General Committee on Political Affairs and Security

Follow-Up on Recommendations in the OSCE PA's Monaco Declaration

Final Report for the 2013 Annual Session

Contents

Background

The Parliament of the Principality of Monaco hosted the 21st Annual Session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly from 5 to 9 July 2012 under the theme *The OSCE: Region of Chan*ge. It concluded on 9 July with the adoption of the Monaco Declaration, a political document recommending plans of action for governments, parliaments and the OSCE, to address human rights, military transparency and the global economic crisis.

This Final Report was prepared by the OSCE PA International Secretariat for the Vice-Chair of the General Committee on Political Affairs and Security, Susanne Bratli (MP, Norway). It considers actions taken in the politico-security dimension over the past year by the OSCE, including Institutions and field presences, and other members of the international community, in relation to the OSCE PA's recommendations in the Monaco Declaration.

An Interim Report was issued in advance of OSCE PA's 12th Winter Meeting, which took place on 21-22 February 2013 in Vienna.

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Arms Control

I.   OSCE PA Recommendations

The Monaco Declaration called on all OSCE participating States to contribute to the success of the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty.

II.   International Initiatives

Member States of the United Nations gathered in New York on 2-27 July 2012 for the UN Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty, which seeks to establish common standards for international trade in conventional arms. A treaty text could not be agreed upon at that time but the United Nations reconvened the negotiations on 18-28 March 2013 and the ATT was approved by the UN General Assembly on 2 April 2013. The treaty garnered the support of 154 UN Member States, including 51 OSCE participating States.[1]

Welcoming this achievement as "an important step towards building genuine security in the OSCE area and across the world", OSCE Parliamentary Assembly President Wolfgang Grossruck commended the Member States of the United Nations "for finding the political will to set national interests aside in the pursuit of the common good". He further called on "arms-exporting countries, including OSCE participating States [to] live up to the commitments to which they have just agreed".[2]

As of 10 June 2013, 71 countries had signed on to the treaty, including 31 OSCE participating States.[3]

Conflict Resolution

I.   OSCE PA Recommendations

The Monaco Declaration called on all parties involved in protracted conflicts to intensify their efforts to generate peaceful and viable solutions. It further called for a comprehensive and timely implementation of the Vilnius Ministerial Council Decision on "Elements of the Conflict Cycle, Related to Enhancing the OSCE's Capabilities in Early Warning, Early Action, Dialogue Facilitation and Mediation Support, and Post-Conflict Rehabilitation".

II.   OSCE Initiatives

The Conflict Dealt with by the Minsk Group

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[1] UN General Assembly, GA/11354, http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2013/ga11354.doc.htm

[2] OSCE PA Press Release: "President Grossruck applauds historic UN Arms Trade Treaty vote", 3 April 2013, http://www.oscepa.org/news-a-media/press-releases/1242-president-grossruck-applauds-historic-un-arms-trade-treaty-vote .

[3] United Nations Treaty Collection: "Chapter XXVI, Disarmament, 8. Arms Trade Treaty, New York, 2 April 2013", http://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXVI-8&chapter=26&lang=en (accessed 10 June 2013).

On 8 November 2012 the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs[4] presented their annual reports to the Permanent Council, in which they outlined their activities over the previous year during individual and joint meetings with the sides and trips to the region. The reports also discussed bilateral engagement by each of the Co-Chair countries and a trilateral meeting of the Russian, Armenian, and Azerbaijani presidents in Sochi in January. They discussed their role in managing moments of in particular through the work of the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk, and his team.[5] From 19 to 26 November 2012 the Co-Chairs visited the region to continue their efforts to assist the parties in finding a peaceful solution to the conflict.

