

Chairmanship: Sweden

1348th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. Date: Thursday, 9 December 2021 (via video teleconference)

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Suspended: 1.10 p.m.

Resumed: 3 p.m.

Suspended: 6.20 p.m.

Resumed: 10 a.m. (Friday, 10 December 2021)

Closed: 10.45 a.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador U. Funered
Ambassador T. Lorentzson

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

Agenda item 1: REPORT BY THE HEAD OF THE OSCE MISSION TO
MOLDOVA

Chairperson, Head of the OSCE Mission to Moldova (PC.FR/40/21 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1847/21 OSCE+), Slovenia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1883/21), United Kingdom, United States of America (PC.DEL/1844/21), Turkey (PC.DEL/1865/21 OSCE+), Ukraine (PC.DEL/1852/21), Norway (PC.DEL/1845/21), Moldova (Annex 1)

Agenda item 2: ADDRESS BY THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE OSCE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE ON COMBATING
RACISM, XENOPHOBIA AND DISCRIMINATION, ALSO
FOCUSING ON INTOLERANCE AND DISCRIMINATION
AGAINST CHRISTIANS AND MEMBERS OF OTHER

1 Includes a correction in agenda item 13 to the alignment of attachment 1 to Decision No. 1433.

RELIGIONS; THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE OSCE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE ON COMBATING
INTOLERANCE AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST
MUSLIMS; AND THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE OSCE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE ON COMBATING
ANTI-SEMITISM

Chairperson, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism (CIO.GAL/141/21/Rev.2 OSCE+), Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims (CIO.GAL/141/21/Rev.2 OSCE+), Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, also Focusing on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians and Members of Other Religions (CIO.GAL/141/21/Rev.2 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1854/21), Slovenia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1882/21), United Kingdom, Turkey (PC.DEL/1867/21 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1855/21), Holy See (PC.DEL/1853/21 OSCE+), Ukraine, Armenia (PC.DEL/1880/21), Canada, Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/1870/21 OSCE+) (PC.DEL/1872/21), Norway (PC.DEL/1861/21)

Agenda item 3: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Chairperson

- (a) *Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine and illegal occupation of Crimea:* Ukraine (PC.DEL/1851/21), Slovenia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1884/21), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1848/21 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/1866/21 OSCE+), United Kingdom, United States of America (PC.DEL/1846/21) (PC.DEL/1849/21 OSCE+), Canada
- (b) *Deteriorating situation in Ukraine and continued non-implementation by the Ukrainian authorities of the Minsk agreements:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1850/21), Ukraine, United States of America, Canada
- (c) *Aggression of Azerbaijan against Artsakh and Armenia with the direct involvement of Turkey and foreign terrorist fighters:* Armenia (Annex 2), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/1857/21 OSCE+)
- (d) *Security issues in the Western Balkans:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1859/21), Slovenia-European Union, United Kingdom, Serbia

(PC.DEL/1868/21 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/1860/21 OSCE+), Albania, United States of America (PC.DEL/1858/21), Bosnia and Herzegovina

- (e) *Human Rights Day, observed on 10 December*: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1862/21), Switzerland (also on behalf of Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and San Marino) (PC.DEL/1873/21 OSCE+)
- (f) *Statement by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group issued on 4 December and joint statement by the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries issued on 7 December 2021*: France (also on behalf of the Russian Federation and the United States of America), United Kingdom, Slovenia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1881/21), Canada, United States of America (PC.DEL/1863/21), Armenia (PC.DEL/1878/21), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/1869/21/Corr.1 OSCE+)

Agenda item 4: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE OSCE MISSION TO SKOPJE

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1424 (PC.DEC/1424/Corr.1) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Skopje, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 5: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE OSCE MISSION TO MONTENEGRO

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1425 (PC.DEC/1425/Corr.1) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 6: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE OSCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UKRAINE

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1426 (PC.DEC/1426) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, the text of which is appended to this journal.

United Kingdom (interpretative statement, see attachment 1 to the decision), Russian Federation (interpretative statement, see attachment 2 to the decision), Ukraine (interpretative statement, see attachment 3 to the decision), Turkey (interpretative statement, see attachment 4 to the decision), United States of

America (interpretative statement, see attachment 5 to the decision), Slovenia-European Union (interpretative statement, see attachment 6 to the decision), Canada (interpretative statement, see attachment 7 to the decision), Switzerland

Agenda item 7: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE OSCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1427 (PC.DEC/1427/Corr.1) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 8: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE OSCE PROGRAMME OFFICE IN NUR-SULTAN

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1428 (PC.DEC/1428/Corr.1) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 9: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE OSCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UZBEKISTAN

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1429 (PC.DEC/1429) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 10: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE OSCE PROGRAMME OFFICE IN BISHKEK

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1430 (PC.DEC/1430) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 11: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE OSCE PRESENCE IN ALBANIA

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1431 (PC.DEC/1431) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Presence in Albania, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 12: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE MISSION TO SERBIA

