

Krivokapic elected President, Istanbul Declaration adopted



Ranko Krivokapic delivers inaugural address upon his election.

OSCE Parliamentarians met for the PA's 22nd Annual Session from 29 June to 3 July in Istanbul under the theme of "Helsinki +40." The session ended with the Speaker of the Montenegrin

Parliament Ranko Krivokapic elected as Assembly president as well as the election of six new vice-presidents and the adoption of the Istanbul Declaration. Roberto Battelli was re-elected treasurer for a third two-year term.

Adopted in plenary session on 3 July, the Declaration recommends, *inter alia*, increasing military transparency and strengthening international agreements on arms control, specifically by countries ratifying the Arms Trade Treaty, renewing negotiations on the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty, and updating the 1999 Vienna Document.

In the economic and environmental dimension, the Declaration calls for binding limits on greenhouse gas emissions and new fees to make short-term stock speculation more expensive. It also recommends green growth as an alternative to economic austerity.

In the human dimension, the PA called for governments to uphold freedom of expression, respect the rule of law and judicial independence, and to release and exonerate all political prisoners.

In addition to the Declaration, the Assembly passed 23 supplementary items, including a unanimously adopted

resolution calling for extensive reform of the OSCE.

The Assembly elected Vilija Aleknaite Abramikiene (Lithuania), Isabel Pozuelo (Spain), Alain Neri (France) to three-year terms as vice-presidents. Doris Barnett (Germany) won a vacant two-year term as vice-president. Emin Onen (Turkey) and Ilkka Kanerva (Finland) were elected to one-year vice-presidential terms.

Officers were also elected to the three General Committees. The new Committee leadership is as follows:

General Committee on Political Affairs and Security

- Chair Makis Voridis (Greece)
- Vice-Chair Azay Guliyev (Azerbaijan)
- Rapporteur Pia Kauma (Finland)

General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment

- Chair Roza Aknazarova (Kyrgyzstan)
- Vice-Chair Nilza Sena (Portugal)
- Rapporteur Roger Williams (United Kingdom)

General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions

- Chair Isabel Santos (Portugal)
- Vice-Chair Mehmet Sevki Kulkuloglu (Turkey)
- Rapporteur Gordana Comic (Serbia)

President Krivokapic is expected to convene a meeting of the Bureau in Vienna on 2 September to evaluate the results of the Annual Session and discuss plans for future activities.



Roberto Battelli



Makis Voridis



Azay Guliyev



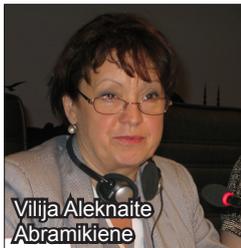
Pia Kauma



Isabel Pozuelo



Alain Neri



Vilija Aleknaite Abramikiene



Roza Aknazarova



Nilza Sena



Roger Williams



Doris Barnett



Emin Onen



Ilkka Kanerva



Isabel Santos



Mehmet Sevki Kulkuloglu



Gordana Comic