



NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

# RULES OF PROCEDURE

## Online Spring Session

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## **RULES OF PROCEDURE**

### **I. COMPOSITION OF THE ASSEMBLY**

#### **Article 1**

The NATO Parliamentary Assembly consists of parliamentary delegates who are selected from the members of national parliaments of member countries of the Atlantic Alliance by the procedure best suited to each country, ensuring that the composition of the delegation represents the political balance within the national parliament. Delegations are strongly encouraged to seek gender diversity. A member of government cannot be a delegate to the Assembly. These principles apply equally to delegations from non-member countries.

### **II. AIMS**

#### **Article 2**

The Assembly, by virtue of its membership drawn from the various national parliaments, provides a link between the NATO authorities and these parliaments. Through its discussions, the Assembly aims to promote a common feeling of Atlantic solidarity in the various legislative assemblies; to strengthen national parliamentary oversight of security and defence; to increase public knowledge of the Alliance and to further the aims and values of the Alliance, in particular support for democracy, individual liberty, and the rule of law.

### **III. MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSEMBLY**

#### **Article 3**

1. The Assembly shall consist of 269 members as set out in Appendix I.
2. Each member may have an alternate who may vote in his or her place.
3. Alternate members may participate, in addition to members at:
  - a) Sessions, subject to their compliance with the rules governing the allocation of votes specified in Article 37(2); and
  - b) other events, subject to participation arrangements in each instance.
4. Members and alternate members shall be appointed, where possible, for a minimum period of one year.

5. Members and alternate members of the Assembly must be members of their national parliament. If they cease to be so, any mandate they hold within the Assembly shall lapse with immediate effect but they may continue to represent their delegation at the Assembly until a successor has been designated, or for a maximum of six months after the date of a parliamentary election.
6. A delegate whose credentials are contested shall take his/her seat provisionally, with the same rights as other delegates until the Standing Committee has reached a decision on his/her case.

#### **IV. ASSOCIATE DELEGATIONS**

##### **Article 4**

1. Subject to the approval of the Assembly, the Standing Committee may decide, by a three-quarters majority of its members present and eligible to vote, to invite delegations from parliaments of countries which are not members of the Atlantic Alliance to participate in the work of the Assembly as associate delegations.
2. Subject to the approval of the Assembly, the Standing Committee may decide, by a three-quarters majority of its members present and eligible to vote, to redesignate an associate delegation as:
  - a) regional partner or Mediterranean associate delegation; or
  - b) a parliamentary observer.
3. Subject to the approval of the Assembly, the Standing Committee may decide, by a three-quarters majority of its members present and eligible to vote, to withdraw the status of an associate delegation.
4. The Standing Committee shall decide the size of associate delegations and the number of associate delegates nominated to each Committee of the Assembly. The allocation of seats for these delegations is set out in Appendix V.
5. Each member of a delegation approved under paragraph 1 may have an alternate who may attend in his or her place.
6. Paragraphs 4 to 6 of Article 3 shall apply to the appointment of members and alternate members of associate delegations.
7. Members of these delegations shall be entitled to attend plenary sittings of the Assembly, seminars, and meetings of the Assembly's Committees and Sub-Committees unless decided otherwise by the Standing Committee. They may speak and propose texts and amendments but shall not be entitled to vote.

## **V. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DELEGATION**

### **Article 5**

1. Subject to the approval of the Assembly, the Standing Committee may decide, subject to a majority of those present and eligible to vote, to recommend that the Assembly grants official status to the European Parliament.
2. The delegation from the European Parliament shall consist of ten delegates and shall have two seats on each Committee. Delegates shall be entitled to attend plenary sittings of the Assembly, seminars, and meetings of the Assembly's Committees unless decided otherwise by the Standing Committee. They may speak and propose texts but shall not be entitled to vote or move amendments.
3. Each member of a delegation from the European Parliament may have an alternate who may attend in his or her place.

## **VI. REGIONAL PARTNER AND MEDITERRANEAN ASSOCIATE DELEGATIONS**

### **Article 6**

1. Subject to the approval of the Assembly, the Standing Committee may decide, by a three-quarters majority of its members present and eligible to vote, to invite delegations from the parliaments of countries which are not members of the Atlantic Alliance to participate in the work of the Assembly as regional partners and Mediterranean associate delegations.
2. Subject to the approval of the Assembly, the Standing Committee may decide, by a three-quarters majority of its members present and eligible to vote, to redesignate a regional partner and Mediterranean associate delegation as a parliamentary observer.
3. Subject to the approval of the Assembly, the Standing Committee may decide, by a three-quarters majority of its members present and eligible to vote, to withdraw the status of a regional partner and Mediterranean associate delegation.
4. The Standing Committee will reconsider the status of a delegation appointed under paragraph 1 that does not send any member to an Assembly session for three consecutive years.
5. The Standing Committee shall decide the size of any delegation agreed to under paragraph 1 and the number of delegates nominated to each Committee of the Assembly. The allocation of seats for these delegations is set out in Appendix VI.
6. Each member of a delegation appointed under paragraph 1 may have an alternate who may attend in his or her place.
7. Paragraphs 4 to 6 of Article 3 shall apply to the appointment of members and alternate members of regional partner and Mediterranean associate delegations.
8. Members of these delegations shall be entitled to attend plenary sittings of the Assembly, seminars, and meetings of the Assembly's Committees during sessions unless decided otherwise by the Standing Committee. They may speak and propose texts and amendments but shall not be entitled to vote.

## **VII. PARLIAMENTARY OBSERVER AND AD HOC PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS (PARLIAMENTARY GUESTS)**

### **Article 7**

1. Delegations from other parliaments and inter-parliamentary assemblies may, with the consent of the Standing Committee and subject to the approval of the Assembly, be invited by the President to attend sessions of the Assembly as parliamentary observers.
2. Subject to the approval of the Assembly, the Standing Committee may decide, by a majority of its members present and eligible to vote, to withdraw the status of a parliamentary observer.
3. The Standing Committee will reconsider the status of a delegation appointed under paragraph 1 that does not send any member to an Assembly session for three consecutive years.
4. The Standing Committee shall decide the size of any delegation agreed to under paragraph 1 and the number of delegates nominated to each Committee of the Assembly. The allocation of seats for these delegations is set out in Appendix VII.
5. Paragraphs 4 to 6 of Article 3 shall apply to the appointment of parliamentary observers.
6. Subject to the discretion of Chairpersons of Committees, parliamentary observers may participate in meetings of the Assembly's Committees. They may speak but shall not be entitled to vote or move amendments.
7. The Standing Committee may also invite parliamentary delegations to participate in specific sessions on an ad hoc basis. If a request for the participation of a parliamentary delegation is received and no Standing Committee meeting is scheduled before the session in question, the President shall decide whether to permit ad hoc participation following consultation with the host delegation and the members of the Bureau.
8. The names of observers under this article shall be provided to the International Secretariat by the parliamentary body to which they belong.