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1432 (PC.DEC/1432) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Serbia, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 13: DECISION ON THE THEME, AGENDA AND
MODALITIES FOR THE 30th ECONOMIC AND
ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1433 (PC.DEC/1433) on the theme, agenda and modalities for the 30th Economic and Environmental Forum, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Canada (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States of America) (interpretative statement, see attachment 1 to the decision), Slovenia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (interpretative statement, see attachment 2 to the decision), United States of America (interpretative statement, see attachment 3 to the decision)

Agenda item 14: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, held in Stockholm on 2 and 3 December 2021:* Chairperson, Switzerland
- (b) *Extension of the call for nominations for the position of Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine until 14 January 2022:*
Chairperson

Agenda item 15: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Participation of the Secretary General in a staff briefing on the Office of Internal Oversight's report on "Learning from working during the COVID-19 pandemic", held on 30 November 2021:* Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/178/21 OSCE+)
- (b) *Participation of the Secretary General in the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, held in Stockholm on 2 and 3 December 2021:*

Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/178/21 OSCE+),
Switzerland, Chairperson

- (c) *Participation of the Secretary General in the launch of the Networking Platform for Women Leaders including Peacebuilders and Mediators, held on 7 December 2021:* Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/178/21 OSCE+), Switzerland
- (d) *Address by the Secretary General at the closing event of the Perspectives 2030 Online Academy, held on 7 December 2021:* Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/178/21 OSCE+)
- (e) *Participation of the Secretary General in a panel discussion on “Peace policy in our time” marking the 50th anniversary of German Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, held via video teleconference on 8 December 2021:* Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/178/21 OSCE+)

Agenda item 16: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Summit for Democracy, held via video teleconference on 9 and 10 December 2021:
United States of America (PC.DEL/1864/21), Russian Federation

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 16 December 2021, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal and via video teleconference



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

PC.JOUR/1348/Corr.1
9 December 2021
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

1348th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1348/Corr. 1, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF MOLDOVA**

Madam Chairperson,

The delegation of the Republic of Moldova took note of the activity report presented by Mr. Claus Neukirch in the Permanent Council.

Excellencies,

As today's Permanent Council takes place a week after the Ministerial Council in Stockholm, we would like to thank all 56 OSCE participating States for their support in the adoption of the Ministerial Council statement on the Transnistrian settlement process. In this statement, the ministers, for the tenth year in a row, reiterated their strong resolve to attain a comprehensive, peaceful and sustainable settlement of the Transnistrian conflict based on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognized borders.

In particular, they also called to continue to work at all levels of the negotiation process in a rhythmical manner to achieve tangible progress on all three baskets of the agreed agenda for the negotiation process: socio-economic issues, general legal and humanitarian issues and human rights, and a comprehensive settlement, including institutional, political and security issues, in accordance with the internationally agreed principles.

We would also like to thank the Special Representative, Ambassador Thomas Mayr-Harting, for his dedication and active role in achieving a consensual ministerial statement and for his efforts throughout the year.

The Moldovan authorities are committed to having a new meeting in the "5+2" format in 2022. At the same time, we underline that any confidence-building measures should contribute to reintegration and the comprehensive settlement of the conflict. There is a need to balance the political dialogue on all three dimensions, and in this regard, we count on a constructive role of all participants in the "5+2" format along with the future OSCE Chairmanship of Poland.

As Foreign Minister Nicu Popescu stated during the Ministerial Council in Stockholm, the efforts should continue towards resolving, where possible, urgent issues and

easing the life of citizens residing in the Transnistrian region. In this vein, the humanitarian assistance provided by the Chisinau authorities to the population in the eastern districts of the country to fight the COVID-19 pandemic is a clear example. The Moldovan authorities shared with the Transnistrian region more than 300,000 doses of anti-COVID-19 vaccines, including personal protective equipment and high-performance medical equipment.

With reference to the confidence-building measures, while in the Mission's report it is mentioned that seven signed agreements can be considered implemented, we would like to draw the attention of the delegations that many challenges in the area of the functioning of the Latin script schools, freedom of movement between the banks of the Nistru River, access to farmlands are still in place.

Regarding the issue of the access to international road traffic of vehicles from the Transnistrian region, which do not carry out commercial activities, starting with 1 September 2021, it is worth mentioning that the application of the 2018 Protocol Decision does not generate any "tensions" at the Moldovan-Ukrainian border. Thus, Tiraspol's warning that it would lead to a "humanitarian crisis" has proved to be pure propaganda detached from reality.

Instead, the implementation of this decision led to a three-fold increase in the numbers of neutral plates issued during the last three months, in comparison with the previous period. The figures speak for themselves: in September–November a total number of 2,455 plates compared to just 1,007 in June–August. Moreover, just in the last three months more neutral car plates were issued compared to the entire previous year.

This shows beyond any doubt two things. Firstly, that Tiraspol had artificially hampered the process of the issuance of neutral car plates. Secondly, that the Protocol Decision offers to the residents of the region the possibility to fully benefit from access to international traffic.

With regard to the transport of passengers and goods which are registered in the Transnistrian region and are not subject to the 2018 Protocol Decision, more than 70 per cent of the cargo transport from the region even before September already had had regular national registration and had been operating under the Moldovan legal framework.

