

ALDE Activity Report 2018

1. Membership:

1.1. Group size (31/07/2018):

	EPP	SOC	EC	ALDE	UEL	FDG
Jun 2018	168	162	83	76	34	22
Jun 2017	180	174	82	67	34	0

1.2. Committee seats

	2018	2019
AS/Mon	10	12
AS/Pro	3	4
AS/CDH	2+2	3+3

1.3. Female/male members: 19/52; F30% / M70% (total known on 19/01/2019)

1.4. Members affiliated through national parties / members affiliated on individual basis: 50/21;
Affiliated 70% / Individual 30% (total known on 19/01/2019)

1.5. Bureau of the ALDE group:

Last elections (ordinary) held on 22/01/2018 for a two-year term:

Next elections (extraordinary, under rule 8b): 21 January 2019: to replace outgoing members

Current composition:

President: Rik Daems (Belgium)

Vice-Presidents : Alfred Heer (Switzerland), Michael Aastrup Jensen (Denmark), Michael Georg Link (Germany), Melisa Rodriguez (Spain), Olena Sotnyk (Ukraine), Sylvain Waserman (France)

Treasurer: Mart van de Ven (Netherlands)

Ex officio: Jordi Xuclà (former group chair, Spain), Doris Fiala (committee chair, Switzerland)

Outgoing Vice-Presidents: Mr Pasquier (Monaco), Mr Kross (Estonia), Ms Lundgren (Sweden)

Outgoing ex officio Honorary President: Ms Anne Brasseur (Luxembourg)

1.6. CoE member states represented in the group on 19/01/2019: (26)

Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine



1.7. CoE member states non-represented in the group on 19/01/2019: (21)

Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Malta, Montenegro, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Sweden, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Turkey, United Kingdom

1.8. Chairs of national delegations (5):

Rik Daems (Belgium)
Susanne Eberle-Strub (Liechtenstein)
Michael Aastrup Jensen (Denmark)
Carles Jordana (Andorra)
Mart van de Ven (Netherlands)

1.9. Bureau of the Assembly (2):

Rik Daems (ALDE Chair)
Doris Fiala (AS/Mig Chair)

1.10. Presidential Committee:

ALDE Chair, **Rik Daems** is member of the Presidential Committee bringing together the President of PACE, the Chairs of all the political groups and the Secretary General of PACE. The Presidential Committee is a consultative body for the Bureau and the President of the Assembly. It shall prepare meetings of the Bureau and may be entrusted by it with liaison tasks (Rule 14.4 of the PACE Rules of Procedure)

2. Mandates in PACE committees (2018)

2.1. Committees:

1.	Ms Doris FIALA (Switzerland), Chairperson	Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons
2.	Ms Olena SOTNYK (Ukraine), 1st Vice-Chairperson	Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights
3.	Mr Mart van de VEN (Netherlands), 2nd Vice-Chairperson	Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs
4.	Mr Alfred HEER (Switzerland), 3rd Vice-Chairperson	Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

2.2. Sub-committees:

1.	Mr Petri HONKONEN (Finland), Chairperson	Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society, AS/Cult
2.	Mr Damien THIÉRY (Belgium), Chairperson	Sub-Committee on the Rights of Minorities, AS/Ega
3.	Ms Kerstin LUNDGREN (Sweden), Chairperson – until 21 January 2019	Sub-Committee on the Middle East and the Arab World, AS/Pol
4.	Mr Andrea RIGONI (Italy), Chairperson – until October 2018	Sub-Committee on Diasporas, AS/Mig
5.	Mr Goran BEUS RICHEMBERGH (Croatia), Vice-Chairperson	Sub-Committee on the Rights of Minorities, AS/Ega
6.	Mr Jean-Pierre GRIN (Switzerland), Vice-Chairperson	Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter, AS/Soc
7.	Ms Judith PALLARÉS (Andorra), Vice-Chairperson	Sub-Committee on Education, Youth and Sport, AS/Cult

