

Chairmanship: Serbia

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL
(1065th Plenary Meeting)**

1. Date: Tuesday, 25 August 2015

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 10.10 a.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador V. Žugić

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

Agenda item 1: DECISION ON THE 2015 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET
FOR THE OFFICE FOR DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS
AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1177 (PC.DEC/1177) on the 2015 supplementary budget for the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Russian Federation (interpretative statement, see attachment 1 to the decision),
Ukraine (interpretative statement, see attachment 2 to the decision)

Agenda item 2: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

None

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 3 September 2015, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

PC.DEC/1177
25 August 2015

Original: ENGLISH

1065th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1065, Agenda item 1

DECISION No. 1177
2015 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE
OFFICE FOR DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The Permanent Council,

Recalling Decision No. 1158 of 30 December 2014 on the approval of the 2015 Unified Budget,

Takes note of the supplementary budget proposed under PC.ACMF/45/15/Rev.1 of 24 August 2015,

Approves the supplementary budget in the amount of EUR 2,077,100 for the activities of the ODIHR Elections Programme;

Determines that this supplementary budget shall be financed from the 2014 year-end revision.

**FUND: OFFICE FOR DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS
 AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

Resource estimates in euros

Programme	2015 Budget	Supplementary budget proposal	2015 revised budget	Variance percentage	Percentage of total
Direction and Policy	1,293,000	-	1,293,000	-	7.1
Fund Administration Unit	2,151,900	-	2,151,900	-	11.8
Common Operational Costs	769,700	-	769,700	-	4.2
Human Dimension Meetings	605,900	-	605,900	-	3.3
Democratization	1,520,200	-	1,520,200	-	8.3
Human Rights	1,242,300	-	1,242,300	-	6.8
Elections	6,480,200	2,077,100	8,557,300	32.1	46.7
Tolerance and Non-Discrimination	1,381,300	-	1,381,300	-	7.5
Roma and Sinti Issues	550,700	-	550,700	-	3.0
TOTAL FUND BUDGET	15,995,200	2,077,100	18,072,300	13.0	98.7
ODIHR Democratization	234,100	-	234,100	-	1.3
TOTAL FUND RESOURCES	16,229,300	2,077,100	18,306,400	12.8	100.0

PC.DEC/1177
25 August 2015
Attachment 1

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the Russian Federation:

“We should like to make the following statement in connection with the OSCE Permanent Council decision on the supplementary budget for the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR).

Having joined the consensus on the OSCE Permanent Council decision, the Russian Federation attaches prime importance to organizing an ODIHR observation of local elections in certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, in full compliance with the 12 February 2015 Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Agreements.

We consider the holding of local elections in certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including compliance with OSCE standards for election monitoring by the ODIHR, an important step towards a stable and peaceful resolution in Ukraine. In that connection, the position of Ukraine is regrettable, as reflected in the decree of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of 17 July 2015 that is not in line with the Package of Measures agreed in Minsk; according to that decree, the inhabitants of certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions are essentially denied the right to elect their own representatives at the local level.

We call on Ukraine to immediately address and agree on all issues related to the local elections in certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions with its representatives in the context of the relevant Contact Group mechanisms.

We take it that after agreement has been reached in the Contact Group, the ODIHR will promptly set about organizing the monitoring of these elections within the scope of the supplementary budget allocated today.

We request that this statement be attached to the decision adopted by the Permanent Council and to the journal of this meeting.”

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Ukraine:

“Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with the decision on the 2015 supplementary budget for the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the delegation of Ukraine would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

On 17 July 2015 the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted a Resolution N 645-VIII ‘On calling regular elections of deputies to city councils and elections of village, small town and city heads in 2015’, whereby regular local elections in Ukraine have been set for 25 October 2015 (except certain areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, as well as temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine).

Recognizing the relevance of the OSCE observation for enhancing electoral and democratic processes, demonstrating openness and pursuant to paragraph 8 of the 1990 OSCE Copenhagen Document the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine extended an invitation, with his letter of 23 July 2015, to the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights to observe the elections. Ukraine looks forward to ODIHR observation of these elections.

In line with the Minsk agreements the preparation and conduct of local elections in certain areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts under the Ukrainian legislation and OSCE/ODIHR observation is discussed in the Trilateral Contact Group. The dates and modalities of these elections are to be decided by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in accordance with the Ukrainian legislation.

The delegation of Ukraine believes that ODIHR should be provided with sufficient funding to be able to observe both of above-mentioned elections.

The delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be attached to the decision and registered in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.”