

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



BUREAU

MINUTES

of the meeting of

04-07-2016

Louise Weiss Building - Room R1.1.

Strasbourg

BUREAU

MINUTES

of the meeting of Monday, 4 July 2016
from 18:30 to 20:30 hours

Louise Weiss Building - Room R1.1.

Strasbourg

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BUREAU

MINUTES

of the meeting of Monday, 4 July 2016

Strasbourg

Mr Martin SCHULZ, President of the European Parliament, opened the meeting at 18.34 hours.

Present

Mr Martin SCHULZ, President*

Vice-Presidents

Mr TAJANI*
Mr WIELAND*
Mr VALCÁRCEL SISO*
Ms VÁLEAN*
Ms GUILLAUME*
Mr PAȘCU*
Ms JÄÄTTEENMÄKI*
Ms LUNACEK*
Mr PAPADIMOULIS*
Mr CZARNECKI*

Excused

Ms McGUINNESS
Ms GÁLL-PELCZ
Mr SASSOLI
Mr LAMBSDORFF

Quaestors

Ms MORIN-CHARTIER*
Mr LIBERADZKI
Mr KOVATCHEV*
Mr KARSKI*

Excused

Ms BEARDER

Also Present

Mr WELLE, Secretary-General*

Ms RATTI, Deputy Secretary-General*

* present for Items 6 and 7 *in camera*

Invited for item 4

Ms HÜBNER

Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

List of officials present at the meeting:

Private Office of the President

Mr WINKLER*
 Mr DIRRIG**
 Ms BOVEINGTON-FAURAN
 Ms WOLLNY
 Mr KLEINER
 Mr DREUTE

Private Office of the Secretary-General

Mr MANGOLD*
 Ms LUEDDECKE
 Mr SCHULMEISTER

Private Office of the Deputy Secretary-General

Mr LANE

Secretariat

DG Presidency (PRES)	Mr KNUDSEN
DG Internal Policies (IPOL)	Mr RIBERA D'ALCALA/ Mr PACHECO***
DG External Policies (EXPO)	Mr AGUIRIANO
DG Parliamentary Research Services (EPRS)	Mr TEASDALE
DG Information (COMM)	Ms LAHOUSSE/ Mr DUCH-GUILLOT
DG Personnel (PERS)	Mr KAISER****
DG Infrastructure and Logistics (INLO)	Mr QUINTELA
DG Translation (TRAD)	Mr MAVRIC
DG Interpretation and Conferences (INTE)	Ms WALTER-DROP
DG Finance (FINS)	Mr KLETHI/ Mr REJNDERS*****/ Mr BETZ*****
DG Innovation, Technical Support (ITEC)	Mr VILELLA
DG Security and Safety (SAFE)	Ms RATTI
Legal Service	Mr DREXLER, Jurisconsult*

* present for Item 6 and 7 *in camera*

** present only for Item 7 *in camera as of 20.43 hours*, replacing Mr WINKLER

*** present only for Item 4

**** present only for Item 6 *in camera*

***** present only for Item 5

Director for the Relations with Political Groups
 Mr SCHWETZ
 Conference of President's Secretariat
 Mr ISAACS

Political group secretariats

Mr EVISON	(EPP)
Mr HORNAK	(S&D)
Mr BESZLEJ	(ECR)
Ms GLATIGNY	(ALDE)
Ms PANTAZIDOU	(GUE/NGL)
Mr DENKINGER	(Greens/EFA)
Mr PITTARELLO	(EFDD)
Mr CAMPOMENOSI	(ENF)
Mr GLASER	(Non-attached Members)

Vice-Presidents' and Quaestors' assistants

Ms SALVELLI	Mr TAJANI's assistant
Ms O'HEA	Ms McGUINNESS's assistant
Ms KRONTAL	Mr WIELAND's assistant
Ms DIAZ BLANCO	Mr VALCARCÉL's assistant
Mr LOVAS	Ms GÁLL-PELCZ's assistant
Ms CUEVAS HERMAN	Ms VÁLEAN's assistant
Ms BARREIRA	Ms GUILLAUME's assistant
Mr VINTILA	Mr PAŞCU's assistant
Mr COBUCCI	Mr SASSOLI's assistant
Ms LEINONEN	Ms JÄÄTTEENMÄKI's assistant
Mr KLEEMANN	Mr LAMBSDORFF's assistant
Ms ROSENBERG	Ms LUNACEK's assistant
Mr ALATOPOULOS	Mr PAPADIMOULIS's assistant
Ms SOBKIEWICZ	Mr CZARNECKI's assistant
Mr RICHARD	Ms MORIN-CHARTIER's assistant
Mr VOGT	Mr LIBERADZKI's assistant
Ms KONTÁR	Ms BEARDER's assistant
Ms STANEVA	Mr KOVATCHEV's assistant
Mr SKOCZEK	Mr KARSKI's assistant

Mr TZIORKAS*, Mr CALINOGLOU, Ms MORGADO, Mr ADLER and Mr PETERS acted as secretary to the meeting.

* present for Item 6 and 7 *in camera*

1. Adoption of draft agenda

The Bureau,

- noted the draft agenda and adopted it as shown in these minutes (PE 583.298/BUR).

2. Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting of 6 June 2016

The Bureau,

- approved the Minutes of the Bureau meeting of 6 June 2016 held in Strasbourg (PE 583.199/BUR).

3. Communications by the President

3.1. Penalties against Members pursuant to Rule 166

The Bureau,

- heard the President inform Members that he intended to impose a penalty against Mr KORWIN-MIKKE, Member, pursuant to Rule 166 of the Rules of Procedure on the grounds of that Member's statement in the plenary meeting of 7 June 2016, that Africa would spill out their cesspit over Europe during the refugee crisis; point out that in the hearing which the President had granted Mr KORWIN-MIKKE, he did not show any regret for his remarks and, on the contrary, stated that all persons receiving social benefits were garbage regardless of their race, and went on to insult the President himself; inform Members that he intended to impose a penalty of ten daily allowances on Mr KORWIN-MIKKE on the grounds of his statements in the plenary and exclude him from the plenary for five days on the grounds of his statements in the hearing;
- heard the President inform Members that Mr BAY, Member, had brought proceedings at the European Court of Justice against the penalty imposed on him by the Bureau on the grounds of having used the voting mechanism of Ms Le PEN, Member, during her absence from the Plenary in order to vote in her place.

