

**Special Representative**

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

*Permanent Council Brief Week 30/31, 2009*

During the past two weeks, meetings of the PC, the FSC, Contact Groups with the Partners, the PrepCom, ACMF and other committees, took place, as well as an informal meeting at "ambassadorial level" on the "Corfu Process" (the follow-up to the ministerial Corfu Discussions on the European Security Structure).

The latter meeting dealt with the structure of the discussions on the issue in the lead-up to the Athens Ministerial Council. Starting from the second week of September, a weekly informal meeting of Ambassadors will take place, eventually leading to a Reinforced PC or another retreat (hopefully with my participation).

The PC decided the agenda for the 2009 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in September/October (28 to 9), as well as the time, agenda and modalities for next year's Economic and Environmental Forum. In the context of the latter, the PC has been discussing a reform of the OSCE's work in the second dimension, on which an extensive Food-for-Thought paper has been circulated.

In a debate on the occasion of the address by the High Representative and EU Special Representative on Bosnia and Herzegovina, Valentin Inzko, Russia heavily criticized the recent use of the "Bonn-powers" by the High Representative, urging for a more cooperative approach. The host country itself, in much softer terms, also urged to move from the present system to a system of partnership and assistance. The EU did not make a statement.

Another controversial discussion was sparked by the commemorative statement of Russia on last year's armed conflict between Georgia and Russia, but also in connection with the extension of the EU's observer mission.

Another debate is going on regarding the Scales of Contribution. The Chairmanship would like to continue with the existing scales, which is meeting with resistance from Russia again, but also from other countries, among them Canada and the USA.

The new Portuguese ambassador introduced herself by visiting the office.

The PC will now start its Summer Recess and only resume its work in the first week of September.



Andreas Nothelle  
Ambassador  
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