

Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

PC Brief Weeks 47/48, 2017

During the past two weeks the Permanent Council (PC) and the Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC) have held several meetings, in part jointly. A number of committees and other informal bodies and gatherings have also met. Most of the activities, however, focused on the preparation for possible Ministerial Council (MC) decisions (see list attached) and took place in informal drafting sessions. There was also a Chairmanship Conference on 'Gender dimension of IDP' and an Election Seminar organized by ODIHR, at which PA Vice President Azay Guliyev spoke.

The Vienna Office organized a working visit of the Chairman of the PA's Security Committee and of the PA's Migration Committee Filippo Lombardi in conjunction with his address to the PC during the debate on OSCE efforts regarding Migration. The News from Copenhagen reported on both visits. Francesco Pagani spent a week traveling to Tbilisi and accompanying PA Secretary General Montella to Milano (for a Counter-Terrorism event of the "Parliamentarians for Global Action", where the Head of the Romanian PA Delegation, Anna Birchall, made an address). Marco Bonabello participated in a working level retreat of the Economic and Environmental Dimension in Langenlois.

The PC decided to amend the OSCE Financial Regulations and approved the revision of the 2017 Unified Budget. Ambassadors also extended the mandates of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the OSCE Mission to Moldova, the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, the OSCE Mission to Serbia, the OSCE Mission to Skopje, the OSCE Presence in Albania, the OSCE Program Office in Astana, and the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine.

Ambassadors also assessed the "Structured Dialogue" in a joint PC-FSC meeting. While there were differing opinions regarding the mapping process and, in particular, the involvement of academic experts in it, the overall general assessment was that it continues to be worthwhile process that needs to be continued during the next year. The USA reiterated that the present situation – in the light of recent actions taken by one participating state and the general lack of adherence to previously agreed upon Vienna Document commitments - does not allow for any negotiations regarding disarmament or arms control.

Finally, I also briefed the Contact Group with the Asian Partners for Cooperation about the activities of the PA's Migration Committee.



Andreas Nothelle
Ambassador
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