3.2. Consequences of the Brexit vote

The Bureau,

- heard the President underline that as long as the United Kingdom was a full member of the European Union, British Members and staff of the European Parliament enjoyed exactly the same rights and obligations as all other Members and staff of the house.

A. DECISIONS/EXCHANGE OF VIEWS4. Funding of political parties and political foundations at European level - Report by the Secretary-General

The Bureau, with debate,

- noted the report dated 27 May 2016 from the Secretary-General concerning the funding of political parties and political foundations at European level (PE 583.246/BUR and annexes);
- heard the President introduce the matter at hand, stressing that the purpose of the report from the Secretary-General was to present the state of play and that no decision was required; welcome to the meeting Ms HÜBNER, Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs;
- heard the Secretary-General present his report, reminding Members that it had been submitted for the Bureau's information, which should be forwarded to the AFCO Committee and possibly the Commission, and that a similar report had been presented in 2010; note that if the Commission were to submit a new legislative proposal in time for adoption before the European Elections in 2019, the timetable would be tight; explain that three main problems were presented in the report, namely:
 - for many parties and in particular foundations the acquisition of own resources in order to reach a 15%-co-financing rate has been a major problem; the level of contributions in kind which were currently allowed to be as high as 50% of the required co-financing by own-resources, was not very helpful since contributions in kind were often difficult to define and their value difficult to estimate correctly; a different balance should therefore be sought; it could, for instance, be envisaged to lower the ceiling for contributions in kind to 10%, but also to lower the required level of co-financing through own-

resources to 5% in order to avoid worsening the financial situation of parties and foundations;

- as regards the representation criterion, it is very problematic that individual Members from the same national party can be members of different European political parties, thereby helping these parties to fulfil the representation criterion; moreover, mandates held in regional parliaments can also be counted in terms of fulfilling the representation criterion, knowing that the definition of a regional parliament such as large city councils was sometimes unclear and could lead to grey zones; the current minimum number of only one Member of the European Parliament could be considered as being too low, and an increase could therefore be considered (possibly to seven or more);
 - the question whether the current ban on financing those referenda campaigns which deal with European matters was reasonable, since the current rule led to European political parties not having a voice in such campaigns;
- held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr PAPADIMOULIS, Ms LUNACEK, Ms JÄÄTTEENMÄKI, Mr CZARNECKI, Mr WIELAND, Ms GUILLAUME, Vice-Presidents, and Mr KARSKI, Quaestor, who *inter alia*
- voiced overall agreement for the main concerns raised by the Secretary-General in his report;
 - expressed the view that extremist parties that did not abide by the fundamental values of the European Union should not have access to public grants;
 - agreed that one Member of the European Parliament as representation criterion was too low, but that a reasonable number should be set, and that the same Member should not be able to be a member of different parties;

- heard Ms JÄÄTTEENMÄKI, Vice-President, stress that the minimum number of Members of the European Parliament required should be lower than 22 as suggested in the joint proposal from Mr DAUL, President of the European People's Party, Mr STANISHEV, President of the Party of European Socialists, and Mr van BAALEN, President of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe;
- heard Ms LUNACEK, Vice-President, express the view that the report should be discussed by the political groups before the matter was referred to the Committee on Constitutional Affairs;
- heard Ms HÜBNER, Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, note that it was for the Bureau to decide whether or not to refer the report to the AFCO Committee and observe that the timetable for the adoption of new legislation in time for the next European elections, in 2019, was almost too tight and a major effort should be done in order to convince the Commission to put forward a new legislative proposal;
- heard the Secretary-General sum-up the debate by noting that there was overall agreement that more Members than currently should be required as representation criterion, but how many exactly was up for further discussion and that the co-financing rate needs to be lowered; for extremist parties there was already available the mechanism provided for in Rule 225 of the Rules of Procedure; the scope of the forbidden cross-membership should be extended; time was tight and swift action should be taken;
- heard the President note that there was overall agreement that the European Union should not finance extremist parties and foundations, which did not respect human rights and the fundamental EU values, and propose that the Bureau take note of the report from the Secretary-General and forward it to the AFCO Committee and the European Commission for further consideration;

- took note of the report the Secretary-General and forwarded it for further consideration to the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and to the European Commission.

5. Implementation of the Inter-Institutional Agreement on the Transparency Register - Note from the Secretary-General

The Bureau, with debate,

- took note of the note dated 24 June 2016 from the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of the 2014 Inter-Institutional Agreement on the Transparency Register (PE 586.378/BUR);

- heard Ms GUILLAUME, Vice-President responsible for the Transparency Register, present the proposals in the note from the Secretary General as a positive step towards completing implementation of the Inter-Institutional Agreement on the Transparency Register noting in particular that:
 - political groups should be encouraged to invite their Members to provide useful information on the co-hosting or co-organising of events on Parliament's premises with any third parties involved;
 - the provision of additional information for those registered should function as an extra incentive;
 - a voluntary, not exhaustive footprint of organisations consulted in drawing up reports by rapporteurs or draftspersons for opinions should be facilitated by the provision of a relevant form;
 - the small team dealing with the Transparency Register needs some additional human resources to enable it to manage the workload better;

- held a broad exchange of views on the subject with the participation of Mr WIELAND, Ms VĂLEAN, Mr PAPANIMOU, Ms JĂATTEENMĂKI, Ms LUNACEK, Mr CZARNECKI, Vice-Presidents, and Mr KARSKI, Quaestor, in which the broad thrust of the proposals was supported but certain reservations were expressed, especially regarding the proposal to establish a legislative footprint for all rapporteurs working on legislative files;

