

# News from Copenhagen

## Krivokapic continues high-level talks in the United States



Ranko Krivokapic and Nancy Pelosi.  
(Photo: Montenegrin Parliament)



Ranko Krivokapic and John McCain.  
(Photo: Montenegrin Parliament)

OSCE PA President Ranko Krivokapic continued his visit to the United States this week meeting with members of the House and Senate, and UN officials including Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

In a meeting Saturday with U.S. House of Representatives Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, President Krivokapic thanked the former House Speaker for the support the United States has provided Montenegro in pursuit of its transatlantic goals. He further discussed democratization and strengthening of the rule of law as issues of crucial importance.

Mr. Krivokapic also met with Senator John McCain,

the head of the American delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly Michael Turner, and Chairman of the Subcommittee on European Affairs of the U.S. Senate Christopher Murphy, with discussions focusing primarily on Montenegro's prospects for Euro-Atlantic integration. President Krivokapic also participated in a panel discussion in the U.S. Congress regarding the withdrawal of NATO forces from Afghanistan in 2014.

President Krivokapic is meeting UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and other UN officials this week to discuss in particular the importance of increasing institutional co-operation between the OSCE and the United Nations.

## PA Bureau to meet in Kyiv and participate in Ministerial Council

The OSCE PA Bureau, consisting of the President, Vice-Presidents, Committee Officers and Treasurer, will meet on the eve of the OSCE Ministerial Council in Kyiv next week.

Following welcoming remarks by the head of the PA's Ukrainian Delegation, Oleg Zarubinsky, the Bureau members will hear reports by the PA Secretary General, Treasurer, and the leaders of recent election observation missions.

The Chairs of the Subcommittee on Rules of Procedure

and the Ad Hoc Committee on Transparency and Reform of the OSCE, Joao Soares (Portugal) and Francois-Xavier de Donnea (Belgium), will also report to the Bureau on OSCE reform and preparations for Helsinki +40.

The parliamentarians will then participate in the OSCE Ministerial Council meeting on 5-6 December. President Krivokapic will address the Ministerial Council on the opening day.

## Walsh to lead Turkmenistan assessment



Jim Walsh

President Ranko Krivokapic has appointed Senator Jim Walsh (Ireland) to lead a small OSCE PA delegation to assess the 15 December parliamentary elections in Turkmenistan. The appointment was made following an official invitation the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly received to observe

the elections and President Krivokapic's decision to deploy an Election Assessment Field Visit. The OSCE PA is co-ordinating its assessment effort with the OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission to Turkmenistan.

## PA welcomes new Communications Director



Richard Solash

The OSCE PA was joined last week by new Communications Director Richard Solash. Mr. Solash was previously a correspondent for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Prague and Washington, where he covered U.S. relations with the countries of the former Soviet Union as well as the region's politics, culture, and human rights issues. Mr.

Solash holds a degree in English from Harvard University and a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University. In addition to English, he speaks Russian and Spanish.