

Visit of Special Co-ordinator Karimi to Albania focuses on pre-electoral environment



Sherif Abdili, Andreas Nothelle, Farah Karimi, Fatmir Mediu, and Ermonela Valikaj Felaj in Tirana, 10 April 2025

An OSCE PA delegation, led by Special Co-ordinator Farah Karimi (The Netherlands), was in Tirana on 9-12 April for a pre-election visit ahead of Albania's 11 May parliamentary elections. Karimi, accompanied by Andreas Nothelle and Sherif Abdili from the International Secretariat, had a full programme of meetings in Tirana, holding discussions with Amb. Michel Tarran, Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania, political party representatives, the Central Election Commission, the Special Structure against Corruption and Organized Crime, and the OSCE/ODIHR election observation mission, which includes a core team of 12



Meeting with the Audiovisual Media Authority in Tirana, 11 April

experts and 26 long-term observers, led by Lamberto Zannier. Karimi also met with members of Albania's OSCE PA Delegation, a number of civil society organizations, media representatives, and the Audiovisual Media Authority (AMA) of Albania. The pre-electoral visit served as a useful opportunity to gain perspective on the political climate, the media landscape and the environment for civil society ahead of the 11 May elections. Some 75 OSCE parliamentarians have registered to observe these elections, with the delegation from the PA currently totalling 102 observers.

Counter-terrorism Chair Aydin represents OSCE PA at artificial intelligence conference



Kamil Aydin addresses counter-terrorism conference on 17 April

OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism Chair Kamil Aydin (Türkiye) spoke on 17 April at an inter-parliamentary conference on artificial intelligence and terrorism organized by the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism in St. Petersburg together with the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Common-

wealth of Independent States.

The one-day conference focused on the theme of "Legislative regulation of measures to counter the use of artificial intelligence and other new technologies for terrorist activities." Participants discussed, in particular, legislative and policy responses at the national and international levels to the increasing use of AI technologies by terrorist actors.

Joining remotely, CCT Chair Aydin highlighted the work of the CCT in facilitating dialogue among parliamentarians, experts, and other stakeholders in promoting best practices in regulating AI, stressing the need to balance solid ethical standards with economic development and technological innovation.

Nobel Peace Prize laureate visits OSCE PA International Secretariat in Copenhagen

On 23 April, David Beasley, former Executive Director of the UN World Food Programme and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, visited OSCE PA headquarters in Copenhagen. He met with Secretary General Roberto Montella and engaged in a wide-ranging discussion with the PA's staff. Beasley shared reflections from his leadership in global humanitarian operations, focusing on the protection and strategic effectiveness of international aid. He also addressed the complex communication challenges faced in today's world, stressing the importance of clear and strategic messaging in mobilizing support and maintaining access to vulnerable populations.

Central to his message was the need to keep people at the



David Beasley, Roberto Montella and staff in Copenhagen, 23 April

heart of all international efforts and the vital role diplomacy plays in achieving sustainable solutions. Secretary General Montella emphasized that the OSCE PA, as a platform of elected members of parliament representing one billion people, shares this people-centered focus.

Staff from Estonian Parliament briefed on OSCE PA work in Copenhagen



Estonian visitors and Secretariat staff in Copenhagen, 22 April

A delegation from the Foreign Relations Department of the Estonian Parliament – led by Head of Department Toomas Kukk and Deputy Head, Chief of Protocol Anu Mõtsla

– visited the International Secretariat in Copenhagen on 22 April to meet with Secretary General Roberto Montella, Deputy Secretary General Gustavo Pallares and other senior staff.

Discussions focused on the work and priorities of the OSCE PA, including its future direction amid financial and political challenges. Key topics included strengthening co-operation between national parliaments and the International Secretariat, the wide-ranging impacts of the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine, and enhancing regional co-operation, with emphasis on the OSCE PA's engagement in Central Asia and its partnerships in the Mediterranean.