

News from Copenhagen

President Efthymiou promotes OSCE in official visits to Italy and the Holy See

President Petros Efthymiou highlighted the importance of the OSCE in Eurasian security and applauded the Holy See for promoting a framework of values within the Organization during official visits to Rome and the Vatican 23-26 January.

Efthymiou, with Vice President Riccardo Migliori (Italy) and Third Committee Chair Matteo Mecacci (Italy), met with the Vatican's Secretary for Relations with States, Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, who expressed appreciation for the Assembly's adoption of resolution on the protection of Christians at the Belgrade Annual Session.

In Rome, Efthymiou met with Italian Minister of Defense Giampaolo Di Paola and Deputy Foreign Minister Staffan De Mistura. The Italian authorities congratulated the OSCE PA for its major role during the Tunisian elections and the special presentation on Nagorno-Karabakh held last fall.

Efthymiou also met with Speaker Gianfranco Fini of the Italian Chamber of Deputies and Vice President Emma Bonino of the Senate, other party leaders, as well as former Foreign Minister Franco Frattini and former Speaker Ferdinando Casini.



Vice-President Riccardo Migliori (Italy) and President Petros Efthymiou meet with the Vatican's Secretary for Relations with States, Archbishop Dominique Mamberti.

In meetings with Italian and Vatican officials, Efthymiou pointed out that the field presences represent an important tool for the Organization to deliver results related to conflict prevention and resolution, and institution building. He underlined the importance of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly providing more visibility and guidance to the work of the OSCE.

Efthymiou delivered two lectures about the OSCE's role in regional and global security at Sapienza University of Rome and Roma Tre University. He was accompanied by Deputy Director for Field Operations Roberto Montella from the International Secretariat.

Zannier hails 'new era' of co-operation in official visit to Copenhagen

OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier, during a visit to the Parliamentary Assembly, said co-operation between the two secretariats in Copenhagen and Vienna is entering a "new era."

Zannier made the comment Tuesday at a working lunch with Assembly Secretary General Spencer Oliver, head of the Danish delegation to the OSCE PA Peter Juel Jensen, head of the Danish Foreign Ministry's European Neighborhood and Russia Department Christian Dons Christensen, U.S. Ambassador to Denmark Laurie Fulton, Irish Ambassador to Denmark Brendan Scannell, and former Danish Ambassador to the OSCE John Bernhard.

"I highly value the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's contribution to the work of the Organization, and as Secretary General, I intend to reinforce our co-operation," Zannier said. "The Parliamentary Assembly is a powerful tool to reach political constituents in our countries."

Zannier's visit to Copenhagen is his first official visit to the headquarters of the OSCE's oldest Institution. The Assembly is the only Institution still functioning in its original form as created by the 1990 Charter of Paris.

"Having Ambassador Zannier experience the Parliamentary Assembly in Copenhagen first hand shows the strength of his

commitment," Oliver said.

While in Copenhagen, Zannier also met with Speaker of the Danish Parliament Mogens Lykketoft, senior Danish Foreign Ministry officials, and senior staff of the Parliamentary Assembly, including Deputy Secretaries General Tina Schon and Gustavo Pallares.



OSCE PA Secretary General Spencer Oliver welcomes OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier to the OSCE PA International Secretariat in Copenhagen.