



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

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1150th Plenary Meeting
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DECISION No. 1253
AGENDA AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF THE 2017
ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE (ASRC)

The Permanent Council,

Recalling Porto Ministerial Council Decision No. 3 on the Annual Security Review Conference,

Taking into account its Decision No. 1242 on the dates of the 2017 Annual Security Review Conference,

Taking into account the recommendation of the Forum for Security Co-operation,

Decides to organize the 2017 Annual Security Review Conference in accordance with the agenda and organizational modalities contained in the annexes to this decision.

2017 ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE

Vienna, 27–29 June 2017

Agenda

Tuesday, 27 June 2017

- 10–12 noon Opening session: European security
- 2.15–4.15 p.m. Special session: Ensuring security and stability in the OSCE region in light of developments with respect to Ukraine

Wednesday, 28 June 2017

- 10–12 noon Special session: Special meeting of the Structured Dialogue
- 2–3.30 p.m. Working session I: Early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management, conflict resolution and post-conflict rehabilitation: Lessons learned and the way ahead
- 4–5.30 p.m. Working session II: Conflict and crisis situations in the OSCE area: building security and confidence

Thursday, 29 June 2017

- 10–12 noon Working session III: Conventional arms control and confidence- and security-building measures: challenges and prospects
- 2–4 p.m. Working session IV: Transnational threats – current and future trends
- 4–4.30 p.m. Closing session

ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF THE 2017 ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE

Vienna, 27–29 June 2017

Background

The Tenth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, at Porto, by adopting its Decision No.3, dated 7 December 2002, established the Annual Security Review Conference (ASRC) to provide a framework for enhancing security dialogue and for reviewing security work undertaken by the OSCE and its participating States, to provide an opportunity to exchange views on issues related to arms control and confidence- and security-building measures, and to promote the exchange of information and co-operation with relevant international and regional organizations and institutions.

Organization

A representative of the Chairperson-in-Office will chair the opening and the closing session. The Secretariat will issue a journal of the Conference.

Each working session as well as the special sessions and the opening session will have one moderator and one rapporteur. The Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) will serve as co-ordinator for preparing the working sessions.

The contribution of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) will be made in accordance with its procedures, mandate and competences.

The Rules of Procedure of the OSCE will be followed, *mutatis mutandis*, at the Conference. Also, the guidelines for organizing OSCE meetings (Permanent Council Decision No. 762) will be taken into account.

Interpretation from and into all six working languages of the OSCE will be provided at the opening, special, working and closing sessions.

The Chairmanship will co-ordinate the preparation of the ASRC with the FSC Chairperson and the OSCE Secretariat.

The Chairperson-in-Office will distribute a comprehensive report on the Conference.

The Communication and Media Relations Section (COMMS) will inform the press, as appropriate, and in accordance with the modalities concerning co-ordination with the OSCE Chairmanship.

Participation

The participating States are encouraged to be represented at a high level, by senior officials from capitals, responsible for security-related policy in the OSCE area.

The OSCE institutions will participate in the Conference, as will the Secretary General and the CPC. The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the Partners for Co-operation are invited to participate.

The Chairmanship may also invite heads of OSCE field operations to participate in the Conference. Consideration could be given to the possibility of inviting heads of field operations or other high-ranking OSCE officials to be present as keynote speakers or moderators.

The international organizations that may be invited are the security-related organizations mentioned in Permanent Council Decision No. 951 of 29 July 2010.

Consideration will be given to the possibility of inviting security-related scientific institutes, think tanks of international standing, and NGOs to send keynote speakers, moderators or to be represented as members of national delegations.

General guidelines for participants

The work of the ASRC will be conducted in eight sessions. The opening session is intended to set the stage for substantive, focused and interactive discussions at the special and working sessions. The opening session will include the welcoming remarks by the Chairperson-in-Office or his representative. The Chairmanship will explore the possibility of inviting high-level special guests to address the Conference.

The working sessions as well as the special sessions will each concentrate on a different subject, introduced by one or more keynote speakers, whose addresses will be followed by a discussion of relevant topics that are mentioned in the agenda.

The aim is an interactive and free-flowing discussion.

In order to reinforce the effectiveness of security activities across all three dimensions of the OSCE, it is expected that each of the sessions will address the interfaces of security and the question of co-operation with other international and regional organizations.

To promote an interactive discussion, interventions by delegations at the opening, special and working sessions should be as concise as possible, not exceeding five minutes in length. Moderators will be asked to strictly enforce these time limits. Prior circulation of statements and interventions will enhance the possibility for engaging in a free-flowing discussion.

Participants should inform the OSCE Secretariat of the composition of their delegations to the ASRC, in response to the information circular regarding organizational aspects of the Conference which will be sent out by the OSCE Secretariat.

Participating States and other participants in the Conference are invited to submit any written contributions they may have.

Written contributions should be submitted to Conference Services, which will then distribute them. The information could also include contributions from OSCE institutions and other international organizations, if appropriate.

Guidelines for keynote speakers

Contributions of keynote speakers should be focused on the subject of the relevant session, setting the scene for the subsequent discussion and stimulating debate among delegations by raising appropriate questions and suggesting potential recommendations based on OSCE realities.

The maximum available speaking time is 15 minutes per keynote speaker, shorter and focussed presentations are encouraged.

Keynote speakers should be present during the entire session at which they are speaking, and should be ready to engage in the debate following their presentation.

To enable delegations to prepare themselves, keynote speakers should provide a written contribution and their biographical synopsis to the CPC. In their presentations, keynote speakers should touch on the highlights of their written contribution.

Guidelines for moderators and rapporteurs

Moderators chairing the special and working sessions should facilitate and focus the debate among delegations. Each moderator should stimulate the debate by introducing items related to the subject of sessions, as appropriate, in order to broaden or focus the scope of the discussion. When appropriate, moderators may call on speakers out of order to facilitate a genuine and free-flowing discussion.

The written reports provided by rapporteurs should address issues raised during the opening, special and working sessions, covering problem areas, improvements, suggestions made during the sessions, and other relevant information. Personal views shall not be advanced.

Moderators and rapporteurs should seek to identify and summarize specific recommendations made in each of the sessions.

Guidelines for the participation of other international organizations

International and regional organizations may participate in all sessions. They are invited to concentrate their contributions on aspects of co-operation with the OSCE within the scope of the relevant session.

International and regional organizations should provide factual information, useful for the participants of the ASRC, to Conference Services.