



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

MC.DEC/7/24
30 December 2024

Original: ENGLISH

**DECISION No. 7/24
OSCE CHAIRMANSHIP IN THE YEAR 2026**

The Ministerial Council,

Taking into consideration the recommendation of the Permanent Council,

Decides that Switzerland will exercise the function of the OSCE Chairmanship in the year 2026.

MC.DEC/7/24
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Attachment

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 Ministerial Council decision on the OSCE Chairmanship in the year 2026, the Russian Federation notes the following.

Our assumption is that, as holder of the OSCE Chairmanship, the Swiss Confederation will make a meaningful effort to salvage the Organization’s ability to perform, and to restore a culture of professional, dialogue-oriented inter-State co-operation.

We expect Switzerland to adhere closely to the mandate of the Chairmanship-in-Office, as set out in the Porto Ministerial Council decision of 2002, and avert the recurrence of the shameful practice of previous Chairmanships with regard to introducing confrontationally worded topics for discussion at official events. We trust that the future Chairmanship will actively hold consultations with all participating States on the preparation of key events in the OSCE’s annual cycle, guarantee equal and unhindered access to these events for everyone without exception, and not allow programmatic work to be skewed altogether towards certain issues.

Permanent Council Decision No. 485 of 28 June 2002 – which stipulates that the OSCE’s leadership must act in the public eye exclusively in accordance with approaches agreed upon by consensus – remains a categorical imperative in the work of the Chairmanship-in-Office. No violations indulged in by previous Chairmanships may be used as a precedent or justification for any further deviations from that rule.

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