
Chairmanship: Italy**1191st PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 5 July 2018

Opened: 10.20 a.m.
Suspended: 1.15 p.m.
Resumed: 3.15 p.m.
Closed: 8 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador A. Azzoni
Ambassador L. Fratini

3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:

Agenda item 1: REPORT BY THE OSCE REPRESENTATIVE ON
FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA

Chairperson, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (FOM.GAL/3/18/Rev.1), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/873/18), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; and the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area, in alignment) (PC.DEL/919/18), Switzerland, Turkey (PC.DEL/926/18 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/909/18), Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/887/18 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/876/18), Albania (PC.DEL/913/18 OSCE+), Ukraine (PC.DEL/901/18), Azerbaijan, Moldova (PC.DEL/914/18 OSCE+), Montenegro, Canada, Turkmenistan, Georgia (PC.DEL/885/18 OSCE+), Holy See (PC.DEL/900/18 OSCE+), Kyrgyzstan, Armenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (PC.DEL/908/18 OSCE+), Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovakia (PC.DEL/912/18 OSCE+)

Agenda item 2: PRESENTATION BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ANNUAL EVALUATION REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2004 OSCE ACTION PLAN FOR THE PROMOTION OF GENDER EQUALITY

Chairperson, Secretary General, Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/918/18/Rev.1), Norway (PC.DEL/910/18), Russian Federation, Turkey (PC.DEL/927/18 OSCE+), Switzerland, Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/889/18 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/878/18), Slovenia, Azerbaijan, Canada, Holy See (PC.DEL/902/18 OSCE+), Armenia

Agenda item 3: FINANCIAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017 AND THE REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR

Discussion under agenda item 4

Agenda item 4: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Chairperson, OSCE External Auditor, Chairperson of the Audit Committee (CIO.GAL/65/18 Restr.), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/890/18/Corr.1), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/924/18), Spain, United States of America (PC.DEL/884/18)

Agenda item 5: DECISION ON AMENDING OSCE STAFF REGULATIONS AND STAFF RULES

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1300 (PC.DEC/1300) on amending OSCE Staff Regulations and Staff Rules, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 6: DECISION ON THE FINANCIAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017 AND THE REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1301 (PC.DEC/1301) on the Financial Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2017 and the Report of the External Auditor, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 7: DECISION ON THE 2018 OSCE MEDITERRANEAN
CONFERENCE

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1302 (PC.DEC/1302) on the 2018 OSCE Mediterranean Conference, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 8: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Chairperson

- (a) *Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine and the illegal occupation of Crimea:* Ukraine (PC.DEL/904/18), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/916/18), Switzerland, Turkey (PC.DEL/925/18 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/891/18), Canada
- (b) *Situation in Ukraine and the need to implement the Minsk agreements:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/886/18), Ukraine
- (c) *Education legislation in Latvia:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/888/18), Latvia (PC.DEL/906/18 OSCE+)
- (d) *International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, marked on 26 June 2018:* San Marino (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom), United States of America (PC.DEL/903/18), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/897/18), Ukraine (PC.DEL/911/18)
- (e) *Situation of Jehovah's Witnesses in the Russian Federation:* Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and

Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Canada, Georgia, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/923/18), United States of America (PC.DEL/892/18), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/898/18 OSCE+)

- (f) *Rule of law and human rights defenders in Turkey*: Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Armenia and Canada, in alignment) (PC.DEL/922/18), Turkey (PC.DEL/928/18 OSCE+)
- (g) *Rule of law and human rights defenders in the Russian Federation*: Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Canada, Georgia and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/917/18), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/899/18)
- (h) *Attacks on Roma settlements in Ukraine*: Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; and the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, in alignment) (PC.DEL/915/18), Canada, Switzerland, Russian Federation, Ukraine (PC.DEL/907/18)
- (i) *Forty-fourth round of the Geneva International Discussions, held on 19 and 20 June 2018*: Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/921/18), United States of America (PC.DEL/893/18), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/895/18), Georgia (PC.DEL/931/18 OSCE+)

