

CCT members discuss parliamentary support for victims of terrorism in Rome

Members of the OSCE PA's Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism (CCT) were in Italy this week to participate in the High-Level Conference on Parliamentary Support to Victims of Terrorism held on 7-8 June in Rome. The conference, organized by the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), served as platform for parliamentarians to provide a contribution to the global efforts in counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism, with the objective of identifying the best way to address the rights and needs of victims.

The OSCE PA delegation included Vice-President and Chair Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism Reinhold Lopatka (Austria), Vice-Chair of the Committee Kamil Aydin (Turkey), Vice-President and Committee member Pia Kauma (Finland) and Committee member Tsogtbaatar Damdin (Mongolia).

At the conference, parliamentarians, together with representatives of UN bodies, leading experts, victims of terrorism and victims' associations, discussed the new model legislative provisions to support and protect the rights and needs of victims of terrorism. The need to ensure memory, dignity and justice to all victims was repeatedly stressed by the over 100 participants.

The event offered an opportunity for OSCE PA members to highlight relevant work conducted by our Assembly in this context, including the recently tabled draft Resolution on Victims of Terrorism, which will be presented at the upcoming Annual



Participants of the Rome counter-terrorism conference, 7 June 2022

Session in Birmingham.

On the margins of the conference, the OSCE PA delegation held informative exchanges on the latest counterterrorism trends with selected Italian stakeholders, such as Adolfo Urso, President of the Parliamentary Committee for the Security of the Republic (COPASIR); Alberto Pagani, Member of the Defence Commission of the Chamber of Deputies, and Andrea Orsini, President of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Policy and External Relations of the European Union of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Chamber of Deputies; Andrea Demaria, first signatory of a new bill on victims of terrorism; Eugenio Rodolfo Spina, Director of the Service to contrast internal terrorism of the Polizia di Stato; and Marco Rosi, Commander of the Antiterrorism Department of the Carabinieri Special Operations Group.

Young OSCE parliamentarians focus on youth engagement at meeting in Andorra



Members of the informal network of young parliamentarians, 3 June

Members of the OSCE PA's informal network of young parliamentarians met in Andorra last week to discuss issues of integration of youth perspectives in the work of the PA, including the main challenges and problems that young people are facing in their respective countries, and to identify key areas of engagement. Hosted by the Parliament of Andorra and on the initiative of OSCE PA Special Representative on Youth Engagement Farah Karimi (Netherlands), the meeting brought together parliamentarians from ten countries to exchange experience and best practices focusing on youth participation on the na-

tional level and to discuss prospects for parliamentary contribution to increase young people's participation in decision-making processes.

During a video address to the participants of the meeting, OSCE PA President Margareta Cederfelt (Sweden) stressed the importance of co-ordination of international efforts in promotion of youth agenda in the OSCE area emphasizing the important role that young people can play in development of our societies. Emphasizing the importance of establishing platforms for youth-related dialogue with young people, President of Consell General Roser Suñé Pascuet said that young people of OSCE participating States should have a greater role in the organization. Roger Padreny, Member of Delegation of Andorra and one of the initiators of the network, stressed the importance of young people promoting the youth agenda.

Karimi spoke about the results of her work as OSCE PA Special Representative on Youth Engagement and discussed with young parliamentarians prospects of co-operation and collaboration with the young people in the OSCE PA.

OSCE PA South East Europe envoy Guliyev visits Romania and Bulgaria

OSCE PA Vice-President and Special Representative on South East Europe Azay Guliyev (Azerbaijan) has been in Romania and Bulgaria this week for a series of meetings with parliamentarians, governmental officials and representatives of political parties. Beginning the trip in Romania, discussions have focused on Bucharest's relations with Western Balkan countries and their European Union prospects, which were welcomed by Guliyev's interlocutors. The meetings in Bucharest were also an opportunity to touch upon the latest developments pertaining to Romania's accession into the Schengen Zone and Romania's EU recovery and resilience plan.

Guliyev met with Vice-President of the Senate, Robert-Marius Cazanciuc; Vice-President of the Chamber of Deputies, Vasile-Daniel Suciuc; Presidential Adviser for European Affairs,

Amb. Luminița Teodora Odobescu; Secretary of State for Strategic Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Iulian Fota; Secretary of State of the Ministry of Interior, Aneta Matei; Secretary of State of the Ministry of Energy, Dan Dragoș Drăgan; Members of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Senate, including Vice-President Roberta-Alma Anastase; and Romania's Delegation to the OSCE PA.

The Special Representative praised the Delegation of Romania to the OSCE PA for its dedication and active participation in the Assembly and expressed appreciation to Head of Delegation and Special Representative on Digital Agenda, Radu-Mihai Mihail for having accompanied him throughout the meetings. Today, Guliyev begins the Bulgaria leg of his visit.