

Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

PC Brief Week 48, 2014

During this week, there were meetings of the Permanent Council (PC), one jointly with the Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC), and meetings of the FSC, the Contact group with the Asian Partners, the Preparatory Committee (PrepComm), the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance (ACMF), the Security, the Economic and Environmental and the Human Dimension Committees, as well as many meetings of informal working groups.

The PC extended the mandates of most of the OSCE field presences, with the exception of Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan (special rules apply for the missions in Kosovo and in Turkmenistan). It seems, however, that an agreement concerning the Office in Astana has been found. The joint FSC/PC-meeting was devoted to transnational threats in the Mediterranean with special emphasis on statements made by the Partners. The meeting was briefed by Spain and Morocco regarding the measures these countries are taking – in part jointly – in order to cope with the problems emanating especially from terrorism and illegal migration. The Spanish Secretary of State for Security started his address with a long reference to PA President Kanerva's speech at the PA's Mediterranean Forum in Geneva this year. Egypt urged participating States again to include Libya among the Partners and to engage more with the country, which is in a desperate situation.

The regular PC heard the periodic report by the Representative for Freedom of the Media, followed by a long list of statements from participating States. The PC then entered into the weekly arguments over the conflict in and around Ukraine and related polemics. The FSC held the same debate, with both sides making long unverifiable presentations of alleged violations of the cease-fire. In the FSC, this was followed by polemics between Armenia and Azerbaijan. On a non-related issue, in the PC, Turkey addressed the Austrian draft law on the Islamic communities, which would – among other points - prohibit financing of certain religious activities from abroad.

The work on draft texts for the Ministerial Council in Basel has not made any considerable progress. On Monday, all delegations are leaving for Basel. In the coming hours, the Swiss Chairmanship will decide which drafts will be taken up there in an effort to reach a consensus. They have judged two drafts to be of essential importance, one on Helsinki+40 and the other one on the situation in and around Ukraine. Since it is unlikely that the participating States will find consensus on the latter, it might be used as the basis for a statement by Western countries during the Ministerial Council Meeting. Slightly less controversial are drafts on the cooperation with the Partners, and an effort will most probably be made to reach consensus on documents regarding Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), Prevention of Corruption and of Torture, as well as a text on Anti-Semitism. A text on strengthening mediation is being blocked by Armenia, mainly because Armenia felt excluded from deliberations in a group of friends on the issue initiated by Finland, Switzerland and Turkey, because of Turkey's Co-chairmanship over the group.



Andreas Nothelle
Ambassador
December 1, 2014

LIST OF DRAFT MINISTERIAL COUNCIL DOCUMENTS FOR BASEL

- **1st Dimension**
 - DECLARATION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OWNERSHIP PROCESS REGARDING THE DAYTON PEACE AGREEMENT ARTICLE IV - ANNEX 1B (MC.DD/14/14/rev.1)
 - DECLARATION ON THE OSCE ROLE IN COUNTERING KIDNAPPING AND HOSTAGE TAKING COMMITTED BY TERRORIST GROUPS IN THE CONTEXT OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2133 (2014) (MC.DD/9/14/rev.2)
 - DECLARATION ON THE OSCE ROLE IN COUNTERING THE PHENOMENON OF FOREIGN TERRORIST FIGHTERS IN THE CONTEXT OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 2170 (2014) AND 2178 (2014) (MC.DD/8/14/rev.2)
 - DRAFT DECLARATION ON FURTHER STRENGTHENING MEDIATION AND DIALOGUE FACILITATION IN THE OSCE (MC.DD/19/14/rev.1/corr.1)
 - DRAFT COMMEMORATIVE DECLARATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OSCE CODE OF CONDUCT ON POLITICO-MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY (MC.DD/25/14/rev.1)
 - Draft decision on issues relevant to the Forum for Security Co-operation (MC.DD/6/14)
 - Draft decision on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (MC.DD/7/14/rev.1)
 - FSC.DEC/0001/14 - Change of Date for the Global Exchange of Military Information for 2014
 - FSC.DEC/0002/14 - Agenda, Timetable and Modalities for the 3rd Annual Discussion on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security
 - FSC.DEC/0003/14 - Voluntary Guidelines for Compiling National Reports on SALW Exports From/Imports to Other Participating States During the Previous Calendar Year
 - FSC.DEC/0005/14 - Implementation Assessment in Respect of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons and the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition
 - FSC.DEL/150/14/Rev.4 - Proposal for FSC DD on enabling the provision of assistance to OSCE Partners using procedures outlined in the OSCE SALW and SCA documents
 - FSC.DEL/143/14/rev.2 - Proposal for DD on voluntary criteria on re-export controls for SALW
- **2nd Dimension**
 - DECISION ON ENHANCING DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (MC.DD/5/14/rev.2)
 - DECISION ON PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION (MC.DD/10/14/rev.2)
 - DRAFT MINISTERIAL COUNCIL DECLARATION ON SECURITY IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE OSCE REGION (EU Proposal, PC.DEL/1339/14/rev.1)
- **3rd Dimension**
 - DECISION ON THE PREVENTION OF TORTURE DECISION ON THE PREVENTION OF TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT (MC.DD/03/14/rev.2)
 - DECISION ON THE ADDENDUM TO THE GENDER ACTION PLAN (PC.DD/23/14/rev.3 and MC.DD/16/14)
 - DECLARATION REAFFIRMING COMMITMENTS TO COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM (MC.DD/18/14/rev.1)
- **Partners**
 - DECLARATION ON THE CO-OPERATION WITH THE MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERS FOR CO-OPERATION (MC.DD/11/14/rev.2)
 - DECLARATION ON THE CO-OPERATION WITH THE ASIAN PARTNERS FOR CO-OPERATION (MC.DD/12/14/rev.2/corr.1)
- **Other, Cross-Dimensional Issues**
 - DRAFT BASEL MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON THE ROLE OF THE OSCE IN ADDRESSING THE CRISIS IN AND AROUND UKRAINE (MC.DD/24/14)
 - DECLARATIONS ON THE PROTRACTED CONFLICTS IN THE OSCE AREA (not yet circulated)
 - + Statement on the Negotiations on the Transdniestrian Settlement Process in the "5+2" Format
 - + Draft Declaration on the Geneva International Discussions
 - + Draft Declaration on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Group
 - DECLARATION/DECISION ON HELSINKI +40 (MC.DD/23/14)
 - DECLARATION ON THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR (MC.DD/17/14)
 - DRAFT DECLARATION ON YOUTH AND SECURITY (MC.DD/15/14/rev.1)
 - TIME AND PLACE OF THE NEXT OSCE MC (MC.DD/20/14)
 - OSCE CHAIRMANSHIP IN THE YEAR 2016 (MC.DD/21/14 Germany)
 - OSCE CHAIRMANSHIP IN THE YEAR 2017 (MC.DD/22/14 Austria)