (Strasbourg, 29 September – 3 October)

2.1.1. Requests for debates under urgent procedure

The Bureau took note:

– of the request tabled by the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media on *Reporting from Gaza: an urgent call to protect the lives of journalists and support their work*: decided to recommend to the Assembly not to hold this debate;

– of the request in the framework of the Assembly statutory opinion requested by the Committee of Ministers on *Draft convention establishing an international claims commission for Ukraine*: decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and to refer the matter to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for report;

– of the request tabled by Mr Max Lucks and 24 members of the Assembly on *Democracy, rule of law and inclusive dialogue in Türkiye*: decided to transform this request into a current affairs debate, recommended to the Assembly to hold this debate and appointed Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) as the first speaker;

– of the request tabled by Mr Christophe Lacroix and 23 members of the Assembly on *Israel's deliberate attacks on the Global Sumud humanitarian flotilla en route to Gaza*: decided to recommend to the Assembly not to hold this debate;

– of the request tabled by the leaders of political groups on *Urgent call to put an end to the devastating humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza:* decided to recommend to the Assembly not to hold this debate;

– of the request tabled by the Group of the European People's Party on *Uphold Democracy and the Rule of Law in Georgia*: decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and to refer the matter to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) for report;

– of the request tabled by the Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group on *Urgent call to put an end to the devastating humanitarian catastrophe and the killing of journalists in Gaza*: decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and to refer the matter to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons for report.

2.1.2. Requests for current affairs debates

The Bureau took note:

– of the request tabled by the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Group on *Political crisis in Serbia*: decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate and appointed Ms Victoria Tiblom (Sweden, ECPA) as the first speaker;

– of the request tabled by the leaders of political groups on *Russia: new threats to European democracies*: decided to transform this request into a debate under urgent procedure, to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and to refer the matter to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for report.

2.1.3. Draft agenda

The Bureau updated the draft agenda of the part-session and decided to reduce the speaking time in debates to two minutes from Tuesday morning onwards.

2.1.4. Joint Committee (Strasbourg, 29 September 2025)

The Bureau prepared the meeting of the Joint Committee.

2.2. Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (27 June – 28 September 2025)

The Bureau approved the Progress report (Doc. 16257).

2.3. Election observation

2.3.1. Poland: presidential election (18 May 2025)

The Bureau approved the report of the observation mission (Doc. 16258).

2.4. World Forum for Democracy, Strasbourg, 5-7 November 2025

The Bureau approved the revised list of members of the *ad hoc* committee of the Bureau to participate in this event (Appendix 1).

2.5. Conference on Artificial Intelligence, London, 15-16 December 2025

The Bureau approved the revised list of members of the *ad hoc* committee of the Bureau to participate in this event (Appendix 2).

2.6. Communications

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

Appendix 1 – List of members of the ad hoc Committee of the Bureau to participate in the World Forum for Democracy, Strasbourg, 4-7 November 2025

Presidential Committee / Comité présidentiel

– Mr / M. Frank SCHWABE (Germany, SOC / Allemagne, SOC)
– Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN (Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC)
– Mr / M. Zsolt NÉMETH (Hungary, ECPA / Hongrie, CEPA)
– Mr / M. Iulian BULAI (Romania, ALDE / Roumanie, ADLE)
– Mr / M. George LOUCAIDES (Cyprus, UEL / Chypre, GUE)

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

– Ms / Mme Sena Nur ÇELİK KANAT (Türkiye, NR / NI)
– Mr / M. Piero FASSINO (Italy, SOC / Italie, SOC)
– Mr / M. Stephen GETHINS (United Kingdom, ALDE / Royaume-Uni, ADLE)
– Mr / M. Yuriy KAMELCHUK (Ukraine, EPP/CD / PPE/DC)
– Mr / M. George PAPANDREOU (Greece, SOC / Grèce, SOC)
– Ms / Mme Yelyzaveta YASKO (Ukraine, EPP/CD / PPE/DC)
– Mr / M. Emanuelis ZINGERIS (Lithuania, EPP/CD / Lituanie, PPE/DC)

