

## Presidential visit to Egypt highlights security, individual freedoms and Mediterranean co-operation



Pascal Allizard, George Tsereteli, Ali Abdel Aal Sayyed Ahmed, and Roberto Montella in Cairo, 6 November 2019

An OSCE PA delegation, led by President George Tsereteli (MP, Georgia), was in Egypt last week. The delegation, which included Vice-President and Special Representative on Mediterranean Affairs Pascal Allizard (MP, France) and Secretary General Roberto Montella, met with the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ali Abdel Aal Sayyed Ahmed, Deputy Foreign Minister Hamdi Loza, as well as the Assistant Ministers in charge of Human Rights, Parliamentary Affairs, and Multilateral Affairs. Vice-President Allizard also exchanged with experts from the

International Organization for Migration.

Discussions touched on recent developments in the Middle East and common issues of concern, including the fight against radicalization and terrorism, and the migrant and refugee crisis. The OSCE PA's Ad Hoc Committees were cited as a good example of the contribution of interparliamentary exchanges to respond to transnational security challenges. The PA delegation also discussed with Egyptian counterparts the need to maintain the delicate balance between domestic security and the safeguard of individual freedoms.

As part of their visit, the PA delegation met with Coptic Pope Tawadros II to exchange on the role of interfaith dialogue in promoting stability in Egypt.

Tsereteli, Allizard and Montella stressed that the visit to Egypt illustrated the good co-operation already enjoyed with Egyptian parliamentarians, who regularly participate in PA meetings. Achieving security in Europe requires greater North-South dialogue between both shores of the Mediterranean, they said, noting that the PA is eager to collaborate closely with all Partners for Co-operation, as was demonstrated through the successful organization of the Autumn Meeting by Morocco last month.

The visit was supported by Anna Di Domenico and Loic Poullain from the International Secretariat.

## EOM deadline reminder

Delegations are kindly reminded that those wishing to participate in the election observation mission to Uzbekistan's parliamentary elections on 22 December are asked to complete and return registration documents to the International Secretariat (at [eom@oscepa.dk](mailto:eom@oscepa.dk)) no later than Tuesday 19 November 2019.

## PA's Miladinovic and Charalambides promote co-operation on cybersecurity and fighting corruption



Stefana Miladinovic at the OSCE Security Day, Vienna, 8 Nov.

Special Rapporteur on Digital Agenda Stefana Miladinovic (Serbia) spoke on 8 November at the OSCE Security Days event and Special Representative on Fighting Corruption Irene Charalambides (Cyprus) visited Paris and Strasbourg this week to build co-operation in the fight against corruption.

In her intervention as a panelist at the Security Days Session on "Technology for Security," Miladinovic noted that new technological tools have made life for citizens much easier and have provided them with opportunities for a more active participation in public life. Digitalization has also offered us innovative instruments for fighting against human rights violations, she said, but



Jeffrey Schlagenhauf and Irene Charalambides in Paris, 12 Nov.

the security risks brought by the digital transformation should not be underestimated.

Charalambides has met with OECD officials in Paris including Deputy Secretary General Jeffrey Schlagenhauf, as well as representatives of GRECO and MONEYVAL in Strasbourg. In meetings, the sides discussed how to reinforce each other's multidisciplinary approaches to fighting corruption, including preventing bribery of public officials, promoting public sector integrity, and improving corporate governance.

The visits were supported by Marco Bonabello and Anna Di Domenico from the International Secretariat.

## OSCE HCNM and Representative on Combating Anti-Semitism visit the OSCE PA International Secretariat



Lamberto Zannier, Roberto Montella and Andrew Baker in Copenhagen, 13 Nov.

The OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, Amb. Lamberto Zannier, and OSCE Representative on Combating Anti-Semitism, Rabbi Andrew Baker, visited the International Secretariat on Wednesday for discussions that touched on a number of issues including the worrisome rise in anti-Semitism in the OSCE region and the role of MPs in promoting tolerance. Meeting with OSCE PA Secretary General and staff, the sides discussed ways to promote synergy and co-operation between OSCE institutions working on these and other issues.