- heard, in particular,
 - Mr WIELAND, Vice-President, thank Ms GUILLAUME for the inclusion in her proposals of several of his remarks, but still stress that some additional clarification was necessary on the information to be requested from political groups, that organisations, such as churches, trade unions and lawyers who were not bound by the Transparency Register, should not be deprived of access to information, that some flexibility be shown to small societies or individuals setting up an exhibition and that rapporteurs should not be put under moral pressure to disclose all their meetings or conversations, many of which could be accidental (e.g. in an elevator, a corridor or at a reception) or irrelevant, simply consisting in a polite handshake with someone hardly known; the Bureau should not be held liable by the BUDG Committee for any additional staffing of the Transparency Unit;
 - Ms VĂLEAN, Vice-President, express her concern at the proposal to provide ‘legislative footprints’ of interest organisations or individuals who had been consulted in the preparation of reports as it will only create opportunities for people to further criticise parliamentarians about how many representatives they meet whilst the voluntary and non-exhaustive nature of such a list would only lead to accusations of hiding some information and add populist pressure on rapporteurs to disclose emails, phone calls and informal conversations;
 - Mr PAPANIMOU, Vice-President, consider that the report reflected well on Parliament and represented real progress on the matter, although conceded that monitoring the Transparency Register remains a sensitive and potentially controversial issue politically; raise the matter of the involvement of all political groups in any inter-institutional working group established to review the Transparency Register;

- Ms LUNACEK, Vice-President, support the proposals whilst recognising the legitimate concerns expressed but also the need to manage them in such a way as to enable the transparency principle to be respected; consider that there should also be some provision for the protection of whistle-blowers; recall that, for the most part, journalists were not so interested in the publication of a legislative footprint to a report but prefer to ask Members directly who they met; agree with the proposal to involve all political groups in any inter-institutional working group on the review of the Transparency Register;
 - Ms JÄÄTTEENMÄKI, Vice-President, recall the voluntary nature of the Register and remark that several issues still needed to be addressed as more and more lobbyists enter Parliament; observe that the Finnish Parliament maintains a list of stakeholders who have been consulted; consider that churches, trade unions and lawyers should be required to register just like all other influential stakeholders; acknowledge that, whilst individuals who have a meeting with a rapporteur should be listed, it would still not cover lobbying activity by email or phone;
 - Mr CZARNECKI, Vice-President, observe the need to find a compromise as otherwise we will find ourselves in paralysis;
 - Mr KARSKI, Quaestor, warn against over-regulation which can result in unwelcome consequences and that Members should not be obliged to compile too much information on whom they consulted;
- heard the President recall that the basic rules for institutional working groups are fixed by the Bureau and, whilst certain aspects of this proposal may need clarifying, the modifications should be approved without further delay; underline that Parliament is already more transparent than other institutions, especially the

Council; remark that protection should be ensured for whistle blowers who would like to meet with Members in order to provide them with information;

- heard Ms GUILLAUME, Vice-President, acknowledge the main concerns regarding the legislative footprint whilst the rest of the proposal was relatively unproblematic; underline that the aim is not to over-burden Members and that the proposed legislative footprint would be voluntary, so Members can decide not to list some sources if they wish to protect them; observe that some Members consider transparency to be a moral obligation whilst others consider it just a means to respond to citizens' concerns, but Parliament nevertheless needs to make up its mind ahead of negotiations with the other institutions;

- heard the President note that there appeared to be no problems to approve the first two paragraphs of the draft decision, with some modifications, as listed below, and propose to approve, in principle, the other proposals subject to the remarks and concerns expressed by the Bureau members in the debate, especially as regards the legislative footprint:
 - encouraged the political groups to invite their Members to supply useful information, if applicable, as to an existing registration of an external actor with whom Members would like to co-host or co-organise an event on Parliament's premises;

 - prepare the drawing up of an IT tool necessary for applicants to subscribe to dedicated Parliament information alerts or mailing lists when registering in the Transparency Register, in cooperation with the responsible services of the European Commission;

 - asked the administration to prepare a form for rapporteurs and draftspersons of opinions, who, if they so wish and on a purely voluntary basis, could use this form to draw up a non-exhaustive list of interest representatives with whom they had contact in the framework of drafting

their reports or opinions and revert to Ms GUILLAUME, Vice-President, and the Members of the Bureau who expressed concerns for the final consolidation;

- instructed the Secretary-General to reflect, based on a proposal by the Directorate-General responsible, on the available means to secure the best possible execution of the unit's responsibilities, including an increase of its staffing levels
- agreed with the proposal from the President.

From 20:09 hours in camera6. Staff matters

The Bureau, meeting *in camera*,

- took note of five notes dated 4 July 2016 from the Secretary-General, to the President and to the members of the Bureau, forwarded under a separate confidential cover, concerning the filling of the following five Director posts:
 - Vacancy Notice AD/160320, Transfer Notice PE/AD/160320, Recruitment Notice PE/192/S - post of Director in the Directorate-General for Internal Policies of the Union - Directorate for Citizen's Rights and Constitutional Affairs (PE 586.411/BUR and annex);
 - Vacancy Notice AD/160323 - post of Director in the Directorate-General for Interpretation and Conferences - Directorate for Interpretation (PE 586.412/BUR and annex);
 - Vacancy Notice AD/160324, Transfer Notice PE/AD/160324, Recruitment Notice PE/194/S - post of Director in the Directorate-General for Infrastructure and Logistics, Directorate for Logistics (PE 586.413/BUR and annex);
 - Vacancy Notice AD/160322 - post of Director in the Directorate-General for Personnel, Directorate for Management of Support and Social Services (PE 586.414/BUR and annex);
 - Vacancy Notice AD/160321 - post of Director in the Directorate-General for External Policies of the Union, Directorate for Resources (PE 586.415/BUR and annex);

