



Security - President Zoffili: “On 15 May, OSCE parliamentarians to meet the Pope at the Vatican”. The audience to mark the OSCE #STOPDRUGS Conference scheduled at the Italian Chamber of Deputies

“The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Bureau met in Copenhagen yesterday. In the course of those proceedings, I announced with great emotion that, on the occasion of the second inter-parliamentary Conference on the fight against organised crime in the OSCE Region entitled “#STOPDRUGS – Fighting Drug Trafficking together to Defend Security, Health and the Rule of Law”, scheduled to take place in Rome at the Chamber of Deputies – Queen’s Hall – on 14 and 15 May next, the participating parliamentarians from the 57 OSCE Member States and 11 Partner States will have the honour of being received on Friday 15 May in a private audience at the Vatican by His Holiness, Pope Leo XIV. I am deeply grateful to the Supreme Pontiff for granting my request for an audience, a unique opportunity for profound moral and spiritual reflection. The audience will further strengthen the bond between democratic institutions and the Holy See - which is a member of the OSCE - and will send out an important signal on the role of parliamentary diplomacy, an indispensable tool to help resolve conflicts and promote peace. In this regard, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe plays a leading role”.

So said the Hon. Eugenio Zoffili, Vice-President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and Head of the Italian Delegation.