



European Conservatives and Reformists group

Draft Minutes

Meeting held on 25th March 2024 at 16.00 Strasbourg time at the Palais d'Europe

1. The Agenda was agreed.
2. The secretary opened the meeting and conducted the election for President. After a ballot of members **Mrs Svitlana Bohatyrchuk-Kryvko** was elected as President. There being only one nomination for Treasurer and Auditor, **Alberto Mazzoleni** was elected as Treasurer and **Aida Jalilzade** was elected as Auditor. The Group agreed that **Kevin Bentley** should be 1st Vice-President.
3. The President Welcomed out new Austrian member **Andreas Rabl** who was unable to attend this session but we looked forward to welcoming him in person in the future.
4. The President, **Mrs Svitlana Bohatyrchuk-Kryvko**, thanked the members for electing her.
5. After discussion, the group chose two deputy spokespersons for the Congress, which we had been allocated in negotiation with other groups. The deputy spokesperson for the European Local Democracy Week will be **Linda Taylor** and the deputy spokesperson for youth will be **Janos Adam Karacsony**.
6. A discussion took place about Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine. A discussion took place between members about the best way of ending the conflict. **The President** told us that of the 100 journalists who have lost their lives there were 13 foreign reporters. She stated that attacks had increased during the so called 'election'. She described how a new wave of internally displaced persons (IDPs) was being coped with by local government. During her speech, the air raid sirens sounded on the Ukrainian representatives phones to warn of another Russian attack. On a positive note, the Russian Black Sea fleet had been largely destroyed from Ukrainian action **Janos Adam Karacsony** stated that the Hungarian Prime Minister had been misunderstood and wanted peace. **Roman Kaznovetskyi** reported that his small town had already buried 40 soldiers. **Anna Magyar** stated that she wanted the war to finish. **Kevin Bentley** stated that we need to get our governments together to provide help and that includes non-military assistance.
7. The President and Secretary updated the members on activities in the Congress Bureau which included the proposed changes to the rules, one of which would allow substitute members to lead political groups.
8. The Congress Agenda was discussed.
9. **Anna Magyar** updated the Group on the meeting of the ECR group at the Committee of the Regions and how the European Elections should be fought with common values of less bureaucracy, more subsidiarity, controlling the costs of the green deal and family friendly policies.
A 'family photo' was taken at the end of the meeting.