

---

**Chairmanship: Italy****1197th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 11 October 2018

Opened: 10.15 a.m.  
Suspended: 1.10 p.m.  
Resumed: 3.05 p.m.  
Closed: 5.25 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador A. Azzoni

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

Agenda item 1: ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE OSCE  
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY,  
H.E. MR. GEORGE TSERETELI

Chairperson, President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (PA.GAL/9/18 Restr.), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1212/18), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/1188/18 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1203/18 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/1219/18 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1180/18), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1183/18), Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/1196/18 OSCE+), Ukraine (PC.DEL/1189/18), Georgia (PC.DEL/1227/18 OSCE+), Kyrgyzstan, Norway (PC.DEL/1207/18), Armenia (PC.DEL/1220/18), Afghanistan (Partner for Co-operation)

Agenda item 2: REPORT BY THE HEAD OF THE OSCE MISSION IN  
KOSOVO

Chairperson, Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (PC.FR/28/18 OSCE+), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia

and Herzegovina; and the European Free Trade Association country Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1213/18), Norway (PC.DEL/1208/18), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1192/18), Turkey (PC.DEL/1221/18 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1182/18), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1204/18 OSCE+), Belgium (also on behalf of Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom) (Annex 1), Spain (Annex 2), Albania (PC.DEL/1195/18 OSCE+), Serbia

Agenda item 3:            REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a)    *Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine and illegal occupation of Crimea*: Ukraine (PC.DEL/1190/18), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia and Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1214/18), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1223/18 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/1222/18 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1186/18), Canada
- (b)    *Situation in Ukraine and the need to implement the Minsk agreements*: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1191/18), Ukraine
- (c)    *European and World Day against the Death Penalty, celebrated on 10 October 2018*: Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; as well as Andorra, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1215/18/Rev.1), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1194/18), Norway (also on behalf of Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Mongolia and Switzerland) (PC.DEL/1210/18), United States of America (PC.DEL/1185/18), Holy See (PC.DEL/1184/18 OSCE+), Belarus (PC.DEL/1187/18 OSCE+), Italy

Agenda item 4:            REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE  
CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE

- (a)    *Meeting of the political directors of OSCE participating States, held in Rome on 8 October 2018*: Chairperson
- (b)    *Annual Economic and Environmental Dimension Implementation Meeting, to be held on 15 and 16 October 2018 (PC.EEDIM.GAL/2/18/Rev.1)*: Chairperson
- (c)    *Distribution of Circular Note No. 1 on the logistical modalities for the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, to be held in Milan, Italy, on 6 and 7 December 2018 (MC.INF/1/18 OSCE+) (MC.INF/1/18/Add.1 OSCE+)*: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/155/18 OSCE+), Holy See

Agenda item 5: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/157/18 OSCE+)*: Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
- (b) *Visit of the Secretary General to Minsk on 9 October 2018*: Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (SEC.GAL/157/18 OSCE+)
- (c) *Participation of the Secretary General in the 28th meeting of the Council of Europe–OSCE Co-ordination Group, held on 5 October 2018*: Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (SEC.GAL/157/18 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1193/18)
- (d) *Participation of the Secretary General in the Conflict Cycle Seminar on “Strengthening the OSCE’s Capacities for Conflict Prevention and Resolution: Good practices and lessons learned”, held on 5 October 2018*: Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (SEC.GAL/157/18 OSCE+)
- (e) *Urgency of establishing an IT Infrastructure Upgrade Fund*: Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (SEC.GAL/157/18 OSCE+), Chairperson
- (f) *OSCE partnerships with international and regional organizations*: France

Agenda item 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *International Day of the Girl Child, celebrated on 11 October 2018*: Norway (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom) (PC.DEL/1211/18/Rev.1), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1206/18)
- (b) *General election in Bosnia and Herzegovina, held on 7 October 2018*: Bosnia and Herzegovina (PC.DEL/1229/18 OSCE+), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro 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 Georgia and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1216/18/Rev.1), Croatia (Annex 3), Turkey, Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1209/18), United States of America (PC.DEL/1225/18)

- (c) *OSCE bicycle tour from Vienna to Bratislava, held on 6 October 2018:* Kazakhstan (Annex 4), United Kingdom, Chairperson, Germany, Slovakia, Lithuania, Austria
- (d) *Murder of journalist Ms. V. Marinova in Bulgaria:* Bulgaria (PC.DEL/1224/18), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1217/18/Rev.1), Canada, United States of America (PC.DEL/1226/18)
- (e) *Parliamentary election in Finland, to be held on 14 April 2019:* Finland
- (f) *National efforts directed at Holocaust commemoration, education, combating anti-Semitism and intolerance:* Romania (PC.DEL/1201/18 OSCE+)
- (g) *Workshop to discuss the report on “Religion and Conflict Prevention in the OSCE Context Involving Religious Leaders and Congregations in Joint Efforts”, to be held in Vienna on 15 and 16 October 2018:* Spain

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 18 October 2018, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

PC.JOUR/1197  
11 October 2018  
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

---

**1197th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1197, Agenda item 2

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF BELGIUM  
(ALSO ON BEHALF OF AUSTRIA, BULGARIA, CANADA, CROATIA,  
THE CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK, ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE,  
GERMANY, ICELAND, IRELAND, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, MALTA,  
THE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, SLOVENIA, SWEDEN,  
SWITZERLAND AND THE UNITED KINGDOM)**

Mr. Chairperson,

I am making this statement in a national capacity and also on behalf of Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Ireland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Norway, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the Czech Republic and the United Kingdom.

