



PACE Spring Session (23-27 April 2018)
Events

Monday 23 April 2018	
<p>1–2 pm Room 5, Palais <i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>“Follow-up to the investigation into alleged corruption at the Parliamentary Assembly”</p> <p>Side-event sponsored by Frank Schwabe (Germany, SOC) and Pieter Omtzigt (Netherlands, EPP/CD)</p>
<p>1–2 pm Room 14, Palais <i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>“Turkish invasion of Afrin: an urgent humanitarian crisis”</p> <p>Side-event sponsored by Tiny Kox (Netherlands, UEL) and Nikolaj Villumsen (Denmark, UEL).</p>
<p>2–3 pm Room 6, Palais Sub-Committee on Education, Youth and Sport of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media <i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>Follow-up to PACE Resolution 2199 (2018) “Towards a framework for modern sports governance”</p> <p>Exchange of views on the possibility of setting-up a Parliamentary Alliance for Good Governance and Integrity in Sport, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bogdan Wenta MEP, Vice-Chairperson of the European Parliament Sport Intergroup, Brussels (video message)• Akaash Maharaj, Chief Executive Officer, Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption, Ottawa, Canada (by video)
<p>2–3 pm Room 8, Palais Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons <i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>Joint hearing on “Refugees and migrants as an easy target for trafficking and exploitation” and “Missing refugee and migrant children in Europe”</p> <p>in the framework of the preparation of these two reports being prepared respectively by Cezar-Florin Preda (Romania, EPP/CD) and Serap Yaşar (Turkey, EC)</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Markus Lehner, Secretariat of GRETA• Federica Toscano, Project Officer, Missing Children Europe, Brussels
<p>2–3 pm Room 9, Palais Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy <i>Not open to the press</i></p>	<p>Exchange of views on “Strengthening co-operation with the United Nations”</p> <p>in the framework of the report being prepared by Adão Silva (Portugal, EPP/CD), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jiri Vogl, Head of the Department of Relations with International Organisations and Non-member States, Directorate of External Relations of the Council of Europe• Marja Ruotanen, Director, Directorate of Human Dignity, Equality and Sport Values, Directorate General of Democracy

Tuesday 24 April 2018	
<p>8.30–10 am Room 3, Palais</p> <p>Sub-Committee on Disability and Multiple and Intersectional Discrimination of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>Hearing on “Best practices for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the labour market”</p> <p>in the framework of the preparation of a report entitled “For a disability-inclusive workforce” by Adão Silva (Portugal, EPP/CD)</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edurne Alvarez De Mon, Human Resources Senior Consultant, <i>ONCE Inserta Foundation</i> (Spain) • Agnès Gerber-Hauptert, Director General, <i>Action et Compétence</i> (France) • David Kennaugh, small business owner (France)
<p>8.30–10 am Room 10, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p> <p><i>Open to the press?</i></p>	<p>Hearing on “The implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights – 10th report”</p> <p>in the framework of the report being prepared by Evangelos Venizelos (Greece, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abel Campos, Section Registrar, Registry of the European Court of Human Rights, Strasbourg (France) • Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director General of Human Rights and Rule of Law of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg (France) • Christos Giannopoulos, Doctor of Public Law, <i>Carré de Malberg</i> Research Institute (IRCM); Associate Lecturer in Public Law; Lecturer at the University of Strasbourg (France)
<p>1–2 pm Room 3, Palais</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>“CoE/EU Partnership for Good Governance: main results”</p> <p>Side-event sponsored by Marian Lupu (Republic of Moldova, SOC), Chairperson of the Moldovan delegation to PACE</p>
<p>1–2 pm Room 10, Palais</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>“Nord Stream 2 as a tool of hybrid war”</p> <p>Side-event sponsored by Volodymyr Arieu (Ukraine, EPP/CD)</p>
<p>1–2 pm Room 14, Palais</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>“Azerbaijan’s flawed election and the human rights crisis: how can the Council of Europe make a difference in the country?”</p> <p>Side-event sponsored by Frank Schwabe (Germany, SOC), organised by Freedom House (FH), the Norwegian Helsinki Committee (NHC), the International Partnership on Human Rights (IPHR), People in Need (PIN), and the Human Rights House Network (HRHN)</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anar Mammadli, Chairman, Election Monitoring and Democracy Studies Centre, winner of the 2014 Vaclav Havel Prize • Najmin Kamilsoy, International Relations Co-ordinator, <i>NIDA</i> Civic Movement • Anna Zamejc, Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (<i>People in Need</i>)
<p>2–3.30 pm Room 6, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>Museum Prize of the Council of Europe</p> <p>Exchange of views with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jette Sandahl, Chairperson of the European Museum Forum (EMF) • Amina Krvavac, Executive Director, and Jasminko Halilović, Founder and Director of the War Childhood Museum, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, winner of the Council of Europe Museum Prize 2018
<p>2.30–3.30 pm Room 7, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>► Designation of the 2018 winners of the Europe Prize, the Plaque of Honour, the Flag of Honour and the European Diploma</p> <p>► Hearing on “Children’s mental health and child-friendly justice”</p> <p>As a follow-up to the seminar on the same issue held in London on 6-7 November 2017</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michele Nicoletti, PACE President • Stella Kyriakides, former PACE President • Baroness Doreen Massey, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Children • Regina Jensdottir, Head of the Children’s Rights Division of the Council of Europe • Maryam Bi, <i>YoungMinds</i> (United Kingdom) • Victor Azubuike, Student, University of Warwick (United Kingdom)

