



CORTES GENERALES

OSCE PA BUREAU MEETING

Reunión de la Mesa de la Asamblea Parlamentaria de la OSCE

Copenhague, 28-29 de abril de 2024

A.- INTRODUCCIÓN

Esta reunión estuvo conformada por dos partes diferenciadas:

- I. Seminario Informal de trabajo sobre el futuro de la Asamblea Parlamentaria de la OSCE, continuación del celebrado el 26 de enero de 2024, y que tuvo lugar el domingo, 28 de abril, de 15 a 18 horas en la sede de la Secretaría de la Asamblea Parlamentaria.

- II. Reunión de la Mesa propiamente dicha, que tuvo lugar en la sede del Parlamento de Dinamarca el lunes, 29 de abril, de 9 a 16 horas.

ASISTENCIA.- La asistencia a estas reuniones está regulada en el artículo 6.1 del Reglamento de la Asamblea, en el que se establece que: «*La Mesa estará compuesta por el Presidente o Presidenta, los Vicepresidentes y Vicepresidentas, el Tesorero o Tesorera, los altos cargos de las tres Comisiones Generales y el Presidente o Presidenta emérito. El Presidente o Presidenta emérito será, ex officio, miembro de la Mesa con voz, pero sin voto*». Asimismo, fueron invitados a estas reuniones otros altos cargos de la Asamblea parlamentaria, en concreto¹:

- El jefe de la Delegación de Dinamarca;
- Los presidentes de las comisiones *ad hoc*;
- El Presidente de la Subcomisión de Reglamento;
- El Presidente del Equipo de apoyo parlamentario a Ucrania;
- El Jefe de la Delegación de Rumania;
- Y el Jefe de la Delegación de Irlanda.

¹ Se adjunta el documento correspondiente a la relación de altos cargos de la Asamblea Parlamentaria y de sus comisiones.(Anexo I), así como, la relación de asistentes confirmados (Anexo II).



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AGENDA.- La agenda de esta reunión estuvo desdoblada en el programa del seminario, de un lado y en el Orden del día de la Mesa, del otro.

El programa del Seminario fue el siguiente²:

1. Revisión de las conclusiones alcanzadas en el Seminario informal de trabajo celebrado el 26 de enero de 2024.
2. Debate acerca del futuro de la Asamblea Parlamentaria de la OSCE.
3. Debate acerca de la cooperación con las presidencias de la OSCE (gubernamental) en el futuro.

El orden del día de la Mesa fue el siguiente³:

1. Ratificación del orden del día.
2. Discurso de apertura de la Presidenta de la Asamblea Parlamentaria de la OSCE, Sra. Pia Kauma.
3. Cuestiones administrativas y financieras:
4. Presentación de los proyectos de informes y proyectos de resolución para la 31ª reunión anual por los ponentes de las Mesas, seguida de debate.
5. Información sobre las próximas reuniones estatutarias de la Asamblea Parlamentaria de la OSCE en 2024.
6. Debate abierto sobre las actividades y prioridades de la Asamblea Parlamentaria de la OSCE.
7. Otros asuntos.

² Se adjunta documento relativo al programa previsto, así como, a las principales cuestiones a abordar durante el mismo (Anexo III)

³ Se adjunta documento relativo al orden del día de la Mesa, para cuyo desarrollo fue convocada la reunión de la Mesa (Anexo IV)



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B.- DESARROLLO DE LA REUNIÓN

1. La Presidenta de la Asamblea abrió la sesión y anunció que por parte de la delegación alemana no podría asistir el Sr. Tobias Winckler (ponente de la 1ª Comisión). También intervino el Jefe de la delegación danesa para dar la bienvenida a los asistentes, y se procedió a la aprobación del orden del día propuesto.

2. En relación con la renovación del Secretario General se acordó proponer a la Comisión Permanente la renovación del mandato del actual Secretario General (Roberto Montela), de conformidad con el artículo 40 del Reglamento de la Asamblea en el que se establece que: *«El Secretario o la Secretaria General será elegido por la Comisión Permanente, a partir de la propuesta de la Mesa, por una mayoría de dos tercios de los votos emitidos en votación secreta. El nombramiento será por cinco años y podrá renovarse dos veces con la mayoría de los votos emitidos en votación secreta en la Comisión Permanente, la cual podrá, en circunstancias excepcionales, y a partir de la propuesta de la Mesa, considerar la renovación del Secretario o Secretaria General más allá del tercer mandato por una mayoría de dos tercios de los votos emitidos en votación secreta».*

Conviene resaltar que, de conformidad con dicha regulación, basta la mayoría simple para la renovación del mandato, mientras que para la elección de un nuevo Secretario General sería necesaria una mayoría de dos tercios⁴.

Asimismo, la Presidenta expuso los numerosos apoyos por escrito a la renovación del mandato del Secretario General, así como los motivos que, en su opinión, avalan esta decisión.⁵

3. En relación con las cuestiones administrativas y financieras intervino el Tesorero de la Asamblea (Johan Büser, de Suecia) para explicar las insuficiencias financieras provocadas, entre otros motivos, por el impago de cuotas por parte de la delegación de Rusia (en este momento se encuentran en situación de impago las delegaciones de Rusia, Bielorrusia, Tayikistán y Turkmenistán). A este respecto Rusia dirigió, a través de su Embajada, una carta⁶ de queja por las acciones concertadas que —en su opinión, por

⁴ Se acompaña la carta de la Presidenta de la Asamblea remitida al cabeza de Delegación de Suecia, aclarando el procedimiento que la Mesa ha estado siguiendo en relación con este asunto. (Anexo V)

⁵ Se adjuntan en documento aparte todos los apoyos por escrito que recibió la propuesta de renovación. (Anexo VI)

⁶ Se acompañan las cartas de la delegación rusa. (Anexo VII)



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supuesto— están desarrollándose en el seno de la Asamblea Parlamentaria para impedir la normal participación de la delegación rusa en la misma.

También resumió las previsiones presupuestarias descritas en su Informe que incluyen un incremento del 3,7% en todas las aportaciones para el ejercicio 2024-2025 (España pasaría de 193132 € en 2023, a 200450 € en 2024)⁷.

Por parte española, el jefe de delegación (Sr. Pons) indicó que la escasez en las aportaciones de algunos países ya había sido puesta de manifiesto en reuniones anteriores, sin que ello se haya traducido en reformas financieras destinadas a resolverla; esto es, no se han adoptado medidas específicas, si no que se han subido todas las aportaciones, sin más. Otros intervinientes (Charalambides, de Chipre y Pritchard, de Reino Unido), destacaron la conveniencia de contar con un “plan B” que sirviese de alternativa en caso de que las insuficientes financiaciones exijan que haya que priorizar unas actividades sobre otras.

4. Presentación de los proyectos de Informe y de Resolución de las tres comisiones generales. Estos textos servirán de base para los debates y votaciones que tendrán lugar en la próxima 31ª sesión anual de la Asamblea Parlamentaria (Bucarest, 29 de junio a 3 de julio).

4.1 En ausencia del ponente de la 1ª Comisión, se produjeron diferentes intervenciones en las que se puso de relieve (Charalambides, de Chipre) que las migraciones masivas, los colectivos desplazados por la guerra y el hambre, el antisemitismo, el anti islamismo, los crímenes de odio,... están transformando en conflictos globales los diferentes conflictos que inicialmente estallaron en áreas geográficas concretas. También se defendió (Zoffili, de Italia) la incorporación de un punto suplementario⁸ para incluir en la resolución de la 1ª Comisión una referencia al tráfico organizado de seres humanos que tanto afecta al área mediterránea y del norte de África. Asimismo, el Secretario General respaldó los puntos 51 a 54 del borrador de Resolución propuesto por el ponente de la 1ª Comisión, por considerar que en ellos se sustenta la posibilidad de que la Asamblea Parlamentaria, sin perder su singularidad y flexibilidad, pueda reforzar la acción de la parte gubernamental de la OSCE en áreas concretas de importancia medular⁹.

⁷ Se incluyen como anexo el Informe del Tesorero, en el que se detalla la ejecución presupuestaria desarrollada, así como el proyecto presupuestario para el próximo ejercicio. (Anexo VIII)

⁸ Se adjunta el borrador del punto suplementario (Anexo IX)

⁹ Se acompaña (Anexo X)



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4.2 En relación con el Informe y la Resolución de la 2ª Comisión intervino su ponente (Kugler, de Austria) para explicar que en las dos últimas resoluciones la 2ª Comisión se había centrado sucesivamente en el desafío de los movimientos migratorios y en la crisis energética y que en el borrador de Resolución redactado para este año se insiste especialmente en las implicaciones que la Inteligencia Artificial puede tener sobre la futura evolución de las relaciones económicas y sociales del área OSCE.

4.3 Respecto a los borradores de Informe y Resolución de la 3ª Comisión intervino su ponente (Achour, de Bélgica) para indicar que el Informe incide especialmente en las consecuencias que los conflictos armados tienen para los sectores más vulnerables (menores de edad, mujeres, ancianos o personas sin recursos entre otros). Por parte española intervino el Jefe de Delegación (Sr. Pons) para subrayar el deterioro que está sufriendo la calidad de la democracia como se desprende del hecho de que recientemente la Asamblea Parlamentaria no haya podido desplazar misiones de observación electoral a Rusia y Bielorrusia; también se refirió a la necesidad de mantener sin excepciones un mensaje de defensa de los derechos humanos y de rechazo del discurso del odio que incluyese al área de Palestina.

Tras la finalización de las explicaciones correspondientes a los textos de las tres comisiones generales que serán debatidos en la próxima sesión anual, la Presidenta de la Asamblea señaló que el Reglamento permite la presentación de puntos suplementarios y pregunto a los presentes si alguien tenía intención de hacerlo. A este respecto, anunciaron dicha intención la Sra. Daftari (Países Bajos), la Sra. Charalambides (Chipre), el Sr. Guliyev (Azerbaiyán), Sra Khandanyan (Armenia), Sr Hadjiyianni (Chipre) y Sr. Zoffili (Italia)¹⁰.

5. En relación con las reuniones estatutarias previstas¹¹ intervinieron los jefes de delegación de los países en los que dichas reuniones van a tener lugar; a saber:

- Sesión anual, que tendrá lugar en Bucarest los días 29 de junio a 3 de julio de 2024¹².

¹⁰ Se adjunta documento sobre requisitos procedimentales y de plazo (artículos 21 y 22 del Reglamento) para la formulación de puntos suplementarios y enmiendas a las resoluciones que serán sometidas a votación en la próxima sesión anual de Bucarest. (Anexo XI)

¹¹ Se adjunta previsión de las reuniones. (Anexo XII)

¹² Se incluye anexo informativo (Anexo XIII)



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- Sesión de otoño, que tendrá lugar en Dublín los días 2 a 4 de octubre de 2024. Se propone por la Presidenta añadir una previa sesión informal de la Mesa el 1 de octubre.

- Sesión informal de la Mesa, que tendrá lugar en La Valeta el día 4 de diciembre aprovechando la reunión ministerial prevista para los días 5 y 6 de diciembre de 2024.

- Las siguientes sesiones serían:

- Sesión anual de 2025, en Oporto.

- Sesión de otoño de 2025, en San Marino (pendiente de confirmación).

- Sesión anual de 2026, en Países Bajos (pendiente de confirmación).

- Sesión de otoño de 2026, en Andorra (pendiente de confirmación).

En relación con las misiones de observación electoral¹³ intervino el Sr. Pons (España) para sugerir la conveniencia de concentrar, en las que se consideren prioritarias, los medios y recursos de la Asamblea Parlamentaria para obtener mejores resultados. Asimismo, el Sr. Vigenin (Bulgaria) propuso la posibilidad de que se habilitasen delegaciones más reducidas para aquellas observaciones electorales menos complejas.

6. En relación con las prioridades en la actividad parlamentaria de la OSCE se distribuyó una propuesta elaborada por la Presidenta de la Asamblea¹⁴ en la que se enumeran diferentes objetivos; entre otros:

- Asegurar debates eficaces;

- Continuar respaldando las actividades regionales, con especial referencia a la evolución de Ucrania;

- Apoyar la realización de dossieres temáticos en materias en las que la Asamblea Parlamentaria pueda aportar un mayor valor añadido;

- Preservar las misiones de observación electoral como actividad emblemática de la Asamblea;

¹³ Se acompaña la previsión de procesos electorales en el área OSCE PA (Anexo XIV)

¹⁴ Se adjunta dicha propuesta. (Anexo XV)



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- Explorar nuevos recursos financieros para la Asamblea, así como, respaldar la estabilidad de la carrera profesional de los integrantes de la Secretaría de la Asamblea.

Sin deliberaciones adicionales se levantó la sesión a las 15:00 horas.



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ANEXO I



MIEMBROS DE LA MESA CARGOS DE LA ASAMBLEA PARLAMENTARIA DE LA OSCE

Nombre	País	Cargo	Desde	Fin del mandato
Sra. Pia Kauma	Finlandia	Presidenta	2023	Final Sesión 2024
Sr. Roger Wicker	Estados Unidos de América	Vicepresidente	2021	Final Sesión 2024
Sr. Reinhold Lopatka	Austria	Vicepresidente	2021	Final Sesión 2024
<i>vacante</i>		Vicepresidente/a	2021	Final Sesión 2024
Sra. Irene Charalambides	Chipre	Vicepresidenta	2017	Final Sesión 2024
Sr. Mark Pritchard	Reino Unido	Vicepresidente	2022	Final Sesión 2025
Sr. Pere Joan Pons	España	Vicepresidente	2022	Final Sesión 2025
Sr. Mykyta Poturaiev	Ucrania	Vicepresidente	2023	Final Sesión 2026
Sra. Daniela De Ridder	Alemania	Vicepresidenta	2023	Final Sesión 2026
Sr. Kyriakos Hadjiyianni	Chipre	Vicepresidente	2023	Final Sesión 2026
Sr. Johan Buser	Suecia	Tesorero	2023	Final Sesión 2025
<i>vacante</i>		Presidente/a Emérito	2023	Final Sesión 2024

CARGOS DE LAS COMISIONES GENERALES

I. COMISIÓN GENERAL DE ASUNTOS POLÍTICOS Y SEGURIDAD

Sr. Richard Hudson	Estados Unidos de América	Presidente
Sr. Costel Neculai Dunava	Rumanía	Vicepresidente
Sr. Tobias Winkler	Alemania	Ponente

II. COMISIÓN GENERAL DE ASUNTOS ECONÓMICOS, CIENCIA, TECNOLOGÍA Y MEDIO AMBIENTE

Sr. Azay Guliyev	Azerbaiyán	Presidente
Sr. Artur Gerasymov	Ucrania	Vicepresidente
Sra. Gudrun Kugler	Austria	Ponente

III. COMISIÓN GENERAL DE DEMOCRACIA, DERECHOS HUMANOS Y CUESTIONES HUMANITARIAS

Sra. Lucie Potuckova	República Checa	Presidenta
Sr. Sargis Khandanyan	Armenia	Vicepresidente
Sr. Malik Ben Achour	Bélgica	Ponente



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ANEXO II

PRELIMINARY LIST OF REGISTRATIONS

BUREAU MEETING (29 APRIL 2024)



Delegation

Armenia

Head of Delegation

Mr. Sargis Khandanyan Head of Delegation, Vice-Chair of the Third Committee

Secretary of Delegation

Ms. Mariam Haji-Hakobyan Secretary of Delegation

Austria

Deputy Head of Delegation

Ms. Gudrun Kugler Deputy Head of Delegation, Rapporteur of the Second Committee

Secretary of Delegation

Mr. Lukas Mussi Secretary of Delegation

Staff of Delegation

Ms. Tabitha Rauscher

Azerbaijan

Head of Delegation

Mr. Azay Guliyev Head of Delegation, Chair of the Second Committee

Belgium

Head of Delegation

Mr. Malik Ben Achour Head of Delegation, Rapporteur of the Third Committee

Secretary of Delegation

Mr. Roeland Jansoone Secretary of Delegation

Bulgaria

Deputy Head of Delegation

Mr. Kristian Vigenin Deputy Head of Delegation, Special Representative on Eastern Europe

Cyprus

Head of Delegation

Ms. Irene Charalambides Head of Delegation, Vice-President of the OSCE PA, Special Representative on Fighting Corruption

Member of Delegation

Mr. Kyriakos Kyriakou Hadjiyianni Member of Delegation, Vice-President of the OSCE PA, Special Representative on South East Europe

Secretary of Delegation

Ms. Elena Persiani Secretary of Delegation

Czech Republic

Member of Delegation

Ms. Lucie Potůčková Member of Delegation, Chair of the Third Committee

Delegation

Czech Republic

Secretary of Delegation

Ms. Silvia Andrisová Secretary of Delegation

Denmark

Head of Delegation

Mr. Peter Juel-Jensen Head of Delegation

Deputy Head of Delegation

Mr. Soren Sondergaard Deputy Head of Delegation

Secretary of Delegation

Mr. Malte Möller-Christensen Secretary of Delegation

Co-Secretary of Delegation

Mr. Claudius Larson Co-Secretary of Delegation

Finland

Member of Delegation

Ms. Pia Kauma Member of Delegation, President of the OSCE PA

Secretary of Delegation

Ms. Maria Fagerholm Secretary of Delegation

Staff of Delegation

Mr. Juho Takkunen Staff of Delegation

Germany

Member of Delegation

Mr. Tobias Winkler Member of Delegation, Rapporteur of the First Committee

Secretary of Delegation

Mr. Thomas Grimm Secretary of Delegation

Ireland

Head of Delegation

Mr. Michael Creed Head of Delegation

Other

Mr Ben Dunne Staff of Delegation

Italy

Head of Delegation

Mr. Eugenio Zoffili Head of Delegation, Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime

Secretary of Delegation

Ms Valeria Galardini Secretary of Delegation

Netherlands

Head of Delegation

Ms. Farah Karimi Head of Delegation, Special Representative on Central Asia

Secretary of Delegation

Delegation

Netherlands

Ms. Anna De Vrij Co-Secretary of Delegation

Romania

Head of Delegation

Mr. Dan Barna Head of Delegation

Member of Delegation

Mr. Costel Neculai Dunava Member of Delegation, Vice-Chair of the First Committee

Secretary of Delegation

Ms. Irina Alecu Secretary of Delegation

Spain

Head of Delegation

Mr. Pere Joan Pons Head of Delegation, Vice-President of the OSCE PA, Special Representative on Climate Change

Secretary of Delegation

Mr. Ignacio Gutiérrez Secretary of Delegation

Sweden

Deputy Head of Delegation

Mr. Johan Büser Deputy Head of Delegation, Treasurer of the OSCE PA

Secretary of Delegation

Mr. Fredrik Svensson Secretary of Delegation

Staff of Delegation

Mr. Jonathan Demner Staff of Delegation

Ukraine

Head of Delegation

Mr. Mykyta Poturaiev Head of Delegation, Vice-President of the OSCE PA

Deputy Head of Delegation

Mr. Artur Gerasymov Deputy Head of Delegation, Vice-Chair of the Second Committee