On the occasion of the OSCE Ministerial Council Meeting in Dublin in December 2012, Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation Sergey Lavrov, Secretary of State of the United States Hillary Clinton, and Minister Delegate for European Affairs of France Bernard Cazeneuve issued a statement as Heads of Delegation of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries calling upon the parties to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict "to demonstrate the political will needed to reach a peaceful settlement". They also urged the parties to refrain from actions and statements that foster feelings of enmity among their populations and that have raised tensions in the past.[6]

In late January 2013 the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group (Ambassadors Igor Popov of the Russian Federation, Jacques Faure of France, and Ian Kelly of the United States) met jointly with the Foreign Minister of Azerbaijan, Elmar Mammadyarov, and the Foreign Minister of Armenia, Edward Nalbandian, at the presence of the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk. After discussions on the working proposal to advance the peace process the Foreign Ministers reiterated their support for a peaceful settlement and their determination to continue negotiations.[7]

Additional meetings with the same participants took place in early March in Paris. On that occasion, the Co-Chairs reiterated their concerns regarding the issue of civilian flights to Nagorno-Karabakh and the violence on the Line of Contact, discussing ideas to strengthen ceasefire.[8] In the following weeks, Ambassadors Popov, Faure, Kelly and Kasprzyk traveled to the region to continue supporting the sides in finding a peaceful solution to the conflict. Two trips to Nagorno-Karabakh were also organized. After these visits, the Co-Chairs welcomed the relative calm that had been prevailing on the Line of Contact and expressed their hope for that to continue.[9]

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[4] Co-chaired by France, the Russian Federation and the United States, the OSCE Minsk Group spearheads the OSCE's efforts to find a political solution to the conflict in and around Nagorno-Karabakh involving Armenia and Azerbaijan.

[5] SEC.FR/613/12, 3 January 2013

[6] OSCE Press Release: "Statement by the Heads of Delegation of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries", 6 December 2012, http://www.osce.org/mg/97882 .

[7] OSCE Press Release: "Press Release by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group and the Foreign Ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan", 28 January 2013, http://www.osce.org/mg/98944 .

[8] OSCE Press Release: "Press Release by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group", 4 March 2013, http://www.osce.org/mg/99955 .

[9] OSCE Press Release: "Statement of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs", 9 April 2013, http://www.osce.org/mg/100582 .

Another meeting of the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group with the Foreign Minister of Azerbaijan, Elmar Mammadyarov, and the Foreign Minister of Armenia, Edward Nalbandian took place on 17 May 2013 in Kraków. After discussing possible ways to advance the peace process between the sides, the Co-Chairs reiterated the need to avoid actions or rhetoric that could raise tensions or damage the peace process and considered a number of confidence building measures aimed at creating an atmosphere conducive to reconciliation.[10]

Geneva Discussions

The 22nd round of the Geneva International Discussions took place on 12 December 2012. The discussions were held in two working group sessions. One focused on security and stability in the Abkhazia region and in the Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, and the other session focused on issues related to the return of IDPs and refugees to their original place of residence. The first working group continued to work on drafting a statement on the non-use of force by the participants of the Geneva International Discussions tabled by the Co-Chairs as well as reviewing proposals of the Russian participants. An agreement could not be reached at this session.

In the second working group, the Georgian participants reconfirmed their commitment to a humanitarian, people-centered approach and strongly reaffirmed their dedication to resolve outstanding matters under non-politicized, humanitarian leadership of the International Committee of the Red Cross. Representatives of the *de facto* governments of Sukhumi and Tskhinvali, as well as those of Moscow, continued their efforts to change the agreed Geneva Discussions format.[11]

The Geneva Discussions continued in March 2013, with the OSCE Chairperson's Special Representative for conflicts, Ambassador Andrii Deshchytsia, emphasizing Ukraine's commitment as 2013 OSCE Chair to building confidence and addressing humanitarian needs on the ground. During the 23rd round of the Discussions addressing the consequences of the 2008 conflict in Georgia, Ambassador Deshchytsia welcomed the decrease in security-related incidents in the area of South Ossetia. He also took the opportunity to express appreciation for the completion of a project aimed at providing potable water to residents of Znauri village (the initiative is part of a package of water projects on both sides of the administrative boundary line which are being implemented by the OSCE and funded by the EU). The Geneva International Discussions are resuming on 25 and 26 June.[12]

Transdniestria settlement process

The OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Leonid Kozhara, paid an official visit to Chisinau already on 21 January 2013 and urged the leadership in Chisinau and Tiraspol to prepare the ground for progress in the coming months' Transdniestrian settlement talks.

