

Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

PC Brief Week 40/41, 2014

During these two weeks I, together with much of the Vienna Liaison Office staff, was first at the PA Autumn Meeting in Geneva and then at the Election Observation Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The OSCE ambassadors spent most of the first week at the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw and many of traveled to Ukraine during the second. Consequently, the number of meetings was somewhat limited compared to normal working weeks. There were, however, meetings of the Permanent Council (PC), the Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC), the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom), and other committees, as well as several meetings on technical issues and informal briefings and discussions. In addition, Marc Carillet participated in two OSCE events in Bratislava: a conference on Secure Energy Supply ("How to better protect energy networks from disruptions?") and a meeting of the network for Security Sector Governance and Reform (SSG/R).

At the meeting of the FSC the Russian Delegation referred to an alleged criticism of Ukraine by PA President Kanerva. Marc Carillet corrected the inaccurate impression conveyed by the Russian statement.

During the PC the Acting Chief Observer of the Observer Mission at Russian Checkpoints of Gukovo and Donetsk, Paul Picard, presented the mission's observations. While Russia interpreted the report as evidence of its non-interference in Ukraine, most other delegations pointed out that the mission's mandate is to report about what happens inside the two checkpoints only, which means that they are not allowed to include in their reports most of what happens along the border, limiting the conclusiveness of the reports. The Director of the CPC, Amb. Adam Kobieracki, delivered his last report to the PC (as his contract expires end of May 2015). OSCE Secretary General Zannier reported about the Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) to Ukraine. Unarmed aerial vehicles (UAVs = drones) and one ground control station have arrived in Kiev and will reach Mariupol by the end of the week. All the necessary operational, legal, and administrative procedures are well underway, as is the training of operators. Full operations are expected to commence by end of October/beginning of November.

The OSCE Secretary General also presented the budget proposal along the same lines as he did during the Geneva meeting of the PA's Standing Committee, which he referred to in his presentation. Russia, Azerbaijan, and Belarus argued that the institutions, in particular ODIHR, cannot have their funding increased without consensus by participating States on their activities. These same countries expressed reluctance regarding the SG's proposed "crisis management relief" fund. Roberto Montella briefly reported about the Geneva Autumn Meeting and the meeting with ODIHR Director Link that took place during the conference, informing delegates that despite several positive signals and steps taken by the ODIHR, they continue to disregard the 1997 Cooperation Agreement on two core issues (namely, early joint PA-ODIHR drafting and the sending of LTO reports).



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Ambassador
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