



## The President

To: Heads of OSCE PA Delegations  
Members of the OSCE PA Bureau

12 December 2020

Dear Colleagues,

I want to thank President George Tsereteli for his dedication to the OSCE PA and the OSCE. He has been unstinting in giving time and work to our affairs. Political life is full of uncertainties, but we can be sure President Tsereteli will very much be missed by our Assembly.

The Rules determine that I follow him as President, but I know that I shall not be able to equal his extraordinary commitment.

Although I have not sought the position of President, I am honoured to assume the office and I will carry out the duties of the President to the best of my ability with the assistance of colleagues and the International Secretariat.

We do not know when we shall return to normal working, but we must have objectives for the period up until the assumption of office of a new President in July 2021.

Most important is to ensure that in July 2021, if we are unable to meet in person, we must have the decisions and technology in place to have remote elections for the President, Officers, and Committee Officers. I look forward to the Standing Committee approving the Bureau's recommendations in the virtual Winter Meeting to ensure this happens.

I will not be a candidate for President at the election, whether in person or remotely. In July 2021, the Assembly must have a new President and Bureau and I will do my best to hand over the Assembly in good order and without any commitments, which should rightly belong to the new President.

In these difficult times before the return to normality, the Bureau may meet with greater frequency between now and July 2021 so I may have the advice of Colleagues and any political positions adopted. To keep Delegations informed, additional meetings of the Standing Committee may be called.

## **The President**

It is important that the high profile of the Assembly is maintained, and the time should be used to establish close contacts with the new OSCE executive officers. The online meetings of the Bureau and the Standing Committee can provide these opportunities.

Having been involved in our Sub-Committee on Rules of Procedure and Working Practices for a number of years, I will work with Ambassador Nothelle to bring to our Annual Session a set of revised rules for possible adoption in Bucharest. Ambassador Nothelle has already undertaken a lot of work, which when complete needs to be shared and discussed with the Assembly leadership before any submission of adoption.

I am conscious of bearing a great responsibility as President of the Assembly and I look forward to working with you all and for your support and assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Lord Bowness