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**TBILISI  
DECLARATION  
AND  
RESOLUTIONS  
ADOPTED BY THE  
OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY  
AT THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION**

**TBILISI, 1 to 5 JULY 2016**

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## PREAMBLE

We, Parliamentarians of the OSCE participating States, have met in annual session in Tbilisi from 1 to 5 July 2016 as the Parliamentary dimension of the OSCE to assess developments and challenges relating to security and co-operation, in particular on 25 Years of Parliamentary Co-operation: Building Trust Through Dialogue, and we offer the following views to the OSCE Ministers.

We wish every success to the next OSCE Ministerial Council and bring to its attention the following declaration and recommendations.

## 25 YEARS OF PARLIAMENTARY CO-OPERATION: BUILDING TRUST THROUGH DIALOGUE

### CHAPTER I

#### POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND SECURITY

1. Reaffirming the undiminished validity and historic role of the guiding principles and common values of the Helsinki Final Act signed in 1975, including the commitments on politico-military, economic, environmental, human rights, and humanitarian issues,
2. Recalling the Charter of Paris for a New Europe adopted in 1990, which laid the foundation of permanent institutions and operational capabilities, including the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE, as well as the 1991 Madrid Declaration, which established the working methods and mandate of the Assembly,
3. Emphasizing that the OSCE community is facing the worst crisis in European security since the end of the Cold War, prompted by the aggression of one participating State against another,
4. Welcoming the Ministerial Declaration on Reinforcing OSCE Efforts to Counter Terrorism in the Wake of Recent Terrorist Attacks, adopted at the Ministerial Council in Belgrade in 2015,
5. Regretting, however, that the Belgrade Ministerial Council was unable to reach consensus on any decisions related to the OSCE's three dimensions of security and

resolution of conflicts, reflecting a growing trend of gridlock and distrust in the Organization that has been seen in recent years,

6. Acknowledging the final conclusions of the OSCE PA's Helsinki +40 Project and the novel ideas for tools and methods for moving forward with a particular focus on the role of parliamentary diplomacy in general, and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in particular,
7. Emphasizing the significant role of the OSCE as a regional security organization under Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations in contributing to international peace and security and to promoting security and confidence in the OSCE area through confidence- and security-building measures,
8. Expressing serious concern over the persistence of protracted conflicts in the territories of several OSCE participating States and acknowledging that these conflicts undermine the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of the States concerned, impede their democratic development and hinder regional co-operation and development,
9. Stressing the continuing need for enhanced efforts to settle protracted conflicts in the OSCE area in a peaceful and negotiated manner, refraining from the threat or use of force, in full respect of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the states involved, and in full compliance with the United Nations Charter and the Helsinki Final Act,
10. Stressing the primary relevance of the principles and norms enshrined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in particular its article 20, which stipulates a prohibition by national law of any propaganda for war and any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, as well as article 19 of the same Covenant, which underlines the fundamental right to freedom of expression, bearing in mind that its exercise carries with it special duties and responsibilities,
11. Expressing deep concern at increased nuclear threats arising from the deteriorating relationship between the Russian Federation and NATO, including potential violations of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, statements indicating an increased readiness to use nuclear weapons, increasing numbers of military incidents between NATO and Russian forces, lack of transparency over deployments of tactical nuclear weapons by both sides, and statements indicating potential plans to deploy nuclear weapons to additional territories in Europe and locations in Russia,
12. Expressing deep concern over the persistence of conflicts in various regions of the OSCE area and the exploitation of the media in areas of conflict to foment hatred and ethnic tension, and the use of restrictions and harassment to deprive citizens of free media, and underlining the need to secure freedom of expression, which is an essential element of discourse in any democracy,
13. Convinced in this regard that dangerous hate propaganda involves efforts to silence and misinterpret the value and meaning of the principles of the Helsinki Final Act and

disparages the diplomatic efforts of the OSCE, including its Parliamentary Assembly, to contribute to settling disputes peacefully, preventing and resolving armed conflicts, promoting the rule of law among States, strengthening the international legal order and promoting tolerance and non-discrimination, thereby more effectively maintaining international and regional peace and security,

14. Welcoming proposals made at the United Nations Open-Ended Working Group on Taking Forward Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament Negotiations for the commencement in 2017 of multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations and the decision of the United Nations General Assembly to hold an international conference on nuclear disarmament in 2018,
15. Reiterating the conclusions of the Ulaanbaatar Autumn Meeting held in 2015, which underscored the role of parliamentarians in generating the necessary political will for reaching a long-term solution to the migration crisis in the OSCE area,
16. Stressing the importance of continuing a dialogue aimed at creating conditions for updating and modernizing the 2011 Vienna Document on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in order to increase openness, transparency and predictability in the military sphere and reduce tensions in the OSCE area, and recalling the resolutions of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly underlining the need to proceed with this work,
17. Condemning international terrorism in all its forms and identifying it as a common threat and a shared responsibility for all participating States,
18. Expressing grave concern about the crisis in Ukraine, stemming from the violation of the principles enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act, and underlining the role of the OSCE in reducing tensions and fostering peace and stability in Ukraine by monitoring and supporting the implementation of all OSCE principles and commitments on the ground and assisting in the full implementation of the Minsk agreements in areas which envisage a role for the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM), such as monitoring and verifying the ceasefire and the withdrawal of weapons,
19. Acknowledging that the ongoing Syrian conflict has negative consequences in terms of security, stability and human rights for the OSCE area and that only a political solution that is embraced by the Syrian people can bring an end to the conflict,
20. Recalling the need to increase the representation of women throughout the OSCE, particularly in the politico-military dimension and in leadership positions,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

21. Calls upon participating States and Partners for Co-operation to strengthen co-operation on anti-terrorism and develop measures aimed at blocking the funding of terrorist organizations;

22. Calls on the OSCE to redouble its efforts to help participating States counter terrorism through pragmatic assistance and promotion of best practices;
23. Encourages participating States and Partners for Co-operation to improve their anti-terrorism legal frameworks in line with OSCE best practices, and invites the respective OSCE Institutions to ensure the oversight needed for their implementation;
24. Encourages national legislative initiatives targeting terrorist activities, and stresses that it is central that they uphold key OSCE principles, including freedom of expression;
25. Calls for greater information-sharing and interaction between the relevant national agencies, including the law enforcement bodies and intelligence agencies of OSCE participating States;
26. Urges the OSCE to reform and reinforce its early warning and early action mechanisms and ensure that, when triggered, the process will not be undermined by politics;
27. Calls on all OSCE States with nuclear weapons or under extended nuclear deterrence relationships to reduce the risks of a nuclear war by taking nuclear weapons off high-alert and by adopting no-first-use policies;
28. Calls on all participating OSCE States to support the commencement in 2017 of United Nations-facilitated deliberations and negotiations on multilateral nuclear disarmament;
29. Calls on all participating OSCE States to participate in the 2018 UN international conference on nuclear disarmament at the highest level, to include parliamentarians in their delegations to the conference and to pursue the adoption of nuclear risk reduction, transparency and disarmament measures at the conference;
30. Calls for greater co-operation with the OSCE Partners for Co-operation in tackling human trafficking and its link to terrorism and illegal migration;
31. Calls on OSCE participating States and OSCE Partners for Co-operation to engage substantially in the prevention of terrorism and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism, while giving due regard to human rights and the rule of law;
32. Encourages participating States to seek full implementation of the OSCE border-related commitments and instruments, including the Border Security and Management Concept, address threats and challenges to border security, in particular the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters and illegal armed groups, prevent cross-border movement of persons, weapons and funds connected with terrorist and other criminal activities and combat transnational organized crime, illegal migration, corruption, and the smuggling of and trafficking in weapons, drugs and human beings;

33. Urges all parties to fully implement the Package of Measures for the implementation of the Minsk Agreements, adopted and signed on 12 February 2015 in Minsk by all signatories who also signed the Minsk Protocol of 5 September 2014, and the Memorandum of 19 September 2014, which is an essential step towards a peaceful settlement of the crisis in and around Ukraine;
34. Takes note of and calls for implementation of the relevant provisions of the OSCE PA Baku and Helsinki declarations, as well as the relevant resolutions addressing the crisis in and around Ukraine;
35. Underlines respect for the principles of the inviolability of frontiers and territorial integrity, peaceful settlement of disputes, equal rights, and self-determination of peoples as stated in the Helsinki Final Act, and calls on the Russian Federation to restrain its aggressive practices and reverse the illegal annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
36. Expresses grave concern over increasing militarization and the deterioration of the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol and underlines the need to ensure a permanent international presence in Crimea to monitor the situation on the ground;
37. Reiterates the need to grant all international and humanitarian organizations immediate access to the territories currently under occupation in certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine, the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, as well as to guarantee the ICRC unhindered access to all illegally detained Ukrainian citizens;
38. Recognizes that the duration of political and economic sanctions imposed against the Russian Federation for its illegal occupation and attempted annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, and armed intervention in certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine, is directly related to an end being brought to the illegal occupation of the Crimean peninsula of Ukraine and full implementation by the Russian Federation of its commitments under the Minsk Agreements;
39. Recalls the resolutions adopted annually by the UN on collaboration with the OSCE, underlines the effective and ongoing co-operation between the two organizations and calls for an international peacekeeping operation under the auspices of the UN and the OSCE in order to reinforce the Minsk Agreements;
40. Calls on the OSCE and all participating States to strengthen the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine and ensure that it receives sufficient funding and resources to perform its crucial duties and stresses the need for the SMM to have full and unfettered access to all parts of Ukraine, in particular the border with the Russian Federation, and to the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol;

41. Expresses concern over the continuing presence of foreign regular troops as well as military equipment in certain areas of the Donetsk and Lugansk regions of Ukraine and urges their removal as provided for in the Minsk Agreements;
42. Reiterates its appeal for greater transparency and commitment to the investigation into the downing of Malaysian Airlines Flight MH17, and calls for justice for the victims and their families;
43. Welcomes the creation of the OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Migration and appeals to all participating States and Partners for Co-operation for greater political commitment and co-operation on the ground;
44. Acknowledges the core humanitarian and security aspects of the migration crisis, but appeals to national governments not to politicize the crisis;
45. Calls for concrete measures to be taken in response to the refugee and migrant crisis and proposes making the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe more available to all participating States;
46. Calls for additional concerted efforts to push for a settlement of protracted conflicts, which continue to endanger the daily lives of the populations concerned and pose a security risk for the OSCE region while they remain unresolved;
47. Expresses concern over military escalation in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone and welcomes the active engagement of the OSCE Chairmanship in finding a political solution to protracted conflicts in the OSCE region within established negotiating formats and mechanisms;
48. Calls upon parliamentarians to encourage political will from the sides in the region to engage in serious efforts to reach an agreement on confidence building-measures to reduce the risk for further hostilities along the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone and to negotiate a comprehensive settlement within the framework of the Minsk Group;
49. Calls for stronger political will in addressing the issue of refugees and internally displaced persons as well as greater commitment and swifter implementation of signed agreements, and reaffirms the inalienable right of the populations of the Republic of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine displaced as a result of conflict to return to their homes in safety and with dignity;
50. Urges the Russian Federation to fully implement the EU-brokered Six-Point Ceasefire Agreement of 12 August 2008, which ended the conflicts in Abkhazia, Georgia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia;
51. Calls on the Russian Federation to provide for the free access of humanitarian aid to Abkhazia, Georgia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia, regardless of the geographical point of entry;