Agenda item 9: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
 CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Extrabudgetary project concerning the development of a new registration system for OSCE human dimension events, presented by the Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) on 25 May 2018*: Chairperson

- (b) *Extension of the deadline for the nomination of candidates for the positions of OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine and Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe:* Chairperson
- (c) *Invitation to a series of buffet lunches for members of the Permanent Council from September to December 2018 in the framework of the 2018 Year of Italian Food:* Chairperson

Agenda item 10: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/116/18 OSCE+):* Director for Management and Finance
- (b) *Participation of the Secretary General in the OSCE Annual Security Review Conference, held from 26 to 28 June 2018:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/116/18 OSCE+)
- (c) *Participation of the Secretary General in the high-level event Climate, Peace and Security: The Time for Action, held in Brussels on 22 June 2018:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/116/18 OSCE+)
- (d) *Exchange of letters between the OSCE and the European Union:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/116/18 OSCE+)
- (e) *Participation of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in the hearing “Trafficking of women and children in the context of migration. The new slavery of our times”, held at the European Parliament in Brussels on 21 June 2018:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/116/18 OSCE+)
- (f) *Participation of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in the thirty-eighth regular session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, being held in Geneva from 18 June to 6 July 2018:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/116/18 OSCE+)
- (g) *Launch of an evaluation newsletter by the OSCE Office of Internal Oversight:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/116/18 OSCE+)
- (h) *Planned visits and meetings of the Secretary General:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/116/18 OSCE+)

Agenda item 11: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Early presidential and parliamentary elections in Turkey, held on 24 June 2018:* Turkey (PC.DEL/929/18 OSCE+), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and

Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Armenia, in alignment) (PC.DEL/920/18), Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/896/18 OSCE+), Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, United States of America (PC.DEL/894/18)

- (b) *OSCE ambassadorial trip to Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia from 18 to 22 June 2018*: France, Chairperson, Armenia, Georgia, United States of America, Azerbaijan
- (c) *Twenty-seventh Annual Session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, to be held in Berlin from 7 to 11 July 2018*: OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
- (d) *Release of the 2018 Trafficking in Persons Report by the United States Department of State*: United States of America (PC.DEL/905/18)

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 11 July 2018, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.DEC/1300
5 July 2018

Original: ENGLISH

1191st Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1191, Agenda item 5

DECISION No. 1300
AMENDING OSCE STAFF REGULATIONS AND STAFF RULES

The Permanent Council,

With a view to aligning the provisions on working hours with that of the United Nations,

Cognizant that this change will have no additional cost impact on the Unified Budget or other OSCE budgets,

Decides to:

Approve the enclosed amendments to OSCE Staff Regulation 7.01 on working hours, and OSCE Staff Rule 7.01.1 on the normal working week as highlighted in the annex.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE OSCE STAFF REGULATIONS AND
 STAFF RULES**

CURRENT TEXT OF THE STAFF REGULATIONS AND STAFF RULES	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
<p>Regulation 7.01 — Working Hours</p> <p>(a) The working week and working hours shall be defined by the Secretary General and the heads of institution/mission, according to the normal practice at the respective duty stations and be included in the Staff Rules.</p> <p>(b) The Staff Rules shall specify the conditions under which overtime may be compensated, as well as the conditions applicable to part-time work, night work and service outside normal working hours.</p> <p>(c) The Secretary General, in consultation with the heads of institution and missions, shall decide which days are to be observed as holidays at each duty station. There shall be nine OSCE holidays in each calendar year.</p>	<p>Regulation 7.01 — Working Hours</p> <p>(a) The working week and working hours shall be defined by the Secretary General and the heads of institution/mission in consultation with the Secretary General, according to the normal practice at the respective duty stations and be included in the Staff Rules.</p> <p>(b) The Staff Rules shall specify the conditions under which overtime may be compensated, as well as the conditions applicable to part-time work, night work and service outside normal working hours.</p> <p>(c) The Secretary General, in consultation with the heads of institution and missions, shall decide which days are to be observed as holidays at each duty station. There shall be nine OSCE holidays in each calendar year.</p>
<p>Rule 7.01.1 — Normal Working Week</p> <p>(a) The normal working week shall consist of forty working hours, divided into five working days of eight hours each. However, depending on the nature of the post, the working hours may be organized differently and may include night or shift work, as specified in the letter of appointment or terms of assignment of the staff/mission member concerned.</p>	<p>Rule 7.01.1 — Normal Working Week</p> <p>(a) The normal working week shall consist of forty working hours, divided into five working days of eight hours each. However, pursuant to Regulation 7.01 (a), the Secretary General or the respective head of institution/mission may modify the normal working week. Any such modifications shall be reflected in salary scales pursuant to Regulation 5.02 (b).</p>