2.3. Committee representatives to other CoE bodies:

1.	Mr Damien THIÉRY (Belgium), member	European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)
2.	Ms Olena SOTNYK (Ukraine), substitute	Group of States against Corruption (GRECO)
3.	Mr Mart van de VEN (Netherlands), substitute	Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL)

3. Reports prepared by ALDE members

3.1. Adopted:

Reports:

Anne BRASSEUR (Luxembourg)	Good football governance, AS/Cult (Doc. 14452)
Raphaël COMTE (Switzerland)	State of emergency: proportionality issues concerning derogations under Article 15 of the European Convention on Human Rights Rapporteur, AS/Jur (Doc. 14506)
Doris FIALA (Switzerland)	Regulating foreign funding of Islam in Europe in order to prevent radicalisation and Islamophobia, AS/Pol (Doc. 14617)
Béatrice FRESKO-ROLFO (Monaco)	Forced marriage in Europe, AS/Ega (Doc. 14574)
Alfred HEER (Switzerland)	Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee, AS/Bur (Doc. 14579, Doc. 14579 Add.1, Doc. 4579 Add. 2, Doc. 14582)
Sabien LAHAYE-BATTHEU (Belgium)	The case for drafting a European convention on the profession of lawyer, AS/Jur (Doc. 14453)
Olena SOTNYK (Ukraine)	Follow-up to the report of the Independent Investigation Body on the allegations of corruption within the Parliamentary Assembly, AS/Jur (Doc. 14543)
	Observation of the early presidential and parliamentary elections in Turkey (24 June 2018), AS/Bur (Doc. 14608)
Mart van de VEN (Netherlands)	Fighting organised crime by facilitating the confiscation of illegal assets, AS/Jur (Doc. 14516)

Opinions:

Olena SOTNYK (Ukraine)	Follow-up to the report of the Independent Investigation Body on the allegations of corruption within the Parliamentary Assembly, opinion AS/Jur Doc 14543
Jordi XUCLA (Spain)	Counter-narratives to terrorism, opinion AS/Pol Doc. 14558

3.2. Reports under preparation (as of 07/01/2019)

AS/Pol

Rik Daems	Promoting democracy by developing market economy: does the EBRD model work?
Rik Daems	Setting minimum standards for electoral systems in order to offer the basis for free and fair elections
Olena Sotnyk	(Opinion) Media freedom as a condition for democratic elections

AS/Jur

Olena Sotnyk	Restrictions on NGO activities in Council of Europe member States
Olena Sotnyk	(Opinion) Rights and obligations of NGOs assisting refugees and migrants in Europe

Mart Van de Ven	Urgent need to strengthen Financial Intelligence Units – sharper tools needed to improve confiscation of illegal assets
Mart van de Ven	New challenges in the fight against organised crime and money laundering – the need to improve international co-operation
Sylvain Waserman	Improving the protection of whistleblowers all over Europe

AS/Soc

Reina de Bruijn-Wezeman	Protecting the rights of people with psychosocial disabilities with regard to involuntary measures in psychiatry
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AS/Mig

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AS/Cult

Roland Büchel	Time to act: Europe's political response to fighting the manipulation of sports competitions (Doc. 14518)
Raphaël Comte	Jewish cultural heritage preservation (Doc. 14477)
Petri Honkonen	Public service media in the context of fake news and propaganda
Rafael Huseynov	Education geared towards pupils' needs
Judith Pallarés	Strengthening the role of young people in the prevention and resolution of conflicts (Doc. 14494)

AS/Ega

Mr Goran Beus Richembergh	Stop hate speech and acts of hatred in sport
Damien Thiéry	Discrimination in access to employment
Petra Stienen	The gender dimension of foreign policy and heard from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interests

AS/Pro

Mart van de Ven	Guidelines on the scope of the parliamentary immunities enjoyed by members of the Parliamentary Assembly
Mart van de Ven	(Opinion) Role and mission of the Parliamentary Assembly: main challenges for the future