52. Underlines the need to strengthen OSCE engagement in the process of the peaceful resolution of the conflict in Georgia, particularly in the Geneva International Discussions, with the aim of ensuring progress on the issues at the core of those Discussions;
53. Encourages participating States to strengthen international dialogue in regard to the international security and stability arrangements in Abkhazia, Georgia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia;
54. Reaffirms its full support for a comprehensive, just and viable solution to the Transnistrian conflict based on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova, with a special status for the Transnistrian region, and encourages further steps to ensure stability and transparency, and decrease the military presence in the conflict region, including by completing the withdrawal of the Russian Federation forces and munitions from the territory of the Republic of Moldova, in accordance with existing commitment;
55. Reaffirms that every State has the duty to refrain from disseminating propaganda to promote wars of aggression or incite national, racial or religious hatred contrary to the purposes and principles of the Helsinki Final Act and the OSCE commitments on tolerance and non-discrimination, and stresses in that regard the obligation of governments to refrain from funding and using propaganda tools that may lead to intolerance, discriminatory stereotyping or incite war, violence or hostility;
56. Underlines the dangerous role of propaganda for war and hatred in fuelling conflict, justifying the effects of conflict once it has arisen, and preventing conflict resolution, yet at the same time, reaffirms its strong commitment to freedom of expression and freedom of the media, and emphasizes that these fundamental freedoms may not be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person a right to engage in any activity or act aimed at violating other internationally recognized human rights and freedoms, such as the human rights to life, dignity and non-discrimination;
57. Urges participating States to reaffirm, in a Ministerial Council Declaration, the dangers of propaganda for war and hatred, and make a concerted political effort to refrain from disseminating or supporting such propaganda, and to restrict others from so doing;
58. Calls for the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media to further assist participating States in their efforts to ensure media pluralism and unhindered development of new technologies as an effective response to propaganda for war and hatred, to create and strengthen a culture of peace, tolerance and mutual respect;
59. Reconfirms the 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality and its aim to prevent violence against women, advance their participation in political and public life, and promote women's participation in conflict prevention, crisis management, and post-conflict reconstruction, and reiterates the need for the Ministerial Council to adopt decisions on the proposed addendum to the Action Plan;

60. Encourages participating States to promote effective measures that provide comprehensive security guarantees and humanitarian relief for women, including those living in conflict areas, at all stages of the conflict cycle in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820;
61. Emphasizes the importance of mediation and dialogue facilitation in the peaceful settlement of disputes and welcomes the strengthening of the role of the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE in that regard;
62. Calls on participating States to implement their commitments with respect to women's leadership and participation in conflict prevention, resolution and recovery, as outlined in UN Security Council resolution 1325 and subsequent associated resolutions, and to provide funding to support women's leadership development and full participation in those areas of work;
63. Emphasizes the importance of effective controls over international arms transfers for international peace and stability and for preventing human suffering to the extent possible and in this light calls upon participating States which have not yet done so to accede to the Arms Trade Treaty as soon as possible, and participating States which are Parties to the Treaty to ensure full compliance with and implementation of its norms;
64. Expresses concern about the continued use of antipersonnel mines and cluster munitions, condemns any such use by any actor, and calls upon OSCE participating States that have not yet done so to accede as soon as possible to the international treaties banning these inhumane weapons, as well as those participating States that are Parties to either treaty to fully uphold the resulting obligations;
65. Calls upon participating States to address the lack of protection of civilians from armed violence, and in particular from the use of explosive weapons with wide area effects in populated areas;
66. Calls on the Parliamentary Assembly to continue its work and on parliamentarians to be more active and increase their political engagement by means of building trust through dialogue;
67. Calls for democratic and legal accountability in order to address corruption and ensure greater political integrity;
68. Calls for greater international co-operation, including with internet companies and other stakeholders in civil society and the private sector, to more effectively counter violent extremism on the web and online terrorist recruiting while protecting fundamental rights of speech and freedom of information;
69. Urges participating States to encourage and promote educational and preventive co-operation with the media in the OSCE area in order to counter extremist propaganda, specifically by training independent journalists;

70. Encourages participating States to swiftly implement the OSCE Confidence-Building Measures to reduce the risks of conflict stemming from the use of information and communication technologies.

## CHAPTER II

### ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT

71. Emphasizing that 2016 is an important milestone year for the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, marking 25 years since parliamentary delegations met in Spain to adopt the Final Resolution of the Madrid Conference establishing the PA,
72. Recalling that as the Parliamentary Assembly noted succinctly in its very first Declaration adopted at the Budapest Annual Session in 1992, “security has an environmental aspect”,
73. Further recalling that in the Helsinki Final Act of 1975, participating States recognized that “efforts to develop co-operation in the fields of trade, industry, science and technology, the environment and other areas of economic activity contribute to the reinforcement of peace and security in Europe and in the world as a whole”,
74. Welcoming the results of the 2015 Paris Climate Change Conference concluded last December with the adoption, by consensus, of the Paris Agreement by the 195 countries represented at the Plenary Assembly,
75. Welcoming the launch of the “Milan Charter”, a participatory and shared document that calls on every citizen, association, company and institution to assume their responsibility in ensuring that future generations can enjoy the right to food and which has received widespread endorsement,
76. Noting the need for superseding hydrocarbons as the world’s primary energy source, but aware that the relationship of economic relations and the global geopolitical equilibrium requires the prevention of financial shocks from upsetting the energy market,
77. Affirming that the nexus between the environment, economics, and security has never been more acutely felt than it is today and that recent years have seen the cascading and interrelated effects of energy, climate change, food security, and migration, which have led to destabilization in the OSCE area,
78. Recognizing that extreme weather is becoming increasingly frequent, and that due to rising global temperatures, weather-related disasters will continue to grow in frequency in the coming decades,
79. Stressing that corruption and money laundering are contributing factors to global threats such as terrorism, transnational organized crime, as well as to illicit economic activities,

80. Recalling that vulture funds, which buy government bonds or State debts at low prices and then take legal action before a court most likely to be receptive to their case, also hold claims over some OSCE participating States and, are exploiting loopholes in the international financial system,
81. Deeply concerned that, according to experts, higher global temperatures will raise sea levels, leading to the destruction of urban centres, arable lands, and wetlands, effects that will be more acutely felt in the Mediterranean and the Arctic,
82. Conscious that the most vulnerable sectors of the economy are those with the greatest dependency on natural resources, namely tourism and agriculture, and that as environmental problems increase, many areas of the world will be prone to famine, leading to a growing number of “climate refugees”,
83. Taking into consideration the effects of the 2008 economic crisis and the failure of excessively rigid austerity measures in promoting economic recovery,
84. Recognizing that refugees and migrants can positively contribute to the economy and that opening labour markets to asylum seekers can contribute to both economic growth and integration efforts,
85. Noting the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures, particularly closed borders, on sustainable development and security in the OSCE area,
86. Noting that this year marks the 30th anniversary of the Chernobyl tragedy, which was the worst nuclear accident in our history and which destroyed for many years the life and economies of large areas in current Belarus, Ukraine and Russia, and expressing profound concern over the ongoing effects of the accident on the lives and health of people, in particular children, in the affected areas of Belarus, Ukraine and Russia as well as in other affected countries,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

87. Calls on all OSCE participating States to redouble their efforts to identify and pursue comprehensive solutions to our common environmental and economic challenges, including food and water security, climate change, energy security, migration, equal economic opportunities for men and women and improved management and oversight of financial institutions;
88. Calls on all OSCE participating States to put in place programmes to promote training, education and economic empowerment for women, which are crucial for economic development;
89. Calls on the OSCE, including the OSCE PA, to conduct gender-based analyses of all policies, programmes and allocations;

90. Reaffirms the need to develop and enhance co-operation among different integration processes and structures in the OSCE area with a view to establishing a common economic space in line with commitments set forth in the Helsinki Final Act and the 2010 Astana Commemorative Declaration and stresses the role that the OSCE could play as a platform for dialogue in this regard;
91. Urges OSCE participating States to further develop their early warning capacity in an effort to counteract potential threats from climate change long before they endanger the stability of any participating State;
92. Encourages the OSCE to co-ordinate its work with that of other international organizations when addressing the security implications of climate change and to promote political dialogue in order to achieve the reduction goals set out in the Paris Agreement;
93. Calls on parliamentarians of OSCE participating States to ensure oversight of the targets set by the COP 21 Agreement to be met with the greatest sense of urgency by implementing robust policies and regulations on greenhouse gas emissions and facilitating the transition to a low-carbon economy;
94. Further recommends that in line with the Paris Agreement, OSCE participating States focus on ensuring sufficient funding for carbon capturing and storing deployment globally, and on a mechanism for the transfer of relevant knowledge and know-how from industrialized to developing countries;
95. Invites all OSCE participating States to develop best practices in line with the “Milan Charter” on combating food waste, reducing the share of crops used as livestock feed, and focus on the simultaneous co-existence of starvation and binge eating, recognizing that overweight and obesity are now major causes of ill health which present huge social and economic burdens to all states;
96. Calls on OSCE participating States to create food security solutions through a culture of innovation in food systems promoting technological change which is critical to long-run sustainability of the global food system;
97. Encourages the OSCE participating States to take a co-operative approach to sustainable water management issues;
98. Requests OSCE participating States to play a role in elaborating and introducing conditions for sharing and co-operation in the energy sector, in order to manage and encourage technological progress, with a view towards ensuring that intellectual property rights do not hinder the sharing of technological innovation;
99. Encourages OSCE participating States to make use of renewable energies as clean sources of energy that have a much lower environmental impact than conventional energy

- technologies, and recommends transitioning the transportation sector to electricity, enabling community micro-grids and grid-connected energy storage;
100. Notes the progress made by the governments of the affected countries in implementing national strategies to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and calls upon the OSCE participating States, multilateral and bilateral donors to continue their activities to minimize the health, environmental, social, and economic consequences for the people of affected States;
  101. Calls on OSCE participating States and OSCE Partners for Co-operation to enhance their dialogue and co-operation to combat human trafficking, eliminate criminal networks of traffickers, implement an effective repatriation policy for victims of human trafficking and consider a more targeted approach to development investment in countries of origin;
  102. Calls on OSCE parliamentarians to mobilize their governments and civil society to more effectively manage migration flows;
  103. Invites participating States to consider trade facilitation measures with a view to advancing economic co-operation, strengthening good governance, fostering economic development and promoting business interaction, while respecting labour, social and environmental standards;
  104. Affirms the importance of fighting corruption, tax evasion, financial crime, money laundering and the financing of terrorism and proposes to all OSCE participating States the introduction of strong regulation for offshore banking centres so as to ensure their co-operation and the transparency of their activities;
  105. Supports initiatives to counter vulture funds and their consequences, which are potentially disastrous for a country's economy, and calls on parliaments in OSCE participating States to adopt legislation to ensure that vulture funds are addressed effectively;
  106. Encourages OSCE participating States to reconsider excessively rigid austerity measures as they have failed to measure up to the current economic challenges;
  107. Calls on all parliamentarians to urge their respective governments to ratify the Paris Agreement on climate change, which is essential for the future of our planet.

