

## Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

### *PC Brief Weeks 15/16, 2016*

During these two weeks, there were meetings of the Permanent Council (PC), the Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC) under the new (Polish) Chairmanship, the Mediterranean Contact Group, the three topical committees, the Preparatory Committee (PrepComm) and the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance (ACMF), as well as many other informal meetings, a two-day Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SDHM) on Tolerance and Non-discrimination, an OSCE Conflict Cycle Roundtable Discussion on "Early Warning and Early Action: Narrowing the Gap", and the two-day 16th Alliance Against Trafficking In Persons Conference. The Staff of the Liaison Office spent part of these two weeks at the Bureau Meeting and a subsequent meeting of the International Secretariat in Copenhagen, as well as at the Leinsweiler Retreat, which it prepared (see report in the News from Copenhagen).

The PC did not take decisions. Apart from routine reports by ODIHR Director Link and the Head of the Mission to Moldova, Amb. Scanlan, there were the usual reciprocal accusations regarding the crisis in and around Ukraine, as well as a number of other Current Issues discussed, some of which seem to be meant as tit-for-tat items. I replied to Director Link's report underlining his personal contribution to the removal of obstacles for good cooperation on election observation, and the agreements we reached this year on strengthening our cooperation in all other fields. I also used this opportunity to remind delegations of the importance of democratic procedures in the implementation of human rights and the crucial role parliamentarians have in this.

During the OSCE Conflict Cycle Roundtable Discussion on Early Warning and Early Action I referred once more to the 2012 Food for Thought Paper of the OSCE Secretariat for a closer cooperation with the PA in addressing conflicts, outlining the comparative advantages of the involvement of the PA and its members.

The necessary decisions on this year's Human Dimension Events (the next will be in May) are being delayed, also because of the request by Russia to move the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting from Warsaw to Vienna.

I also had a number of meetings with the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, France, Russia and the USA to follow-up the Leinsweiler Retreat.



Andreas Nothelle  
Ambassador  
April 25, 2016