

Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

PC Brief Week 12, 2014

These two weeks saw many meetings of the Permanent Council (PC), the Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC), the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) and the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance (ACMF) that were primarily occupied with the crisis in Ukraine. There were other meetings as well, such as that of the Human Dimension Committee, but delegations were mostly busy with efforts to reach an agreement on the deployment of an OSCE monitoring mission. During this time, I spent five days on the election observation mission in Serbia, Marc Carillet spent most of the second week on a pre-assessment mission for the election observation in Hungary, and Roberto Montella accompanied the PA President on a visit to and conference in Sarajevo. The last Friday was an OSCE holiday.

On that Friday of the second week, a Special PC finally approved the decision on sending a monitoring mission to Ukraine. Previously, delegations had managed to get a quick consensus on most aspects of a possible monitoring mission to Ukraine. However, Russia requested to have both the size of the mission and its geographical scope outlined in concrete terms in the agreement. The size of the mission is now 100 civilian monitors, but "as necessary and according to the situation, the mission may expand by a total of up to 400 additional monitors". While Ukraine and some others dropped their request to have it focused specifically on Eastern Ukraine, Russia insisted that all the areas of deployment be listed. In the end, the decision says that monitors will be deployed "initially" to Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Dnepropetrovsk, Chernivtsi, and Luhansk. Any change in deployment will have to be decided by consensus in the Permanent Council. The head office will be in Kyiv.

The recruitment of monitors has already begun. The Director of the Conflict Prevention Center (CPC), Amb. Kobieracki, will act as Chief Monitor until further notice. In the "Hour with the Secretary General", Amb. Zannier called for a swift adoption of the 2014 draft Budget, as the absence of a budget will soon have severe consequences for the activities of the OSCE.

The second week's preceding regular PC was addressed by the acting Foreign Minister of Ukraine, followed by a debate on Ukraine. I delivered a brief statement on the issue, as requested by PA President Krivokapic. The PC also took decisions on the dates of the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, on the topics for the second part of the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, on the topic and dates of the Human Dimension Seminar in Warsaw, and on the Agenda, Timetable and Modalities for the Third Annual Discussion on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, as well as a declaration on the upcoming elections in Afghanistan.



Andreas Nothelle
Ambassador
March 24, 2014