

## Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

### *Permanent Council Brief Week 11, 2012*

This week there were meetings of the PC, the FSC, the Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners, the Economic and Environmental Committee, the Preparatory Committee, the ACMF, and other informal meetings.

The PC saw an interesting presentation by the Foreign Minister of Jordan, followed by an intensive debate focusing mainly on the aftermath of the "Arab Spring" – or "Arab Awakening", as he called it. Ambassadors also discussed the routine report by the ODIHR Director. He mentioned very good cooperation with the PA in the election observation missions in Kazakhstan and Russia orally, although there was no mention of this in the original written report, which is the basis for the statements by the delegations (this was later corrected), and he did not mention the leadership role played by PA members in these missions. In the FSC, some delegates found positive aspects regarding last week's AIAM (I had reported about the lack of active participation during that conference). However, this FSC meeting and the subsequent working group did not exactly represent a vibrant political dialogue either.

The Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners heard some interesting presentations about OSCE activities and experiences in the field of military security.

On Tuesday March 20, 2012, the academic network on the OSCE (of research institutes in France, Germany, Poland and Russia), which at the Ministerial Council in Vilnius was seen as a promising step in the continuation of discussions about the future of the OSCE, will hold its first IDEAS workshop in Berlin, Germany. The list of panel participants and speakers comprises most of the leading representatives from the executive side (ambassadors, Secretariat, Institutions) of the OSCE who took part in the Corfu debate, as well as the IPI, with one remarkable exception: I was offered an invitation as a spectator without speaking rights. I declined, expressing my surprise that apparently input from the PA into this workshop was not welcome, despite its active participation in the Corfu Process.



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Ambassador  
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