## **VIII. DELEGATION SECRETARIES**

### **Article 8**

1. Member delegations, associate delegations, the European Parliament delegation, regional partner and Mediterranean associate delegations and parliamentary observer delegations shall appoint delegation secretaries who shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Assembly and its Committees and shall have access to the Assembly chamber and to the Committee rooms.
2. Delegation secretaries are asked to help the Secretary General in maintaining close and effective administrative links between the Assembly and the parliaments.

## **IX. BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY**

### **Article 9**

1. The Bureau of the Assembly shall consist of the President, five Vice-Presidents, and the Treasurer.
2. The Secretary General of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and the head of the United States delegation shall attend the Bureau as ex-officio members.
3. The Bureau shall meet three times a year prior to the Standing Committee meetings. Special Bureau meetings may also be called by the President or at the request of a majority of the Bureau members to consider urgent and specific questions.
4. During the intervals between Standing Committee meetings, the Bureau shall be responsible for approving any changes to the Assembly's schedule of activities.
5. During the intervals between Standing Committee meetings, the Bureau shall be responsible for approving any changes to the subjects to be considered by Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Groups.
6. Members of the Bureau are ex-officio members of all Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Groups.
7. The President shall invite former Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and Treasurers of the Assembly to regular meetings of the Bureau, for two years after their term of office ends, provided that they remain a member of their country's delegation.

## **X. PRESIDENT**

### **Article 10**

1. The President shall represent and be the leading officer of the Assembly.
2. He/she shall be kept informed of all political, organisational and financial developments.
3. He/she shall arbitrate on any question of concern to the Assembly in the intervals between Bureau meetings, Standing Committee meetings and Assembly sessions.

### **Article 11**

1. The President shall open sittings and declare recesses and adjournments thereof.
2. He/she shall maintain order, enforce the Rules of Procedure, draw the attention of the Assembly to matters which concern it, call on speakers, guide the debates, put questions to the vote and announce the results.
3. The ruling of the President on all procedural matters shall be final.



## **XI. VICE PRESIDENTS**

### **Article 12**

1. One of the Vice-Presidents shall take the chair if the President is unable to preside at a session or wishes to take part in a debate. The Vice-President in the chair shall have the same procedural rights as the President.
2. A Vice-President may be called upon to fulfil certain of the President's representational obligations.

## **XII. TREASURER**

### **Article 13**

1. The Treasurer shall be a member or an alternate member of the Assembly. He/She shall be a member of the Standing Committee, without the right to vote unless he/she be his/her country's representative on the Committee.
2. It shall be the Treasurer's duty to:
  - a) present to the Standing Committee at the spring session, after consulting the Secretary General, a draft budget for the following financial year;
  - b) present to the Assembly at the annual session the draft budget approved by the Standing Committee for the following financial year;
  - c) present to the Standing Committee at its early spring meeting and to the plenary assembly at the spring session the audited financial statements for the preceding financial year;
  - d) assume responsibility for the implementation of the financial and budgetary policy of the Assembly and for ensuring that this policy is consistent with the political objectives of the Assembly; and
  - e) oversee the management of the financial affairs of the Assembly.
3. The Treasurer shall have the power of signature in all financial matters as specified in the Financial Regulations.

## **XIII. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU**

### **Article 14**

1. Before the closing of the annual session, the Assembly shall elect successively the President, the Vice-Presidents and, every other year, the Treasurer.

2. The Bureau members shall be elected by those members and alternate members present entitled to vote in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 3 and paragraph 1 of Article 37. Voting shall take place by secret ballot, using ballot papers, not exceeding in number the membership of each delegation as specified in Appendix I, and which shall not be personal. Only those ballot papers bearing the names of members that have been duly nominated as candidates shall be taken into account for the purpose of calculating the number of votes cast.
3. Candidates for the office of President, Vice-President and Treasurer must be nominated by three or more members or alternate members and their candidatures approved by the Standing Committee. They must be members or alternate members of the Assembly.
4. Nominations should be submitted, in writing, to the Standing Committee no later than one hour before the Standing Committee meeting at the annual session.
5. In considering proposed candidates for the offices of President, Vice-President and Treasurer, the Standing Committee will ensure that:
  - a) the Vice-Presidents are of different nationality; and
  - b) at least one of the Bureau members is a member of the delegations of Canada or the United States of America.
6. The President and Vice-Presidents shall hold office from the close of the annual session in which they are elected to the close of the next annual session.
7. The Treasurer shall hold office for a period of two years from 1st April of the year following the annual session at which he/she is elected.

## **Election of the President**

### **Article 15**

1. The President shall be elected by secret ballot and each member or alternate member entitled to vote may cast one vote. If, on the first ballot, no candidate has obtained an absolute majority of the votes cast, a second ballot shall be held between the two candidates who obtain the most votes in the first ballot. The candidate who, on the second ballot, obtains the most votes shall be elected.
2. In the event of a tie in either round, the issue shall be decided by lot.
3. In the event that there is only one candidate, he or she may be elected by acclamation.
4. The President is eligible for re-election once.

## **Election of the Vice-Presidents**

### **Article 16**

1. The Vice-Presidents shall be elected by secret ballot on the same ballot paper and each member or alternate member entitled to vote may cast as many votes as there are positions to be filled. The candidate or candidates receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected.
2. In the event of a tie, the issue shall be decided by lot.

3. Whenever, in an election, the number of candidates is the same or less than the number of positions to be filled, the candidates may be elected by acclamation.
4. The Vice-Presidents are eligible for re-election once.

## **Election of the Treasurer**

### **Article 17**

1. The Treasurer shall be elected by secret ballot and each member or alternate member entitled to vote may cast one vote. If, on the first ballot, no candidate has obtained an absolute majority of the votes cast, a second ballot shall be held between the two candidates who obtain the most votes in the first ballot. The candidate who, on the second ballot, obtains the most votes shall be elected.
2. In the event of a tie in either round, the election shall be decided by lot.
3. In the event that there is only one candidate, he or she may be elected by acclamation.
4. The Treasurer may be re-elected twice.

## **XIV. INABILITY OF OFFICE-HOLDERS TO EXERCISE FUNCTIONS**

### **The President**

#### **Article 18**

If the President has relinquished his/her post in accordance with Article 3(5) or for any other reason is unable to exercise his/her functions for the remainder of his/her mandate, the Bureau, communicating by appropriate means, shall appoint one of the Vice-Presidents as acting President as soon as possible to fulfil the remainder of the mandate. This appointment shall be subject to final approval by the Standing Committee at its next meeting.