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

– Ms / Mme Meryem GÖKA (Türkiye, NR / NI)
– Ms / Mme Olena KHOMENKO (Ukraine, ECPA / CEPA)

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

– Ms / Mme Sibel ARSLAN (Switzerland, SOC / Suisse, SOC)
– Mr / M. Vinzenz GLASER (Germany, UEL / Allemagne, GUE)
– Mr / M. Armen GEVORGYAN (Armenia, ECPA / Arménie, CEPA)

Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons / Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées

– Ms / Mme Albana VOKSHI (Albania, EPP/CD / Albanie, PPE/DC)
– Ms / Mme Pelin YILIK (Türkiye, NR / NI)

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

– Mr / M. Yunus EMRE (Türkiye, SOC)
– Ms / Mme Belén HOYO (Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC)
– Ms / Mme Luz MARTINEZ SEIJO (Spain, SOC / Espagne, SOC)
– Mr / M. Pavlo SUSHKO (Ukraine, ECPA / CEPA)
– Ms / Mme Maria-Nefeli CHATZIIOANNIDOU (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)

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

– Ms / Mme Petra BAYR (Austria, SOC / Autriche, SOC)
– Mr / M. Roland Rino BÜCHEL (Switzerland, ALDE / Suisse, ADLE)
– Mr / M. Mustafa CANBEY (Türkiye, NR / NI)
– Ms / Mme Sevilay ÇELENK (Türkiye, UEL / GUE)
– Ms / Mme Meryem GÖKA (Türkiye, NR / NI)
– Ms / Mme Zita GURMAI (Hungary, SOC / Hongrie, SOC)
– Ms / Mme Kate OSBORNE (United Kingdom, SOC / Royaume-Uni, SOC)
– Mr / M. Robert-Ionatan SIGHIARTAU (Romania, EPP/CD / Roumanie, PPE/DC)
– Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)
– Mr / M. Francesco VERDUCCI (Italy, SOC / Italie, SOC)

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)

– Ms / Mme Cristina Gabriella DUMITRESCU (Romania, ECPA / Roumanie, CEPA)
– Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO (Italy, ALDE / Italie, ADLE)
– Mr / M. Malte KAUFMANN (Germany, ECPA / Allemagne, CEPA)

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

– Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO (Ukraine, ECPA / CEPA)
– Ms / Mme Victoria TIBLOM (Sweden, ECPA / Suède, CEPA)

Appendix 2 – List of members of the ad hoc Committee of the Bureau to participate in the Conference on Artificial Intelligence, London, 15-16 December 2025

Chairperson / Président:

Presidential Committee / Comité présidentiel

– Mr / M. Frank SCHWABE (Germany, SOC / Allemagne, SOC)
– Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN (Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC)
– Mr / M. Zsolt NÉMETH (Hungary, ECPA / Hongrie, CEPA)
– Mr / M. Iulian BULAI (Romania, ALDE / Roumanie, ADLE)
– Mr / M. George LOUCAIDES (Cyprus, UEL / Chypre, GUE)

Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy / Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie (6)

– Mr / M. Bertrand BOUYX (France, ALDE / ADLE) – Président ASPOL
– Ms / Mme Dora BAKOYANNIS (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)
– Ms / Mme Deborah BERGAMINI (Italy, EPP/CD / Italie, PPE/DC)
– Lord David BLENCATHRA (United Kingdom, ECPA / Royaume-Uni, CEPA)
– Ms / Mme Marietta KARAMANLI (France, SOC)
– Mr / M. Chris SAID (Malta, EPP/CD / Malte, PPE/DC)

Substitutes / Suppléant·es

– Mr / M. Yuriy KAMELCHUK (Ukraine, EPP/CD / PPE/DC)
– Mr / M. Serhii SOBOLIEV (Ukraine, EPP/CD / PPE/DC)
– Mr / M. Ionuț-Marian STROE (Romania, EPP/CD / Roumanie, PPE/DC)

Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme (5)

