



## Assembly prepares for Annual Session



On 29 and 30 May three members of the International Secretariat paid a final preparatory visit to Brussels for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Session to be held in the Belgian capital from 3 to 7 July. Deputy Secretary General Vitaly Evseyev, General Services Officer Kurt Lerras and Presidential Advisor Gustavo Pallarés met with the staff of the Belgian Federal Parliament to review and finalise all aspects of the Annual Session including the programme and organizational modalities. Under a unique arrangement with the Belgian Federal Parliament, the Annual Session will be held on the premises of the European Parliament. The Secretariat team visited the the European Parliament, which will provide excellent conditions for the Session.

The Belgian hosts are organizing an interesting and enjoyable social programme, including an excursion and an opening reception in the presence of his Majesty the King Albert II.

### Reports and Draft Resolutions

The Reports and Draft Resolutions for all three General Committees have been distributed to all delegations, and are also available on the OSCE PA's website in all languages ([www.oscepa.org](http://www.oscepa.org)).

The texts of proposed Supplementary Items have also begun to be received at the International Secretariat.

### **Reminders**

All Delegations are reminded of the following deadlines, in conjunction with the Brussels Session:

#### Resolutions and Supplementary Items

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|----------|--|
| 12 June: | Deadline for Supplementary Items               |
| 19 June: | Deadlines for amendments to Draft Resolutions  |
| 26 June: | Deadline for amendments to Supplementary Items |

#### Hotel registration

The deadline for booking hotels has now passed. Delegations which have not yet booked hotel rooms are urged to do so promptly, as rooms can no longer be guaranteed.

#### Payment of dues

A few delegations have not yet paid their dues, and are reminded that those Delegations which do not pay their dues to the Assembly will not be entitled to vote during the Annual Session, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

### **Conference on modern communications and OSCE-Mediterranean relations**

On 29 May, François-Xavier De Donnea, Member of the Belgian Delegation, organized and chaired a conference on 'The role of the web and satellite television in the relationships between the peoples of the OSCE, the Mediterranean and the Middle Eastern countries', held in Brussels.

Minister De Donnea, Chairman of the European Institute for Research on Mediterranean and Euro-Arab Co-operation, organized the conference under the high patronage of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht. The conference brought together experts in the fields of communications and inter-cultural relations, as well as government and parliamentary representatives. OSCE PA Special Representative on the Mediterranean and President Emeritus Bruce George addressed the closing session of the conference.

Programme Officer Andreas Baker from the International Secretariat also attended the conference.



*OSCE Chairman-in-Office Karel De Gucht, Minister De Donnea, and Dr. Ayed Ben Amin Madani, Saudi Minister of Culture and Information, addressed the conference in Brussels.*