United Kingdom

Deputy Head of Delegation

Rt Hon. Mark Pritchard Deputy Head of Delegation, Vice-President of the OSCE PA, Special Representative on the Arctic and the High North

International Secretariat

International Secretariat

Mr. Roberto Montella	Secretary General
Mr. Gustavo Pallares	Deputy Secretary General
Mr. Andreas Baker	Chief of Staff
Ms. Dana Bjerregaard	Head of Document Services
Mr. Marco Bonabello	Senior Advisor
Mr. Edoardo Castiglioni	Research Assistant
Ms. Farimah Daftary	Senior Advisor
Ms. Anna Di Domenico	Communications and Press Officer
Ms. Kalina Filipovska	Junior Programme Officer
Ms. Anzhelika Ivanishcheva	Media Officer
Ms. Freyja Koci	Senior Advisor
Ms. Stephanie Koltchanov	Head of Elections
Ms. Odile Lelarge	Head of Conference Services
Mr. Francesco Pagani	Chief Political Advisor
Mr. Miodrag Panceski	Ambassador, Special Representative
Mr. Stephen Paul	Head of ICT Service, Finance Officer
Mr. Simon Perrin de Brichambaut	Research Assistant
Mr. Loïc Poulain	Presidential Advisor
Ms. Iryna Sabashuk	Elections Administration Officer
Mr. Manuchekhr Salokhudinov	Senior Advisor
Mr. Mikulas Semerak	Research Assistant
Mr. Dimitrije Todoric	Head of Operations

Interpreters

Ms. Sarah Adlington
Ms. Fatima Awwad
Ms. Sabine El-Sayegh
Ms. Aimee Linekar
Ms. Maria Noemi Plastino
Ms. Yannick Quero
Ms. Manuela Turitto
Mr. Alexander Zigo



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ANEXO III

DRAFT AGENDA

**Informal Working Seminar of the OSCE PA Bureau
on the future of the OSCE PA**

Copenhagen, 28 April 2024 15:00-18:00

1. Review of conclusions of the Informal Working Seminar of the OSCE PA Bureau held on 26 January 2024
2. Discussion on the future of the OSCE PA (continued)
3. Discussion on future co-operation with OSCE Chairpersonships
 - 1) Presentation on the planned main priorities for the Finnish Chairpersonship
 - The phases of the conflict cycle
 - Peace mediation
 - Upholding comprehensive security in the OSCE area
 - Secondary cross-cutting themes
 - Youth, Peace and Security
 - Women, Peace and Security

FOR REMOTE CONNECTION

28 April 2024, 15.00 – 18.00 CEST

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82125669709?pwd=GTyx2EJN99qkeOYLB57DJ0Z0Dign9k.1>

Meeting ID: 821 2566 9709

Passcode: 284810

Dial by your location

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kdjthPk725>



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ANEXO IV

DRAFT AGENDA

**Meeting of the Bureau
of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly**

Copenhagen, 29 April 2024

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Opening remarks by the President of the OSCE PA, Ms. Pia Kauma
 - 2.1. Proposal on the renewal of the mandate of the Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (Rule 40,1)
3. Administrative and Financial Questions:
 - 3.1. Report of the Treasurer of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Mr. Johan Büser and Presentation of the Draft 2024-2025 OSCE PA Budget (Rule 41,2)
 - 3.2. Administrative update by the Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Mr. Roberto Montella
4. Presentation of the Draft Reports and Draft Resolutions for the 31st Annual Session by the Rapporteurs of the General Committees followed by debates:
 - 4.1. Presentation by the Rapporteur of the General Committee on Political Affairs and Security.
 - 4.2. Presentation by the Rapporteur of the General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment: Ms. Gudrun Kugler
 - 4.3. Presentation by the Rapporteur of the General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions: Mr. Malik Ben Achour
5. Information on upcoming statutory meetings of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in 2024:
 - 1) Thirty-first Annual Session on 29 June – 03 July in Bucharest
 - 2) Autumn Meeting on October 02 – 04 October in Dublin
 - 3) Bureau Meeting on 04 December TBC in Valletta (OSCE MC on 05 – 06 December TBC)

Other future meetings of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in 2025 and beyond
6. Open discussion on OSCE PA activities and priorities
7. Other Business



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ANEXO V



The President

Mr. Björn Söder
Head of the Delegation of Sweden
to the OSCE PA
Riksdag
Stockholm

29 March 2024

Dear Björn,

Thank you for your letter of 27 March expressing gratitude to the International Secretariat and its leadership, and inquiring about the process for the renewal of the mandate of the OSCE PA Secretary General.

Our Rules of Procedure make an important distinction between the election of a new Secretary General and the renewal of the incumbent Secretary General's mandate, including in the majorities required by the Standing Committee (2/3 majority of votes for a new election both in the Bureau and Standing Committee as was the case in 2015 and only a simple majority for the renewal both in the Bureau and Standing Committee for the renewal of the mandate of the incumbent Secretary General as was the case in 2019). In light of this, after consulting the Chair of the Rules Committee Senator Pascal Alizard, we have followed a similar procedure to the last time that the Secretary General's post was renewed, in July 2019. In case of interest, attached you can see the approach taken by the President and Chair of the Rules Committee at that time. This is substantively and procedurally different to the election of a new Secretary General, as in the 2015 example that you provided.

First it was my responsibility to establish if the current Secretary General was interested in having his mandate renewed.

I was happy to learn that Roberto was available to continue carrying out this very important responsibility because as I underlined in my letter to all Heads of Delegations and Bureau Members, he has done an excellent job under very difficult circumstances.

As a consequence I have registered an overwhelming support in the Bureau for Roberto's renewal as well as a significant and ever growing support among Standing Committee Members for this renewal.



The President

Following the footsteps of the previous President George Tseretelli and the previous Chair of the Rules Committee Lord Peter Bowness, Pascal Alizard and me have wanted to make sure that in the spirit of transparency it was important that any alternative candidates were fully aware of the procedural distinction between renewal and election of the Secretary General.

By circulating the call for expressions of interest by other persons wishing to be considered to all 56 National Parliaments on 11 March and by advertising openly on the OSCE PA website on 21 March, I am absolutely confident that we are achieving the appropriate transparency for this process. In consultation with the Chair of the Rules Committee, Senator Pascal Alizard we have taken note of your suggestion to further extend the deadline for possible additional expressions of interest and we have decided to extend the period for an additional week until Friday 12 April thus making the period available for expressions of interest of five weeks, well above the normal practice.

Regarding your question on advertisement outside the OSCE PA we use exactly the same procedure as the OSCE's policy for high level positions.

For the High Level position a letter from the OSCE Chairperson is distributed to all 57 participating states through an email sent to all permanent representatives in Vienna. The logic behind this is that as jobs within the OSCE are only accessible to Nationals of the 57 OSCE participating states then only those countries need to be notified. Of course nothing forbids every country to publicise within their own public administration, parliaments, governments and other general portals and newspapers the notice. But this is done by each country as they see fit

The next steps that I foresee are clearly defined by the Rules of Procedure.

Any and all applications that have expressed their interest will be brought to the attention of the Bureau for consideration at its meeting on 29 April. The Bureau will put forward a recommendation to the Standing Committee for decision during its meeting on 29 June in Bucharest. All received applications will of course be duly considered, but based on the many expressions of support already received for the renewal of Roberto Montella's mandate, I would anticipate that the Bureau recommends this as a way forward. The Standing Committee will be asked in Bucharest to indicate by secret ballot if they support this renewal. Only if this renewal is not supported in the secret ballot of 29 June do I foresee a vacancy posting as in 2015, as it is only in this circumstance that there will be a vacancy.



The President

I hope that this helps to clarify the steps taken and to be expected. I do however recognise that our Rules of Procedure may benefit from some adjustment in the future to more clearly define the distinct processes between election and renewal.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Pia Kauma'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pia Kauma



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ANEXO VI



The President

Mr./Ms.
Head of the Delegation of XX to the
OSCE PA

11 March 2024

Dear Mr./Ms XX,

I would like to thank you for your fruitful and active co-operation on our last official meetings in Yerevan, Skopje and Vienna.

Serving as President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly is a big honor and a great responsibility and your support is very much appreciated.

I am writing to inform you that after careful consideration and consultations with the Assembly's leadership our Secretary General Roberto Montella has confirmed to me his availability and willingness to be considered for a second renewal of his mandate.

This is very good news indeed. Roberto has served this Assembly in very challenging times and has managed to keep the OSCE PA active, relevant, visible and effective.

I have been in this Assembly for more than ten years and I have observed Roberto's skills and experience in addressing events and situations, and in dealing with various delegations and members, and their expectations. Roberto places each and every individual parliamentarian at the center of the Assembly, and is an effective servant of the organization's goals and principles. I have myself strongly benefited from having him at my side as Secretary General.

Roberto is dynamic, energetic, capable of grasping the political momentum and offering creative solutions, he is a team player both within the Assembly and his own team at the Secretariat. He has always fostered a positive atmosphere within the Assembly and has remained politically impartial and always avoided double standards.

With his experience, he has been instrumental in building what is now a very solid partnership between the governmental and parliamentary branches of the OSCE, which is instrumental to enable our Assembly to add value.



The President

For all these reasons I believe that we will be well served by Roberto's continued engagement and I hope I can count on your support for the renewal of his mandate as our Secretary General.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Pia Kauma'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pia Kauma

Paris, le 18 mars 2024



Madame Pia KAUMA
Présidente
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 COPENHAGEN K
DENMARK

PASCAL ALLIZARD

SENATEUR
DU CALVADOS

VICE-PRESIDENT
DE LA COMMISSION
DES AFFAIRES
ETRANGERES,
DE LA DEFENSE
ET DES FORCES ARMEES

MAIRE HONORAIRE
DE
CONDE-EN-NORMANDIE

Dear President Kauma,
Dear Pia,

I would like to thank you for your letter announcing your support to the renewal of the mandate of our Secretary General Roberto Montella. As chair of the Rules Committee I applaud your decision to trigger this procedure in line with our precedents and well ahead of time thus allowing us to provide the necessary stability and long term security that our organisation needs in time of great uncertainties.

It is my pleasure to provide a reference for Roberto whom I have known for many years.

As you know I have served in the Assembly's leadership for many years as Vice President, Special Representative on Mediterranean Affairs, Chair of the Rules Committee and Special Coordinator in some Election Observation Missions so I have a profound knowledge of the OSCE PA dynamics.

Throughout my entire time in the OSCE PA I have witnessed Roberto's effort to modernize the Parliamentary Assembly and transform it in the highly engaged and active organization it is today. He has done an excellent job both in terms of internal management, where he promoted a set of reforms in the name of transparency and accountability, as well as in terms of external outreach, with an impressive increase of PA activities targeting the most pressing political priorities in the OSCE region.

Roberto's deep understanding of political and diplomatic dynamics have also allowed him to provide consistent advice to the PA's leadership in addressing some of the most turbulent years in recent history, placing the Assembly at the forefront of international political efforts on several delicate dossiers.

As one of your predecessors (President Ilkka Kanerva) also noted, the most important characteristic of Roberto is his capacity to deeply understand the needs and mentality of members of parliament. This as you know is not an easy task and it is rare to find an individual who can be as understanding and in tuning with an MP as Roberto can be. He can be your best friend and partner

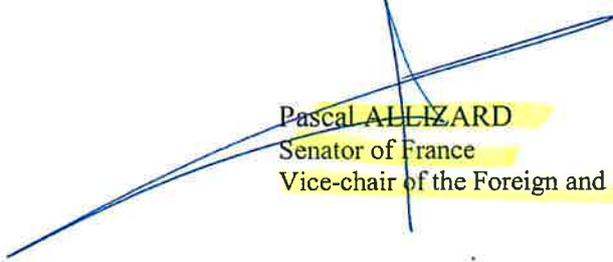


for easy and unofficial business but at the same time he will never step out of his obligations and role and will be the best civil servant for the MPs when official business comes into play. This versatile characteristic is unique and in many years in politics I have rarely found an individual who can better display this skill than Roberto.

I am confident that it would be in the best of interest for the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to maintain Roberto Montella as its Secretary General for another term, providing stability and ensuring the continuation of this very positive trend.

I will not be able to participate to the Bureau meeting in Copenhagen in April and therefore I would appreciate if you could ensure that this letter reaches all my colleagues in the decision-making bodies of the Assembly.

Best wishes,


Pascal ALLIZARD
Senator of France
Vice-chair of the Foreign and Defence Committee

The Secretary General

Ms. Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE PA
HELSINKI

Copenhagen, 8 March 2024

Dear President Kauma, dear Pia,

I am writing to confirm my availability and willingness to seek a second renewal of my mandate as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

In the months following the 2023 Vancouver Annual Session, I have consulted many Heads of OSCE PA Delegations, members of the Bureau, Special Representatives as well as my colleagues in the OSCE PA International Secretariat in Copenhagen and Vienna. All those members I have spoken to have encouraged me to seek a second renewal of my mandate as Secretary General thus providing stability to our Assembly in a moment when the OSCE is undergoing very challenging times as well as consolidating the achievements we have obtained so far.

As you know, under my leadership of the International Secretariat we have started a vast and comprehensive program of reforms and work is still in progress:

- We have **strengthened the political weight of the Assembly** and established excellent synergies and cooperation mechanisms with the OSCE Executive Structures, other Parliamentary Assemblies including NATO PA, IPA CIS, PACE and the European Parliament as well as international organizations such as the United Nations and the World Bank, as well as numerous other international and regional organization and stakeholders.

The Secretary General

- We have provided the Assembly with a **renewed regulatory framework** that ensures a more professional International Secretariat (New staff rules and regulations, New Financial Rules and Regulations) as well as successfully implemented an additional form of accountability and transparency by integrating the traditional Financial Audit with a **new and yearly Integrated Financial-Professional-Business-Audit** which has yielded so far very positive outcomes.
- We have **responded to the COVID crisis** in a very swift and efficient fashion by readapting the Assembly's work and remaining very much active and engaged with a number of initiatives that saw our members being the most active amongst other similar parliamentary organizations.
- We maintain an **impeccable track record** when it comes to our reaction to the war of aggression against Ukraine by keeping our principled positions and establishing within the Assembly a new Ad Hoc Committee to channel our efforts **in support of Ukraine**. At the same time, we remain strong supporters of the OSCE as an inclusive platform for dialogue.
- We have carried out an unprecedented and **ever growing number of activities** in addition to the statutory meetings, which include (parliamentary seminars, forums and conferences, Presidential and Leaders official and fact finding visits election observation missions, extraordinary meetings of the Bureau and General Committees, field visits and targeted initiatives of our Ad Hoc Committees on Migration and Fight Against Terrorism, etc.)
- We have **secured venues** for our statutory meetings (Annual Sessions and Autumn Meetings) **for the incoming years** thus providing continuity and stability to the mandated activities of the Assembly.

This is just a short list of the achievements that under my leadership, the OSCE PA Team of the International Secretariat has managed to deliver. As you will have seen I have always worked in a team spirit together with my colleagues because I believe that only as a united and motivated team we can best deliver to the needs and demands of our political leadership.

What I am most proud of is that we have managed to remain engaged and active in a period of very big and unprecedented challenges (COVID, wars, the crisis of the multilateral system as well as the institutional and budgetary difficulties of the OSCE governmental branch)



The Secretary General

providing to our members a platform where they can express freely their opinions and exchange with each other thus making parliamentary diplomacy an effective tool to contribute to a more secure OSCE region. We also worked hard to bring the OSCE into national Parliaments, for instance with the Call for Action – Helsinki +50 initiative, as well as bring national instances to the attention of the OSCE, thanks to increased interaction with the executive structures.

Serving the OSCE PA Political Leadership is for me an honor as well as a big responsibility. I look forward to continuing serving the members of our Assembly and I hope I can enjoy your support to renew my mandate in full compliance with the rules of procedure of our Assembly

Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Roberto Montella'.

Roberto Montella
OSCE PA Secretary General



**Parliament
Austria**

**Member of the
National Council**

Reinhold Lopatka

To the President
of the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE
Ms. Pia KAUMA

Vienna, 21 March 2024

Madam President,
Dear Pia,

Thank you for your letter announcing your support for the renewal of the mandate of our Secretary General Roberto Montella.

I fully share your view on his renewal and therefore it is my pleasure to provide a reference for his candidature for a third term as our Secretary General.

Having served in our Assembly for many years in different positions, as Special Representative, CCT Chair, Vice-President, Special Coordinator and Head of Delegation of numerous Election Observation Missions, I have witnessed the great professionalism, the integrity and management qualities of Roberto Montella.

Under his leadership our Assembly's International Secretariat is today a very dynamic office, with an improved gender and geographical balance, which provides significant and very appreciated assistance to the activities of us Members.

Furthermore, as Austrian Parliamentarian, I would like to stress the excellent cooperation our Assembly built up with the OSCE Permanent Council, the OSCE Secretariat and all other OSCE executive structures and institutions based in Vienna over the past years during Roberto's leadership.

Therefore, you can count on the full support of the Austrian Parliament for the renewal of his mandate as our Secretary General!

As I will not be able to attend our Bureau Meeting in Copenhagen in April, I kindly ask you to forward this letter to all colleagues in the decision making bodies of our Assembly.

Best regards,

Reinhold Lopatka
Vice-President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and Chair of the CCT



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Nicosia, 11 April 2024

Dear Pia,

I was informed about the intention of Secretary General Montella to run for a second renewal of his term-in-office in the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Since I entered the OSCE PA, I have strived to raise certain topics on its agenda – above all the fight against corruption in the OSCE region and the quest for stronger transparency and accountability in politics. The post of the Special Representative was not established at that time and Roberto had supported the idea of creating such a portfolio. I was the first OSCE Special Representative on fighting corruption, a mandate that was reconfirmed by all subsequent Presidents and that is now an important component of the Assembly's work.

Taking into consideration that the OSCE PA is today a respected stakeholder on the multilateral stage in these areas of work, establishing significant partnerships with, inter alia, GRECO, the World Bank, the United Nations and receiving invitations and speaking roles for numerous international conferences and events and providing a clear parliamentary added value, I have to express my gratitude to Roberto Montella. He and his team in the International Secretariat have been of critical importance.

Roberto has always been at the service of the political leadership of the organization, flexible and versatile. I recognize his intention for finding compromises and for promoting new initiatives. I therefore wish to recommend we renew Roberto's mandate for another term, confident he will continue to do an excellent job.

