

# **RULES OF PROCEDURE**

**of the**

## **EU - Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee**

*established on the basis of Article 410, paragraph 3, of the Association Agreement  
between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of  
the one part, and Georgia, of the other part*

*(Approved by the Bureau of the European Parliament on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016.)*

### **Article 1**

The EU-Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee is the parliamentary forum of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement.

It shall meet and exchange views on all aspects of the relations between the EU and Georgia arising within the framework of the Association Agreement and any other issues of mutual interest.

Political dialogue at parliamentary level shall take place within the framework of the Parliamentary Association Committee in accordance with Article 410 (1) of the Association Agreement.

### **Article 2**

The EU-Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee shall be composed of an equal number of members appointed, respectively, by the European Parliament and by the Parliament of Georgia.

The term of office of the members shall be decided and communicated in accordance with the rules and practice, respectively, of the European Parliament and the Parliament of Georgia.

### **Article 3**

In accordance with Article 411(4) of the Association Agreement, the Parliamentary Association Committee may establish Parliamentary Association sub-committees.

The objective of the Parliamentary Association sub-committees is to deepen the parliamentary dialogue in certain areas of co-operation as included, notably, in the EU-Georgia Association Agenda, and to provide relevant input to the work of the Parliamentary Association Committee.

The present Rules of Procedure shall apply by analogy to the work of the sub-committees; meetings of the sub-committees, nonetheless, shall not be deemed to constitute or replace meetings of the Parliamentary Association Committee entitled to make direct recommendation to the Association Council in the sense of article 411(3).

#### **Article 4**

The Bureau of the EU-Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee shall consist of the Chair of the delegation of the European Parliament, the Chair of the delegation of the Parliament of Georgia, (hereafter referred to as the Co-Chairs) and up to two Vice-Chairs of each delegation.

The Committee shall be presided in turn by the Chair of the European Parliament delegation and the Chair of the Parliament of Georgia delegation. The Chair-in-office shall, where necessary, be replaced in all his or her functions by a Vice-Chair of his or her delegation.

#### **Article 5**

On a proposal from the Co-Chairs of the Parliamentary Association Committee, recommendations may be made to the Association Council, in the sense of article 411(3).

The Committee may validly adopt recommendations when one fourth of its members, including at least three members from each delegation, are actually present.

Recommendations shall be considered adopted if they receive the support of a majority of the members of the delegation of the European Parliament and of a majority of the delegation of the Parliament of Georgia. The same rule shall apply for the voting on the amendments to the Recommendations.

Amendments to the Recommendations may be tabled, in writing, by individual members by the deadline set by the Co-Chairs. After that deadline, the Co-Chairs may jointly propose compromise amendments. In such cases, these will be put to the vote by way of priority. Oral amendments, aimed at correcting factual or linguistic mistakes or to take stock of urgent new circumstances, may be taken only with the Co-Chairs approval.

#### **Article 6**

The EU-Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee shall meet, in principle, a maximum of twice a year, alternately in one of the workplaces of the European Parliament and in Georgia. Each Member of the EU-Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee shall be entitled to fully participate in these proceedings.

The draft agenda, which shall be drawn up by the Co-Chairs, shall normally be sent to Members two weeks prior to a scheduled meeting.

Meetings of the full Parliamentary Association Committee shall be held in public, unless the Co-Chairs decide otherwise.

#### **Article 7**

Members of the Association Council, the Association Committee and its Sub-Committees, the Council of Ministers of the EU, representatives of the European Commission, the European External Action Service and the Georgian government, may attend and speak at meetings. Other persons may be invited to attend meetings by the Co-Chairs.

In accordance with Article 413 (3) of the Association Agreement, the Parliamentary Association Committee may organize regular contacts with representatives of the EU-Georgia Civil Society Platform in order to obtain their views on how to attain the objectives of the Association Agreement.

### **Article 8**

The Secretariat of the EU- Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee shall be provided jointly by the secretariat of the European Parliament and the secretariat of the Parliament of Georgia.

Minutes of each session of the EU-Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee shall be drawn up for approval at the opening of the following meeting.

### **Article 9**

Members may address meetings of the EU-Georgia Parliamentary Association Committee in Georgian or in an official language of the European Union; interpretation and translation of the latter shall be provided in accordance with the internal rules of the European Parliament.

### **Article 10**

The travel expenses and subsistence allowances of Committee members and officials assisting them shall be paid by the Parliament that has appointed them.

Other expenses entailed by the meetings and activities of the Committee shall be apportioned between the European Parliament and the Parliament of Georgia.

### **Article 11**

The Co-Chairs or, at their request, the Bureau shall rule on all questions relating to the interpretation and implementation of the Rules of Procedure.

Amendments to these rules, proposed by the Parliamentary Association Committee, shall be submitted for approval to the Bureau of the European Parliament and the equivalent body of the Parliament of Georgia.

After the completion of these internal approval procedures, the Parliamentary Association Committee shall adopt the proposed amendments which shall enter into force immediately after the vote.