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[10] OSCE Press Release: "Press Release by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group and the Foreign Ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan", 17 May 2013, http://www.osce.org/mg/101604 .
[11] PC.DEL/1180/12, 20 December 2012
[12] OSCE Press Release: "Ukraine co-chairs 23rd round of Geneva Discussions", 27 March 2013, http://www.osce.org/cio/100391 .

Noting that the Transdniestrian settlement process had been placed at the top of Ukraine's agenda as OSCE Chair, Kozhara urged leaders in both Chisinau and Tiraspol to make good use of the time before February's 5+2 talks and emphasized that Ukraine – which is a co-mediator in the 5+2 process along with the OSCE and the Russian Federation – was uniquely placed to take the negotiations forward.[13]

Talks in the framework of the Transdniestrian settlement process took place in Lviv in February 2013. After the meetings, the OSCE Chairperson's Special Representative for conflicts, Ambassador Andrii Deshchytsia declared that steps forward were taken. He added that a lasting political settlement can be achieved by "moving forward in areas where agreement is within reach, such as on freedom of movement". He also urged both sides to refrain from taking any measures that could degrade the atmosphere and encouraged direct contacts between Tiraspol and Chisinau at both the political and the expert level.[14]

Ambassador Andrii Deshchytsia visited Moldova at the end of April 2013 to meet with Chief Negotiators Eugen Carpov and Nina Shtanski.[15] One month later another important round of negotiations within the Transdniestrian settlement process took place in Odesa: besides various issues covered including freedom of movement and removal of radioactive waste, the negotiators signed a protocol decision on the dismantling of the industrial cable car crossing the Dniester/Nistru River at the towns of Rybnitsa and Rezina, which had not been used for more than a decade and could pose a threat to the people living beneath it. OSCE CiO Kozhara welcomed the outcome of the meeting and declared that was "another proof that parties are able to achieve decisions through negotiations". The next round of 5+2 talks is scheduled for 16 and 17 July in Vienna.[16]

Chief negotiators Eugen Carpov and Nina Shtanski met also on 28 May in the premises of the OSCE Mission to Moldova and discussed, among other topics, law enforcement co-operation.[17]

A number of initiatives were carried out in the field of confidence-building measures during February and March 2013. On 15 February, Lazar Chirica, Vice Minister of Environment, and HoM Jennifer Brush signed a memorandum of understanding aimed at facilitating the transit of

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[13] OSCE Press Release: "OSCE Chairperson, in Moldova, urges leaders to intensify efforts ahead of Transdniestrian settlement talks", 21 January 2013, http://www.osce.org/cio/98814 .

[14] OSCE Press Release: "OSCE Special Representative, at 5+2 Transdniestrian settlement talks, highlights need to maintain momentum", 19 February 2013, http://www.osce.org/cio/99682 .

[15] OSCE Press Release: "OSCE Special Representative Ambassador Deshchytsia starts Moldova visit today", 23 April 2013, http://www.osce.org/moldova/101024 .

[16] OSCE Press Release: "Latest round of talks in Transdniestrian settlement process concluded in Odesa with agreement on confidence-building measure", 24 May 2013, http://www.osce.org/cio/101928

[17] OSCE Press Release: "OSCE welcomes meeting of chief negotiators in Transdniestrian settlement process", 28 May 2013, http://www.osce.org/moldova/102045 .

the pesticides removed from Transdniestria through the Moldovan customs and borders, in order to be disposed of in Germany.[18]

Following the Confidence-Building conference in Rottach-Egern held in 2012, the Heads of Moldovan and Transdniestrian Customs Services visited two German/Swiss joint customs control posts on 11-14 March. This visit was co-sponsored by the OSCE Mission to Moldova and EUBAM and organized by the German Customs Services.

