# **News from Copenhagen**

Updates from the OSCE PA International Secretariat



### PA's Cardin and Zannier speak at HCNM event on policing in diverse societies



Ben Cardin speaks at HCNM event on 6 October. M

SCE PA Special Representative on Anti-Semitism, Racism, and Intolerance Ben Cardin (United States) and High-Level Expert Lamberto Zannier joined the Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities for an online event Tuesday to discuss challenges related to policing in the OSCE area.

The event, "Policing In Diverse Societies: Principles and Good Practices," also included participation by Christophe Kamp, Officer in Charge, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, and Hilary Shelton, Director of the National

Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Washington Bureau, Senior Vice President for Advocacy and Policy.

In his remarks, Cardin spoke about his work as Special Representative to advance racial equality and stressed that police officers must be held accountable when they use excessive force. He discussed legislation he is promoting to advance justice in policing in the United States, including banning the use of chokeholds and "no-knock" warrants, as well as demilitarizing police forces. The Special Representative also spoke about challenges facing minorities in Europe, particularly Roma and Sinti, stressing that more must be done to protect the human rights of people around the OSCE region.

Zannier, who previously served as OSCE Secretary General and as HCNM and is now a consultant with the OSCE PA, highlighted a number of OSCE PA resolutions addressing issues of policing in diverse societies, police brutality and racial discrimination. He also pointed out that it is important to find ways to extend recommendations of the HCNM, which tend to focus on specific issues of national minorities, to issues facing diverse societies more broadly.

The event was organized jointly by the HCNM and the U.S. Helsinki Commission.

Video of the event is available on the HCNM's YouTube channel: https://bit.ly/34C1ojA

#### OSCE PA to hold webinar "Parliamentarians & Journalists: Partners Against Corruption"

On the initiative of OSCE PA Special Representative on Fighting Corruption Irene Charalambides (Cyprus), the PA is holding a Parliamentary Web Dialogue on the topic "Parliamentarians & Journalists: Partners Against Corruption", which will take place online on Wednesday, 14 October 2020, from 15:00 to 18:00 (CET). The webinar will stream live on Facebook and at www.oscepa.org. Read more about the event here: https://bit.ly/3ilsuul

### Vice-President Cederfelt holds meetings in Stockholm and Copenhagen

argareta Cederfelt, an OSCE PA Vice-President and Acting M Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Migration, visited Copenhagen this week for meetings at the International Secretariat and the Danish Parliament (Folketinget). In discussions with OSCE PA Secretary General Roberto Montella, Cederfelt shared information about her activities and plans.

Other meetings held at the Secretariat focused on planning of the upcoming activities of the Ad Hoc Committee on Migration, as well as a briefing by the election department on upcoming OSCE PA election observation missions.

Last week in Stockholm, in her capacity as OSCE PA Special Rapporteur on the Boris Nemtsov assassination, Cederfelt held a meeting with former deputy prime minister of Chechn-



ya Akhmed Zakayev who lives in exile in London. The sides discussed developments in her work investigating the Nemtsov assassination.

## Featured tweets @oscepa

A President George Tsereteli tweeted about the ongoing bloodshed in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone, noting that he has spoken with the Speakers of Parliament from Azerbaijan and Armenia, urging a ceasefire and return to negotiations

This tweet was followed up by a statement released Tuesday noting his grave concern over "increasing casualties related to the conflict, in particular the impact on the local population which, despite the obligation to protect civilians, continues to suffer from the ongoing fighting."



George Tsereteli @GTsereteli

Since fighting broke out in the #NagornoKarabakh, I've been in regular contact with parliamentarians, incl.Speakers of #Parliament from #Armenia & #Azerbaijan, urging ceasefire and return to negotiations based on international law & principles of the #OSCE #HelsinkiFinalAct.

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