

## Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

*PC Brief Week 37, 2013*

As I indicated in my last PC Brief, ambassadors were largely absent during this week, due to several events outside of Austria. Consequently, there was no meeting of the Permanent Council. However, there were meetings of the Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC), the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance and the Working Group on the Scales of Contributions, as well as several social events. Roberto Montella accompanied President Krivokapic on his official visit to Finland.

This week saw the opening session of the four-month Luxembourg Chairmanship of the FSC. Jean Asselborn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs for the country, delivered the opening statement, listing the following areas as priorities of the Luxembourg FSC in the build-up to the Kiev Ministerial Council: Arms Control, Afghanistan and the continued modernization and progress on implementation of the Vienna Document. Malta officially joined the FSC Troika, and will assume the Chairmanship of the FSC after Luxembourg in January 2014. The minister also announced the names of new diplomats that have taken up coordinator roles within the FSC.

In the politico-military dimension, it is also noteworthy that the next OSCE Security Day will take place next Monday, on the topic of conflict resolution, including mediation. In parallel, the OSCE is organizing several regional conferences on the Code of Conduct.

As I have reported on several occasions, the OSCE is still working with unchanged Scales of Contribution (the share that each participating State contributes to the OSCE budget), despite heavy criticism by some. This week's informal meeting saw another – most likely fruitless – attempt to convince the majority of the benefit of bringing the OSCE closer to the scales used by the UN.

Next week, I will have a first post Recess meeting with newly appointed ambassadors. The last appointment brought the number of new ambassadors this year up to 20, with three posts still vacant.



Andreas Nothelle  
Ambassador  
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