

News from Copenhagen

Lenmarker Appoints Two Special Representatives

President Goran Lenmarker has appointed two new Special Representatives, one on migration and one on organised crime.

The two are U.S. Congresswoman Hilda Solis, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions of the OSCE PA, appointed Special Representative on Migration, and Senator Carlo Vizzini, Head of the Italian delegation to the OSCEPA, appointed Special Representative Against Transnational Organised Crime.



Hilda Solis, Democratic Congress woman from California, will “examine ways in which the OSCE and the OSCE PA can further the development of migrant labor systems that are humane and meet the economic needs of both the laborer and the host countries.” Ms. Solis represents California’s 32nd district since first elected to

Congress in 2000 and where her priorities have been expanding access to affordable health care, protecting the environment, and improving the lives of working families.

Senator Carlo Vizzini will work to focus the PA’s attention on “the impact of international mafias on security” by gathering information on organised crime in the OSCE area, surveying mafia-fighting approaches at the international level, linking to OSCE governmental agencies fighting organised crime and corruption,

and paying special attention on the trafficking of human beings. Mr. Vizzini, from Palermo on Sicily, is a member of the Italian parliament’s anti-mafia commission.



Busy Week for OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

This week is a busy week for OSCE PA, with the Fall Meetings in Portoroz, Slovenia, the parliamentary elections in Ukraine, and a Presidential visit to Montenegro.

During the weekend, the OSCE PA Fall Meetings with almost 250 participants will take place in Portoroz in Slovenia, hosted by the Parliament of Slovenia. The theme of the conference is, “Security through Cooperation in South East Europe: the Role of Parliamentarians.” The OSCE PA staff will be led by Secretary General Spencer Oliver. Other staff include Deputy Secretary General, Vitaly Evseyev; OSCE PA special representative in Vienna, Ambassador Andreas Nothelle; Director of Communications, Klas Bergman; Advisor to the President, Gustavo Pallares; Odile Lelarge, Conference Coordinator; Dana Bjerregaard, Assistant to the Secretary General; General Services Officer Kurt Lerras; Marc Carillet, Liaison Officer in Vienna; and Research Fellows Patrick Ager and Theite Otto.



On 30 September, the elections in Ukraine take place with over 50 parliamentarians expected as elections observers. Swedish parliamentarian Tone Tingsgaard heads the OSCE PA delegation while also serving as the OSCE Chairman-in-Office’s Special Co-ordinator for the elections. The OSCE PA staff in Ukraine is led by Deputy Secretary General Tina Schøn and include Andreas Baker, Programme/Press Officer; Anna Chernova, Programme Officer; and Danny Rees, Research Fellow.

Finally, President Lenmarker will visit Montenegro 27-28 October accompanied by OSCE PA’s special representative in Vienna, Ambassador Andreas Nothelle. During the visit, Mr. Lenmarker will address the Assembly of the Republic of Montenegro and he will also participate in and speak at a conference in the capital Podgorica with the title “Democratic Control of the Armed Forces and the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security.”