Another important aspect, in the context we are now discussing, is the so-called issue of ambulances. While every year thousands of residents of the region are receiving healthcare assistance on the right bank of the Nistru River and have full access to the Moldovan healthcare system, last year there were only three known cases of transportation of patients to Ukraine. This clearly shows that the issue has no basis and is artificially manipulated by Tiraspol. Nevertheless, we recall that the Moldovan authorities expressed their readiness to provide to the region the necessary transportation means for patients in need and for emergency cases.

Regarding the concerns outlined in the report and related to those vehicles with old Transnistrian number plates which are, as it is mentioned in the written report, "trapped" in Ukraine and at the Russian-Ukrainian border, the Moldovan authorities are in a continuous dialogue with the Ukrainian partners and a solution will be identified shortly.

We share the assessment on the worrying deterioration in recent months regarding human rights observance in the Transnistrian region of my country. Tiraspol's illegal and abusive actions are further expressed in the most serious forms.

On numerous occasions, the OSCE participating States delegations expressed their concerns on the worsening human rights situation in the region. It is alarming that the international appeals to stop human rights violation remain neglected by the Tiraspol regime. We count on your active support and involvement in determining Tiraspol to curb the cases of political pressure on any dissenting voice, illegal detentions, and convictions as well as to immediately release political prisoners. I would like to use this occasion to remind just several names. Oleg Horjan, Adrian Glijin and Ruslan Lomaca have been illegally imprisoned. Coțofană Iu. and Timuș V. were illegally expelled from the region.

The functioning of the Latin script schools remains an urgent issue where we still lack a long-term solution. Unfortunately, since 2002, the Latin script schools still face the same challenges which lead to systemic violation. They are still operating in inappropriate premises, not to mention the cases of harassment and intimidation hampering the educational process. The pupils from the Grigoriopol school have to travel more than 60 km every day while Tiraspol refuses to return the building belonging to the school before 2004. A similar situation is in Ribnita "Evricea" Lyceum, where there are still difficulties with regard to the permanent access to the building which belongs to a private entity and is gauged to be a financial institution. The insignificant increase of the overall number of enrolled pupils cannot be compared with the fact that for the second year in a row in the Tighina Gymnasium there were no pupils (zero) enlisted. This is a serious development.

The issue is regularly examined at the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers for Human Rights meeting. Even though the case has been final for almost nine years, there are no tangible results and expected impact on the ground.

On the issue on telecommunication, as we have previously mentioned, this situation could be solved for the benefit of all citizens if the involved actors show a constructive approach. It is not possible to advance on this issue while Tiraspol is defying national and international law, by ignoring and limiting the Republic of Moldova's security concerns and international commitments. We would like to draw attention that Moldovan experts made concrete proposals on ways to ensure quality services throughout the country for all users and interconnect the communication networks.

Speaking about criminal cases we have to reiterate the importance of approaching this issue within a legal framework. One of the main principles of a democratic State is an independent judiciary system and any arbitrary interference in the activity of these institutions could seriously affect their independence.

The commissioning of the bridge Gura Bîcului-Bîcioc on the Nistru River has been blocked by Tiraspol for years. We would like to underline that it is in our common interest to have the Gura Bicului-Bychok Bridge operational to its full load capacity and to ensure the free movement of goods and persons between the two banks of the Nistru River.

Madam Chairperson,

On the upcoming Sunday, the so-called “presidential elections” will be held in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova which the Moldovan authorities qualify as illegitimate and null, that contradict the national legal framework and the fundamental norms and principles of international law.

The Moldovan authorities appeal to all its external partners to refrain from delegating observers and participating in this illegal process, which will be interpreted as an act of legitimizing or supporting the so-called “elections”, and reiterates that such actions represent defiance to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova, and undermine the Transnistrian conflict settlement process.

Excellencies,

We reiterate our long-standing position on the fulfilment of the Istanbul Summit commitments on the withdrawal of Russian military troops and its ammunition from the territory of the Republic of Moldova. We are convinced that the resumption of this process can add effectively to the elimination of some serious security threats in our region, given particularly the major security risks posed by the Cobasna ammunition stockpiles. We underline our readiness to engage in a constructive dialogue to follow up at a practical level on the initiative launched two years ago by the Russian Federation regarding the disposal of non-transportable munitions. This process should be conducted in a transparent manner and the OSCE could and should play an important role in accordance with its mandate.

As we are about to adopt today the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, I would like to remind that since 1999 it also covers the task of “ensuring the transparency of the removal and destruction of Russian ammunition and armaments”.

Madam Chairperson, I ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



1348th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1348/Corr.1, Agenda item 3(c)

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF ARMENIA**

Madam Chairperson,

I must regrettably start my statement by informing the Permanent Council of Azerbaijan's latest ceasefire violation, which took place last night in the direction of the villages of Verin Shorzha and Kut in the east of the Armenian province of Gegharkunik.

This latest military attack is yet another attempt by the Azerbaijani army, which infiltrated the sovereign territory of Armenia in May this year, to advance further into Armenian sovereign territory and occupy new lands.