– Mr / M. Titus CORLATEAN (Romania, SOC / Roumanie, SOC)
– Mr / M. Damien COTTIER (Switzerland, ALDE, Suisse, ADLE)
– Mr / M. Daniel MILEWSKI (Poland, ECPA / Pologne, CEPA)
– Mr / M. Cristian-Augustin NICULESCU-TÂGÂRLAȘ (Romania, EPP/CD / Roumanie, PPE/DC)
– Mr / M. Ivan RAČAN (Croatia, SOC / Croatie, SOC)

Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development / Commission des questions sociales, de la santé, et du développement durable (5)

– Mr / M. Dan ALDRIDGE (United Kingdom, SOC / Royaume-Uni, SOC)
– Ms / Mme Maria-Nefeli CHATZIIOANNIDOU (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)
– Mr / M. Joe O'REILLY (Ireland, EPP/CD / Irlande, PPE/DC)
– Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH (Austria, SOC / Autriche, SOC)
– Ms / Mme Lesia ZABURANNA (Ukraine, ALDE / ADLE)

Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons / Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées (5)

– Ms / Mme Sena Nur ÇELİK KANAT (Türkiye, NR / NI)
– Ms / Mme Meryem GÖKA (Türkiye, NR / NI)
– Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO (Ukraine, ECPA / CEPA)
– Mr / M. Petri HONKONEN (Finland, ALDE / Finlande, ADLE)
– Ms / Mme Pelin YILIK (Türkiye, NR / NI)

Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media / Commission de la culture, de la science, de l'éducation et des médias (6)

– Mr / M. Mehmet AKALIN (Türkiye, ALDE / ADLE)
– Ms / Mme Belén HOYO (Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC)
– Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO (Italy, ALDE / Italie, ADLE)
– Mr / M. Mogens JENSEN (Denmark, SOC / Danemark, SOC)
– Ms / Mme Marietta KARAMANLI (France, SOC)
– Ms / Mme Luz MARTINEZ SEIJO (Spain, SOC / Espagne / SOC)

Substitutes / Suppléant·es

– Ms / Mme Gabriela HEINRICH (Germany, SOC / Allemagne, SOC)
– Mr / M. Fabio PIETRELLA (Italy, ECPA / Italie, CEPA)
– Mr / M. Pavlo SUSHKO (Ukraine, ECPA / CEPA)
– Mr / M. Nicos TORNARITIS (Cyprus, EPP/CD / Chypre, PPE/DC)
– Ms / Mme Zeynep YILDIZ (Türkiye, NR / NI)

Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination / Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination (5)

– Ms / Mme Sevilay ÇELENK (Türkiye, UEL / GUE)
– Ms / Mme Edina DEŠIĆ (Montenegro, EPP/CD / Monténégro, PPE/DC)
– Ms / Mme Yevheniia KRAVCHUK (Ukraine, ALDE / Ukraine, ADLE)
– Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)
– Mr / M. Francesco VERDUCCI (Italy, SOC / Italie, SOC)

Substitutes / Suppléant·es

– Ms / Mme Edite ESTRELA (Portugal, SOC)

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) (4)

– Ms / Mme Miapetra KUMPULA-NATRI (Finland, SOC / Finlande, SOC)
– Mr / M. Graziano PIZZIMENTI (Italy, ECPA / Italie, CEPA)
– Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH (Austria, SOC / Autriche, SOC)
– Ms / Mme Victoria TIBLOM (Sweden, ECPA / Suède, CEPA)

Substitutes / Suppléant·es

– Ms / Mme Boriana ÅBERG (Sweden, EPP/CD / Suède, PPE/DC)

Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities / Commission du Règlement, de l'éthique et des immunités (2)

– Mr / M. Yunus EMRE (Türkiye, SOC)

– Mr / M. Vladimir VARDANYAN (Armenia, EPP/CD / Arménie, PPE/DC)

Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights / Commission sur l'élection des juges à la Cour européenne des droits de l'homme (2)

– Ms / Mme Petra BAYR (Austria, SOC / Autriche, SOC)