



REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF OSCE PA PRESIDENT PIA KAUMA



2024-2025

Dear colleagues,

Our meeting in Porto serves as the Assembly's most important opportunity to make its political perspectives clear and to give voice to all parliamentarians active in the OSCE PA. I warmly thank the Portuguese Parliament for hosting our meeting, and contributing so strongly to our collective efforts on behalf of the OSCE.

The past half year has demonstrated the continued relevance of the OSCE, with instability and insecurity impacting so many across the OSCE region. But this same period has also demonstrated the ability of our Parliamentary Assembly to boldly seize opportunities and ensure a parliamentary perspective is given on key topical issues.

With the support of our Parliamentary Support Team for Ukraine, I am particularly proud to have convened our Bureau earlier this year in Kyiv, as the first international organization to hold a major meeting in Ukraine since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia. By doing so, our Members showed our solidarity, and Ukraine showed the world not only that it is contributing to European security by withstanding Russia's war of aggression, but that it simultaneously contributes to international fora like ours. However, much more needs to be done to return peace and security to Ukraine, and I have remained particularly active in pursuing the question of the thousands of abducted Ukrainian children. As an Assembly, I am determined that we should remain sensitive to the needs of our Ukrainian colleagues, and addressing this terrible war must stay at the top of our agenda.

The suffering of innocent victims has also been in focus in our engagement in the Middle East during the past year, during which time I've led two visits to Israel and the occupied West Bank. Both Israelis and Palestinians continue to live under a cloud of great insecurity. In the immediate term, massive and continued humanitarian aid is needed particularly in the Gaza strip, as is a full release of hostages and a sustained ceasefire, but long-term efforts aimed at coexistence, with a particular focus on education, must be made priorities. Our Assembly can continue to serve as an effective dialogue platform that can help to leverage diplomatic tools to support stability in the region.

In the OSCE PA we know the value of the political discussions we engage in with parliamentary colleagues. But I'm pleased that we have now also launched a series of visits to countries hosting OSCE field missions through which parliamentarians can also experience the OSCE's field work in person. I was joined by some 30 parliamentarians in visits to Serbia and Tajikistan, in the first of what I hope will be many visits. This is a cost-effective way for Members to support the OSCE and to learn about its work and potential.

It has been an honour to lead this Assembly and to experience the breadth of its work alongside colleagues. From personal experience I know that our contributions in counter-terrorism are highly valued in national capitals and at the United Nations in New York. Within our Assembly we have a great range of experience and diplomatic and political skill also in the field of mediation, and I have sought to make this available where useful. Our leading role in election observation remains a flagship activity that I've been pleased to contribute to, including during the elections in the United States and Georgia, and I've worked to ensure we remain active in this field with some 9 separate deployments in the past year. These experiences have demonstrated the need to continue discussions on developing our observation processes to accommodate modern approaches, as targeted disinformation and algorithm manipulation increasingly replace ballot-box stuffing. The Assembly has also become a focal point for many associated conferences and fora that I've been pleased to contribute to, including in critical topics such as countering crime, corruption and terrorism in Rome, security and co-operation in a Europe at war in Oslo, and economic co-operation and ecological balance in Budva, as well as several substantive events focused on gender relations and parliaments.

It was with this vibrancy in mind that I also launched early in my presidency a series of informal sessions among Bureau Members to contribute to longer term strategic thinking into the work of the Assembly. The fact that the next president will be elected for two years is one direct outcome of this process. Our discussions on topics such as thinking on the political positioning of our Assembly, strategic co-operation and partnerships, and communications have also contributed to an overall stronger and more effective Assembly.

In this 50th anniversary year for the OSCE, I know that a historical perspective on the organization has been important for many of us. In my work I have aimed to live up to the principles that drove the statesmen (yes, they were all men) signing the Helsinki Final Act in 1975. The principles of human rights and security have been at the core of my work as I have engaged in dialogue even with those that I severely disagree with. I continue to believe that principle-based dialogue – even with adversaries as was the case in 1975 – contributes to our collective security.