This attack came almost immediately after the meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council in Stockholm, where the Azerbaijani side refused to continue the direct dialogue under the auspices of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs. Furthermore, it was preceded by another belligerent and provocative statement by the Azerbaijani president. The attack is essentially Azerbaijan's response to the two statements issued on 4 December by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group and on 7 December by the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries.

I should also like to inform the Permanent Council of other attacks and incidents that have occurred on the line of contact in Artsakh and on the Armenian borders. Since our last discussion of this current issue nearly a month ago, Azerbaijan has continued its provocative and aggressive actions aimed at destabilizing the already extremely fragile security situation in the region, threatening the security and normal life of the peaceful population of Artsakh and residents of the border regions of Armenia.

Thus, on 3 December 2021, Mr. Seyran Sargsyan, a displaced person from the village of Avetaranots in Artsakh, born in 1956, was captured while grazing cattle in the vicinity of the town of Chartar in the Martuni region of Artsakh and subsequently killed by Azerbaijani soldiers. This is yet another case of an outrageous extrajudicial killing of a peaceful civilian by Azerbaijani armed forces in broad daylight.

Mr. Sargsyan is the third civilian to have been murdered by Azerbaijani soldiers in Artsakh in a short period of time. The first was Mr. Aram Tepnants, a farmer from the occupied village of Mataghis, who was killed by sniper fire while working in a field near the

town of Martakert in the presence of Russian peacekeepers. The second was 22-year-old Martik Yeremyan, who was killed by Azerbaijani troops while conducting repair work on a water pipeline near the Stepanakert–Shushi highway, with three more civilians being wounded as a result of the attack.

In each of the aforementioned cases, the Azerbaijani authorities have tried to evade responsibility for the committed crimes, putting forward ridiculous and hypocritical explanations of the incidents. The latest case was no exception. The Ministry of Defence of Azerbaijan immediately reported that Mr. Seyran Sargsyan, a 65-year-old shepherd, attacked the Azerbaijani servicemen and was killed. This cynical statement was refuted only after the competent authorities of the Republic of Artsakh presented evidence, including video footage, confirming that Mr. Seyran Sargsyan was abducted and subsequently killed by Azerbaijani soldiers.

The recent violence committed by the Azerbaijani armed forces against the civilian population of Artsakh is a continuation of the consistent and long-standing policy of Azerbaijan aimed at the annihilation and forced deportation of the Armenians of Artsakh and the ethnic cleansing of this territory, which once again proves that guaranteeing the physical security and the right to life of the Armenians of Artsakh is impossible under Azerbaijani jurisdiction.

Another flagrant violation of the ceasefire on the line of contact in Artsakh occurred on 5 December 2021, resulting in the killing of servicemen of the Artsakh Defence Army.

These armed attacks, which are a violation of the trilateral ceasefire statement of 9 November 2020, continue to destabilize the security environment and as a result jeopardize the possibility of the sides resuming dialogue and concentrating on substantial issues.

Dear colleagues,

The Armenian delegation has for some time persistently expressed its concern over the destructive policies of Azerbaijan as the main impediments to the peace and security in the South Caucasus.

The true intentions of the government of Azerbaijan are made clear by its continuous armed provocations and violations of the ceasefire, its obstruction of the efforts of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries, and the anti-Armenian, war-mongering and inflammatory rhetoric and claims against the sovereign territory of the Republic of Armenia that have been coming from Azerbaijan’s highest level political leadership.

These facts stand in stark contrast to the pronouncements of the Azerbaijani delegation in the Permanent Council claiming that Azerbaijani policy is aimed at establishing peace and security in the region. As we have said before, these statements are simply a smoke screen to cover up the aggressive and expansionist intentions of the Azerbaijani government against Artsakh and Armenia.

The Republic of Armenia has constantly condemned the aggression of Azerbaijan against Artsakh and Armenia. We have denounced Azerbaijan’s distorted and twisted interpretation of the provisions of the trilateral statement of 9 November 2020, which is used

by the Azerbaijani leadership as a pretext for its expansionist policies. In this context, I wish to draw the distinguished delegations' attention to the latest detailed statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia in connection with the statements of the President of Azerbaijan, which we distributed on 7 December.

I would like to once again underscore that none of the statements signed between Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Russian Federation, neither the trilateral statement of 9 November 2020, nor the statement of 11 January 2021, nor that of 26 November 2021, contains any provision, reference or language which could be construed as an obligation of the Republic of Armenia or even an agreement by Armenia to provide Azerbaijan with any corridor or a transport link with a corridor logic.

Thus, the demands of Azerbaijan for the provision of a so-called "Zangezur corridor" is nothing but a disguise for Azerbaijan's territorial claims against Armenia's southern province of Syunik, which was indeed one of their goals during the First Karabakh War of 1990–1994.

We urge Azerbaijan to abandon its aggressive and destructive policies, to refrain from provocative rhetoric and actions, and not to hinder the implementation of the provisions of the 9 November 2020 statement and subsequent relevant statements regarding the unblocking of all economic and transport communications in the region, especially as this unblocking of communications is calculated to make a significant contribution to the peace and stability of the entire region.