### **Vice-Presidents**

#### **Article 19**

If a Vice-President has relinquished his/her post in accordance with Article 3(5) or for any other reason is unable to exercise his/her functions for the remainder of his/her mandate, the Bureau, communicating by appropriate means, shall appoint an acting Vice-President as soon as possible to fulfil the remainder of the mandate. This appointment shall be subject to final approval by the Standing Committee at its next meeting.

### **Treasurer**

#### **Article 20**

If the Treasurer has relinquished his/her post in accordance with Article 3(5) or for any other reason is unable to exercise his/her functions for the remainder of his/her mandate, the Bureau, communicating by appropriate means, shall appoint one of the Vice-Presidents as acting Treasurer as soon as possible. The Standing Committee shall then at its next meeting proceed to the election of a successor,

who shall hold office until the expiry of the mandate in question. In the event of a contested election the Standing Committee shall vote in accordance with the provisions of Article 17(1) and (2).

## **XV. TERMINATION OF TENURE OF OFFICE-HOLDERS**

### **Article 21**

1. The Assembly may terminate the term of office of:
  - a) the President;
  - b) a Vice-President;
  - c) the Treasurer; and
  - d) an office-holder on a Committee, Sub-Committee or Working Group

on the grounds that he or she no longer enjoys the confidence of the Assembly, that he or she no longer fulfils the conditions required for the exercise of that office or is guilty of serious misconduct by seriously or repeatedly ignoring the aims of the Assembly.
2. A motion for dismissal shall be signed by the heads of at least 15 member delegations and must be submitted to the Standing Committee no later than 24 hours before the start of a session.
3. After the Standing Committee has received a motion for dismissal and until the final decision on the motion is taken, any office-holder subject to such a motion will not carry out any of his or her duties under that office.
4. The Standing Committee will decide, subject to a three-quarters majority, to submit the motion to the Assembly for approval.
5. The motion for dismissal shall be the first item of its business at the session.
6. Only the first signatory of the motion and the member to whom the procedure relates have the right to be heard in the debate.
7. To be passed, the motion requires a two-thirds majority of its members present and eligible to vote.
8. The dismissal of an office-holder of the Assembly shall take effect immediately after the announcement that the motion has been carried.
9. The voluntary resignation of the member concerned from his or her office shall terminate the procedure.
10. Any delegate who has been dismissed under this procedure shall not:
  - a) be eligible for election to the offices of the Assembly; and
  - b) be granted any of the rights afforded to former office-holders.

## **XVI. STANDING COMMITTEE**

### **Composition**

#### **Article 22**

1. The Standing Committee shall consist of one member from each member country, nominated by each member delegation. Each member delegation may also appoint an alternate member. If for any reason, neither the member nor the alternate member is able to attend a meeting of the Standing Committee, the Head of the Delegation may appoint an alternate member for that Standing Committee meeting. The appointed member has the same rights as the member he/she replaces. The President, the Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer and the Chairpersons of the Assembly's Committees and of the Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group shall be ex officio members of the Standing Committee.
2. The President, the Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer and the Chairpersons of the Assembly's Committees and of the Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group shall be entitled to vote in the Standing Committee only if they are the representative of their delegation on the Standing Committee.
3. Meetings of the Standing Committee shall be summoned by the President.
4. The Standing Committee may invite General Rapporteurs of the Assembly's Committees and of the Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group to attend its meetings. They may speak but shall not be entitled to vote. The Chairpersons of the Committees and of the Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group will keep the Standing Committee regularly informed of the activities of their Committees and Group and the results of their work.
5. The Standing Committee shall invite former Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and Treasurers of the Assembly to attend its meeting during the two years after their term of office ends, provided that they remain on their delegations. They may speak but shall not be entitled to vote.

### **Tasks of the Standing Committee**

#### **Article 23**

1. The main tasks of the Standing Committee shall be:
  - a) to establish the dates and locations of sessions, and to draw up and circulate after due consultation the proposed programme of the next session of the Assembly;
  - b) to approve arrangements for future meetings of the Assembly;
  - c) to examine and approve the Assembly's draft budget before its adoption by the Assembly at the annual session;
  - d) to satisfy itself that the management of the Assembly's financial affairs is in accordance with the budget provisions and the financial rules and regulations in force;
  - e) to examine and approve the audited financial statements for the preceding financial year before their adoption by the plenary assembly at the spring session;
  - f) to designate the audit authority following a joint proposal from the Treasurer and the Secretary General;

- g) to coordinate and approve the schedule of all the Assembly activities including seminars and meetings of Committees, Sub-Committees, and Working Groups;
  - h) to coordinate and approve the subjects that the Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Groups propose to consider;
  - i) to establish Sub-Committees on any matter, whenever this may be necessary;
  - j) in accordance with Article 54, to decide on, if it so wishes, the maximum number of reports to be presented each year to the Assembly;
  - k) to take all possible steps through the North Atlantic Council and by other appropriate methods to secure the implementation of the recommendations and resolutions of the Assembly;
  - l) to review arrangements for associate delegations, the European Parliament delegation, regional partner and Mediterranean associate delegations, parliamentary observer delegations and other inter-parliamentary assembly delegations granted formal status with the Assembly;
  - m) to consider questions of urgency;
  - n) to receive any motion presented under Article 21.
2. Each member of the Standing Committee shall have one vote.
  3. When a decision to be taken would involve contributions from delegations additional to those approved in the annual budget, the votes shall be weighted to take account of the size of national contributions, in accordance with directions set out in Appendix II.

## **Powers in relation to the International Secretariat**

### **Article 24**

1. The Standing Committee shall appoint and dismiss the Secretary General who shall be under the direct authority of the President.
2. The Secretary General shall be appointed for two years and may only be re-appointed four times.
3. The Standing Committee shall determine the position and powers of the Secretary General.
4. The Standing Committee shall determine the number and grade of the employees in the International Secretariat, who shall come under the authority of the Secretary General.
5. The Standing Committee shall appoint and dismiss the Deputy Secretary General following a proposal by the Secretary General.
6. The Standing Committee shall appoint and dismiss the head of the financial service following a joint proposal by the Treasurer and the Secretary General.

## **XVII. USE OF LANGUAGES**

### **Article 25**

1. The official languages of the Assembly shall be English and French. Speeches in either of the two official languages shall be interpreted.
2. Any speaker wishing to use another language shall be personally responsible for ensuring its interpretation into one of the official languages.