In March the OSCE Mission to Moldova organized two concerts of Russian classical music at the Palace of Republic in Tiraspol. The reciprocal event took place in Chisinau in mid-May and included performances by children from Tiraspol and Chisinau Music Schools, accompanied by the Tiraspol Symphonic Orchestra. The aim of the events was to promote contact and build confidence in the educational and cultural spheres.[19]

Deepening Contact and Co-operation with Afghanistan

I.   OSCE PA Recommendations

The OSCE PA's Monaco Declaration called on the OSCE "to deepen contact and co-operation with Afghanistan and to help strengthen ties between Afghanistan and the Central Asian States in order to address the security challenges and the risk of spill-over, especially in light of the planned withdrawal of the International Security Assistance Forces (ISAF) from Afghanistan".

II.   OSCE Field Activities

OSCE Office in Tajikistan

Fifteen Afghan border police officers attended a five-week Patrol Programming and Leadership Course organized by the OSCE Office in Tajikistan between August and September 2012.[20]

The course was in the framework of the second phase of a project aimed at enhancing the capacities of Tajik and Afghan border staff in detection and interdiction of illegal cross-border movements. It was the first course dedicated to the training of Afghan students since the beginning of the project.

The first phase of the OSCE project was developed in 2009-2012. Based on the fruitful results of the project, the Tajik side made a second request to the OSCE to train an additional 150 students and approached the Head of the OSCE Office in Tajikistan in 2012 asking to reinforce co-operation with Afghanistan by training Afghans. The current phase of the project is in line with both MC Decision 4/07 on OSCE Engagement with Afghanistan as well as MC Decision 4/11 on Strengthening OSCE Engagement with Afghanistan and has been included in the list of new

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[18] OSCE Mission to Moldova: "Activity Report No. 2/2013, February 2013", SEC.FR/114/13, 15 March 2013.

[19] OSCE Mission to Moldova: "Activity Report No. 3/2013, March 2013", SEC.FR/154/13, 15 April 2013.

[20] OSCE press release: "OSCE Office in Tajikistan trains Afghan border police officers", 7 September 2012, (available at: http://www.osce.org/tajikistan/93533).

OSCE projects in support of MC Decisions 4/07 and 4/11 as developed by the OSCE Secretariat. The OSCE framework is the Border Security Management Concept which calls for greater co-operation between countries *inter alia* in addressing transnational threats. In 2012, a further request for assistance was reiterated to help reinforce the Border Police.[21]

On 22 February 2013 Afghan border police officers completed a two-week practical course on winter patrolling at the Tajik Border Troops Training Centre in Gissar. The course, which was held as part of the OSCE Office's Patrol Programming and Leadership project, was organized by the OSCE Office in Tajikistan and saw the participation of 15 mid-rank and front-line officers.[22]

In May 2013, 19 officers from the Afghan Border Police completed a five-week training course on patrolling and leadership organized by the OSCE Office in Tajikistan. This was another course held under the second phase of a Patrol Programming and Leadership Project, aimed at enhancing the capacities of Tajik and Afghan border staff in detection and interdiction of illegal cross-border movements.[23]

A training course for border officials from Afghanistan and Tajikistan on identification of chemicals used in illicit manufacture of drugs, and investigation of their sources started at the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe started in late May. Nineteen senior and mid-level border officials participated in the course, which was co-organized with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Country Office for Afghanistan.[24]

OSCE Academy in Bishkek

The fifth annual Central Asian security seminar took place at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek on 13-14 September 2012, bringing together security policy experts from Eurasia, East and South Asia, Europe and the United States, as well as local officials. The themes discussed included:

- regional security challenges, including the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for Central Asia and globally;
- military co-operation and competition;
- security service reforms in Central Asia and international involvement in them;
- the interlocking strategic visions of key players;
- and the role of non-state actors, including terrorism and organized crime.

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[21] PC.DEL/994/12 8 November 2012

[22] OSCE Office in Tajikistan: "Afghan border police complete OSCE-supported winter patrol course", 22 February 2013, http://www.osce.org/tajikistan/99797 .

[23] OSCE Office in Tajikistan: "Afghan border police officers improve patrolling, leadership skills in OSCE course", 10 May 2013, http://www.osce.org/tajikistan/101358 .

