

News from Copenhagen

In visit to Albania, OSCE PA President Tsereteli reaffirms OSCE commitment



OSCE PA President Tsereteli meeting with President of the Republic of Albania Ilir Meta, Tirana, 25 May 2018

Wrapping up a visit to Tirana last week, OSCE PA President George Tsereteli (Georgia) reaffirmed the OSCE's commitment to Albania and the South Eastern European region. President Tsereteli and OSCE PA Secretary General Roberto Montella held meetings on 24-25 May with Albanian President Ilir Meta, Speaker of the Assembly of Albania Gramoz Ruci, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Albania Ditmir

Bushati, as well as the leaders of the country's main political parties and members of Albania's OSCE PA Delegation.

Tsereteli expressed appreciation for the active involvement of the Albanian Delegation in the OSCE PA, noting in particular Fatmir Mediu's contribution to the work of the Assembly's Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism.

The President also reaffirmed the high importance the OSCE PA attaches to the region including through the work of Special Representative on South East Europe Roberto Battelli (Slovenia) who closely follows all regional developments. Topics of discussion also included the challenges the country faces in implementing reforms, with Tsereteli highlighting the need for enhanced co-operation between the different political forces in this process.

President Tsereteli also praised the valuable work of the OSCE Presence in Albania headed by Amb. Bernd Borchardt. It was Tsereteli's first visit to the region as Assembly President.

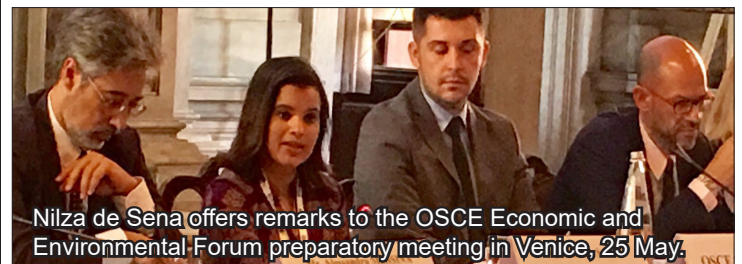
Special Representative Smith speaks at OSCE conference on child trafficking



Chris Smith presenting by video to the OSCE conference on preventing child trafficking in Vienna, 28 May 2018

OSCE PA Special Representative on Human Trafficking Issues Christopher Smith (United States) addressed diplomats, civil society, and others by video at the opening of the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Child Trafficking in Vienna on Monday. Smith stressed the need to do more to combat child trafficking, calling on OSCE participating States to implement the 2017 OSCE Ministerial Council Decision on Child Exploitation. He highlighted best practices in this domain, including a U.S. law requiring advance notification of traveling sex offenders.

Chair of OSCE PA economic and environmental committee addresses OSCE meeting in Venice



Nilza de Sena offers remarks to the OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum preparatory meeting in Venice, 25 May

Chair of the OSCE PA's economic and environmental committee Nilza de Sena (Portugal) addressed the Second Preparatory Meeting of the 2018 OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum on 25 May in Venice, focusing on the need to promote good public and corporate governance through enhanced transparency and accountability. Institutional mechanisms for anti-corruption policy co-ordination and monitoring should be encouraged throughout the OSCE area, she said. Sena also stressed that a culture of transparency and accountability must be established throughout society.

Speaker of Dutch Senate meets PA staff in Vienna



L-R: Marc Carillet, Marco Bonabello, Ankie Broekers-Knol and Geert Jan Hamilton

Marc Carillet and Marco Bonabello from the Liaison Office briefed Speaker of the Dutch Senate Ankie Broekers-Knol on OSCE PA activities during a visit to Vienna on 25 May.

Montella participates in Nordic and Baltic group



OSCE PA Secretary General Roberto Montella attended as a special guest on Monday a meeting of the OSCE PA's Heads of Nordic and Baltic Delegations in Helsingborg, Sweden. Montella gave an overview of the Assembly's ongoing work as the group prepares for the 27th Annual Session taking place 7-11 July in Berlin.