- heard the Secretary-General recall the procedure and previous decisions by the Bureau, refer to the interviews held by the Advisory Committee with the candidates shortlisted by the Bureau and present in detail the unanimous proposals of the Advisory Committee for the filling of the five vacant posts of Directors, while outlining the profile and professional career of each of the proposed nominees, as follows:
 - Mr Michael Alexander SPEISER, for the post of Director in the Directorate-General for Internal Policies of the Union - Directorate for Citizen's Rights and Constitutional Affairs;
 - Mr Nick GHEYSEN, for the post of Director in the Directorate-General for Interpretation and Conferences - Directorate for Interpretation;
 - Mr Armin MACHMER, for the post of Director in the Directorate-General for Infrastructure and Logistics, Directorate for Logistics;
 - Ms Erika LANDI-GIETEMA, for the post of Director in the Directorate-General for Personnel, Directorate for Management of Support and Social Services;
 - Mr Bernard HELLOT, for the post of Director in the Directorate-General for External Policies of the Union, Directorate for Resources (PE 586.415/BUR and annex);

- heard the Secretary-General further propose to the Bureau to approve the launching of the procedure for the filling of the following five posts of senior management in the EP administration, in accordance with the applicable rules:
 - Director-General for Translation;

- Director for Budgetary Affairs in the Directorate-General for Internal Policies of the Union;
 - Director for Human Resources and Development in the Directorate-General for Personnel;
 - Director for Building Projects in the Directorate-General for Infrastructure and Logistics;
 - Director for Support and Technological Services for Translation in the Directorate-General for Translation;
- heard Mr PAPANIMOULIS, Ms LUNACEK, Ms JÄÄTTÄÄNMAKI, Mr CZARNECKI, Vice-Presidents, and Mr KARSKI, Quaestor, express their strong disagreement with the proposed nominations as they did not take into account the need for gender balance (ratio 4:1 between men and women), geographical balance (not a single nominee from any of the new Member States) or age balance (some nominees were over their 60th year of age and would have soon to retire) and were strongly politicized;
- heard Mr PAPANIMOULIS, Vice-President, in particular specify that he would vote against the proposed nomination of Mr SPEISER for the position of Director for Citizen's Rights and Constitutional Affairs in DG IPOL as there were better qualified candidates for this post, and would abstain from the votes on the other nominations;
- heard Ms LUNACEK, Vice-President, in particular specify that she found it unacceptable that there wasn't a single female candidate for the post of Director of Interpretation and conclude that for all these reasons she would vote against the proposed nominations;
- heard Ms JÄÄTTÄÄNMAKI, Vice-President, express strong doubts about the

required management experience of Mr SPEISER and request further clarifications;

- heard the Secretary-General explain that the Advisory Committee had examined carefully the qualifications of all candidates, where necessary by requesting advice from the Legal Service, and had reached the unanimous conclusion that all proposed nominations fulfilled the criteria of the advertisements for the posts and were fully in line with the applicable rules;
- heard the President concur with the explanations provided by the Secretary-General, recall the ratio of men/women in the senior management posts of the EP administration as well as the number of Directors-General from Eastern European Member States and stress that in order to reach the necessary gender and geographical balance a certain time and structural changes in the EP administration were required;
- approved, by majority (8 to 3), the proposed nomination of Mr SPEISER to the post of Director for Citizen's Rights and Constitutional Affairs, in the Directorate-General for Internal Policies of the Union, with Mr PAPANIMOU, Ms LUNACEK and Ms JÄÄTTÄMÄKI, Vice-Presidents, voting against;
- approved, by majority, all other proposed nominations, with Ms LUNACEK, Vice-President, voting against, and Mr PAPANIMOU, Vice-President, abstaining;
- approved the launching of the procedure for the filling of the five posts outlined by the Secretary-General.

7. Security matters

The Bureau, meeting *in camera*,

- heard the President propose that due to the lack of time Mr TAJANI, Vice-President responsible for security, should provide his briefing on security matters to the members of the Bureau in writing, in the form of a confidential note, that members should treat with the utmost confidentiality;
- heard Mr TAJANI, Vice-President responsible, agree with the proposal from the President and briefly explain that his note would update the members of the Bureau on the state of implementation of the Bureau decisions on security matters;
- endorsed the proposal from the President.

B. DECISIONS WITHOUT DEBATE

8. Closure of the accounts for 2015 for the political groups - Note from the Secretary-General

The Bureau, without debate,

- took note of the note dated 23 June 2016 from the Secretary-General (PE 583.359/BUR and annexes);
- noted and approve the reports forwarded by the political groups;
- noted that one political group registered unspent 2015 appropriations exceeding 50% of the annual appropriations received from the European Parliament's budget, which, therefore, cannot be carried over to 2016 and have to be repaid to Parliament's budget.

9. Modifications to the Rules of Procedure of the EU-Kosovo Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC), adopted at the first EU-Kosovo SAPC meeting in Pristina on 16-17 May 2016- Letter from Mr PICULA, Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Kosovo SAPC

The Bureau, with debate,

- took note of the letter dated 31 May 2016 from Mr PICULA, Chair of the Delegation for relations with Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, requesting approval of the draft Rules of Procedure of the EU-Kosovo Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC) (PE 583.262/CPG and financial statements);
- recalled that the EU-Kosovo Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA), which entered into force on 1 April 2016, established an EU-Kosovo Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC), modelled on similar agreements concluded previously with Serbia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and with Montenegro;
- took note that at its meeting on 4 May 2016, the Conference of Presidents had endorsed, in principle and without prejudging future arrangements, the request from Mr PICULA, Chair of the Delegation for Relations with Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo (D-SEE), to establish a European Parliament delegation to the EU-Kosovo Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC), noting that the new delegation to the EU-Kosovo SAPC should not be created as a separate delegation, but rather that the current regional Delegation should be tasked with ensuring political dialogue at parliamentary level between the EU and Kosovo, in line with previous practice for similar cases in the region;

- took note that at that meeting, the Conference of Presidents had nominated all thirteen members of the existing Delegation to form an EP delegation to the EU-Kosovo SAPC, to be chaired by the chair of the D-SEE;
- took note that Article 6, indent 1 of the draft SAPC Rules of Procedure suggest that the SAPC “shall meet twice a year, once in one of the workplaces of the European Parliament and once in Kosovo”;
- recalled that under the "Implementing provisions governing the work of delegations" each standing inter-parliamentary delegation may hold one inter-parliamentary meeting per year, unless otherwise stipulated in international agreements, and that, as a general rule, these inter-parliamentary meetings shall be held alternately in one of Parliament's places of work and in the third country concerned;
- took note that at its meeting of 30 June the Conference of Presidents, nonetheless, recommended that the proposed draft SAPC Rules be approved;
- heard Mr KARSKI, Quaestor, stress that the draft Rules of Procedure should follow the nomenclature introduced by the Treaty of Lisbon and consequently use the term “Council of the European Union” instead of “Council of Ministers of the EU”;
- took note of the remark by Mr KARSKI, Quaestor, and endorsed the recommendation by the Conference of Presidents.