Madam Chairperson,

The issue of the prisoners of war and other illegally detained persons remains one of the main challenges, creating an atmosphere of mistrust and animosity that adversely affects the overall negotiation process. Azerbaijan is deliberately manipulating the issue of the prisoners of war and other hostages in pursuit of certain political goals. The labelling of Armenian prisoners of war as terrorists and the associated mock trials and lengthy prison sentences are clear manifestations of the politicization of a purely humanitarian issue and are violations both of international humanitarian law and of the 9 November statement.

There is ample evidence that Azerbaijan, in blatant disregard of the agreement reached on an "all-for-all" exchange, is illegally detaining more than a hundred Armenian prisoners of war and civilian hostages, including a woman, captured during the 44-days war and in its aftermath, also during and after the military incursion of Azerbaijani armed forces into the territory of the Armenia.

As we have previously informed the Permanent Council, the Republic of Armenia applied to the European Court of Human Rights requesting the application of interim measures to the Armenian prisoners of war, including those captured during the 16 November military incursion.

Azerbaijan has admitted the detention of only 40 Armenians (37 servicemen, 3 civilians), all of whom have been put on trial on fabricated criminal charges. Despite the existence of a large number of video, photo and other pieces of evidence, including evidence posted on the social networks, Azerbaijan is concealing the real number of Armenian

prisoners of war and other captives, and the places of their detention. In addition, Azerbaijan is refusing to implement the interim measures of the European Court of Human Rights and failed to provide any information in this regard by the deadline of 6 December 2021 set by the Court.

Armenia is deeply concerned by the refusal by Azerbaijan to provide accurate information about the Armenian prisoners of war. The cases of enforced disappearance, torture and inhuman treatment of Armenian prisoners of war and civilian hostages still await a proper response from the relevant international organizations and partners, including the OSCE.

Madam Chairperson,

We have already informed the Permanent Council about the lawsuit filed by the Republic of Armenia with the International Court of Justice regarding Azerbaijan's systematic violations of the provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. Two days ago, the Court ruled on Armenia's request for provisional measures. Armenia presented convincing evidence of Azerbaijan's racially motivated killings and torture of Armenian prisoners of war and other detainees, as well as of its consistent policy of racial hatred towards Armenians and its destruction of Armenian cultural heritage.

The Court found that there is an imminent risk of irreparable harm to the rights of the Armenians under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and ordered Azerbaijan to, I quote:

1. Protect from violence and bodily harm all persons captured in relation to the 2020 Conflict who remain in detention, and ensure their security and equality before the law;
2. Take all necessary measures to prevent the incitement and promotion of racial hatred and discrimination, including by its officials and public institutions, targeted at persons of Armenian national or ethnic origin;
3. Take all necessary measures to prevent and punish acts of vandalism and desecration affecting Armenian cultural heritage, including but not limited to churches and other places of worship, monuments, landmarks, cemeteries and artefacts.

It should be noted that during the oral proceedings on Armenia's request for provisional measures, the Court took full cognizance of the representation made by the Agent of Azerbaijan during the proceedings to the effect that the mannequins depicting Armenian soldiers and displays of helmets allegedly worn by Armenian soldiers during the Second Nagorno-Karabakh War have been permanently removed from the so-called "Military Trophies Park" and will not be shown in the future.

The interpretation, or rather misinterpretation, of the Court's orders by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan is disappointing. We sincerely hope that the Court's orders will help Azerbaijan to ultimately comply with its obligations under international humanitarian law and the statement of 9 November 2020.

Madam Chairperson,

The realities created as a result of the use of force by Azerbaijan against Artsakh and its people cannot create a basis for the settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. Azerbaijan's claims that as a result of the war, the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and Nagorno-Karabakh itself no longer exist in the international arena are also a violation of the 9 November trilateral statement, in which Nagorno-Karabakh is presented as a territorial entity in its own right.

The conditions for ensuring lasting peace and stability in the region can only be created by the full implementation of the trilateral statement of 9 November 2020 particularly with regard to the immediate resolution of urgent humanitarian issues, the unconditional repatriation of all prisoners of war, hostages and other detained persons, the clarification of the fate of missing persons, the investigation of the cases of enforced disappearance, as well as the protection of Armenian cultural and religious heritage and the full resumption of the process of peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

The current situation in Nagorno-Karabakh is the result of a flagrant violation by Azerbaijan of several core principles of the Helsinki Final Act, namely, refraining from the threat or use of force; the peaceful settlement of disputes; equal rights and self-determination of peoples; and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. No one should be under any illusion that the results of the use of force, accompanied by war crimes and violations of international humanitarian law, can ever become the basis for a lasting and sustainable peace. Such a peace can be achieved in the region only through a comprehensive settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, which must include the determination of the status of Artsakh on the basis of the realization by the people of Artsakh of their inalienable right to self-determination; the ensuring of the safe and dignified return of displaced population to their homes; and the preservation of the region's historical and religious heritage.

