

Welcome to the 21st Annual Session

Greetings to Members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Dear Colleagues,



On behalf of the National Council, the Parliament of the Principality of Monaco, I have the honour of welcoming you to the 21st Annual Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), to be held in Monaco from 5 to 9 July 2012.

The OSCE has historically played a leading role in strengthening dialogue and mutual understanding during periods of tension and conflict that may have affected the participating States of our intergovernmental organization, from Vancouver to Vladivostok.

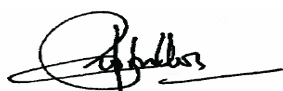
Today, in a world that is constantly changing and marked by the resurgence of political, democratic, economic, migratory and environmental tension, the OSCE remains an essential forum for debate and a key player on the international scene, thanks to the experience it has acquired over a long period, especially in the areas of preventing conflict and supporting democracy.

This 21st Annual Session will therefore have the general theme of "The OSCE: A Region of Change." It will allow us, as Parliamentarians, to discuss the OSCE's agenda, as well as problems that affect our participating States. I am sure that our discussions in Monaco will once again prove very fruitful and constructive.

I also hope that, during your stay, you will be able to discover the real face of Monaco, with its extraordinary history, its openness towards the world and its entrepreneurial, charitable, artistic and creative dynamism, all of which contribute to the real wealth of the Principality.

I look forward to having the pleasure of welcoming you to Monaco in the near future.

Yours sincerely,



Jean-Francois Robillon
Speaker of the National Council of Monaco

Programme Thursday, 5 July

09.00 – 12.00	Meeting of the Standing Committee Camille Blanc
12.00 – 14.30	Lunch break
14.30 – 16.00	Inaugural Plenary Session Prince Pierre

Call to order and opening remarks by the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Addresses by the Host Officials

Address by the Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE followed by a question/answer session

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee break

16.30 – 18.00 Plenary Session (cont'd)

Address by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Address by the Secretary General of the OSCE followed by a question/answer session

Report by the OSCE PA Special Representative on Gender Issues, followed by a debate

Consideration of Supplementary Items

19.30 – 22.00 Welcome reception hosted by the Minister of State of the Principality of Monaco (Prime Minister)
Hotel Le Meridien Beach Plaza