Tuesday 24 April 2018	
<p>2–3.30 pm Room 8, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>► Exchange of views with Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons</p> <p>in the framework of a report being prepared by Killion Munyama (Poland, EPP/CD) on “Humanitarian needs and rights of internally displaced persons in Europe”</p> <p>► Exchange of views on “The human rights impact of the ‘external dimension’ of European Union asylum and migration policy: out of sight, out of rights?”</p> <p>in the framework of a report being prepared by Tineke Strik (Netherlands, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gauri van Gulik, Director for Europe, Amnesty International <p>► Exchange of views on “The humanitarian situation of refugees in the countries neighbouring Syria”</p> <p>in the framework of a report being prepared by Manlio Di Stefano (Italy, NR), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erkan Doğanay, Head of the Intervention Department of AFAD (Disaster and Emergency Management Authority), Turkey • Ms Seniha Çetinel, Migration Expert, AFAD, Turkey
<p>2.30–3.30 pm Room 5, Palais</p> <p>Joint meeting of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination and the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>Hearing on “Alleged extreme discrimination and crimes against LGBTI people in the Chechen Republic (Russian Federation)”</p> <p>in the framework of the preparation of reports on “Alleged extreme discrimination and crimes against LGBTI people in the Chechen Republic (Russian Federation)” by Piet de Bruyn (Belgium, NR) and on “The continuing need to restore human rights and the rule of law in the North Caucasus region” by Frank Schwabe (Germany, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanya Lokshina, Russia Programme Director, Human Rights Watch, Moscow • Igor Kochetkov, Chairperson of the Russian LGBT Network, Saint Petersburg
<p>8.30 pm Palais Rohan, Strasbourg</p> <p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>Award Ceremony of the Council of Europe Museum Prize 2018</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michele Nicoletti, PACE President • Roland Ries, Mayor of the City of Strasbourg • Jette Sandahl, Chairperson of the European Museum Forum (EMF) • Jasminko Halilović, Founder and Director of the War Childhood Museum, Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), winner of the Council of Europe Museum Prize 2018
Wednesday 25 April 2018	
<p>1–2 pm Room 1, Palais</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>“Internal Displacement: responsibility and action – the role of Parliamentarians”</p> <p>Side-event sponsored by Killion Munyama (Poland, EPP/CD), author of a report on the humanitarian needs and rights of internally displaced persons in Europe, which will be debated in plenary session on Wednesday 25 April (in the afternoon).</p> <p>This side-event, organised by the UNHCR, will include the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (to be confirmed) • Daniel Macquire, Legal Officer (IDPs), Division of International Protection, UNHCR, who will give the key findings from the UNHCR and Inter-Parliamentary Union Handbook “Internal Displacement: Responsibility and Action”
<p>1–2 pm Room 5, Palais</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>“The persecution of Christians in the world in 2018”</p> <p>Side-event sponsored by Sir Jeffrey Donaldson (United Kingdom, EC), Pieter Omtzigt (Netherlands, EPP/CD) and Pavlo Unhurian (Ukraine, EPP/CD)</p>
<p>1–2 pm Room 6, Palais</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>“Local elections and internet freedom in Belarus”</p> <p>Side-event sponsored by Emanuelis Zingeris (Lithuania, EPP/CD)</p>

Wednesday 25 April 2018

2–3.30 pm
Room 3, Palais

Sub-Committee on the Rights of Minorities of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

Open to the press

Hearing on “Twenty years on: shortcomings and challenges in the use of regional or minority languages at local and regional level”

with the participation of:

- Vesna Crnić-Grotić, Chair of the Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages
- Andrew Dawson, member of the Chamber of Regions of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, rapporteur of the Governance Committee on “The use of languages by local and regional authorities”

