

## Annual Session News

*Monday* ♦ *4 July 2016* 

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## **OSCE PA General Committees amend and adopt resolutions**

The First Committee on Sunday resumed work on the draft resolution introduced by Rapporteur Margareta Cederfelt (MP, Sweden) the previous day. Key issues discussed in the debate included resolving protracted conflicts, the crisis in and around Ukraine, counter-terrorism, and the challenges of refugees and internally displaced persons. Following the adoption of 47 amendments, the resolution was agreed to. The committee begins consideration of supplementary items

The Second Committee continued to debate Rapporteur Marietta Tidei (MP, Italy)'s report and draft resolution, highlighting issues such as the management of the flow of migrants, gender equality with regards to economic opportunities, dealing with the unintended economic effects of sanctions, and combating corruption. The resolution was adopted unanimously with 20 amendments.

The Second Committee considered two supplementary items. The supplementary item Acting against Corruption in the OSCE Region to Strengthen the Rule of Law, principally sponsored by Margareta Cederfeldt, was adopted unanimously with two amendments. The supplementary item The 30th Anniversary of the Chernobyl Disaster, introduced by Artur Gerasymov (MP, Ukraine) was adopted unanimously with 13 amendments.

The Second Committee also elected its leadership for the next year, with Nilza Sena (MP, Portugal) elected Chair and Artur Gerasymov (MP, Ukraine) Vice-Chair. Tidei was reelected Rapporteur.

The Third Committee continued working on Rapporteur Gordana Comic (MP, Serbia)'s draft resolution with a lively debate on amendments related to the refugee crisis and migration issues, the conflict in and around Ukraine, the crisis of leadership on human rights in the OSCE, and LGBT rights. The resolution was agreed to overwhelmingly with 25 amendments.

The Third Committee considered one supplementary item, entitled Violations of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in Crimea, principally sponsored by Nataliia Ahafonova (MP, Ukraine), which adopted overwhelmingly with three amendments.







The committee continues its work Monday morning debating and amending supplementary items.

## Side meetings held on trafficking, mediation, migration and more



Side events and meetings held Sunday focused on a range of issues including migration, mediation, and the work of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR). An event hosted by the OSCE PA's Special Representative on Human Trafficking Issues, Chris Smith of the United States, dealt with efforts to improve international co-ordination of law enforcement efforts to prevent child sexual exploitation.

The meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Migration was chaired by Filippo Lombardi (MP, Switzerland), who reported on committee members' activities.

The Ad Hoc Committee heard from Swiss Ambassador Claude Wild, Chair of the OSCE's Informal Working Group on Migration, and discussed how to best complement the work of the OSCE's governmental side on this issue.

The ODIHR event was hosted by OSCE PA Third Committee Chair Isabel Santos and addressed by Alice Thomas, Chief of ODIHR's Legislative Support Unit. The event focused on presenting ODIHR's work and their interaction with national parliaments.

In the mediation event, addressed by OSCE PA President Ilkka Kanerva (MP, Finland) and Finnish Ambassador to the OSCE Katja Pehrman, participants focused on parliamentary contributions to conflict resolution and prevention.

## Programme ~ Monday, 4 July

09.00 – 11.00 First Committee (Queen Tamar Hall – Hall 11) 09.00 – 11.00 Third Committee (King David IV – Hall 11)

11.00 – 11.30 Bureau Mtg. (King Pharnavaz I Hall - Hall 3E)

11.30 – 13.30 Third Committee (King David IV – Hall 11)

15.00 – 18.00 Plenary Session (Queen Tamar Hall – Hall 11)