

**KONGELIG DANSK AMBASSADE**  
Bryssel

OSCE's parlamentariske Forsamling  
OSCE alm. del - Bilag 43  
Offentligt

FOLKETINGET  
Christiansborg  
1240 København K

Att.: International afd.

Rue d'Arlon 73  
B-1040 Bruxelles  
Telefon (02) 233.09.00  
Telefax (02) 233.09.30  
E-mail: bruamb@um.dk  
Telegr.adr.: AMBADANE



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### OSCE PA-rapportør i Guantanamo-lejren

Det belgiske Senats præsident, fr. Lizin har ladet OSCE-landenes herværende ambassadører hidkalde i dag for at briefe om sit besøg i egenskab af særlig rapportør for OSCE's Parlamentariske Forsamling (OSCE PA).

Kun på ét punkt bragte briefinggen væsentligt nyt i forhold til det materiale (vedlagt), som tidligere var blevet givet til pressen:

Fr. Lizin betonedede, at hun meget gerne i det indledende kapitel af sin rapport modtog bidrag fra anden side – herunder jurister, menneskerettighedsorganisationer o.l. – også om problemer, såsom lejrens og de indsattes juridiske status, der ikke direkte var omfattet selve besøget.

Rapporten forudses udarbejdet i maj med den belgiske professor Petermann som pennefører med sigte på at blive forelagt for OSCE PA's samling i Bruxelles primo juli. I hvilket regi den skal behandles under samlingen, vil bero på samlingens formands afgørelse.

  
Karsten Petersen  
Ambassadør



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

## **OSCE PA Special Representative Anne-Marie Lizin Visit to the Guantánamo detention facilities**

The President of the Belgian Senate, Mrs. Anne-Marie Lizin, who is the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Special Representative on Guantánamo, visited the US detention facility at Guantánamo, Guantanamo Bay (Cuba) on Friday 3 March 2006<sup>1</sup>. Mrs. Lizin is the first European political personality to officially visit Guantanamo.

Mrs. Lizin, who is also the Head of the Belgian Delegation to the OSCE PA and Rapporteur of the Assembly's General Committee on Human Rights, visited the detention facility in Guantanamo Bay on a fact-finding mission on behalf of the Parliamentary Assembly invited by the US Department of Defense. Mrs. Lizin was officially invited on 7 December 2005 by the former Deputy Assistant of Defense for Detainee affairs of the DoD Mr. Matthew C. Waxman.

US Congressman Alcee L. Hastings, President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, appointed Mrs. Lizin as his Special Representative in February 2005 to follow up and report to the Assembly on the situation of detainees in the facility.

The state of prisoners in the detention facility has long been an area of interest to OSCE parliamentarians, who passed a resolution on the issue in July 2003. During the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Annual Session in Washington, DC, in July, Mrs. Lizin presented a report on her activities and recommendations to date. (Both documents available at: [www.oscepa.org](http://www.oscepa.org) )

**The visit to the detention facilities is a follow up to the report mentioned. Based on her findings during the visit and related briefings in Washington, Mrs. Lizin**

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<sup>1</sup> In his visit Mrs. Lizin was accompanied by Mr. Gustavo Pallarés, Counsellor in the International Secretariat of the OSCE PA, Prof. Simon Petermann, Mr. Alain Grignard, experts from Belgium, and Mrs. Françoise Themelin, Secretary of the Belgian Delegation to the OSCE PA in the Senate of Belgium. Representatives from the US State Department, the US Department of Defense and the US Air Force also accompanied the Delegation headed by Mrs. Lizin.

will prepare a detailed report to the Parliamentary Assembly's Annual Session to be held in Brussels, July 3 to 7 2006.

Mrs. Lizin's mission including briefings in Washington, DC and a visit to the detention facilities in Guantanamo:

#### Briefings in Washington, DC

In preparation for her visit Mrs. Lizin and the rest of the Delegation held meetings on Thursday 2 March with senior representatives from the **State Department** and the Department of Defense. In the State Department Mrs. Lizin met with Mr. Daniel FRIED (Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs) and Mr. John BELLINGER (State Department Legal Adviser). Discussions in the State Department addressed both Mrs. Lizin's concerns regarding the legal status of the detainees and the problems and prospects posed by the existence of the detainee facilities.

In the Department of Defense Mrs. Lizin and the rest of the Delegation were briefed by several senior officers from Detainee Affairs, Joint Staff, General Counsel and Health Affairs. The Delegation also met with Mr. Gordon ENGLAND (Deputy Secretary of Defense)

#### Briefings in Guantanamo Bay and visit to the facilities:

During her visit to the facilities Mrs. Lizin and the Delegation:

- Met with the Commander of Joint Task Force Guantanamo (General Hood) receiving a detailed briefing on operations
- Met with intelligence staff and were shown some of the evidence material gathered from some of the detainees
- Met with interrogation staff; and witnessed in closed TV circuit (no sound) an ongoing interrogation (in CAMP 5)
- Visited the camps and cells housing the detainees (in CAMPS 2, 3, and 4)
- Saw and were briefed on the new camp being built (CAMP 6)
- Visited the medical facilities and interviewed medical staff

- Observed some of the operations at the facilities, including the kitchens and dining areas
- Met with the Islamic adviser of the Commander of the JTF GTMO

As agreed with the US authorities Mrs. Lizin and members of the delegation were able to ask questions and interact with approach any officer, soldier or member of the staff they considered appropriate.

During her visit, Mrs Lizin asked the medical staff to give her accurate statistics about the use of various categories of medicines. The Head of the detainee hospital promised to send this information to Mrs Lizin .

According to some of the experts who accompanied Mrs Lizin and who spoke with the interrogation staff, there seems to have been an evolution of interrogation techniques towards methods based on dialogue and psychology which seem to be productive.

**Preliminary observations:**

1. As mentioned above this was a fact-finding mission to produce a detailed report that will include analysis on the information gathered in the briefings and during the visit. Based on such information the report will assess the situation of the detainees as perceived and it will address numerous other issues such as the legal situation of the detainees, the problems and prospects of the detention facilities in Guantanamo, and possible recommendations to the US and the international community. **Such report will be made public in due time.**
2. Mrs. Lizin expressed the gratitude of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to the US Government for this opportunity which shows the US willingness to cooperate and inform international institutions such as the OSCE.