



*Delegation to the EU-Kazakhstan, EU-Kyrgyzstan, EU-Uzbekistan and EU-Tajikistan
Parliamentary Cooperation Committees and for relations with Turkmenistan and Mongolia*

DCAS_PV(2022)0711

MINUTES

Meeting

Monday 7 November 2022, 17.30-19.00

Brussels

Room: SPAAK 6B54

The meeting opened at 17.30 on Monday, 7 November 2022, with Fulvio Martusciello (Chair) presiding.

1. Adoption of the draft agenda

The draft agenda was adopted.

2. Approval of the draft minutes of the meetings of 28 April 2022

The minutes are adopted if no comments are sent to the Secretariat in the following three days.

3. Communications by the Chair

The Conference of Delegation Chairs approved the schedule for the Delegation for the 1st half of 2023, including the 20th EU-Kazakhstan PCC in Brussels, the 16th EU - Uzbekistan PCC in Tashkent next April and the 10th EU - Tajikistan PCC in Dushanbe in May. The actual dates still need to be confirmed.

The Chair thanked Mr Tursunkulov, Chargé d'affaires of the Kyrgyz mission, and also thanked the Turkmen counterparts for arrangements of the forthcoming visit in their country.

The Chair also noted that a lot has changed since the last visit in Kyrgyzstan last year, both in the country and in the world. Therefore, it was important to strengthen bilateral cooperation and dialogue in the current circumstances.

4. Briefing and exchange of views on the 15th EU-Kyrgyzstan Parliamentary Cooperation Committee (Brussels, 8 December 2022), with Mr Kairat Tursunkulov, Chargé d'affaires of the Kyrgyz Republic, Deputy Head of the Mission to the European Union

DCAS Chair thanked Mr Tursunkulov and started the exchange. The Kyrgyz Chargé d'affaires began by congratulating the successful arrangements of the EU-Kyrgyzstan Parliamentary Cooperation Committee scheduled on 8 December 2022 in Brussels. Mr Tursunkulov spoke about the political, democratic, and economic developments in the country and further emphasized the importance of the EU - Kyrgyzstan relations. The EU has been a reliable partner since the country's independence. Mr Tursunkulov welcomed the upgrade of the EU-Kyrgyzstan relations, grateful for the EU's support for the country's development in several sectors at both bilateral and regional levels even in these difficult times of global economic recession.

Mr Tursunkulov highlighted that strengthening partnership and cooperation with the EU is one of the main priorities of the Kyrgyzstan Republic. Then he recalled that last November, due to Kyrgyz Parliament's elections, it was not possible to complete the 14th Parliamentary Cooperation Committee (PCC) in detailed discussions. Therefore, this upcoming meeting will conclude the 14th PCC and conduct the 15th PCC. He also gave an update on the Kyrgyz Parliament's system changes and updated measures to prevent activities that were against their international obligation.

Mr Tursunkulov gave a brief overview on Kyrgyzstan's position and its stance on the Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan border conflict; which Kyrgyzstan considered as an aggression. He expressed thanks for the EU's support and humanitarian aid through the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Regarding the Russian war in Ukraine, Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan have shared history. He highlighted Kyrgyzstan's stance on peace and emphasized diplomatic solutions to avoid further bloodshed.

At this point in the exchange, the DCAS Chair wanted to know, first, whether there would be an update on the arrest of human rights activists in Kyrgyzstan, and second, what is the general debate on the war and on China in public. Mr Tursunkulov highlighted that human rights were the country's top priority, while the Government also had responsibility for preventing hate speech and security threat. In answer to the Chair's question on China relations, China is Kyrgyzstan's important trading partner; Kyrgyzstan did not have any problems with the agenda for their bilateral relations with

China.

MEP Mariani wanted to know if Kyrgyzstan was still interested in participating in the Council of Europe. Mr Tursunkulov confirmed his country's willingness to take part in it.

The DCAS Chair wanted to know the update on the new law on mass media regulating NGOs. Mr Tursunkulov regretted that he did not have updates on the new law on mass media. As far as he knew, the bill has been proposed, but not under consideration in the Parliament yet.

MEP Lucke wanted to know the top three priorities on their political agenda. Mr Tursunkulov answered, first, sustainable peace with Tajikistan; second, economic development; and finally, connectivity with the EU, were the top three priorities.