## CHAPTER III

### DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS

108. Reiterating that the protection of human dignity, human rights and fundamental freedoms is at the core of the OSCE concept of comprehensive security and that the implementation of the OSCE commitments in this area is of direct and legitimate concern to all participating States,
109. Recognizing that the concept of indivisible security, linking political, economic, environmental, human rights and humanitarian issues is fundamental to the OSCE's success and relevance,
110. Stressing that throughout history the non-respect for human rights and democratic principles has regularly led to violent change and conflict, underscoring the importance of these human security aspects to long-term stability,
111. Noting that the violation of fundamental OSCE principles and the occupation of part of the territory of one participating State by another participating State lead to gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms,
112. Recalling that by putting individual human rights at the heart of the security agenda in the Helsinki Final Act, the High Representatives of our countries showed real vision and leadership, and believing that the OSCE still has a unique role to play in ensuring the respect for human rights in the region,
113. Concerned by the lack of agreement among OSCE participating States to any noteworthy commitments in the human dimension in recent years, and further concerned that this inability to reach consensus on human dimension decisions by the OSCE Ministerial Council in recent years indicates a crisis of ideas and leadership, as well as a lack of political will, in this field among OSCE governments,
114. Emphasizing that this lack of ideas and leadership, as well as a lack of political will, is undermining the credibility of the OSCE and its unique and comprehensive concept of security,
115. Welcoming the human dimension priorities of the German OSCE Chairmanship and the thematic work plan presented by the Chairperson of the Human Dimension Committee,
116. Concerned that violent anti-Semitic attacks on Jewish communities have increased in frequency, scope and severity and that terrorist groups have prioritized targeting Jewish communities, and emphasizing that anti-Semitic violence is an egregious violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms,



117. Noting the work and achievements of the OSCE/ODIHR, the High Commissioner on National Minorities, the Special Representative and Co-ordinator For Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, the Representative on Freedom of the Media and OSCE field missions in promoting human rights in the region,
118. Expressing deep concern over the growing number of cases in which the media are misused by governments to disseminate state propaganda to incite hatred and violence and manipulate public opinion, and underlining the need to work to ensure freedom from propaganda,
119. Concerned that the lack of leadership in human rights is reaching a critical level at precisely the moment when human rights principles in Europe are being strained during unprecedented migration and refugee flows,
120. Deeply concerned that the response by many countries to the recent mass migration flows has been to close their borders rather than to actually respond to the humanitarian crisis, in the seeming hope that other countries will address the problem,
121. Expressing deep sorrow over the large number of migrants and refugees, including women and children, who have lost their lives or have been exploited or endangered, and stressing the need to fight against smuggling of migrants and human trafficking and to take immediate action to address this humanitarian crisis and prevent further loss of life and human suffering through co-operation and effective sharing of responsibility and by avoiding unilateral measures,
122. Taking note of the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women and child migrants, and refugees, as well as the need to adopt a gender-sensitive response to the migrant and refugee crisis,
123. Noting also that OSCE commitments to facilitate freer movement of people and humanitarian response date back to the Helsinki Final Act more than forty years ago, with additional commitments in 1992, 1994, 1996, 2004 and 2005,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

124. Considers that the tendency to focus on work in political and economic fields, to the detriment of the human dimension, threatens to undermine the multidimensional approach to human security that lies at the foundation of the OSCE;
125. Notes that the lack of consensus in recent years on human dimension-related decisions by OSCE participating States points to a growing crisis of leadership in the OSCE area;
126. Emphasizes that in addition to a crisis of ideas in the human dimension, the OSCE region is experiencing a crisis of implementation of human dimension commitments, with violations of human rights regularly noted both East and West of Vienna;

127. Recognizes that the most glaring violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms now take place in territories that have been occupied, and stresses that an occupying power must comply with all obligations under international law and provide immediate and unimpeded access for international human rights monitoring missions to the occupied territories;
128. Reiterates the need to promote full and good-faith implementation of all OSCE principles and commitments by the OSCE participating States;
129. Calls on participating States to sincerely and proactively engage in their current commitments to the human dimension, and to undertake open dialogue on broadening these commitments;
130. Calls on participating States to formally recognize and partner Jewish community groups and exchange information with them for the purpose of strengthening preparedness, prevention and mitigation of, and responses to, anti-Semitic attacks, consider existing examples in other participating States of such recognition, partnering and exchange and ensure that law enforcement bodies are adequately trained to combat anti-Semitic violence;
131. Recognizes the important role of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in promoting open discussions and engaging on all levels with the most pressing human rights and humanitarian concerns facing the OSCE's people;
132. Calls upon the OSCE participating States to recognize the rights of all persons as enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act and other CSCE and OSCE documents since that time, to give priority to preventing violations of those rights, and, above all, to preventing acts of violence and other rights violations against persons in vulnerable situations and to actively promote respect for such persons and tolerance and inclusiveness as part of OSCE values;
133. Calls on OSCE participating States to reaffirm that fundamental freedoms are absolute and are not subject to restrictions when they become inconvenient;
134. Calls upon participating States to stop the inappropriate placement of Red Notices and Diffusions in the Interpol system and to encourage Interpol further to reform and implement mechanisms, including but not limited to the additional provision of due process and prompt action in individual cases, with the goal of preventing politically motivated abuse of its legitimate services which are crucial to law enforcement;
135. Reiterates the need to eradicate the phenomenon of political prisoners in the OSCE area, and calls for an international investigation of reports of torture of such persons;
136. Calls on OSCE participating States to guarantee and safeguard, at all times, the rights of members of parliaments to fully exercise their mandate;

137. Calls upon participating States to make full use of the OSCE's toolkit in addressing human security issues, particularly in the field of migration;
138. Stresses the importance of open and secure borders and calls on OSCE participating States to immediately stop imposing legal and physical barriers to the movement of people fleeing violence and to actively work toward an inclusive approach to migrants and refugees;
139. Stresses the importance of a balanced approach to migration, prioritizing the rights of those fleeing violence, and only imposing a minimum of obstacles to ensure the safety of migrants and the broader public;
140. Draws attention to the progressive 'securitization' of the migrant crisis and the risks this poses for adequate consideration of the human rights of those affected;
141. Draws attention to the need for a gender-sensitive approach to human security issues, including the collection of sex-disaggregated data, analysis of the issues and identification of appropriate responses, and requests that the specific needs of women are integrated into all work of the OSCE, including that of the OSCE PA, particularly in the spheres of migration and at all stages of the conflict cycle;
142. Calls on participating States to adopt a decision on the proposed addendum to the 2004 Gender Action Plan;
143. Calls on the OSCE participating States to consider the establishment of both a high-level OSCE co-ordinating body on migration, and a thematic field mission on migration, enabling more focused and coherent responses to the challenges currently facing the region;
144. Encourages participating States to include refugees and asylum-seekers within the national labour market at the earliest possible stage, including through ensuring that asylum seekers have legal access to the labour market and vocational training while their legal status is pending;
145. Calls on participating States to increase their support and protection to refugees and migrants, aimed at better responsibility-sharing and mutual solidarity;
146. Calls on participating States to continue engaging in political dialogue with the Partners for Co-operation in order to foster constructive, inclusive and mutually beneficial co-operation on migration management policies and practices.

## RESOLUTION ON

### STRENGTHENING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE OSCE PA AND THE OSCE

1. Recognizing that the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly was established by the 1990 Charter of Paris to promote greater involvement in the OSCE by national parliaments,
2. Recalling the St. Petersburg Declaration of 1999, which emphasizes the crucial role Parliaments and Parliamentarians play as guardians of democracy, the rule of law and the respect for human rights at both the national and international levels, and that democratic oversight and accountability are essential elements of transparency, credibility, and efficiency,
3. Emphasizing that the OSCE PA and the OSCE share the common goal of promoting democracy, the rule of law, security, and respect for human rights,
4. Stressing that the growing importance of the OSCE in recent years as a forum for dialogue and co-operation calls for thoroughly examining ways to enhance co-operation between the OSCE PA and the OSCE,
5. Underlining that since 1999 the OSCE PA has repeatedly proposed and called for an increased role of the OSCE PA in the work and decision-making process of the OSCE, to little avail,
6. Welcoming the progress made in establishing procedures in the co-operation between the OSCE PA and the OSCE's executive structures,
7. Recalling the Oslo Declaration of 2010, which emphasizes the urgent need for improvement and reform with regard to strengthening co-operation and enhancing dialogue and closer institutional links between the Parliamentary Assembly and the OSCE,
8. Recalling the OSCE Summit Astana Commemorative Declaration of 2010, in which the Heads of State or Government of OSCE participating States declared their determination to intensify co-operation with the OSCE PA and encourage the PA's efforts to promote security, democracy, and prosperity throughout the OSCE area and within participating States,
9. Recalling the Helsinki Declaration of 2015, which calls for better co-ordination, engagement, and information-sharing between the Secretariat in Vienna, other OSCE Institutions, and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's International Secretariat in

Copenhagen, possibly through the development of an annual strategic plan of action for mutual strengthening;

10. Stressing the need for the OSCE PA to develop new ways to improve and increase co-operation between the OSCE PA and the OSCE,
11. Recognizing efforts already made by the Secretariat of the Assembly towards stronger co-operation with the OSCE executive structures, and welcoming in particular recent initiatives made under the leadership of the new Secretary General of the OSCE PA,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

12. Asks the Secretary General of the Assembly to develop, in co-operation with the OSCE executive structures, an action plan on how the OSCE PA and the executive structures can work more closely together, *inter alia*, on the three dimensions of the OSCE: the politico-military, the economic and environmental, and the human, to the benefit of both sides;
13. Asks for the action plan to also include proposals on new ways for members of the PA to participate concretely in the work of the Assembly to promote democracy, the rule of law, security, and human rights on the ground in the OSCE area in an effective way;
14. Asks the Secretary General to present the action plan to the Assembly at its Autumn Meeting in 2017.