As I leave my presidency of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, I believe that the Assembly is in a strong position to continue contributing to the challenges of the future. I have enjoyed my close co-operation with so many parliamentary colleagues from throughout the OSCE region, and thank you for your support. I particularly extend my thanks to Secretary General Roberto Montella and the International Secretariat that he leads. Their support and guidance has been important for me and is critical to a well-functioning Assembly. Their cost-conscious mindset and professionalism enable the Secretariat to have an impact far beyond what could be expected from such a small staff. I hope that the Assembly will continue to place its trust in the Secretariat and to provide their team with the resources needed to support our critical work of inter-parliamentary diplomacy.

President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Pia Kauma

Porto, 29 June 2025



REPORT OF OSCE PA PRESIDENT PIA KAUMA
STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING



21 February
2025

Dear colleagues,

The past months have seen strong engagement in upholding the principles of the OSCE. Through election observation, diplomatic initiatives, and sustained efforts to strengthen democracy and security, our work has demonstrated the **power of parliamentary diplomacy** in addressing today's challenges.

Since our Autumn Meeting, we have experienced a particularly active election period. I extend my gratitude to all Members for their participation. I had the privilege of serving as Special Co-ordinator for the general elections in the United States and as Head of Delegation for the parliamentary elections in Georgia, engaging with many of you on the need to **protect the OSCE's democratic commitments**. In this context, the OSCE PA will observe the upcoming parliamentary elections in Albania and in Moldova.

However, our responsibility extends beyond election observation. **We must ensure that parliaments act on the OSCE's recommendations**. Despite efforts to engage following the release of the ODIHR final report on the elections in Georgia, the political climate in Tbilisi made a planned visit impossible in early January. I have made it clear that dialogue does not equate to endorsing election results or political parties; rather, it is essential for addressing Georgia's democratic backsliding. While other international actors, particularly the Council of Europe and its Parliamentary Assembly, have remained engaged, I am concerned that **the OSCE's absence risks undermining its core mission**.

In Ashgabat, the conference on "Parliamentary Diplomacy in the OSCE Area: Dialogue as a Tool for Building Bridges for a Secure and Peaceful Future" underscored the need to integrate the perspectives of future generations into policymaking, in line with our Vancouver Declaration. The themes discussed align closely with our election observation efforts. Strengthening democratic institutions requires not only monitoring elections but also **sustained engagement** with national parliaments to promote dialogue, institutional reform, and the implementation of OSCE recommendations.

Another crucial pillar of the OSCE's work is its Field Operations. Recognizing their importance, we have launched a new series of country visits to **deepen our understanding of OSCE missions and to advocate more effectively on their behalf**. Our first visit took us to Serbia last

October, where a delegation from 12 countries reaffirmed our collective commitment to the OSCE's mission and values. The professionalism of OSCE field staff, combined with the cooperation of local authorities, underscores the indispensable role of these operations. Building on this momentum, we are planning a visit to Tajikistan this spring to deepen our engagement in Central Asia.

As the Russian Federation's full-scale invasion of Ukraine continues to devastate the country, our response must remain unwavering. Since our last meeting, I have appointed three Special Rapporteurs to the Parliamentary Support Team for Ukraine (PSTU) to strengthen our support within the OSCE's comprehensive security framework. Prior to the Winter Meeting, I travelled to Kyiv with members of our Bureau and the PSTU to demonstrate our solidarity. Our meeting in the Verkhovna Rada sent a strong message of **our commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty, democracy, and resilience.**

At the Mediterranean Forum in Dublin, we examined how to best engage with our Partners for Co-operation and addressed the evolving situation in the Middle East. Developments in the region have since accelerated dramatically and our Assembly should continue working to **promote international co-operation and regional stability.** Earlier this month, I visited Ankara to highlight Türkiye's key role in the OSCE, which will be reflected during the 2025 Autumn Meeting. Next month, the Assembly's leadership will also travel to Israel and the West Bank to assess the situation on the ground and explore avenues for **constructive engagement.**

In a meeting with His Holiness Pope Francis, I explored how parliamentary diplomacy can bridge divides and promote peaceful solutions, particularly in the context of the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East. The OSCE PA must remain committed to **fostering dialogue as the path to lasting peace and justice.**

