



AS/Mon (2019) OJ 04 REV

6 May 2019

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

Revised draft agenda

of the meeting to be held *in camera* in London, Portcullis House, on:

- Thursday, 16 May 2019, from 9.00 am to 5.30 pm, Attlee Suite, 1st floor
- Friday, 17 May 2019, from 9.30 am to 5.30 pm, Attlee Suite, 1st floor

Thursday, 16 May 2019, 9.00 am to 11.00 am (Attlee Suite, 1st floor)

Hearing on “Media freedom and the functioning of the democratic institutions” (open to the press and public)

Welcome by Sir Roger Gale, Chairman of the Monitoring Committee

Introductory Statements by:

- Mr Alastair King-Smith, Co-ordinator for Global Campaign on Media Freedom, Deputy Director, Foreign and Commonwealth Office
- Mr Jamie Angus, Director, BBC World Service Group
- Ms Rebecca Vincent, UK Bureau Director, Reporters Without Borders (RSF)
- Lord George Foulkes, General Rapporteur on media freedom and safety of journalists, Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Questions and debate

**This draft agenda, addressed to members of the Committee,
is the convocation to the meeting.**

It also constitutes the invitations foreseen in Resolution 1115 (1997), paragraph 10.¹

Copy to Secretaries of national delegations and of political groups

Meeting documents are published on the Parliamentary Assembly extranet website (restricted area for national delegations): <http://assembly.coe.int/extranet>.

¹ Resolution 1115, paragraph 10: "When a monitoring procedure is initiated, two members of the parliamentary delegation of the member state concerned (to represent the governing majority and the opposition) shall be invited to take part, without the right to vote, in the relevant debates of the committee unless one or both are already represented on the committee. By analogy with Rule 6, paragraph 8, no member of the parliamentary delegation of the member state concerned shall participate in a vote on any question concerning this state."

MEETING IN CAMERA

Thursday, 16 May 2019 from 11.00 am to 12.30 pm (Attlee Suite, 1st floor)

1. Opening of the Meeting

2. Draft agenda

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Adoption of the revised draft agenda

3. Draft minutes

[AS/Mon (2019) PV 03]

Approval of the draft minutes of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 8-10 April 2019

4. Turkey

Co-rapporteurs: Ms Marianne Mikko, Estonia, SOC and Mr Nigel Evans, United Kingdom, EC

[Statement of 1st April 2019 and 12 April 2019 of the Congress] [Letter of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe of 15 April 2019]

- Exchange of views on the local elections of 31 March 2019, with the participation of Mr Andrew W. Dawson (United Kingdom, ECR), Head of the election observation mission of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities
- Exchange of views on recent developments with regard to the follow-up to Resolution 2260 (2019) on “The worsening situation of opposition politicians in Turkey: what can be done to protect their fundamental rights in a Council of Europe member State?”

5. Honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by France

Statement by the Chairperson

6. Honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Hungary, Malta and Romania

Discussion on the preparation of the reports

Thursday, 16 May 2019 from 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm (Attlee Suite, 1st floor)

7. The functioning of democratic institutions in Poland

Co-rapporteurs: Ms Azadeh Rojhan Gustafsson, Sweden, SOC and Mr Pieter Omtzigt, Netherlands, EPP/CD

Exchange of views on the reform of the Justice system in Poland and the developments under the European Union Rule of Law mechanism in this regard

Session A. European standards and the reform of the Polish justice system

- Council of Europe standards: Mr Richard Clayton, Member of the Venice Commission
- European Union Rule of Law Mechanism, Mr Nicolaas Bel, Deputy Head of the rule of law Unit, Directorate General for Justice and Consumers, European Commission

Session B. Current state of affairs with regard to the reform of the Polish justice system

- Mr Łukasz Piebiak, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Justice of Poland
- Mr. Dariusz Zawistowski President of the Civil Chamber of the Supreme Court of Poland
- Ms Małgorzata Szuleka, Polish Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights
- Mr Tymoteusz Zych, Member of the Board, Ordo Iuris

8. Post-monitoring dialogue with Bulgaria

Co-rapporteurs: Mr Frank Schwabe, Germany, SOC and Mr Zsolt Németh, Hungary, EPP/CD
[AS/Mon (2019) 10] [AS/Mon (2019) 11]

- Consideration of the comments of the Bulgarian Delegation to the PACE to the preliminary draft report
- Consideration of a draft report and adoption of a preliminary draft resolution

Friday, 17 May 2019 from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm (Attlee Suite, 1st floor)

9. Serbia

Co-rapporteurs: Ms Maria Guzenina, Finland, SOC and Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, United Kingdom, EC
[AS/Mon (2019) ***] [Letter of the Chair]

- Statement by the Chairperson
- Consideration of the comments of the Serbian Delegation to the PACE to the preliminary draft report

10. Exchange of views with Mr Thomas Markert, Executive Secretary of the Venice Commission

Exchange of views on the work and priorities of the Venice Commission

Friday, 17 May 2019 from 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm (Attlee Suite, 1st floor)

11. Georgia

Co-Rapporteurs: Mr Titus Corlăţean, Romania, SOC and Mr Claude Kern, France, ALDE
[CDL-AD(2018)029]

Exchange of views with Mr Thomas Markert, Executive Secretary of the Venice Commission, on the opinion of the Venice Commission on “The provisions on the prosecutorial council in the draft organic law on the prosecutor’s office and on the provisions on the high council of justice in the existing organic law on general courts of Georgia”

12. Ukraine

Co-rapporteurs: Ms Dzhema Grozdanova, Bulgaria, EPP/CD and Mr Alfred Heer, Switzerland, ALDE
[Press release]

Exchange of views on the conduct of the presidential election in Ukraine (31 March and 21 April 2019)

13. Representation of the Committee at various events

Oral Report by the Chairman of the Committee on his participation in the UniDem Seminar, co-organised by the Venice Committee with the Law Faculty of Lund, Sweden on 6-7 May 2019 entitled “The State of democracy thirty years after the fall of the iron curtain”.

14. Authorisation of fact-finding visits

15. Other business

State of procedures
[AS/Mon/Inf (2019) 09]

Work programme
[AS/Mon/Inf (2019) 10]

16. Next meetings

Strasbourg, 24-28 June 2019 (during the Assembly part-session)

Paris, 10 September 2019 (tbc)

Strasbourg, 30 September-4 October 2019 (during the Assembly part-session)

Paris, 13 November 2019 (tbc)

Paris, 11 December 2019 (tbc)