

High-level OSCE PA participation at sustainable development conference in Switzerland



Participants at Andermatt conference, 6 September 2019.

OSCE PA President George Tsereteli participated in the third international parliamentary conference of the OSCE PA Silk Road Support Group, held in Andermatt, Switzerland, on 5-7 September. The meeting was hosted by the Swiss Delegation to the OSCE PA, headed by Margareta Kiener Nellen, and featured opening speeches by Tsereteli and OSCE PA Vice-President Azay Guliyev (Azerbaijan), who serves as Chair of the Silk Road Support Group. It was held under the theme “The Belt and Road Initiative as a Driver for the Sustainable Development Goals.”

Recalling the Declaration that the OSCE PA adopted at its Annual Session in Luxembourg two months ago, President Tsereteli stressed that parliaments can help advance sustainable development and security by adopting relevant legislation,

providing oversight, ratifying treaties, approving budgets and setting agendas that prioritize the need to comply with international commitments.

“Today, we are invited to determine how greater economic convergence between our countries, through vast infrastructure projects such as the New Silk Road, can further contribute to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals,” he said.

“Today’s International Conference in Andermatt is a great opportunity both for review and follow-up of the already expressed proposals and discussions, but it is also a perfect time to make important decisions on our further activities,” Vice-President Guliyev said.

The conference featured the participation of Swiss parliamentarian Filippo Lombardi, Chair of the OSCE PA’s Committee on Political Affairs and Security; Ignazio Cassis, Federal Councilor of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland; Remigi Winzap from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; and Stefana Miladinovic, Vice Chair of the Silk Road Support Group and Head of the Serbian Delegation to the OSCE PA, among others.

Working sessions focused on issues such as infrastructure development, sustainable financing and risk mitigation, good governance and the fight against corruption, and environmental sustainability.

Media registration open for Marrakech Autumn Meeting

To apply for media accreditation to the OSCE PA’s 18th Autumn Meeting, being held 4-6 October in Marrakech, Morocco, please complete the media registration form at www.oscepa.org and submit it to nat@oscepa.dk. The registration deadline is 27 September 2019.

Preparations underway for 2020 Annual Session in Vancouver

A team from the International Secretariat led by Deputy Secretary General Gustavo Pallares is this week in Vancouver, working with representatives from the Secretariat of the Canadian Parliament in preparation for the 29th Annual

Session to be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada on 3-7 July 2020.

On Tuesday, the team met with Head of the Canadian Delegation and Special Representative on Gender Issues Hedy Fry, and has held extensive meetings with parliament staff to co-ordinate the programme of the Session as well as all the logistical aspects including the venue and lodging of all delegates as well as security transport and other details. The meeting will be held at the Vancouver Convention Centre. DSG Pallares, joined by Marieta Samac, Odile Lelarge, Stephen Paul and Dimitrije Todoric, positively assess the conditions provided in Vancouver for a successful session.

Canada is hosting the Annual Session for the second time having hosted the fourth Annual Session in Ottawa in July 1995 as well as the Autumn Meeting in Toronto in September 2008. Pallares noted that this underlines the strong commitment of Canada to the work of the OSCE PA.



Featured tweets @oscepa

OSCE PA Vice-President Azay Guliyev (Azerbaijan) was active on Twitter last week providing updates from the international conference in Andermatt, Switzerland. He tweeted on 7 September about the adoption of the Andermatt Declaration.



Azay Guliyev @AzayGuliyev · Sep 7

III Int. Conf. of the SRG @srg_oscepa of @oscepa has finished today with Closing Plenary Session & the Andermatt Declaration’s adoption. I believe that our discussions & Declaration will promote #SDGs importance in #OSCE area & further boost the role of parliamentary oversight.