## RESOLUTION ON

### UNRESTRICTED ACCESS OF MEMBERS OF THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY ATTENDING OFFICIAL OSCE EVENTS AND OTHER PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITIES

1. Bearing in mind the declaration on principles guiding relations between participating States in the Helsinki Final Act,
  - a. with the commitment to peace, security, and justice, and the continuing development of friendly relations and co-operation,
  - b. and the confirmation that governments, institutions, organizations, and persons have a relevant and positive role to play in contributing towards the promotion of mutual understanding and confidence,
2. Noting the Charter of Paris, which recognizes the important role parliamentarians can play in the OSCE process,
3. Underscoring the determination to promote the strategic goals proclaimed at the OSCE Astana Summit for the creation of a free, democratic, common, and indivisible Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community, free of dividing lines, conflicts, spheres of influence, and zones with different levels of security,
4. Considering that dialogue is the best way to overcome differences, settle disputes, and build mutual confidence among the OSCE participating States,
5. Bearing in mind that the reduction and, in the long term, the removal of barriers to the movement of persons, goods, services, and capital will contribute to building confidence among the participating States and raise the level of security in the OSCE region,
6. Noting that travel restrictions resulting from sanctions regimes for representatives of participating States impede dialogue and co-operation in the context of multilateral forums, including inter-parliamentary forums,
7. Recognizing that sanctions against parliamentarians are not an appropriate means by which to induce participating States to change their foreign and/or domestic policy, since they make dialogue, exchange, and confidence-building even more difficult in periods of tension and confrontation,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

8. Expresses concern about the current political context in Europe, which is characterized by a climate of mutual distrust and security concerns, among and within OSCE participating States;
9. Calls on the participating States to do everything possible to support and strengthen inter-parliamentary dialogue and interaction, which are especially important in times of crisis;
10. Notes that travel restrictions resulting from sanctions regimes have a negative impact on parliamentary diplomacy and contribute to the aggravation of tensions among the participating States;
11. Calls on the participating States to refrain, as a permanent confidence-building measure, from applying restrictive measures or sanctions against parliamentarians, as well as to avoid any pressure on third States to join such sanctions;
12. Requests the participating States to abide by their commitment to guarantee to all members of the Parliamentary Assembly the freedom to attend any official OSCE events and other parliamentary activities by issuing any visas or travel permits required for entry into their territories for at a minimum the duration of above-mentioned activities, unless otherwise contrary to the principles of international law.

## RESOLUTION ON

### POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY TO DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO CRISIS AND CONFLICTS

1. Considering that the 2010 Astana Summit Commemorative Declaration expressed the determination of the Heads of State and Governments to intensify co-operation with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,
2. Underlining the continued validity of the points made in the 2003 Maastricht “OSCE Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in the Twenty-First Century”, by stating “The overall capacity of OSCE to identify, analyse and take coordinated action in response to threats needs to be further consolidated. [...] The early warning and conflict prevention activities of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly represent a valuable contribution to these efforts”,
3. Noting Rule 2 of the OSCE PA’s Rules of Procedure, according to which the responsibilities and objectives of OSCE PA include that it shall “develop and promote mechanisms for the prevention and resolution of conflicts”,
4. Recalling OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 3/11 on Elements of the Conflict Cycle, which tasked the OSCE Secretary General with delivering a report on enhanced co-operation with the PA in addressing the conflict cycle,
5. Acknowledging that most national parliaments support the work of the OSCE in the peaceful settlement of disputes within the area,
6. Taking note with appreciation of the OSCE Secretariat’s “Food-for-Thought Paper on The Possible Contribution of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to Developing Effective Response to Emerging Crises and Conflicts”, which was discussed in a meeting of the ‘Open-ended Working Group on the Conflict Cycle’ on 16 May 2012, but never followed up on by the OSCE Decision-making bodies,
7. Reiterating the recommendations and considerations made in the 2014 Baku Resolution on The Development of Mediation Capacity in the OSCE Area, the 2013 Istanbul Resolution on The Role of Local and Regional Authorities in Post-Conflict Rehabilitation Scenarios, the 2015 Helsinki Resolution on The Co-operative Phase in Post-Conflict Borders: New Tools and New Actors for a Broader View of the Conflict Cycle, and the 2010 Oslo Resolution on Strengthening The Role, Efficiency and Impact of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,
8. Welcoming the positive spirit of the “Vienna Process” and the two seminars held by the OSCE PA and hosted by the German OSCE PA Delegation in March 2015 and April 2016, and



applauding the readiness evidenced by the OSCE PA leadership and members during these seminars to co-operate and co-ordinate relevant activities closely with the OSCE governmental side,

9. Underlining the efforts of the OSCE PA delegation of Finland to give an additional impetus to developing a systematic OSCE PA mediation capacity,
10. Pleased with the involvement of the OSCE PA's Special Representative in Vienna in relevant efforts of the decision-making bodies and informal structures like the "Groups of Friends",

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

11. Recommends the development of a civilian and reaction capability for deployment in times of crisis to supplement the work of the field operations, to assist in assessing situations and needs, and to make policy recommendations on future action to the OSCE executive bodies;
12. Recommends that participating States assess the role that can be played by local and/or regional authorities in the realistic and on-the-ground enforcement of high-level international or bilateral agreements for the stabilization and normalization of the lives of peoples in areas which have suffered recent conflicts;
13. Recommends that participating States engage local and/or regional authorities in the design, implementation, and follow-up to confidence-building and post-conflict rehabilitation measures affecting their territories, so that their authority contributes to reinforcing the social legitimacy of such measures in a context in which the population may be reluctant in the case of recent conflicts;
14. Offers its good offices to the OSCE governmental side;
15. Acknowledges the role of the agreed formats in crisis management and conflict resolution in the OSCE area as noted in the Astana Commemorative Declaration;
16. Encourages the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, OSCE participating States and the OSCE governmental structures to make better use of OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Special Representatives and Ad Hoc Committees in the field of conflict prevention and crisis management;
17. Calls on the OSCE decision making bodies and executive structures to make better use of the OSCE PA in developing a more effective response to crises or conflicts on the basis of Decision No. 3/11 of the 2011 Vilnius Ministerial Council and suggests that:
  - a. The OSCE PA Secretariat and the OSCE executive structures inform each other regularly and ad hoc in case of new developments on their respective activities and intentions regarding crisis or conflict to increase synergy while avoiding duplication and/or contradictory efforts;

- b. Under ‘Current Issues’ during the weekly meetings of the Permanent Council (PC), the Chairperson of the Permanent Council invite the OSCE PA Special Representative in Vienna to share the PA’s assessment of emerging developments;
- c. OSCE PA members raise emerging crises and conflict situations as topics of discussion when visiting participating States;
- d. Relevant executive structure(s) and the Chairmanship liaise with the focal points in the OSCE PA Secretariat on an ongoing basis to receive their assessment on emerging developments;
- e. OSCE field operations be encouraged to reach out directly to the OSCE PA leadership and Secretariat with suggestions on how parliamentarians can work with them to facilitate implementation of their mandates;
- f. The OSCE PA be requested to contribute to the development of OSCE response options, such as those set out in the “Early Warning: Internal OSCE Guidelines” developed by the executive structures, *inter alia*, by sharing the assessments of OSCE PA members with a deep knowledge of the affected country/region on the respective matter;
- g. When a crisis or conflict develops, the Chairperson-in-Office (CiO) be requested to consider nominating an appropriate OSCE PA member as Special Envoy or Representative;
- h. In such circumstances the Chairmanship discuss with the OSCE PA the possibility of establishing an Ad Hoc Committee under the OSCE PA’s Rules of Procedure to address the emerging crisis or conflict, share information, and coordinate with the relevant executive structure(s);
- i. The Chairmanship and any concerned executive structure(s) draw on the experience of OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committees and Special Representatives in their specific areas of interest, and co-ordinate activities and public messages with them;
- j. The relevant executive structure(s) and the Chairmanship liaise closely with the OSCE PA with respect to its response options, such as organizing OSCE PA fact-finding missions and/or initiating the process of engagement, including dialogue facilitation. Such responses might be public or confidential and assimilated to silent diplomacy, carried out alone or in co-operation with other parliamentary actors such as the European Parliament or the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- k. In times of emerging crisis or conflict, the OSCE PA President issue public messages to complement those of the Chairmanship and/or the principals of the executive structures. A mechanism to co-ordinate messaging strategies between the OSCE PA, the Chairmanship, and the respective executive structure(s) should be implemented.

## RESOLUTION ON

### THE CONFLICT IN GEORGIA

1. Reaffirming our full adherence to the Charter of the United Nations and to all OSCE norms, principles and commitments, starting from the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of Paris, the 1992 Helsinki declaration the 1994 Budapest Document, the 1996 Lisbon Document and the Charter for European Security adopted at the 1999 Istanbul Summit,
2. Recalling that the OSCE, as a regional arrangement under Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, is the primary organization for the peaceful settlement of disputes within its region,
3. Reiterating our firm support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia, within its internationally recognized borders,
4. Stressing the importance of increased efforts to resolve the conflict in Georgia in a peaceful and negotiated manner, fully respecting international law, including the UN charter and the politically binding Helsinki Final Act, as well as preventing the escalation and refraining from the threat or use of force,
5. Underlining the importance of the Geneva International Discussions, as the only format for discussing the security and humanitarian issues pursuant to the 12 August 2008 Ceasefire Agreement,
6. Expressing regret that despite international calls, the Russian Federation remains in breach of International Law and disregards the EU-mediated 12 August 2008 Ceasefire Agreement, by continuing the policy of occupation and creeping annexation of the regions of Georgia - Abkhazia and Tskhinvali/South Ossetia through the so-called “integration treaties”,
7. Bearing in mind the grave humanitarian and human rights situation in the occupied regions of Georgia - Abkhazia and Tskhinvali/South Ossetia,
8. Expressing concern about the humanitarian situation of the internally displaced persons and refugees, continuously being deprived of the right to voluntary, safe, dignified, and unhindered return to their places of origin, as well as the right to property,
9. Deploring the process of the installation of razor wire fences and embankments by the Russian occupation forces along the occupation line, dividing the local population and depriving them of fundamental rights and freedoms, including, but not limited to, the freedom of movement, family life, right to property, education in their native language, and other civil and economic rights,

10. Emphasizing that since 2009, following the closure of the OSCE Mission in Georgia and the UNOMIG, the EUMM is the only international monitoring mechanism on the ground, regrettably unable to fulfil its mandate fully, while denied access to the occupied regions of Georgia - Abkhazia and Tskhinvali/South Ossetia,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

11. Calls upon the Russian Federation to comply with the principles and norms of International Law, implement fully and in good faith the EU-mediated 12 August 2008 Ceasefire Agreement and respect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Georgia, within its internationally recognized borders;
12. Urges the Russian Federation to reverse the recognition of Georgian regions and stop occupation of the territories of Georgia;
13. Encourages the current German OSCE Chairmanship, together with the Conflict Prevention Centre, to continue exploring possibilities to re-establish a meaningful OSCE presence throughout Georgia, which would considerably strengthen OSCE engagement in the Geneva International Discussions and the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism, as well as in the implementation of Confidence-Building Measures;
14. Calls upon the parties to the conflict to engage constructively in order to make progress on the core issues within the Geneva International Discussions;
15. Calls upon the Russian Federation to undertake the legally binding non-use of force commitment, in reciprocity to Georgia's unilateral pledge;
16. Calls on all parties to the conflict to respect international human rights standards and address the legitimate concerns of minorities;
17. Urges the Russian Federation to allow the safe, dignified, and unhindered return of all internally displaced persons and refugees to their places of origin, ensure the access to international humanitarian aid when needed, and allow international human rights monitoring on the ground;
18. Urges the Russian Federation to allow the establishment of international security arrangements in the occupied regions of Georgia and ensure the unimpeded access of the EUMM therein;
19. Calls upon the OSCE to redouble efforts aimed at strengthening its engagement in Georgia, increase its role in the process of peaceful resolution of the conflict, including by promoting reconciliation through implementing confidence-building projects on the ground.