Madam Chairperson, I kindly ask you to attach this statement to the journal of today's meeting.

Thank you.



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

PC.DEC/1424/Corr.1
10 December 2021

Original: ENGLISH

1348th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1348, Agenda item 4

**DECISION No. 1424
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE MISSION TO SKOPJE**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Skopje until
31 December 2022.



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

PC.DEC/1425/Corr.1
10 December 2021

Original: ENGLISH

1348th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1348, Agenda item 5

**DECISION No. 1425
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE MISSION TO MONTENEGRO**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro until
31 December 2022.



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

PC.DEC/1426
10 December 2021

Original: ENGLISH

1348th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1348, Agenda item 6

**DECISION No. 1426
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UKRAINE**

The Permanent Council,

Referring to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Ukraine and the OSCE of 13 July 1999,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine until 30 June 2022.

PC.DEC/1426
10 December 2021
Attachment 1

Original: ENGLISH

**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 United Kingdom:

“Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

In connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, the United Kingdom would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

We recall our resolute support to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including its territorial waters. We strongly condemn Russia’s illegal annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, which the United Kingdom will not recognize. We join our international partners in reiterating that the mandate of the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine covers the entire territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including Crimea.

I request that this statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.”

PC.DEC/1426
10 December 2021
Attachment 2

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:

“Having joined the consensus regarding the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, the Russian Federation proceeds on the basis that the Co-ordinator’s geographical scope of activity is meant to fully reflect the political and legal realities that have existed since 21 March 2014, namely that the Republic of Crimea and the federal city of Sevastopol became integral parts of the Russian Federation. Accordingly, the Co-ordinator’s activities, including project activities, do not apply to these constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

As far as the Ukrainian authorities’ observance of democratic principles, human rights and the rule of law is concerned, the current situation remains extremely unsatisfactory and continues to deteriorate; the problems involved are of a systemic nature. In view of the protracted conflict in eastern Ukraine caused by the military operation being conducted by the Ukrainian Government against the population of Donbas, and given also the range of pressing internal problems besetting Ukraine, there is a need for active efforts by the Co-ordinator and effective work together with the host State authorities to remedy the situation, notably with regard to respect for the rights of the Russian-speaking inhabitants of the country and members of national minorities, and with regard to ensuring the rule of law. We will assess the effectiveness of the Co-ordinator’s work on the basis of concrete results.

We hold that all the Co-ordinator’s activities should be carried out in strict accordance with the *acquis* of OSCE documents. We note the inadmissibility of promoting standards that have not been endorsed by the OSCE, which could lead to the utility of any further work by this field operation being called into question. We recall that the Co-ordinator embodies, in his or her activities, the collective will of all the OSCE participating States without exception – above all, in the interests of ensuring that Ukraine duly respects OSCE principles and commitments.

I request that this statement be attached to the adopted decision and included in the journal of today’s meeting of the Permanent Council.”

**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:

“Madam Chairperson,

In connection with adoption of the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, the delegation of Ukraine would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

The Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, which are an integral part of Ukraine, were illegally occupied and subjected to attempted annexation by the Russian Federation in violation of the OSCE principles and commitments and norms of international law. The sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders are safeguarded by the Constitution and legislation of Ukraine and norms of international law.

The territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders was reconfirmed by the UN General Assembly resolutions 68/262 ‘Territorial integrity of Ukraine’ of 27 March 2014, 71/205 ‘Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (Ukraine)’ of 19 December 2016, 72/190 ‘Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine’ of 19 December 2017, 73/263 ‘Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine’ of 22 December 2018, 74/168 ‘Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine’ of 18 December 2019 and 75/192 ‘Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine’ of 16 December 2020, as well as by the resolution 73/194 ‘The problem of the militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov’ adopted on 17 December 2018, 74/17 ‘The problem of the militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov’ adopted on 9 December 2019, 75/29 ‘The problem of the militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov’ adopted on 7 December 2020 and 76/70 ‘The problem of the militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov’ adopted on 9 December 2021.

Ukraine emphasizes that the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine covers the whole territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

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

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.”

PC.DEC/1426
10 December 2021
Attachment 4

Original: ENGLISH

**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 Turkey:

“Madam Chairperson,

In connection with the adoption of the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Turkey wishes to make the following interpretative statement under the relevant provisions of the OSCE Rules of Procedure:

‘Turkey reiterates that the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine covers the entire territory of Ukraine, including Crimea, which Turkey continues to regard as part of Ukraine.’

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the journal of the day as well as to the decision in question.

Thank you.”

PC.DEC/1426
10 December 2021
Attachment 5

Original: ENGLISH

**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 United States of America:

“Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

In connection with the adoption of the decision for the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, the United States joins the other speakers here today in making the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure:

The United States notes that Crimea remains an integral and internationally recognized part of Ukraine, despite Russia’s attempted annexation. The mandate of the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine applies to the entire territory of Ukraine within its international recognized borders, including Crimea.

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.”