2–3 pm
Room 8, Palais

Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons

Open to the press

Exchange of views on “Blockchain as an opportunity in the context of migration”

with the participation of:

- James Song, CEO of ExsulCoin

2–3.30 pm
Room 9, Palais

Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

Open to the press

Exchange of views on the “Follow-up to [Resolution 2172 \(2017\)](#) and [Recommendation 2107 \(2017\)](#) on the situation in Belarus”

with the participation of:

- Andrei Naumovich, Head of the Working Group on death penalty issues, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Human Rights, National Relations and Media, House of Representatives of the National Assembly of Belarus
- Alena Anisim, member of the Committee on Education, Culture and Science, House of Representatives of the National Assembly of Belarus
- Tatsiana Karatkevich, member of the Belarusian Social Democratic Party and civic campaign *Tell the Truth*

2–3 pm
Room 10, Palais

Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

Open to the press?

Exchange of views on “Protecting human rights defenders in Council of Europe member States”

in the framework of the report being prepared by Egidijus Vareikis (Lithuania, EPP/CD), with the participation of:

- Michel Forst, UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders

Thursday 26 April 2018

8.30–10 am
Room 7, Palais

Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media

Open to the press

Exchange of views on “Education and culture: new partnerships to support personal development and cohesion”

in the framework of the report being prepared by Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC), with the participation of:

- Joan Parr, Head of Creative Learning, Creative Scotland, Edinburgh, UK

8.30–10 am
Room 11, Palais

Monitoring Committee

(meeting in camera, not open to the press)

Romania: exchange of views on recent reforms of the judiciary, including in the context of the fight against corruption

with the participation of:

- Thomas Markert, Director, Secretary of the Venice Commission
- Gianluca Esposito, Executive Secretary of GRECO
- Judge Simona Camelia Marcu, President of the Superior Council of Magistrates
- a representative of the ruling majority and of the opposition in Romania, who are also members of the Monitoring Committee

Thursday 26 April 2018	
<p>9–10 am Room 3, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination <i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>Exchange of views on the establishment of a European academic network on the Istanbul Convention</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michele Nicoletti, President of the Assembly • Prof. Marina Calloni, President of the Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Milan-Bicocca (by video)
<p>1–2 pm Room 5, Palais</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>“Men as agents of change for gender equality (‘the Barbershop’)”</p> <p>Side-event sponsored by Rósa Björk Brynjólfssdóttir (Iceland, UEL), Chairperson of the Icelandic delegation to PACE</p> <p>organised by the Danish Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers, the Icelandic Ministries of Welfare and Foreign Affairs, the Icelandic delegation to PACE, and the Gender Equality Unit of the Council of Europe</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ásmundur Einar Daðason, Minister of Social Affairs and Equality, Iceland • Thorbjörn Jagland, Secretary General, Council of Europe
<p>1–2 pm Room 11, Palais</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>“Panel discussion on Gender equality”</p> <p>Side-event sponsored by Tamar Chugoshvili (Georgia, SOC), Head of the Georgian delegation to PACE</p>
<p>1–2 pm Room 14, Palais</p> <p><i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>“Using propaganda and silencing critics in the context of the Russian and Azerbaijan presidential elections”</p> <p>Side-event sponsored by Yves Cruchten (Luxembourg, SOC) and Anne Brasseur (Luxembourg, ALDE), organised by the Institute for Reporters’ Freedom and Safety (IRFS)</p>
<p>2–3.30 pm Room 6, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media <i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>Exchange of views on “The role of education in the digital era: from ‘digital natives’ to ‘digital citizens’”</p> <p>in the framework of the report being prepared by Constantinos Efstathiou (Cyprus, SOC)</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Villano Qiraizi, Head of Division Education Policy, Education Department, DG II – Directorate of Democratic Citizenship and Participation, Council of Europe
<p>2–3.30 pm Room 8, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons <i>Open to the press</i></p>	<p>► Exchange of views on the “UN Global Compact for Migration”</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambassador Tomáš Boček, Special Representative of the Secretary General on Migration and Refugees • Eduard Gnesa, former Ambassador for international migration, Chair of the Experts group to the Global Forum on Migration and Development <p>► Exchange of views on the “Radicalisation of migrants and diaspora communities in Europe”</p> <p>in the framework of the report being prepared by Sahiba Gafarova (Azerbaijan, EC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karin Heremans, Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN), European Commission

NB. This list includes non-plenary events organised by or held under the auspices of Assembly committees, national delegations or political groups, or involving the Assembly’s President, rapporteurs or other members. It is not necessarily exhaustive, and may be subject to last-minute changes.