## **XVIII. SITTINGS**

### **Attendance**

#### **Article 26**

1. Unless the Assembly decides to the contrary, all its sittings shall be public.
2. The public admitted to the galleries shall remain seated and silent and the President shall have the power to order the withdrawal of members of the public in case of misconduct. Members of the public shall be directed to leave the galleries when the Assembly holds a closed sitting.

#### **Article 27**

1. Non-members of the Assembly may be invited by the President to address the Assembly, subject to the consent of the Standing Committee.
2. Non-members of the Assembly may be invited by the President to attend sessions of the Assembly as observers. Subject to the decision of the President, non-members of the Assembly shall leave the chamber during closed sittings.

### **Debates and Speeches**

#### **Article 28**

1. No delegate shall address the Assembly unless called upon by the President.
2. Rapporteurs presenting texts adopted by their Committees shall have precedence over other speakers.
3. When the time available for debate seems insufficient the President may shorten the time limit for speeches, amendments and explanations of votes.
4. The Chairperson and Rapporteurs of the Committee whose reports or proposed texts are being debated shall have the right of reply at the end of the debate.

#### **Article 29**

1. No speaker shall be interrupted without his/her consent, except by the President for the purpose of calling him/her to order.

2. If a speaker does not keep to the subject of the debate, the President may call him/her to order and, if the speaker persists, withdraw his/her right to speak.

### Article 30

Anyone raising a point of order or moving a procedural motion may be called upon by the President to speak briefly on it. A right of reply is permitted. The point raised, or motion made, shall then be decided upon by the President immediately without debate.

### Article 31

Delegates shall speak and act on their own responsibility, and their statements shall not be binding on their governments or parliaments.

### Article 32

1. A record of the plenary sessions of the Assembly shall be made, and this record shall be available to all members. Corrections of form and style may be made to the record, at the discretion of the President, within a period of three months following the end of the relevant sitting of the Assembly.
2. The record of plenary sessions shall include the names of officers elected and the decisions taken by the Assembly.

## XIX. TEXTS IN SESSIONS

### Article 33

1. In the Rules of Procedure, the word "text" covers:
  - a) orders;
  - b) declarations, recommendations, resolutions [also referred to as policy recommendations];
  - c) opinions.
2. An **order** of the Assembly is an instruction in relation to the internal organisation of the Assembly and its Committees.
3. A **declaration** is a formal expression of the view of the Assembly. It is presented directly to the plenary sitting by a member of the Assembly on the request of the President and with the approval of the Standing Committee.
4. A **recommendation** is specifically addressed to the North Atlantic Council asking it to take certain action in pursuit of the aims of the Assembly and in the expectation of a reply from the Council.
5. A **resolution** gives formal expression to the view of the Assembly on a matter which may be addressed to:



- a) all or to a limited number of governments of NATO;
  - b) all or some of the parliaments of the member countries;
  - c) governments and parliaments of non-member countries that have associate delegations or regional partner and Mediterranean associate member delegations;
  - d) inter-parliamentary assemblies and international organisations.
6. An **opinion** expresses the view of the Assembly in answer to a formal request from the North Atlantic Council or an international organisation on a matter within the Assembly's competence.
7. A proposed recommendation, resolution, opinion or order to be considered by the Assembly shall relate to a matter:
- a) placed on the agenda by the Standing Committee; or
  - b) during the session, on a proposal by the President.

#### **Article 34**

1. The Assembly may ask the President to transmit any of its texts to another international assembly or organisation for its opinion. The President may, at his/her discretion, refer any other matter to another international organisation.
2. The President may direct the International Secretariat to forward copies of texts adopted by the Assembly to relevant organisations and individuals.

## **XX. AMENDMENTS TO TEXTS IN PLENARY SITTING**

#### **Article 35**

1. Amendments to texts debated in Plenary Sitting must be introduced by:
  - a) not less than five delegates from member, associate member, and regional partners and Mediterranean associate delegations from at least three countries; or
  - b) the head of a member delegation, associate delegation or regional partner and Mediterranean associate delegation on behalf of that delegation.
2. Amendments shall be relevant to the text which they propose to amend. They shall be signed by the proposers and, shall be presented in time to be translated and distributed before the debate. The President shall decide on the acceptability of amendments.
3. The President shall judge the acceptability of verbal amendments after consultation with the Rapporteur.
4. Amendments shall be put to the vote before the text to which they relate. In the event of mutually exclusive amendments being proposed to the same paragraph, the proposed amendment which, in the opinion of the President, differs most radically from the text shall take precedence in the order of voting.

5. The minutes of proceedings usually set out the texts of amendments moved and, in accordance with Article 38(4), the results of votes taken on such amendments.

### **Article 36**

1. It shall be in order at any time during proceedings on a text to propose that a matter be referred back to the relevant Committee.
2. Discussion of any proposal shall not be interrupted because any proposed amendment has necessitated its being eventually referred back to a Committee unless the Assembly decided to the contrary. The Assembly shall have the power to fix a time limit within which a Committee shall be required to report back on the amendments referred to it.
3. Article 37 shall apply to any vote under this Article.

## **XXI. VOTING**

### **Article 37**

1. Members shall vote as individuals.
2. Normally the Assembly shall vote by show of hands using voting cards. These cards, not exceeding in number the membership of each delegation as specified in Appendix I, and which shall not be personal, will be placed at the disposal of the delegations twice a year. They are only valid for one session.

### **Roll-call vote**

### **Article 38**

1. A vote by roll-call of member delegations shall be taken:
  - a) if the result of the show of hands is doubtful in the opinion of the President;
  - b) whenever ten or more delegates from member countries so require;
  - c) at the President's discretion.
2. The vote by a roll-call of member delegations shall be taken within each member delegation and shall then be recorded by delegation.
3. The roll-call shall be called by member delegations in their English alphabetical order after an interval of five minutes to ascertain and record the individual voting figure in each delegation. For each delegation, the maximum number of votes that may be cast shall correspond to that of its members. The number of votes that may be cast by a delegation shall be calculated in accordance with the number of members of the delegation present at the moment of the vote and possessing voting cards, no delegate being entitled to cast more than one vote.

4. The President shall be responsible for the counting of the roll-call votes and shall announce the results. The number of votes shall be recorded, including abstentions, in the minutes of the proceedings of the sitting.

### **Votes on texts**

#### **Article 39**

1. A delegate from a member country shall be entitled to demand a separate vote on any or every paragraph of a draft text.
2. A delegate from a member country shall be entitled to propose that any paragraph put to the Assembly be divided into parts and that a separate vote be taken on each component part. When a paragraph has been amended a vote shall be taken on the proposed paragraph as a whole.