PC.DEC/1426
10 December 2021
Attachment 6

Original: ENGLISH

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

The delegation of Slovenia, in its capacity as EU Presidency, passed the floor to the representative of the European Union, who delivered the following statement:

“In connection with the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, the European Union would like to make the following interpretative statement under the relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure.

The European Union stresses that the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine covers the whole territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

We request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day as well as to the decision in question.”

PC.DEC/1426
10 December 2021
Attachment 7

Original: ENGLISH

**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 Canada:

“Madam Chairperson,

Canada wishes to make an interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure in connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine.

The mandate of the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, as with the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, applies to the entire country of Ukraine, including Crimea. In this context, we wish to reiterate our full support for Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders. Crimea remains an integral and internationally recognized part of Ukraine. Canada, like the vast majority of participating States, has not and will not recognize the illegal annexation of Ukraine’s Autonomous Republic of Crimea by the Russian Federation.

Canada requests that this statement be attached to the decision and reflected in the journal of the day.

Thank you.”



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

PC.DEC/1427/Corr.1
10 December 2021

Original: ENGLISH

1348th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1348, Agenda item 7

**DECISION No. 1427
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova until
31 December 2022.



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

PC.DEC/1428/Corr.1
10 December 2021

Original: ENGLISH

1348th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1348, Agenda item 8

**DECISION No. 1428
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE PROGRAMME OFFICE IN NUR-SULTAN**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan until
31 December 2022.



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

PC.DEC/1429
10 December 2021

Original: ENGLISH

1348th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1348, Agenda item 9

**DECISION No. 1429
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UZBEKISTAN**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan until 31 December 2022.



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

PC.DEC/1430
10 December 2021

Original: ENGLISH

1348th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1348, Agenda item 10

**DECISION No. 1430
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE PROGRAMME OFFICE IN BISHKEK**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek until
31 December 2022.



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

PC.DEC/1431
10 December 2021

Original: ENGLISH

1348th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1348, Agenda item 11

**DECISION No. 1431
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE PRESENCE IN ALBANIA**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Presence in Albania until
31 December 2022.



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

PC.DEC/1432
10 December 2021

Original: ENGLISH

1348th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1348, Agenda item 12

**DECISION No. 1432
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE MISSION TO SERBIA**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Serbia until
31 December 2022.

1348th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1348, Agenda item 13

**DECISION No. 1433
THEME, AGENDA AND MODALITIES FOR THE
30th ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM**

The Permanent Council,

Pursuant to Chapter VII, paragraphs 21 to 32, of the Helsinki Document 1992; Chapter IX, paragraph 20, of the Budapest Document 1994; Ministerial Council Decision No. 10/04 of 7 December 2004; Ministerial Council Decision No. 4/06 of 26 July 2006; Permanent Council Decision No. 743 of 19 October 2006; Permanent Council Decision No. 958 of 11 November 2010; and Permanent Council Decision No. 1011 of 7 December 2011,

Relying on the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension (Annex 1 of MC(11).JOUR/2) and relevant Ministerial Council decisions,

Building on the outcomes of past Economic and Environmental Forums, as well as on the results of relevant OSCE activities,

Decides that:

1. The theme of the 30th Economic and Environmental Forum will be: “Promoting security and stability in the OSCE area through sustainable economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic”;
2. The 30th Economic and Environmental Forum will consist of three meetings, including two preparatory meetings, one of which will take place outside of Vienna. The concluding meeting will be held on 8 and 9 September 2022 in Prague. These arrangements shall not set a precedent for future meetings of the Economic and Environmental Forum. The Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, under the guidance of the OSCE Chairmanship for 2022, will organize the above-mentioned meetings;
3. The agenda of the Forum will focus on the impact of the following topics on the comprehensive security of the OSCE area:
 - Supporting sustainable economic recovery and growth, including through the promotion of investment, good governance and anti-corruption, trade and transport facilitation, entrepreneurship and the development of business;

- Enhancing human capital development strategies as a means to stimulate employment, competitiveness and inclusive growth;
 - Promoting digital and technological innovations to accelerate green growth and reduce the environmental footprint in the OSCE area;
 - Enhancing the protection of the environment and sustainable use of natural resources; strengthening co-operation in the fields of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources with the view of greening the economy;
4. The agendas of the Forum meetings, including timetables and themes of the working sessions, will be proposed and determined by the OSCE Chairmanship for 2022, after being agreed upon by the participating States in the Economic and Environmental Committee;
5. The Economic and Environmental Forum will review the implementation of the OSCE's commitments in the economic and environmental dimension, including through presentations of activities implemented by the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities and the field operations;
6. The discussions at the Forum should benefit from cross-dimensional input provided by other OSCE bodies and relevant meetings organized by the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, under the guidance of the OSCE Chairmanship for 2022, and from deliberations in various international organizations;
7. The participating States are encouraged to be represented at a high level by senior officials responsible for shaping national and international economic and environmental policy in the OSCE area. Participation in their delegations of representatives from the business and scientific communities and of other relevant actors of civil society would be welcome;
8. As in previous years, the format of the Economic and Environmental Forum should provide for the active involvement of relevant international organizations and encourage open discussions;
9. The following international organizations, international organs, regional groupings and conferences of States are invited to participate in the 30th Economic and Environmental Forum: Asian Development Bank; Barents Euro-Arctic Council; Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation; Central European Initiative; Collective Security Treaty Organization; Commonwealth of Independent States; Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia; Council of Europe; Council of the Baltic Sea States; Economic Cooperation Organization; Energy Community; Energy Charter Treaty; Eurasian Economic Commission; Eurasian Economic Union; European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; European Environment Agency; European Investment Bank; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; Green Cross International; International Atomic Energy Agency; International Energy Agency; International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA); International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea; International Maritime Organization; International Monetary Fund; International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement; International Committee of the Red Cross; North Atlantic Treaty Organization; Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC); OPEC Fund for

