



ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՊԱՏՎԻՐԱԿՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ
DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE

ENGLISH only

Statement
in Response to the Chairs of the Three Committees
delivered by Permanent Delegation of Armenia at the 1120th Meeting of the
OSCE Permanent Council
November 24, 2016

Mr. Chairperson,

We would like to warmly welcome the Chairs of the three committees Ambassadors Cristian Istrate, Vuk Zagic and Katja Pehrman and thank them for outlining activities of their respective committees.

We are pleased to note that implementation of the decisions on combating terrorism, including the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, adopted in Basel and Belgrade remained high on the agenda of the Security Committee. We attach particular importance to full and unreserved implementation of these declarations and decisions. We firmly believe that new commitments in this field should build upon our existing solid basis, also adding new value and reflecting new challenges, in particular the violence and genocidal actions committed by terrorist organizations, which have been recognized by the international community.

We also value activities of the Committee with regard to implementation and strengthening of the OSCE commitments in the areas of ICTs and Security Sector Reform.

We had interesting discussions in the Economic and Environmental Dimension Committee on the topics of good governance and trade and transport facilitation. Ahead of Hamburg we would like to reiterate our view that economic connectivity in the OSCE context can have an added value if it aims at removing political barriers for co-operation. It should be aimed at building bridges across dividing lines as opposed to legitimizing them, as well as promoting confidence and trust through transboundary and regional cooperation as opposed to justifying their absence. Our position in regard to the draft decision on good governance and connectivity is based on this understanding.

We deem it important to streamline in the agenda of the Committee the topic of economic rights of the people residing in conflict areas. Promoting the right to development in conflict areas bears essential confidence building potential.

The Delegation of Armenia has been actively engaged in the activities of the Human Dimension Committee and contributed to discussions on a broad range of

topics, including fundamental freedoms, protection of journalists, human rights of ethnic and religious groups, countering hate crime to name a few.

We reiterate our position that the agenda of the Committee should be comprehensive and reflect the human rights of the entire population in the OSCE area. This is especially relevant in the context of human rights of population affected by conflicts. We hope that next year we will have an inclusive work plan of the Committee, which will embrace also the human rights of people residing in conflict areas.

In conclusion, we would like to wish the distinguished Chairs all success in their endeavours.

Thank You.