AS/Mon

Alfred Heer (Switzerland)	The honouring of obligations and commitments by Ukraine
Tbc	The honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia
Anne Mulder (Netherlands)	Post-monitoring dialogue with Montenegro

General Rapporteurs:

PACE General Rapporteur on Local and Regional Authorities	Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland)
General Rapporteur on violence against women	Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo

4. List of motions for resolution, written declarations and questions tabled by members

- Sylvain **WASERMAN** (France): Improving the protection of whistleblowers all over Europe, 23/01/2018, Working document 14483, Motion for a resolution – Referred to AS/Jur for report
- Doris **FIALA** (Switzerland) The use of innovative technologies for the benefit of migrants: Motion for a resolution tabled by Ms Doris Fiala and other members of the Assembly Doc. 14594 - Transmission to AS/Mig - for information
- Roland Rino **BÜCHEL** (Switzerland): Time to act: Europe's political response to fighting the manipulation of sports competitions – Referred to AS/Cult for report

- Kerstin **LUNDGREN** (Sweden): Following up on the Genocide Convention and developing processes for reflecting on historic genocides in Council of Europe member States 10/10/2018, Working document 14640, Motion for a resolution – no further action
- Petra **STIENEN** (Netherlands): The gender dimension of foreign policy, 26/09/2018, Working document 14627 - Motion for a resolution – Referred to AS/Ega for report

5. Participation in election observation

Early presidential elections Azerbaijan, 11 April 2018:

Alfred HEER, Switzerland
 Dzheyhan IBRYAMOV, Bulgaria*
 Claude KERN, France
 Mart van de VEN, Netherlands

Presidential elections Montenegro, 15 April 2018:

Emilie Enger MEHL, Norway
 Robert TROY, Ireland
 Ex officio: Andrea RIGONI, co-rapporteur AS/Mon

Early presidential and parliamentary Turkey, 24 June 2018:

Olena SOTNYK, Ukraine – delegation chair
 Andrea RIGONI, Italy
 Petra STIENEN, Netherlands

General elections Bosnia and Herzegovina, 7 October 2018:

Claude KERN, France*
 Anne MULDER, Netherlands

Presidential election in Georgia, 28 October and 28 November 2018:

Reina de BRUIJN-WEZEMAN, Netherlands
 Alfred HEER, Switzerland*
 Nellija KLEINBERGA, Latvia
 Andrii LOPUSHANSKYI, Ukraine
 Olena SOTNYK, Ukraine

Early parliamentary elections Armenia, 9 December 2018

Andrii LOPUSHANSKYI, Ukraine

* including pre-electoral mission

6. Speakers on behalf of the group

Oral questions:

Olivier BECHT (France)	- Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia, Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe
Jokin BILDRARRATZ (Spain)	- Lars Løkke RASMUSSEN, Prime Minister of Denmark
Anne BRASSEUR (Luxembourg)	- Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights on the Annual activity report 2017
Reina BRUIJN-WEZEMAN (Netherlands)	- Anders SAMUELSEN, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark - Chairman of the Committee of Ministers
Rik DAEMS (Belgium)	- Alexander Van der BELLEN, President of Austria - Thorbjørn JAGLAND, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Michael Aastrup JENSEN (Denmark)	- Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Croatia and Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers - Question to Mr Thorbjørn JAGLAND, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Jan JORGENSEN (Denmark)	- Peter PELLEGRINI, Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic

Bernard PASQUIER (Monaco)	- Thorbjørn JAGLAND, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Melisa RODRIGUEZ (Spain)	- Serzh SARGSYAN, President of Armenia - Nikola DIMITROV, Minister for Foreign Affairs of “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” - Andrej PLENKOVIĆ, Prime Minister of Croatia - Khemaies JHINAOU, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia
Olena SOTNYK (Ukraine)	- Anders SAMUELSEN, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Chairman of the Committee of Ministers
Tiit TERIK (Estonia)	- Thorbjørn JAGLAND, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Emilie MEHL (Norway)	- Jean ASSELBORN, Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Luxembourg

