



AS/Pol (2021) CB 05
12 May 2021

To the members of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

Synopsis of the meeting held by videoconference on 11 May 2021

The **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**, meeting by videoconference on 11 May 2021, with Mr Zsolt Németh (Hungary, EC/DA), Chairperson, in the Chair:

- **Transparency and regulation of donations to political parties and electoral campaigns from foreign donors** (*Rapporteur: Mr Konstantin Kuhle, Germany, ALDE*): heard a statement by Mr Bjørn Berge, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, considered a draft report and adopted a draft resolution, as amended, and a draft recommendation;
- **The impact of Brexit on Human Rights on the island of Ireland** (*Rapporteur: Mr Georgios Katrougkalos, Greece, UEL*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, followed by an exchange of views, took note that he would circulate an outline for report ahead of the next meeting, and agreed to his request to carry out fact-finding visits to Northern Ireland (United Kingdom) and the Republic of Ireland, including in the border area;
- **Reply from the Committee of Ministers to Recommendation 2179 (2020) on “Democracies facing the Covid-19 pandemic”** (*Former Rapporteur: Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, United Kingdom, EC/DA*): took note of the reply of the Committee of Ministers;
- **More participatory democracy to tackle climate change** (*Rapporteur: Mr George Papandreou, Greece, SOC*): held a hearing with the participation of Professor Archon Fung, Professor of Citizenship and Self-Government, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, followed by an exchange of views, and considered a preliminary draft report;
- **Open discussion on current issues**: held an exchange of views on the escalation of violence between Israelis and Palestinians, and took note that Piero Fassino (Italy, SOC), Rapporteur on *Recent developments in Libya and the Middle East: what consequences for Europe?* would make a statement on the issue;
- **Next meetings:**
 - . During the Assembly's 3rd part-session, 21-24 June 2021
 - . During the Assembly's 4th part-session, 27 September-1 October 2021
 - . 4 November 2021
 - . 6 December 2021

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The **Sub-Committee on the Middle East and the Arab World** (of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy), meeting by videoconference on 11 May 2021, with Mr Georgios Katrougkalos (Greece, UEL), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Perspectives for Peace after the Israeli and Palestinian elections:** held an exchange of views with Mr Haim Assaraf, Ambassador of Israel to International Organisations in France, and Mr Bernard Sabella, Chairperson of the Palestinian partner for democracy delegation;
- **Date and place of the next meeting:** left it to the Chairperson to convene the next meeting.

P. Chevtchenko, A. Elveriş, M. Huot

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
Director and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations
Secretary General of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
Director of Communication
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe