

*REPORT OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE ON MEDITERRANEAN AFFAIRS  
PASCAL ALLIZARD FOR THE OSCE PA AUTUMN MEETING*

***Standing Committee Andorra, 4 October 2017***

In July of 2017, President Christine Muttonen appointed me Special Representative on Mediterranean Affairs. The main objective of my functions as Special Representative is to facilitate parliamentary dialogue in the region.

My mandate also includes:

- Enhancing the Mediterranean dimension of the Assembly's work, given that European security is directly linked to security and stability in the Mediterranean region;
- Maintaining contacts with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation and participating in events related to supporting relations between the Mediterranean area and the OSCE area;
- Encouraging meetings and exchanges with the OSCE Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation, participating in the OSCE's annual Mediterranean Conference on behalf of the Assembly and conducting ad hoc visits when possible to Mediterranean Partner countries;
- Considering ways to strengthen the role of the Assembly's Mediterranean Forum;
- Considering instruments for stimulating the organization of a Mediterranean Forum under the auspices of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly;
- Reporting regularly on developments in the region, including on opportunities for improved co-operation.

Activities:

On the 19<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> of September, I visited the OSCE in Vienna, as I wanted to gather information and establish a better overview of the Mediterranean activities of the Organization. My goal was to orient myself towards potential activities in order to prioritize my actions to fulfill my current mandate. I would like to thank the OSCE PA Vienna Liaison Office for the support provided to this visit.

I met with the actors of the Mediterranean partnership both from the Secretariat of the governmental side of the OSCE and from the partner countries themselves. I came up with a list of concrete ideas and themes in terms of potential future OSCE PA activities with the Partners. The themes included the topic of transnational threats and the fight against radicalization, cyber security, the business sphere and the role of small and medium enterprises, economic development and innovation, migration (including the experience of some partners in the integration of migrant populations and refugees), Libya and the challenges its instability poses to the region, as well as connectivity with food, water and energy supplies. I will be working closely with the OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Migration as its Vice-Chair.

In addition, several very practical ideas came up during the visit and deserve further consideration. For instance, I want to explore ways to reengage with partner parliaments, which have not participated regularly to OSCE PA activities in recent years. I would also like to see partner parliaments appoint statutory delegations to the OSCE PA that we could consider including in our directory. I think it would also be a step forward to engage and consult with partner MPs when drafting supplementary items of direct concern to them before it is circulated for the collection of signatures of OSCE PA Members.

#### Future steps:

I will take part in the field visit to Morocco (18-21 October) and to the 2017 OSCE Mediterranean Conference (24-25 October, Palermo.) In Palermo, I have been invited to speak in the 1st session on “Countering smuggling and trafficking in human beings.” Additional field visits to partner countries will be planned in the coming months. An action oriented resolution will be presented for the 2018 Berlin annual session.

#### ANNEX: Programme of the visit

##### Tuesday 19 September

10:30 – 11:30 Meeting with Ambassador Véronique Roger-Lacan, Permanent Representative of France to the OSCE

12:00 – 12:45 Meeting with Sandra Sacchetti, Head of the OSCE’s External Cooperation, and Emiliano Alessandrini, Senior External Cooperation Office

12:45 – 13:25 Meeting with Teresa Albano, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

13:30 – 15:00 Lunch hosted by Ambassador Andreas Nothelle, OSCE PA Special Representative

15:00 – 15:45 Meeting with Ms. Silvia Berladski Baruch; Chargé d’Affaires a.i. of Israel

16:00 – 16:45 Meeting with Ambassador Alessandro Azzoni, Permanent Representative of Italy to the OSCE and Chair of the Mediterranean Contact Group

19:00 – 19:45 Meeting with Ambassador Hussam Al Hussein, Kingdom of Jordan

20:00 Dinner hosted by the Ambassador Véronique Roger-Lacan, Permanent Representative of France to the OSCE

##### Wednesday 20 September

08:30 – 09:30 Meeting with the Chargé d’Affaires of Tunisia, Mr. Khalil Tazarki

10:00 – 10:45 Meeting with Ambassador Lotfi Bouchaara, Kingdom of Morocco

11:15 – 12:30 Visit of the OSCE PA Vienna Liaison Office