Plenary debates on reports:

Olivier BECHT (France)	- Current affairs debate: The future of the Council of Europe
Jokin BILDARRATZ (Spain)	- The situation in Libya: prospects and role of the Council of Europe, AS/Pol (Doc. 14519) - Joint debate: Family reunification of refugees and migrants in Council of Europe member States, AS/Mig (Doc. 14626); Migration from a gender perspective: empowering women as key actors for integration, AS/Ega (Doc. 14606)
Reina BRUIJN-WEZEMAN (Netherlands)	- Strengthening international regulations against trade in goods used for torture and the death penalty, AS/Jur (Doc. 14454) - Drug-resistant tuberculosis in Europe, AS/Soc (Doc. 14525) - Forced marriage in Europe, AS/Ega (Doc. 14574) - The treatment of Palestinian minors in the Israeli justice system, AS/Soc (Doc. 14583)
Raphaël COMTE (Switzerland)	- Working towards a framework for modern sports governance, AS/Cult (Doc. 14464, Doc. 14464 Add.); Good football governance, AS/Cult (Doc. 14452) - Integration, empowerment and protection of migrant children through compulsory education, AS/Mig (Doc. 14524) - Alleged extreme discrimination and crimes against LGBTI people in the Chechen Republic (Russian Federation), AS/Ega (Doc. 14572)
Rik DAEMS (Belgium)	- Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee, AS/Bur (Doc. 14529, Doc. 14529 Add. 1, Doc. 14529 Add. 2, Doc. 14533) - Urgent procedure debate: “Copenhagen Declaration, appreciation and follow-up”, AS/Jur (Doc. 14539) - Current affairs debate: “Europe’s role in peacemaking initiatives in Syria”, AS/Mig (Doc. 14569)
Susanne EBERLE (Liechtenstein)	- Striking a balance between the best interest of the child and the need to keep the families together, AS/Soc (Doc. 14568)
Simonas GENTVILAS (Lithuania)	- Free debate (Migration)
Michael Aastrup JENSEN (Denmark)	- Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee AS/Bur (Doc. 14455, Doc. 14455 Add. 1, Doc. 14455 Add. 2, Doc. 14455 Add. 3, Doc. 14471) - Legal challenges related to hybrid war and human rights obligations, AS/Jur (Doc. 14523)
Claude KERN (France)	- The progress of the Assembly’s monitoring procedure (January-December 2017) and the periodic review of the honouring of obligations by Estonia, Greece, Hungary and Ireland, AS/Mon (Doc. 14450) - Fighting organised crime by facilitating the confiscation of illegal assets, AS/Jur (Doc. 14516)
Michael LINK (Germany)	- The honouring of obligations and commitments by Bosnia and Herzegovina, AS/Mon (Doc. 14465)
Kerstin LUNDGREN (Sweden)	- Humanitarian consequences of the war in Ukraine; AS/Mig (Doc. 14463) - Funding of the terrorist group Daesh: lessons learned, AS/Pol (Doc. 14510) - Protecting human rights defenders in Council of Europe member States - Joint debate: Extra-territorial processing of asylum claims and the creation of safe refugee shelters abroad, AS/Mig (Doc. 14571); Human rights impact of the “external dimension” of European Union asylum and migration policy;