5. Briefing and exchange of views on the 6th EU-Turkmenistan Inter-Parliamentary Meeting (Ashgabat, 18-19 December 2022), with H.E. Mr Sapar Palvanov, Ambassador, Mission of Turkmenistan to the European Union

Ambassador Palvanov reiterated Turkmenistan's position on the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Turkmenistan takes a neutral stand on the Russian invasion of Ukraine. He also reiterated that the Turkmen side will be represented by the relevant Heads of Committees from the Turkmen Parliament.

The DCAS Chair asked about Turkmenistan's relations with the new Taliban led Afghan government. He also asked about the reforms undertaken by the Turkmen government in ensuring judicial independence in the country.

On relations with Afghanistan, Ambassador Palvanov clarified that since Turkmenistan shares its borders with the country, they cannot resolve to isolation. He clarified that the Turkmen government, however, does not recognise the Taliban government. The government is currently cooperating with the Taliban government on security issues particularly border security. He also pointed that Turkmenistan's economy is also dependant on Afghanistan and therefore the government will continue to cooperate and also send humanitarian envoy to Afghanistan.

MEP Mariani also asked about Turkmenistan's relations with Iran as it battles a political conflict. To this Ambassador Palvanov responded by stating that Turkmenistan is part of the international sanctions regime and continue to impose sanctions on Iran despite its economic consequences on the country.

Ambassador Palvanov also reiterated the possibilities of cooperation with the EU on energy issues. He also clarified that Turkmenistan is open to dialogue on human rights issues and that the country has made reforms in this area.

In camera

6. Briefing and exchange of views on the 15th EU-Kyrgyzstan Parliamentary Cooperation Committee (Brussels, 8 December 2022) and on the 6th EU-Turkmenistan Inter-Parliamentary Meeting (Ashgabat, 18-19 December 2022) with Mr Dietmar Krissler, Head of Division for Central Asia, EEAS.

This part of the meeting was in camera.

7. Any other business

There was no other business.

8. Date and place of next meeting

The time and venue of the next meeting will be communicated later.

The meeting closed at 18.25

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
 ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATASTAΣH ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
 LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/POPIS NAZOČNIH/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRS/DALVIŲ SĀRAŠAS/
 JELENLÉTI ÍV/REĢISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŚCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/
 LISTĀ DE PREZENTĀ/PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/NÄRVAROLISTA**

Бюро/Mesa/Predsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/Biuras/Elnökség/Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Fulvio Martusciello (Chair)
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Bouλευτές/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselők/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputati/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Engin Eroglu, Thierry Mariani,
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Karsten Lucke

209 (7)
216 (3)

56 (8) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/Päevakorra punkt/Σημείο της ημερήσιας διάταξης/Agenda item/Point OJ/Točka dnevnog reda/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkēs punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt Aģenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Točka UL/Esiylistan kohta/Punkt på föredragningslistan)

--	--

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatiejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Promatrači/Osservatori/Nověrotáji/Stebétojai/Megfigyelők/Osservaturi/Waarnemers/Obserwatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/Tarkailijat/Observatörer

Chyngyz Alymkulod (Kyrgyz Embassy)

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimene kutsel/Mε πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair/Sur l'invitation du président/ Na poziv predsjednika/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/ Fuq stedina tāc-'Chairman'/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitación președintelui/Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan

Kairat Tursunkulov (Kyrgyz Embassy), Sapar Palvanov (Turkmen Ambassador)

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nõukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Vijeće/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)

Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Komissionen/Kommission/Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Komisija/Commissione/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)

Европейска служба за външна дейност/Servicio Europeo de Acción Exterior/Evropská služba pro vnitřní činnost/EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger Dienst/Euroopa väliseenistus/Ευρωπαϊκή Υπηρεσία Εξωτερικής Δράσης/European External Action Service/Service européen pour l'action extérieure/Europska služba za vanjsko djelovanje/Servizio europeo per l'azione esterna/Eiropas Ārējās darbības dienests/Europos išorės veiksmų tarnyba/Európai Külügyi Szolgálat/Servizz Ewropew ghall-Azzjoni Esterna/Europejske dienst voor extern optreden/Europejska Służba Działalń Zewnętrznych/Serviço Europeu para a Ação Externa/Serviciul european pentru acțiune externă/Európska služba pre vonkajšiu činnosť/Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska avdelningen för yttrre åtgärd (*)

