



To:

OSCE PA delegations of Denmark, Germany, Russia and Ukraine

President Emeritus Ranko Krivokapic

Vice President Alain Néri

Vice President Kent Harstedt

Vice President Christine Muttonen

Ms. Dijana Vukomanovic, Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Serbia to the OSCE PA

Mr. Andreas Aebi, Head of the Delegation of Switzerland to the OSCE PA

President Ilkka Kanerva

Secretary General Spencer Oliver

Invitation to a parliamentary seminar

The path from rivalry to co-existence and dialogue and finally to mutual support -
Danish-German experiences in the border region and the role of the minorities

September 16, 2015

Dear Colleagues,

The OSCE PA invites you to a parliamentary seminar hosted by the German Bundestag in coordination with the Danish OSCE PA delegation and supported by the German Foreign Ministry on lessons learnt in addressing the conflict cycle. This event will be held on Saturday, 28 November and Sunday, 29 November 2015.

The seminar is to take place in the context of the Vienna Process a few months after the last meeting held in Leinsweiler, in order to give a further impetus to the dialogue between parliamentarians from Russia, Ukraine and other interested countries. The seminar will draw from past experiences and processes between other neighbouring countries, and in particular from the German-Danish experience. Discussions on possible lessons that could be drawn from the historical experience in the border region will be held.

At present, discussions are planned in both Sønderborg (Denmark) and Flensburg (Germany), as well as visits to relevant historical sites.

OSCE PA Headquarters

Tordenskjoldsgade 1, 1055 Copenhagen K, Denmark
Phone: +45 33 37 80 40 - Fax: +45 33 37 80 30

E-Mail: OSCE@oscepa.dk - Website: www.oscepa.org

Vienna Liaison Office

Neustiftgasse 3/8, 1070 Vienna, Austria
Phone: +43 1 523 3002 - Fax: +43 1 522 2684

E-Mail: specialrep@live.com

Suggested topics for the meeting include:

- The current state of relations between the countries represented by the participants
- Areas of pragmatic cross-border cooperation, for instance
 - Cross-border commuting
 - Cross-border money payments (i.e. salaries, pensions)
- Possibilities for dialogue facilitation
 - Example of Danish-German border delimitation (Schleswig plebiscites)
 - Joint parliamentary activities
 - Twinning/sister-city programs
 - Infrastructure projects

Draft program of the seminar:

Friday November 27: Arrival, Joint Dinner

Saturday November 28: Opening and visit of Historiecenter Dybbøl Banke, followed by Working Groups

Sunday November 29: Working Groups followed by Closing Session and visit of Flensburg

Monday November 30: Departure

Locations:

Hotel Comwell Sønderborg (accommodation), Sønderborg Castle (Saturday meetings), Flensborghus Flensburg (Sunday meetings)

Participants:

Due to logistical reasons and limited hotel capacity, the maximum number of participants from the invited delegations will be limited to six each (including staff). **The hotel rooms are blocked until mid-October.**

Costs:

Participants will have to cover their own travel expenses (travel to/from Sønderborg Airport or Hamburg Airport, plus accommodation and breakfasts). Accommodation will cost approximately 117€ per night including breakfast. During the seminar, several meals will be offered.

For those transiting via Copenhagen, there are convenient flights every three hours between Copenhagen Airport and Sønderborg Airport on week days: <http://alsieexpress.dk/en/>. Sønderborg Airport is only 8km away from the hotel and is easily accessible by taxi to/from the hotel. Alternatively, the organizer will offer two opportunities for joint transportation by bus from/to Hamburg Airport, for which details are to be determined. Participants not signing up for this will need to ensure their own transportation from their airport arrival.

If you need more information on the event, please contact the OSCE PA Vienna Liaison Office Specialrep@live.com tel. +43 522 2682 or Mr Thomas Grimm at the German Bundestag oszepv@bundestag.de tel: +49 30 227 31074. **Also, we kindly ask you to observe the deadline mentioned in the attached form.**

We appreciate your involvement.

Best regards,



Ilkka Kanerva
President



Doris Barnett
Head of the German
Delegation



Peter Juel Jensen
Head of the Danish
Delegation

REGISTRATION FORM FOR DELEGATIONS

Each delegate is kindly asked to complete the registration form which must be returned **before 15 October 2015** to the Vienna Liaison Office:

Specialrep@live.com or fax +43 1522 2684

With a copy to:

oszeqv@bundestag.de or fax +49 30 227 36414

DELEGATE'S DETAILS

Mr. Ms.	
LAST NAME:	
FIRST NAME:	
TITLE / FUNCTION:	
DELEGATION:	
EMAIL ADDRESS:	
PHONE:	
MOBILE PHONE:	

ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE DETAILS:

	From / To	Flight No.	Date	Time
ARRIVAL	Sønderborg Airport			
DEPARTURE	Sønderborg Airport			

Participants arriving/departing to Sønderborg Airport will need to take a taxi to/from the hotel at their own expense

Or

	From / To	Flight No.	Date	Time
ARRIVAL	Hamburg Airport			
DEPARTURE	Hamburg Airport			

Other time/point of arrival (no transportation offered):

Date:

Signature: