

## Hundreds of OSCE parliamentarians to gather in Porto for 32nd Annual Session

Commemorating  
50 Years of the  
Helsinki Final Act:  
Responding to a  
New Reality in the  
OSCE

The 32nd Annual Session  
of the OSCE Parliamentary  
Assembly | Porto, Portugal  
29 June - 3 July 2025



This Sunday, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's 32nd Annual Session will open in Porto, Portugal, with speeches by OSCE PA President Pia Kauma (Finland), President of the Portuguese Parliament José Pedro Aguiar-Branco, and Paula Cardoso, Head of the Portuguese Delegation to the OSCE PA.

Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, President of the Portuguese Republic, and UN Secretary General António Guterres will address the delegates by remote intervention.

Taking place at the Alfândega do Porto Congress Centre from 29 June to 3 July, the Annual Session will be held under the general theme "Commemorating 50 Years of the Helsinki Final Act: Responding to a New Reality in the OSCE." Hundreds of lawmakers from North America, Europe and Central

Asia are taking part in the event, which will livestream at [www.oscepa.org](http://www.oscepa.org).

Parliamentarians will debate the state of multilateralism a half-century after the signing of the OSCE's founding document, with the situation in the Middle East and the Russian Federation's war against Ukraine topping the agenda. Debates are also expected on critical infrastructure and nuclear safety, water scarcity and migration, artificial intelligence and misuse of technology, youth radicalization and violent extremism, energy security, child trafficking and sexual exploitation, and OSCE institutional co-operation.

The plenary sessions on 2 and 3 July are expected to feature speeches by OSCE Secretary General Feridun H. Sinirlioğlu, Head of the Finnish OSCE 2025 Chairpersonship Task Force Jouni Laaksonen, OSCE PA Secretary General Roberto Montella, and OSCE PA Vice-President Luís Graça (Portugal). OSCE PA Treasurer Johan Büser (Sweden) will report to the Standing Committee on 29 June.

The three general committees will debate and amend the resolutions for inclusion in the Porto Declaration to be adopted on 3 July. This document, representing the collective voice of the OSCE's parliamentary dimension, will contain recommendations to governments, parliaments and the international community in the fields of security, human rights, and economic and environmental concerns. Parliamentarians will also elect leadership for 2025-26, including a new President.

## Rapporteurs publish op-eds ahead of Annual Session

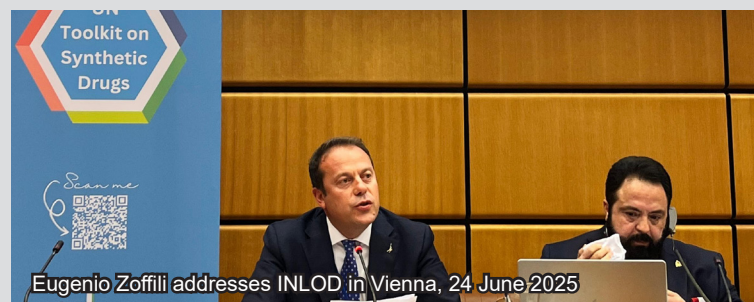
Tobias Winkler and Carina Ödebrink, Rapporteurs of the OSCE PA's First and Third Committees, respectively, have published op-eds this week focusing on subjects covered in their reports and draft resolutions for the Porto Annual Session. The op-eds are available, along with the one published by Second Committee Rapporteur Paula Cardoso earlier this month, at the OSCE PA website: <https://bit.ly/44t8CGO>

## Special Representative Zoffili speaks about combating synthetic drugs in Vienna

Speaking Tuesday at the First Global Meeting of the International Network for Legislation on Drugs, OSCE PA Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime Eugenio Zoffili (Italy) addressed the issue of effectively responding to the scourge of synthetic drugs such as fentanyl through multilateralism and parliamentary action.

Noting that the demand for synthetic drugs is on the rise in the OSCE area, Zoffili highlighted the evolving techniques of criminal organizations that are diversifying and using new technologies and crypto-currencies to finance their operations anonymously. He stressed that as OSCE PA Special Representative, his focus has been on three closely interconnected matters: drug trafficking, human trafficking and illegal immigration, and terrorism. He pointed out that the PA has been working closely with the United Nations to tackle these issues.

To effectively respond to the growing threat of synthetic drugs, Zoffili highlighted the importance of reinforcing co-ordination between our police forces and strategies to combat drug trafficking, as well as to focus on prevention. "This is the core principle driving Italy's intervention plan to prevent the spread of fentanyl throughout the country and to make our citizens,



Eugenio Zoffili addresses INLOD in Vienna, 24 June 2025

particularly the younger generations, aware of the threat posed by synthetic substances," Zoffili said.

The visit of the OSCE PA Special Representative to Vienna also includes a number of bilateral meetings, including with Jeremy Douglas, Chief of the Office of the Director-General/Executive Director and Strategy Advisor to the Executive Director of UNODC, and senior OSCE officials. Today, Zoffili is participating in the opening of the OSCE Annual Security Review Conference, the primary event in the politico-military dimension of security in the OSCE area.

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