#### **Article 40**

1. Except as provided in Articles 15 to 17, the required majority for all votes shall be a simple majority of the votes cast [USA: plurality of votes]. In the event of a tie the proposal submitted to the vote shall be rejected.
2. Only affirmative and negative votes shall count in calculating the number of votes cast.

## **XXII. COMMITTEES**

#### **Article 41**

1. The Assembly shall set up the following general Committees:
  - a) Committee on Democracy and Security;
  - b) Defence and Security Committee;
  - c) Economics and Security Committee;
  - d) Political Committee;
  - e) Science and Technology Committee.
2. The Assembly may appoint other Committees.
3. Member countries will have the following seats on Committees:
  - a) The United States has eight seats on the Political Committee and seven on each of the other Committees.
  - b) France, Germany, Italy, Turkey and the United Kingdom have four seats on the Defence and Security Committee, the Economics and Security Committee and the Political Committee, three seats each on the Committee on Democracy and Security, and the Science and Technology Committee.

- c) Canada, Poland and Spain have three seats on both the Defence and Security, and Political Committees, and two seats on each of the other Committees.
  - d) Romania has three seats on the Defence and Security and Political Committees, two seats on the Economics and Security Committee and one seat on each of the other Committees.
  - e) Belgium, the Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, the Netherlands and Portugal have two seats each on the Defence and Security, and Political Committees and one seat each on the other Committees.
  - f) Bulgaria has two seats on the Political Committee, and one seat on each of the other Committees.
  - g) Croatia, Denmark, Norway and Slovakia each have one seat on every Committee.
  - h) Albania and Lithuania, each of which has a total of four seats, may sit on each of the Committees and vote in four of their choice.
  - i) Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Slovenia, each of which has a total of three seats, may sit on each of the Committees and vote in three of their choice.
4. Members of Committees shall be nominated by their delegations.
  5. Members may represent their delegation in more than one Committee.
  6. Besides the members, alternates of the same nationality may be appointed to each Committee. Subject to the provisions of Article 3(2), alternate members have, in Committee, the same rights as members.
  7. If for any reason, neither the members nor the alternate members are able to attend the Committee meeting, the Head of the Delegation may appoint other members for that meeting. The appointed members have the same rights as the members they replace.

#### **Article 42**

1. Meetings of a Committee shall be called at the discretion of its Chairperson, subject to the Assembly's programme of work agreed to by the Standing Committee.
2. Two or more Committees may, either on the initiative of their Chairpersons or at the suggestion of the Standing Committee, make arrangements for the joint study of subjects of common interest to them.

#### **Attendance**

#### **Article 43**

1. Committee meetings shall be open to invited non-members of the Assembly unless, otherwise decided by the Committee concerned. The Chairperson of a Committee has the right to invite non-members of the Assembly to address the Committee.

2. Any delegate shall be entitled to attend meetings of Committees at Sessions of which he/she is not a member, without the right to vote except as provided in Article 58(5).
3. During the meetings of a Committee, delegates shall sign the register of attendance.

### **Election of office-holders**

#### **Article 44**

1. In the course of the annual session, each Committee shall elect from its members a Chairperson, up to three Vice-Chairpersons and a General Rapporteur.
2. Special Rapporteurs may be elected by any of the Committees to study matters of interest.
3. Associate delegates, and regional partners and Mediterranean associate members shall be eligible to be elected as Associate Rapporteurs or Special Rapporteurs and Regional partner and Mediterranean associate member Rapporteurs or Special Rapporteurs.
4. The provisions of Article 15 will apply in the event of a contested election for the positions of Chairperson, General Rapporteur, and Special Rapporteur.
5. The provisions of Article 16 will apply in the event of a contested election for the positions of Vice-Chairpersons.
6. The outgoing officers of a Committee may be re-elected, but no Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, General Rapporteur or Special Rapporteur shall be re-elected to the same office after three years of continuous service in it.
7. No delegate shall hold more than one office on a Committee and its Sub-Committees and its Working Groups.

### **Inability of office-holders to exercise functions**

#### **Article 45**

1. If the Chairperson has relinquished his/her post in accordance with Article 3(5) or for any other reason is unable to exercise his/her functions for the remainder of his/her mandate, the longest serving Vice-Chairperson shall serve as Acting Chairperson until the next Annual Session.
2. If a Vice-Chairperson has relinquished his/her post in accordance with Article 3(5) or for any other reason is unable to exercise his/her functions for the remainder of his/her mandate, the position shall remain vacant until the next annual session.
3. If a Rapporteur or Special Rapporteur has relinquished his/her post in accordance with Article 3(5) or for any other reason is unable to exercise his/her functions for the remainder of his/her mandate, the Chairperson shall appoint an Acting Rapporteur to fulfil the remainder of the mandate until the next annual session.

**XXIII. SUB-COMMITTEES, WORKING GROUPS, SPECIAL GROUPS AND SEMINARS****Article 46**

1. Subject to the provisions set out in paragraphs 2 and 3, each Committee is entitled to propose the creation of Sub-Committees, as well as the definition of their mandates. It may also propose the creation of Working Groups, that is, Sub-Committees which work by correspondence and do not travel unless exceptionally allowed to by the Standing Committee.
2. The Standing Committee shall fix the maximum number, and where applicable, the number per Committee of Sub-Committees and Working Groups.
3. The composition, mandate and duration of the Sub-Committees and Working Groups shall be submitted for approval by the Standing Committee at each annual session.
4. Alternate members of the same nationality may be appointed to each Sub-Committee. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 3 and paragraph 5 of Article 58, alternate members have, in Sub-Committee, the same rights as the members.

**Article 47**

1. A Chairperson, up to three Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur shall be elected by the Committee as the officers of its Sub-Committees or Working Groups.
2. Associate members shall be eligible to be appointed as Associate Rapporteurs of Sub-Committees and Working Groups.
3. The term of office for officers of Sub-Committees and Working Groups shall be one year and may be renewed two times.
4. The provisions of Article 15 will apply in the event of a contested election for the position of Chairperson, and Rapporteur.
5. The provisions of Article 16 will apply in the event of a contested election for the positions of Vice-Chairpersons.
6. The provisions of Article 45 shall apply in the event that a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson or Rapporteur has relinquished his/her post in accordance with Article 3(5) or for any other reason is unable to exercise his/her functions for the remainder of his/her mandate.

**Article 48**

1. The work schedules of Sub-Committees and Working Groups including, in the former case, travel arrangements and visits, shall be established by their respective Chairpersons in consultation with the Rapporteur and with the Chairperson of the main Committee, before each annual session. They shall then be submitted to the Standing Committee for approval.
2. No Sub-Committee may undertake visits without being accompanied by at least one of its officers, or if they should be unavailable, by an officer of the main Committee, together with the competent member of the International Secretariat.
3. In the event that the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee cannot attend, he/she should be replaced by a Vice-Chairperson, and if neither the Chairperson nor a Vice-Chairperson can attend, they will be replaced by the Rapporteur. If none of these is present, an officer of the main Committee may take the chair.