In any case, I think it is standard procedure that the Rule providing that "The Standing Committee will set his or her duties, remuneration and conditions of employment consistent with the annual budget" will be discussed at the coming Bureau meeting and subsequently at the Standing Committee as foreseen, especially in view of the budget restraints that the OSCE PA is currently facing.



**REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



At the same time, allow me to seize this opportunity to express my view that in the coming Bureau meeting we should discuss how our Assembly will be able to focus on the multitude of challenges that the OSCE region faces. It is generally accepted that during the past few Sessions, we dedicate a great deal of time to discussing the impact of the Russian invasion in Ukraine. Although I too share the view that the war in Ukraine is an issue of blatant violation of the Helsinki principles and must be given due attention, I also believe that Mediterranean affairs need also to be more thoroughly discussed, especially in view of the ongoing war in the Middle East and the incessant migratory and refugee flows. In this regard, I wanted to bring to your attention that a sharp spike in flows migrants and refugees from neighbouring countries is being recorded the last weeks, which has significant security, economic as well as human rights aspects. I would also like to reiterate in this context, a proposition I have already made, to organize a high-level visit to OSCE PA Partners which are key countries in the region and especially Egypt. Furthermore, in the next few days, we intend to send a letter to all heads of delegations of Mediterranean countries, informing them of our aim to form an unofficial group within the OSCE PA, in order to promote our special regional interests and enhance the efforts of the Special Representative on Mediterranean Affairs.

Additionally, I believe that the coming Bureau meeting must discuss our current budget restraints, as well as, and perhaps more significantly, a broader plan on how any increases in our contributions would be utilized, since transparency is of utmost importance in this regard.

Looking forward to meeting you soon, dear Pia, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

Yours sincerely,

Irene Charalambides

Vice-President of the OSCE PA

Head of the Cyprus delegation to the OSCE PA



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Nicosia, 03 April 2024

Mrs. Pia Kauma,
President of the Parliamentary
Assembly of the OSCE

Mrs. Kauma, Dear Colleague,

In relation to your letter dated 11 of March, I should like to express my wholehearted support for the renewal of Mr. Roberto Montella's mandate as a Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE.

Mr. Montella has served the Assembly in very challenging times and has managed to keep the OSCE PA active, relevant, and effective through his professionalism, integrity and significant skills. I am convinced that his experience and his passion for providing exceptional support make him a valuable asset for our Assembly.

Having been in the Parliamentary Assembly for more than 10 years and having served in many positions such as Rapporteur and Chair of the Third General Committee, Special Representative, and more recently as a Vice President, I have witnessed first – hand his dynamism, energy and ability to offer solutions at short notice and often without maximum resources, in order to make the Organization more visible.

Under his leadership, the political weight of the Assembly has been strengthened establishing excellent synergies and cooperation mechanisms with the OSCE executive structures, as well as with other parliamentary assemblies, international and regional organizations and stakeholders.

Roberto Montella remains political impartiality is worthy of comment as he manages to promote dialogue, cooperation and understanding between the participating States' delegations regardless of their different perspectives and interests.



**REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



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I wish to seize this opportunity not only to express my support for the renewal of Mr. Montella's mandate but also to convey my deepest gratitude for his tireless efforts and exemplary leadership.

Looking forward to our next Assembly's meeting, please accept, dear Madam President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Kyriakos Hadjiyianni,
Vice President of the OSCE PA.

Dr. Daniela De Ridder, Platz der Republik 1, 11011 Berlin

Pia Kauma
President
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Dr. Daniela De Ridder
Mitglied des Deutschen Bundestags
Vizepräsidentin der Parlamentarischen
Versammlung der OSZE

Telefon: +49 30 227 71587
E-Mail: daniela.deridder@bundestag.de
Homepage: www.daniela-de-ridder.de

Ort, Datum: Berlin, 22.03.2024

Dear President Kauma,
Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted about Roberto Montella's announcement to candidate as Secretary General of the OSCE PA for another term.

I am pleased to provide a recommendation and some words of support for Secretary General Roberto Montella, an excellent professional that has been successfully leading the OSCE PA International Secretariat for several years.

In fact, he has been of great support in the different roles I held in the OSCE PA – as Vice-President, as Special Representative for Eastern Europe, as Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Migration and as leader in several Election Observation Missions. I always appreciated his advice and the efforts he made to "make things possible". Whatever my position, I always felt his full support and his high motivation to push things forward. This desire also resulted in the gradual reforms in Copenhagen, which modernized OSCE PA.

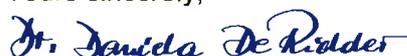
Roberto brings to his work passion and dedication. He has a thorough knowledge and specific competence, which is backed by a long experience in policy and management in the OSCE and OSCE PA. I am sure many of you have benefited just like me from his result-oriented engagement and his utmost strive to build a stronger and resilient OSCE PA.

He is a true believer in parliamentary diplomacy and has significantly contributed to building today's OSCE Parliamentary Assembly – a lively network that is on target on all the most pressing issues of the international security agenda. The resilience of Roberto in this very particular period has been extraordinary, and he showed a rare capacity to adapt to circumstances like the Covid-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine. For this adaptation, the clear definition and division of responsibilities within the OSCE PA was of key importance.

Over many years, the developed networks and contacts both within the OSCE system and outside of it turned out to be very valuable in leading OSCE PA. Especially in the current difficult situation, these networks are of invaluable significance.

Choosing Roberto for a new term in office would keep the PA engine well running. That is why I advise the Standing Committee to elect him for another term as Secretary General.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Daniela De Ridder
Vice-President of OSCE Parliamentary Assembly



*Delegación española ante la
Asamblea Parlamentaria de la OSCE*

1 April 2024, Madrid

*Ms. Pía Kauma
President of the OSCE PA*

Dear Pía Kauma,

As Vice – President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, I would like to convey my support to the process for the renewal of the different executive and institutional positions within our organization.

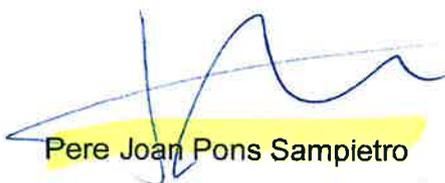
After the letter you have addressed to us regarding the renewal of the General Secretariat position, I would like to express my support to a fully transparent and open process.

The latter does not prevent me from expressing my appreciation for the work conducted by the current Secretary General and by extension all his team within the Secretariat, both in Copenhagen and in Vienna.

In my view, the General Secretariat has shown a strong leadership which, moreover, ensures a historical and evolutionary memory of the organization, apart from representing a certain geopolitical balance within the organization.

For that reason, dear Pía, I hope to be able to contribute to this process, acknowledging at the same time the work carried out all throughout these years by the current Secretary General.

Cordially yours,



Pere Joan Pons Sampietro



UK Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Delegation leader – the Rt Hon Sir John Whittingdale MP
Interparliamentary Relations Office (Parliamentary Assemblies),
House of Commons, SW1A 0AA
020 7219 6595 oscepa.del@parliament.uk

27 March 2024

Dear President Kauma,

I am writing in response to your letter dated 11 March to express the UK Delegation's warm support for the renewal of Roberto Montella's mandate as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. Both myself and Deputy Leader and Vice President Mark Pritchard share the positive assessment you set out in your letter; Roberto has indeed served the Assembly with skill, expertise and creativity during a challenging period.

I recommend to the OSCE PA Standing Committee that they give due consideration to his reappointment.

Yours sincerely,

The Rt Hon Sir John Whittingdale MP
Leader of the UK Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly



PERMANENT DELEGATION TO THE
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE
ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-
OPERATION IN EUROPE

5, M. Hrushevskiyi Str., Kyiv, 01008, Ukraine www.rada.gov.ua

Dear President Kauma,

Thank you for your letter of 11 March regarding Roberto Montella's second renewal as OSCE PA Secretary General.

On my turn, I would like to emphasize that I fully share your words, and hereby strongly recommend to my colleagues in the OSCE PA to re-elect Roberto, who has proven himself a true champion of the OSCE PA and of its principles and values, and has majorly contributed to the increase of relevance of the Assembly in the last years.

You already mentioned the main aspects that make Mr. Montella's extension the best solution for the OSCE PA. I wish to add some personal ones. I have appreciated Roberto for a long, but I will never forget his support and solidarity since 24 February 2022, when the Russian Federation invaded my country. I will never forget what he said: "Enough with sugar-coating, the OSCE PA will call out what is happening with its name". Since then, while the governmental OSCE was stuck with Russia abusing the rule of consensus, Roberto has outstandingly supported the OSCE PA leadership in carving its response to the illegal and unprovoked aggression against my country, and to the horrifying and genocidal war crimes perpetrated by Russia against Ukrainians. I saw his efforts, I saw his commotion in Bucha during one of his many trips to Ukraine, and I saw his engagement to find avenues for the PA in every possible way to support my country. I saw, for instance, how he prioritized the establishment in the PA of the Parliamentary Support Team for Ukraine.

He is a man that stands by the OSCE, but also stands, first and foremost, for values, and for what is right. He has done this with consistency and coherency, and helped the OSCE PA to stand on the right side of history. This is true also for the International Secretariat, which he is leading with energy and competence.

I take the opportunity of this letter not only to support the renewal of his term in office, but also to express my deepest gratitude.

Sincerely yours,

Vice President of the OSCE PA,
Head of the Ukraine Delegation to the
OSCE PA

Mykyta POTURAIEV

H.E. Ms. Pia Kauma,
President of the OSCE PA,

Copenhagen



Delegation of the United States of America
to the Parliamentary Assembly of the
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

April 15, 2024

The Honorable Pia Kauma
President, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 Copenhagen, Denmark

Dear Madam President,

We write as bipartisan leaders of the U.S. delegation to the OSCE PA from the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate to welcome your recent letters communicating Mr. Roberto Montella's availability to renew his term as Secretary General. Roberto's willingness to continue leading the International Secretariat is great news for this Assembly. We heartily endorse him and urge our colleagues in the Standing Committee to confirm his extension at the Annual Session in Bucharest this summer.

At a time of intensifying global volatility, we must remain steadfast in our commitment to universal values and robust democratic institutions. In our view, Roberto is well suited to the demands of this perilous moment for the international order. Since becoming Secretary General in 2016, he has ably navigated profound upheavals while reinforcing the pillars of this Assembly—the Helsinki principles and parliamentary diplomacy. Roberto has grappled with Russian malign influence and open aggression, a global pandemic, and democratic backsliding, among other serious challenges to the OSCE PA. All the while, he has expanded the Assembly's activities, attracted greater member participation, and enshrined better business practices and institutional transparency.

Roberto has earned broad, bicameral, and bipartisan support in our delegation. We are united in urging our colleagues in the Standing Committee to approve the extension of his mandate this year to ensure the continued effectiveness and relevance of the OSCE PA.

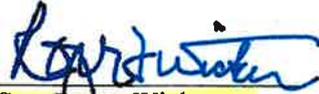
Sincerely,

Rep. Joe Wilson
Head of Delegation
Co-Chair, OSCE PA Parliamentary Support
Team for Ukraine

Sen. Ben Cardin
Deputy Head of Delegation
OSCE PA Special Representative on
Antisemitism, Racism, and Intolerance



Rep. Steve Cohen
OSCE PA Special Representative on
Political Prisoners



Sen. Roger Wicker
OSCE PA Vice President

Cc:

Members of the Bureau

Members of the Standing Committee

Mr. Roberto Montella, Secretary General, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly



RICHARD HUDSON

Proudly Serving North Carolina's 9th District

March 28, 2024

The Honorable Pia Kauma
President, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 Copenhagen, Denmark

Dear Madam President,

I welcome your announced support for the renewal of Mr. Roberto Montella's term as Secretary General of the OSCE PA and would like to add my complementary endorsement.

As a member of the United States delegation for nearly a decade, I have seen Roberto shepherd this Assembly and the International Secretariat through the tumultuous years following Russia's invasion of Ukraine and attempted annexation of Crimea in 2014. Throughout this period, he has navigated a daunting political landscape with poise, conviction, and character.

In my experience, Roberto has a deep appreciation for the principles of the PA, is a capable manager, and operates with integrity. Roberto's vision of the PA's purpose enables him to capitalize on its strengths, as well as offer sound counsel to its members, while faithfully executing the decisions of its political leadership. In leading the International Secretariat over the past eight years, he has built a compelling and consistent record of tangible success, both enhancing transparency and balancing multiple demands with often limited resources. I also know Roberto to nurture diverse relationships across the Assembly, working hard to foster open and inclusive debate and earn the trust of those around him.

Given multiplying global challenges and the acute threat that Russia poses to the OSCE and the Parliamentary Assembly, I believe it is imperative to renew Roberto's mandate at the Annual Session in Bucharest. Doing so would ensure the Assembly remains in steady, capable hands at a time of increasing volatility in the OSCE region and beyond.

I have utmost confidence in Roberto's ability to lead the International Secretariat as Secretary General and strongly urge my colleagues in the Standing Committee to renew his mandate this year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Hudson".

Rep. Richard Hudson

Member of Congress

Chair, OSCE PA General Committee on Political
Affairs and Security

Cc:

Mr. Roger F. Wicker, Vice President
Mr. Reinhold Lopatka, Vice President
Ms. Irene Charlabides, Vice President
Mr. Pere Joan Pons, Vice President
Mr. Mark Pritchard, Vice President
Ms. Daniela De Ridder, Vice President
Mr. Mykyta Poturaiev, Vice President
Mr. Kyriakos Hadjiyianni, Vice President
Mr. Johan Büser, Treasurer
Mr. Costel Neculai Dunava, Vice-Chair, General Committee on Political Affairs and Security
Mr. Laurynas Kasciunas, Rapporteur, General Committee on Political Affairs and Security
Mr. Azay Guliyev, Chair, General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology, and Environment
Mr. Artur Gerasymov, Vice-Chair, General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology, and Environment
Ms. Gudrun Kugler, Rapporteur, General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology, and Environment
Ms. Lucie Potůčková, Chair, General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights, and Humanitarian Questions
Mr. Sargis Khandanyan, Vice-Chair, General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights, and Humanitarian Questions
Mr. Malik Ben Achour, Rapporteur, General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights, and Humanitarian Questions
Mr. Roberto Montella, Secretary General, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly



PARLIAMENT OF ROMANIA
Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Mrs. Pia KAUMA
President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
COPENHAGEN

Bucharest, 21 March 2024

Dear President Kauma,

Thank you for your letter expressing your confidence in the leadership of our Secretary General Roberto Montella and advocating for his continued service.

In response, I'd like to wholeheartedly endorse Roberto for re-election. I crossed paths with Roberto the moment I entered the world of multilateral parliamentary relations. Now, after two terms into my service as a Member of Parliament, our collaboration remains stronger than ever. As the 1st Committee's Vice-Chair and a delegation member, I continue to work closely with him. I've always appreciated Roberto's commitment to fairness and impartiality.

The expertise gained by Mr. Montella in his 30-years career dedicated almost entirely to the OSCE and OSCE PA, makes him ideally suited for the position of the Assembly's Secretary General, particularly given the current circumstances where the PA requires stability and the governmental OSCE faces significant geopolitical challenges.

Roberto's dedication to our Assembly's values and principles has been exemplary. Through his leadership, he has significantly expanded PA's activities and raised its profile and visibility over the past years.

Taking all of the above into account, I strongly recommend my colleagues from the Bureau and the Standing Committee to support the reappointment of Mr. Roberto Montella as Secretary General of the OSCE PA.

Looking forward to a successful outcome of our Annual Session in Bucharest, I remain respectfully yours,

Costel DUNAVA

Vice-Chairman of the 1st General Committee of the OSCE PA
on Political Affairs and Security

Member of the Romanian Delegation to the OSCE PA

Chairperson of the Committee for Economic Policy, Reform and Privatization
of the Romanian Chamber of Deputies

AZƏRBAYCAN RESPUBLİKASI

MİLLİ MƏCLİSİNİN

ATƏT PA-da NÜMAYƏNDƏ HEYƏTİ



DELEGATION OF THE MILLI MAJLIS

OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

TO THE OSCE PA

Ms. Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE PA

Baku, 26 March 2024

Dear Madam President,
Dear Pia,

It is a privilege for me to provide a recommendation for Roberto Montella, as we are called to vote on the renewal of his mandate as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. But before doing so, let me congratulate you Madam President and our Head of the Rules Committee Pascal Alizard for the timely decision to start this procedure which will provide our Assembly with the necessary stability in a period of big challenges for the OSCE as an organisation.

Roberto is to me a dear friend and a good colleague. Our productive cooperation and mutual respect dates back in time and I am proud to say that we have together worked hard to make the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly a stronger and more relevant organization.

I have been serving in the PA Bureau since 2013, also covering other positions such as Committee Vice-Chair, Vice-President, Committee Chair, Special Representative, EOM Special Coordinator and Head of Delegation. Being among the most experienced members of the PA also means I have witnessed the Assembly before his arrival and afterwards. I have witnessed the wave of reform and engagement he has brought to our indispensable organization, in support of and in cooperation with my esteemed colleagues, Presidents Kanerva, Muttonen, Tsereteli, Bowness, Cederfelt and Kauma, and all of the Bureau and leadership. That is, in fact, the main reason we elected him back in 2015: we were convinced – and I am proud we were right – that the OSCE PA could be modernized and carry out numerous activities in addition to the statutory meetings and election observations.

With the support of Roberto's advice, spirit of initiative and driving force, the OSCE PA has also strengthened its role in real parliamentary diplomacy. This was a great collective success we need to nurture and defend. I have engaged with Roberto and you many times also on events in my region: very often he has been instrumental to kick off efforts, meetings or initiatives to support and promote the lasting peace and reconciliation in South Caucasus. We have always worked in view of achieving something good. He has never imposed, but has always been active in proposing and implementing our decisions.

Finally, I wish to highlight also Roberto's managerial skills, and the set of reforms and reorganization of the International Secretariat he undertook since 2016, a very important component of his work.

In the light of his excellent performance, I encourage other delegations to agree on Roberto's renewal as Secretary General. Moreover, I underline that the stability he provides to the OSCE Assembly is not to be underestimated, especially at uncertain times where the governmental components of the OSCE in Vienna are suffering major challenges.

I remain Respectfully yours,

Azay GULIYEV

Head of the Delegation of Azerbaijan to the OSCE PA,
Chair of the General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment of the OSCE PA



PERMANENT DELEGATION TO THE
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE
ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-
OPERATION IN EUROPE

5, M. Hrushevskiyi Str., Kyiv, 01008, Ukraine www.rada.gov.ua

Dear President Kauma,

I would like to address to you concerning Roberto Montella's second renewal as OSCE PA Secretary General.

I have appreciated Roberto for a long, since 2014, and his support and solidarity were always immense concerning the activity of the Ukrainian delegation. I would like to attract your attention to the fact that, while the governmental OSCE was stuck with Russia abusing the rule of consensus, Roberto has outstandingly supported the OSCE PA leadership in carving its response to the illegal and unprovoked aggression against Ukraine, and the horrifying and genocidal war crimes perpetrated by Russia against Ukrainians.

