

Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

PC Brief Week 47, 2012

This week, there were meetings of the PC, the FSC, the PrepCom, the ACMF, the other committees, the Contact Group with the Asian Partners for Cooperation, as well as a number of informal meetings of the committees on draft texts for the Ministerial Council in Dublin. Roberto Montella paid a visit to Turkey, accompanying President Migliori.

The main event in the meeting of the Permanent Council was the welcoming extended to the OSCE's 57th member, former Asian Partner for Cooperation Mongolia. In a round of statements, Russia underlined that Mongolia's access should not to be seen as a precedent. I referred to President Migliori's letter of welcome and the further steps that will be taken to integrate Mongolia also into the Parliamentary Assembly.

On drafts for the Ministerial Council: There is still little progress. Closest to adoption are two decisions that acknowledge a number of decisions that the FSC took this year, and decisions of the PC on OSCE efforts to combat transnational crime ("TNT"). One of the major "TNT"-decisions, the one on a consolidated OSCE framework for the fight against terrorism, however, needs to be made this week, in order to be included. There also still is a question mark regarding the very modest draft on confidence building measures that could enhance Cyber Security.

While slightly fewer amendments were proposed for the draft "Helsinki+40" Declaration, as opposed to the draft Political Declaration, in which almost no sentence remained without proposals for amendments, delegations are still far apart. In addition to Azerbaijan that proposes different language for most paragraphs, and Russia that equally wishes to see a number of changes, the US also proposed important changes, most notably to delete the paragraph that speaks about lack of confidence within the OSCE and a legacy of the past that needs to be overcome, and also the one on the need to further enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the organization, its legal framework and to introduce multi-year programming, all of which have been long-standing PA recommendations. Some EU delegations very strongly opposed these deletions. The PA is also mentioned as a contributor to the process.

In the Human Dimension, it is very probable that the situation of the Vilnius MC will be repeated (no decisions in the 3rd dimension). The "Western" countries would like to see their proposals adopted (Freedom of the Media, Freedom of Assembly and Association), whereas the countries of the CIS want their texts go through (Election Observation, Freedom of Movement, and Neo-Fascism), which so far has led to a deadlock. Even the only text that, as of now, regards a relatively non-controversial topic, the Chairmanship's proposal for a draft decision on Racism and Xenophobia, is still far away from consensus.



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Ambassador
November 27, 2012