4. Whenever the Rapporteur of a Sub-Committee has to travel in order to prepare his/her report, a competent member of the International Secretariat shall accompany him/her.
5. The Assembly Secretariat is not financially responsible for any travel expenses except those of the Secretary General or the members of the International Secretariat.
6. To ensure the viability and efficiency of the Sub-Committees, the Chairperson of a Sub-Committee shall have the right to ask delegations to replace a member or to appoint an alternate for him/her. With the authority of the Standing Committee or the President, other members of the Assembly from member countries, non-members of the Sub-Committee, may occasionally be called upon to serve on the Sub-Committee.

## **Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group**

### **Article 49**

1. The Assembly shall establish a Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group.
2. On the Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group:
  - a) France, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Turkey have three seats;
  - b) Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, the United Kingdom and the United States have two seats;
  - c) Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania and Luxembourg have one seat.
3. Member delegations may appoint alternate members who may participate in meetings of the group if the member is unable to participate.
4. Meetings of the group shall be called at the discretion of its Chairperson, subject to the Assembly's programme of work agreed to by the Standing Committee.
5. The group shall elect from its members a Chairperson, up to three Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur. Their tenure of office shall be limited to one year. This may be renewed, but no more than two times.
6. The provisions of Article 15 will apply in the event of a contested election for the position of Chairperson, and Rapporteur.
7. The provisions of Article 16 will apply in the event of a contested election for the positions of Vice-Chairpersons.
8. The provisions of Article 45 shall apply in the event that a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson or Rapporteur has relinquished his/her post in accordance with Article 3(5) or for any other reason is unable to exercise his/her functions for the remainder of his/her mandate.
9. The Chairperson may invite representatives from non-member nations to participate in meetings of the group. If these nations do not have a formal status with the Assembly, the invitations shall be submitted to the President for approval.

## **Ukraine-NATO Interparliamentary Council**

### **Article 50**

1. The Assembly shall set up a Ukraine-NATO Interparliamentary Council.

2. Each of the Assembly's five Committees shall nominate two of its members to serve on the Ukraine-NATO Interparliamentary Council and two members who will serve as alternates. Delegates appointed by the Committees can serve a maximum of three consecutive years. Attendance at each meeting shall be based on the following priority:
  - a) nominated members;
  - b) nominated alternate members;
  - c) other members of each Committee.
3. The delegation of Ukraine shall nominate up to ten members to serve on the Ukraine-NATO Interparliamentary Council.
4. The Council shall have co-chairpersons. One shall be appointed by the delegation from Ukraine, the other shall be elected by the member country participants on the Council.
5. The provisions of Article 15 will apply in the event of a contested election for the position of co-Chairperson elected by member country participants on the Council.
6. The tenure of office for the co-Chairperson elected from among member country delegations shall be limited to one year. This may be renewed, but no more than twice.
7. If the co-Chairperson elected from among member country delegations has relinquished his/her post in accordance with Article 3(5) or for any other reason is unable to exercise his/her functions for the remainder of his/her mandate, a new co-Chairperson shall be elected at the next meeting of the Council.
8. Meetings of the Council shall be in accordance with the Assembly's programme of work as established by the Standing Committee.

### **NATO-Russia Parliamentary Committee<sup>1</sup>**

#### **Article 51**

1. The Assembly shall establish a NATO-Russia Parliamentary Committee.
2. This Committee shall consist of the Standing Committee and the leaders of the delegation from the Russian Federation. Meetings of this Committee shall be chaired by the President of the Assembly. It shall establish its own programme of work and shall draw its practices from those of the Assembly.

### **Georgia-NATO Interparliamentary Council**

#### **Article 52**

1. The Assembly shall establish a Georgia-NATO Interparliamentary Council to coordinate Assembly activities related to Georgia.
2. The Council shall consist of the delegation of Georgia, the Assembly Bureau and the Chairpersons of Committees and of the Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group.

<sup>1</sup> The NATO-Russia Parliamentary Committee was suspended in 2014 at the Spring Session in Vilnius following the withdrawal of the Russian Federation's formal status in the Assembly.



3. Meetings of the Council shall be in accordance with the Assembly's programme of work as established by the Standing Committee.

## **Seminars**

### **Article 53**

The Assembly shall hold seminars independently of the Committees. Participation in these seminars shall be open to any delegates nominated by their respective delegations. The number and scope of these seminars shall be determined by the Standing Committee.

## **XXIV. REPORTS AND TEXTS IN COMMITTEES**

### **Article 54**

1. By an annual decision taken at the time of the plenary session, the Standing Committee may limit the total number of reports to be prepared by any one Committee for the next annual session.
2. Before preparing the final drafts of reports for their respective Committees, Rapporteurs shall take account, in whatever form they deem appropriate, of the remarks and opinions expressed by members during discussions at the spring Committee meetings.
3. During the autumn Committee meetings, the reports may be taken note of, adopted or rejected by the Committee concerned, after debate and vote on amendments.
4. Only reports adopted by the Committee concerned will be published.

### **Article 55**

1. General and Special Rapporteurs are responsible for the presentation of draft texts (recommendations, resolutions, opinions and orders) to their Committees and later to the plenary assembly.
2. No text may be presented to the plenary assembly which has not first been presented to and approved of by a Committee, except in accordance with the provisions of Article 33(3).
3. If the texts approved by Committees contain inconsistencies, the relevant Committee Rapporteurs shall present their texts to the Standing Committee which shall decide on the transmission of the texts to the Assembly in plenary sitting.

### **Article 56**

1. Amendments to texts debated in the Committees must be introduced by:
  - a) not less than three delegates from member, associate member, and regional partners and Mediterranean associate delegations from at least three countries; or
  - b) the leader of a member delegation, associate delegation or regional partner and Mediterranean associate member delegation on behalf of that delegation.

2. Amendments shall be relevant to the text which they propose to amend. They shall be signed by the proposers and shall be presented in time to be translated and distributed before the debate. The Chairperson shall judge their acceptability.
3. The Chairperson shall judge the acceptability of verbal amendments after consultation with the Rapporteur.
4. Amendments shall be put to the vote before the text to which they relate. In the event of mutually exclusive amendments being proposed to the same paragraph, the proposed amendment which, in the opinion of the Chairperson, differs most radically from the text shall take precedence in the order of voting.

