Minutes I part session 2017

Group meetings Unified European Left Group at PACE

**23.01.2017**

**9:30 - 11:30**

**Strasbourg**

1. Welcome
2. Introduction new Members and guests + overview modifications UEL membership
* Marco NICOLINI (San Marino)
* Henk OVERBEEK (The Netherlands)
1. Renewal mandate Chairman UEL according to ‘*ARTICLE 23 – CHAIRPERSON[[1]](#footnote-1)’* of the UEL Statutes – election of Mr. Tiny KOX (The Netherlands) as chairman of the UEL Group
2. Approval UEL draft agenda I part session 2017
3. Approval Minutes IV part session 2017
4. Communication by the Chairperson
5. Overview Assembly agenda I Part Session 2017 and appointment speakers on behalf of UEL
6. Information on election of PACE president
7. Information about credentials (Russian Federation, Slovak Republic)
8. Discussion current affairs and urgent debate proposals (Mr. Hisyar ÖZSOY (Turkey), Miren Edurne GORROTXATEGUI (Spain), Ms. Lotta JOHNSSON FORNARVE (Sweden), Ms. Anneta KAVVADIA (Greece), Mr. Nikolaj VILLUMSEN (Denmark)
9. Decision taken to issue a statement about the failed possibility to discuss the functioning of democratic institutions in Turkey by PACE in its January part session
10. Discussion on situation in Turkey (Ms. Anneta KAVVADIA (Greece), Mr. Hisyar ÖZSOY (Turkey), Ms. Liana KANELLI (Greece), Mr. Nikolaj VILLUMSEN (Denmark), Mr. George LOUKAIDES (Cyprus)
11. Discussion on corruption allegations of PACE members and the Volonté case (Ms. Liana KANELLI (Greece), Ms. Filiz KERESTECİOĞLU DEMİR (Turkey)
12. Appointment speakers on behalf of UEL
* Debate : [Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee / Observation of the presidential election in Bulgaria (6 and 13 November 2016) / Observation of the early parliamentary elections in “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” (11 December 2016)](https://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/SpeakersList/SL-RegistrationList-EN.asp?sldebateid=250) -> Speaker on behalf of UEL: Mr. Tiny KOX (The Netherlands)
* Address : [Communication from the Committee of Ministers](https://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/SpeakersList/SL-RegistrationList-EN.asp?sldebateid=251) -> Speaker on behalf of UEL: Mr. Nikolaj VILLUMSEN (Denmark)
1. Information on meeting of Committee on election of judges to the ECtHR and presentation of recommendation
2. Continuation of appointment of the speakers on behalf of UEL
* Address : [Mr Johannes HAHN, European Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations](https://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/SpeakersList/SL-RegistrationList-EN.asp?sldebateid=252) -> Mr. Hisyar ÖZSOY (Turkey)
1. Update on intervention of president of Cyprus Mr Nicos ANASTASIADES by Mr. George LOUKAIDES (Cyprus) and discussion input question -> Appointment Mr. Henk OVERBEEK (The Netherlands) as speaker on behalf of the UEL Group
2. Continuation of appointment of the speakers on behalf of UEL
* Debate : [Free debate](https://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/SpeakersList/SL-RegistrationList-EN.asp?sldebateid=253) -> Mr. Ertuğrul KÜRKÇÜ, (Turkey)
* Address : [Communication from the Secretary General of the Council of Europe](https://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/SpeakersList/SL-RegistrationList-EN.asp?sldebateid=255) -> Mr. Nikolaj VILLUMSEN (Denmark)
* Debate : [Attacks against journalists and media freedom in Europe](https://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/SpeakersList/SL-RegistrationList-EN.asp?sldebateid=256), Group discussion (Ms. Anneta KAVVADIA (Greece) and Ms. Lotta JOHNSSON FORNARVE (Sweden)) following the appointment of Ms. Anneta KAVVADIA (Greece) as speaker on behalf of the UEL Group
* Debate : [The humanitarian crisis in Gaza](https://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/SpeakersList/SL-RegistrationList-EN.asp?sldebateid=257), Group discussion (Mr. Bernard SABELLA (Palestina), Mr. Mohammedfaisal ABUSHAHLA (Palestine), Ms. Lotta JOHNSSON FORNARVE (Sweden), Mrs. Ulla SANDBÆK (Denmark), Mr. George LOUKAIDES (Cyprus)) following the appointment of Ms. Lotta JOHNSSON FORNARVE (Sweden) as speaker on behalf of the UEL Group
* Debate : [The functioning of democratic institutions in Ukraine](https://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/SpeakersList/SL-RegistrationList-EN.asp?sldebateid=260) -> Speaker on behalf of UEL: Mr. Andrej HUNKO (Germany)
1. Information on side events sponsored by UEL members by Mr. Ertuğrul KÜRKÇÜ, (Turkey) + Information new place Group dinner: restaurant Santa Elena

 **23.01.2017**

**17:00 - 19:00**

 **Strasbourg**

1. Introduction by the Chairperson
2. Exchange of views with the Secretary General of the CoE – Mr. Thorbjørn Jagland : presentation followed by a Q&A session (Mr. Hisyar ÖZSOY (Turkey), Mr. Ertuğrul KÜRKÇÜ, (Turkey), Mr. Andrej HUNKO (Germany), Miren Edurne GORROTXATEGUI (Spain), Mr. Nikolaj VILLUMSEN (Denmark)
3. Evaluation discussion of urgent debate on Turkey and discussion content of draft statement
4. Continuation appointment speakers on behalf of UEL and discussion interventions in debates
5. Overview Elections Observations Calendar 2017

 **25.01.2017**

**8:30 - 10:00**

 **Strasbourg**

1. Introduction by the Chairperson
2. Continuation of appointment of the speakers on behalf of UEL
* [Online media and journalism: challenges and accountability / Ending cyberdiscrimination and online hate](https://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/SpeakersList/SL-RegistrationList-EN.asp?sldebateid=258) -> Ms. Lotta JOHNSSON FORNARVE (Sweden) followed by contributions from Ms. Liana KANELLI (Greece) and Ms. Lotta JOHNSSON FORNARVE (Sweden)
* Input for question to president of Romania - Mr Klaus Werner IOHANNIS by Ms. Maria POSTOICO (Moldova) followed by appointment of Mr. Tiny KOX (The Netherlands) to speak on behalf of UEL
* Outline intervention on Debate: [Reinforcing social dialogue as an instrument for stability and decreasing social and economic inequalities](https://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/SpeakersList/SL-RegistrationList-EN.asp?sldebateid=261) by Mr. George LOUKAIDES (Cyprus) followed by contribution of Mr. Andrej HUNKO (Germany) and Ms. Annette GROTH (Germany)
1. Update on the situation in Ukraine by former UEL member Mr. Symonenko (Ukraine) + discussion reports on Ukraine (Mr. Andrej HUNKO (Germany), Ms. Liana KANELLI (Greece), Anneta KAVVADIA (Greece)
2. Presentation by Malgorzata Szuleka from the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (HFHR) on Constitutional crisis in Poland and by Florian Irminger from HRHF following debate: Constitutional Crises in Europe and the role of the CoE
* Decision to come back to the debate during the APRIL session
1. Election of Mr. George LOUKAIDES (Cyprus) as treasurer of UEL
* Information on UEL Budget
1. Information about Moldova by guest Ana Ursachi (Moldova)
1. *ARTICLE 23 – CHAIRPERSON: The Chairperson of the Group is elected by the Plenary Assembly by the members attending the Plenary Assembly. The mandate can be prolonged by the Plenary Assembly in its first session of each year.* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)