

## Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

*PC Brief Week 25, 2014*

There were meetings of the Permanent Council (PC), the Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC), their subsidiary bodies and a number of other informal meetings. In addition, there was a retreat of the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance (ACMF), in which Marc Carillet participated.

The PC extended the mandate of the Project Coordinator in Ukraine. The debates in the PC and FSC about Ukraine were again long and controversial. In the FSC, Russia, in very strong terms, attacked Ukraine and others for their handling of the situation. In referring to the show of aerial and other photos, they spoke of "funny pictures". While Ukraine pointed at circumstantial evidence as a basis for its allegations that the missile launchers used against Ukraine airplanes came from Russia, Russia raised the possibility that they were among military items seized during the raid of a L'viv military storage facility earlier this year, which Ukraine rejected. In the PC, the language used by delegations of the EU and the U.S. was less belligerent than in past weeks. Both sides are now raising items under Current Issues in which they accuse each other of breaches of OSCE commitments.

Direct contact with the abducted Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) monitors has been re-established. Some Western delegations are critical of a visit by OSCE SG Amb. Zannier to facilities hosting Ukrainian citizens from Eastern Ukraine in Rostov, who are - according to Russia - refugees from the area where there is fighting. However, this criticism has not been voiced in the PC, nor has SG Zannier delivered a report about his visit in the meeting. The UNHCR Office in Vienna enquired as to whether the PA will send a mission to Rostov following a similar invitation by Russia. There is also talk that some members of the SMM are dissatisfied that their findings are poorly reflected in the overall report that is circulated after it has been edited by the Secretariat.

The U.S. also raised strong concerns about developments in Hungary, and Azerbaijan heavily attacked outgoing ODIHR Director Amb. Lenarcic for his statement at a Basel conference, which - according to them - unduly focused on the imprisonment of Azerbaijani opposition members. They demanded an explanation by the Swiss Chairmanship. I briefed the PC about the PA's upcoming Annual Session, and Azerbaijan replied in a short statement. Japan thanked the PA for its participation in the OSCE-Japan Conference.

Mr. Michael Scanlan (USA) has been appointed Head of the OSCE Mission to Moldova.

Next week, there will be the three-day Annual Security Review Conference (ASRC) and a workshop with the "Academic Network" of the OSCE on Helsinki+40 considerations regarding the future of the OSCE field operations.



Andreas Nothelle  
Ambassador  
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