#### **Article 57**

1. A summary shall be drawn up for each Committee meeting under the responsibility of the Chairperson.
2. The summary of the Committee meetings will include the names of officers elected and the decisions taken concerning Committee texts.

### **XXV. VOTES IN COMMITTEES**

#### **Article 58**

1. A Committee shall normally vote by show of hands using the voting card in accordance with the provisions of Article 37(2).
2. Except as provided in Articles 44 and 47, the required majority for all votes in a Committee shall be a simple majority of the votes cast [USA : plurality of votes]. Only affirmative and negative votes shall count in calculating the number of votes cast.
3. In exceptional circumstances the Chairperson may decide to hold a roll-call vote of members of the Committee by delegation.
4. A roll-call vote in Committee shall not be valid unless a third of the members of the Committee are present.
5. The right to vote is an individual one. An alternate, authorised to sit in the place of a member absent or unable to take his/her seat, may vote. Member delegations shall appoint the number of delegates entitled to vote, and up to the same number of alternates, as set out in Article 41 and in Appendix III to these Rules of Procedure.
6. The Chairperson of the Committee may take part in discussions and may vote, but without having a casting vote.
7. A record shall be kept of votes cast.

**XXVI. CONSULTATIVE STATUS****Article 59**

The Assembly may, on the proposal of the Standing Committee, make suitable arrangements for consultation with international governmental and non-governmental organisations which deal with matters which are within its competence. It may invite such organisations to submit written reports to it, debate such reports and hear representatives of these organisations.

**XXVII. REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS****Article 60**

1. The International Secretariat shall be responsible for the distribution of documents for each sitting.
2. The International Secretariat shall ensure the publication of reports, declarations, recommendations, resolutions, opinions and orders of the Assembly, as well as summaries and records of its meetings.
3. The International Secretariat shall send draft reports and texts in their original language to delegations at least four weeks before the meetings. The translated versions shall be sent at least three weeks before the meetings.

**XXVIII. PRESS COMMUNIQUES AND STATEMENTS****Article 61**

1. Official press communiqués and statements may only be issued:
  - a) regarding the work of the Assembly as a whole, on the instructions of the President;
  - b) regarding events judged to be of relevance to the aims and priorities of the Assembly, at the discretion of the President;
  - c) regarding the work of the Committee, on the instructions of the appropriate Committee Chairperson and with the agreement of the Committee;
  - d) for the purpose of disseminating information about the Assembly's activities, under the authority of the Secretary General.
2. Delegates shall otherwise be free to make use of the good offices of the International Secretariat to issue press releases on their own responsibility, without committing the Assembly in any way. Such a release should be preceded by an indication that the statements in the communiqué are those of the delegate or associate delegate concerned and do not necessarily reflect the views of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

3. Draft reports, declarations, recommendations, resolutions, opinions and orders may not be communicated to the press before sessions except with the approval of the Rapporteur.

## **XXIX. DEROGATION AND REVISION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE**

### **Article 62**

The President may, at any time during the sessions, propose a derogation from these Rules of Procedure. Such a derogation must be approved unanimously by the delegates present.

### **Article 63**

1. Six or more delegates from at least two member countries, may submit proposals in writing to the Standing Committee to amend the Rules of Procedure. The Standing Committee may refer such proposals to a special working party or to a Rapporteur. The Standing Committee shall report back to the Assembly.
2. The Standing Committee may, at any time, appoint a Rapporteur to review the Rules of Procedure. After examining the Rapporteur's conclusions the Standing Committee shall report back to the Assembly.
3. A revision of the Rules of Procedure requires a simple majority.

**APPENDIX I: MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSEMBLY**

Membership of the Assembly is as follows:

United States	.....	36 members
France	.....	18 members
Germany	.....	18 members
Italy	.....	18 members
Turkey	.....	18 members
United Kingdom	.....	18 members
Canada	.....	12 members
Poland	.....	12 members
Spain	.....	12 members
Romania	.....	10 members
Belgium	.....	7 members
Czech Republic	.....	7 members
Greece	.....	7 members
Hungary	.....	7 members
Netherlands	.....	7 members
Portugal	.....	7 members
Bulgaria	.....	6 members
Croatia	.....	5 members
Denmark	.....	5 members
Norway	.....	5 members
Slovakia	.....	5 members
Albania	.....	4 members
Lithuania	.....	4 members
Estonia	.....	3 members
Iceland	.....	3 members
Latvia	.....	3 members
Luxembourg	.....	3 members
Montenegro	.....	3 members
North Macedonia	.....	3 members
Slovenia	.....	3 members

**APPENDIX II: VOTING RIGHTS IN THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

Whenever the Standing Committee takes a decision involving additional expenditure, the number of votes of each of its members shall be as follows:

United States	.....	6
France	.....	5
Germany	.....	5
United Kingdom	.....	5
Canada	.....	4
Italy	.....	4
Belgium	.....	3
Netherlands	.....	3
Poland	.....	3
Spain	.....	3
Albania	.....	2
Bulgaria	.....	2
Croatia	.....	2
Czech Republic	.....	2
Denmark	.....	2
Estonia	.....	2
Greece	.....	2
Hungary	.....	2
Iceland	.....	2
Latvia	.....	2
Lithuania	.....	2
Luxembourg	.....	2
Montenegro	.....	2
North Macedonia	.....	2
Norway	.....	2
Portugal	.....	2
Romania	.....	2
Slovakia	.....	2
Slovenia	.....	2
Turkey	.....	2

### APPENDIX III: MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEES AND OF THE MEDITERRANEAN AND MIDDLE EAST SPECIAL GROUP

#### 1. Political Committee

United States	8 members	Netherlands	2 members
France	4 members	Portugal	2 members
Germany	4 members	Croatia	1 member
Italy	4 members	Denmark	1 member
Turkey	4 members	Norway	1 member
United Kingdom	4 members	Slovakia	1 member
Canada	3 members	Albania	(1 member)
Poland	3 members	Estonia	(1 member)
Romania	3 members	Iceland	(1 member)
Spain	3 members	Latvia	(1 member)
Belgium	2 members	Lithuania	(1 member)
Bulgaria	2 members	Luxembourg	(1 member)
Czech Republic	2 members	Montenegro	(1 member)
Greece	2 members	North Macedonia	(1 member)
Hungary	2 members	Slovenia	(1 member)