	<p>out of sight, out of rights? AS/Mig (Doc. 14575); Urgent debate: International obligations of Council of Europe member States: to protect life at sea, AS/Mig (Doc. 14586)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Urgent debate: Ukrainian citizens detained as political prisoners by the Russian Federation, AS/Jur (Doc. 14591)</i>
Edmon MARUKYAN (Armenia)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current affairs debate : The Turkish military intervention in Syria - The case for drafting a European convention on the profession of lawyer, AS/Jur (Doc.14453)
Emilie Enger MEHL (Norway)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Israeli–Palestinian peace process: the role of the Council of Europe, AS/Pol (Doc. 14484) - Women in the economy: promoting gender equality and women’s access to STEM education and careers (science, technology, engineering and maths), AS/Ega (Doc. 14573)
Martin POLIACIK (Slovak Republic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Addressing the humanitarian needs of internally displaced persons: recent lessons and future challenges in Europe, AS/Mig (Doc. 14527) - Joint debate: The protection of editorial integrity, AS/Cult (Doc. 14526); The status of journalists in Europe, AS/Cult (Doc. 14505)
Melisa RODRIGUEZ (Spain)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate change and implementation of the Paris Agreement, AS/Soc (Doc. 14521) - Nuclear safety and security in Europe, AS/Soc (Doc. 14622)
Olena SOTNYK (Ukraine)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New restrictions on NGO activities in Council of Europe member States, AS/Jur (Doc. 14570) - Unlimited access to member States, including “grey zones”, by Council of Europe and United Nations human rights monitoring bodies? AS/Jur (Doc. 14619)
Aleksandar STEVANOVIC (Serbia)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The case for a basic citizenship income, AS/Soc (Doc. 14462) - The humanitarian situation of refugees in the countries neighbouring Syria, AS/Mig (Doc. 14569)
Petra STIENEN (Netherlands)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee AS/Bur (Doc. 14632, Doc. 14632 Add. 1, Doc. 14632 Add. 2, Doc. 14634) and Observation of the early presidential and parliamentary elections in Turkey (24 June 2018), AS/Bur (Doc. 14608) - Private and family life: achieving equality regardless of sexual orientation
Damien THIERY (Belgium)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Challenge on procedural grounds of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of Andorra, AS/Pro (Doc. 14475)
Mart van de VEN (Netherlands)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jurisdictional immunity of international organisations and rights of their staff, AS/Jur (Doc. 14443) - Free debate (Situation in Armenia) - State of emergency: proportionality issues concerning derogations under Article 15 of the European Convention on Human Rights, AS/Jur (Doc. 14506) - Urgent procedure: Follow-up to the report of the Independent Investigation Body on the allegations of corruption within the Parliamentary Assembly, AS/Pro (Doc. 14540) - <i>Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee, AS/Bur (Doc. 14579, Doc. 14579 Add. 1, Doc. 14579 Add. 2, Doc. 14582)</i> - Deliberate destruction and illegal trafficking of cultural heritage, AS/Cult (Doc. 14566) - Strengthening the decision-making process of the Parliamentary Assembly concerning credentials and voting, AS/Pro (Doc. 14621) - The crash of Polish Air Force Tu-154M transporting the Polish State delegation, on 10 April 2010 on the Russian Federation's territory, AS/Jur (Doc. 14607)
Sylvain WASERMAN (France)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protecting children affected by armed conflicts, AS/Soc (Doc. 14461) - Deal-making in criminal proceedings: the need for minimum standards for trial waiver systems, AS/Jur (Doc. 14618)
Jordi XUCLA (Spain)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The protection and promotion of regional or minority languages in Europe, AS/Cult (Doc. 14466) - Joint debate: Regulating foreign funding of Islam in Europe in order to prevent radicalisation and Islamophobia, AS/Pol (Doc. 14617) ; Radicalisation of migrants and diaspora communities in Europe, AS/Mig (Doc. 14625)

7. Side-events and hearings

22 January 2018: Lack of progress in the investigation into the **murder of Maltese journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia**, hearing with the participation of the sons of the victim.

24 June 2018: Turkey on the eve of presidential and parliamentary elections - side-event in cooperation with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (chaired by Anne Brasseur)

8. Follow up

Information is being collected

List of abbreviations:

PACE Committees:

AS/Pol – Political Affairs and Democracy

AS/Jur – Legal Affairs and Human Rights

AS/Soc – Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

AS/Mig - Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons

AS/Cult – Culture, Science and Education

AS/Pro - Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs

AS/Ega – Equality and Non-Discrimination

AS/Cdh – Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

AS/Mon – Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Council of Europe Member States (Monitoring)