Secretary General Montella has visited Ukraine many times since 2014 and he knows perfectly the situation in Ukraine, and I appreciate his support in the establishment in the PA of the Parliamentary Support Team for Ukraine.

I will strongly recommend to you and my colleagues in the OSCE PA to re-elect Roberto, who has proven himself as a professional leader of the team of the International secretariat, he leads with energy and competence.

Sincerely yours,

Vice-Chair of General Committee on
Economic Affairs, Science, Technology
and Environment,
Deputy Head of the Ukraine Delegation
to the OSCE PA

Artur GERASYMOV

H.E. Ms. Pia Kauma,
President of the OSCE PA,
Copenhagen

Abg.z.NR MMag. Dr. Gudrun Kugler
Dr. Karl Renner-Ring 3
1017 Wien



Abgeordnete
zum Nationalrat der
Republik Österreich

To the President
of the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE
Ms. Pia KAUMA

Vienna, 8. April 2024

Madam President,
Dear Pia,

I am writing in response to your letter dated 11. March to express my full support for the renewal of the mandate of our Secretary General Roberto Montella.

I fully share and can only repeat the positive assessment you and so many colleagues have set out in the last weeks, amongst them from Austria our Vice- President Reinhold Lopatka and former PA Presidents Christine Muttonen and Wolfgang Grossruck, and would like to underline the great professionalism, the integrity and management qualities of Roberto Montella.

On this occasion, I would like to thank the staff of our Assembly's International Secretariat, who under Roberto's leadership have been supporting and assisting me so professionally, in Vienna and Copenhagen, in my various functions!

Looking forward to seeing you in Copenhagen I remain

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gudrun Kugler'.

Gudrun Kugler

Deputy Head of the Austrian Delegation to the OSCE PA

Rapporteur of the 2nd Committee

Vice-Chair of the Ad-hoc Committee on Migration



CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES
PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

LUCIE POTŮČKOVÁ

Member of the Delegation of the Czech Republic to the OSCE PA
Chair of the OSCE PA's Third Committee

Ms. Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE PA
Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 Copenhagen K
DENMARK

Prague, 20 March 2024

Dear President Kauma,

I have received your letter of 11 March, alongside the letter from Secretary General Roberto Montella, and I wish to communicate my readiness to support the renewal of his mandate.

Secretary General Roberto Montella has provided a stability, relevance and effectiveness to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in these turbulent years, and I am convinced we can only benefit from having him as Secretary General for other five years.

Personally, especially when I became Chair of the 3rd Committee, I have strongly appreciated Roberto's and the International Secretariat's support. It has been a very professional and competent support, which provided instrumental for my work and for which I am very grateful.

Roberto's dedication and commitment to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly are indeed commendable and, therefore, I strongly recommend the Standing Committee to vote on his re-election.

Yours sincerely,

Potuckoval



Digitální podpis:
22.03.2024 11:30

Lucie Potůčková

Sněmovní 176/4, 118 26 Prague 1 – Malá Strana, Czech Republic
Phone: +420 257 17 4257 - E-mail: potuckoval@psp.cz - www.psp.cz



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Ms. Pia KAUMA
President
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Yerevan, 25 March 2024

Dear President Kauma,

I am writing in response to your letter of 11 March, to express my full endorsement for the renewal of Roberto Montella's mandate as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Montella has proven a capable leader of the International Secretariat. He has successfully conducted the day-to-day work that enabled our Assembly to be effective, and he has been proactive, supportive and dedicated.

Having had the privilege of hosting Mr. Montella on multiple occasions in Armenia, I have consistently observed his commitment to advancing the role of the OSCE PA and parliamentary diplomacy. I particularly commend his tireless endeavors in fostering dialogue and pursuing peaceful resolutions within the South Caucasus region.

As the host of the 21st Autumn Meeting in Yerevan, I am deeply appreciative of Mr. Montella's steadfast guidance and support throughout the entire organizational process of the parliamentary conference. Under his leadership, the professional assistance by the International Secretariat significantly facilitated the successful implementation of the Meeting by the Armenian parliament.

Furthermore, as a founding member of the OSCE PA Network of Young Parliamentarians, I wish to express gratitude for Mr. Montella's consistent support and valuable contributions to the network's initiatives.

Roberto Montella meets very well the requirements needed for his position, and it is my wish to recommend to the Bureau and to the Standing Committee of the OSCE PA to re-elect him as Secretary General.

Respectfully,

Sargis KHANDANYAN

Head of the Armenian Delegation to the OSCE PA
Vice-Chair of the OSCE PA General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and
Humanitarian Questions
Chair of the Foreign Relations Committee of the National Assembly of Armenia

*Afvaardiging bij de Parlementaire Assemblée van de OVSE
Délégation à l'Assemblée parlementaire de l'OSCE*

Ms Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE PA
Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 Copenhagen K
DENMARK

Brussels, **27 MARS 2024**

Dear President Kauma,

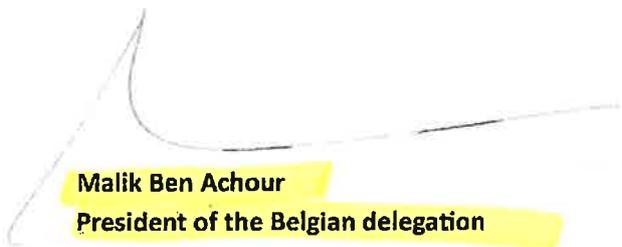
Thank you for your letter regarding the upcoming decision on Roberto Montella's second renewal of the mandate as OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Secretary General.

I am writing to convey to Roberto my full support, and to underscore what you wrote in your letter. I fully agree the OSCE PA is well served with the incumbent Secretary General, and I welcome his engagement, proactiveness and efforts. I have worked with him on several occasions and had the opportunity to witness his knowledge and the excellent team spirit he built in the International Secretariat.

Also thanks to him, the OSCE PA is managing to stay relevant during an unprecedented period of tensions, where many multilateral organizations are facing significant challenges. Our Parliamentary Assembly, though not without obvious struggles, is still on the frontline of efforts and we need to recognize a lot of Roberto's merit in this, together with the support that he gave to our leadership.

I therefore assure you that Roberto Montella will have my vote and I hope the whole Assembly can agree on him continuing in his tenure as our SG.

Yours sincerely,


Malik Ben Achour
President of the Belgian delegation



To:
Ms. Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE PA

26 March 2024

It is with great pleasure to write in support of Mr. Roberto Montella for the renewal of his mandate as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. Indeed it is a great news as we all have had the opportunity to work with SG Montella for the past few years at OSCE PA, and have been consistently impressed with his diligence, efficiency and ability accomplish the reforms.

In this role, Mr. Montella performed many tasks with organizational skills and grace under pressure in these challenging times. He is organized, effective, and committed to getting the job done. We strongly support the renewal of another mandate as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

We are looking forward to his valuable contributions in this organization.

REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË
KUVENDI

Sincerely,

Damian Gjikhuri

Head of the Delegation of Albania

to OSCE Parliamentary Assembly



CONSELL GENERAL
PRINCIPAT D'ANDORRA

Delegació andorrana a l'Assemblea Parlamentària
de l'OSCE

The Honorable Pia Kauma
President, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
Tordenskjoldsgade, 1
1055 Copenhagen, Denmark

Andorra la Vella, 10 April 2024

Dear Madam President,
Dear Members of the Bureau of the OSCE PA,

I am writing with reference to the letter received last 11th March to communicate the availability of Mr. Roberto Montella to be considered for renewal of his mandate as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

We consider that Roberto Montella, as Secretary General, has carried out his responsibilities with excellent diligence and expertise.

We especially appreciate the sensitivity and attention of Secretary General Roberto Montella towards small States like Andorra. He has always kept in mind our voice and specific concerns during his mandate.

Our delegation also appreciates his support and commitment during the organization of the Autumn Session in Andorra in 2017 and we would like to manifest that it would be a pleasure for us to cooperate again in the organization of the OSCE PA Autumn Meeting that we have offered to host in Andorra in 2026.

In the face of the good development of his task, I would like to express the support of the Andorran delegation for the re-election of Roberto Montella as Secretary General.

Yours faithfully,

Meritxell López Guitart

**Delegació andorrana a l'Assemblea Parlamentària
de l'OSCE**

Head of the Andorran Delegation to the OSCE PA



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Ms. Pia KAUMA
President
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Yerevan, 25 March 2024

Dear President Kauma,

I am writing in response to your letter of 11 March, to express my full endorsement for the renewal of Roberto Montella's mandate as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Montella has proven a capable leader of the International Secretariat. He has successfully conducted the day-to-day work that enabled our Assembly to be effective, and he has been proactive, supportive and dedicated.

Having had the privilege of hosting Mr. Montella on multiple occasions in Armenia, I have consistently observed his commitment to advancing the role of the OSCE PA and parliamentary diplomacy. I particularly commend his tireless endeavors in fostering dialogue and pursuing peaceful resolutions within the South Caucasus region.

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Furthermore, as a founding member of the OSCE PA Network of Young Parliamentarians, I wish to express gratitude for Mr. Montella's consistent support and valuable contributions to the network's initiatives.

Roberto Montella meets very well the requirements needed for his position, and it is my wish to recommend to the Bureau and to the Standing Committee of the OSCE PA to re-elect him as Secretary General.

Respectfully,

Sargis KHANDANYAN

Head of the Armenian Delegation to the OSCE PA
Vice-Chair of the OSCE PA General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and
Humanitarian Questions
Chair of the Foreign Relations Committee of the National Assembly of Armenia



Ms. Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE PA

Baku, 26 March 2024

Dear Madam President,
Dear Pia,

It is a privilege for me to provide a recommendation for Roberto Montella, as we are called to vote on the renewal of his mandate as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. But before doing so, let me congratulate you Madam President and our Head of the Rules Committee Pascal Alizard for the timely decision to start this procedure which will provide our Assembly with the necessary stability in a period of big challenges for the OSCE as an organisation.

Roberto is to me a dear friend and a good colleague. Our productive cooperation and mutual respect dates back in time and I am proud to say that we have together worked hard to make the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly a stronger and more relevant organization.

I have been serving in the PA Bureau since 2013, also covering other positions such as Committee Vice-Chair, Vice-President, Committee Chair, Special Representative, EOM Special Coordinator and Head of Delegation. Being among the most experienced members of the PA also means I have witnessed the Assembly before his arrival and afterwards. I have witnessed the wave of reform and engagement he has brought to our indispensable organization, in support of and in cooperation with my esteemed colleagues, Presidents Kanerva, Muttonen, Tsereteli, Bowness, Cederfelt and Kauma, and all of the Bureau and leadership. That is, in fact, the main reason we elected him back in 2015: we were convinced – and I am proud we were right – that the OSCE PA could be modernized and carry out numerous activities in addition to the statutory meetings and election observations.

With the support of Roberto's advice, spirit of initiative and driving force, the OSCE PA has also strengthened its role in real parliamentary diplomacy. This was a great collective success we need to nurture and defend. I have engaged with Roberto and you many times also on events in my region: very often he has been instrumental to kick off efforts, meetings or initiatives to support and promote the lasting peace and reconciliation in South Caucasus. We have always worked in view of achieving something good. He has never imposed, but has always been active in proposing and implementing our decisions.

Finally, I wish to highlight also Roberto's managerial skills, and the set of reforms and reorganization of the International Secretariat he undertook since 2016, a very important component of his work.

In the light of his excellent performance, I encourage other delegations to agree on Roberto's renewal as Secretary General. Moreover, I underline that the stability he provides to the OSCE Assembly is not to be underestimated, especially at uncertain times where the governmental components of the OSCE in Vienna are suffering major challenges.

I remain Respectfully yours,

Azay GULIYEV

Head of the Delegation of Azerbaijan to the OSCE PA,
Chair of the General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment of the OSCE PA

*Afvaardiging bij de Parlementaire Assemblée van de OVSE
Délégation à l'Assemblée parlementaire de l'OSCE*

Ms Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE PA
Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 Copenhagen K
DENMARK

Brussels, **27 MARS 2024**

Dear President Kauma,

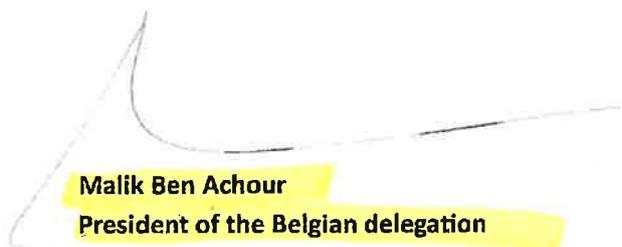
Thank you for your letter regarding the upcoming decision on Roberto Montella's second renewal of the mandate as OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Secretary General.

I am writing to convey to Roberto my full support, and to underscore what you wrote in your letter. I fully agree the OSCE PA is well served with the incumbent Secretary General, and I welcome his engagement, proactiveness and efforts. I have worked with him on several occasions and had the opportunity to witness his knowledge and the excellent team spirit he built in the International Secretariat.

Also thanks to him, the OSCE PA is managing to stay relevant during an unprecedented period of tensions, where many multilateral organizations are facing significant challenges. Our Parliamentary Assembly, though not without obvious struggles, is still on the frontline of efforts and we need to recognize a lot of Roberto's merit in this, together with the support that he gave to our leadership.

I therefore assure you that Roberto Montella will have my vote and I hope the whole Assembly can agree on him continuing in his tenure as our SG.

Yours sincerely,


Malik Ben Achour
President of the Belgian delegation



REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

DELEGATION TO OSCE PA

Sofia, 22 March 2024

Dear Madam President,

Dear colleagues from the OSCE Parliamentary assembly,

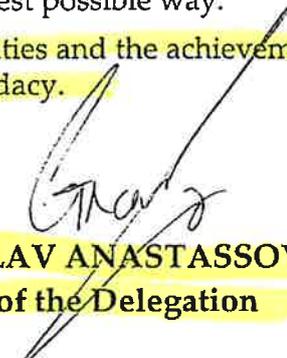
I met with satisfaction your letter regarding the readiness of Mr. Montella to continue his work as Secretary General of our organisation.

It is essential to underline his ability to listen, to understand and to respond quickly to the problems raised by Members. My impression is that he was able to provide positive working environment, clear division of responsibilities and high motivation for the members of the Secretariat, which is of key importance to the success of our political work. The International Secretariat is very well organised, result of the ambition of Mr. Montella to continue the modernisation, to increase the activity and to improve the visibility of OSCE PA. These successful efforts deserve to be rewarded and encouraged.

His last mandate was marked by extraordinary circumstances and both organisational and political challenges, especially the Covid-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine. His leadership, in close cooperation with the Presidents and the Bureau, helped us to sustain our activity and keep our commitments. Now, when we face another challenge, related to the financial reductions, I see no one better prepared to help us cope with it and to adapt our organisation, without substantial damage to our activity.

Finally, I would like to underline the vast network of contacts built by Roberto over the years of work in OSCE PA both within the OSCE system and with other international institutions and organisations. That is invaluable source of strength for OSCE PA, because it helps our political bodies to steer the Assembly's work in the best possible way.

Based on all that, I have no doubts that he has all the qualities and the achievements to continue to serve as Secretary General and I endorse his candidacy.


STANISLAV ANASTASSOV
Head of the Delegation

MRS. PIA KAUMA
PRESIDENT
OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY
AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Nicosia, 11 April 2024

Dear Pia,

I was informed about the intention of Secretary General Montella to run for a second renewal of his term-in-office in the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Since I entered the OSCE PA, I have strived to raise certain topics on its agenda – above all the fight against corruption in the OSCE region and the quest for stronger transparency and accountability in politics. The post of the Special Representative was not established at that time and Roberto had supported the idea of creating such a portfolio. I was the first OSCE Special Representative on fighting corruption, a mandate that was reconfirmed by all subsequent Presidents and that is now an important component of the Assembly's work.

Taking into consideration that the OSCE PA is today a respected stakeholder on the multilateral stage in these areas of work, establishing significant partnerships with, inter alia, GRECO, the World Bank, the United Nations and receiving invitations and speaking roles for numerous international conferences and events and providing a clear parliamentary added value, I have to express my gratitude to Roberto Montella. He and his team in the International Secretariat have been of critical importance.

Roberto has always been at the service of the political leadership of the organization, flexible and versatile. I recognize his intention for finding compromises and for promoting new initiatives. I therefore wish to recommend we renew Roberto's mandate for another term, confident he will continue to do an excellent job.

In any case, I think it is standard procedure that the Rule providing that "The Standing Committee will set his or her duties, remuneration and conditions of employment consistent with the annual budget" will be discussed at the coming Bureau meeting and subsequently at the Standing Committee as foreseen, especially in view of the budget restraints that the OSCE PA is currently facing.



**REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**



At the same time, allow me to seize this opportunity to express my view that in the coming Bureau meeting we should discuss how our Assembly will be able to focus on the multitude of challenges that the OSCE region faces. It is generally accepted that during the past few Sessions, we dedicate a great deal of time to discussing the impact of the Russian invasion in Ukraine. Although I too share the view that the war in Ukraine is an issue of blatant violation of the Helsinki principles and must be given due attention, I also believe that Mediterranean affairs need also to be more thoroughly discussed, especially in view of the ongoing war in the Middle East and the incessant migratory and refugee flows. In this regard, I wanted to bring to your attention that a sharp spike in flows migrants and refugees from neighbouring countries is being recorded the last weeks, which has significant security, economic as well as human rights aspects. I would also like to reiterate in this context, a proposition I have already made, to organize a high-level visit to OSCE PA Partners which are key countries in the region and especially Egypt. Furthermore, in the next few days, we intend to send a letter to all heads of delegations of Mediterranean countries, informing them of our aim to form an unofficial group within the OSCE PA, in order to promote our special regional interests and enhance the efforts of the Special Representative on Mediterranean Affairs.

Additionally, I believe that the coming Bureau meeting must discuss our current budget restraints, as well as, and perhaps more significantly, a broader plan on how any increases in our contributions would be utilized, since transparency is of utmost importance in this regard.

Looking forward to meeting you soon, dear Pia, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

Yours sincerely,

Irene Charalambides

Vice-President of the OSCE PA

Head of the Cyprus delegation to the OSCE PA



CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES
PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Ms. Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE PA
Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 Copenhagen K
D E N M A R K

Prague, 10 April 2024

Dear President Kauma,

In response to your letter of 11 March, I would like to express my wholehearted support for the renewal of Roberto Montella's mandate as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Over the years of his service, and especially in these difficult times for the OSCE, Secretary General Roberto Montella has proven to be a capable leader of the International Secretariat. With his diplomatic approach, he has provided stability and effectiveness to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

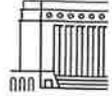
Therefore, I am very pleased to learn that Roberto Montella has confirmed his willingness to continue in his valuable work and run for re-election.