10. Modifications to the Rules of Procedure of the EU-Albania Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC), adopted at the ninth EU-Albania SAPC meeting in Brussels on 9 and 10 November 2015- Letter from Ms MACOVEI, Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Albania SAPC - Letter from Mr PANZERI, Chair of the Conference of Delegation Chairs

The Bureau, with debate,

- took note of the letter dated 11 February 2016 from Ms MACOVEI, Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Albania Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC), requesting approval of the revised draft Rules of Procedure of that Committee (PE 575.617/CPG and annex);
- took note of the letter dated 23 May 2016 from Mr PANZERI, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs (CDC), requesting approval of the revised draft Rules of Procedure of the EU-Albania Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC), adopted at the ninth EU-Albania SAPC meeting in Brussels on 9 and 10 November 2015 (PE 583.236/CPG and annex);
- took note of the fact that the proposed revision of the Rules of Procedure of the EU-Albania SAPC contains substantial changes to voting procedures and the powers of the co-chairs;
- recalled that the current rules of procedure of the SAPC were approved by the Albanian Delegation on 3 May 2010, and by the Bureau on 6 October 2010, noting that under Rule 11 of the Rules of procedure of the EU-Albania SAPC, changes to the rules may be proposed by the SAPC to be submitted to the Bureau of the European Parliament and to the competent bodies of the Parliament of Albania;
- noted that the rules of procedure of other Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committees do not provide for similarly detailed arrangements

concerning the voting procedure and the powers of the co-chairs;

- took note of the decision by the Conference of Presidents of 14 April 2016 to withhold approval at that juncture, and instead refer the item to the Conference of Delegation Chairs for consideration;
- took note of the decision of the Conference of Delegation Chairs of 10 May 2016 to endorse the revised draft Rules of Procedure;
- took note of the decision of the Conference of Presidents on 9 June 2016 to endorse the revised draft Rules of Procedure;
- heard Mr KARSKI, Quaestor, stress that the draft Rules of Procedure should follow the nomenclature introduced by the Treaty of Lisbon and consequently use the term “Council of the European Union” instead of “Council of Ministers of the EU”;
- took note of the remark by Mr KARSKI, Quaestor, and endorsed the revised Rules of Procedure of the EU-Albania Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee (SAPC).

11. Contribution of the Bureau to the 2015 annual report on public access to documents in the European Parliament - Note from the Secretary-General

The Bureau, without debate,

- took note of the note dated 23 June 2016 from the Secretary-General on the contribution of the Bureau to the 2015 annual report on public access to documents in the European Parliament (PE 583.360/BUR and annex);
- approved the Bureau's contribution to the European Parliament's 2015 annual report on access to documents, referred to in Article 17(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001;
- invited the President to forward the Bureau's contribution to the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home affairs, in accordance with Rule 116(7) of the Rules of Procedure.

12. Parliament's replies to the observations of the European Court of Auditors concerning 2015 - Note from the Secretary-General

The Bureau, with debate,

- took note of the note dated 24 June 2016, from the Secretary-General, concerning Parliament's replies to the observations of the European Court of Auditors concerning 2015 (PE 586.382/BUR and annexes);
- took note of the Court of Auditors' observations concerning Parliament;
- heard Mr WIELAND, Vice-President, suggest the following amendment to Annex 2, Point 10.18: "*Parliament's secretariat will also extend its communication on existing guidance to the political groups ...*";
- approved the draft replies to the Court, pursuant to Article 25 of the Internal Rules on the implementation of Parliament's budget, with the amendment suggested by Mr WIELAND, Vice-President;
- instructed the President to forward Parliament's approved replies to the Court of Auditors and, for information, to the Commission.

Committee missions within the EU, the candidate countries and the EEA countries

13. Request from the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs to send a mission to Calais and Grande-Synthe, France on 13 July 2016 - Letter from Mr MORAES, Chair of the Committee concerned

The Bureau, without debate,

- noted a letter dated 26 May 2016 from Mr MORAES, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE), requesting authorisation to send a mission composed of seven official Members and four accompanying Members elected in France, to Calais and Grande-Synthe, France, on 13 July 2016 (PE 583.252/CPG and financial statement);
- noted that the mission had not been included in the draft programme of committee missions outside Parliament's three places of work, within the European Union, the candidate and the EEA countries, for the second half of 2016;
- noted that the date proposed coincides with a day set aside for committee activities;
- recalled that under Article 6 (1) of the applicable Rules, committees shall undertake missions during the weeks set aside for external parliamentary activities;
- noted that, nevertheless, at its meeting of 9 June 2016, the Conference of Presidents recommended that the request be authorised on an exceptional basis, on the understanding that a limited language regime applies that does not exceed interpretation into two languages;
- followed the recommendation of the Conference of Presidents.