Total: 58 (67) members

#### 2. Defence and Security Committee

United States	7 members	Portugal	2 members
France	4 members	Bulgaria	1 member
Germany	4 members	Croatia	1 member
Italy	4 members	Denmark	1 member
Turkey	4 members	Norway	1 member
United Kingdom	4 members	Slovakia	1 member
Canada	3 members	Albania	(1 member)
Poland	3 members	Estonia	(1 member)
Romania	3 members	Iceland	(1 member)
Spain	3 members	Latvia	(1 member)
Belgium	2 members	Lithuania	(1 member)
Czech Republic	2 members	Luxembourg	(1 member)
Greece	2 members	Montenegro	(1 member)
Hungary	2 members	North Macedonia	(1 member)
Netherlands	2 members	Slovenia	(1 member)

Total: 56 (65) members

### 3. Economics and Security Committee

United States	7 members	Greece	1 member
France	4 members	Hungary	1 member
Germany	4 members	Netherlands	1 member
Italy	4 members	Norway	1 member
Turkey	4 members	Portugal	1 member
United Kingdom	4 members	Slovakia	1 member
Canada	2 members	Albania	(1 member)
Poland	2 members	Estonia	(1 member)
Romania	2 members	Iceland	(1 member)
Spain	2 members	Latvia	(1 member)
Belgium	1 member	Lithuania	(1 member)
Bulgaria	1 member	Luxembourg	(1 member)
Croatia	1 member	Montenegro	(1 member)
Czech Republic	1 member	North Macedonia	(1 member)
Denmark	1 member	Slovenia	(1 member)

Total: 46 (55) members

### 4. Committee on Democracy and Security

United States	7 members	Hungary	1 member
France	3 members	Netherlands	1 member
Germany	3 members	Norway	1 member
Italy	3 members	Portugal	1 member
Turkey	3 members	Romania	1 member
United Kingdom	3 members	Slovakia	1 member
Canada	2 members	Albania	(1 member)
Poland	2 members	Estonia	(1 member)
Spain	2 members	Iceland	(1 member)
Belgium	1 member	Latvia	(1 member)
Bulgaria	1 member	Lithuania	(1 member)
Croatia	1 member	Luxembourg	(1 member)
Czech Republic	1 member	Montenegro	(1 member)
Denmark	1 member	North Macedonia	(1 member)
Greece	1 member	Slovenia	(1 member)

Total: 40 (49) members



**5. Science and Technology Committee**

United States	7 members	Hungary	1 member
France	3 members	Netherlands	1 member
Germany	3 members	Norway	1 member
Italy	3 members	Portugal	1 member
Turkey	3 members	Romania	1 member
United Kingdom	3 members	Slovakia	1 member
Canada	2 members	Albania	(1 member)
Poland	2 members	Estonia	(1 member)
Spain	2 members	Iceland	(1 member)
Belgium	1 member	Latvia	(1 member)
Bulgaria	1 member	Lithuania	(1 member)
Croatia	1 member	Luxembourg	(1 member)
Czech Republic	1 member	Montenegro	(1 member)
Denmark	1 member	North Macedonia	(1 member)
Greece	1 member	Slovenia	(1 member)

Total: 40 (49) members

**6. Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group**

France	3 members	Montenegro	2 members
Greece	3 members	Netherlands	2 members
Italy	3 members	North Macedonia	2 members
Portugal	3 members	Norway	2 members
Spain	3 members	Poland	2 members
Turkey	3 members	Romania	2 members
Albania	2 members	Slovakia	2 members
Belgium	2 members	Slovenia	2 members
Bulgaria	2 members	United Kingdom	2 members
Canada	2 members	United States	2 members
Croatia	2 members	Estonia	1 member
Czech Republic	2 members	Iceland	1 member
Denmark	2 members	Latvia	1 member
Germany	2 members	Lithuania	1 member
Hungary	2 members	Luxembourg	1 member

Total: 61 members

## APPENDIX IV: ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

1. The President
2. The Vice-Presidents, in the order of their length of service<sup>2</sup>
3. The Treasurer
4. The Secretary General
5. The former President (as described in Article 9.7)
6. The former Vice Presidents (as described in Article 9.7)
7. Members of the Standing Committee
8. Leaders of member delegations (if different from 7)
9. The Chairpersons of the five main Committees and the Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group, in the order of their length of service
10. The Vice-Chairpersons of the five main Committees and the Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group, in the order of their length of service
11. The General Rapporteurs of the five main Committees and the Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group, in the order of their length of service
12. Members of the Assembly
13. The Deputy Secretary General
14. The Committee directors

During meetings and travels of Sub-Committees and Working Groups, the order of precedence is as follows:

1. Chairperson / leader
2. Officials listed 1 to 6
3. Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteur of the travelling Sub-Committee
4. Officers of the main Committee
5. Officers of the other Sub-Committee.

No others have rank during such functions.

<sup>2</sup> "Length of service" is understood as meaning the number of years in the respective function. If the number of years in function is the same, then seniority is determined according to the length of service in the Assembly.

## APPENDIX V: ASSOCIATE DELEGATIONS - ALLOCATION OF SEATS IN THE ASSEMBLY AND COMMITTEES

	Total	PC	DSC	ESC	STC	CDS
Armenia	3	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Republic of Moldova	3	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Finland	4	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Georgia	4	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Austria	5	1	1	1	1	1
Azerbaijan	5	1	1	1	1	1
Serbia	5	1	1	1	1	1
Sweden	5	1	1	1	1	1
Switzerland	5	1	1	1	1	1
Ukraine	8	2	2	2	1	1
<b>Total</b>	50	7 (12)	7 (12)	7 (12)	6 (11)	6 (11)

PC: Political Committee  
 DSC: Defence and Security Committee  
 ESC: Economic and Security Committee  
 STC: Science and Technology Committee  
 CDS: Committee on Democracy and Security

**APPENDIX VI: REGIONAL PARTNER AND MEDITERRANEAN ASSOCIATE MEMBER DELEGATIONS - ALLOCATION OF SEATS IN THE ASSEMBLY AND COMMITTEES**

	Total	PC	DSC	ESC	STC	CDS
Algeria	3	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Israel	3	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Jordan	3	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Morocco	3	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
<b>Total</b>	12	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)

**APPENDIX VII: PARLIAMENTARY OBSERVER DELEGATIONS - ALLOCATION OF SEATS IN THE ASSEMBLY AND COMMITTEES**

	Total	PC	DSC	ESC	STC	CDS
<b>Inter-parliamentary assemblies</b>						
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly	2	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe	2	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
<b>Parliaments</b>						
Australia	2	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Egypt	2	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Japan	2	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Kazakhstan	2	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Republic of Korea	2	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Assembly of Kosovo	2	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Palestinian National Council	2	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Tunisia	2	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
<b>Total</b>	20	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)

PC: Political Committee  
DSC: Defence and Security Committee  
ESC: Economic and Security Committee  
STC: Science and Technology Committee  
CDS: Committee on Democracy and Security