

## Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

### *PC Brief Weeks 23/24, 2014*

These two weeks included an official OSCE Holiday, and I accompanied President Krivokapic on his three-day visit to Berlin, while Roberto Montella was in Italy with Spencer Oliver. There were meetings of the Permanent Council (PC), the Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC), their subsidiary bodies and a number of other informal meetings, as well as a visit of PA Vice President Ilkka Kanerva to Vienna. In addition, there was a two day ambassadorial retreat on Helsinki+40, which, due to my duties in Berlin, was attended by Maria Chepurina from the PA's Copenhagen headquarters.

The PC adopted decisions on the dates, agenda and organizational modalities of the 2014 Annual Security Review conference (ASRC) and on "Voluntary Guidelines for Compiling National Reports on SALW (Small Arms and Light Weapons) Exports from/Imports to Other Participating States during the Previous Calendar Year". It heard a report by the President of the OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration of the OSCE, Prof. Dr. Christian Tomuschat.

The PC meetings again saw verbal clashes between the delegations of Ukraine and the US on one side and Russia on the other, which included the use of non-diplomatic terms. In response to similar claims by Ukraine, Russia raised alleged violations of OSCE commitments and human rights in Ukraine under "Current Issues". Russia also said it condemned the detention of SMM (Special Monitoring Mission) monitors, one of whom is from the Russian Federation, and is asking delegations to support a draft decision on endorsing the roadmap on Ukraine contained in the Swiss proposals for further implementation of the Geneva statement of April 17, 2014. Russia also criticized the reports of the SMM for not sufficiently reflecting the information collected by the monitors. Similar discussions took place in the FSC, with delegations urging to make more frequent use of Confidence Building Measures, in particular the tools of the Vienna Document. The Chairmanship has appointed Amb. Heidi Tagliavini (Switzerland) as the OSCE Chairmanship's representative in the Tripartite Contact Group on Ukraine.

The PC heard reports from three OSCE field presences (Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine). The US criticized the work by the OSCE Office in Astana and urged for more engagement with Civil Society. Kazakhstan is currently trying to downgrade the office to that of a Project Coordinator. I briefed the PC about the PA's latest activities in Kazakhstan, including the visit by the Chair of the OSCE PA's Human Dimension Committee Isabel Santos. The Project Coordinator for Ukraine, Madina Jarbussinova (Kazakhstan), will assume her duties as OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator on Human Trafficking once her successor is appointed.

The discussions at the retreat focused on challenges and opportunities for the OSCE stemming from the crisis in Ukraine, as well as the priorities in preparations for the upcoming Basel Ministerial Council. Other topics included the consensus rule, ways of strengthening the role of the Secretary General in decision-making and the OSCE PA's Helsinki +40 Colloquium Project.



Andreas Nothelle  
Ambassador, June 16, 2014