Mr. Chairperson,

We appreciate the excellent work carried out by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo in order to support the authorities of the country in strengthening their institutions. We are pleased to welcome Ambassador Jan Braathu to the Permanent Council and look forward to continuing to work with him in a constructive manner.

We welcome the fact that the Mission is continuously adapting its activities to Kosovo's needs and we welcome the opportunity provided yesterday by the Chairmanship to engage with the Kosovan Ombudsman during the informal meeting. We recall that the Mission is among the largest of the OSCE field operations and that it plays an essential role in Kosovo. Therefore, we consider it essential to have contacts between participating States and technical representatives of the Kosovo administrations co-operating with the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and we look forward to continuing this practice.

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

Thank you.



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

PC.JOUR/1197  
11 October 2018  
Annex 2

ENGLISH  
Original: SPANISH

---

**1197th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1197, Agenda item 2

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SPAIN**

Mr. Chairperson,

Spain subscribes to the statement made by the European Union on this topic and would like once again to express its support for the important work carried out by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo together with other international institutions present on the territory of Kosovo. We should also like to thank Ambassador Jan Braathu for his statement and activity report, and express our appreciation for the work that he is carrying out with his team.

Mr. Chairperson,

Spain, like other participating States, does not recognize the territory of Kosovo as a State. In that regard, I should like to recall that any proposal or initiative regarding the OSCE Mission in Kosovo should be in keeping, as a frame of reference, with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

Progress in dialogue under the auspices of the European Union between the authorities in Belgrade and Priština is an essential prerequisite in the pursuit by both of their respective paths towards Europe. In that regard, the territory of Kosovo has within the Stabilisation and Association Agreement its own specific framework for relations.

Mr. Chairperson, I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you.



---

**1197th Plenary Meeting**

PC Journal No. 1197, Agenda item 6(b)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF CROATIA**

Mr. Chairperson,

Although a comprehensive final report has not been issued yet, the Republic of Croatia has taken note of the preliminary findings and conclusions of the election observation mission deployed by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) for the general election held in Bosnia and Herzegovina on 7 October 2018.

Now that the election is over, Croatia expects the executive and legislative bodies at all levels, including the House of Peoples of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, to be constituted swiftly, in line with the rulings of the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly the Court's ruling of 1 December 2016 on the Ljubić case.

As a neighbouring country and one of the signatories and guarantors of the Dayton Peace Agreement, Croatia takes a profound interest in the sustainability and stability of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which can only be achieved by ensuring the equality of its three constituent peoples.

Croatia regrets that the Croat member of the Presidency has yet again been elected mostly by Bosniak votes and is being imposed on Croats as their representative. Through such electoral engineering, Croats in Bosnia and Herzegovina have, for the third time in a row, been prevented from exercising their legitimate right to be represented by those whom they have voted for.

As a result, Croats have been denied the constitutional rights that are enjoyed by the other two constituent peoples, Bosniaks and Serbs, and the spirit of the Dayton Peace Agreement has been blatantly disregarded.

Allow me to conclude by recalling that the Constitutional Court has ruled that the proportional and legitimate representation of all three peoples is a fundamental principle of the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is therefore essential that Croats, as one of the three constituent peoples of Bosnia and Herzegovina, should enjoy the same rights as the other two peoples, and it is our duty to safeguard those rights.

Thank you for your attention.



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

PC.JOUR/1197  
11 October 2018  
Annex 4

Original: ENGLISH

---

**1197th Plenary Meeting**

PC Journal No. 1197, Agenda item 6(c)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF KAZAKHSTAN**

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.  
Excellencies,  
Dear colleagues,

The delegation of Kazakhstan expresses its thanks to all those who participated in the 2018 OSCE bicycle tour from Vienna to Bratislava, which was held on 6 October 2018. It was co-organized by the Italian Chairmanship, the incoming Slovak Chairmanship, the OSCE Secretariat and the Kazakh delegation, with valuable support from the delegations of the other countries of Central Asia and of Austria and Germany.

Our connectivity event took place with the participation of 70 persons from 18 delegations, including seven ambassadors and a number of OSCE Secretariat representatives, all following the famous cycle path along the Danube, the second longest river in Europe. We had some exciting stops, at the “Central Asian tent”, at the “Connecting Austria” stop at Schloss Eckartsau, and at the “Strengthening Connectivity” stop in Hainburg. At the finish we were treated to generous Slovak hospitality in Bratislava.

We believe that we can only solve current challenges if we show good will and join one another in common efforts; in this second regard, I may note, people, nations and places can only be connected up through the power of human qualities. Connectivity is an essential part of our lives and we are glad to have experienced it by cycling between the two closest capital cities in the OSCE area.

We hope that the OSCE bicycle tour will become a regular tradition of the Organization in the years to come.

We request the Chairmanship to attach this statement to the journal of the meeting.

I thank you.