International Development (OFID); Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM; Organisation of Islamic Cooperation; Regional Cooperation Council; Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification; Southeast European Cooperative Initiative; Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; Shanghai Cooperation Organisation; United Nations Development Programme; United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development; United Nations Environment Programme; United Nations Human Settlements Programme; United Nations Industrial Development Organization; United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction; United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees; UN Women; United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia; World Bank Group; World Health Organization; World Meteorological Organization; World Trade Organization; Advisory Group on Environmental Emergencies; Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit; International Strategy for Disaster Reduction; United Nations Children’s Fund; Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI); United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination; International Civil Defence Organization; World Food Programme; Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery; Inter-Parliamentary Union; Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe (REC); Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC); Secretariat of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity; and other relevant organizations;

10. The OSCE Partners for Co-operation are invited to participate in the 30th Economic and Environmental Forum;

11. Upon request by a delegation of an OSCE participating State, regional groupings or expert academics and business representatives may also be invited, as appropriate, to participate in the 30th Economic and Environmental Forum;

12. Subject to the provisions contained in Chapter IV, paragraphs 15 and 16, of the Helsinki Document 1992, the representatives of non-governmental organizations with relevant experience in the area under discussion are also invited to participate in the 30th Economic and Environmental Forum;

13. The 2022 preparatory meetings will be held in English and Russian with interpretation. These arrangements will not constitute a precedent to be relied upon in other circumstances.

PC.DEC/1433
10 December 2021
Attachment 1

Original: ENGLISH

**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 Canada (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States of America):

“Madam Chairperson,

In connection with the adoption of this decision on the theme, agenda, and modalities for the 30th Economic and Environmental Forum, I would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Canada:

The Economic and Environmental Forum is the premier event in the second dimension of the OSCE. Our States have joined consensus on the timely adoption of this decision to ensure that the Forum will be well positioned to achieve its objectives.

Similarly, it is of critical importance that the decisions on the premier events in the first dimension, the Annual Security Review Conference, and in the third dimension, the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, are also adopted in a timely manner to ensure that they too are well positioned to achieve their objectives. We would therefore expect that all participating States will join consensus on the decisions related to these events in the same timely manner.

I request that this statement be attached to the decision and reflected in the journal of the day.

Thank you.”

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

The delegation of Slovenia, in its capacity as EU Presidency, passed the floor to the representative of the European Union, who delivered the following statement:

“Madam Chairperson,

In connection with the adoption of this decision on the theme, agenda and modalities for the 30th Economic and Environmental Forum, the European Union would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure:

The Economic and Environmental Forum is the premier event in the second dimension of the OSCE. We have joined consensus on the timely adoption of this decision to ensure that the Forum will be well positioned to achieve its objectives.

Similarly, it is of critical importance that the decisions on the premier events in the first dimension, the Annual Security Review Conference, and in the third dimension, the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, are also adopted in a timely manner to ensure that they too are well positioned to achieve their objectives. We would therefore expect that all participating States will join consensus on the decisions related to these events in the same timely manner.

I request that this statement be attached to the decision and reflected in the journal of the day.

Thank you.

The candidate countries the Republic of North Macedonia¹, Montenegro¹, Serbia¹ and Albania¹, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Georgia, and San Marino align themselves with this statement.”

1 The Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

**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 United States of America:

“Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

The United States wishes to make an interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

The United States welcomes the adoption of this decision and the 2022 Polish Chairmanship’s efforts to promote comprehensive security, stability and sustainable development in the OSCE area through sustainable economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

In joining consensus on the Economic and Environmental Forum (EEF) theme, agenda and modalities, the United States wishes to review and reiterate the commitments that participating States have made regarding inviting relevant organizations to the EEF. Relevance for the purpose of being invited to participate in the EEF has two essential elements: first, the international organizations’ expertise or programming relevant to the EEF theme of the year; and second, that those organizations’ goals and actions are consistent with the commitments participating States made at the 1999 Istanbul Summit in the Charter for European Security, paragraph III.32, and the Operational Document of the Platform for Co-operative Security, paragraphs I.1–2.

In addition, the continued involvement of civil society organizations, private sector representatives and academics will also support a candid debate about today’s pressing economic and environmental challenges.

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.”