The **urgent need for unity and leadership in guiding the Organization** through current and future challenges was at the heart of my addresses to the OSCE Ministerial Council in Valletta in December and to the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna last month. As we approach the 50th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, it is more important than ever to **uphold and strengthen the OSCE's principles.** Indeed, the erosion of trust in multilateral institutions has weakened our ability to address security challenges, even in regions like the Arctic, and Greenland in particular, where co-operation was once the norm but is now overshadowed by

geostrategic competition. Similarly, in the Baltic region, growing concerns over hybrid threats, including the security of critical infrastructure such as underwater cables, highlight the need for enhanced regional co-operation and resilience. Reversing this trend must be a collective priority for all participating States.

A unique opportunity arises as both the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and I come from Finland. I am committed to leveraging this opportunity before my term ends at the next Annual Session. Our shared priorities will be advanced through **close coordination between the Finnish Chairpersonship and the OSCE PA**. This commitment was reinforced at our recent meeting in Helsinki, where the Bureau interacted with Foreign Minister Elina Valtonen. We explored ways to enhance the OSCE PA's role and deepen cooperation with OSCE institutions. This built on prior discussions held in Valletta ahead of the Ministerial Council, where we addressed **the future of the OSCE PA and the Assembly's strategic priorities**.

"Looking ahead, we must continue to **fully leverage parliamentary diplomacy** to address today's challenges and remain steadfast in upholding the values and principles that define the OSCE. I thank you all for your active engagement on behalf of these goals as we prepare for our next Annual Session in Porto.

President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Pia Kauma

Vienna, 21 February 2025





REPORT OF OSCE PA PRESIDENT PIA KAUMA
STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING



2 October
2024

Dear colleagues,

We reconvene in Dublin for our Autumn Meeting, just three months after the Bucharest Annual Session. This marks the official launch of a new cycle that will bring us together again in Vienna in February 2025, followed by our Annual Session in Porto later that year. The Autumn Meeting offers a valuable opportunity to **assess some of the key challenges facing the OSCE**, engage with Irish representatives and experts, and **begin shaping the critical issues our Assembly will focus on in the year ahead**. I look forward to your active participation and contributions as we set the course for our future work.

Following the Annual Session, I have engaged with Members of the Bureau and several Delegations before proceeding with the **appointments** traditionally made by the elected President. These appointments serve multiple purposes: to ensure the PA has focal points for key OSCE areas; to meet obligations arising from the Declarations adopted by the Assembly; to empower the elected Vice-Presidents with specific responsibilities; and to provide an important mechanism to involve key Delegations, such as France, Italy, or Türkiye, in discussions around the next budget preparation and committee reports and resolutions. A list of those appointments is available in the annex.

Special Representatives are one of the Assembly's most flexible and impactful tools. I want to make sure that their work is as efficient as possible. I am grateful for the financial and logistical support provided by national parliaments, as well as the dedication and expertise of the appointees. **The role of Special Representatives** is part of a broader conversation among Bureau members on how to modernize the Assembly's work, with another informal brainstorming session planned in Dublin.

In early September, I addressed the Permanent Council in Vienna, expressing strong support for the Maltese OSCE Chairpersonship in addressing key issues, notably the appointments of new Heads of OSCE Institutions and the chairpersonship of the OSCE after 2025. I emphasized that **the OSCE cannot function without adequate financial, human, and political resources**, and highlighted the importance of a budget consensus for its proper operation. I also informed the PC about our **Bucharest Annual Session**, where we called for greater compliance with international rules, particularly in response to Russia's actions in Ukraine, and **outlined upcoming activities**, including election observation missions and efforts in the South Caucasus and Central Asia.

My participation in the Interparliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) in Budapest provided valuable opportunities to **strengthen collaboration between the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and EU institutions on key security issues**. It allowed me to advocate for the OSCE's priorities, such as conflict resolution, comprehensive security, and the importance of upholding international law, while engaging in meaningful dialogue on defense coordination, crisis management, and regional stability. By exchanging perspectives with EU parliamentarians, I aimed to enhance multilateral co-operation and **reinforce our shared commitment to peace, security, and democratic governance** across Europe and beyond.

