

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

DELEGATION TO THE EU-KAZAKHSTAN, EU-KYRGYZSTAN AND EU- UZBEKISTAN PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION COMMITTEES, AND FOR RELATIONS WITH TAJIKISTAN, TURKMENISTAN AND MONGOLIA

DCAS 5/05

MEETING
of
Tuesday, 24 May 2005,
BRUSSELS

MINUTES

1.	Adoption of draft agenda	2
2.	Chairwoman's announcements.....	2
3.	Fifth meeting of the EU-Kazakhstan Parliamentary Cooperation Committee (Astana, 16 May 2005).....	2
4.	Fact-finding mission to Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek-Osh (18-20 May 2005).....	2
5.	Exchange of views on the current situation in Uzbekistan	3
6.	Other business	3
7.	Date and place of next meeting.....	3

Annex I: Record of Attendance

Brussels, 24 May 2005
LMG/nal

The meeting opened at 10 a.m. with Ona Juknevičienė, Chairwoman, in the chair.

The Chairwoman welcomed members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of the Commission and guests present at the meeting.

The meeting would last one hour, and interpretation would be limited to French and English, as active languages, and German and Italian, as passive languages.

1. **Adoption of draft agenda**

The draft agenda was adopted.

2. **Chairwoman's announcements**

The Chairwoman spoke on the following item:

- The EU-US Round Table on coordinating future strategies in Central Asia, would be held on 2 June in Brussels. Members of the delegation were invited to attend.

3. **Fifth meeting of the EU-Kazakhstan Parliamentary Cooperation Committee (Astana, 16 May 2005)**

The Chairwoman thanked the Commission Delegation in Kazakhstan and the Kazakhstan Delegation in Brussels for their help during preparations for the visit.

Conclusions from the meeting were included in the Final Act. Discussions on the document had been difficult; it aptly mirrored the different opinions of the institution.

Martin Callanan spoke on the situation of political parties and the media in Kazakhstan since the application of the new legislation. Freedom of thought was severely restricted.

The Chairwoman spoke on recent legislation concerning NGOs and in a letter from the Kazakh Minister of the Interior to the President of the Republic about which steps to take if the same events were to occur as those in Kyrgyzstan.

4. **Fact-finding mission to Kyrgyzstan**

The Chairwoman said that the report on the visit of the ad hoc delegation had recently been distributed to members.

The current situation in Kyrgyzstan had called for the sending of an ad-hoc delegation in place of a meeting of the Parliamentary Cooperation Committee, as had been planned in the programme of activities for the delegations.

The delegation had been able to observe that there was an acceptable amount of freedom of the press and freedom of thought during their meetings. The Bakiyev-Kulov combination, the joint candidates in the 10 July elections, was guaranteed to neutralise the threat of separatism.

The European delegation's message had been encouragement for the various political representatives and of democracy, human rights, pluralism and free elections.

The Chairwoman proposed recommending that an Election Observation Mission be sent to Kyrgyzstan for the 10 July 2005 elections.

Martin Callanan spoke in favour of the proposal.

The Chairwoman gave the floor to the Commission representative, Mr Vardakis, who spoke in favour of the proposal on behalf of the Commission.

5. **Exchange of views on the current situation in Uzbekistan**

The Chairwoman gave the floor to Martin Callanan, who spoke on the situation in Uzbekistan. He said that information was not reliable because the Internet connection and even telephone lines had been cut. The only news came from a handful of journalists. Even the number of victims of recent events was unknown. It varied from 100 to 300 dead, depending on the source. He did not believe that the conflict could be entirely blamed on the Islamic factor. Other basic factors were the economic situation, border tensions and poverty.

The Chairwoman gave the floor to the Commission representative, Mr Lidell, who referred to the conclusions of the External Relations Council on 23 and 24 May which called for a genuine inquiry into recent events. He spoke on the Commission's role in the region.

Elisabeth Jeggle, Alojz Peterle, and Ona Juknevičienė spoke. They advised that an independent inquiry be conducted into these events and criticised the violence and extremism of the past few days. The Chairwoman expressed concern for the refugees.

It was proposed that a letter be sent to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs about developing a common strategy in relation to the situation in Uzbekistan.

6. **Other business**

The Chairwoman said that the ALDE Group would ask the Commission and Council to make a statement on the situation in Uzbekistan. The item would be addressed at the next meeting of the Conference of Presidents.

7. **Date and place of next meeting**

The next meeting would be held on Thursday, 7 July 2005 in Strasbourg at 9.45 a.m.

*
* *

The meeting closed at 11.05 a.m.