## RESOLUTION ON

### RECONSOLIDATING EUROPEAN SECURITY AS A COMMON PROJECT

1. Recalling the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the Charter for European Security, as well as the Astana Commemorative Declaration,
2. Bearing in mind all previous processes and strategic initiatives on the future of the OSCE and European security, in particular the Panel of Eminent Persons on Strengthening the Effectiveness of the OSCE, the Corfu Process, the V to V Dialogues, and the Helsinki +40 Process,
3. Acknowledging the crucial role of the OSCE in ensuring peace, security, and stability in the OSCE area,
4. Underscoring that more must be done to ensure full respect for, and implementation of, the OSCE core principles and commitments that have been agreed to by participating States in the politico-military dimension, the economic and environmental dimension, and the human dimension,
5. Considering that political dialogue is the preferable way of settling disputes and building mutual confidence and transparency among the OSCE participating States,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

6. Expresses serious concerns about the security situation in the OSCE area as well as its neighbouring regions;
7. Underlines the enduring validity of the principles of the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the Charter for European Security and the Astana Commemorative Declaration in guiding relations among the OSCE participating States and the urgent need to restore respect for them;
8. Welcomes the recommendations of the Panel of Eminent Persons on European Security as a Common Project, mandated by the OSCE Troika in January 2015, that have been put forward in the interim report “Lessons Learned for the OSCE from its Engagement in Ukraine” in June 2015, as well as in its final report “Back to Diplomacy” from December 2015;
9. Calls upon all OSCE participating States to take the findings and recommendations of the Panel of Eminent Persons on European Security as a Common Project as the point of departure for substantial discussions on European security;

10. Requests the current German and future OSCE Chairmanships, in close co-operation with the OSCE Troika and the OSCE Secretariat, to prepare concrete proposals on how political discussions on European security can be further developed within the OSCE, with a view to restoring co-operative security in the OSCE area;
11. Stresses the need to intensify efforts to correct violations of and to fully respect and implement all agreed OSCE principles and European security commitments;
12. Urges all OSCE participating States to engage in a political process to rebuild confidence and restore co-operative security in the OSCE area.

## RESOLUTION ON

### THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

1. Recalling the previous resolutions on the Republic of Moldova and the Transnistrian settlement process adopted during earlier Annual Sessions,
2. Recognizing that the existence of a protracted conflict in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova continues to pose a serious threat to security and stability in Europe and the OSCE area,
3. Reaffirming the OSCE's commitment to attaining a peaceful, comprehensive, and sustainable solution to the Transnistrian conflict within the framework of the "5+2" format,
4. Welcoming efforts by the German Chairmanship of the OSCE to reinvigorate the Transnistrian settlement process and hold meaningful political consultations in the "5+2" format,
5. Recognizing that broad support among the parliamentary forces and society on both sides of the Nistru River is essential to achieve a viable and sustainable settlement of the Transnistrian conflict,
6. Convinced that continued democratic reforms supporting the rule of law and the fight against corruption would contribute to achieving this aim,
7. Emphasizing the positive aspects resulting from the implementation, since 1 January 2016, of the free trade agreement (DCFTA) concluded between the Republic of Moldova and the EU in the Transnistrian region,
8. Underlining the importance of having a positive example set by the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia in terms of socio-economic development and cohesion,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

9. Considers that the identification of a special legal status for the Transnistrian region, while consolidating and ensuring the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognized borders, constitutes the major aim of the Transnistrian conflict settlement process;
10. Welcomes initiatives by the German Bundestag and the German Foreign Ministry to promote inter-parliamentary dialogue and discuss parliamentary contributions to addressing protracted conflicts in the OSCE region;

11. Encourages the resumption of the “5+2” talks, with the efforts of the mediators from the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the OSCE, as well as the European Union and the United States as observers in the settlement negotiations process;
12. Invites all sides in the Transnistrian conflict settlement process to initiate political discussions to transform the current peacekeeping mechanism into an international civilian mission under OSCE auspices and appeals to the Russian Federation to renew and finalize the process of withdrawal of its troops and the withdrawal or destruction of its ammunition, weapons and military equipment from the territory of the Republic of Moldova, in accordance with relevant principles of international law and commitments undertaken in the OSCE framework;
13. Reiterates the readiness of the OSCE PA’s Parliamentary Team on Moldova to support peace, stability, and the rule of law in the country;
14. Proposes to assist ongoing efforts to launch a dialogue between members of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova and representatives of the legislative entity in Tiraspol under the auspices of the Parliamentary Team on Moldova, with the support of the OSCE Mission to Moldova;
15. Welcomes the establishment of a permanent working group for co-operation between the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova and the Gagauz People’s Assembly, and encourages the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova and the Gagauz People’s Assembly to maintain an active and constructive dialogue in order to fully harmonize the existing legislation and continue doing so in the light of the recent developments;
16. Encourages all political forces in Moldova to engage in a constructive dialogue on political reforms;
17. Reiterates the Assembly’s commitment to supporting the important work done by the OSCE Mission to Moldova.



## RESOLUTION ON

### ENHANCED CO-OPERATION AND CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION

1. Considering that peaceful co-operation of the Baltic Sea states is one of the main prerequisites for prosperity and economic development in that region,
2. Convinced that the Baltic Sea region must remain an area of enhanced co-operation,
3. Noting that the security situation and sense of security in the region have deteriorated due to the conflict between Russia and Ukraine and its effects,
4. Recalling that the current developments have led and may continue to lead to an arms spiral and an increase in military presence in the region,
5. Recognizing the danger that Russia's manoeuvres, unannounced flights without transponders and ship movements could result in incidents with considerable potential for escalation,
6. Emphasizing that the Baltic Sea area is an area with a shared history and cultural similarities,
7. Commending the Baltic Sea region's position as an economic and growth area with great potential for the future,
8. Recalling that a large number of multilateral political, economic and societal organisations exist in the Baltic Sea area, most prominently the Council of the Baltic Sea States and the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference,
9. Underlining that the Baltic Sea region was the first area for which the EU developed a dedicated strategy, which envisages the Baltic Sea region growing closer together, and that co-operation with Russia, a non-EU country, and its North-West Russia Strategy takes place on an equal footing,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

10. Invites the participating States to seek to ensure that security and close co-operation in the Baltic Sea region are preserved and strengthened;

11. Calls, therefore, on the governments of the Member States of the Council of the Baltic Sea States to resume the practice of holding CBSS ministerial meetings, as unanimously agreed by the 24th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference held in Rostock in September 2015, as these meetings foster dialogue and strengthen co-operation;
12. Calls on the participating States to develop dialogue formats, bilaterally and within the framework of the OSCE structures, to debate security policy and confidence-building measures in the Baltic Sea area;
13. Invites the participating States to discuss concrete security-related incidents in the Baltic Sea area and their dangers within the framework of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and other OSCE structures;
14. Encourages the participating States to establish a multilateral monitoring body for such security-related incidents in the Baltic Sea area;
15. Invites the participating States to co-operate more closely on the prevention of terrorist threats and organised crime in the Baltic Sea region and to improve the exchange of information between the security authorities of different countries;
16. Encourages the participating States to take joint action within the Baltic Sea region against IT security threats caused by cyber-attacks and to intensify the exchange of information in this area;
17. Invites the participating States to develop the Baltic Sea region, as a high-growth, innovation-driven economic region, with a particular focus on sustainability, and in this context to strengthen cross-border approaches and involve economic actors;
18. Appeals to the participating States to strengthen the multilateral structures in the Baltic Sea area, such as the Council of the Baltic Sea States and the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, and to give greater weight to their recommendations for action and resolutions;
19. Shares the unanimous opinion expressed by the 24th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference in Rostock in September 2015, which, in view of the large number of refugees in Europe, expressed its solidarity with them and called on the governments in the Baltic Sea region, the Council of the Baltic Sea States, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the European Union (EU) to ensure the decent treatment of refugees concerning safe housing and healthcare;
20. Encourages the participating States to continue to support the Baltic Sea area in forging links and growing closer together in the sectors of ecology, culture and society;
21. Invites the participating States to provide greater support for and to foster youth encounters and youth exchange in the Baltic Sea region, as a region of enhanced co-operation;

22. Encourages the participating States to support cross-border partnerships between municipalities and regions, educational institutions and civil-society organisations in the Baltic Sea area;
23. Encourages the participating States to seek to ensure more joint marketing of the Baltic Sea area as a location for investment and tourism;
24. Calls on the participating States to intensify cross-border co-operation in the fight against human trafficking and illegal immigration networks and to establish structures for closer co-operation, including outside their own territorial waters;
25. Begins, within the OSCE PA, a discussion between the delegations of the Baltic Sea States with the aim of forming a Baltic Sea Working Group, which will examine issues relating to the above areas in close consultation with the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, in order to foster and strengthen security, co-operation and dialogue in the region.

## RESOLUTION ON

### ACTING AGAINST CORRUPTION IN THE OSCE REGION TO STRENGTHEN THE RULE OF LAW

1. Acknowledging that corruption remains a problem in the OSCE region and poses a serious threat to democracy, human rights, and the rule of law,
2. Bearing in mind that the United Nations Convention against Corruption seeks to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more effectively,
3. Noting that corruption poses a hazard to the good functioning of public institutions and diverts public action aimed at supporting the interests of a nation as a whole,
4. Recalling that corruption disrupts the legislative process, affects the principles of legality and legal rights, introduces a degree of arbitrariness in decision-making, has a devastating effect on human rights, and undermines citizens' trust in public institutions,
5. Stressing that legislation should ensure maximum transparency in political, administrative and economic life,
6. Underlining that the necessary legislative improvements must be accompanied by a shift in general attitudes towards corruption to clearly recognizing it as an intolerable practice,
7. Recognizing the important role of the media, NGOs, and civil society in contributing to fostering a public culture that tracks and denounces the phenomenon,
8. Encouraging the OSCE PA to make the fight against corruption one of its priority activities for 2016-2017, as part of the broader effort to restore public confidence in the efficiency of democratic institutions,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

9. Calls upon the OSCE participating States to be at the forefront of the fight against corruption;
10. Urges the OSCE participating States to review their legislation concerning the fight against corruption, keeping in mind that national legislation should ensure a maximum of transparency in political, administrative, and economic life;
11. Emphasizes the importance of all acts of active and passive corruption being criminalized and offences relating to corruption being clearly defined and distinguished from other offences;

12. Welcomes the OSCE participating States engaging in international co-operation against corruption, *inter alia*, following the “money trail” left by electronic transfers to aid each other to recuperate funds generated by corrupt practices, and taking action against banks which assist in hiding illegal gains;
13. Calls upon the OSCE participating States to bear in mind the gender dimension of corruption and mainstream gender equality in their anti-corruption monitoring activities;
14. Encourages the strengthening of the parliamentary dimension of the fight against corruption among national parliaments by taking stock of national anti-corruption initiatives and sharing good practices on working methods and approaches to tackling corruption effectively.

