

Seminar at Norwegian parliament explores ways to revitalize 'Helsinki effect'



Oslo seminar on the Helsinki Final Act, 13 June 2025

Restoring security and co-operation in a Europe at war was the topic of a seminar held 13 June at the Norwegian Storting in Oslo with the support of Norway's Delegation to the OSCE PA. Focused on how to revitalize the commitment to international norms ahead of the 50th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, the event explored the document's ongoing relevance and how to put its principles into action.

"As we mark the 50th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, we are doing so at a time when European security faces serious challenges," OSCE PA President Pia Kauma (Finland) said at the close of the event. "Russia's war against Ukraine is the most significant threat to peace and stability in the OSCE region, and continues to violate core principles of the Helsinki Final Act." Kauma noted, however, that inspiration can be taken from the fact that the Final Act was signed during the Cold War, when tensions between the East and West were high.

Speakers at the seminar highlighted the relevance of the

Helsinki Final Act, noting that the document not only marked the beginning of the end of the Cold War, but contributed significantly to intergovernmental co-operation and established a new blueprint for comprehensive security.

"Security and co-operation is just as important in today's Europe as in 1975, when the Helsinki Final Act was signed," said Siv Mossleth, Head of Norway's PA Delegation. "For me as an MP, the values from Helsinki, democracy, human dignity, freedom and the rule of law are the foundations of real security."

Also addressing the seminar were Feridun Sinirlioğlu, OSCE Secretary General, who spoke about the urgent need to revive the principles of the Helsinki Final Act in order to maintain a forum for serious multilateral diplomatic engagement, and Berit Lindeman, Secretary General of the Norwegian Helsinki Committee, who led a panel called "stories from the field." OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Jan Braathu and OSCE PA Deputy Secretary General Gusavo Pallares also participated in the event.

Following the opening session, President Kauma met briefly with Masud Gharakhani, President of the Storting, as well as Secretary General Sinirlioğlu. Meetings were also held with the Norwegian OSCE PA Delegation at the Storting and State Secretary Andreas Eivind Vad Petersson at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

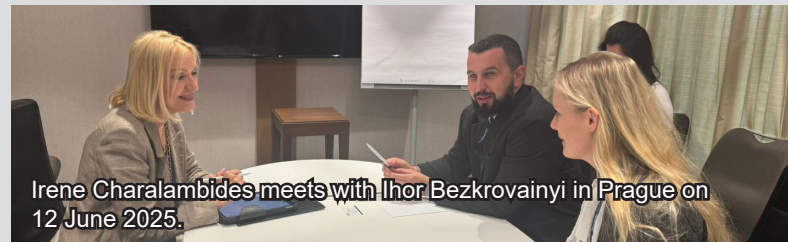
Rapporteur Cardoso publishes op-ed ahead of Annual Session

Ahead of the 32nd Annual Session taking place later this month in Porto, Portugal, the Head of the Portuguese Delegation and Rapporteur of the Second Committee, Paula Cardoso, has authored an op-ed that was published this week at *European Interest*. To read the op-ed, please click here: <http://bit.ly/446bS9Q>

Special Rep. Charalambides meets with Ukrainian official, Third Committee Chair

Participating in the 20th GLOBSEC Forum held in Prague on 12–13 June, OSCE PA Vice-President and Special Representative on Fighting Corruption Irene Charalambides (Cyprus) held a bilateral meeting on 12 June with Ihor Bezkravainyi, Deputy Minister of Economy of Ukraine. The meeting focused on the humanitarian mine action, anti-corruption co-operation and international support for Ukraine's recovery and reconstruction in the wake of Russia's ongoing aggression.

Charalambides highlighted key milestones in the Assembly's work regarding Ukraine, including the establishment of the Parliamentary Support Team for Ukraine in 2023. The meeting also touched on the OSCE's ongoing support for mine action in Ukraine and broader recovery initiatives under the Support Programme for Ukraine. Charalambides expressed appreciation for the close co-operation with the Ukrainian Delegation



Irene Charalambides meets with Ihor Bezkravainyi in Prague on 12 June 2025.

to the OSCE PA, including the active contributions of Mykyta Poturaiev and Artur Gerasymov.

While in Prague, Vice-President Charalambides also met with Third Committee Chair Lucie Potuckova at the Czech Parliament. They discussed security and human rights in the OSCE region, as well as preparations and priorities for the upcoming Annual Session in Porto.

CCT's work on online radicalization presented to OSCE Security Committee in Vienna

On behalf of Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism (CCT) Chair Kamil Aydın (Türkiye), OSCE PA Senior Advisor Marco Bonabello addressed the OSCE Security Committee on Tuesday in Vienna, sharing the PA's work on media literacy and youth engagement to prevent online radicalization.

Bonabello said that the increasing sophistication of emerging technologies is being exploited by extremist actors to recruit individuals, including children. As an evolving threat, the response of the international community must keep pace, he stressed,



Marco Bonabello addresses the OSCE Security Committee in Vienna on 17 June 2025.

highlighting the supplementary item on preventing youth radicalization to be considered at the Porto Annual Session.

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