



510th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 510, Agenda item 5

**DECISION No. 610
AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL
MODALITIES OF THE OSCE CONFERENCE ON TOLERANCE AND
THE FIGHT AGAINST RACISM, XENOPHOBIA AND
DISCRIMINATION**

(Brussels, 13 and 14 September 2004)

I. Agenda

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Opening plenary: Keynote interventions
3. Discussions in plenary sessions and workshops
4. Closing plenary: Summing up and closing of the Conference

II. Timetable and other organizational modalities

1. The Conference will open in Brussels on Monday, 13 September 2004. It will close on Tuesday, 14 September 2004. The Government of Belgium will host the Conference at the Brussels Exhibition Center (Heysel).
2. All plenary sessions and workshops will be open.
3. Standard OSCE rules of procedure and working methods will be applied at the Conference.
4. Discussions in the plenary sessions will be interpreted from and into all six working languages of the OSCE.

Opening: Dialogue and Partnerships towards Tolerance, Respect and Mutual Understanding

- Presenting the problem of racism, xenophobia and discrimination and its manifestations throughout the OSCE region;
- Emphasizing dialogue and partnerships towards tolerance, respect and mutual understanding to combat racism, xenophobia and discrimination;
- Exploring and identifying concrete measures that the OSCE and participating States might take to combat racist, xenophobic and discriminatory attitudes.

Session 1: Legislative and Institutional Mechanisms and Governmental Action, Including Law Enforcement

Topics may include, *inter alia*:

- How can governments ensure that their laws and policies are not discriminatory, and how can they prevent manifestations of discrimination?
- Institutional mechanisms to foster dialogue and partnerships, both between different components of a society and between them and their governments;
- The status of the implementation and the follow-up of the Maastricht Ministerial Decision on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination.

Session 2: The Role of Governments and Civil Society in Promoting Tolerance, Respect and Mutual Understanding, Particularly through Interfaith and Intercultural Dialogue and Partnerships

Topics may include, *inter alia*:

- The role of governments, political leaders and groups representing different faiths and cultures in fostering interfaith and intercultural dialogue and partnerships;
- The possible models of dialogue and partnerships on national and local levels to promote tolerance, respect and mutual understanding among religious communities, groups representing different cultures, and government;
- How can governments ensure that their policies do not discriminate against religious communities and reasonably accommodate minority religious beliefs?
- The different consequences of an integrative approach versus an assimilative approach towards different religious communities and/or people from different cultures in society.

Session 3: Combating Discrimination against Migrant Workers and Facilitating their Integration into the Societies in which They Are Legally Residing

Topics may include, *inter alia*:

- The roles of governments, parliaments, political parties, and civil society in combating intolerance towards migrant workers;
- What can participating States do to promote respect for diversity and to provide support and opportunities to legally residing migrant workers to facilitate their inclusion into mainstream society?
- How to strike the right balance between the responsibility of migrant communities to respect the social and legal norms of their new countries of residence and the responsibility of host countries to assist their integration into their legal and social framework?

Session 4: Promoting Tolerance, Respect for Diversity and Non-Discrimination through Education and Media, Particularly among the Younger Generation

Topics may include, *inter alia*:

- Integration of tolerance and the appreciation of different faiths and cultures into existing curriculum subjects;
- Media, including Internet, as a tool to promote tolerance, respond to racist, xenophobic and anti-Semitic propaganda, and prevent hate crimes by tackling prejudice and combating ignorance and misunderstanding;
- Increasing co-operation between the media and educational institutions to provide multi-faceted educational campaigns aimed at young people.

Closing: Conclusions

Conclusions and recommendations.

5. The plenary sessions will take place in accordance with the work programme below.

Work Programme

	Monday 13 September 2004	Tuesday 14 September 2004
Morning	Opening session Session 1	Session 4 Closing Plenary
Afternoon	Session 2 Session 3	