## RESOLUTION ON

### THE 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHERNOBYL DISASTER

1. Recalling the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on Strengthening of International Co-operation and Co-ordination of Efforts to Study, Mitigate and Minimize the Consequences of the Chernobyl Disaster adopted on 13 December 2013, the OSCE Ministerial Declaration on the 20th Anniversary of the Disaster at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant adopted by the Ljubljana Ministerial Council in 2005, the OSCE Madrid Declaration on Environment and Security adopted by the Madrid Ministerial Council in 2007, the 2010 Astana Commemorative Declaration, the OSCE Ministerial Decision on Protection of Energy Networks from Natural and Man-Made Disasters adopted by the Kyiv Ministerial Council in 2013,
2. Recalling the Brussels Declaration adopted by the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in 2006, which recognizes that the effects of the dramatic aftermath of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear plant continue to be felt throughout Europe, the Resolution on Chernobyl adopted by the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Astana (2008), the Resolution on Nuclear Safety and Environmental Protection adopted by the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Belgrade (2011),
3. Expressing deep gratitude and profound respect for the heroism of all people who were the first to withstand the Chernobyl disaster, including all emergency and recovery operation workers, who defended not only their own country and other affected countries, but all of humanity,
4. Reaffirming full solidarity with the people affected by the Chernobyl disaster and who continue to suffer from its consequences,
5. Bearing in mind the long-term nature of the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,
6. Praising the efforts of all countries and international organizations that assisted in mitigating the consequences of the disaster,
7. Acknowledging the crucial importance of continuing international efforts in overcoming the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster and preventing the occurrence of such catastrophes in the future,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

8. Commemorates the 30th anniversary of the disaster at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant, which was a major technological catastrophe in terms of its scope and complexity;

9. Honours and pays tribute to all the victims of the worst nuclear power plant accident in human history, and expresses deep condolences to the families of the victims;
10. Notes that 30 years after the Chernobyl disaster, its lessons are still being learned, and this year's anniversary reminds us about the enormous responsibility towards current and future generations to ensure that accidents like Chernobyl and Fukushima never happen again;
11. Emphasizes that obsolete nuclear power plants which are located in zones of high seismic activity continue to pose a potential threat to the whole region, and urges those countries which possess such plants to immediately take urgent actions for their decommissioning in order to prevent possible radiation accidents and nuclear disasters;
12. Underlines that despite efforts undertaken to minimize the negative consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, there are ongoing environmental challenges and their solution requires the use of advanced modern technologies;
13. Stresses the need to maintain Chernobyl recovery efforts at national and international levels to mitigate the health, environmental, social, and economic consequences of the disaster, as well as to facilitate restoration and development of the affected areas;
14. Considers that goal-oriented co-operation of international institutions, national governments, and non-governmental organizations must be aimed at long-term solutions to the complex problems triggered by the Chernobyl disaster;
15. Commends the OSCE's work to contribute within its mandate to the international efforts aimed at alleviating and minimizing the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, in particular through an assessment of environmental risks in the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone, including with regard to current and future activities, and strengthening capacities in the sphere of environmental control at the border;
16. Emphasizes the need for additional assistance by the international community to maintain and operate structures built within the closed "exclusion zone" and unconditional resettlement zone, continuing international efforts to ensure the social and economic development of the most affected regions including by promoting a more favourable investment climate, minimizing radiation risks for the population, boosting scientific research and enhancing preparedness for natural and man-made challenges and emergencies;
17. Reaffirms the critical importance of observing the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) nuclear safety standards through full co-operation in the framework of the IAEA and implementation of all relevant international obligations;
18. Welcomes the Special Commemorative Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in observance of the 30th Anniversary of the Chernobyl catastrophe held on 26 April 2016 in New York, the International Forum "Chornobyl's Legacy for the Nuclear Safety

of the World” (Kyiv, 21-23 April 2016), the meeting of the Nuclear Safety Account Assembly of Contributors and pledging event (Kyiv, 25 April 2016) and the International Conference ‘Thirty Years after Chernobyl. From an Emergency to a Revival and Sustainable Socio-economic Development of Affected Territories’ (Minsk 25 April 2016) as well as the high-level events at the Chernobyl site (26 April 2016);

19. Invites governments, the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations to continue co-operating in order to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, with an emphasis on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the affected regions through partnerships, innovations and investments, and looks forward to proclaiming the fourth United Nations Decade of Recovery and Sustainable Development of the Affected Regions;
20. Encourages the participating States to continue to use the OSCE as a platform for exchange of information and sharing of best practices on mitigating the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster for people and the environment in line with OSCE commitments.



**RESOLUTION ON**

**VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS  
IN THE AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC OF CRIMEA  
AND THE CITY OF SEVASTOPOL**

1. Reaffirming full adherence to the UN Charter and to all OSCE norms, principles and commitments, starting with the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of Paris, the Charter for European Security, and all other OSCE documents to which all participating States have agreed, and the responsibility to implement them fully and in good faith,
2. Recalling the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Resolution on Clear, Gross and Uncorrected Violations of Helsinki Principles by the Russian Federation, adopted at its 23rd Annual Session in 2014, whereby, *inter alia*, the Assembly affirmed that the Russian Federation has, since February 2014, violated every one of the ten Helsinki principles in its relations with Ukraine, some in a clear, gross and thus far uncorrected manner, and is in violation of the commitments it undertook in the Budapest Memorandum, as well as other international obligations,
3. Recalling the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Resolution on The Continuation of Clear, Gross and Uncorrected Violations of OSCE Commitments and International Norms by the Russian Federation, adopted at its 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Session in 2015, whereby, *inter alia*, the Assembly recognized the actions by the Russian Federation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, as well as in certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine, as acts of military aggression against Ukraine,
4. Reaffirming strong support for the sovereignty, political independence, unity, and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally-recognized borders as confirmed by UN General Assembly resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014 "Territorial Integrity of Ukraine" and guided by its provisions,
5. Emphasizing that the 16 March 2014 so-called referendum in Crimea was not authorized by Ukraine, was held in clear violation of the Constitution of Ukraine and international law and, therefore, is an illegitimate and illegal act, the results of which have no validity or legal consequences,
6. Stressing that under international law, no territorial acquisition resulting from the threat or use of force shall be recognized as legal,
7. Recalling that it is the primary responsibility of the participating States to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and that the implementation of the OSCE commitments in this area is of direct and legitimate concern to all participating States,

8. Witnessing that the violation of fundamental OSCE principles and occupation of the territory of one participating State by another leads to gross human rights violations,
9. Deeply alarmed that under the conditions of the illegal occupation of Crimea by the Russian Federation, the situation on the peninsula continues to deteriorate, leading to grave and systematic violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as reported by international human rights institutions, the OSCE, the UN, and the Council of Europe,
10. Stressing that under international law the Russian Federation bears full responsibility for human rights violations in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as an occupying power in effective control of the Crimean peninsula, and is obliged to respect, protect and fulfil human rights and fundamental freedoms in Crimea in line with the international treaties to which the Russian Federation is party, as well as its commitments as an OSCE participating State to uphold those human rights and fundamental freedoms,
11. Underlining the need to secure full and effective enjoyment of the rights and freedoms enshrined in the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and other relevant international instruments, which obliges the Russian Federation as the occupying power to follow binding standards of conduct and positive obligations toward residents of Crimea,
12. Strongly protesting against the so-called decision of 26 April 2016 of the occupying power to ban the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people,
13. Welcoming the continued efforts by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the United Nations and the Council of Europe aimed at monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation in Crimea, and expressing deep concern that their representatives and missions have all had their access to the Crimean peninsula fully or partially restricted by the occupying authorities since the beginning of the illegal occupation in February 2014,
14. Alarmed by the findings of the independent reports of human rights missions on the situation in Crimea undertaken upon the request of the Ukrainian Government, including the joint missions of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM), which documented numerous compelling accounts of human rights violations in Crimea under the Russian Federation's illegal occupation,

15. Emphasizing the important role played by the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, including monitoring and supporting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, in line with the agreed mandate which covers the entire territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol,
16. Considering the visit of the Council of Europe's delegation to occupied Crimea in January 2016 to be the first step aimed at facilitating free and unconditional access to the peninsula for the constant international presence of relevant Council of Europe, OSCE and UN mechanisms, as well as other international organizations,
17. Welcoming the initiative of Ukraine to launch an international negotiation framework with regard to the de-occupation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol and their return to the control of the Government of Ukraine,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

18. Urges the Russian Federation to stop aggression against Ukraine and to fully comply with its obligations under the UN Charter, the Helsinki Final Act and other norms and principles of international law, including OSCE principles and commitments;
19. Strongly condemns the illegal annexation by the Russian Federation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, and also reiterates its call on the Russian Federation to reverse the attempted annexation;
20. Calls on the participating States to refrain from any action or dealing that might imply, directly or indirectly, a recognition of the change of status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as an integral part of Ukraine;
21. Strongly condemns all violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Crimean peninsula, marked in particular by increasing repression, violence, and discrimination against the indigenous Crimean Tatar people and ethnic Ukrainians, including abductions, killings, torture and ill-treatment, enforced disappearances and harassment, arbitrary arrest, detention or incarceration;
22. Condemns the reprisals by the *de facto* authorities against the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People and its leaders, as well as the severe restrictions on the freedom of peaceful assembly and association, including the traditional events to commemorate the anniversary of deportation of Crimean Tatars in 1944 recognized by the Ukrainian Parliament as genocide of the Crimean Tatar people;
23. Expresses deep concern over the fact that education in and of the Ukrainian language is disappearing in Crimea through pressure on school administrations, teachers, parents and children to discontinue teaching in and of the Ukrainian language, which further limit the presence of the Ukrainian language and culture on the peninsula;