14. Request from the Committee on Fisheries to send a mission to the 20th Special Meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) in Vilamoura, Portugal, from 17 to 19 November 2016

The Bureau, without debate,

- noted a letter dated 23 May 2016 from Mr CADEC, Chair of the Committee on Fisheries (PECH), requesting authorisation to send a seven-Member mission (including himself travelling out-of-quota pursuant to Article 2(3) of the applicable Rules) to the 20th Special Meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) in Vilamoura, Portugal, from 17 to 19 November 2016 (PE 583.235/CPG and financial statement);
- recalled that the mission had been included in the draft programme for ad hoc delegations by committees outside the European Union and the candidate and the EEA countries for the second half of 2016, albeit without indicating a meeting venue;
- recalled that, at its meeting of 4 May 2016, the Conference of Presidents had adopted a positive approach and invited PECH to provide further information once the venue of the ICCAT meeting was known, so that a final decision could be taken;
- noted that the dates proposed do not fall within a period set aside for external parliamentary activities, but that these dates had been fixed by the ICCAT;
- noted the positive recommendation issued, on an exceptional basis, by the Conference of Presidents at its meeting of 9 June 2016;
- approved the request in question;
- invited the President to request the European Commission to include the

Members in question in the European Union's delegation that will participate in the ICCAT meeting.

15. Request from the Committee of Inquiry into Emission Measurements in the Automotive Sector (EMIS) to send a mission to Luxembourg, Florange, France and Lambsheim, Germany, in September 2016 (week 38) - Letter from Ms VAN BREMPT, Chair of the Committee concerned

The Bureau, without debate,

- noted a letter dated 3 June 2016 from Ms VAN BREMPT, Chair of the Committee of Inquiry into Emission Measurements in the Automotive Sector (EMIS), requesting authorisation for a thirteen-Member mission (including herself and a Member elected in Luxembourg travelling out-of-quota pursuant to Articles 2(3) and 4(1) of the applicable Rules respectively) to visit a type approval agency in Luxembourg, a catalyst plant in Florange (France) and a vehicle test site in Lambsheim (Germany) from 21 to 22 September 2016, including journey times (PE 583.277/CPG and financial statement);
- noted that the mission had not been included in the draft programme of committee missions outside Parliament's three places of work, within the European Union, the candidate and the EEA countries, for the second half of 2016, as EMIS was only constituted on 2 March 2016;
- noted that the dates proposed coincide with two days set aside for external parliamentary activities;
- noted the positive recommendation issued by the Conference of Presidents at its meeting of 30 June 2016;
- approved the mission as requested.

16. Request from the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs to send a mission to Malta from 2 to 4 November 2016 - Letter from Mr HÄNDEL, Chair of the Committee concerned

The Bureau, without debate,

- noted a letter dated 7 June 2016 from Mr HÄNDEL, Chair of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL), requesting authorisation to send a ten-Member mission (including himself travelling out-of-quota pursuant to Article 2(3) of the applicable Rules) to Malta from 2 to 4 November 2016, including journey times (PE 583.308/CPG and financial statement);
- noted that the mission featured in the draft six months programme of committee missions within the EU, the candidate and the EEA countries, for the second semester of 2016;
- further noted that, at its meeting on 9 May 2016, the Bureau, following a recommendation by the Conference of Presidents, took the view that committee visits to countries holding the EU Council Presidency were not always justified and invited the committees in their future planning to favour meetings with the relevant representatives of the Presidency in the framework of regular committee meetings instead, which would also allow an increased participation of Members;
- recalled that, consequently, the Bureau declined to authorise one mission to Bratislava and three missions to Malta, including the one requested by EMPL;
- noted that, according to Mr HÄNDEL's letter of 7 June 2016, the aim of the mission to Malta is to address concrete questions in the area of the country's social and employment policy and its use of the European Social Fund and the Fund for European Aid to the most Deprived, in view of the upcoming mid-term review for the main EU financial instruments;

- noted that the programme of the visit would not include any meetings with members of the Maltese Government and that the discussions on the priorities of the Maltese Presidency of the Council will only take place during EMPL Committee meetings;
- noted that the dates proposed coincide with three days set aside for external parliamentary activities;
- noted the positive recommendation issued by the Conference of Presidents at its meeting of 30 June 2016;
- approved the mission as requested.

17. Request from the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection to send a mission to the United Kingdom from 21 to 23 September 2016 - Letter from Ms FORD, Chair of the Committee concerned

The Bureau, without debate,

- noted a letter dated 6 June 2016 from Ms FORD, Chair of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO), requesting authorisation for a mission to the United Kingdom from 21 to 23 September 2016 (PE 583.309/CPG and financial statement);
- noted that, according to the financial statement concerned, the mission will consist of ten official Members, including the Chair travelling out-of-quota pursuant to Article 2(3) of the applicable Rules;
- noted that the mission had not been included in the draft programme of committee missions outside Parliament's three places of work, within the European Union, the candidate and the EEA countries, for the second half of 2016;
- noted that the dates proposed coincide with three days set aside for external parliamentary activities;
- noted the positive recommendation issued by the Conference of Presidents at its meeting of 30 June 2016;
- approved the mission as requested.

18. Request from STOA to send a mission to Ispra, Italy on 30 and 31 August 2016 - Letter from Mr RÜBIG, Chair of the STOA Panel

The Bureau, without debate,

- noted a letter dated 13 June 2016 from Mr RÜBIG, Chair of the STOA Panel, requesting authorisation to participate in the “Evidence and Policy Event” organised jointly by the European Commission and the African Union Commission, in partnership with the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), on 30-31 August 2016 (including journey times) at the Ispra site of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) (PE 583.351/CPG, annexes and financial statement);
- noted that the dates concerned (which have been fixed by the organisers of the event) coincide with two days set aside for committee activities;
- noted that no interpretation is being requested;
- approved the mission as requested.

Public Hearings

19. Request to organise, in the framework of the inter-religious dialogue foreseen under Article 17 TFEU, a conference on the current situation concerning Jewish communities in Europe, on 27 September 2016 in Brussels - Letter from Mr TAJANI, Vice-President responsible

The Bureau, without debate,

- took note of the letter dated 29 June 2016 from Mr TAJANI, Vice-President responsible for the Implementation of the inter-religious dialogue foreseen under Article 17 TFEU, requesting authorisation to organise a conference on 'The future of Jewish Communities in Europe' in Brussels on 27 September 2016 from 15.00 to 18.30 (PE 586.395/BUR, annex and financial statement);
- took note that the stated aim of the conference is to analyse, in the context of the inter-religious dialogue foreseen under Article 17 TFEU, the current state of anti-Semitism in Europe by examining different national experiences as well as an exchange of best practices for dealing with the problem;
- took note of the submitted draft programme and that the requested date coincides with a Tuesday of a week set aside for meetings of the committees and the political groups in Brussels;
- took note that a maximum of seven guests may need reimbursement of costs in accordance with the applicable rules;
- took note that the total cost of the conference is estimated at EUR 7,000 for up to seven experts;
- granted the requested authorisation.

