

Press Release

Parliamentary Assembly Communication Unit

Ref: 605a07

Tel: +33 3 88 41 31 93

Fax :+33 3 90 21 41 34

pace.com@coe.int

internet: www.coe.int/press



47 members

Albania
Andorra
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Moldova
Monaco
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia
San Marino
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom

PACE session, Strasbourg, 1-5 October 2007

Turkish and Montenegrin Presidents, Serb Prime Minister and Patriarch Alexy II to address PACE

Strasbourg, 20.09.2007 – The newly-elected Turkish President Abdullah Gül will address the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly (PACE) on 3 October at its autumn session (Strasbourg, 1-5 October 2007). Patriarch Alexy II of Moscow and all Russia (2 October), Montenegrin President Filip Vujanović (1 October) and Serb Prime Minister Vojislav Koštunica (2 October) are also due to address the Assembly.

On 4 October, Vuk Jeremić, Foreign Minister of Serbia and Chairperson of the organisation's Committee of Ministers, as well as the President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly Gholamali Haddad Adel are the guest speakers foreseen on the Assembly agenda.

Other highlights on the agenda include the decriminalisation of defamation, the dangers of creationism in education, the concept of preventive war and regularisation programmes for irregular migrants. PACE will also proceed with elections for the partial renewal of judges to the European Court of Human Rights and discuss member states' duty to co-operate with the Court.

A current affairs debate on "the looming crisis facing the European Court of Human Rights: urgent action needed" and an urgent debate on "the political implications of the proposed US/NATO rocket shield" have been requested.

./..

The Parliamentary Assembly brings together 318 members from the national parliaments of the 47 member states.

President: René van der Linden (Netherlands, EPP/CD); Secretary General of the Assembly: Mateo Sorinas.

Political Groups: SOC (Socialist Group); EPP/CD (Group of the European People's Party); ALDE (Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe); EDG (European Democratic Group); UEL (Group of the Unified European Left).

Draft order of business

The Assembly will finalise its order of business at the opening of the session.

Monday 1st October 2007 (opening at 11.30 am)

- Opening speech by René van der Linden, President of the Parliamentary Assembly
- Address by Filip Vujanović, President of Montenegro
- [The activities of the International Organization for Migration \(IOM\)](#)
- [Regularisation programmes for irregular migrants](#) and statement by Brunson McKinley, Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- [Assessment of transit and processing centres as a response to mixed flows of migrants and asylum seekers](#)

Tuesday 2 October 2007

- [Election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights \(ECHR\)](#)
- [The humanitarian crisis in Darfur](#)
- Address by Patriarch Alexy II of Moscow and all Russia
- Address by Vojislav Koštunica, Prime Minister of Serbia
- [Member states' duty to co-operate with the European Court of Human Rights](#)
- [Towards decriminalisation of defamation](#)
- Honouring of obligations and commitments by Moldova

Wednesday 3 October 2007

- (Possibly 2nd round) [Election of judges to the ECHR](#)
- [Realising both economic growth and social protection in Europe in an era of globalisation](#)
- Address by Abdullah Gül, President of Turkey
- [Regionalisation in Europe](#)
- [The OECD and the world economy 2007](#) and statement by Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD
- [Political dimension of the Council of Europe budget](#)
- [For a European drug convention on promoting public health policy in drug control](#)

Thursday 4 October 2007

- Possible urgent debate on Political implications of the proposed US/NATO "rocket shield"
- Communication from the Committee of Ministers to PACE by Vuk Jeremić, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Serbia, Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers
- Address by Gholamali Haddad Adel, President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly
- [Prostitution – which stance to take?](#)
- The dangers of creationism in education

Friday 5 October 2007

- Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights – stock-taking and perspectives and statement by Thomas Hammarberg, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights
- ["Parliaments united in combating domestic violence against women": mid-term assessment of the Campaign](#)
- [The concept of preventive war and its consequences for international relations](#)

Practical information

Press conferences: PACE President René van der Linden will give a press conference on **Monday 1st October at 10.30 am in Room 1**. Other press conferences will be announced on the spot.

Further details: see the Assembly's website, <http://assembly.coe.int>. Additional information may also be found on the Council of Europe web portal, <http://www.coe.int/PAsession>.

For TV planning Units: videos in broadcast quality summing up PACE highlights can be downloaded for free at <http://dl.coe.int> no later than two hours after the event.

Date:	Time of event:	Event:
Monday 1 October	11.30 pm	Speech: PACE President René van der Linden
	2.30 pm	Speech: Montenegrin President Filip Vujanović
Tuesday 2 October	12 noon	Speech: Patriarch Alexy II of Moscow and all Russia
	3 pm	Speech: Serb Prime Minister Vojislav Koštunica
Wednesday 3 October	12 noon	Speech: Turkish President Abdullah Gül
Thursday 4 October	10 am	Debate: Political implications of the proposed US/NATO “rocket shield”
	5 pm	Debate: The dangers of creationism in education

Contact: PACE Communication Unit: Tel. +33 3 88 41 31 93; pace.com@coe.int

For accreditation: Directorate of Communication: Danielle Schreiber-Somoza, danielle.schreiber-somoza@coe.int, Tel. +33 3 88 41 25 44