

Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

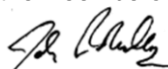
PC Brief Week 13 - 14, 2014

During these two weeks there were several meetings of the Permanent Council (PC), including on the OSCE engagement in Ukraine, the Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC), the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) and the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance (ACMF), as well as other committee meetings, and the two-day 1st Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SDHM) on the Prevention of Torture. Notably, there was the 54th Joint Meeting of the Forum for Security Co-Operation and the Permanent Council based on Paragraph 16.3 and 16.3.1.1 Chapter III of the Vienna Document 2011, which refers to “unusual military activities.”

Of particular importance was the Vienna meeting of the Parliamentary Assembly’s Leadership with the PA delegations from Russia and Ukraine, initiated by the leader of the German PA Delegation, Vice-President Doris Barnett, and prepared by the Vienna Office. I also took part in a Working Breakfast at the Federal Ministry of Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs at the invitation of Austrian Foreign Minister Kurz, bringing the tally of Vienna meetings covered by the Vienna Liaison Office during the reporting period to 24. At the same time, the Director of the Presidential Office, Roberto Montella, accompanied the PA President on his visits to Moscow and Kyiv, while we both attended the PA’s Bureau meeting in Copenhagen. Furthermore, Dep. Director for Administration, Marc Carillet, staffed the OSCE PA’s election observation mission to Hungary. The events outside of Vienna have been reported in the News from Copenhagen.

The PC took a decision on the Agenda, Timetable and Organizational Modalities of the 2014 OSCE-Japan Conference (Tokyo, Japan, 16 and 17 June 2014). There is still no consensus on the 2014 draft Budget. I briefed the Permanent Council about the PA’s activities in and with Ukraine. During the many debates on the events in Ukraine, the tangible hostility between representatives of the participating States persisted, preventing the Permanent Council from being the open forum for dialogue that it must be in times of crisis. In stark contrast to this atmosphere, the PA, on initiative by the leader of the German PA delegation, Vice President Doris Barnett, hosted a remarkably civil and productive meeting between representatives from the PA leadership, led by the PA President, and the delegations of Russia and Ukraine. These meetings, to which the President had invited both delegations, further led to a joint bilateral meeting between the delegations of the two countries, who were led by the Heads of their PA delegations, and another between their respective ambassadors. In the end, after an exchange of information on a range of issues “vital to their citizens”, they agreed to a joint Press Release and on the continuation of their discussions. More information is available on the PA website.

The PA’s 3rd Committee Vice Chair, Mehmet Sevki Kulkuloglu, represented the PA at the SDHM on the Prevention of Torture. The OSCE auditors, the German Federal Court of Audits (Bundesrechnungshof), briefed me on their offer to present their Audit Report, which will be released in June, to an appropriate forum of the OSCE PA. The PC is on Spring Recess during the week before and after Easter.



Andreas Nothelle
Ambassador
April 14, 2014