Report to the Standing Committee, 20 February 2020 OSCE PA Special Representative on Fighting Corruption Irene Charalambides

Dear Colleagues,

I wanted to give you a short overview of my activities as a Special representative that took place after our last meeting in Marrakesh.

Firstly, I participated in October as a speaker in the Slovakian Chairmanship Conference on Anti-Shell Companies' Law, in Bratislava.

This particularly important seminar fostered a discussion on the development of legal frameworks to increase corporate transparency and promote economic security in order to combat corruption.

Slovakia's groundbreaking Anti-Letterbox Legislation was thoroughly presented. I believe this is indeed an example of how the OSCE can serve as a platform for the exchange of best practices. In my speech, I underlined that this legislation could serve as a model for Parliaments that wish to regulate these issues and, personally, I am willing to promote the adoption of similar legislation for consideration in my own Parliament.

In line with my mandate requiring the creation of strong partnership relations with international organisations active in the field of combating corruption, I visited in November the seat of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, where I was received by OECD Deputy Secretary General Jeffrey Schlagenhauf, and other high-level officers and experts. We discussed how to reinforce each other's multidisciplinary approaches to fighting corruption. In this context, I was asked to forward to you the survey regarding lobbying regulation, which I did.

We also discussed emerging challenges in the field of anti-corruption and their potential impact for our economies and our societies.

Furthermore, I also met at the seat of the Council of Europe, with the Executive Secretaries of GRECO and MONEYVAL, Mr. Gianluca Esposito and Mr. Matthias Kloth and other highlevel officers. I confirmed, once again, the significant input and the commitment of these organisations in combating corruption.

All interlocutors underlined their willingness and strong interest in working in close collaboration with the OSCE PA, which, I think, is very important in terms of visibility of this Assembly.

The aforementioned officials have been invited as keynote speakers to the Conference on Combating Corruption which will be held in Cyprus in May. More information on this Conference will soon be circulated to all delegations.

Last, but not least, I wish to inform you that, on Monday I addressed the 1st Preparatory Meeting of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum, where I stressed the role that National Parliaments can and must assume in efforts to combat corruption. I underlined that the OSCE PA can function as a useful platform for exchange of best practices and that the OSCE executive structures must liaise more closely with the PA in this field.

Thank you very much for your attention.