

Ukrainian Delegation meets in Copenhagen with International Secretariat



Roberto Montella and Artur Gerasymov, Copenhagen, 1 March



Mykyta Poturaiev joins by video link from Kyiv, 2 March

Following up on a series of meetings held last month by the Ukrainian Delegation with OSCE PA leaders in Vienna, the Deputy Head of the Ukrainian Delegation and Vice-Chair of the PA's Second Committee, Artur Gerasymov, visited Copenhagen on 1-3 March for extensive talks with Secretary General Roberto Montella, Deputy Secretary General Gustavo Pallares and relevant expert staff to assess the current status within the OSCE PA on the Ukraine dossier.

During the three-day visit, Gerasymov expressed great appreciation on behalf of the Ukrainian Delegation for Secretary General Montella's strong remarks outlining the impeccable track record of political support that President Margareta Cederfelt (Sweden) and the Assembly's leadership have displayed throughout the years on Ukraine.

On Thursday, Head of the Ukrainian Delegation Mykyta Poturaiev joined the discussion from Kyiv. The importance of Ukraine's participation in the work of the PA, including through its Permanent Mission in Vienna, was underlined in the talks.

Discussions also focused on the preparation of the Assembly's upcoming meeting of the Bureau in Copenhagen and this summer's Annual Session in Vancouver. Poturaiev expressed appreciation for the support of the Secretariat to the

Ukrainian Delegation to ensure that the political momentum stemming from the Birmingham Declaration recently reiterated and strengthened in the Vienna Joint Declaration in support of Ukraine and condemning the Russian Federation's war of aggression is maintained.

Gerasymov and Poturaiev said that the top priority for the OSCE PA is to preserve its credibility in a moment when the Organization's fundamental values are under assault by the brutal war of aggression against Ukraine waged by the Russian Federation.

Secretary General Montella noted that the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly should continue utilizing all the political assets it has in its toolbox in line with its procedures, to contribute within the means available to an inter-governmental organization like the OSCE to bring the war to an end in full respect for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders, and to ensure justice and accountability for war crimes.

Poturaiev, Gerasymov, Montella, Pallares and staff agreed to continue close work in the upcoming months to ensure a successful outcome on the Ukraine dossier at the Vancouver Annual Session.

PA marks International Women's Day with statements from leaders

In celebration of International Women's Day, President Margareta Cederfelt and Secretary General Roberto Montella tweeted statements of support for women across the OSCE region, and the OSCE PA's Special Representative on Gender Issues, Hedy Fry, issued a video message, available on the PA's social media platforms.

"As parliamentarians, we should not forget the importance of International Women's Day and the history behind it," Special Representative Fry said in her address. "This day has become a time to reflect on progress, all the way from the women's suffrage movement – a decades-long fight to win the right to vote in elections, a cornerstone of democracy."

Watch the full address here: bit.ly/3J3b5v1

Secretary General Montella hosts visit by Italian Ambassador to Denmark Rosini



Roberto Montella and Stefania Rosini, Copenhagen, 3 March

OSCE PA Secretary General Roberto Montella met in Copenhagen on 3 March with Italian Ambassador to Denmark Stefania Rosini. Discussions focused on the OSCE's role in the European security landscape, in particular within the context of the Russian Federation's war against Ukraine.

The sides talked about Italy's constructive role in multilateral organizations such as the OSCE in these challenging times. Other topics of discussion included the political situation in the Balkans, as well as the ongoing challenges posed by migration for the OSCE area.