I strongly recommend the Standing Committee to give due consideration to his reappointment.

Yours sincerely,

JAN BAUER

Head of the Delegation of the Czech Republic to the OSCE PA



EDUSKUNTA
RIKSDAGEN

THE FINNISH PARLIAMENT

Ville Kaunisto
Parliament of Finland
00101 Eduskunta
Finland

Pia Kauma
President of the OSCEPA

9.4.2024

Dear OSCE PA President Pia Kauma,

On behalf of the Finnish OSCE PA delegation I would like to congratulate Mr. Roberto Montella for his work so far as the Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. I fully welcome his willingness to continue with this important task and I want to express my strong support for his re-election. As a new chairperson and member of the OSCE PA I have appreciated Mr. Montella's helpful guidance and his readiness to assist me and the Finnish delegation in OSCE PA related matters. I also value his and his team's support for the work of OSCE PA President Kauma.

While we warmly support the re-election of Mr. Montella to the post of Secretary General of the OSCE PA, we also acknowledge the need to further clarify and if needed develop our election procedure as expressed by some delegations.

I therefore hope that we could continue this discussion together with the secretariat and the Assembly and I look forward to our good cooperation with the Secretary General.

Yours sincerely,

Ville Kaunisto
Chairperson of the Finnish OSCE PA delegation



PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA

FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Ms. Pia Kauma

President of the OSCE PA

Dear President,

Dear Colleagues,

I was delighted to receive the news that our Secretary General, Roberto Montella, intends to seek a renewal of his mandate. In this regard, I share the positive assessment expressed by President Kauma in her letter.

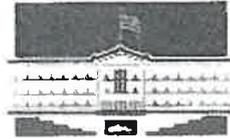
I have known Mr. Montella for many years and have witnessed firsthand his exemplary work as OSCE PA Secretary General. Among his numerous personal and professional strengths, I wish to highlight a few that I consider particularly important for his role. He is engaged and proactive, possesses a strong knowledge of OSCE and security matters, holds a deep belief in the PA, and demonstrates personal commitment and devotion to it. He is trustworthy and endeavors to fulfill expectations in a balanced and impartial manner, always guided by the overall interests of the OSCE PA. His frequent visits to the South Caucasus and his tailored approaches to complex situations exemplify these qualities.

All of these attributes render him an invaluable asset to the parliamentary leadership and an excellent manager of the International Secretariat. Under his leadership, he has assembled a young and dedicated team with whom it is a pleasure to work.

Considering all of the above, I recommend to the OSCE PA Standing Committee that they give due consideration to his reappointment. I firmly believe that he is the right person for the job.

Yours sincerely,

Nikoloz Samkharadze



ΒΟΥΛΗ ΤΩΝ ΕΛΛΗΝΩΝ
INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE GENERAL
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE

PIA KAUMA
PRESIDENT OF THE OSCE P.A.

Athens, 28 March 2024

Dear Madame President,
Dear Pia

Admittedly, the OSCE has moved into a new, demanding, but at the same time very creative period. A time of great challenges, which pushes all of us towards the need to converge opinions and intensify actions.

Additionally, I want to point out the work that took place both in Yerevan and in Vienna. Cooperation in all sectors has been positive and productive. A collaboration that obviously bears your personal signature as president, as well as that of our good friend Roberto Modella. A general manager with experience and maturity and with the willingness to negotiate at all levels.

On the other hand, I have to point out the need not to focus only on the persons but also to look at the wider political issues. The war in Ukraine certainly motivates us and is by far the top issue concerning our Assembly. Greece, although a country with ties to Russia based on history and religion, is clearly opposed to Moscow's aggression against Ukraine. This is indisputable, despite the fact that other countries in our wider region do not act so openly in this particular field.

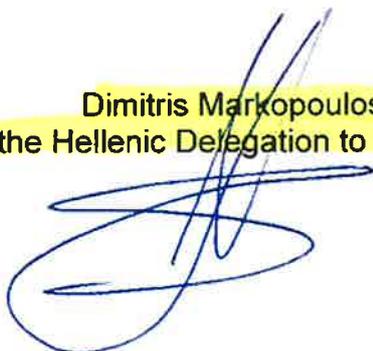
Nevertheless, I will also emphasize what I mentioned at the recent winter meetings in Vienna. The countries of the European south that are tested by the refugee flows from Africa or Asia, the Balkan member states that have specific problems of their orientation and a series of issues, we feel that, to a large extent there is a great one-sidedness in terms of the debate. As an example, I will cite the fact that the first issue on the immigration agenda was not the increased flows from Egypt and Libya or the pressures that Europe is receiving from the growing crisis and tension due to the attacks of Hamas against Israel, but this is of human trafficking from Ukraine.

A major issue obviously, but not the top one in terms of migration flows. This clearly has to do with the hierarchy that exists at the management level of the Ad Hoc Committee of Migration, which does not reflect the needs of member states such as Greece, Cyprus, Turkey, Italy, France or Spain, that they are under pressure.

For the Greek delegation, in addition to the position of the Secretary General of the OSCE P.A., the division of the committees by member state is of great importance, so that our Assembly does not give an image of a single-theme focus on the problems of Eurasia.

With kindness regard,

Dimitris Markopoulos
Head of the Hellenic Delegation to the OSCE P.A.



Ms. Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE P.A.

cc. Mr. Roberto Montella
Secretary General of the OSCE P.A.



Dear OSCE PA President Pia Kauma

Thank you for your letter, 11th of March. I apologize for the late reply. I wanted to inform you that I fully support Mr. Montella for renewal as PA Secretary General. Last year, when I became a member of the OSCE PA for the first time, and the chair of the Icelandic delegation Mr. Montella was very supportive in every way. I felt right away a sense of belonging and acceptance in this vital platform. Mr. Montella has a friendly gesture which is important for OSCE PA members. He has also provided me guidance and helpful advice on Foreign Affairs Matters, which I appreciate. The effectiveness of the organization is crucial in the difficult times we are facing in Europe. I believe that Mr. Montella is the right person to adhere to the task. Reforms in the International Secretariat should also be continued, and I know that Mr. Montella is committed to the work. It is my pleasure to recommend Mr. Montella for the renewal of his mandate as our Secretary General.

Respectfully,
Birgir Thorarinsson,
Chair Icelandic Delegation to OSCE.

*Assemblea dell'Organizzazione
per la Sicurezza e la Cooperazione in Europa*
(OSCE)



CAMERA DEI DEPUTATI PARTENZA 11 aprile 2024
Prot: 2024/0007639/GEN/RIN

*Delegazione Parlamentare Italiana
Il Presidente*

*Gentilissimo Presidente,
Caro Pie,*

ti ringrazio per la cortese lettera con cui annunci l'avvio della procedura di rinnovo del mandato del Segretario Generale dell'Assemblea.

Da quando sono diventato componente dell'Assemblea parlamentare dell'OSCE, nella mia qualità di Capo della Delegazione italiana e di Rappresentante Speciale per la lotta alla criminalità organizzata, ho avuto occasione di confrontarmi in diverse circostanze con il Segretario Generale, Dott. Roberto Montella, e ho avuto modo di apprezzarne non solo la vasta esperienza, la professionalità e le qualità politico-diplomatiche, ma anche la dedizione e l'entusiasmo con cui svolge il suo mandato.

Vorrei anche sottolineare le capacità organizzative del Dott. Montella che contribuiscono al consolidamento della struttura amministrativa dell'Assemblea: il nostro Segretario Generale ha infatti svolto un eccellente lavoro nell'organizzare la struttura, motivare i componenti del Segretariato, assicurando al tempo stesso trasparenza e responsabilità.

Sono inoltre rimasto particolarmente colpito dalla sua capacità di favorire il dialogo tra posizioni a volte molto distanti sostenendo la cooperazione interparlamentare nel pieno rispetto delle sensibilità di ciascuno.

In un momento così importante e delicato per il futuro dell'OSCE, in cui ci troviamo a fronteggiare sfide inaspettate provenienti da più fronti, ritengo più che mai opportuno, nonché vantaggioso per l'Assemblea stessa, assicurare la massima continuità alla struttura del Segretariato anche per rafforzare ulteriormente il ruolo della nostra Organizzazione.

La squadra guidata sapientemente dal nostro Segretario Generale Montella ha dimostrato di essere vincente e, come si dice dalle nostre parti, "Squadra vincente non si cambia".

*Assemblea dell'Organizzazione
per la Sicurezza e la Cooperazione in Europa*
(OSCE)



CAMERA DEI DEPUTATI PARTENZA 11 aprile 2024
Prot: 2024/0007639/GEN/RIN

*Delegazione Parlamentare Italiana
Il Presidente*

Auspico pertanto il massimo sostegno al rinnovo del mandato dell'attuale Segretario Generale, nella certezza che saprà offrire il suo pieno e incondizionato impegno per valorizzare l'Assemblea e dare il necessario seguito alle priorità che vorremo individuare.

Un caro saluto -

Eugenio Zoffli
On. Eugenio Zoffli

Pia KAUMA
Presidente dell'Assemblea
parlamentare dell'OSCE
COPENHAGEN

Courtesy Translation

Distinguished Madam President,

I would like to thank you for your kind letter, in which you announced the start of the procedure to renew the mandate of the Secretary General of the Assembly.

Since I became a member of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, in my capacity as the Head of the Italian Delegation and Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime, I have had the opportunity to deal with the Secretary General, Mr Roberto MONTELLA, on several occasions and I have been able to appreciate not only his vast experience, his professionalism and his political and diplomatic ability, but also the dedication and enthusiasm with which he is carrying out his mandate.

I would also like to emphasize Mr MONTELLA's organisational skills, which contribute to the consolidation of the Assembly's administrative structure: indeed, our Secretary General has done an excellent job in organising the structure and motivating the staff members of the Secretariat, while ensuring transparency and accountability.

In addition to this, I was particularly impressed by his ability to encourage dialogue between positions that were sometimes very far apart, and support inter-parliamentary cooperation while taking into account the sensitivity of everyone.

At such an important and delicate moment for the future of the OSCE, when we are faced with unexpected challenges from many fronts, I consider it more appropriate than ever, and beneficial to the Assembly itself, to ensure maximum continuity in the structure of the Secretariat, also with a view to further strengthening the role of our Organisation.

The team wisely led by our Secretary General Montella has proved to be a winner and, as we say in our country, 'Never change a winning team!'.

Against this backdrop, I trust that there will be maximum support for a renewed mandate of the current Secretary General, convinced as I am that he will be able to offer his full and unconditional commitment to enhancing the role of the Assembly and giving the necessary follow-up to the priorities that we will identify.



**ҚАЗАҚСТАН РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫ
ПАРЛАМЕНТИ СЕНАТЫНЫҢ
ТӨРАҒАСЫ**

**CHAIRMAN
SENATE OF THE PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN**

Astana
« 9 » April 2024

Dear Madam President,

Thank you for your letter regarding the procedure for renewing Roberto Montella's mandate as the OSCE PA Secretary General.

I share your view on the importance of his continued tenure. As the head of delegation, I would like to emphasize the excellent cooperation established between the OSCE PA and the Parliament of Kazakhstan during Mr. Montella's tenure as Secretary General. His continuous and active contribution to the work of the Parliamentary Assembly is highly appreciated.

In this regard, it is my pleasure to extend the full support of the Kazakhstan delegation for Mr. Montella's candidacy as Secretary General for a third term.

I believe that under his strong leadership and astute guidance, the International Secretariat will continue to ensure the successful activity of the Parliamentary Assembly, dedicated to promoting the role of the OSCE in the new European security environment.

I hope for a successful Bureau meeting and look forward to working with you to further enhance the strong relationship between the Parliament of Kazakhstan and the OSCE PA.

Yours sincerely,

Maulen ASHIMBAYEV
**Head of the Delegation of Kazakhstan
to the OSCE PA**

**Her Excellency
Ms. Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly**

Copenhagen



**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS SEIMO
DELEGACIJA EUROPOS SAUGUMO IR BENDRADARBIAVIMO ORGANIZACIJOS
PARLAMENTINĖJE ASAMBLĖJOJE**

**SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
DELEGATION TO THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE ORGANISATION
FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

Gedimino pr. 53, LT-01109 Vilnius, LITHUANIA Tel. + 370 5 239 6226 E-mail: kristina.grazyte@lrs.lt

Dear Madam President,

March 29, 2024

Dear Pia,

Thank you for your letter of March 11 in which you express your support for the renewal of the mandate of the Secretary General.

I would like you to know that I value and appreciate all the work done by the current Secretary General Roberto Montella through all these years, and do not mind extending his mandate for another term if the Standing Committee decides so, but at the same time, I would like to stress that it is of the utmost importance to ensure that we observe the nomination and election process as stipulated in Rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure.

Rule 40 provides - The Bureau shall take steps to ensure that in the interests of transparency before the election or re-election of the Secretary General and the senior appointments referred to in Rule 40.3 the posts shall be advertised outside and within the organisation, and that all applications received are considered by the Bureau before a recommendation to or election by the Standing Committee.

Therefore I would ask you, Madam President, to announce the opening for the position outside the organisation on international recruitment platforms as soon as possible, and to allow a sufficient amount of time for potential applicants to submit their applications. The Bureau should have a proper discussion on all applicants during its next Meeting on April 29.

I would be very grateful if you could inform about the follow-up steps on this matter, and kindly request your assistance in bringing this to the attention of the Bureau members.

Cc:

Mr. Roger F. Wicker, Vice President
Mr. Reinhold Lopatka, Vice President
Ms. Irene Charlambides, Vice President
Mr. Pere Joan Pons, Vice President
Mr. Mark Pritchard, Vice President
Ms. Daniela De Ridder, Vice President
Mr. Mykyta Poturaiev, Vice President
Mr. Kyriakos Hadjiyianni, Vice President

Mr. Johan Büser, Treasurer

Mr. Costel Neculai Dunava, Vice-Chair, General Committee on Political Affairs and Security

Mr. Azay Guliyev, Chair, General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology, and Environment

Mr. Artur Gerasymov, Vice-Chair, General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology, and Environment

Ms. Gudrun Kugler, Rapporteur, General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology, and Environment

Ms. Lucie Potůčková, Chair, General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights, and Humanitarian Questions

Mr. Sargis Khandanyan, Vice-Chair, General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights, and Humanitarian Questions

Mr. Malik Ben Achour, Rapporteur, General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights, and Humanitarian Questions

Mr. Roberto Montella, Secretary General, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly



Vilija Aleknaite Abramikiene

Head of the Lithuanian delegation to the OSCE PA



8 April 2024

Dear President Kauma,

I thank you for your letter of the 11 March, wherein you informed us of Roberto's willingness to continue in his role as Secretary General of the Assembly for another term.

Throughout my tenure as Head of the Maltese Delegation, Roberto has worked tirelessly for the Assembly and has managed to do so successfully even in the hardest of times thanks to his resiliency and efficiency. In this regard, I am confident that having him at the helm of our Assembly will allow us to continue benefiting from his expertise and will also provide us with continuity and stability. I have no hesitation in endorsing his renewal as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Amanda Spiteri Grech', written over a vertical line.

Hon. Amanda Spiteri Grech

Head of the Maltese Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly



**Deputat în Parlamentul
Republicii Moldova**

**H.E. Madam Pia KAUMA
President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly**

Dear Madam President,

Thank you for your letter announcing your support for the renewal of the mandate of the OSCE PA Secretary General Roberto Montella.

I would like to inform you that the Moldovan delegation to the OSCE PA fully acknowledges the important role the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly plays in strengthening the dialogue between the parliamentarians representing the participating States, but also in developing the cooperation between the governmental and parliamentary branches of the OSCE.

In these difficult times, the effectiveness of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly is of crucial importance. We should be able to address all challenges the world is facing today, as well as to come with efficient and rapid long-term solutions. In this respect, we count on the assistance and full support of the OSCE PA International Secretariat led by a skilled and experienced person like Roberto.

Considering the above-mentioned, it is my pleasure to recommend Mr. Roberto Montella for the renewal of the OSCE PA Secretary General mandate.

I ask you to accept, dear Madam President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

**Veronica ROȘCA
Head of the delegation of the Parliament
of the Republic of Moldova to the OSCE PA**



МОНГОЛЫН ПАРЛАМЕНТЫН БҮЛГЭМ
MONGOLIAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP
GROUPE INTER-PARLEMENTAIRE DE MONGOLIE



Executive Committee
Mongolian Inter-Parliamentary Group
State Palace
Ulaanbaatar 14201
Mongolia

Tel: (976-51) 262636
(976-51) 260496
(976-51) 262866
Fax: (976-51) 322866
E-mail: foreign.relations@parliament.mn
Internet: <http://www.parliament.mn>

Ref: *МОНБ-02/085/EA*

TO H.E. PIA KAUMA
THE PRESIDENT OF THE OSCEPA

Madam President,

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude for Your Excellency's letter dating 11 March 2024, informing and supporting for renewal of the mandate of the Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

It is my pleasure to learn that Mr. Roberto Montella, the current Secretary General, has confirmed his candidature for the next term. Considering his extensive experience and expert leadership at the International Secretariat, I express my full support for his candidacy.

While congratulating, I would like to express my firm belief that Mr. Roberto Montella would undoubtedly continue his dedication and devotion to the strengthening and enhancements of the effectiveness of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Please accept, Madam President, the assurances of my highest regard.

Respectfully

MR. DAMDIN TSOGTBAATAR, MP
HEAD OF THE OSCEPA DELEGATION,
STATE GREAT HURAL (PARLIAMENT) OF MONGOLIA

Ulaanbaatar
08 April 2024

2024000012



Parliament of Montenegro

Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Podgorica, March 27, 2024

Dear Madam President,

It is with sincere contentment that I received your letter from March 11, regarding renewal of the mandate of Roberto Montella as the Secretary General of the OSCE PA.

Mr Montella's tremendous work ethics, enthusiasm, hard work and dedication to our common values and shared principles has been well-known, not only through the time of my mandate as a Head of Delegation of Montenegro, but also during our previous delegations. He has demonstrated exceptional leadership, unwavering commitment to the principles of the OSCE, and an exemplary dedication to enhancing cooperation and dialogue among member states. His ability to navigate complex political landscapes and foster a spirit of constructive engagement has been instrumental in advancing the OSCE PA's mission. Mr Montella's efforts in promoting transparency, accountability, and inclusivity within the Assembly have not only strengthened its operational effectiveness but also reinforced its role as a vital platform for parliamentary diplomacy.

Profoundly convinced that his extensive professional experience will further contribute to steady leadership, devoted cooperation and fruitful work of the organization in these challenging times for international relations, I would like to convey my strong support, as well as support of other members of Montenegrin delegation, to Roberto Montella's new mandate as the Secretary General of the OSCE PA.

