News from Copenhagen
Updates from the OSCE PA International Secretariat

OSCE PA

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OSCE PA leadership meets in Copenhagen for annual spring meeting

President Pia Kauma chairs the Bureau meeting on 7 April 2025.

Meeting Monday at the Danish Parliament in Copenhagen, members of the OSCE PA's Bureau, joined by Special Representatives and Chairs of Ad Hoc Committees, discussed priority issues for the Assembly ahead of this summer's Annual Session in Porto, Portugal. On the agenda were discussions of OSCE PA President Pia Kauma (Finland)'s activities, the report of Treasurer Johan Büser (Sweden) and his presentation of the fiscal year 2025-26 budget, and the presentations of OSCE PA Rapporteurs regarding their ideas and intentions for the Annual Session. Chairs of Ad Hoc Committees and Special Representatives also reported to the Bureau, focusing on issues such as youth engagement and countering terrorism.

Welcoming OSCE parliamentarians to Denmark, the Acting Head of the Danish Delegation, Malte Larsen, recalled that inter-parliamentary gatherings are a powerful reminder of the importance of multilateral co-operation. President Kauma provided an overview of her plans ahead of the Porto Annual Session, stressing the importance of responding proactively to emerging challenges.

First Committee Rapporteur Tobias Winkler (Germany) presented his report and draft resolution, highlighting the Ukraine war as the leading threat to security and stability in the OSCE area and reiterating OSCE PA calls for the immediate withdrawal of Russian military forces from the territory of Ukraine. He also urged continued financial, political, diplomatic and military aid to Kyiv, noting the importance of ensuring strong engagement in defence of the Helsinki Final Act's core principles.

The report of the Second Committee Rapporteur Paula Cardoso (Portugal) intends to cover climate change, water scarcity, migration, clean energy, good governance, artificial intelligence, connectivity and re-industrialization, and rebuilding Ukraine. The report will focus heavily on maximizing the OSCE PA's contributions in all of these fields.

Carina Ödebrink (Sweden), the Rapporteur of the Third Committee, presented her preliminary report and draft resolution, focusing on protecting people in armed conflict, fundamental freedoms, minorities and vulnerable groups, women's rights and gender equality, and enhancing and protecting the OSCE human dimension. She stressed that dedication to human rights is paramount.

Following the presentations of the draft resolutions, Bureau members discussed their content and offered feedback. Once the Rapporteurs consider this feedback and incorporate changes, the documents will be published on the OSCE PA's website.

Albania Election Observation Mission deadline reminder

Parliamentary elections are taking place in Albania on 11 May, and the OSCE PA President has decided to deploy an Election Observation Mission to work closely with an expected Election Observation Mission of the OSCE/ODIHR, as well as delegations from partner parliamentary assemblies. National Delegations wishing to nominate their members to participate in this mission are kindly asked to register with the International Secretariat at (eom@oscepa.dk) no later than Friday, 11 April.

President Kauma participates in IPU Assembly in Tashkent, holds bilateral meetings

Participating this week in the 150th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, OSCE PA President Pia Kauma (Finland) has highlighted the need for working across regional and institutional boundaries to meet the growing challenges the world grapples with today. Over the past two days, she has met with parliamentarians and diplomats from across the OSCE area, as well as high-level IPU officials, underlining the importance of utilizing all opportunities to solidify multilateral engagement among all stakeholders.

Yesterday, she spoke during the general debate session, noting that at times of heightened geopolitical tensions and threats to democracy, inter-parliamentary co-operation is more essential than ever. The PA, she said, remains committed to promoting security, stability, and democratic resilience through dialogue, mediation, and election observation across the OSCE's 57 participating States.

On the margins of the meeting, President Kauma met with IPU officials including President and Speaker of the National Assembly of Tanzania Tulia Ackson, and Secretary General Martin Chungong. The sides discussed avenues for deepening co-operation between the OSCE PA and the IPU, and stressed that the organizations' shared commitment to parliamentary diplomacy reinforces the global rules-based order while strengthening the role of legislatures in conflict prevention and resolution.

Pia Kauma meets IPU President Tulia Ackson in Tashkent, 8 April

In a meeting with Tanzila Narbaeva, Chairperson of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan, President Kauma offered gratitude for Uzbekistan hosting the IPU meeting and welcomed the participation of Uzbekistan in the OSCE PA. She noted the value of the dialogue that is enabled by inter-parliamentary forums such as the IPU and the OSCE PA, and urged Uzbekistan to remain actively involved in both.

President Kauma also met with Ambassador Antti Karttunen, OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan, and with representatives of Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belarus, Georgia, and the Russian Federation.

For further information contact Head of Communications and Press Nat Parry
at **+45 33 37 80 40** or email **nat@oscepa.dk** | **www.oscepa.org**