

President Pons emphasizes unity in address to OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna



Pere Joan Pons addresses the Permanent Council, 11 Sept. 2025



President Pere Joan Pons and Charge d'Affaires and Deputy Permanent Representative of Finland, Dr. Mari Neuvonen, Vienna, 11 Sept. 2025

Pere Joan Pons (Spain) spoke for the first time as OSCE PA President to the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna on 11 September, stressing that in these challenging times principled dialogue and unity are essential. President Pons expressed support for the Finnish Chairpersonship in addressing various issues on the OSCE agenda, underlining that despite the many challenges facing the OSCE region, there continue to be signs of optimism.

He stressed that in this 50th anniversary year of the OSCE, the Organization still very much has an important role to play. “Our citizens look to us for solutions — for dialogue, progress, peace, and security,” he said. The President noted the role of the Parliamentary Assembly within a unified OSCE. “If dialogue is a prerequisite for security and our commitments and principles are our end goal, then we, legislators, are more needed than ever in these difficult times,” Pons pointed out. “Because without dialogue with all, there can be no security for all.”

Pons further emphasized the need to eliminate double standards, underlining that this is why he works to preserve the same values – whether in Ukraine, Gaza, the South Caucasus or South East Europe. He also stressed that the OSCE cannot fulfill its mandate and meet expectations without the necessary financial, human, and political resources and assured the

Permanent Representatives of the Assembly’s full support in advancing comprehensive security across all dimensions.

He also underscored the need for gender equality with real action, stressing the need to lead by example with more women in leadership and true inclusivity. In the economic and environmental dimension, he stressed that a fair green transition is essential.

Several delegations of OSCE participating States took the floor to congratulate President Pons upon his election and to respond to his remarks, expressing appreciation for the PA’s support and contribution to comprehensive security in the OSCE area. The PA’s continued focus on Ukraine, in particular through the work of its PSTU, was particularly welcomed by several respondents, including Kyiv’s representative.

During his stay in Vienna, together with the Secretary General Roberto Montella, the President held a number of bilateral meetings, including with OSCE Secretary General Feridun Sinirlioğlu and several OSCE Permanent Representatives, underlining the need to act as “one team OSCE” and preserve the functionality and effectiveness of the Organization. He also shared the work of the Assembly, in particular the outcomes of the Annual Session held in Porto in July and the upcoming Autumn Meeting in Istanbul in November.

President Pons speaks about Armenia-Azerbaijan peace process

Last week, President Pere Joan Pons (Spain) gave an interview with the Azerbaijani publication *Report*, in which he shared his views on the peace process between Armenia and Azerbaijan, the outcomes of the recent Washington meeting, and the dissolution of the Minsk Group. To read the interview, please click here: <http://bit.ly/4pl0DhZ>

Moldova EOM leaders hold online co-ordination meeting ahead of deployment

Preparations continue for next week’s deployment of PA’s delegation of more than 110 observers to the 28 September parliamentary elections in Moldova. On Tuesday, Second Committee Rapporteur Paula Cardoso (Portugal), the Special Co-ordinator and leader of the short-term OSCE observer mission, and Linnéa Wickman (Sweden), the Head of the PA’s delegation of observers, met online with counterparts from election observation partners. In a meeting with the heads of missions from OSCE/ODIHR, PACE, and the European Parliament, the leaders discussed priority issues ahead of the elections and shared their impressions from a recent pre-electoral visit to Chisinau.

ODIHR Head of Mission Jillian Stirk presented highlights from the interim report that was issued last week. Among the top issues discussed were the ongoing administrative preparations for the election and the start of campaigning activities by contestants, as well as the general context of the elections, with hybrid



threats and political and geopolitical polarization framing the discourse.

The participants agreed to maintain close co-ordination on the ground and confirmed plans for the parliamentary briefings to take place next week in Chisinau.

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