

Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

PC Brief Week 6/7, 2016

During these weeks there were routine meetings of the Permanent Council (PC), the Forum for Security Co-operation, the Preparatory Committee (PrepComm), the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance (ACMF), the Security and the Human Dimension committees, other informal meetings, as well as a High Level Military Doctrine Seminar and a Conference on Combating Intolerance against Muslims. In addition, I spent two days in Warsaw in meetings held by SG Montella with ODIHR and the Polish PA delegation.

The PC approved a decision on the extension of the mandate of the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM) for another year. It also debated an address by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan Araz Azimov and reports by the head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia, as well as the three Chairs of the three topical committees, and discussed the usual Current Issues.

Many delegations requested meetings with us in order to discuss issues pertinent to the upcoming PA Winter Meeting, demonstrating a high interest from the governmental side. In my absence, Marc Carillet also briefed the Permanent Council about the Meeting. He also expressed condolences regarding the latest bomb blast in Ankara, referring to a press release by President Kanerva.

The High Level Military Doctrine seminar managed to go beyond the usual exchanges that take place on a weekly basis in the Forum for Security Co-operation. Delegates refrained from reading prepared statements, and participants from capitals engaged in intensive exchanges. While the diverging narratives of the crisis in and around Ukraine and the other conflicts in the OSCE provided a constant backdrop to the discussions, the military-to-military dialogue showed its promise when tackling the many challenges facing the OSCE in the politico-military sphere. This is related to the aspirations of many participating States to re-issue and modernize the Vienna Document.

The visit to Warsaw has been covered in the News from Copenhagen. It also served as an opportunity to explore closer cooperation with the ODIHR on issues outside election observation, including a better coordination of the PA's contributions to the annual Human Dimension Implementation Meeting.



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Ambassador
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