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REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAIRMAN IN OFFICE (28 July – 31 August)

OSCE Chairman-in-Office Attends Ceremony to Mark 30th Anniversary of Helsinki Final Act

HELSINKI/BERLIN - OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel attended a ceremony in Helsinki on 1 August to mark the 30th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act. He stressed that the OSCE was underrated, although it had played an important role in Europe. In a time when the world is facing the threat of international terrorism and the need to uphold human rights, the Organisation's main task is to look for the best balance between the two, OSCE Chairman-in-Office said. From Helsinki, he traveled to Berlin to deliver a lecture on the 30th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act at the Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Auswaertige Politik.

Head of OSCE Task Force: International Organisations Must Rethink Their Agenda

BERLIN - The Head of Slovenia's OSCE Task Force, Ambassador Boris Frlec stressed the need for international organisations to rethink their agenda as he delivered a lecture at a conference in Berlin on 30 July. According to Ambassador Frlec, the OSCE, EU, UN and NATO must ponder how to upgrade their programmes. Head of Task Force also said that the world must unite to fight terrorism, as only joint efforts can yield concrete results.

Slovenia Donates Money for Demining in the Caucasus

LJUBLJANA - Slovenia has pledged to donate 88,000 EUR to the Slovenian-run International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF) for its activities in the Caucasus. An agreement to that effect was signed in Ljubljana on 27 July by Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel and ITF's President Dorijan Marsic. The contribution will be used for several projects, among them an OSCE-sponsored regional demining conference, an assessment of mine victims-relief efforts and mine victim-assistance and demining projects in Azerbaijan.

Chairman-in-Office Holds Nagorno-Karabakh Talks Ahead of Visit in the Region

LJUBLJANA - OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel met with Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk, Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference and with the Co-chairs of the Minsk group which deals with the conflict, in Ljubljana on 29 August, to discuss efforts for resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The meeting, also attended by, is taking place a week before Chairman-in-Office's visit to South Caucasus.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

TBILISI, BAKU, YEREVAN, 4 - 6 September - OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel is due to visit Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia.

BRDO PRI KRANJU, 7 & 8 September - OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel is to address a conference on OSCE reform.