**AMENDMENTS TO THE OSCE STAFF REGULATIONS AND
STAFF RULES (continued)**

CURRENT TEXT OF THE STAFF REGULATIONS AND STAFF RULES	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
<p>(b) OSCE officials shall work beyond the normal working hours if required.</p>	<p>(b) Depending on the nature of the post, the working hours may be organized differently and may include night or shift work, as specified in the letter of appointment or terms of assignment of the staff/mission member concerned.</p> <p>(c) OSCE officials shall work beyond the normal working hours if required.</p>

1191st Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1191, Agenda item 6

**DECISION No. 1301
FINANCIAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017 AND THE REPORT OF THE
EXTERNAL AUDITOR**

The Permanent Council,

Acting in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Financial Regulations, particularly Regulations 7.05 and 8.06(e), as approved by the Permanent Council on 27 June 1996 (DOC.PC/1/96) and revised on 24 November 2016 (PC.DEC/1225) and on 23 November 2017 (PC.DEC/1272),

Reiterating the importance of full transparency and accountability in the functioning of the OSCE,

Taking note of the 2017 Financial Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2017 and the Report of the External Auditor (PC.ACMF/51/18 of 19 June 2018),

Expressing its gratitude to the External Auditor, the Court of Auditors of Spain, for the work done,

Taking note of the Unqualified Audit Opinion on the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2017,

1. Accepts the Financial Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2017;
2. Requests the Secretary General to establish and submit to the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance not later than 31 October 2018 a work plan for follow-up to the recommendations of the External Auditor as reflected in its Report for 2017. Further requests the Secretary General to inform the Permanent Council through the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance about the implementation of this plan on a regular basis, taking into account guidance from the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.DEC/1302
5 July 2018

Original: ENGLISH

1191st Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1191, Agenda item 7

DECISION No. 1302
2018 OSCE MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE

(Malaga, Spain, 25 and 26 October 2018)

The Permanent Council,

Welcoming the willingness of Spain to host the 2018 OSCE Mediterranean Conference, to be held in Malaga, Spain, on 25 and 26 October 2018 as decided by Permanent Council Decision No. 1292 of 17 May 2018 on the dates and venue of the 2018 OSCE Mediterranean Conference, and further to discussions with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation,

Adopts the agenda, timetable and organizational modalities of the Conference, as contained in the annex.

**AGENDA AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF THE
2018 OSCE MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE ON THE
IMPORTANCE OF ENERGY FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH
AND CO-OPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN**

Malaga, Spain, 25 and 26 October 2018

I. Indicative agenda

Introduction

Guaranteeing sustainable and reliable energy at affordable prices is the precondition for prospering economies and peace and security throughout the OSCE and its Mediterranean Partners. Arguably, there is hardly another domain than energy in which the indivisibility of Euro-Mediterranean security is more manifest – and more consequential – for the stability of States, the prosperity of the local economies, and the well-being of societies around the basin and beyond. Traditionally at the centre of the world’s fossil fuel market, the Mediterranean region is now increasingly becoming a main driver of energy innovation and transformation.