Requests for authorisation to use the Hemicycle

20. Request to use the Chamber of the European Parliament in Brussels on 13 October 2016 for the fourth edition of the "European Parliament of Enterprises" - Letter co-signed by Mr Richard WEBER and Mr Eric SCHWEITZER, Chair of Eurochambers and President of DIHK respectively - Letter from Ms McGUINNESS, Vice-President responsible for STOA

The Bureau, with debate,

- took note of the letter dated 21 March 2016 from Mr Richard WEBER and Mr Eric SCHWEITZER, Chair of Eurochambers and President of DIHK respectively, requesting authorisation to use the Chamber of the European Parliament in Brussels on 13 October 2016 for the fourth edition of the "European Parliament of Enterprises" (PE 579.263/BUR and financial statement);
- took note of the letter dated 21 June 2016 from Ms McGUINNESS, Vice-President responsible for STOA, expressing that body's support for the event and for the Parliament to act as co-organiser on the understanding that Eurochambres shall bear all the costs associated with the event (PE 579.263/BUR/COMPL);
- took note of a letter, dated 4 July 2016, from Ms FORD, Chair of the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection, which was distributed in the meeting, expressing her Committee's support for the event (PE 579.263/BUR/AV.1);
- took note that the event, which has been held in the Parliament on three previous occasions, aims at strengthening the link between the European Institutions and the European business community, and that more than 700 business representatives are expected to participate, according to the information supplied by the organisers;

- recalled that the latest edition of the “European Parliament of Enterprises”, having been cancelled in 2012 due to repair works in the Parliament’s Chamber in Brussels, was held on 16 October 2014;
- recalled that, according to Article 2(a) of the applicable rules, Parliament’s Chamber may be made available once every parliamentary term to public bodies for events in which Parliament is closely involved, noting that Eurochambers has already been granted the use of the Chamber once in the current term;
- recalled that, according to Article 4(c) of the applicable rules, requests by public bodies to use the Chamber must be endorsed and justified in writing by at least two relevant parliamentary committees;
- noted that Ms McGUINNESS, Vice-President with responsibility for STOA, had notified the President of that body’s support of the event, noting that STOA comprised Members who represented several of Parliament’s standing committees;
- heard Mr WIELAND, Vice-President, observe that one parliamentary committee had expressed by letter support for the event, and that the support by a second parliamentary committee was underway;
- heard the President take note of these latest developments and observe that in such a case the Bureau could authorise the request, in principle, on condition that the support by a second parliamentary committee, as required by the applicable rules, would arrive in due time;
- granted authorisation for the event as outlined by Vice-President McGuinness, on condition that a letter of support to the event by a second committee is submitted in due time and that the organisers bear all costs arising from the event as required by the applicable rules.

21. Request from the Creative Church Foundation to use the Chamber of the European Parliament in Brussels on 11 January 2017 for a pop-oratorio entitled ‘Luther – The Thousand Voice Project’ - Letter from Mr FLEISCHER, Helmut Fleischer Consulting GmbH

The Bureau, without debate,

- took note of the letter dated 9 June 2016 from Mr FLEISCHER, from Helmut Fleischer Consulting GmbH, requesting authorisation for the Creative Church Foundation to use the Chamber of the Parliament in Brussels on 11 January 2017 for the performance of “Luther – Project of a Thousand Voices”, a pop oratorio to celebrate the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther’s Ninety-Five Theses (PE 583.321/BUR, annexes and financial statement);
- took note that the aim of the event is to raise awareness of Martin Luther and the protestant reformation’s impact on Europe, since the libretto of the pop oratorio re-creates the trial of Martin Luther at the Diet of Worms of 1521;
- took note of the letters of support from Mr BROK and Mr SVOBODA, dated 21 June 2016 and 28 June 2016 respectively, in their personal capacity as Chairs of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and of the Committee on Legal Affairs respectively (PE 583.321/BUR/Avis 1 and PE 583.321/BUR/Avis 2);
- took note that the event is scheduled to be held on a Wednesday of a week prior to a part-session of the Parliament, which is likely, therefore, to be set aside to meetings of the political groups;
- took note that there is no indication, in the request, of the time of day at which

the event is scheduled to take place; mindful that the event at hand is a live concert, reiterate that events held in the Parliament may not undermine the dignity of Parliament and may not cause disturbance to parliamentary activities or interfere with the conduct of Parliament's business;

- took note that, as required by the applicable rules, the event may under no circumstances have a commercial purpose; sponsorship shall be prohibited, along with any form of partnership between Parliament and a private body; no registration fee may be charged;

- in the light of the above, granted the requested authorisation subject to:
 - the number of participants being sufficient to justify the use of the Chamber;
 - the event being held at a time where it will not cause disturbance to parliamentary activities, and in any case not start earlier than 19.00 on the day of the event;
 - the costs incurred by this event being borne by the organisers;
 - the event not having a commercial purpose under any circumstance; sponsorship being prohibited, along with any form of partnership between Parliament and a private body, and no registration fee being charged.

