

Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

Permanent Council Brief Week 36/37, 2012

These were the first two weeks after the Summer Recess. Due to the Economic and Environmental Meeting in Prague, only one meeting of the Permanent Council took place. There were also meetings of the FSC and of some of the subsidiary bodies, as well as a roundtable "Women as Agent of Change in Migrant, Minority and Roma and Sinti Communities in the OSCE Area" and a seminar on "Identifying, Restraining and Recovering Stolen Assets". Roberto Montella and I spent three days in Copenhagen on the occasion of the President's visit to the Copenhagen Headquarters.

The PC debated the reports by the Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and by the Chairman-in-Office's Personal Representative for Article IV of the Dayton Peace accords, as well as a number of Current Issues – the situation of the Roma, Azerbaijan's handling of the case of Ramil Safarov, the verdict on "Pussy Riot" in Russia, the situation in Tajikistan's troubled region, and the upcoming elections in Belarus and the USA. In my absence, Marc Carillet delivered a statement about the ODIHR's failure to comply with the 1997 Cooperation Agreement which stipulates that the regular reports from the Long Term Observers have to be sent to the Special Coordinator. This matter has also dominated my talks with the Secretary General and the ambassadors of Germany and the United States, since it impacts on all the upcoming PA election observation missions.

The FSC held its first meeting under the new chairmanship of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The new German ambassador came to the office on a courtesy call, giving us the opportunity to intensively discuss the ODIHR refusal to send us the Long Term Observer reports and other issues.



Andreas Nothelle
Ambassador
September 17, 2012