I am confident that with Roberto Montella at the helm, the OSCE PA will continue to make significant contributions to peace, security, and democracy in our region.

With the assurance that Montenegro remains reliable and constructive participant of the OSCE, fully committed to cooperation and dialogue in the interest of the citizens of the OSCE area, I thank you for considering my support in this important decision and warmly greet you.

Sincerely,

Head of Delegation

Slaven Radunović

Ms Pia Kauma
President
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly



REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA
ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA
DELEGATION TO THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Skopje, 28 March 2024

Dear Madam President,

Thank you for your letters from 8 and 21 March 2024, concerning the renewal of the mandate of the Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. I am pleased to learn that the incumbent Secretary General Roberto Montella has confirmed his availability and willingness to be considered for a second renewal of his mandate.

I fully support his candidacy, which I believe will provide stability to our Parliamentary Assembly at this particularly difficult time for the OSCE. Mr. Montella's longstanding experience and leadership of the International Secretariat will be a valuable asset, both to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and to our Organization.

I believe that at a time when we are facing many challenges, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly is more necessary than ever to pave the way for overcoming the dividing lines and to create a vision for a common future in line with our shared values and the needs and expectations of the citizens of the OSCE region.

Please accept, Madam President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

HEAD OF DELEGATION
IGOR JANUSHEV

MRS. PIA KAUMA
PRESIDENT OF THE OSCE PA
COPENHAGEN





States-General of the Netherlands

To: President of OSCE PA, Pia Kauma

Department Interparliamentary Relations (Griffie IB)
Postbox 20018
2500 EA The Hague
Netherlands

T +31 70 31 2077
E GriffieIB@tweedekamer.nl

date : 3 April 2024
subject : Renewal mandate of the Secretary General of the OSCE PA

Dear President, dear Pia,

I am writing to update you on the Dutch delegation's meeting at the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly on April 2. One of the key points we discussed was your letter regarding the renewal of Secretary General Mr. Montella's mandate. Considering his outstanding service and contributions during the recent turbulent years, the delegation is in favor of extending his term.

Warm regards,

Farah Karimi
Head of Dutch delegation to the OSCE PA



Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE PA
Parliament of Finland
FINLAND

Our ref.:
[Vår referanse]

Your ref.:
Letter of 11 March 2024

Date:
10.04.2024

OSCE PA. Reappointment of the Secretary General.

Dear President Kauma, dear Pia,

Dear Members of the OSCE PA Bureau and OSCE PA Standing Committee,

I have read your letter of 11 March, and the letter sent on the same date by Secretary General Montella. I share your position and the conviction that the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly would be best served by electing Roberto Montella for a new mandate as SG.

Mr. Montella has proven a reliable Secretary General, attentive to the inputs, priorities and requests from Parliaments, and has managed the International Secretariat in a difficult and challenging period. His term in office also coincided with a boost in the number of activities the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly undertakes, and a noteworthy growth in visibility.

I am glad that Secretary General Montella has placed specific focus on a number of priorities my delegation had identified during the years, including the security impact of climate change, especially in the Arctic region, and specific attention to human rights.

I will support the re-election of Roberto Montella as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and I am grateful for his willingness to continue his work.

Yours sincerely

Siv Mossleth, Head of the Norwegian delegation to the OSCE PA





Delegation of the Portuguese Parliament to the
Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe

Ms. Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE PA
Helsinki, Finland

Lisbon, 17 April 2024

Dear Madam President,

We would like to thank you for the letter of 11 March in which you inform us about Roberto Montella's availability and willingness to be considered for a second renewal of his mandate as Secretary-General of the OSCE PA.

During his two mandates Roberto, together with the team in the International Secretariat, has always shown a great commitment, team spirit and political understanding, particularly in a multilateral environment, which are qualities of utmost importance to the promotion of the OSCE principles and values.

The OSCE PA is currently facing several important challenges concerning the definition of its goals and tasks. Consequently, we believe that it is of the utmost importance for the current phase of the Organisations' evolution to ensure that we have an experienced and responsible Secretary-General in the Parliamentary Assembly.

We are therefore convinced that Roberto Montella's vast professional experience guarantees the best possible qualifications to fulfil the post of Secretary-General of our Parliamentary Assembly, and accordingly ask you to convey the support of the Portuguese delegation to him.

Sincerely Yours,

Paula Cardoso

Head of Delegation

Luís Graça

Deputy Head of Delegation



DELEGAZIONE CONSILIARE PRESSO
L'ASSEMBLEA PARLAMENTARE
DELL'O.S.C.E.

San Marino, 26 March 2024

Ref.No. 31721/2024

MS. PIA KAUMA

President of the OSCE PA

***Hon. Members of the Bureau of
the OSCE PA***

Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 Copenhagen K
DENMARK

Madame President Pia Kauma,

Esteemed colleagues, Members of the Bureau of the OSCE PA,

With reference to the letter received last 11th March, I am writing to express the support of the delegation of San Marino for the re-election of Roberto Montella as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. We are convinced that his work until today has been very positive and has helped the OSCE PA to be stronger and more effective.

San Marino is particularly grateful to the OSCE PA, especially for the attention it continues to convey also to smaller States, which is something never to take for granted within International Organizations.

Roberto Montella has personally travelled to our Country several times, he has made an effort to find ways in which our political priorities (the fight against disinformation and fake news, at the time) could find a space in the Assembly, and we have cooperated very well and productively to organize a PA Autumn Meeting in San Marino – initially planned for the COVID period and then postponed to 2025. This will be the biggest multilateral event in the Country's history, and we are grateful to the OSCE PA and to Roberto Montella personally for this.

Secretary General Montella works hard to take each and every position into account and he makes things happen. We strongly recommend to extend his term for a new mandate.

While thanking for your kind attention, I am pleased to express to you, Madam President and esteemed colleagues, the assurances of my highest consideration.

With best regards,

Oscar Mina

Head of the San Marino Delegation
to the OSCE PA



The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia

Belgrade, 28 March 2024

Dear Mr Montella,

With your experience, energy and excellent leadership of the International Secretariat, you have made an inestimable contribution to the work of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Through your political wisdom, the need was recognised to improve the work, conduct internal reforms, but also to increase the political importance of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly through cooperation with numerous international and regional organisations.

The Delegation of the Republic of Serbia has always supported and actively contributed to the work of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. It will be our pleasure to continue to provide, in the coming period and in cooperation with you as the Secretary General, our full contribution to the work of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, so that together, as parliamentarians, we can address the urgent problems facing the world.

Allow me, dear Mister Montella, on behalf of the Delegation of the Republic of Serbia, but also on my own behalf, to extend my full support to your renewed term of office as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Sandra Božić

Head of the Delegation of the NARS to the OSCE PA

Mr Roberto Montella
Secretary General
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly



*Head of the Delegation
of the Slovak Republic
to the OSCE PA
Marek Krajčí*

Bratislava, 15 March 2024

Dear Madam President,

I would like to take this opportunity to greet you and thank you for your trust. I am glad that after last year's parliamentary elections a permanent delegation of the Slovak Republic to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly was successfully established in February this year.

I fully acknowledge the important role the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly plays in developing mutual understanding and cooperation between the governmental and parliamentary branches of the OSCE. That is why you can count on my support for the renewal of the Secretary General mandate for Mr. Roberto Montella.

I look forward to our future meeting and mutual cooperation, whether during the election observation mission in North Macedonia or during the 31st OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Annual Session to be held in Bucharest.

Please accept, dear Madam President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

*Honourable
Madam Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE PA
Denmark
Copenhagen*



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

National Assembly Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly



Šubičeva ulica 4, SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
T: +386 1 478 94 83, E: gp@dz-rs.si, www.dz-rs.si

Ljubljana, 15 April 2024

Ms Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE PA
Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 Copenhagen, Denmark
OSCEPA@oscepa.dk

Dear Madam President,
esteemed members of the Bureau of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

I have received your letter of 11 March 2024, informing me of the willingness of Secretary General Roberto Montella to stand for re-election for this important position.

The OSCE region is facing significant challenges that require increased engagement, enhanced collaboration, close ties, and coordinated efforts from all participating states of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. These goals can and will be achieved only if the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly is led by individuals who are competent, industrious, empathetic, and, above all, committed to the values and goals of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, capable of impartial judgment and immune to potential biases and double standards.

I welcome your support for the renewal of the mandate of the Secretary General Roberto Montella, who has already demonstrated professionalism, reliability, and unwavering dedication in his past service. Moreover, I firmly believe that in these turbulent times, the Assembly, more than ever before, requires a leader who possesses an intimate understanding of its operations, working practices, as well as its strengths and weaknesses. Therefore, I express my support and that of the Slovenian delegation to the OSCE PA for the re-election of Mr Roberto Montella as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

Tine Novak
Head of Delegation





*Delegación española ante la
Asamblea Parlamentaria de la OSCE*

1 April 2024, Madrid

*Ms. Pía Kauma
President of the OSCE PA*

Dear Pía Kauma,

As Vice – President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, I would like to convey my support to the process for the renewal of the different executive and institutional positions within our organization.

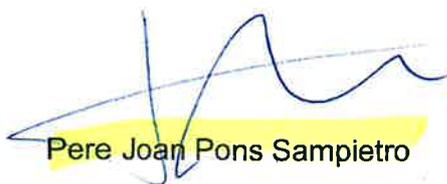
After the letter you have addressed to us regarding the renewal of the General Secretariat position, I would like to express my support to a fully transparent and open process.

The latter does not prevent me from expressing my appreciation for the work conducted by the current Secretary General and by extension all his team within the Secretariat, both in Copenhagen and in Vienna.

In my view, the General Secretariat has shown a strong leadership which, moreover, ensures a historical and evolutionary memory of the organization, apart from representing a certain geopolitical balance within the organization.

For that reason, dear Pía, I hope to be able to contribute to this process, acknowledging at the same time the work carried out all throughout these years by the current Secretary General.

Cordially yours,



Pere Joan Pons Sampietro

27 March 2024

Dear President Kauma,

Dear Pia,

Thank you for the open letter dating 11 March expressing your support for renewal of the mandate of the Secretary General. I am also thankful for the information provided in the letter on 21 March that the process of said renewal has begun.

I would like to begin with extending my gratitude to the International Secretariat and its leadership for the high level of support provided to our Assembly. I thank the President for bringing attention to the Rules of Procedure related to renewal of the post as Secretary General and look forward to follow a transparent and open process.

As mentioned in your letter, our Rules asks the Bureau to consider all applications in the interest of full transparency and calls for elections and re-elections to the post of Secretary General to be advertised outside and within the organization. In line with standard procedure of international organisations, appointments of senior posts shall be guided by principles of openness and impartial consideration of all candidates.

To my understanding, the advertisement has not yet been posted outside of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly as the Rules prescribe. I would therefore like to ask the President if the open advertisement is underway, and to clarify on what international recruitment platforms outside the OSCE PA it will be posted.

In order for the Bureau to be able to have an informed discussion on this item during their next meeting on 29 April it is of crucial value that the open advertisement is posted in the appropriate fora and that potential candidates are given appropriate time to submit their applications. I noticed that potential applicants should notify the International Secretariat no later than Friday 3 April, which leaves of only 10 working days for applications to be filed. I kindly ask you to prolong the application period to 25 April and to ensure that an open announcement is posted as soon as possible. For your reference, please see attached the vacancy announcement of the position of the Secretary General from 2016.

President Kauma, I am very grateful if you could provide some clarifications regarding the next steps to be taken and we look forward to receive your response on this matter. Let us extend the high level of professionalism of our organisation also to the recruitment procedures, regardless of the position involved. Only in this way, we demonstrate that we are a healthy, transparent, and robust organization deserving the contributions from member countries.



Björn Söder
Head of the Swedish Delegation to OSCE PA

To: President of OSCE PA, Pia Kauma

Copy: All Head of Delegations

Members of the Bureau

Annex: Vacancy Announcement from 2016



Swiss Delegation to the Parliamentary
Assembly of the OSCE
The President
CH-3003 Bern

oszepv.aposce@parl.admin.ch
parl.ch

Ms. Pia Kauma
President of the OSCE Parliamentary
Assembly (OSCE PA)

7 April 2024

Expression of Support for Mr. Roberto Montella's candidacy for Secretary General of the OSCE PA

Dear Madam President, *dear Pia*,

I learned with great satisfaction about Mr. Roberto Montella's intention to candidate for the position as Secretary General of the OSCE PA for another term. I particularly welcome this will, which, in these very difficult times, is essential in ensuring the effective functioning of our Assembly.

For four years now, our Assembly has been experiencing successive major crises. The one caused by the Covid-19 pandemic had already posed unprecedented challenges to the functioning of interparliamentary assemblies like ours. Under the leadership of Mr. Montella, the OSCE PA's international secretariat was one of the first to ensure that work could resume quickly. The Secretariat's performance was undeniable, since it was necessary to find innovative solutions to enable us to continue our debates. At all times, Mr. Montella listened to our delegations and did the best to respond to our expectations.

To the crisis caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, followed the outbreak of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. Given the historic nature of its mission, our parliamentary Assembly had to refocus almost all of its work on the catastrophic consequences of this war. In this context, we sometimes experienced virulent exchanges among delegations, which had eventually consequences on the international secretariat. In a working atmosphere where tensions were at their highest, our Assembly was nevertheless able to make adjustments to restore greater stability and serenity. In doing so and despite the difficulties he had to cope with, Mr. Montella, alongside you and your predecessor, consistently called for the maintaining of our Assembly's cohesion. The Swiss delegation greatly appreciated this attitude.

In view of the substantial contributions made by Mr. Montella to the proper and smooth running of our institution despite these major crises, I can assure you that I will warmly recommend to our Standing Committee to reappoint him.

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Faessler
Councillor of States
President of the Swiss delegation to the OSCE PA



AGİT PARLAMENTER ASAMBLESİ TÜRK GRUBU
TURKISH DELEGATION TO THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Ms. Pia KAUMA

President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

26.03.2024

Dear President Kauma,

I am writing to you with regards to the matter of Roberto Montella's potential second renewal as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

In my capacity as the Head of the Turkish Delegation to the OSCE PA, I have been working with Secretary General Roberto Montella since 2020. Throughout this time it is my privilege to convey our confidence in the leadership and capabilities demonstrated by Roberto. I have consistently witnessed his dedication to his responsibilities. His adept handling of various events and situations, as well as his skilled navigation of interactions with diverse delegations and members, stands as a testament to his capabilities and experience in this role.

Roberto has displayed a commendable commitment to fostering dialogue, cooperation, and understanding among member states, irrespective of their differing perspectives and interests. He has proven to be a steadfast advocate for the promotion of peace, security, and stability in the OSCE region, demonstrating an impartial approach to addressing complex challenges and conflicts.

Roberto has consistently demonstrated a keen attentiveness to concerns of Turkish Delegation and has taken proactive measures to address them. As a negotiator, he is always considerate of both sides and readily accessible. Furthermore, his indefatigable energy has significantly contributed to the effectiveness of the OSCE PA and has fostered stability within the Assembly.

TURKISH DELEGATION TO THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

oscepa-turkiye@tbmm.gov.tr

Phone: +90 312 420 8144



AGİT PARLAMENTER ASAMBLESİ TÜRK GRUBU
TURKISH DELEGATION TO THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

It is my firm belief that Roberto will continue to discharge his duties with impartiality and fairness, devoid of any bias. Therefore, I wholeheartedly endorse the renewal of his mandate.

I wish to seize this opportunity not only to express my support for his continued tenure but also to convey my deepest gratitude for his tireless efforts and exemplary leadership.

I would be appreciated if you could ensure that this letter distributed to the Bureau members of OSCE PA.

Sincerely yours,

Selami ALTINOK

Head of the Turkish Delegation

to the OSCE PA



UK Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Delegation leader – the Rt Hon Sir John Whittingdale MP
Interparliamentary Relations Office (Parliamentary Assemblies),
House of Commons, SW1A 0AA
020 7219 6595 oscepa.del@parliament.uk

27 March 2024

Dear President Kauma,

I am writing in response to your letter dated 11 March to express the UK Delegation's warm support for the renewal of Roberto Montella's mandate as Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. Both myself and Deputy Leader and Vice President Mark Pritchard share the positive assessment you set out in your letter; Roberto has indeed served the Assembly with skill, expertise and creativity during a challenging period.

I recommend to the OSCE PA Standing Committee that they give due consideration to his reappointment.

Yours sincerely,

The Rt Hon Sir John Whittingdale MP
Leader of the UK Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly



PERMANENT DELEGATION TO THE
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE
ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-
OPERATION IN EUROPE

5, M. Hrushevskiyi Str., Kyiv, 01008, Ukraine www.rada.gov.ua

Dear President Kauma,

Thank you for your letter of 11 March regarding Roberto Montella's second renewal as OSCE PA Secretary General.

On my turn, I would like to emphasize that I fully share your words, and hereby strongly recommend to my colleagues in the OSCE PA to re-elect Roberto, who has proven himself a true champion of the OSCE PA and of its principles and values, and has majorly contributed to the increase of relevance of the Assembly in the last years.

You already mentioned the main aspects that make Mr. Montella's extension the best solution for the OSCE PA. I wish to add some personal ones. I have appreciated Roberto for a long, but I will never forget his support and solidarity since 24 February 2022, when the Russian Federation invaded my country. I will never forget what he said: "Enough with sugar-coating, the OSCE PA will call out what is happening with its name". Since then, while the governmental OSCE was stuck with Russia abusing the rule of consensus, Roberto has outstandingly supported the OSCE PA leadership in carving its response to the illegal and unprovoked aggression against my country, and to the horrifying and genocidal war crimes perpetrated by Russia against Ukrainians. I saw his efforts, I saw his commotion in Bucha during one of his many trips to Ukraine, and I saw his engagement to find avenues for the PA in every possible way to support my country. I saw, for instance, how he prioritized the establishment in the PA of the Parliamentary Support Team for Ukraine.

He is a man that stands by the OSCE, but also stands, first and foremost, for values, and for what is right. He has done this with consistency and coherency, and helped the OSCE PA to stand on the right side of history. This is true also for the International Secretariat, which he is leading with energy and competence.

I take the opportunity of this letter not only to support the renewal of his term in office, but also to express my deepest gratitude.

Sincerely yours,

Vice President of the OSCE PA,
Head of the Ukraine Delegation to the
OSCE PA

Mykyta POTURAEV

H.E. Ms. Pia Kauma,
President of the OSCE PA,

Copenhagen



Delegation of the United States of America
to the Parliamentary Assembly of the
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

April 15, 2024

The Honorable Pia Kauma
President, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 Copenhagen, Denmark

Dear Madam President,

We write as bipartisan leaders of the U.S. delegation to the OSCE PA from the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate to welcome your recent letters communicating Mr. Roberto Montella's availability to renew his term as Secretary General. Roberto's willingness to continue leading the International Secretariat is great news for this Assembly. We heartily endorse him and urge our colleagues in the Standing Committee to confirm his extension at the Annual Session in Bucharest this summer.

