

OSCE PA adopts Porto Declaration at close of Annual Session, elects new leadership



Reiterating the continued importance of the Helsinki Final Act and recommitting to its principles, the OSCE PA adopted the Porto Declaration on 3 July at the close of the 32nd Annual Session. Concentrating heavily on the Russian Federation's full-scale war against Ukraine, the Assembly demanded the full withdrawal of Russian forces and welcomed international initiatives aimed at achieving a peace agreement, urging such initiatives to align with the UN Charter, OSCE principles and commitments, and international law.

The Porto Declaration covers a wide range of topics, including critical infrastructure and nuclear safety, water scarcity and migration, artificial intelligence and misuse of technology, the situation in the Middle East, demographic change, organized crime, gender equality, youth radicalization and violent extremism, energy security, good governance, maritime security, minorities and vulnerable groups, reproductive health, child trafficking and sexual exploitation, climate change, and OSCE institutional co-operation.

The result of several days of work in general committees and plenary sessions in Porto, the Declaration represents the collective voice of the OSCE's parliamentary dimension, and will now be presented to national governments, parliaments and the international community.

Also at the close of the Annual Session, the PA chose

new leadership, with Pere Joan Pons (Spain) elected to a two-year term as OSCE PA President. The Assembly elected four Vice-Presidents: Eugenio Zoffili (Italy), Lucie Potůčková (Czechia), Gábor Hajdu (Romania), and Irene Charalambides (Cyprus). Johan Büser (Sweden) was re-elected Treasurer. The three general committees also elected their leadership for the coming year.

The First Committee elected the following officers: Chair Marc Veasey (United States), Vice-Chair Jevrosima Pejovic (Montenegro), and Rapporteur Tobias Winkler (Germany). The Second Committee re-elected Azay Guliyev (Azerbaijan) as Chair, Artur Gerasymov (Ukraine) as Vice-Chair, and Paula Cardoso (Portugal) as Rapporteur. The Third Committee elected Sargis Khandanyan (Armenia) as Chair, Baroness Christine Blower (United Kingdom) as Vice-Chair, and Carina Ödebrink (Sweden) as Rapporteur.

The PA's final two plenary sessions featured speeches by OSCE Secretary General Feridun Sinirlioğlu, OSCE/ODIHR Director Maria Telalian, NATO PA President Marcos Perestrello, President of PACE Theodoros Rousopoulos, Head of the Finnish OSCE 2025 Chairpersonship Task Force Jouni Laaksonen, OSCE PA Vice-President and Luís Graça (Portugal), and Secretary General Roberto Montella. The outgoing President Pia Kauma (Finland) and incoming President Pons also addressed the Assembly, noting that the work of the parliamentarians in Porto will contribute substantially to Euro-Atlantic security.

Report issued for Rome conference on organized crime

The OSCE PA has just published a 26-page report on the Inter-Parliamentary Conference on the Fight Against Organized Crime in the OSCE Region, held in Rome on 5-6 June 2025. To download the report as a PDF, please click here: <http://bit.ly/44Bb50W>
It is also available as a Flipping Book here: <http://bit.ly/4lpWGFj>

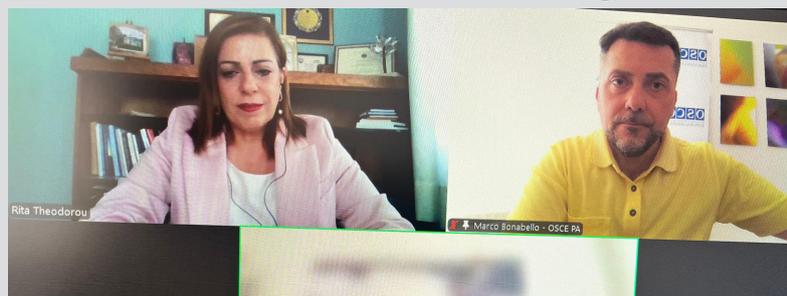
Newly elected PA President speaks with Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada

On Monday, Pere Joan Pons (Spain), the newly elected President of the OSCE PA, held a telephone conversation with Ruslan Stefanchuk, Speaker of Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada. The two discussed the role of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in consolidating international assistance to Ukraine, the need for further pressure on Russian Federation, and the importance of keeping the issue of Russian aggression high on the OSCE's agenda.

President Pons assured Chairman Stefanchuk of the PA's support for Ukraine and stated that he looks forward to visiting Ukraine at the earliest opportunity. Pons also noted that OSCE PA Vice-President Eugenio Zoffili (Italy) will attend the Ukraine Rome Recovery Conference, which will take place in the Italian capital on 10-11 July, to help promote the swift recovery and long-term reconstruction of Ukraine. Pons and Stefanchuk also touched upon Ukraine's path towards the European Union.

OSCE PA's Bonabello represents CCT at online counter-terrorism meeting

OSCE PA Senior Advisor Marco Bonabello took part in the seventh meeting of the Coordination Mechanism for Parliamentary Assemblies on Counterterrorism, which took place remotely on 4 July. The meeting featured the participation of several parliamentary assemblies and the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism. On behalf of the OSCE PA's Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism, Bonabello presented its activities and raised issues including the misuse of emerging technologies for terrorist purposes, the rise of lone-actor attacks, and online youth radicalization.



For further information contact Head of Communications and Press Nat Parry at +45 33 37 80 40 or email nat@oscepa.dk | www.oscepa.org