[24] OSCE Office in Tajikistan: "Afghan and Tajik border officials undergo OSCE-supported training in identifying chemicals used in illicit manufacture of drugs", 29 May 2013.

The event was co-organized by the OSCE Academy, the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, and the Near East South Asia Centre for Strategic Studies in Washington, DC.[25]

OSCE/UNDP training courses on border management awareness

A ten-day intensive training course on border management awareness co-organized by the OSCE and the United Nations Development Programme was held in Tajikistan in October. Twenty-four border officers from Afghanistan and Tajikistan received theoretical and practical training on modern techniques to detect smuggled goods, forged documents and to prevent drug trafficking.[26]

OSCE event on cross-border co-operation

An event organized by the Borders Unit of the OSCE Transnational Threats Department, aimed to promote bilateral and regional co-operation on border security and management, foster professional relationships and a common understanding between participants from different states in the larger OSCE area, was held in Medininkai (Lithuania) in November 2012, gathering 21 officials from the border guard, border police and customs agencies of Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. The latter shared experiences with Lithuanian colleagues, dealing with issues pertaining to trade facilitation, border security, migration and stability, corruption and integrity. [27] The second part of the project took place on 11-15 March 2013, facilitated by the TNTD.[28] The overall project has been supported by the United States, Germany, Lithuania and Japan.

Cyber Security

I.   OSCE PA Recommendations

The Monaco Declaration called for the OSCE to organize an exchange of views and best practices on confidence and security-building measures, including in the area of cyber security and counter-terrorism, with a view to exploring the possibility of building new OSCE commitments.

II.   OSCE Initiatives

The United States Chairman of the OSCE's Informal Working Group on confidence-building measures related to information and communication technologies (ICT) convened the first meeting of the group on 17 July which focused, *inter alia*, on more than 50 proposals for CBMs

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[25] OSCE Centre in Bishkek: "OSCE Academy in Bishkek hosts seminar on security in Central Asia", (available at: http://www.osce.org/bishkek/93760).

[26] OSCE press release: "OSCE, UNDP complete border management awareness training courses for Tajik, Afghan officers", 1 November 2012 (available at: http://www.osce.org/tajikistan/96787).

[27] OSCE press release: "Officials from Central Asia, Afghanistan discuss cross-border co-operation with Lithuanian counterparts at OSCE-supported event", (available at: http://www.osce.org/secretariat/97146).

[28] Transnational Threats Department: "Report to the Security Committee on the Activities of the TNT Department (29 April 2013)", SEC.GAL/74/13, 22 April 2013.

put forth by various participating States. The Chair offered a short paper proposing common objectives that should be the foundation of international ICT stability, and outlining a possible way of organizing the CBMs activities at three levels; enhance basic confidence and predictability through transparency- and confidence-building measures. Secondly, activities focusing on co-operative methods of crisis prevention and resolution to be used in the event of discrete disruptive activities of non-state actors and third, focus on stability measures where participating States engage in stabilizing behaviours and refrain from destabilizing activities in cyberspace.[29] The IWG held its second meeting on 15 October 2012.

The Transnational Threats Department (TNTD) in the OSCE Secretariat organized the "Annual Police Experts Meeting" on 20-21 September 2012. The topic of this year's meeting was "Fighting the Threat of Cybercrime" which was attended by 100 representatives from OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation. The meeting assisted in the identification of areas in need of action to include, improved prevention efforts, the need for rapid exchange of information, building investigation capacity through accredited training, co-operation with the private sector and internet service providers.

The TNTD/SPMU will improve and further develop relationships with all stakeholders involved in issues related to cybercrime investigations and aims at elaborating joint projects as appropriate. Finally, the TNTD/SPMU will work in close co-operation with OSCE field operations to identify needs for support in capacity building in participating States.[30]

In March 2013, at the request of the Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, TNTD delivered the revised course module on cyber/ICT security at the College, which was well received by the 25 participants. During the reporting period, TNTD continued supporting the Informal Working Group established by PC.DEC.1039, also with regard to upcoming meetings of the group at the Vienna- as well as capital level, and carried on liaising with pS on their positions.

