

# News from Copenhagen

## Bishkek meeting, election observation missions top autumn agenda



Preparations are underway in Copenhagen and Bishkek for the OSCE PA's 17th Autumn Meeting, which will take place in Kyrgyzstan, on 3-6 October. The meeting will include a Parliamentary Conference on "Promoting Security Dialogue in Central Asia And Beyond" and a Mediterranean Forum on "Geopolitics of Central Asia and the Mediterranean: Addressing Migration, Trade and Environmental Challenges."

The Autumn Meeting will be hosted by the Jogorku Kenesh (Parliament) of the Kyrgyz Republic. With the exception of the Official Inaugural Session, all meetings will take place at Hotel Damas in Bishkek. The Official Inaugural Session will take place at the Ala Archa State Residence.

Election observation missions are also being prepared for the 7 October parliamentary elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the 28 October presidential election in Georgia, and the 6 November midterm elections in the United States.

In addition, presidential visits are planned next week for Armenia and Italy. OSCE PA President George Tsereteli (Georgia) is expected to visit Armenia from 11-13 September, and will be in Italy from 13-14 September. He also plans to participate in the Third Meeting of Speakers of Eurasian Countries' Parliaments taking place in Antalya, Turkey, on 8-11 October.

On 11 October, President Tsereteli is expected to address the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna. On 12 October, he is scheduled to be in Bratislava, to meet with the 2019 OSCE Slovak Chairmanship. In preparation for his busy autumn activities, the President will visit the OSCE PA International Secretariat in Copenhagen this Friday.

The OSCE PA will also have a strong participation in the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights' two-week Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, which begins 10 September in Warsaw. Several members are expected to participate in various sessions of the HDIM and President Tsereteli will address the opening session on Monday.

Members of the OSCE PA's Ad Hoc Committee on Migration are tentatively scheduled to visit Sweden and Denmark on 21-23 October.

The OSCE PA's Bureau will meet in Milan on 5 December on the eve of the OSCE Ministerial Council. Next year's Winter Meeting will take place 21-22 February in Vienna, the Bureau Meeting in Copenhagen on 8 April, and the Annual Session is scheduled for 5-9 July in Luxembourg.

## OSCE PA Secretary General Montella meets with new OSCE CiO Milanese in Vienna

OSCE PA Secretary General Roberto Montella met with the Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE, Italy's Foreign Minister Enzo Moavero Milanesi, in Vienna on 30 August ahead of his address to the OSCE Permanent Council. Montella stressed that the PA looks forward to continued co-operation with the Italian Chairmanship, expressed appreciation for Italy's priorities including its focus on Ukraine and the Mediterranean, and noted the Assembly's appreciation for the Chairmanship's respect for the parliamentary dimension's contribution to OSCE work.

In his address, Milanese reaffirmed the determination of the Italian OSCE Chairmanship to rekindle the spirit of Helsinki, while also promoting "a new Helsinki" that offers an effective platform for constructive dialogue between East and West. This was his first address to the OSCE Permanent Council



since his appointment as Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation on 1 June 2018.