

Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

Permanent Council Brief Weeks 10/11, 2010

During these two weeks, three meetings of the Permanent Council, a joint FSC-PC meeting and another FSC meeting, a meeting of the Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners, a meeting of the ambassadorial working group on the Corfu Process, three meetings of the Preparatory Committee as well as many of the other committees, a special presentation on Afghanistan, and several other events, took place. Apart from the Corfu Process and routine business, the discussions focused on Georgia and on the current difficulties of the Permanent Council to reach an agreement on the dates and the agendas of two crucial meetings. These two are the Annual Security Review Conference (ARSC) and the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM). A Special PC was devoted to a presentation by the Georgian Vice Prime Minister and Minister for Reintegration Temuri Yakobashvili of their "State Strategy on Occupied Territories".

The Georgian minister emphasized the government's resolve not to use military force with respect to the disputed territories. In spite of this, the Russian ambassador replied in a polemic manner criticizing Georgia for its failure to "accept realities". In the regular PC, under Current Issues, several delegations condemned the recent Imedi broadcast on a fake Russian invasion. The condemnation was shared by the Georgian ambassador and taken up again by the Minister.

The problem with the two regular implementation meetings is as follows: although the Human Dimension agenda for this year has been finalized in the form of a hard-fought compromise, Russia is blocking its adoption. The reason given is that Russia wants the document to include a clause implying that if there is a Summit this year which takes the form of a general Review Conference, there will be no HDIM, in line with an earlier PC Decision. As a reaction to this demand, Canada as well as others, refuses to approve the ASRC agenda as long as the fate of the HDIM remains undecided. Thus the only decision made was the adoption of the agenda, timetable and modalities of the 2010 OSCE Republic of Korea conference.

The Coordinator of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities gave his regular report. In this report he underlined the importance of the recent appointment of the new OSCE PA Special Representative on migration, Kathleen Ferrier. Under Current Issues, Russia brought up the recent march of supporters of the former Latvian Waffen-SS units in Riga. Several countries issued invitations to observe their elections: Slovakia, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

As announced in the last report, the United States finally has a new OSCE ambassador, Ian Kelly.

During the reporting period, Liaison Officer Marc Carillet accompanied a delegation led by the PA President to the Caucasus.



Andreas Nothelle
Ambassador
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