24. Condemns the severe limitations on media freedom and freedom of expression in Crimea, where Ukrainian television channels are switched off and replaced with channels originating from the Russian Federation, Crimean Tatar media outlets are forced to close, and the journalists are threatened, intimidated, and persecuted;
25. Remains alarmed by the significant number of manifestations of religious-bias violence and discrimination by the occupying authorities, which take, *inter alia*, the form of the banning and seizure of Ukrainian churches, attacks on and the expulsion of their priests from Crimea, as well as raids and searches in Crimean Tatars' mosques and madrasas, and restrictions on the distribution of Muslim religious literature under the false pretext of the fight against extremism;
26. Calls upon the Russian Federation as an occupying power in effective control of the Crimean peninsula to abide by its obligations under international law:
  - a. To stop all violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms on the Crimean peninsula, including the constant terror, harassment, and discrimination of the ethnic Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar populations, as well as the persecution and illegal detention of all those residents of Crimea who oppose the illegal occupation of the peninsula,
  - b. To conduct prompt, impartial and effective investigations into all cases of human rights violations in Crimea, including the cases of torture, abductions and enforced disappearances,
  - c. To stop imposing the application of the Russian Federation's laws in occupied Crimea, as well as the forced conferral of Russian citizenship on residents of Crimea in violation of international law,
  - d. To refrain from transferring persons in detention or social care institutions, including children, to other territories controlled by the Russian Federation,
  - e. To halt the eradication of education in and of the Ukrainian language, restriction and suppression of cultural, religious and other manifestations of the Ukrainian identity and to refrain from the policy of russification in occupied Crimea,
  - f. To immediately and unconditionally release Deputy Chairman of the Crimean Tatar Mejlis Ahtem Ciygoz, Crimean activists Oleg Sentsov, Alexander Kolchenko, Oleksiy Cherniy, Gennadiy Afanasyev, civil society activist Oleksandr Kostenko and other Ukrainian citizens, who have been unlawfully detained or imprisoned under fabricated charges by the *de facto* authorities in occupied Crimea,
  - g. To put an end to all forms of intimidation, harassment, discrimination and persecution of religious communities in Crimea,

- h. To reverse immediately the so-called decision of 26 April 2016 to ban the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people and stop oppressing the Crimean Tatar community in occupied Crimea,
  - i. To ensure respect for all human rights, including those of persons belonging to national minorities, in line with the relevant international standards,
  - j. To protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol in issues related to, *inter alia*, freedoms of peaceful assembly and association, freedoms of media and expression, access to information, freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, freedom of movement, right of residence, citizenship, labour rights, property and land rights, access to health and education, and all other civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights,
  - k. To implement all recommendations contained in the reports of the ODIHR/HCNM human rights assessment missions,
  - l. To immediately grant unimpeded access to Crimea to international agencies, institutions, special procedures and independent experts of the OSCE, the United Nations and the Council of Europe, as well as to any human rights NGOs or media outlets that wish to visit, assess and report on the situation in Crimea;
27. Encourages the continuous active engagement of the OSCE Chairmanship, the OSCE Institutions, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the participating States in seeking observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the occupied Crimean peninsula;
28. Expresses deep sympathy with the great number of people affected by the crisis in and around Ukraine, including internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees, as well as those living in the Russia-occupied territories, and urges the OSCE participating States to assist the Ukrainian authorities in their efforts to ensure the rights and social protection of IDPs;
29. Recalls that a number of OSCE human dimension commitments notably recognize the vital importance of participating States' realization of their binding human rights obligations under international treaties;
30. Notes with grave concern in this context that the Russian Federation's legislation allowed the Constitutional Court of Russia to make rulings on the non-implementation of decisions of interstate bodies on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, which the OSCE PA views as an attempt to avoid responsibility for serious and systematic human rights violations committed by the Russian authorities in the occupied territories;

31. Expresses its grave concern over increasing militarization of the Crimean peninsula and the Russian Federation's intention to deploy nuclear weapons in that region, undermining global, European, and regional peace and security;
32. Urges the Russian Federation to abide fully by its international obligations and the OSCE principles and commitments, in particular the Helsinki Final Act, and to take practical steps to implement the OSCE PA resolutions on Clear, Gross and Uncorrected Violations of Helsinki Principles by the Russian Federation and The Continuation of Clear, Gross and Uncorrected Violations of OSCE Commitments and International Norms by the Russian Federation, as well as on Abducted and Illegally Detained Ukrainian Citizens in the Russian Federation;
33. Calls upon the OSCE Chairmanship and the participating States to take exhaustive measures to address the existing breach by the Russian Federation of the basic norms and principles of international law and the OSCE principles and commitments.

**RESOLUTION ON**

**LAW ENFORCEMENT CO-ORDINATION TO PREVENT  
CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND TRAFFICKING  
BY KNOWN SEX OFFENDERS**

1. Recalling the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly resolutions on human trafficking adopted by the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in St. Petersburg (1999), Brussels (2006), Oslo (2010), Belgrade (2011), Monaco (2012), Istanbul (2013), Baku (2014), and Helsinki (2015), as well as efforts by participating States to implement the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (2003 and 2005), the Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (2013), and all OSCE commitments related to combating human trafficking,
2. Recalling the OSCE Sofia Ministerial Council Decision on The Special Needs for Child Victims of Trafficking for Protection and Assistance (2004), the OSCE Brussels Ministerial Council Decision on Combating Sexual Exploitation of Children (2006), and the OSCE Madrid Ministerial Decision on Combating Sexual Exploitation of Children on the Internet (2007),
3. Alarmed that approximately one million children are victimized by commercial sexual exploitation every year, according to the International Labour Organization,
4. Distressed that sexual exploitation of children is a human rights violation that results in serious, lifelong consequences for the physical, psychological, and spiritual development and well-being of a child, and in many instances, is a form of human trafficking,
5. Alarmed that while international tourism has doubled in the last 20 years to more than one billion travellers a year, child protection laws in destination countries have not kept pace with the growth of the tourism industry,
6. Concerned that some business travellers and tourists have been opportunistic offenders, exploiting vulnerable or trafficked children in destination countries where law enforcement may be weak, undermined by corruption, or preoccupied with other crimes,
7. Alarmed by numerous media and law enforcement reports about persons convicted of sex crimes against children in one country who then travel to other countries where they continue to sexually exploit children, often with anonymity and impunity,
8. Concerned that the advancement of internet accessibility and mobile technology has had the unintended consequence of facilitating access by known sex offenders, as well as business travellers and tourists, to children who may be vulnerable to sexual exploitation,

9. Recognizing that impoverished children, unaccompanied children, children in institutions/orphanages, children in alternative care, runaway youth, children with disabilities, minority children, stateless children, children without birth registration, refugees and IDPs, and children left behind by migrating parents are especially vulnerable to being sexually exploited and require special care and protection,
10. Concerned that participating States may not have adequate systems to follow up on reports of child sexual exploitation, to keep data on children who have been sexually exploited, or to keep data on their own citizens who travel abroad and exploit children,
11. Recalling that the 2013 Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings calls on participating States to develop and implement policies and actions, including law enforcement co-operation between participating States, to prevent the tourism industry from being used for all forms of trafficking in human beings, in particular for sexual exploitation of children,
12. Commending participating States that are working with the travel and tourism industry, including airlines and hotels, to prevent the sexual exploitation of children and to ensure proper reporting of suspected child sexual exploitation,
13. Commending participating States that are working to prevent child sex tourism through advance notification of law enforcement of other participating States, as well as of destination countries outside the OSCE region, of intended travel by individuals convicted of child sexual exploitation,
14. Commending participating States whose laws allow the criminal prosecution of their citizens, legal permanent residents, government contractors, and government employees who return to the participating State after sexually exploiting children abroad,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

15. Calls on OSCE participating States to work with the private sector and civil society to raise awareness among business travellers and tourists to prevent sexual exploitation of children;
16. Urges all participating States to prevent sexual exploitation of children in tourist destinations through education and awareness raising in the destination communities;
17. Calls on OSCE participating States which have not already done so to enact laws that allow them to prosecute their citizens and legal permanent residents for child sexual exploitation upon their return even if the crime is committed abroad;
18. Calls on participating States that have not already done so to collect and store information, in accordance with national provisions on the protection of personal data, on persons convicted of child sexual exploitation in order to facilitate the monitoring of their probation, and to develop, where appropriate, instruments to enable the exchange of



information internationally among law enforcement agencies pertaining to sex offenders' convictions;

19. Calls on OSCE participating States to develop where needed, or strengthen where existing, appropriate law enforcement co-ordination and notification procedures among participating States, as well as with destination states outside the OSCE region, so that states are aware in advance of travel by individuals previously convicted of child sexual exploitation, such as by:
  - a. Maintaining a registry within each state, in accordance with national provisions on the protection of personal data, of individuals previously convicted of child sexual exploitation and who may still be a threat to children;
  - b. Directing individuals on the state registry to alert their own government of their destination state in advance of travel abroad;
  - c. Before travel, checking flight manifests against the state registry of individuals convicted of child sexual exploitation in order to note the names of those who did not self-report in advance;
  - d. Designating a point of contact in each state to send and receive information on the impending travel of registered sex offenders;
  - e. Ensuring that information on registered sex offenders is transmitted appropriately ahead of travel to the destination country;
  - f. Keeping data on how many notifications are sent, whether the notifications arrive in the destination country before sex offender travel, follow up actions by the destination country, and which countries receive the most registered sex offender travel;
20. Calls on participating States, in a manner consistent with international standards of due process, to consider marking, refusing and/or revoking the passports of their own citizens when necessary to prevent the commission of a child sexual exploitation offence in another country;
21. Requests that the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit examine ways in which it can assist participating States in coordination and notification procedures between States such that States are aware in advance of travel by individuals previously convicted of sexually exploiting a child; and
22. Urges the OSCE to update its existing commitments concerning combating sexual exploitation of children.

## RESOLUTION ON

### A CALL FOR OSCE ACTION TO ADDRESS VIOLENCE AND DISCRIMINATION

1. Expressing alarm over heightened incidents of violence and discrimination and increased prejudice in the OSCE region, and calling for immediate action,
2. Emphasizing that the OSCE participating States have adopted a comprehensive framework to prevent and respond to prejudice and discrimination, which includes commitments in the fields of, *inter alia*, tolerance and non-discrimination, religious freedom, migration, national minorities, and rule of law and democratic institutions, in addition to others,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

3. Supports the ongoing efforts of the Assembly to address anti-Semitism, racism, and intolerance in the OSCE region;
4. Pledges to intensify efforts, including supporting capacity-building efforts for political and other leaders to address intolerance and discrimination;
5. Encourages the participating States to intensify efforts to address prejudice, and discrimination, and foster inclusion;
6. Urges that the participating States develop an OSCE Anti-Discrimination Action Plan, with annual indicators to implement existing OSCE tolerance and non-discrimination commitments;
7. Calls upon the participating States to convene an OSCE High-Level Conference on Combating Racism and Xenophobia to address, *inter alia*, (1) strengthening co-operation between law enforcement and vulnerable communities, and (2) anti-migrant/refugee bias;
8. Recommends that the participating States support OSCE initiatives, including but not limited to:
  - a. The work of the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, also focusing on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians and Members of Other Religions, the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims, and the Personal Representative on Combating Anti-Semitism;

- b. Sustaining the new ODIHR “Turning words into action to address anti-Semitism” project focused on addressing the security needs of Jewish communities, countering anti-Semitism through education and fostering civil society coalition building;
- c. Publishing an ODIHR report on prejudice and discrimination in the region that includes recommendations to the participating States, and updating the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) 2004 Comparative Study on International Action against Racism, Xenophobia, Anti-Semitism and Intolerance in the OSCE Region;
- d. Establishing an OSCE Fellowship Program to introduce diverse talent to positions in the OSCE Offices of the Chair-in-Office, Secretary General, Secretariat, ODIHR, High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM), and Field Missions;
- e. Enhancing co-operation between the Office of the Coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, participating States, and other stakeholders on anti-discrimination and inclusion strategies for migrants and asylees, including utilizing the OSCE 2011 Training Modules on Labour Migration Management Trainer's Manual;
- f. Building the capacity of police and other law enforcement and security professionals to counter discrimination (including profiling), strengthen relationships with vulnerable communities, and foster diverse and inclusive workforces, including enhancing ongoing efforts by the Roma Contact Point and Police Matters Unit;
- g. Developing integration strategies, including utilizing the work of the HCNM and “The Ljubljana Guidelines on Integration of Diverse Societies”;
- h. Building support for and capacity of civil society efforts, including coalition building, to address prejudice and discrimination, noting the November 2015 building OSCE Conference on Advancing Tolerance and Non-Discrimination through Coalition Building and Co-operation;
- i. Building the capacity of Equality, Education, and Cultural Ministries and other relevant bodies to prevent and respond to prejudice and discrimination in the public and private sector, including schools.

