

# News from Copenhagen

## OSCE PA Research Fellows supporting the Secretariat in preparation for Winter Meeting

In preparation for the Winter Meeting, to be held from 19 to 20 February in Vienna, the OSCE PA's team of Research Fellows is working on several important projects. Their primary task is to compile research on the progress made by participating States regarding the recommendations contained in the 2008 Astana Declaration. This research will support the work of the Vice-Chairs of the three General Committees in preparing their reports for the Meeting.

Also, the Fellows are preparing a briefing paper on Russian President Dmitry Medvedev's proposal for a new security architecture for Europe, which is intended to facilitate the special debate at the Meeting. In addition to research, they also provide vital logistical support as well as language capability, with fluency in Italian, French, English, Russian, Spanish, Greek, Polish and German.

The Secretariat currently enjoys the support of five Research Fellows in Copenhagen and three at the OSCE PA's Liaison Office in Vienna: Nadja Douglas, Vanessa Arness, Zbigniew Truchlewski, Alessia Spinazzola, Petr Eliseev, Paul Pryce, Mingul Seitkazieva, and Angelika Kavoura.

Ms. Douglas, from Germany, holds a Master's degree in International Affairs from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris. She has been a visiting graduate to the University of Washington (USA), focusing on Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies as well as teaching Political Theory. Prior to joining the International Secretariat, she lived in Uzbekistan, completing an internship at the German embassy in Tashkent.

Ms. Arness, from the United States, joined the Copenhagen office in August 2008. She holds a Master's degree in International Affairs and Development from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Prior to joining the organization, she worked for Jefferson Waterman International, an international business and political consulting firm in Washington.

Zbigniew Truchlewski holds dual citizenship from France and Poland. He has a Double Master's degree from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris (Master Sciences Po and Research Master at the IEP Doctoral School). Prior to joining the Secretariat, he studied at the College of Europe (Natolin) and has worked for several international NGOs.

Ms. Spinazzola, from Italy, joined the International Secretariat in August 2008 after completing an internship at the Embassy of Italy in Rabat (Morocco). She has also held internships at the Secretariat of Commissions at the General Assembly of Quebec and at the International Institute of Human Rights in Strasbourg. Ms. Spinazzola has a Master's degree in "International Relations and Human Rights' Protection" from the University of Turin (Italy).

Petr Eliseev, the most recent addition to the research team, is from the Russian Federation. He holds a Bachelor's degree in international relations from Moscow State University of International Relations under Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. Prior to joining the International Secretariat, he spent a year in China, completing an internship at the Beijing Foreign Studies University in Beijing.

Angelika Kavoura comes from Greece and Germany. She joined the OSCE PA Vienna Liaison Office in June 2008 and holds a Master's degree in International Relations from the War Studies Department, King's College London. Prior to joining the organization, she worked for the Greek Association for Atlantic and European Cooperation in Athens, Greece.

Paul Pryce, from Canada, joined the Vienna Liaison Office in October 2008. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Philosophy from the University of Calgary (Canada). Prior to joining the organization, Mr. Pryce served as an infantryman with the Canadian Forces and worked on a variety of political campaigns on the local, provincial and federal levels.

Mingul Seitkazieva, from Kyrgyzstan, graduated from the OSCE Academy in Bishkek with a Master's degree in Political Science/Central Asia. Prior to joining OSCE PA Vienna Liaison Office in April 2008 she worked in the National Democratic Institute (NDI) in Bishkek in a domestic election observation project. Ms. Seitkazieva also completed an internship programme at the OSCE Center in Ashgabat in Turkmenistan.

The Research Fellowship Programme was established after approval by the Standing Committee in July 1994 and started with two Research Fellows in February 1995. Since then, the International Secretariat has benefited from the assistance of more than 160 young people from over 25 participating States.



From left to right: Nadja Douglas, Secretary General R. Spencer Oliver, Alessia Spinazzola, Zbigniew Truchlewski, Vanessa Arness, Petr Eliseev and Research/Publications Officer Nat Parry