



European Conservatives and Reformists group

Minutes

Meeting held on 24th October 2022 at 16.00 Strasbourg time at the Palais d'Europe

1. The meeting agreed the Agenda
2. We have an additional 11 members. We welcomed new members from Hungary and Poland.
3. The President, **Mrs Svitlana Bohatyrchuk-Kryvko**, reported on Russia's illegal war in Ukraine. The genocide against Ukrainians continues but Ukraine has surprised everyone at how they have turned the war against the aggressor. My home city was recently attacked with the intention of destroying energy supplies. 380 soldiers from my city have died during the war. We have accommodated 1500 IDPs.
4. The Russian Federation's intention is to prevent Ukraine exporting gas to the rest of Europe which is a threat to many countries. The Russian Federation are willing to use rockets against critical infrastructure which will leave families without power.
I am grateful to European countries for accommodating Ukrainians abroad.
My grandchildren spend most of their day in bomb shelters. We are now less fearful but we have more anger now. We are grateful to the global community who are helping us win this war.
If you have any questions, I and my colleague **Roman Kaznovetskyi** will be happy to answer them.
5. The President, **Mrs Svitlana Bohatyrchuk-Kryvko**, updated the members on activities in the Congress Bureau.
6. Asked members to prepare questions for the candidates for Secretary General. We discussed our contribution to the debate on the future of the Congress tomorrow.
Kevin Bentley - Ways for the Council of Europe to communicate with the population of Belarus and Russia.
Rafet Vergili wanted to know about how the shortlisting of SG candidates took place.
(**President**: There is a process in the constitution. 24 applications were received, this was shortlisted by the Bureau). On Ukraine, Russia is surrounded by a ring of fire of destruction and burning.
Joanne Laban: We shouldn't be spending anything on activities in Belarus and Russia.
7. The candidates for Secretary General made presentations and answered questions.

Antonella Valmorbida - Addressed the meeting.

Questions from **Rafet Vergili**, **Joanne Laban**, **Rachel Bailey** and **Roman Kaznovetskyi**

Mathieu Mori - Addressed the meeting

Questions from **Janos Adam Karacsony**, **Roman Kaznovetskyi**, and **Rafet Vergili**.

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