

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH BELARUS

MINUTES OF THE CONSTITUENT MEETING

Wednesday, 22 September 2004

BRUSSELS

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Annex: Attendance List

28 September 2004
TB/OF/ES

The meeting opened at 9h45 with Mr SAKALAS (PES, Lithuania), the oldest member in the chair.

1.
Mr SAKALAS ensured that no older member was present who wished to take the chair and declared the meeting open.

The Chair reminded members that the purpose of the meeting was the constitution of the Bureau of the delegation by election of the chair and two vice-chairs.

The quorum was established.

2.
The EPP Group had presented Mr KLICH (EPP-ED, Poland) as candidate for the chair. He accepted the nomination and declared that he had duly completed the Declaration of Financial Interests.

Mr KLICH was elected by acclamation.

Mr KLICH took the chair and thanked members for his election.

3.
The PPE Group had proposed Mr KUSKIS (EPP-ED, Latvia) as 1st vice-chair and the PSE Group had proposed Mr MUSCAT (PES, Malta) as 2nd vice-chair. Mr KUSKIS was not present but had indicated his willingness to start as vice-chair in writing.

Both members were elected by acclamation.

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4.
The chair informed members of the European Parliament resolution on Belarus. The resolution called on the Council to pressurise on the Belarussian authorities to allow the European Parliament to send a mission to observe next Parliamentary elections on 17 October. After the elections a report will be prepared.

The next meeting will take place on October 6 at 9h00 to discuss necessary steps to be taken to begin the work of the delegation. There is a suggestion to have a meeting with the Belarussian Ambassador to the EU just after the first meeting to have a better idea of the position of the Belarussian authorities on the possible observation mission.

Mr GENTVILAS (ALDE, Lithuania) suggested that all the documents related to the EU-Belarussian relations be prepared for further work. He also suggested that the members of the opposition be invited for a meeting.

The chair informed members that two members of the two main opposition parties in Belarus will visit the EP the following day and meetings with them will be held.

Mr GENTVILAS suggested that the meetings with the leaders of the opposition parties be held as soon as possible, especially in the light of the nomination of the Belorussian opposition leaders for the Sakharov prize.

Mr LANG (NI, France) said that meeting with both the opposition and with the Ambassador in order to convince him to receive the government's approval for the observation mission was the best way to start the delegation's activities, as it might be considered provocative to invite only the opposition.

Mr KLICH suggested the approach be discussed later as contacts with both the opposition and representatives of the Minsk authorities would be necessary. Meetings with both parties should be held before October 17, the date of the parliamentary elections.

The meeting closed at 10h15.

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**DELTAGERLISTE/ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KATAΣΤΑΣΗ 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: (*)
Anwesend	Doyen d'Age: SAKALAS KLICH (P), (VP), MUSCAT(VP)
Παρόντες	Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Μέλη/Members/Diputados/Députés/Deputati/Leden/Deputados/jäsenet/ FJELLNER, GENTVILAS, FLASAROVA, GOMOLKA, KURDRYCKA, LANG, ONISKIEWICZ, SAKALAS, SZEJNA
Present	Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suplentes/Suppléants/ Membri supplenti/Plaatsvervangers/Membros suplentes/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter: BEREND, DUKA-ZOLYOMI, PAVILIONIS
Présentes	
Présents	
Presenti	
Aanwezig	
Läsnä	
Närvarande	
Art. 147,7 /Art. 178.2	EVANS
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	
(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/Vicepresidente/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)
- (2)
- (3)

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:

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

Kommissionen/Kommission/Επιτροπή/Commission/Comisión/Commissione/Commissie/Comissão/Komissio/
Kommissionen: (*)

Missions:

Andre deltagere/Andere Teilnehmer Επίσης Παρόντες/Also present Otros participantes/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti Andere aanwezigen/Outros participantes Muut osallistajat/Övriga deltagare		STUZHINSKAYA (European Coalition Free Belarus) SERPIKOV (Belarus Mission) FISSENKO (Belarus Mission)
Gruppernes sekretariat Sekretariat der Fraktionen Γραμματεία των Πολ. Ομάδων Secretariat political groups Secr. de los grupos políticos Secr. groupes politiques Segr. dei gruppi politici Secr. van de fracties Secr. dos grupos políticos Puolueryhmien sihteeristö Gruppernas sekretariat	PPE-DE PSE ALDE Verts/ALE GUE/NGL UEN EDD NI	COX SUDBERY GLASBERG
Cab. du Président		.
Cab. du Secrétaire Général		
Generaldirektorat Generaldirektion Γενική Διεύθυνση Directorate-General Dirección general Direction générale Direzione generale Directoraat-generaal Direcção general Contrôle financier Service juridique Pääosasto Generaldirektorat	I II III IV V VI VII VIII	HARRIS, EFTHYMIU
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		BODEN, SCHMUTTERER VANNESTE

- * (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