

Welcome to the 25th Annual Session

Message to OSCE PA Delegations from the Secretary General



Georgian Speaker of Parliament David Usupashvili and OSCE PA Secretary General Roberto Montella

Welcome to Tbilisi for the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's 25th Annual Session. I can think of no more appropriate place to gather for this occasion than here in Georgia, which is also celebrating an important anniversary this year – 25 years of independence. It is a privilege to be here for this shared milestone year for Georgia and the PA.

Marking a quarter-century of our work, the theme this year is “25 Years of Parliamentary Cooperation: Building Trust Through Dialogue.” This trust-building process is just as relevant today as it was when the OSCE PA held its first Annual Session in 1992. Indeed, with serious challenges in all three dimensions of security – the politico-military, economic-environmental and the human dimension – it is vital that we continue to lay the foundations for trust to effectively address our common challenges, including resolving protracted conflicts, managing migration,

fighting corruption, tackling climate change and upholding human rights. All of these topics and more are on the agenda here in Tbilisi.

Our hosts have assembled an excellent programme and all of us from the International Secretariat look forward to working together in ensuring a smooth and productive meeting. We are grateful to the Georgian Parliament, the Georgian OSCE PA Delegation and the people of Georgia for their hospitality, and I am sure it will be a memorable event.

Since assuming my new role as Secretary General in January, I have been touched by the level of support I have received from Members of the Assembly and staff. I, along with my colleagues in Copenhagen and Vienna, appreciate the confidence you have expressed in us and we look forward to continuing our work together as we meet our common challenges.

I wish us all a fruitful meeting

here in Tbilisi.

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Roberto Montella



Roberto Montella,
OSCE PA Secretary General

Programme ~ Friday, 1 July

- 08.15 – 09.15 Time Reserved for Meetings of Various Groups
- 09.30 – 12.30 Standing Committee
(King David IV the Builder – Hall 11)
- 12.30 – 14.30 Lunch break
- 14.30 – 17.30 Opening Plenary Session
(Queen Tamar Hall – Hall 11)
- 20:00 – 21:30 Reception Hosted by the Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia, Head of Georgian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly H.E. David Usupashvili

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WiFi is available during the Annual Session on the network OSCEPA (key: oscepa2016). The International Secretariat will be tweeting using the hashtag #OSCEPATbilisi and we encourage others on Twitter to join the conversation by using this hashtag, and to follow us @oscepa. We can be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/oscepa. Other resources worth keeping an eye on during the Session are the Assembly's YouTube and Flickr pages (www.youtube.com/oscepa and www.flickr.com/oscepa), where videos and photos will be uploaded daily, as well as the Annual Session web page of the Georgian Parliament (<http://www.parliament.ge/en/oscepa-tbilisi-2016>).