Alina Belskaia, Dietmar Krissler, Federico Porto, Peter Leser

Други институции и органи/Otras instituciones y organismos/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner og organer/Andere Organe und Einrichtungen/Muud institutsioonid ja organid/Λοιπά θεσμικά όργανα και οργανισμοί/Other institutions and bodies/Autres institutions et organes/Druge institucije i tijela/Altre istituzioni e altri organi/Citas iesidades un struktūras/Kitos institucijos ir įstaigos/Más intézmények és szervek/Istituzzjonijiet u korpi oħra/Andere instellingen en organen/Inne instytucje i organy/Outras instituições e outros órgãos/Alte instituições și organe/Iné inštitúcie a orgány/Muut toimielimet ja elimet/Andra institutioner och organ

Други участници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Drugi sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi klátesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Parteicipanti ohra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Altı participantı/Iní účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppernes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats of political groups/Secrétaire des groupes politiques/Tajništvo klubova zastupnika/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politiske gruppe sekretariáts/Frakcijų sekretoriai/Képviselőcsoportok titkársága/Segretariat gruppi političi/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secretariado dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupín/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristöt/De politiska gruppernas sekretariat

PPE	Tetiana Kovalenko
S&D	Merel Blaauw, Jorgen Siil
Renew	
ID	Tamara Volokhova
Verts/ALE	
ECR	
The Left	
NI	

Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelár predsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantslej/Γραφείο του Προέδρου/President's Office/Cabinet du Président/Ured predsjednika/Gabinetto del Presidente/Priekšsēdētāja kabinets/Pirmininko kabinetas/Elnöki hivatal/Kabinet tal-President/Kabinet van de Voorzitter/Gabinet Przewodniczącego/Gabinete do Presidente/Cabinet Președinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli

Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelár generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäribüro/Γραφείο του Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du Secrétaire général/Ured glavnog tajnika/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generalsekretára kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinet tas-Segretarju Ĝenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalného sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekretærerens kansli

Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/ Directorate-General/Direction générale/Glavna uprava/Direzione generale/Generaldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/ Direttorato Generali/Directoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Pääsasto/Generaldirektorat	
DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG EPRS DG COMM DG PERS DG INLO DG TRAD DG LINC DG FINS DG ITEC DG SAFE	Ieva Valutyte
Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Õigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/ Service juridique/Pravna služba/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisés tarryba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/ Wydział prawny/Serviço Jurídico/Serviciu Juridic/Právny servis/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättsjänsten	
Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariát výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschusssekretariat/Komisjoni sekretariaat/Γραμματεία της επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Secrétaireat de la commission/Tajništvo odbora/Segreteria della commissione/ Komitejas sekretariäts/Komiteo sekretoriatas/A bizottság titkársága/Segretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissiesecretariaat/ Sekretariat komisji/Secretariado da comissão/Secretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottsssekretariatet	
Vita Grifita, Yee Man Leung, Priya Vijay Kumar Poojary, Niccolò Rinaldi	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asystent/Pomočník/ Avustaja/Assistenter	
Alessandro Azzaro, Valerio Balzamo, Leonards Bunga, Maria Maseda Varela	

- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chairman/Président/Predsjednik/Priekšsēdētājs/
Pirmininkas/Elnök/'Chairman'/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Președinte/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
(VP) = Заместник-председател/Vicepresidente/Místopředseda/Næstformand/Stellvertretender Vorsitzender/Aseesimees/Αντιπρόεδρος/
Vice-Chair/Potpredsjednik/Vice-Präsident/Potpředsednik/Priekšsēdētāja vietnieks/Pirmininko pavaduotojas/Alelnök/ Viči
'Chairman'/Ondervoorzitter/Wiceprzewodniczący/Vice-Presidente/Vicepreședinte/Podpredseda/Podpredsednik/
Varapuheenjohtaja/Vice ordförande
(M) = Член/Miembro/Clen/Medlem/Mitglied/Parlamentiliige/Bouλευτής/Member/Membre/Član/Membro/Deputāts/Narys/Képviselő/
Membru/Lid/Czlonek/Membro/Membra/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
(F) = Должностно лице/Funcionario/Úředník/Tjenestemand/Beamter/Ametnik/Υπάλληλος/Official/Fonctionnaire/Dužnosnik/
Funzionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tiszviselő/Uffīcial/Ambtenaar/Urzéndnik/Funcionário/Funcționar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/
Tjänsteman