In April 2013, the TNTD presented OSCE efforts related to cyber/ICT security at the 7th International Forum 'Partnership between State, Civil Society and Business in the Field of International Information Security' conference in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. The event offered a platform to promote OSCE activities related to the development of confidence-building measures (CBMs) to reduce the risks of conflict stemming from the use of information and communication technologies.[31]

OSCE Centre in Astana

In March 2013, the OSCE Centre in Astana, the Financial Police Academy and the US Embassy in Kazakhstan jointly organized a four-day training session for representatives of the Financial Police, the Financial Police Academy, the Supreme Court, the General Prosecutor's Office, the Finance Ministry's Committee on Financial Monitoring, the non-governmental Association on Countering the Laundering of Illegal Assets, central and commercial banks, police and other

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[29] PC.DEL/870/12 28 September 2012
[30] SEC.GAL/227/12 26 November 2012
[31] Transnational Threats Department: "Report to the Security Committee on the Activities of the TNT Department (29 April 2013)", SEC.GAL/74/13, 22 April 2013.

legal officials. The training, which was held near Astana and focused on global issues of cyber, information and communication technology security as well as the increasing misuse of advanced computer systems by various criminal groups in Kazakhstan, was aimed at enhancing the trainees' capacity to detect and investigate cybercrimes.

The training was part of a series of OSCE Centre activities designed to promote good governance and to contribute to a safer society carried out in partnership with Kazakhstan's national stakeholders, the OSCE Secretariat in Vienna and international organizations present in the country.[32]

OSCE Ministerial Council

At the 2012 Ministerial Council in Dublin, a proposal was tabled for a Ministerial Council decision on confidence-building measures to reduce the risks of conflict stemming from the use of ICTs. The draft welcomed the adoption and the progress made in implementation of Permanent Council Decision 1039 on the development of CBMs to reduce the risks of conflict stemming from the use of ICT and recommended several additional tasks for the OSCE in this field.[33] However, a decision was not reached on the proposal.

NATO

In March, NATO's Co-operative Cyber Defense Centre of Excellence published a non-binding guide to cyber warfare titled "The Tallinn Manual on the International Law Applicable to Cyber Warfare". Prepared by an independent 'International Group of Experts' at the invitation of the Centre, the guide is the result of a three-year effort to examine how norms of international law may apply to cyber warfare. The Tallinn Manual pays particular attention to *jus ad bellum*, the body of international law governing the resort to force by States as an instrument of national policy, and *jus in bello*, the body of international law regulating the conduct of armed conflict.[34]

Reform of the OSCE

I.   OSCE PA Recommendations

The Monaco Declaration called on the OSCE to "undertake the necessary internal reforms to enable an effective response to the new security related environment whilst reflecting current financial restrictions". Recommendations were made in various sectors, including:

- the modification of the consensus rule for decision making regarding decisions on personnel, budget and administration matters;

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[32] OSCE Centre in Astana : "OSCE Centre promotes cybercrime investigation techniques in Kazakhstan", 12 March 2013, http://www.osce.org/astana/100086 .

[33] CIO.GAL/139/12 12 October 2012

[34] NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence, The Tallinn Manual, http://www.ccdcoe.org/249.html

- the fulfillment, on the part of the Secretary General, of the 2004 OSCE Gender Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality (notably increased representation of women as heads or deputy heads of OSCE missions and in leadership positions within OSCE institutions);
- the re-opening of an OSCE presence in Belarus and Georgia;
- the adoption of the strategic framework for police-related activities based on promotion of democratic policing principles that was developed by OSCE participating States under the Lithuanian OSCE Chairmanship during 2011.