At a time of intensifying global volatility, we must remain steadfast in our commitment to universal values and robust democratic institutions. In our view, Roberto is well suited to the demands of this perilous moment for the international order. Since becoming Secretary General in 2016, he has ably navigated profound upheavals while reinforcing the pillars of this Assembly—the Helsinki principles and parliamentary diplomacy. Roberto has grappled with Russian malign influence and open aggression, a global pandemic, and democratic backsliding, among other serious challenges to the OSCE PA. All the while, he has expanded the Assembly's activities, attracted greater member participation, and enshrined better business practices and institutional transparency.

Roberto has earned broad, bicameral, and bipartisan support in our delegation. We are united in urging our colleagues in the Standing Committee to approve the extension of his mandate this year to ensure the continued effectiveness and relevance of the OSCE PA.

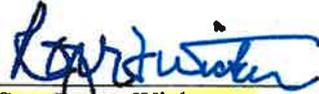
Sincerely,

Rep. Joe Wilson
Head of Delegation
Co-Chair, OSCE PA Parliamentary Support
Team for Ukraine

Sen. Ben Cardin
Deputy Head of Delegation
OSCE PA Special Representative on
Antisemitism, Racism, and Intolerance



Rep. Steve Cohen
OSCE PA Special Representative on
Political Prisoners



Sen. Roger Wicker
OSCE PA Vice President

Cc:

Members of the Bureau

Members of the Standing Committee

Mr. Roberto Montella, Secretary General, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly



**REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Sofia, 21.03.2024

**MRS PIA KAUMA
PRESIDENT
OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**

**Dear President Kauma,
Dear Colleagues,**

I met with satisfaction your letter regarding the readiness of Mr. Montella to continue his work as Secretary General of our organisation.

I have joined the OSCE PA as Deputy Head of the Bulgarian Delegation at the time when Mr. Montella was first elected as Secretary General. I had the opportunity to serve in different positions in the past almost 10 years – Special representative on South Caucasus, Rapporteur in First Committee, Vice-President, Chair of the ad hoc Committee on Migration, Special coordinator of EOMs and currently Special representative on Eastern Europe. Throughout my political journey in the Assembly, whatever my position, I have enjoyed full and competent support by the International Secretariat and personally by Roberto.

I would like to underline his ability to listen, to understand and to respond quickly to the problems raised by Members. My impression is that he was able to provide positive working environment, clear division of responsibilities and high motivation for the members of the Secretariat, which is of key importance to the success of our political work. Moreover, I need to mention that I've witnessed the gradual reforms in Copenhagen, result of the ambition of Mr. Montella to continue the modernisation, to increase the activity and to improve the visibility of OSCE PA. These successful efforts deserve to be rewarded and encouraged.

His last mandate was marked by extraordinary circumstances and both organisational and political challenges, especially the covid-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine. His leadership, in close cooperation with the Presidents and the Bureau, helped us to sustain our activity and keep our commitments. Now, when we face another challenge, related to the financial reductions, I see no one better prepared to help us cope with it and to adapt our organisation, without substantial damage to our activity.

Finally, I would like to underline the vast network of contacts built by Roberto over the years of work in OSCE PA both within the OSCE system and with other international institutions and organisations. That is invaluable source of strength for OSCE PA, because it helps our political bodies to steer the Assembly's work in the best possible way.

Based on all that, I have no doubts that he has all the qualities and the achievements to continue to serve as Secretary General and I endorse his candidacy.

Yours sincerely,

**Kristian Vigenin,
Vice-President of the National Assembly
Deputy Head of the Bulgarian Delegation in OSCE PA**

Paris, le 18 mars 2024



Madame Pia KAUMA
Présidente
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 COPENHAGEN K
DENMARK

PASCAL ALLIZARD

SENATEUR
DU CALVADOS

VICE-PRESIDENT
DE LA COMMISSION
DES AFFAIRES
ETRANGERES,
DE LA DEFENSE
ET DES FORCES ARMÉES

MAIRE HONORAIRE
DE
CONDE-EN-NORMANDIE

Dear President Kauma,
Dear Pia,

I would like to thank you for your letter announcing your support to the renewal of the mandate of our Secretary General Roberto Montella. As chair of the Rules Committee I applaud your decision to trigger this procedure in line with our precedents and well ahead of time thus allowing us to provide the necessary stability and long term security that our organisation needs in time of great uncertainties.

It is my pleasure to provide a reference for Roberto whom I have known for many years.

As you know I have served in the Assembly's leadership for many years as Vice President, Special Representative on Mediterranean Affairs, Chair of the Rules Committee and Special Coordinator in some Election Observation Missions so I have a profound knowledge of the OSCE PA dynamics.

Throughout my entire time in the OSCE PA I have witnessed Roberto's effort to modernize the Parliamentary Assembly and transform it in the highly engaged and active organization it is today. He has done an excellent job both in terms of internal management, where he promoted a set of reforms in the name of transparency and accountability, as well as in terms of external outreach, with an impressive increase of PA activities targeting the most pressing political priorities in the OSCE region.

Roberto's deep understanding of political and diplomatic dynamics have also allowed him to provide consistent advice to the PA's leadership in addressing some of the most turbulent years in recent history, placing the Assembly at the forefront of international political efforts on several delicate dossiers.

As one of your predecessors (President Ilkka Kanerva) also noted, the most important characteristic of Roberto is his capacity to deeply understand the needs and mentality of members of parliament. This as you know is not an easy task and it is rare to find an individual who can be as understanding and in tuning with an MP as Roberto can be. He can be your best friend and partner

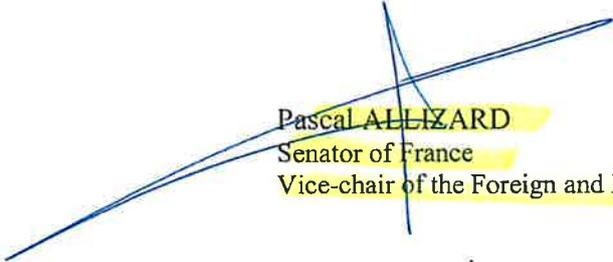


for easy and unofficial business but at the same time he will never step out of his obligations and role and will be the best civil servant for the MPs when official business comes into play. This versatile characteristic is unique and in many years in politics I have rarely found an individual who can better display this skill than Roberto.

I am confident that it would be in the best of interest for the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to maintain Roberto Montella as its Secretary General for another term, providing stability and ensuring the continuation of this very positive trend.

I will not be able to participate to the Bureau meeting in Copenhagen in April and therefore I would appreciate if you could ensure that this letter reaches all my colleagues in the decision-making bodies of the Assembly.

Best wishes,


Pascal ALLIZARD
Senator of France
Vice-chair of the Foreign and Defence Committee



**DELEGAZIONE CONSILIARE PRESSO
L'ASSEMBLEA PARLAMENTARE
DELL'O.S.C.E.**

San Marino, 05 April 2024

Ms. PIA KAUMA

President of the OSCE PA

Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 Copenhagen K

DENMARK

Dear President Kauma,

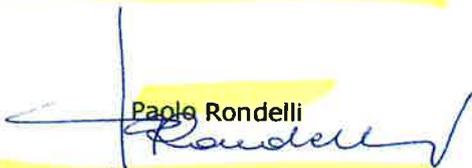
I hereby wish to join the official letter wrote by Oscar Mina on behalf of San Marino, and pay some words of gratitude and appreciation for Secretary General Roberto Montella.

After a long diplomatic and political career, where I also had the honour to serve as Captain Regent – head of state, I remain committed and passionate about my engagement within the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. The OSCE, with its comprehensive approach to security and its inclusiveness, is an organization with a great potential, which can be very important to reduce tensions and promote peace and cooperation in Europe.

I believe Roberto is doing an extraordinary job to increase the role Members of Parliament can play within the OSCE and to build a stronger OSCE PA. This means, in fact, increasing the impact of democracy and of the democratic debate in international relations. He is personally committed to working for a higher engagement of Parliamentarians and as a politician myself I deeply appreciate his service to this end. Roberto had an important role in defining the excellent stature the Assembly has reached: a dynamic body focused on dialogue that upholds human rights and fundamental freedoms with decisive strength, which I am proud to be part of.

While I am not part of the Standing Committee and will not be able to cast a vote, I wished to express my support to Roberto, and encourage colleagues in the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to keep him as Secretary General and continue the good work done until now.

Yours sincerely,


Paolo Rondelli
Alternate Member of the San Marino
Delegation to the OSCE PA



To: Whom it may concern

Re: Renewal of the mandate of the Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

4 April 2024

Dear President Pia Kauma,

Dear members of the Bureau and Standing Committee,

We are writing a collective letter to wholeheartedly support the renewal of the mandate as OSCE PA Secretary General for our dear friend Roberto Montella.

Roberto has served under our leadership either as Presidential Advisor or Secretary General.

Roberto's service to this Assembly has been exemplary. He has devoted almost his entire international career to the OSCE. He first served in OSCE field operations in south east Europe achieving excellent results in the settlement of some hot conflicts as well as creating conditions of dialogue between countries and ethnic groups who were fighting wars against each other.

In the OSCE PA Roberto has served OSCE PA Presidents with honour, dedication and expertise making the extra effort to accommodate the wishes and vision of the leadership.

His results as Secretary General are self evident. He has created excellent relations of cooperation with the OSCE Governmental side (especially in election observation with the ODIHR, which was for years a very difficult issue for our Assembly).

He has advised on the creation of committees on the fight against terrorism, on migration and on support for Ukraine which have put our Assembly in tune with the main political challenges of our times.

He has modernized the Secretariat, bringing a wind of transparency, accountability, new rules and regulations for the staff and new financial rules for the administration of our finances. The excellent results in terms of sound administrative, financial, and professional performance have now even been certified for two years in a row, by a reputable external independent audit company like Deloitte.

There are many aspects of Roberto's work that we can underline as great assets for this Assembly, but one stands out significantly: Roberto's capacity to understand the needs and ambitions of politicians, alongside his determination to deliver a fast and professional service.

In the current challenging security landscape and uncertain future, where the OSCE must remain a functional and effective multilateral organization, leadership and experience are crucial. Therefore, maintaining a stable and active Parliamentary Assembly is imperative as it serves as a vital pillar of the entire organization.

For all these reasons we fully support the renewal of Roberto Montella's mandate as OSCE PA Secretary General.

We wish you and the Parliamentary Assembly which is always in our hearts, the best of luck in these very difficult times for our European security.

Sincerely,

Joao Soares



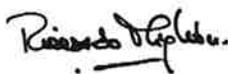
OSCE PA President 2008-2010

Petros Efthymiou



OSCE PA President 2010-2012

Riccardo Migliori



OSCE PA President 2012-2013

Wolfgang Grossruk



OSCE PA President 2013

Ranko Krivokapic



OSCE PA President
2013-2014

Christine Muttonen



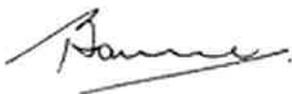
OSCE PA President 2016-2017

George Tsereteli



OSCE PA President 2017-2020

Peter Lord Bowness



OSCE PA President 2020 - 2021



The President

Mr. Björn Söder
Head of the Delegation of Sweden
to the OSCE PA
Riksdag
Stockholm

29 March 2024

Dear Björn,

Thank you for your letter of 27 March expressing gratitude to the International Secretariat and its leadership, and inquiring about the process for the renewal of the mandate of the OSCE PA Secretary General.

Our Rules of Procedure make an important distinction between the election of a new Secretary General and the renewal of the incumbent Secretary General's mandate, including in the majorities required by the Standing Committee (2/3 majority of votes for a new election both in the Bureau and Standing Committee as was the case in 2015 and only a simple majority for the renewal both in the Bureau and Standing Committee for the renewal of the mandate of the incumbent Secretary General as was the case in 2019). In light of this, after consulting the Chair of the Rules Committee Senator Pascal Alizard, we have followed a similar procedure to the last time that the Secretary General's post was renewed, in July 2019. In case of interest, attached you can see the approach taken by the President and Chair of the Rules Committee at that time. This is substantively and procedurally different to the election of a new Secretary General, as in the 2015 example that you provided.

First it was my responsibility to establish if the current Secretary General was interested in having his mandate renewed.

I was happy to learn that Roberto was available to continue carrying out this very important responsibility because as I underlined in my letter to all Heads of Delegations and Bureau Members, he has done an excellent job under very difficult circumstances.

As a consequence I have registered an overwhelming support in the Bureau for Roberto's renewal as well as a significant and ever growing support among Standing Committee Members for this renewal.



The President

Following the footsteps of the previous President George Tseretelli and the previous Chair of the Rules Committee Lord Peter Bowness, Pascal Alizard and me have wanted to make sure that in the spirit of transparency it was important that any alternative candidates were fully aware of the procedural distinction between renewal and election of the Secretary General.

By circulating the call for expressions of interest by other persons wishing to be considered to all 56 National Parliaments on 11 March and by advertising openly on the OSCE PA website on 21 March, I am absolutely confident that we are achieving the appropriate transparency for this process. In consultation with the Chair of the Rules Committee, Senator Pascal Alizard we have taken note of your suggestion to further extend the deadline for possible additional expressions of interest and we have decided to extend the period for an additional week until Friday 12 April thus making the period available for expressions of interest of five weeks, well above the normal practice.

Regarding your question on advertisement outside the OSCE PA we use exactly the same procedure as the OSCE's policy for high level positions.

For the High Level position a letter from the OSCE Chairperson is distributed to all 57 participating states through an email sent to all permanent representatives in Vienna. The logic behind this is that as jobs within the OSCE are only accessible to Nationals of the 57 OSCE participating states then only those countries need to be notified. Of course nothing forbids every country to publicise within their own public administration, parliaments, governments and other general portals and newspapers the notice. But this is done by each country as they see fit

The next steps that I foresee are clearly defined by the Rules of Procedure.

Any and all applications that have expressed their interest will be brought to the attention of the Bureau for consideration at its meeting on 29 April. The Bureau will put forward a recommendation to the Standing Committee for decision during its meeting on 29 June in Bucharest. All received applications will of course be duly considered, but based on the many expressions of support already received for the renewal of Roberto Montella's mandate, I would anticipate that the Bureau recommends this as a way forward. The Standing Committee will be asked in Bucharest to indicate by secret ballot if they support this renewal. Only if this renewal is not supported in the secret ballot of 29 June do I foresee a vacancy posting as in 2015, as it is only in this circumstance that there will be a vacancy.



The President

I hope that this helps to clarify the steps taken and to be expected. I do however recognise that our Rules of Procedure may benefit from some adjustment in the future to more clearly define the distinct processes between election and renewal.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Pia Kauma'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pia Kauma



To: Members of the OSCE PA Bureau

Copenhagen, 15 April 2024

Dear Members of the OSCE PA Bureau,

dear colleagues,

We would like to thank you all for the letters of support you have sent in relation to the renewal of Roberto Montella mandate as OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Secretary General.

We would also like to give you an update on the process which was triggered by the President's public announcement on 11 March and followed by an external publicity allowing for expressions of interest in line with Art 40 of the OSCEPA Rules of Procedures. At the closing of the period of five weeks no other expression of interest has been presented apart from the registered availability of the incumbent Secretary General.

We are happy to announce that since the initial letter from the President we have received to this date (some are still sending their letters) **written expressions of support for the renewal of Roberto's mandate from all the Vice Presidents and all the Committee Officers thus accounting for the majority of Bureau members** and a significant additional number of letters of support from members of the Standing Committee (attached a compilation of the letters received as of Sunday 14 April from Bureau Members, Heads of Delegations, other Members and former leaders of the OSCE PA).

Considering that not all Bureau members will be able to attend in person the 29 April meeting in Copenhagen, in consultation with Senator Pascal Allizard, Chair of the Rules Committee, in order to show unity of our Bureau, and following past practices, we advice the Bureau to make a unanimous decision by silence procedure expiring on 21 April to forward Roberto's mandate renewal to the Standing Committee that will be held in Bucharest on 29 June for a final determination. In absence of a sufficient objection from Members of the Bureau by 21 April we will consider this suggestion as adopted and forwarded to the Standing Committee.

We would like to thank you all for your expressions of support for Roberto's work which, as he has underlined to us, is a demonstration of support not only for him individually but also a recognition of the good work that the International Secretariat team continues to provide to members of parliament.

We look forward to seeing you soon at our next meetings,

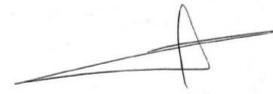
Sincerely,

Pia Kauma



President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Pascal Allizard



Chair of the Sub-Committee
on Rules of Procedure



CORTES GENERALES

ANEXO VII

№ 140

Приложение:
упомянутое,
на 4 лл.

Посольство Российской Федерации в Королевстве Дания свидетельствует своё уважение Международному секретариату Парламентской ассамблеи Организации по безопасности и сотрудничеству в Европе и имеет честь направить копию письма заместителя Председателя Государственной Думы Федерального Собрания Российской Федерации П.О.Толстого и первого заместителя председателя Комитета Совета Федерации по международным делам В.М.Джабарова в адрес Председателя ПА ОБСЕ П.Каумы и Генерального секретаря Ассамблеи Р.Монтеллы.

Посольство пользуется случаем, чтобы возобновить Международному секретариату уверения в своём весьма высоком уважении.



Копенгаген, «10» апреля 2024 года

МЕЖДУНАРОДНОМУ СЕКРЕТАРИАТУ
ПАРЛАМЕНТСКОЙ АССАМБЛЕИ
ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ПО БЕЗОПАСНОСТИ
И СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВУ В ЕВРОПЕ
г. Копенгаген

Attachement:
mentioned,
on ___ pages

The Embassy of the Russian Federation in the Kingdom of Denmark presents its compliments to the International Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and has the honour to convey a copy of the letter of Mr. P.Tolstoy, the Deputy Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation and Mr. V.Dzhabarov, the First Deputy Chair of the Federation Council Committee on Foreign Affairs, addressed to Ms. Pia Kauma, the President of the OSCE PA and Mr. Roberto Montella, the Secretary General of the OSCE PA.

The Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the International Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

Copenhagen, April 10, 2024

TO THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT
OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY
AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE
Copenhagen

Госпожа Каума!

Господин Монтелла!

Вынуждены констатировать, что в последнее время усиливаются процессы деградации ПА ОБСЕ. Из форума для равноправного диалога, призванного находить общие решения в области построения европейской архитектуры безопасности, Ассамблея превратилась в политизированный инструмент по целенаправленной реализации антироссийского курса.

