

President Pons declares unambiguous support for Ukraine's sovereignty in Stockholm



Participants of the Crimea Platform in Stockholm, 24 Nov. 2025

At the Crimea Platform Parliamentary Summit in Stockholm on Monday, OSCE PA President Pere Joan Pons (Spain) delivered a strong declaration of support for Ukraine, emphasizing the Assembly's "full and unambiguous" backing for Ukraine's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, and insisting that any future peace must fully respect international law and Ukraine's explicitly stated red lines.

Reiterating long-standing OSCE PA positions, Pons stressed the need to avoid ambiguity, framing the conflict as a defence of democracy, justice, and the rule of law against the "will of the strongest." He linked steadfast support for Ukraine to the broader defence of a free and democratic Europe, arguing that the continent's liberty, dignity, and the right of every nation to determine its own future are at stake. He also pledged continued assistance for Ukraine's post-war recovery, conditioned on transparent

reforms and the restoration of full territorial integrity within internationally recognized borders.

On the sidelines, Swedish MP Carina Ödebrink, the PA's Special Envoy on Russian Abductions and Deportations of Ukrainian Children, addressed a side event co-organized by the Swedish delegations to the OSCE PA and PACE. Titled "Abducted Ukrainian Children: A Call for Collective Action," the meeting drew 41 parliamentary speakers and 150 high-level participants, including Speaker of the Swedish Parliament Andreas Norlén and Chairman of the Ukrainian Parliament Ruslan Stefanchuk. Ödebrink emphasized that the best interests of abducted children must remain paramount in peace negotiations and vowed to strengthen international co-operation to secure the children's return.

Pons and PSTU Chair Sharon Hodgson have designated PSTU member Boris Dittrich as Special Rapporteur tasked with maximizing the Assembly's efforts to secure the release of three detained OSCE officials from the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine — Dmytro Shabanov, Maksym Petrov, and Vadym Golda — who remain in custody. As Special Rapporteur, Dittrich will co-ordinate advocacy and complement the diplomatic work of the OSCE Secretary General. Last week, Pons, Hodgson, Dittrich and Secretary General Roberto Montella met in Istanbul with Marharyta Shabanova, wife of Dmytro Shabanov, as well as the lawyer representing the families, to discuss the cases.

Online resources available on Kyrgyzstan elections, Autumn Meeting, 16 Days

Leaders of the OSCE PA's election observation mission to Kyrgyzstan, Special Co-ordinator Claude Haagen (Luxembourg) and Head of the PA's mission Monika Zajkova (North Macedonia), have published an op-ed about the elections available here: <https://bit.ly/48mhJtO>

Also available are online resources related to the 23rd Autumn Meeting which took place last week in Istanbul. For photos, videos and speeches, please click here: <https://bit.ly/4hVUXNB> This week, the PA launched its "16 Days of Activism" campaign, highlighting work to end gender-based violence, including an op-ed by Special Representative on Gender Issues Hedy Fry: <https://bit.ly/3M7XW9P>

OSCE PA Special Representative on South Caucasus Graça visits Armenia

OSCE PA Vice-President and Special Representative on the South Caucasus Luís Graça (Portugal) visited Armenia this week, engaging with government officials, parliamentarians, opposition representatives, civil society, and border communities to discuss political developments and the Armenia-Azerbaijan peace process.

In Yerevan, he met with National Assembly Speaker Alen Simonyan, Head of the OSCE PA's Armenia Delegation and Chair of the Third Committee Sargis Khandanyan, Deputy Foreign Minister Mnatsakan Safaryan, and Human Rights Defender Anahit Manasyan, as well as opposition MPs and civil society stakeholders.

A highlight was his visit to Kirants village along the newly delimited border with Azerbaijan, where residents shared personal experiences of the impact of the demarcation process and



Luís Graça (left) participates in ODIHR conference on parliamentary integrity, 24 November 2025

their hopes for lasting security. Graça stressed that the human dimension must remain central to peacebuilding efforts across the OSCE region.

Concluding the visit, Vice-President Graça thanked Armenian partners for their openness and reaffirmed the OSCE PA's commitment to supporting dialogue, confidence-building, and sustainable peace in the South Caucasus.

CCT Chair addresses Co-ordination Mechanism, detailing PA counter-terrorism efforts

Today, Kamil Aydın (Türkiye), Chair of the OSCE PA's Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism, addressed the 8th Meeting of Parliamentary Assemblies on Countering Terrorism Coordination Mechanism, highlighting recent progress in turning parliamentary resolutions into practical action and stressing the importance of preventing youth radicalization.

Since July, Aydın said, the Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism has focused on emerging threats and implementing

the Porto resolution on preventing youth radicalization through education and media literacy.

A flagship new initiative — School Dialogues on Preventing Youth Radicalization — was launched last week, Aydın announced, explaining that parliamentarians will organize interactive dialogues in secondary schools to discuss building resilience against extremist narratives, combating online misinformation and algorithmic bias, and strengthening critical thinking.