

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## **DELEGATION TO THE EU-FYROM** **JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes** **of the meeting**

**on Wednesday, 12 July 2006**  
**BRUSSELS**

#### **Content**

<b>1. Adoption of the draft agenda .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held in Brussels on 29 November 2006 (PE 366.153).....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3. Exchange of views on the results of the general elections held in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on 5 July 2006 .....</b>	<b>2</b>
Briefings by	
• <b>H.E. Mr Blerim REKA</b> , Ambassador, Mission of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the EU	
• <b>Mr Etienne DE-PERIER</b> , representing the European Commission	
<b>4. Future activities of the EU-FYROM JPC .....</b>	<b>3</b>

The meeting opened at 16.15 with Mr. PAPASTAMKOS in the chair.  
Excused: Mr GYURK and Mr KUSSTATSCHER

1.  
The draft agenda was adopted.

2.  
The minutes were approved.

3.  
The Chair welcomed Mr REKA in his capacity as newly appointed ambassador to the EU. He reminded members that the planned JPC meeting scheduled to take place in Ohrid in spring 2006 had been postponed due to the elections in FYROM in July. The next JPC meeting would probably be held in FYROM in the autumn following the constitution of the Assembly and its parliamentary bodies.  
The chair expressed satisfaction with the way the recent elections had been conducted.

Ambassador REKA gave a short briefing on the elections and their outcome. Only a few irregularities had been noted and the elections could be said to live up to European standards.  
The Assembly was expected to be constituted by 19 July and the creation of a Government by 29 September.

Mr Etienne DE PERIER, representing the Commission briefed the meeting on the elections, referring to the report from ODIHR which stated that the elections had been democratic with only a few irregularities. He also referred to the statement of Commissioner REHN, that the Commission would fully support the Government on its road towards EU. The EU would give financial assistance to urgent reforms in the Police, the rule of law, the economic environment and the strengthening of the administrative capacity.

The chair raised the question of irregularities in two constituencies and mentioned the positive result of the presence of international observers.

Mr HEGYI noted that all political parties shared the same view on the European policy. He underlined that it was important to have two regular JPC meetings per year in order to keep up with the political development in the relation with the EU.

Mr KARATZAFERIS welcomed the new ambassador and made an appeal to the Commission to speed up the procedures in the relation to FYROM in order to reduce the period of talks/negotiations before and during the future negotiations for EU membership. The elections should not be compared with elections in the EU countries, but rather with elections in the candidate countries like Turkey and Croatia. The new Government should be supported by EU funds and he mentioned that Greece was the biggest investor in FYROM.

On a question from Mr MAYER on internal security and safety for foreign investments, the ambassador stated the political environment in FYROM was stable and was favourable for foreign investments.  
Answering to a question from Mr MEIJER, rapporteur of the Foreign Affairs Committee, on a possible change of the policies towards the EU within the next few years, the ambassador stated that no changes were expected in the policies towards European integration.

The chair raised the question of the signing of a CEFTA agreement and the ambassador was of the opinion that CEFTA talks would lead to the signature of the agreement and Mr DE PERIER was looking forward to have an agreement signed in the near future.

The chair concluded that it looked like this model for cooperation was working and underlined the high level of Greek and EU investments in the FYROM were a positive signal. FYROM should be integrated into the European structures as much as possible and the EU should strengthen and enforce the cooperation with FYROM.

The chair thanked ambassador REKA and Mr DE PERIER for their participation in the meeting.

#### 4.

As soon as the Assembly had constituted its parliamentary bodies contacts to the new FYROM delegation would be made in order to resume the work of the JPC and to fix the dates for the next JPC meeting in autumn 2006.

The chair informed members that Mr KUSSTATSCHER was proposing to

- hold two regular JPC meetings per year
- focus on multilingualism and intercultural dialogue in the region in the political debate
- put pressure on finding an early solution to the name issue not based on a "former" status

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The meeting closed at 17.00

**DELTAGERLISTE/ANWESENHEITSLISTE/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/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: (*) PAPASTAMKOS (P), KARATZAFERIS (VP), HEGYI (VP)
Anwesend	Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Μέλη/Members/Diputados/Députés/Deputati/Leden/Deputados/jäsenet/
Παρόντες	Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suplentes/Suppléants/ Membri supplenti/Plaatsvervangers/Membros suplentes/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter: MAYER, PALECKIS
Present	Rapporteur: MEIJER
Presentes	
Présents	
Presenti	
Aanwezig	
Läsnä	
Närvarande	
Art. 147,7	
Art. 166,3	
Art. 162.6 Endv. Deltog/Weitere Teiln./ Συμμετείχαν επίσης/Also present Participaron igualmente/ Participaient également/ Hanno partecipato altresì/ Andere deelnemers/ Outros participantes/ Muut osallistujat/ Dessutom deltog	H.E.Blerim REKA, Ambassador, FYROM, pt. 3 DE PERRIER, representation of the Commission, pt. 3
(Dagsorden/Tagesordnung Pkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημεί/Point OJ/Punto OG/Agenda Punt/Ordem do dia- punto/punto orden del dia/ Esityslista Kohta/Föredragningslista punkt):	

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

Til stede den/Anwesend am/Παρόν στις/Present on/Présent le/Presente il/Aanwezig op/Presente em/Presente el/Läsnä/Närvarande den.

- (1) 12.07.06  
(2)  
(3)

FYROM Mission: PAVLOVSKI, POPOV ZORAN

(F) = \*e/Membro/Lid/Membro/Jäsen/Ledamot  
Tjenestemand/Beamter/Υπάλληλος/Official/Funcionario/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/Ambtenaar/ F