



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

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1323rd Plenary Meeting

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**DECISION No. 1408
AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF
THE 2021 OSCE MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE**

(Vienna, Austria, and online, 12 and 13 October 2021)

The Permanent Council,

Recalling its Decision No. 1407 of 8 July 2021 on the date and venue of the 2021 OSCE Mediterranean Conference, to be held in Vienna, Austria, and online on 12 and 13 October 2021, hosted by the Chairmanship of the OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation Group,

Decides to hold the 2021 OSCE Mediterranean Conference on the subject “Road to resilience: post-pandemic recovery and security in the OSCE and Mediterranean regions”,

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

AGENDA AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF THE 2021 OSCE MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE

Vienna, Austria, and online, 12 and 13 October 2021

I. Indicative agenda

Introduction

At the 2020 OSCE Mediterranean Conference in Vienna – the first one to take place in a virtual format due to COVID-19-related restrictions – Ministers and other high-level representatives of the OSCE participating States and the Partners for Co-operation met at a critical moment and shared their mutual concerns about the multiple challenges that the spread of the novel virus had raised for their societies, from public health through employment and education to security. With the pandemic still in full force, they concurred that overcoming the crisis would require reviewing existing models of development and governance. In a spirit of genuine partnership, they noted that a return to normalcy would not be possible without a stronger focus on sustainability and a renewed commitment to international co-operation.

Against this backdrop, Poland as the Chairmanship of the 2021 OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation Group fostered dialogue with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation on a range of crucial topics throughout the year, with a view to tackling ongoing challenges as well as seizing available opportunities beyond the crisis. Topics of dialogue included: post-pandemic recovery; transnational organized crime; and youth.

As a coronation of this programme, the 2021 OSCE Mediterranean Conference will address the topic of “Road to resilience: post-pandemic recovery and security in the OSCE and Mediterranean regions”. The event shall start with a high-level political segment addressing “Security and co-operation in the Mediterranean in light of the COVID-19 pandemic”. Thematic sessions shall then tackle specific aspects, including promoting sustainable and “green” recovery, fighting pandemic-related transnational organized crime, and combating human trafficking in labour markets affected by the pandemic.

In so doing, the Conference shall provide a platform for “advancing a common approach in tackling challenges ... and seizing emerging opportunities, in a spirit of genuine partnership, co-operation, and ownership”, as called for by the Milan Ministerial Council Declaration on Security and Co-operation in the Mediterranean (MC.DOC/4/18). Among other issues, the Conference shall enhance a discussion on how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted on the security link between the OSCE and Mediterranean regions and how comprehensive security should be understood and operationalized in a post-pandemic context.

Tuesday, 12 October 2021

- Registration of participants
- Opening remarks
- High-level political segment: Security and co-operation in the Mediterranean in light of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Coffee break
- Session I: Strengthening international co-operation in fighting transnational organized crime prompted by the pandemic
- Reception

Wednesday, 13 October 2021

- Session II: Combating trafficking in human beings in labour markets affected by the pandemic
- Lunch
- Session III: Sustainable recovery as a springboard from socio-economic crisis to security
- Concluding remarks

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 1 p.m. on the first day and end at 4.30 p.m. on the second day.

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

Appropriate arrangements for press coverage will be made.

The 2021 OSCE Mediterranean Conference will be held in English and French. 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.