

Special Rep Pritchard's Sweden visit explores Arctic and High North challenges

In a two-day visit to Sweden last week, the Rt. Hon. Mark Pritchard (United Kingdom), who serves as the OSCE PA's Special Representative for the Arctic and High North, met with a range of experts and policymakers to discuss security and environmental challenges in the region.

From 14-15 October, Special Representative Pritchard held in-depth discussions with representatives of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Riksdag, research institutes, and members of the OSCE PA's Swedish Delegation including Head of the Delegation Bjorn Soder. The visit provided an opportunity to enhance collaboration with leading stakeholders, exchange perspectives on Arctic developments, and integrate Arctic concerns into policymaking processes.

Talks focused on Arctic legislative developments in Sweden, the effects of climate change on society, and environmental, economic and physical security in the Arctic region. Pritchard



Helen Eduards, Ambassador for Arctic Affairs at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, and Mark Pritchard in Stockholm, 14 Oct. 2025

stressed the importance of working with partners at all levels of society to promote security, including in the environmental dimension, and explore future challenges and opportunities. In meetings with Swedish parliamentarians, he noted that especially in light of the geopolitical tensions in the Arctic following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Sweden's principled leadership and active role in Arctic co-operation is increasingly important.

Registration reminder for Autumn Meeting

Hosted by the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, the 23rd Autumn Meeting of the OSCE PA will take place in Istanbul on 17-19 November. Secretaries of OSCE PA Delegations are kindly reminded to register participants via the OSCE PA online registration platform. More information is available at www.oscepa.org.

Special Rep Hadjiyianni promotes regional co-operation in official visit to Croatia



Kyriakos Hadjiyianni meets with Milorad Pupovac in Zagreb, 15 October 2025

OSCE PA Vice-President and Special Representative on South East Europe Kyriakos Hadjiyianni (Cyprus) visited Croatia last week, where he held a series of high-level meetings in the Croatian Parliament (Sabor) focused on advancing regional co-operation, democratic governance, human rights, and European integration.

Hadjiyianni met with Dr. Milorad Pupovac, Chairman of the Committee on Human Rights and the Rights of National Minorities, and members of the Committee. The discussions

focused on the promotion of minority rights, social inclusion, and Croatia's ongoing efforts to uphold OSCE commitments in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

A meeting with Jelena Miloš, Chairperson of the Committee on European Affairs, and members of the Committee, provided an opportunity to exchange views on Croatia's contribution to regional stability, the advancement of European integration across South East Europe, and the strengthening of interparliamentary co-operation within the OSCE PA framework.

Vice-President Hadjiyianni also met with the Head and members of the Croatian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly – Mihael Zmajlović, Nikola Mažar, Danica Baričević, Sandra Krpan, and Zvonimir Troskot – for a discussion on Croatia's active engagement within the OSCE PA and regional priorities.

Special Rep Charalambides highlights anti-corruption measures in Brussels

OSCE PA Vice-President and Special Representative on Fighting Corruption Irene Charalambides (Cyprus) participated on 15 October in the European Union Network Against Corruption, which brought together key stakeholders to discuss the latest advancements in combating corruption across the EU.

During the plenary session, Charalambides emphasized the urgent need for EU institutions to meet the growing expectations of European citizens for transparency and accountability — especially in projects financed by European funds. Her statements aimed to reinforce trust in these processes and highlight the

importance of integrity at every level.

The Special Representative pointed out that transparency begins with the verification of the true beneficial owners of all entities involved in EU-funded projects. She called for these checks to be completed from the very start and for all related contracts to be made accessible to the public. Additionally, she stressed the importance of strict enforcement of conflict-of-interest rules, insisting that any connections between companies and politically exposed persons must be thoroughly and independently investigated.

UK Delegation's Sharon Hodgson appointed PSTU Chair by President Pons

President Pere Joan Pons (Spain) has appointed Sharon Hodgson, Head of the United Kingdom's OSCE PA Delegation, as Chair of the Parliamentary Support Team for Ukraine (PSTU). This appointment underscores the President's commitment to keeping Ukraine at the forefront of its agenda during a time of escalating humanitarian and security challenges.

Hodgson will assume leadership of the PSTU, working in close co-ordination with Co-Chairs Mykyta Poturaiev (Ukraine),

Head of the Ukrainian Delegation, and Representative Joe Wilson (United States). Her appointment is aimed at ensuring sustained parliamentary engagement and strategic oversight of the Assembly's support for Ukraine.

Established in 2023, the PSTU serves as the OSCE PA's dedicated mechanism to co-ordinate parliamentary efforts in support of Ukraine's sovereignty, security, and democratic resilience.