**DELTAGERLISTE/ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KATAΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/LIITE RECORD
OF ATTENDANCE/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/LISTE DE PRESENCE/ELENCO DEI
PRESENTI/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Til stede	Formandskabet/Vorstand/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di Presidenza/Mesa/Puhemiehistö/J.L. Presidium: (*) JUKNEVICIENNE (P), BOUZAI (2VP)
Anwesend	Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Μέλη/Members/Diputados/Députés/Deputati/Leden/Deputados/Jäsenet/Ledamöter: BLOKAND, GIEREK, JEGGLE
Παρόντες	Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suplentes/Suppléants/ Membri supplenti/Plaatsvervangers/Membros suplentes/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter: CALLANAN
Present	
Presentes	
Présents	
Presenti	
Aanwezig	
Lasna	
Närvarande	
Art. 178,2	
Art. 183,3	LASCHET; PETERLE
Endv. Deltog/Weitere Teiln./ Συμμετείχων επίσης/Also present Participaron igualmente/ Participaient également/ Hanno partecipato altresì/ Andere deelnemers/ Outros participantes/ Muut osallistujat/ Dessutom deltog	
(Dagsorden/Tagesordnung Pkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημεί/Point OJ/Punto OG/Agenda Punt/Ordem do dia Punto/punto orden del dia/Esityslist Kohta/ Föredragningslista punkt):	

- * (P) = Formand/Vorsitzender/Πρόεδρος/Chairman/Président/Presidente/Voorzitter/Presidente/Puhemies/Ordförande
 (VP) = Næstform./Stellv. Vorsitz./Αντιπρόεδρος/Vice-Chairman/Vice-Président/Vicepresidente/Varapuhemies/Ondervoorz./
 Vice-Pres./Vicepres/Vice ordförande.

Til stede den/Anwesend am/Παρών στις/Present on/Présent le/Presente il/Aanwezig op/Presente em/Presenteel/Läsna/Närvarande den.

Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung d. Vorsitzenden/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chairman/Por invitación del presidente/Sur l'invitation du président/Su invito del presidente/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/A convite do presidente/Puhemiehen kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan:

Rådet/Rat/Συμβούλιο/Council/Consejo/Conseil/Consiglio/Raad/Conselho/Neuvosto/Rådet: (*)

Kommissionen/Kommission/Επιτροπή/Commission/Comisión/Commissione/Commissie/Commissão/Komissio/Kommissionen: (*)
HACK, LIDELL, VARDAKIS, ZLATEVA

Cour des comptes:
C.E.S.:

<p>Andre deltagere/Andere Teilnehmer Επίσης Παρόντες/Also present Otros participantes/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti Andere aanwezigen/Otros participantes Muut osallistajat/Övriga deltagare</p>		<p>Uzbek Embassy: AGZAMOV, GANIEV Kazakh Embassy: KUSAINOV, ABIKENOV Kyrgyzs Embassy: KERIMBEKOVA, ORMOUNBEKOV OMCT: BRUN Assistants:</p>	
<p>Gruppernes sekretariat Sekretariat der Fraktionen Γραμματεία των Πολ. Ομάδων Secretariat political groups Secr. De los grupos politicos Secr. Groupes politiques Segr. Dei gruppi politici Secr. Van de fracties Secr. Dos grupos politicos Puolueryhmien sihteeristö Gruppernas sekretariat</p>	<p>PPE-DE PSE ALDE Verts/ALE GUE/NGL IND/DEM UEN NI</p>	<p>VAHL PERRINI, HAANG RINALDI, KAMMITSI BERGAMASCHI</p>	
<p>Cab. Du Président</p>	<p>Cab. Du Secrétaire Général</p>	<p>Generaldirektorat Generaldirektion Γενική Διεύθυνση Directorate-General Dirección general Direction générale Direzione generale Directoraat-generaal Direcção general Contrôle financier Service juridique Pääosasto Generaldirektorat</p>	<p>I II III IV V VI VII</p> <p>BODEN, RINALDO, POLIDORI, OPACIC, BROWN, MIRZU, MARINO, SOURANDER, VIILUP</p>
<p>Udvalgssekretariatet Ausschubsekretariat Γραμματεία επιτροπής Committee secretariat Secretaria de la comisión Secrétariat de la commission Segretariato della commissione Commissiesecretariaat Secretaria de comissão Valiokunnan sihteeristö Utskottssekretariatet Assist./Βοηθός</p>	<p>BERTON, MARTINEZ GUILLEN</p> <p>BRAID, AZPIRI LEJARDI</p>		

* (P) = Formand/Pres./Πρόεδρος/Chairman/Président/Voorzitter/Puhemies/Ordförande
(VP) = Næstform./Vize-Pres./Αντιπρόεδρος/Vice-Chairman/Vice-Président/Ondervoorz./Vice-pres/Varapuhemies/Vice ordförande.
(M) = Medlem./Mitglied/Μέλος/Member/Miembro/Membre/Membro/Lid/Membro/Jäsen/Ledamot
(F) = Tjenestemand/Beamter/Υπάλληλος/Official/Funcionario/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/Ambtenaar/Functionário/Virkamies/Tjänsteman