In mid-September, I undertook with Secretary General Roberto Montella a **visit to Israel and the West Bank**. The visit, which included engagements with Israeli and Palestinian officials, as well as meetings with families victims of the 7 October terrorist attack and continued rocket attacks across Israel, provided valuable insights into the region's human and policy challenges. In Jerusalem, I expressed the OSCE PA's **condemnation of the Hamas attacks, recognized Israel's right to self-defense, and called for an end to active fighting to build lasting security**. Our meetings in Ramallah contributed to highlight the OSCE PA's **focus on humanitarian concerns, human rights, and political dialogue**. I am convinced that these will again feature prominently during our Mediterranean Forum in Dublin.

This Autumn will be a particularly busy period for the Assembly, with several key activities planned. These include four **Election Observation Missions** to Moldova, Georgia, Uzbekistan, and the United States, in addition to the mission recently conducted in Azerbaijan. There will also be an **inaugural field visit to Serbia**, focused on the work of OSCE Field Operations, and a conference hosted by the Mejlis of Turkmenistan. This robust program of activities will complement the initiatives already taken by the Network of Young Parliamentarians, in co-operation with the Parliament of Norway, and by South East European delegations to participate in a seminar hosted by the Parliament of Montenegro.

I am pleased to see so many members actively engaged in our activities this Autumn. However, with such a full schedule early in the financial year, we must be mindful of our budget as we move forward. While our current program is extensive, it may limit the Secretariat's ability to take

on additional initiatives later in the year, so **careful planning will be essential to ensure we stay within our financial resources.**

In conclusion, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your continued dedication and active engagement. **Your commitment to our shared mission is the driving force behind the Assembly's impact.** I am always open to discussing any ideas, concerns, or suggestions you may have, and I encourage you to feel free to approach me at any time throughout our meetings. Together, through open dialogue and collaboration, we can continue to strengthen the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the values we stand for. I look forward to our productive work ahead and to hearing from each of you.

President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Pia Kauma

Dublin, 2 October 2024



List of Special Representatives

Special Representative	Name	Country
on the Arctic and High North	Mr. Mark Pritchard <i>(since 2023)</i>	UK
on Central Asia	Ms. Farah Karimi <i>(since 2023)</i>	Netherlands
on Climate Change	Mr. Pere Joan Pons <i>(since 2023)</i>	Spain
on Combating Organized Crime	Mr. Eugenio Zoffili <i>(since 2023)</i>	Italy
on Demographic Change and Security	Ms. Gudrun Kugler <i>(since 2024)</i>	Austria
on Fighting Corruption	Ms. Irene Charalambides <i>(since 2019)</i>	Cyprus
on Gender Issues	Ms. Hedy Fry <i>(since 2010)</i>	Canada
on Human Trafficking Issues	Mr. Christopher Smith <i>(since 2004)</i>	USA
on Mediterranean Affairs	Mr. Pascal Allizard <i>(since 2017)</i>	France
on Political Prisoners	Mr. Steve Cohen <i>(since 2022)</i>	USA
on South Caucasus	Mr. Luis Graca <i>(since 2024)</i>	Portugal
on South East Europe	Mr. Kyriakos Hadjiyianni <i>(since 2023)</i>	Cyprus
on Youth Engagement	Ms. Lucija Tacer <i>(since 2025)</i>	Slovenia
on Disinformation and Propaganda	Mr. Oscar Mina <i>(since 2023)</i>	San Marino

