

OSCE PA General Committees debate draft resolutions



Opening the meeting of the First Committee on Sunday, Chair Richard Hudson (United States) noted that the OSCE area currently faces the starkest test of the international security order since the Helsinki Final Act was adopted nearly 50 years ago. He reiterated the OSCE PA's unwavering support for Ukraine and condemned the Russian Federation's military aggression. Rapporteur Tobias Winkler (Germany) presented his report and draft resolution, underlining that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine remain paramount. The draft resolution also covers the Israel-Hamas war, Winkler noted.

In the debate, members stressed that a variety of means should be employed to advocate for peace and long-term stability, noting that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine must be guaranteed. Concern was expressed over the situation in the Middle East, the suffering of civilians, and the potential effects on regional stability.

In the Second Committee, Chair Azay Guliyev (Azerbaijan) expressed concern about the economic and environmental impact of the war against Ukraine and also highlighted the need for international co-operation to ensure that artificial intelligence is developed and deployed in ways that safeguard human rights. He also touched on topics such as

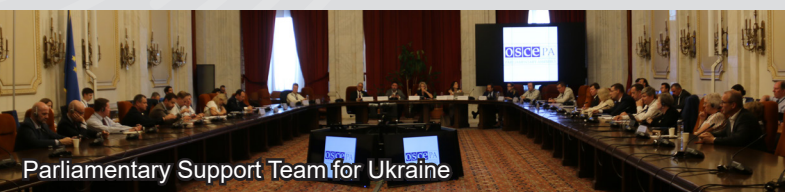
air, soil and water pollution, as well as climate change.

Rapporteur Gudrun Kugler (Austria) discussed environmental war crimes, sustainable economic recovery, artificial intelligence, demographic decline, the dangers of digitalization to children, and migration. AI featured prominently in the debate, and delegates also focused on the importance of climate action. The committee agreed to four amendments before adjourning for the day.

Opening the meeting of the Third Committee, Chair Lucie Potuckova (Czechia) spoke about the worsening human rights situation across the OSCE region, including shrinking space for civil society and independent media. She expressed deep concern over war crimes in Ukraine, as well as the humanitarian impact of the Israel-Hamas conflict.

Rapporteur Malik Ben Achour (Belgium) outlined the topics covered by his report, including the impacts of armed conflicts on civilians, the situation of displaced persons, fundamental freedoms, and safeguarding the OSCE as a defender of human rights. In the debate, members underlined that the fight against corruption is a basic condition for the functioning of the rule of law and stressed that even countries experiencing conflicts must respect the rights of their people.

Ad Hoc Committees meet for discussions on terrorism, migration and Ukraine



The PA's ad hoc committees on counter-terrorism, migration and Ukraine met Sunday to review ongoing activities. Chaired by OSCE PA President Pia Kauma (Finland), the Parliamentary Support Team for Ukraine (PSTU) included reports from members of Ukraine's OSCE

PA Delegation who discussed the current situation and described the most immediate needs of the country.

In the Ad Hoc Committee on Migration, chaired by Daniela De Ridder (Germany), members heard from Guido Tintori from the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, who spoke about the OSCE's work on migration. Chaired by Kamil Aydin (Türkiye), the Committee on Countering Terrorism (CCT) discussed the CCT's visit to Türkiye in May and other recent activities. They also heard from the UNOCT's David Alamos, who spoke about building parliamentary engagement in the fight against terrorism.

OSCE parliamentarians debate gender issues at working lunch

With opening remarks by OSCE PA Special Representative on Gender Issues Hedy Fry (Canada), President Pia Kauma (Finland) Head of Romania's PA Delegation Dan Barna and SG Roberto Montella, the working lunch on gender issues tackled challenges faced by parliaments and governments of OSCE participating States when trying to integrate gender perspectives into their work. Participants heard presentations by Liliana Palihovici, OSCE Chairpersonship-in-Office Special Representative



on Gender, and Monica Ferro, Director of the United Nations Population Fund Representation Office in London.