## RESOLUTION ON

### THE RIGHTS OF REFUGEES

1. Bearing in mind that it is the sovereign right of States to define the rules of nationality and the conditions for the entry into and stay of foreigners in their territories in order to protect their nationals, but also to safeguard the basic rights of foreigners,
2. Bearing in mind that the issuance and recognition of travel documents are necessary to facilitate the movement of refugees, and in particular their resettlement,
3. Noting that the migration crisis is proof of what is now self-evident: that States wish to give precedence to national security, *inter alia*, by tightening border controls, over humanitarian protection, whereas the objective of a calm, regulated management – which the European Union is striving to put in place – would be to reconcile those two imperatives,
4. Stressing the obligation on all participating States to legislate on the status of refugees and the right of asylum in compliance with the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951 and the Protocol thereto,
5. Recalling the definition of the term “refugee” as set out in Article 1, paragraph A (2), of the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951, pursuant to which the term “refugee” shall apply to any person who “owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it”,
6. Reaffirming the obligation not to expel or return, an essential element of the status of refugees and asylum seekers set out in Article 33, paragraph 1, of the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951 (“No Contracting State shall expel or return (“refouler”) a refugee in any manner whatsoever to the frontiers of territories where his life or freedom would be threatened on account of his race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion.”),
7. Reaffirming, in accordance with the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951 and Article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that the right of asylum is a fundamental right,

8. Recalling that the simultaneous existence and proliferation of legislation and norms that differ from one State to another and sometimes contradict each other constitute a major obstacle to an effective management of migration flows,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

9. Calls on countries which have ratified the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951 to comply with the commitments under its Protocol, in particular with regard to respecting the status of refugees;
10. Calls for the harmonization of norms for the admission of refugees into the participating States of the OSCE, in co-operation with the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (Frontex) and the European Asylum Support Office (EASO), in order to ensure a more efficient admission and processing of asylum seekers;
11. Recommends that Governments take measures to protect the families of refugees, and in particular:
  - a. to preserve the unity of the families of refugees, including in cases in which members of the family have met the criteria for admission into a country;
  - b. to ensure the protection of refugee children, including unaccompanied minors and young girls.

## RESOLUTION ON

### THE SECURITY CHALLENGES OF MIGRATION

1. Aware of the unprecedented migration pressure that Europe witnessed in 2015, during which over one million people crossed the European borders irregularly, which resulted in immense pressure on countries of first entry at all levels,
2. Concerned by the volume of the inflow, as a result of which procedures at points of first entry of migrants to Europe have been failing in the most affected States, leaving many of the persons entering unregistered and unidentified,
3. Noting the unique character of the current migration crisis, due to crises and conflicts in Syria and elsewhere, which can only be dealt with collectively and with solidarity,
4. Also noting that the migration crisis has raised the need to resolve humanitarian aspects of the massive inflow affecting many European countries, as well as serious security concerns stemming from the limited control of such movements,
5. Taking into account the fact that the mixed migration flows may have been used by some extremist elements to enter Europe, although the flows consist mainly of people seeking protection,
6. Emphasizing the need to make migration safe and better organized,
7. Welcoming the initiative of the OSCE Secretary General for convening Security Days: Refocusing Migration and Security – Bridging National and Regional Responses in Rome on 4 March 2016, with the objective of identifying policy areas in which the OSCE can make a difference while complementing the work of its international partners, and where the security implications of mass movements of people and the OSCE added value were key areas of analysis and debate,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

8. Urges the participating States of the OSCE to put all possible efforts into regaining control over the inflow of migrants as the ultimate objective through amending the procedures at first points of entry in a way that allows for registration and security screening of each and every person entering Europe irregularly, no matter what their motives are;
9. Invites the participating States of the OSCE to establish closer co-operation with the countries of origin and transit of migrants in order to tackle irregular migration, as well as

to address security issues such as the growing terrorist threat and other serious concerns stemming from this particular challenge;

10. Calls on the OSCE Secretary General and the Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, in preparation for the announced special session of the Permanent Council and its follow-up, to address security in the context of migration as an integral part of an enhanced OSCE role in addressing migration.

## RESOLUTION ON

### INTEGRATING GENDER-BASED ANALYSIS AND GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN THE RESPONSE TO THE MIGRANT AND REFUGEE CRISIS

1. Reaffirming the importance of OSCE commitments to integrate gender in addressing migrant and refugee flows, including in the 2004 Gender Action Plan (MC.DEC/14/04) and OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 5/09 on Migration Management (MC.DEC/5/09), as well as the OSCE PA 2013 Resolution on Gender Aspects of Labour Migration,
2. Recalling the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) and its Protocol (1967), which enshrine the rights and protections that must be accorded to all refugees, as well as UNHCR's Guidelines on Gender-Related Persecution and Guidelines for Prevention and Response to Sexual and Gender-based Violence, among others,
3. Recalling the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols on trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants,
4. Recalling the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the commitment to ensure safe, orderly, and regular migration involving full respect for human rights and the humane treatment of migrants,
5. Considering that gender affects both the reasons for migrating and every stage of the migration experience,
6. Aware of the implications of the movements of migrants and refugees of different genders on home and host communities, and of the need to avoid stereotypes and discrimination against men as well as women,
7. Aware that women and girls, who comprise a growing proportion of the migrants and refugees arriving in Europe, face particular risks, including sexual and gender-based violence, and have unique protection needs, such as reproductive health services, and that they often face gendered barriers in accessing services while in transit and upon arrival in host countries,
8. Recognizing the benefit of supporting initiatives to strengthen the resilience of refugee and migrant women, including programmes targeting economic empowerment,



9. Recognizing the important role that women play in conflict prevention and throughout the conflict cycle when given the opportunity, which in turn reduces the need for women and girls, men and boys to flee their homes and become displaced persons,
10. Concerned that gender is often overlooked or treated as an ad hoc consideration in the analysis of trends in migration and in the design and implementation of responses to large-scale migrant and refugee flows,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

11. Calls on the OSCE and its participating States to collect sex-disaggregated data and conduct gender-based analysis of all plans, policies, programmes, and funding in response to the migrant and refugee crisis, and to promote the use of Gender Based Analysis;
12. Urges the OSCE and its participating States to develop and implement gender-responsive policies, programmes, and services to address the specific needs and priorities of women and girl refugees and migrants;
13. Calls on participating States to ensure that proper consideration is given to women's asylum claims and that the range of claims of gender-related persecution are accorded due recognition, as recommended in the 2004 OSCE Gender Action Plan;
14. Calls on participating States to ensure that female migrants and refugees under their jurisdiction are protected from all forms of exploitation, discrimination, violence and abuse, particularly sexual and gender-based violence and human trafficking, including by state authorities such as border personnel, police, and immigration officials, as well as humanitarian workers;
15. Calls on participating States to deploy gender experts as part of the on-the-ground humanitarian response to the migrant and refugee crisis;
16. Urges the OSCE participating States to ensure that transit areas and camps respect the dignity of migrants and refugees and that such premises are designed in a gender-sensitive manner, including by setting up single-sex, well-lit toilet facilities and separate safe sleeping areas for women and girls;
17. Calls on participating States to prevent refugee and migrant women's social exclusion and isolation by integrating gender-sensitive measures into their migration policies related to labour market access, ensuring access to safe housing and providing skills and training opportunities for such women;
18. Calls on the OSCE and the OSCE PA to develop forums and tools for the sharing of best practices in gender-sensitive response to migration and refugee crises;

19. Calls on participating States to address the root causes of migrant and refugee flows through gender-sensitive humanitarian and development assistance to refugee and migrant producing countries;
20. Calls on the OSCE, the OSCE PA and the participating States to implement the Women, Peace and Security agenda (UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and subsequent resolutions) and involve women in conflict prevention and in negotiations and decision-making throughout the conflict cycle;
21. Calls on the OSCE and its participating States to give particular attention to the issue of child marriages among refugees and migrants. Several participating States are facing this issue in the current refugee crisis. Child marriages require a cautious approach. In this regard, the following points must be taken into consideration:
  - a. child marriages must be prevented wherever possible;
  - b. spouses united by the bonds of these marriages do not automatically need to be separated. It is necessary to take account of age difference, local law in the country of origin, the emotional bond between the spouses;
  - c. the administrative and/or judicial authorities of the participating States must verify the validity of the marriage based on private international law.

## RESOLUTION ON

### THE NEED TO EQUIP PASSENGER AIRCRAFT WITH ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS FOR MONITORING CONDITIONS ON BOARD IN REAL TIME

1. Bearing in mind the growing terrorist threat in the OSCE region,
2. Reaffirming its commitment to making every effort to help ensure security in the OSCE region and to conduct a systematic and unrelenting fight against all manifestations of international terrorism,
3. Noting that large passenger aircraft continue to be priority targets of terrorist attacks,
4. Noting that the lack of the necessary technical means on passenger aircraft makes it impossible for ground personnel to conduct video monitoring of conditions on board in real time, thus significantly reducing the ability to protect airliners from terrorist and other threats to the security of passengers and resulting in large numbers of human victims,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

5. Calls on the participating States and manufacturers to give close attention to the problem of the vulnerability of passenger aircraft to terrorist attack and to contribute actively, within their powers and competence, to equipping existing and planned passenger aircraft with photographic and audio-visual monitoring equipment on board as soon as possible so that data can be collected, saved and sent to ground personnel in real time;
6. Urgently appeals to the parliaments of the participating States to begin elaborating, without delay, the legal basis for the practical implementation of this initiative.