List of activities
OSCE PA President Pia Kauma

2024		
Date	Location	Description
5 September	Vienna	Address to the Permanent Council
9-10 September	Budapest	Interparliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)
13-17 September	Israel/West Bank	Visit to Israel and the West Bank
18-20 September	Podgorica	Second Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Delegations from South East Europe to the OSCE PA
1 October	Dublin	Informal Seminar of the OSCE PA Bureau
2-4 October	Dublin	OSCE PA Autumn Meeting
9-12 October	Belgrade	Visit to the OSCE Mission to Serbia
24 October	Riga	Third Parliamentary Summit of the International Crimea Platform
26 October	Georgia	Election Observation Mission to Georgia
5 November	USA	Election Observation Mission to the United States of America
22 November	Rome	Conference on “Violence Against Women as a Weapon of War”
23 November	Vatican City	Meeting with Pope Francis
4 December	Valletta	Bureau Meeting
5-6 December	Valletta	OSCE Ministerial Council
2025		
24 January	Helsinki	Seminar of the OSCE PA's Leadership - Extended Bureau Meeting
30 January	Vienna	Address to the Permanent Council
4-5 February	Ankara	Visit to Türkiye
10 February	Helsinki	Address to the Conference on Addressing Anti-Semitism in the OSCE Region
12-13 February	Kyiv	Visit to Ukraine, Bureau Meeting
20-21 February	Vienna	OSCE PA Winter Meeting
7-11 March	Israel/Ramallah	Visit to the Middle East
13 March	Lisbon	Signing of the Annual Session MoU
20-21 March	Strasbourg	European Conference of Presidents of Parliament
27-30 March	Kastoria	Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the SEE Delegations to the OSCE PA
7 April	Copenhagen	Bureau Meeting
8-9 April	Tashkent	150th IPU Assembly
15 May	Helsinki/Online	Conference on Deported Ukrainian Children: European actions
19-22 May	Washington D.C., New York City	Visit of the Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism to the USA
3 June	Helsinki	Realizing gender equality in and by parliaments: A gender-sensitive parliaments review workshop for national parliaments from Europe and Central Asia
5-6 June	Rome	Inter-parliamentary Conference on the Fight Against Organized Crime in the OSCE Region
13 June	Oslo	International seminar “Security and Cooperation in a Europe at War- the 50th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act”

President Pia Kauma, Head of Delegation of Portugal Paula Cardoso and José Pedro Aguiar-Branco, President of the Assembleia da República of Portugal, Lisbon Conference, 20 May 2024



Pia Kauma is received at the Chambre des Députés in Luxembourg, 18 June 2024





Roberto Montella and Pia Kauma in Luxembourg, 18 June 2024

Dan Barna and Pia Kauma hold up the Bucharest Declaration, 3 July 2024





Pia Kauma speaks at the close of the Annual Session in Bucharest, 3 July 2024

Seán Ó Feargháil, Pia Kauma and Michael Creed in Dublin, 2 October 2024





Secretary General Roberto Montella and Head of OSCE PA Delegation President Pia Kauma observing in a polling station, election day, Tbilisi, 26 October 2024





Pere Joan Pons, Andreas Baker and Pia Kauma observing the vote at a polling station in Washington DC, 5 November 2024



President Pia Kauma and Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Ruslan Stepanchuk, Kyiv, 12 February 2025

President Pia Kauma and Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Ruslan Stephanchuk, Kyiv, 12 February 2025