Requests for authorisation to use the Esplanade Solidarność 1980

22. Request from the Committee of Enquiry into Emission Measurements in the Automotive Sector (EMIS) for authorisation of public hearings in June, July and September 2016 – Letter from Ms VAN BREMPT, Chair of the Committee concerned

The Bureau, without debate,

- took note of an e-mail dated 21 June 2016, from Mr WIELAND, Vice-President, to the President (PE 583.302/BUR and annexes);
- took note of an e-mail dated 31 May 2016 from Mr MOUCHTAR, Managing Director of 'EU40', to Mr WIELAND, Vice-President with responsibility for relations with the Belgian authorities (PE 583.302/BUR/ANN.1-3).
- took note of the request from the EU40 to use the Esplanade Solidarność 1980 / Agora Simone VEIL from 10 to 14 October 2016 for an art exhibition as part of a communication campaign on Medical technologies ;
- took note that the planned event is to be part of a communication campaign about medical technologies, and will consist of an installation of 16 human-sized, standing figures, equipped with LED lights, loudspeakers and movement sensors in order to interact with the public;
- took note that the request emanates from a group of at least 25 Members representing at least 7 Member States, thus fulfilling the requirements of the applicable rules for the use of the Esplanade Solidarność 1980;
- took note of the favorable recommendation of 21 June 2016 by Mr WIELAND, Vice-President responsible for relations with the Belgian authorities;
- in the light of the above, granted the requested authorisation, on condition that

the organisers undertake to bear all costs arising from the event.

23. Request from the ECR Group to use the Esplanade Solidarność 1980 for an ‘Open air exhibition on the Massacre of Lviv Professors, from 29 August to 2 September 2016 - Email from Mr WIELAND, Vice-President responsible - Letter from Mr KAMALL, Chair of the ECR Group

The Bureau, without debate,

- took note of an e-mail dated 21 June 2016, from Mr WIELAND, Vice-President, to the President (PE 583.303/BUR and annexes).
- took note of a letter dated 2 June 2016 from Mr KAMALL, Chair of the ECR Group, to Mr WIELAND, Vice-President with responsibility for relations with the Belgian authorities (PE 583.303/BUR/ANN.1 - 2).
- took note of the request from the ECR Group to use the Esplanade ‘Solidarność 1980’ for an ‘Open air exhibition on the Massacre of Lviv Professors, from 29 August to 2 September 2016;
- took note that the exhibition aims at raising awareness about the massacre, on 4 July 1941, of 25 Polish academics from the city of Lwów, together with their families, and subsequent killing of 45 people by German Nazi occupation forces;
- took note that the exhibition will consist of three self-standing walls explaining the history, and 13 panels with photos and biographies of the professors;
- took note that the request emanates from a political group, thus fulfilling the requirements of the applicable rules for the use of the Esplanade ‘Solidarność 1980’;
- recalled that, in accordance with the applicable rules, requests for the use of the Esplanade ‘Solidarność 1980’ should be submitted no later than four months prior to the planned event; take note that the request has been submitted

approximately three months prior to the event;

- took note of the favorable recommendation of 21 June 2016 by Mr WIELAND, Vice-President responsible for relations with the Belgian authorities;

- in the light of the positive recommendation, despite the request having been submitted after the deadline foreseen in the applicable rules, granted the requested authorisation on an exceptional basis, on condition that the organisers undertake to bear all costs arising from the event.

24. Urgent matters and other business

24.1. Requests for authorisation to use the Chambers and the Esplanade 'Solidarność 1980'

The Bureau,

- heard Ms GUILLAUME, Vice-President, voice concern at the increasing number, scarce information and lack of details available to the Bureau when asked to authorise the use of Parliament's Chambers, in Brussels and Strasbourg, and of the Esplanade 'Solidarność 1980' in Brussels, noting that it was therefore often difficult to reach an informed position on these requests;

- heard the President express his agreement, noting that Parliament was receiving all possible requests for the holding of events on its premises and that he found that the number of events being authorised was too high, and therefore a strict application of the rules was necessary in order to ensure that only events dignified of the nature of a Parliament were held on its premises.

24.2. Catering in Brussels

The Bureau,

- heard Mr PAPADIMOULIS, Vice-President, point out problems with catering in Brussels as increased prices, lower quality, smaller portions and lately also layoffs of personnel;

- heard Ms MORIN-CHARTIER, Quaestor, reply that she was in constant contact with the responsible services to make sure that there was no waste of public money and the highest possible quality of the food offered on the premises of the Parliament;

- heard Mr KARSKI, Quaestor, mention that he often arrived to the end of the

opening hours of the restaurant only to establish that hot dishes were out by that time.

24.3 Press access to Parliament's building in Brussels

The Bureau,

- heard Ms LUNACEK, Vice-President, explain the difficulties currently encountered by journalists accessing Parliament's building in Brussels, following the closure of the press entrance under the enhanced security measures, which now require them to go through several checks and controls; request that DG COMM and DG SAFE find a solution;

- heard the President reply that he was aware of the problem and that the services were about to work out a solution.

24.4 Authorisation for a lunch on the Esplanade 'Solidarność 1980' on the occasion of the CETA Summit on 20 October 2016

The Bureau,

- heard Ms LUNACEK, Vice-President, announce that a request for the authorisation of a lunch event on the Esplanade 'Solidarność 1980' on 20 October 2016 would be introduced by the Greens group, as part of the events organised by the group in connection with the CETA Summit, and that she would like to have the support of the Bureau and the Quaestors.

25. Items for information

The Bureau,

- noted the following documents:

Interinstitutional mail

External mail

Internal mail

- a note of 23 June 2016 from the Secretary-General concerning the Report on compliance with payment time limits in 2015 (PE 586.381/BUR and annex available upon request from the secretariat);
- a note of 24 June 2016 from the Secretary-General concerning the annual activities report for 2015 (PE 583.358/BUR and annexes available upon request);
- a note of 24 June 2016 from the Secretary-General concerning the annual report on the contracts awarded by the European Parliament in 2015 (PE 586.379/BUR and annexes available upon request);
- Patronage Service: 2015 Annual Activity Report (PE 579.163/BUR);
- Patronage Service: 2015 Annual Report on the impact in Member States of events having received the patronage of the European Parliament (PE 579.163/BUR).

25. Date and place of next meeting

The Bureau,

- decided to hold its next ordinary meeting on **12 September 2016**, from **18:30 to 20:30**, in **Room R1.1** in the **Louise WEISS Building** in **Strasbourg**.

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The meeting closed at 20.44 hours.

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