

PA President Cederfelt and Treasurer Juel-Jensen visit International Secretariat



President Margareta Cederfelt chairs the meeting at the OSCE PA International Secretariat, 16 August 2022.

OSCE PA President Margareta Cederfelt (Sweden) and Treasurer Peter Juel-Jensen (Denmark) visited the International Secretariat in Copenhagen Tuesday to discuss Assembly business, including possible dates for holding the 2022 Autumn Meeting. In her first visit to the Secretariat since being re-elected in July, President Cederfelt held wide-ranging discussions with Secretary General Roberto Montella, Deputy Secretary General Gustavo Pallares and other staff members, including officials from the OSCE PA Vienna Office, who joined the meeting remotely.

Other topics of discussion on Tuesday included the President's upcoming schedule, including possible official visits to OSCE participating States in coming months, as well as questions related to the OSCE PA budget and Rules of Procedure. The brainstorming session touched on ways to increase efficiency at Assembly meetings and promote constructive

engagement from PA Members on issues of concern. With the OSCE PA's fiscal year ending 30 September, the President and Treasurer discussed with the Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General ideas for the future budgeting of the Assembly, as well as possible reforms to the Rules of Procedure.

The meeting also included an update from Ambassador Miodrag Pančeski, the OSCE PA's Special Representative in Vienna, on latest developments from the OSCE's governmental side, including on the preparation for the regular meetings and conferences until the end of the Polish Chairmanship.

Other topics of discussion included an overview of OSCE PA activities for the coming year, including statutory meetings, ad hoc committee plans, and the work of OSCE PA Special Representatives, as well as upcoming election observation missions to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the United States.

Registration open for BiH and US Election Observation Missions

Invitations, registration forms, information circulars, and hotel booking forms have been distributed for upcoming OSCE PA Election Observation Missions to Bosnia and Herzegovina for the 2 October general elections and the United States for the 8 November mid-term elections. National Delegations wishing to nominate Members to participate in these missions are kindly asked to complete and return registration documents to the International Secretariat at eom@oscepa.dk as soon as possible. The registration deadline for BiH is 9 September and the deadline for the US is 23 September.

Rapporteur Kugler and SR Smith represent PA at ODIHR human trafficking event



OSCE PA Second Committee Rapporteur Gudrun Kugler (Austria) and OSCE PA Special Representative on Human Trafficking Issues Chris Smith (United States) were keynote speakers at an online event held by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights on 1 August marking World Day Against Human Trafficking. Moderated by ODIHR's Adviser on Anti-Trafficking Issues Tatiana

Kotlyarenko and featuring participation of trafficking survivors, the event, entitled "The Need for Code of Practice to Ensure the Rights of Victims and Survivors of Human Trafficking," focused on promoting human rights principles and justice for victims.

In her remarks, Kugler highlighted recommendations contained in the PA's recently adopted Birmingham Declaration, which expressed alarm over the rise of human trafficking, the growing misuse of digital technologies for exploitation purposes and the use of forced labour in the production of goods and services. She emphasized the importance of policymakers listening to and working with survivors to develop effective approaches to both prevention and redress. Special Representative Smith focused on promoting international best practices, including by training employees in the airline industry to identify signs of human trafficking and the sharing of information between governments about convicted sex offenders. Both Smith and Kugler also spoke about the need to address the demand side the human trafficking problem.

Full video of the event is available here: <https://bit.ly/3JY-Q7hH>