

Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

Permanent Council Brief Week 44, 2011

This week there were meetings of the PC, the FSC, the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) and the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance (ACMF), as well as several informal meetings on draft Ministerial Council decisions. The Chairmanship circulated a first list of 20 drafts.

The main event this week was the annual address of President Petros Efthymiou to the Permanent Council (PC), which was published on our [website](#). Officially (in statements by Poland/EU, the USA, the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Croatia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Armenia and the Lithuanian Chairmanship) and informally the speech was well received. Several statements referred to concrete recommendations which the PA made at its Annual Session in Belgrade and to the quality of the discussions during the Fall Meeting in Dubrovnik.

The Chairmanship hosted a working dinner attended by the ambassadors/deputies of the countries representing the Troika (Lithuania, Kazakhstan, Ireland), the three committees (Germany, Ukraine, Switzerland), as well as Croatia, EU, Greece, Portugal, Russia, USA. They discussed most areas of OSCE work in the three dimensions. The President expressed his expectation that the upcoming Ministerial Council in Vilnius will take due note of PA recommendations in its decisions, and his hope for improved cooperation with the ODIHR based on the full implementation of the 1997 Cooperation Agreement "in letter and in spirit".

The PC also debated reports by the Co-Chairs of the Minsk Group and the CiO's Special Envoy for the conflict it deals with. They all underlined the importance and quality of the discussion the PA had in Dubrovnik on the same issue.

The PC did not take any decisions. The FSC adopted the agenda and modalities for next year's Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (AIAM – March 6 and 7, 2011).

Asian Partner for Cooperation Mongolia has applied for full membership in the OSCE and presented its application to the PC. Some participating States are very hesitant about issues of enlargement – both regarding membership and the inclusion of new Partners for Cooperation.

I also had an opportunity to discuss issues of common interest with the newly arrived ambassadors of Armenia, Belarus and the European Union.



Andreas Nothelle
Ambassador
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