



Delegation to the EU-North Macedonia Joint Parliamentary Committee

D-MK_PV(2019)1212_0

MINUTES
of the meeting of 12 December 2019, 11.30-12.30
Brussels

The meeting opened at 11.40 on Thursday, 12 December 2019, with Andreas Schieder (Chair) presiding.

1. Adoption of the draft agenda
2. Adoption of the draft minutes of the last meeting of the EU-North Macedonia delegation
3. Announcements of the Chair
N/A
4. Exchange of views on the political situation in the Republic of North Macedonia with
 - Ambassador Agneza RUSI POPOVSKA, Mission of the Republic of North Macedonia to the EU
 - Mr David CULLEN, Head of Unit for Kosovo, North Macedonia, DG NEAR
 - Ms Elsa FENET, Head of Division 'Western Balkans', EEAS

Ambassador Agneza RUSI POPOVSKA thanked D-MK Chair and Members for keeping the dynamics of the JPC meetings and for their support to the efforts of North Macedonia, in particular following the disappointing European Council conclusions of October 2019, postponing the decision of opening negotiations with Albania and North Macedonia. She underlined that, despite the disenchantment, North Macedonia continued to be committed to the process and the reform agenda. She mentioned the existing proposals on the reform of the enlargement methodology, which North Macedonia accepted with an open mind as far as the process is clear and certain. Regarding the ongoing reforms, she emphasised the work done on the reform of the electoral system, to be completed ahead of the April election, the building of

a parliamentary majority to pass the new law on the Public Prosecutor's Office, as well as the progress made on fighting corruption and increasing transparency in the public expenditure.

Mr David CULLEN underlined that the Commission stood by its recommendation to open accession negotiations with North Macedonia. Following week's JPC would be a good opportunity to encourage the authorities of North Macedonia to continue advancing in the reforms, in particular as regards the adoption of the new law on the Public Prosecutors Office, the independence of the judiciary, and the fight against corruption and organised crime. He announced that the Commission would issue a paper on the revision of the enlargement methodology in January with the aim of making the process more efficient. Enlargement is a living policy and is constantly improved and updated, learning from the experience of the previous enlargements.

Ms Elsa FENET also called for taking the opportunity offered by the JPC to continue working with North Macedonia. She hoped that some of the ongoing reforms could be finalised before the election. She underlined the engagement of North Macedonia with the EU beyond their bilateral relations, in particular as regards the CFSD and regional cooperation.

5. Preparation for the 17th EU-North Macedonia JPC meeting scheduled on 18-19 December 2019 in Strasbourg

The Chair informed of the preparations for the upcoming JPC. Invitations were sent to HRVP Borrell and to Commissioner Varhelyi and hopefully both institutions, the EEAS and the Commission, would be duly represented.

In line with the RoP, recommendations to the authorities of North Macedonia and the EU would be put for adoption. After the draft is finalised, it will be distributed to all the JPC Members for amendments.

6. Any other business

N/A

7. Date and place of the next meeting

17th EU-North Macedonia JPC meeting, 18-19 December 2019, Strasbourg.

The meeting closed at 12.20.

**/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZEN NÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
 ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/ /RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
 LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/POPIS NAZO NIH/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKL JUMU RE ISTRS/DALYVI S RAŠAS/
 JELENLÉTI ÍV/RE ISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNO CI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/
 LIST DE PREZEN /PREZEN NÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZO IH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

/Mesa/P edsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/ /Bureau/Predsjetništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezydium/Birou/Predsedníctvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Andreas Schieder (C), Irena Joveva (VC)
/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/ /Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deput ti/Nariai/ Képviselek/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputa i/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
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Hugo Ellis, UK Permanent Representation

209 (7)	
216 (3)	
56 (8) (/Punto del orden del día/Bod po adu jednaní (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/ Päevakorra punkt/ μ μ /Agenda item/Point OJ/To ka dnevno g reda/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba k rt bas punkts/Darbotvark s punktā/Napirendi pont/Punt A enda/Agendapunt/Punkt porz dku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/To ka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Föredragningslista punkt)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ambassador Agneza RUSI POPOVSKA, Mission of the Republic of North Macedonia to the EU - Mr David CULLEN, Head of Unit for Kosovo, North Macedonia, DG NEAR, European Commission - Ms Elsa FENET, Head of Division 'Western Balkans', European External Action Service 	4

/Observadores/Pozorovateľ/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/ /Observers/Observateurs/Promatritsi/	
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/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/ /At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Sur l'invitation du président/	
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Vincenzo Greco, DG NEAR	
/Servicio Europeo de Acción Exterior/Evropská služba pro vnější innošt/ /European EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger Dienst/Euroopa välisteenistus/ /European External Action service/Service européen pour l'action extérieure/Evropska služba za vanjsko djelovanje/Servizio europeo per l'azione esterna/Eiropas ārējais darbs dienests/Europolis išošs veiksmtarnyba/Európai Kültügyi Szolgálat/Servizz Ewropew għall-Azzjoni Esterna/Europese dienst voor extern optreden/Europejska Służba Działa Zewntrzych/Serviço Europeu para a Acção Externa/ Serviciul european pentru acțiune extern /Európska služba pre vonkajšiu innošt /Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska avdelningen för yttre åtgärd (*)	
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Mission of North Macedonia	Vlatko Stankovski, Zulfi Ismaili

/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/ participants/Autres participants/Drugi sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi klasesnieši/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti oħra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Al i participan i/Inī účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

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PPE	Julianna Huszar-Dekany; Akusti Leino
S&D	Ilgin Warneke
Renew	
Verts/ALE	Olinka Harmegnies
ID	Martin Filipov
ECR	
GUE/NGL	
NI	

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Tatiana Mrazikova; Maria Alvarez Lopez	
/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/ /Assistant/Assistente/Pal gs/Pad j jas/Assisztens/Asyent/Pomo nik/ Avustaja/Assistenten	
Vesselina Veleva	

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