II.   OSCE PA Activities

Internal reform of the OSCE

In his remarks to the Ministerial Council held in Dublin on 6 December 2012, then OSCE PA President Riccardo Migliori stated that "the backbone of the OSCE is the field missions and their programmes" and that the PA has "consistently called for protecting the budgets of the field missions and to avoid constructing a large bureaucracy". Migliori voiced concern about resources being taken away from the field operations in favour of the Secretariat, and called upon the OSCE to "operate with the same transparency and accountability that we all expect from our own governments".[35]

Helsinki +40 ambassadorial meeting

OSCE PA Special Representative Ambassador Andreas Nothelle represented the PA at the first meeting of the ambassadorial working group on the Helsinki +40 Process on 12 February 2013. During the meeting, the Ukrainian Chairmanship announced that it would invite Amb. Nothelle to participate in the meetings, and would appreciate written submissions by the OSCE PA on any issues of concern to the Assembly. Nothelle referred to the extended mandate of the PA's Committee on Transparency and Accountability and the resolution on Helsinki +40 adopted in Monaco, urging OSCE participating States to use the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Helsinki Final Act "as an occasion to renew the vision and the role of the OSCE in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security architecture."[36]

OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Transparency and Reform of the OSCE

Two meetings of the OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Transparency and Reform of the OSCE were held in February and April 2013. The work of the Committee focused particularly on two subjects: the preparation of a resolution on transparency and accountability for the 2013 Annual Session in Istanbul and the perspectives of co-operation with the OSCE/ODIHR. With regard to the latter, the Committee recommended the 1997 agreement be applied to the election observation missions in Bulgaria and Albania for further evaluation of the experiences of such monitoring missions by the Assembly at the Annual Session in July in Istanbul. The OSCE PA's

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[35] "President Riccardo Migliori Remarks to the Ministerial Council, 6 December 2012, Dublin" (available at: http://www.oscepa.org/publications/all-documents/doc_download/1327-riccardo-migliori-address-to-the-osce-ministerial-council-06-12-12)
[36] News from Copenhagen, Number 465, 13 February 2013.

leadership accepted the recommendation during the Bureau Meeting held on 15 April 2013 in Copenhagen.[37]

OSCE Security Days

On 17-18 June the OSCE held the 2013 Security Days event in Vienna. Participants included eminent speakers including journalists, ambassadors and representatives from academic institutions, governments and other international organizations. A variety of topics pertaining to security within the OSCE area were discussed including security challenges deriving from the OSCE neighbourhood as well as patterns for promoting conflict prevention and for addressing trans-national threats from a regional perspective.

The Parliamentary Assembly was represented at the event by Vilija Aleknaite Abramikiene, Rapporteur of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Committee on Political Affairs and Security and Member of Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania. Aleknaite Abramikiene took part in the debate on "the OSCE in the 21st Century: Regional Security Organization and Community of Values".

III.   OSCE Initiatives

IDEAS initiative

In an address to the OSCE Ministerial Council in December, German Minister of State and Member of the Bundestag Michael Georg Link noted that "All of us, the participating States, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and all OSCE institutions, bear joint responsibility for [the OSCE's] promotion and further development." In this regard, he highlighted the IDEAS initiative launched by the foreign ministers of Germany, France, Poland and Russia, which is intended to provide a strategic contribution to the Helsinki +40 process in leading the OSCE into the future.[38]

The project is envisaged as a multi-country think tank initiative for the development of a Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian Security Community, and aims to conceptualize "a free, democratic, common and indivisible Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community stretching from Vancouver to Vladivostok". The initiative includes the participation of four highly regarded think tanks: the Centre for OSCE Research (CORE) at the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH), the Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique (FRS), the Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM), and the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (University) of the Russian Foreign Ministry.

In October, the four think tanks issued a report[39] intended to contribute to a critical debate on the conceptualization of a security community. Including sections on "Developing Arms Control, CSBMs and Military Co-operation", "Taking Responsibility for Protracted Conflicts",

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[37] OSCE PA Press Release: "OSCE PA Bureau reactivates election observation agreement", 15 April 2013.
[38] MC.DEL/11/12/Rev.1 6 December 2012
[39] Available here: http://www.pism.pl/events/others/Launch-of-IDEAS-Report-at-the-OSCE-forum-in-Vienna