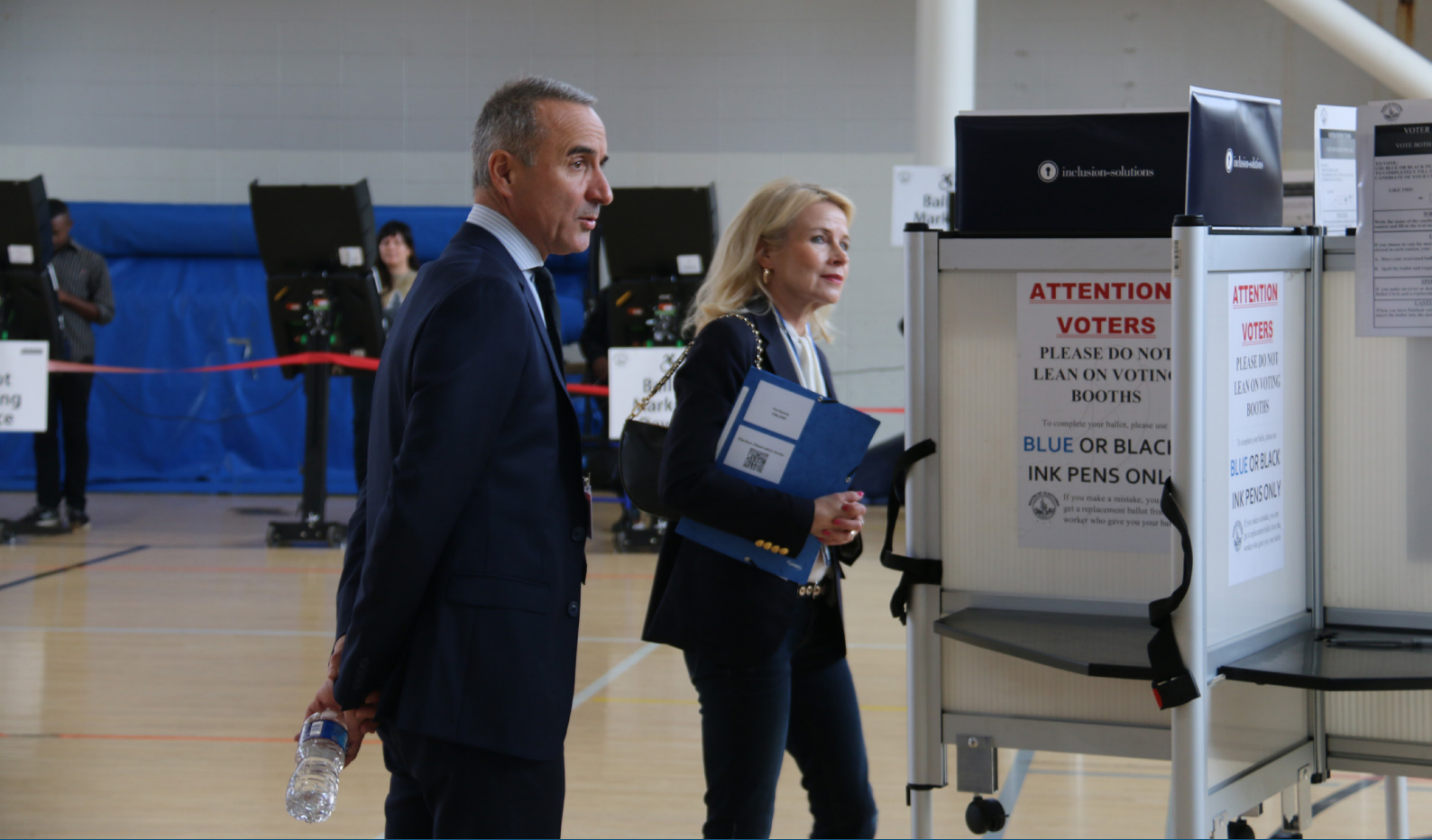


President Pia Kauma and Antony Blinken, United States Secretary of State, Ministerial Council, Malta, 4 December 2024



OSCE PA
President Pia
Kauma and
Amb MacGregor
planted a tree at
the OSCE Centre
in Ashgabat
new premises,
Ashgabat, 26
November 2024





Pere Joan Pons and Pia Kauma at a polling station in Washington DC, 5 November 2024

OSCE PA President Pia Kauma, Ashgabat Conference II, Turkmenistan, 27 November 2024





President Pia Kauma and Secretary General Roberto Montella meeting with Pope Francis, Vatican City, 23 November 2024



President Pia Kauma presents Finland Minister of Foreign Affairs and OSCE CiO with the OSCE PA's Call for Action document, Helsinki, 24 January 2025



President Pia Kauma addressing the OSCE Permanent Council, Vienna, 30 January 2025



OSCE PA President
Pia Kauma met
with Dunyagozel
Gulmanova,
Chairperson
of the Mejlis
Turkmenistan,
Ashgabat, 26
November 2024

OSCE CiO and Maltese Foreign Minister Ian Borg with President Pia Kauma, Ministerial Council, Malta, 5 December 2024



President Pia Kauma meeting H.E. President Emomali Rahmon, Tajikistan, 29 April 2025