The development of clean or renewable energy technologies can provide economic opportunities to countries with substantial conventional energy resources as well as those who lack such resources by offering an alternative means to power their economies and generate jobs for their citizens. Renewable energy today is embraced as a key solution to the triple challenges of energy supply, security and climate change which are all of concern in the Mediterranean region.

The OSCE serves as platform for dialogue and fostering co-operation and security and stands ready to provide a platform to exchange best practices and build capacity to maximize the economic benefits of renewable as well as of traditional forms of energy, and facilitate public and private partnerships and the transfer of know-how in the energy sector. Against this backdrop, the 2018 Mediterranean Conference and in particular its high-level political segment will focus on how to leverage energy to promote economic growth and co-operation in the Mediterranean region. The conference will bring together key energy experts from the public and private sector from both sides of the Mediterranean to discuss policies, develop strategies and identify business opportunities in this respect.

The first session will be devoted to connectivity, growth and co-operation: the role of energy.

The second session will be focused on the protection of critical energy infrastructure.

The third session will delve into the benefits of renewables.

The Conference will provide the participating States and Partners for Co-operation with an opportunity to exchange views, experiences, best practices, and lessons learned in connection with the role and importance of energy in promoting economic growth and co-operation in the Mediterranean. The Conference will serve as a platform to further develop dialogue and enhance co-operation for the sake of enhancing security in the Mediterranean, in line with the OSCE principles and commitments.

Thursday, 25 October 2018

- Registration of participants
- Opening remarks
- Session I: Connectivity, growth and co-operation: the role of energy
- Coffee break
- Session II: Protecting critical energy infrastructure
- Lunch
- Session III: Reshaping the benefits of renewables
- Cultural event
- Dinner

Friday, 26 October 2018

- Registration of participants
- Opening remarks
- High-level segment: Energy for economic growth and co-operation in the Mediterranean
- Closing remarks
- Closing lunch

II. Participation

The Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) will participate in and contribute to the Conference. The Asian Partners for Co-operation (Afghanistan, Australia, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Thailand) will be invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference.

The OSCE institutions and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly will be invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference. The following international organizations and institutions will be invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference: Adriatic Ionian Initiative, African Development Bank, African Union, Central European Initiative, Collective Security Treaty Organization, Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia, Council of Europe, Economic Co-operation Organization, Eurasian Economic Union, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Investment Bank, European Union, Executive Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States, 5+5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean, Financial Action Task Force, International Centre for Migration Policy Development, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, International Labour Organisation, International Monetary Fund, International Organization for Migration, Islamic Development Bank, Inter-parliamentary Union, League of Arab States, Mediterranean Forum, Middle East and North Africa Region Financial Action Task Force, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, OPEC Fund, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Organisation for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM, Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, Organization of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation, Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, Regional Co-operation Council, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, Southeast European Co-operative Initiative, South Eastern Europe Co-operation Process, Union for the Mediterranean, UN Habitat, United Nations, UN Al-Qaida Sanctions Monitoring Team, United Cities and Local Governments, UNICEF, UN Counter-Terrorism Committee, United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, UN Women, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and the World Bank.

Additional organizations may be invited by the host country to observe the Conference.

Representatives of non-governmental organizations may be invited by the host country to attend and may be invited to contribute to the Conference in accordance with the relevant OSCE provisions and practices (advance registration required).

Other countries may be invited by the host country to attend and may be invited to contribute to the Conference.

III. Organizational modalities

The Conference will begin at 9.30 a.m. on the first day and end at 2 p.m. on the second day.

Each session will have a moderator and a rapporteur appointed by the Chairperson. The consolidated summary will be forwarded to the Permanent Council for further consideration.

Appropriate arrangements for press coverage will be made.

The 2018 OSCE Mediterranean Conference will be held in English, French and Spanish with interpretation. This arrangement will not constitute a precedent that can be relied upon in other circumstances.

The Rules of Procedure of the OSCE will be followed, *mutatis mutandis*, at the Conference. Also, the guidelines for organizing OSCE meetings (Permanent Council Decision No. 762) will be taken into account.