

## **ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE (1 to 7 June)**

### **Transnistrian settlement, border issues top agenda of OSCE Chairman's visit to Moldova and Ukraine**

CHISINAU, 31 May 2006 - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, met President Vladimir Voronin, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration Andrei Stratan, and the Minister for Reintegration Vasile Sova. The Chairman-in-Office urged all parties involved in the "5+2" negotiation to work out a peaceful settlement of the conflict through negotiations. He also welcomed the success achieved by the new EU Border Assistance Mission (BAM) on the border between Moldova and Ukraine.

TIRASPOL, 1 June 2006 - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office urged the Transnistrian authorities to take a constructive approach and accept without any preconditions a proposal to renew negotiations with Chisinau within the 5+2 format. During talks with Transnistrian leader Igor Smirnov and other officials, the Chairman-in-Office reiterated that the basic position of the OSCE on the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict remained unchanged. A peaceful settlement should be reached, respecting the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Moldova and providing for a special status for Transnistria within Moldova.

KYIV, 2 June 2006 - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, encouraged the Ukrainian authorities to remain actively engaged in the Transnistrian settlement negotiations, involving neighbouring Moldova. During meetings with President Viktor Yushchenko and Foreign Minister Boris Tarasyuk, Minister Karel De Gucht congratulated them on the democratic advances made in the March parliamentary elections.

### **The OSCE Chairman-in-Office participated to the Black Sea Forum for Dialogue and Partnership**

BUCHAREST, 5 June 2006 - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, participated to the Black Sea Forum for Dialogue and Partnership.

### **The OSCE Chairman-in-Office met the different parties concerning with the conflict dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference**

BUCHAREST, 4-5 June 2006 – In the margins of the Black Sea Forum for Dialogue and Partnership, the OSCE Chairman-in-Office delivered opening remarks at the meeting of Armenian President Kocharian and Azerbaijani President Aliyev, together with their Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group and the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Kasprzyk. The Chairman-in-Office also had separate meetings with each of the Presidents, and had meetings with the Co-Chairs.



**OSCE states considering Montenegro's request to join the Organization**

VIENNA, 6 June 2006 - Following a request from the newly independent Republic of Montenegro to become the OSCE's 56th participating State, the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, said that the OSCE participating States will consider the request from Montenegro carefully and without delay.