

## Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

### *Permanent Council Brief Weeks 39 - 41, 2012*

During the first two of these three weeks, there were no meetings of the PC and its subsidiary bodies, because of the ongoing Warsaw Human Dimension Implementation Meeting. Marc Carillet and I were in Belarus for election observation, starting from week 38, and then the entire permanent staff of the Liaison Office participated in the Tirana Fall Sessions. In addition, Roberto Montella was an election observation in Ukraine and accompanied President Migliori to Ukraine (election observation pre-assessment), and Marc Carillet, Research Fellow Antonia Montanus from the office and I spent part of week 41 in Montenegro for the election observation there.

The meeting of the Permanent Council in week 41 saw President Migliori's address to the Permanent Council, as well as the presentation of the budget by Secretary General Zannier. The President thanked Albania and authorities and personalities of other countries he had visited in the past months. He also outlined his visions for the future of the OSCE, in addition to the written text of his speech which has been circulated and published on the PA's website. The President stressed again the failure of the ODIHR to comply fully with the 1997 Cooperation Agreement. 13 delegations – among them Cyprus on behalf of the EU and affiliated countries and Switzerland on behalf of the "Like-minded" (Canada, Liechtenstein, Norway), - as well as the Chairmanship, made statements in reply to the speech. All of them stressed the importance of the PA's work and of a close cooperation between the PA and the ODIHR in election monitoring, prompting the President to describe in detail the obstacles the ODIHR had put in the way of a smooth cooperation in Georgia.

Some of the items on the PC agenda had to be postponed. In the afternoon of the PC Thursday, a High Level Alliance against Trafficking in Persons conference took place, in which the Chairman of the PA's Third Committee, Matteo Mecacci, participated as keynote speaker.

In addition, there was a meeting of the Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation on the preparations for the OSCE Mediterranean Conference in Rome (30/31 October), as well as an informal working group meeting on the reform of Human Dimension events. I briefed a seminar for the staff of the incoming Ukrainian OSCE Chairmanship, which had been organized also with the support of the following chairmanships of Switzerland and Serbia, on the PA's work.

The chairmanship has started to circulate draft texts for the upcoming Ministerial Council in Dublin. A draft Political Declaration mentions the PA on the last page of the text under item 18 (out of 19). I met with the OSCE Secretary General to discuss ODIHR's non-compliance with the Cooperation Agreement. The new Belgian ambassador came to the office on a courtesy call, and I hosted a lunch for five newly arrived ambassadors (Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Germany, Sweden, Tajikistan) and one who came in earlier this year (Lithuania) in order to brief them on the PA's activities.



Andreas Nothelle  
Ambassador  
October 12, 2012