"Addressing Transnational Threats and Challenges", "Engaging in the Economic and Environmental Dimension" and "Engaging in the Human Dimension", the report argues that building a security community in the OSCE area cannot be delegated to the Organization alone. "States benefit from the existence of a dense network of European, Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian institutions", notes the report, stressing that "all OSCE participating States work together in multiple institutional settings, whether as full members or associate partners".[40]

Fulfillment of the 2004 OSCE Gender Plan for the Promotion of Gender equality

On 25 October 2012, OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier presented to the Permanent Council the 2012 Annual Evaluation Report on achievements and challenges in the promotion of gender equality in the OSCE.[41] The 2013 Gender Report concludes that although comprehensive gender-related commitments have been put in place in OSCE structures and in most participating States, a balanced gender representation still remains to be achieved.

The OSCE maintains a staff of 2,636, with women representing 46 per cent of the total workforce. Compared to the previous reporting period, the number of women in all positions decreased by one per cent. Women continue to be under-represented in senior management positions (30 per cent in 2012) compared to their overall representation within the general service and professional staff sector (47 and 46 per cent respectively).

Since the publication of the 2012 Secretary General's Annual Evaluation Report, gender balance within the Heads of Missions and Heads of Institutions categories has slightly increased. On 16 May 2012, Ambassador Madina Jarbussynova was appointed OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine and on 7 March 2013 the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Dunja Mijatović, was reappointed to serve a second three-year term.

Women are also slightly better represented in the OSCE political structures. Two of the nine Personal and Special Representatives (Special Representative on Gender Issues and Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination), appointed by the current Ukrainian Chairmanship, are women. In addition, Ambassador Olga Algayerova has been appointed to head the Economic and Environmental Committee.

Re-opening of an OSCE presence in Belarus and Georgia

No significant development has been made toward the re-opening of the OSCE presence in the Belarus and Georgia.

Adoption of the strategic framework for police-related activities

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[40] "Towards a Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian Security Community: From Vision to Reality", final report of the IDEAS initiative, 23 October 2012, http://www.pism.pl/files/?id_plik=11986

[41] "The Secretary General's Annual Evaluation Report on the implementation of the 2004 Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality", SEC.GAL/209/12, 30 October 2012.

The Permanent Council, at its 922nd Plenary Meeting, adopted decision no. 1049 on "OSCE Strategic Framework for Police-Related Activities". The objective of the Strategic Framework is to "define priority areas for the OSCE's police-related activities within the Organization's wider approach to security, combating transnational threats, and to render more operational the relevant provisions of the Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in the Twenty-First Century adopted at the Eleventh Meeting of the Ministerial Council at Maastricht in 2003." The annex to the decision also outlines four strategic features, divided into: guiding principles of the OSCE's police-related activities; OSCE's lines of action for police-related activities; thematic priorities of the OSCE's police-related activities; coherence, co-ordination and co-operation.[42]

Modification of the consensus rule for decision making

The decision making process with regard to personnel, budget and administration matters has not been changed.

Submission of a report of the work of the CiO to the OSCE PA and National Parliaments

I. OSCE PA Recommendations

The Monaco Declaration requests the OSCE Ministerial Council, at is December meeting or at the final meeting of each Chairperson-in-Office, to approve for submission to the Parliamentary Assembly, to National Parliaments and National delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly a report of the work of the outgoing CiO, in order to enhance the ability of OSCE PA to be better advised on OSCE activities.

II. OSCE Chairmanship

Replying to a specific question on this matter from a member of the Parliamentary Assembly during the 2013 OSCE PA's Winter Meeting, OSCE Chair's Special Envoy Vyacheslav Yatsiuk stated that the "Organization prepares an Annual Report which is a comprehensive report about the OSCE activities for the year and part of this report also includes a specific section on the activities of the Chairmanship". Yatsiuk affirmed the Chairmanship's readiness for a close interaction with the Parliamentary Assembly and its individual parliamentarians.

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[42]"Decision No. 1049: OSCE Strategic Framework for Police-related Activities", PC.DEC/1049, 26 July 2012, (available at: http://www.osce.org/pc/92559).