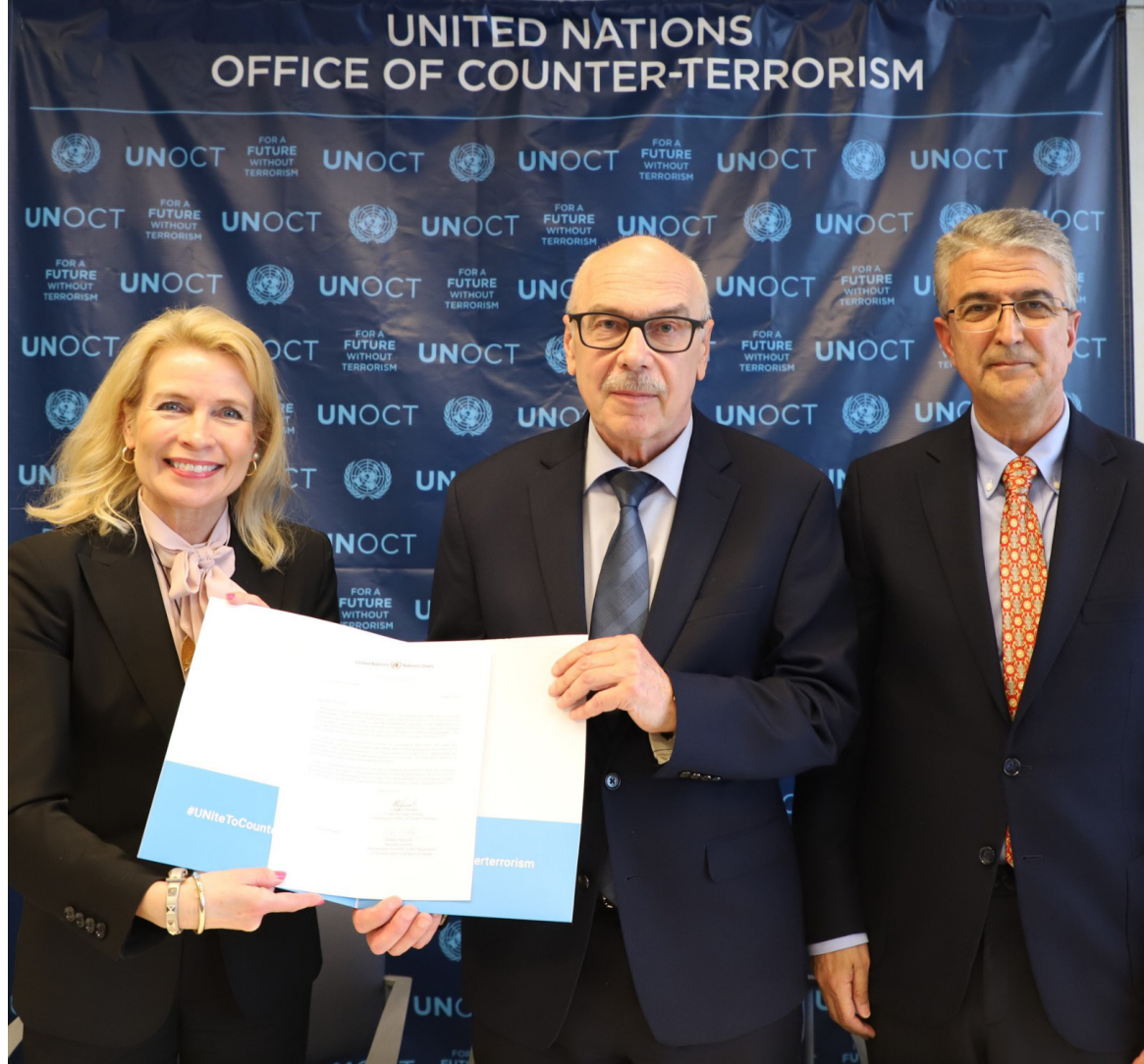


President Pia Kauma and Chairperson of the Verkhovna Rada Ruslan Stefanchuk, Kyiv, 12 February 2025

Pia Kauma pays tribute to the victims of the 9/11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon, Arlington, VA, 20 May 2025



Pia Kauma
and Vladimir
Voronkov hold
the MoU, with
Kamil Aydin in
New York, 21
May 2025



President Pia Kauma meeting H.E. President Emomali Rahmon, Tajikistan, 29 April 2025

