



REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAIRMAN IN OFFICE (31 August – 6 September)

Chairman-in-Office Visits Azerbaijan, Armenia

BAKU & YEREVAN - OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel called on all concerned parties to step up efforts in a bid to find a solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict as he paid visits to Azerbaijan and Armenia on 5 and 6 September. After meetings with his Azerbaijani counterpart Elmar Mammadyarov on 5 September and Armenian counterpart Vartan Oskanian on 6 September, the Chairman-in-Office told the press that he was satisfied with the progress in the talks for a resolution to the conflict. He also said that there are signs of convergence of views on the resolution of the conflict. Chairman-in-Office also met with President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev in Baku and President of Armenia Robert Kocharian in Yerevan, who briefed him on the talks, held on 27 August in Kazan, Russian Federation. He also discussed democracy-building efforts with officials in both countries. During his meetings in Baku, the upcoming parliamentary elections also topped the agenda.

Chairman-in-Office Meets Minsk Group Officials Ahead of Azerbaijan, Armenia Visits

LJUBLJANA - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel met Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk, Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office on the conflict dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference, in Ljubljana on 29 August to discuss efforts for a solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The meeting was attended by the co-chairs of the "Minsk group" who briefed him about the meeting of Armenian president Robert Kocharian and president of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev, which took place after the summit of the Commonwealth of Independent States in the Russian city of Kazan on 27 August.

OSCE Chairman Welcomes Conclusion of Albanian Election Process

LJUBLJANA - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel welcomed on 1 September the conclusion of the election process in Albania, when the Albanian Central Election Commission declared final results of the 3 July parliamentary election. "After two months of hard work of the Albanian elections bodies, the composition of the new Assembly is now known and it is able to convene," the Chairman-in-Office said. "I appreciate the role of President Alfred Moisiu in the whole process and I congratulate the new Assembly. I am looking forward to co-operating with the new government led by the winner of the elections and hope it will be able to take office soon," Chairman-in-Office added.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

BRDO PRI KRANJU, 7 September - OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel is to address a two-day conference on OSCE reform.

RABAT, 8 September - OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel is to take part in the OSCE Mediterranean Seminar.