Делегация Федерального Собрания Российской Федерации принимала активное участие в деятельности Ассамблеи до тех пор, пока отдельные страны не ввели в практику отказ от допуска российских парламентариев на официальные мероприятия ПА ОБСЕ.

В частности, при попустительстве руководства Ассамблеи членам российской делегации в 2022 году было отказано в доступе на ее ежегодную сессию в Бирмингеме и осеннее заседание в Варшаве. Таким образом, нарушается принцип суверенного равенства государств-участников и принятая в Тбилиси в 2016 году Декларация ПА ОБСЕ «О беспрепятственном доступе членов ПА ОБСЕ, участвующих в любых официальных мероприятиях ОБСЕ и иной парламентской деятельности».

**Госпоже Пие КАУМЕ,
Председателю Парламентской ассамблеи
Организации по безопасности и сотрудничеству в Европе**

**Господину Роберто МОНТЕЛЛЕ,
Генеральному секретарю Парламентской ассамблеи
Организации по безопасности и сотрудничеству в Европе**

г. Копенгаген

В 2023 году поездка российской делегации на сессию в Ванкувере была сорвана недружественными шагами канадских властей, фактически отказавших в разрешении на въезд. В принятую на сессии Декларацию был включен призыв организовывать заседания Ассамблеи «исключительно в тех странах, которые придерживаются широко применяемых визовых запретов в отношении российских парламентариев».

В сложившейся кризисной для ПА ОБСЕ ситуации считаем возможным полноценное участие России в деятельности ПА ОБСЕ исключительно при заблаговременном обеспечении необходимых для этого условий, включая отмену визовых запретов и предоставление гарантий безопасности российским парламентариям в рамках заседаний Ассамблеи вне зависимости от места их проведения, в том числе предстоящей ежегодной летней сессии в Бухаресте в 2024 году.

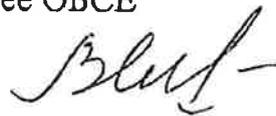
Для делегации Федерального Собрания Российской Федерации соблюдение норм Регламента ПА ОБСЕ и полноправное участие в сессиях Ассамблеи является обязательным условием для продолжения работы в Организации и возобновления уплаты взносов в бюджет Парламентской ассамблеи.

Руководитель делегации
Федерального Собрания
Российской Федерации
в Парламентской Ассамблее ОБСЕ



П.ТОЛСТОЙ

Заместитель руководителя
делегации Федерального
Собрания Российской
Федерации в Парламентской
ассамблее ОБСЕ



В.ДЖАБАРОВ

Mrs Kauma!

Mr Montella!

We have to note that the processes of degradation of the OSCE PA have recently been intensifying. From a forum for equal dialogue designed to find common solutions in the area of building a European security architecture, the Assembly has turned into a politicized instrument for the purposeful implementation of an anti-Russian course.

A delegation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation took an active part in the Assembly's activities until certain countries introduced the practice of refusing to allow Russian parliamentarians to attend official OSCE PA events.

In particular, with the connivance of the Assembly's leadership, members of the Russian delegation were denied access to its annual session in Birmingham and its autumn meeting in Warsaw in 2022. In this way, the principle of the sovereign equality of the participating States and the OSCE PA Declaration adopted in Tbilisi in 2016 "On Unrestricted Access of Members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Attending Official OSCE Events and Other Parliamentary Activities" are being violated.

**Ms Pia KAUMA,
President of the Parliamentary Assembly
of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe**

**Mr Roberto MONTELLA,
Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly
of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe**

Copenhagen

In 2023, the Russian delegation's trip to the Vancouver session was thwarted by hostile acts by the Canadian authorities, who in fact refused entry permits. The Declaration adopted at the session included a call to organise meetings of the Assembly "exclusively in those countries that adhere to the widely applied visa bans on Russian parliamentarians".

In the current situation of crisis for the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, we consider it possible for Russia to participate fully in the activities of the OSCE PA only if the conditions necessary for this are ensured in advance, including the lifting of visa bans and the provision of security guarantees for Russian parliamentarians within the framework of Assembly meetings regardless of the place where they are held, including the forthcoming annual summer session in Bucharest in 2024.

For the delegation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, compliance with the norms of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE PA and full participation in the sessions of the Assembly is a prerequisite for continuing work in the Organisation and resuming payment of contributions to the budget of the Parliamentary Assembly.

The Head of the Permanent Delegation
of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
to the OSCE PA

P.TOLSTOY

Deputy Head of the Permanent Delegation
of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation
to the OSCE PA

V.DZHABAROV



CORTES GENERALES

ANEXO VIII



REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Mr. Johan Büser

OSCE Parliamentary Assembly BUREAU MEETING,

COPENHAGEN, 29 April 2024

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's financial year for 2022/2023 concluded on September 30, 2023. In accordance with Rule 41, paragraph 3 of our Rules of Procedure, during the assembly's last Standing Committee in Vienna I had the privilege of presenting the outcomes of the first Integrated Financial - Business / Performance Audit carried out by Deloitte. The audit concluded with a clean opinion, indicating no significant concerns or qualifications, and made a very positive assessment of the International Secretariat's performance in both financial and administrative functions. This outcome is a testament to our Assembly's steadfast commitment to fiscal prudence amidst global uncertainties and economic challenges.

Despite these challenges, including the current dynamics in the OSCE region and fueled particularly by Russia's war against Ukraine, our organization has excelled, conducting numerous targeted and impactful activities. This achievement is notably remarkable given that our operational budget remains considerably lower than those of similar international parliamentary organizations. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the International Secretariat for their efficiency and cost-effectiveness in our operations.

I extend my gratitude to my Bureau colleagues and their respective Parliaments for their unwavering support and insightful guidance throughout this budgetary journey.. As of the end of Q1 2024, we have received over 85% of our annual contributions for the current fiscal year. Notably, San Marino, Iceland, and Estonia, each previously contributing below the 10,000 EUR threshold, have increased their contributions, aligning with the aspirations of the Assembly's 2015 Helsinki Declaration resolution. Encouragingly, additional delegations within this contribution category have pledged to elevate their contributions in the next fiscal year. Nonetheless, we must pragmatically address the financial gaps anticipated from the continued absence of contributions from the Russian Federation. Alongside the President, we have proactively engaged with the Secretariat, closely monitoring the implications of the missing Russian contribution. Together, we have devised and implemented strategic measures to mitigate this challenge, ensuring our Assembly's resilience and continued excellence in fulfilling our mission.

OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Proposed Budget / 33rd Financial Year (01 October 2024 – 30 September 2025)

Incorporating the diverse perspectives shared by members on future financing of our Assembly and reflecting on the meeting with the Leadership and International Secretariat focused on the 2024-25 financial year, it's evident that crafting the budget for the next fiscal year has required careful consideration of varied viewpoints. The discussion underscored a collective endeavor to balance the Assembly's mission against the backdrop of financial constraints, notably the shortfall from the non-payment by the Russian Federation.

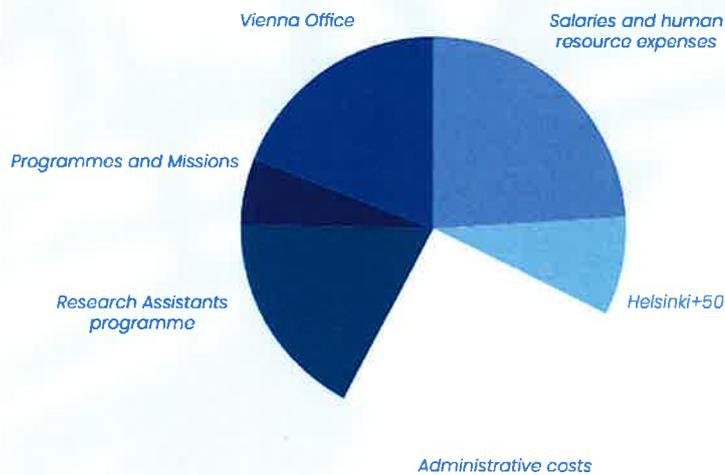
The proposed budget for 2024-2025 which foresees a modest increase of 3.7% that has been meticulously shaped to address these challenges while ensuring that the operational needs of the Assembly are not compromised. Through a process of compromise, the budget proposal carefully navigates between the diverse desires of the Assembly's members, embodying a concerted effort to reconcile differing priorities without resorting to significant increases in member states' contributions, while remaining conscious of a likely shortfall resulting from the missing Russian funds. This approach reinforces our commitment to sustaining the Assembly's crucial activities, such as election observation missions and statutory meetings, without placing additional financial burdens on member states.

During the Winter Meeting in Vienna I carefully took note of feedback from many Heads of Delegations, highlighting a shared understanding of the need for fiscal prudence, balanced contributions, and the imperative to maintain the Assembly's core functions. Suggestions ranged from seeking efficiencies, which we have found, to a call for a reevaluation of contribution scales to reflect economic realities more accurately. The proposed budget, therefore, does not solely focus on addressing the immediate shortfall but also considers the broader, structural financial health of the OSCE PA, ensuring that our work continues to be impactful and relevant amidst evolving global challenges.

This budget represents a collective political message of resilience and unity, demonstrating that despite external pressures, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly remains dedicated to its foundational principles and to supporting the stability and security of the OSCE region.

OSCE PA BUDGET CUTS

OPTIMIZING RESOURCES: STRATEGIC BUDGET CUTS FOR SUSTAINABLE OPERATIONS



Summary of Budgetary Adjustments:

Vienna Office Funding: A significant 20% cut, translating to €20,000 in savings achieved by reducing physical office presence in Vienna, has been made to the funding of the Vienna Office. This decision aligns with our ongoing efforts to streamline operations and enhance cost efficiency.

General Administrative Expenses: An 11% reduction, resulting in €23,000 in savings, has been implemented in general administrative expenses. This optimization reflects our commitment to prudent financial management across all aspects of our operations.

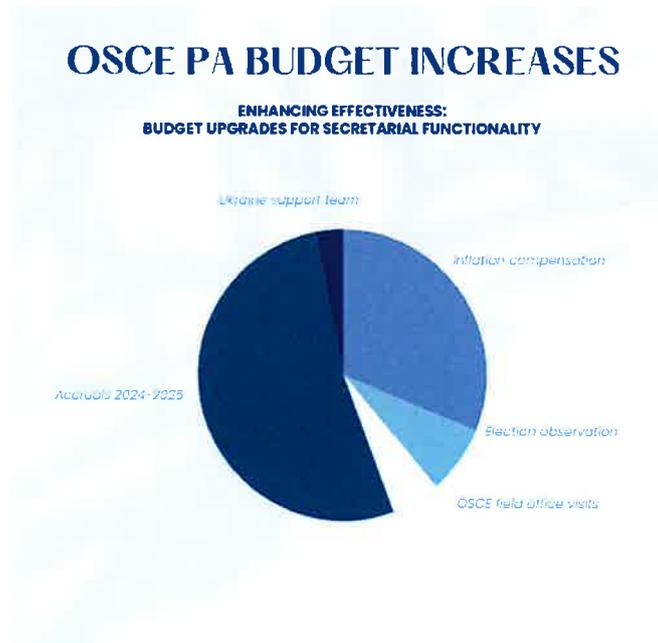
Discontinuation of the Helsinki + 50 Program: In line with prioritizing resources for the most impactful initiatives, the Helsinki + 50 program has been excluded from the new budget cycle. This decision allows for a more focused allocation of resources towards the Assembly's statutory objectives.

These cost-saving measures are integral to the proposed budget, ensuring that the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly remains adaptive, responsive, and financially sound. By balancing enhancements in key areas with necessary reductions, the budget proposal upholds our commitment to operational excellence and strategic resource management amidst evolving challenges.

Cuts / savings include:	
Salaries and human resource expenses	-0,09% to -9,24%
Administrative costs	-11.30 %
Research Assistants programme	-9,24%
Helsinki+50	-100%
Vienna Office	-19.23%
Programmes and Missions	-13.04%

Composition of Budgetary Enhancements included in the Proposed Budget 3.7% / 33rd Financial Year: 1 October 2024 – 30 September 2025:

In the proposed budget for the 33rd financial year, from 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025, our budget increases are carefully selected and prudently allocated, ensuring alignment with the Assembly's strategic priorities. Key areas of investment include:



Support for the Parliamentary Support Team for Ukraine: Demonstrating our steadfast commitment to Ukraine, this investment underlines the Assembly's Commitment to supporting our Ukrainian colleagues.

Enhancement of the Election Observation Budget: Anticipating a year of increased election observation missions, this increase ensures that the Assembly can effectively monitor elections.

Implementation of an Inflation Compensation Mechanism: In accordance with the commitments outlined in the Vancouver Declaration, this mechanism aims to adjust staff compensation, reflecting our dedication to robust staff retention strategies amidst inflationary pressures.

Provision to Reinforce Reserves: Representing the most significant individual investment, this provision is strategically designed to mitigate the impact of the ongoing deficit, a direct result of the Russian Federation's unmet financial obligations.

These investments are not only reflective of our current needs but also a testament to our proactive approach towards addressing both immediate and long-term challenges, ensuring the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly remains resilient and effective in its mission.

Composition of Savings and Cost Efficiencies included in the Proposed Budget / 33rd Financial Year: 1 October 2024 – 30 September 2025:

In order to finance and offset some investments, cost efficiencies have been identified and implemented in other areas. Recognizing the imperative of fiscal prudence, especially in challenging economic conditions, the budget reflects a careful reassessment and reallocation of resources towards priority areas.

Strategic Cost-Saving Measures:

Human Resources Optimization: A 9% reduction, amounting to €17,500, has been applied to the Research Assistant Program, alongside a targeted reduction in permanent staff-related costs. This includes a 3.13% (€5,000) cut in staff insurance and a 4.35% (€12,000) reduction in dependent education allowances. These adjustments contribute to a leaner, more efficient human resource structure without compromising the Assembly's operational capabilities.

Procedure for the Approval of the 2023-2024 Budget

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure the Budget is to be approved by the Standing Committee after being discussed by the Bureau.

I therefore look forward to receiving your feedback and approval. As customary I will circulate the draft budget to the Standing Committee no later than the 29th of May - in full compliance with our Rule 41, paragraph 2 of our Rules of Procedure which was adopted to ensure that the Treasurer provides sufficient time for Members of the Standing Committee to study the proposed budget carefully before its adoption by the Standing at its meeting of 29 June in Bucharest.

Additional Contributions

It is important that National Delegations contribute to support the Assembly. This can be done by:

1. Seconding personnel – we are very grateful to the Italian Government for their support in currently seconding one staff member and to the German Government for seconding a staff member.

2. Hosting the Assembly's Meetings and events. - It is imperative to recognize the substantial contributions made by Armenia and Romania. Their robust financial support, demonstrated through hosting our statutory meetings during the current budget year, has been invaluable. This generous assistance not only underscores the collaborative spirit that defines our Assembly but also significantly aids in mitigating the financial challenges we face.

3. Extra budgetary contributions for specific events: most notably seminars or conferences of interest to the OSCE PA and its Members. I would like to again thank the German delegation for making an extra budgetary contribution to finance the Leinsweiler seminar.

4. We extend our deepest gratitude to the Parliament of Denmark and the Government of Austria for their unwavering support of our Headquarters in Copenhagen and our Office in Vienna. Their consistent assistance is not only invaluable but truly indispensable, significantly contributing to the smooth operation and success of our endeavors. The financial backing provided by these esteemed bodies cannot be quantified, and we deeply appreciate their generous commitment, which plays a crucial role in sustaining the vital work of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

OSCE / OSCE PA Scales of Contribution

In accordance with Rule 41, Paragraph 4 of our Rules of Procedure national contributions to the budget of the Parliamentary Assembly shall be apportioned according to the formula used to divide the costs of the intergovernmental OSCE.

We all agree that the current scales of contribution to the OSCE and OSCE PA are neither rational nor balanced. A new system should be agreed upon and we hope that the OSCE's Advisory Committee on Management and Finance (ACMF) and the OSCE Permanent Council will in the near future reach consensus on a fairer formula than the present one. Heading the calls of my colleagues in France I will make a visit to Vienna to get acquainted with the challenges hindering the progress related to the scales of contribution during the last 10 years.

As we have discussed thoroughly in the Assembly and given the practical impossibility of amending the current OSCE PA Rules of Procedure to establish a new system for the Scales of Contribution in the PA we are committed to maintain the link between the Assembly and the Governmental side of the Organization regarding the apportioning of the total Budget. For our 2024 -2025 budget will therefore apply the current scales as approved by the OSCE Permanent Council.

Annexes:

- 1) OSCE PA / Proposed Budget / 33rd **Financial Year:** 1 October 2024– 30 September 2025
- 2) OSCE PA / Draft (indicative) **List of Contributions 2024 / 2025** – based on proposed budget
- 3.) OSCE PA / **List of Contributions 2023 / 2024 as of Apr 28, 2024**

Statutory Meetings			
	2024 / 2025	% Change	2023 / 2024
	Proposal		Budget
Annual Session 2025			
Translation	€90,000	0%	€90,000
Interpretation	€56,000	0%	€56,000
External Staff	€25,000	0%	€25,000
Staff Travel and Lodging	€50,000	0%	€50,000
Assessment Visits	€10,000	0%	€10,000
Equipment/Office Expenses	€2,000	0%	€2,000
Reproduction/Printing	€1,000	0%	€1,000
Events and Public Relations	€8,000	0%	€8,000
Other operating Cost	€3,000	0%	€3,000
Communications Costs	€1,000	0%	€1,000
Online Registration System	€1,120	0%	€1,120
	€247,120	0%	€247,120
Winter Meeting 2025			
Staff Travel and Lodging	€22,000	0%	€22,000
Office Expenses / Equipment	€1,000	0%	€1,000
External Staff (Interpreters and Representation & Catering	€13,000	0%	€13,000
Other operating cost	€3,000	0%	€3,000
Online Registration System	€1,120	0%	€1,120
	€34,000	0%	€34,000
Autumn Meeting			
Staff Travel and Lodging	€18,000	0%	€18,000
Office Expenses / Equipment	€1,000	0%	€1,000
External Staff (Interpreters)	€18,000	0%	€18,000
Representation	€1,000	0%	€1,000
Other operating cost	€2,880	0%	€2,880
Online Registration System	€1,120	0%	€1,120
	€42,000	0%	€42,000
Bureau Meetings and Ministerial Council			
Staff Travel and Lodging	€14,400	0%	€14,400
Office Expenses / Equipment	€1,000	0%	€1,000
External Staff (Interpreters)	€18,880	0%	€18,880
Representation	€1,000	0%	€1,000
Other operating cost	€2,000	0%	€2,000
Online Registration System	€1,120	0%	€1,120
	€38,400	0%	€38,400
Total Statutory Meetings	€381,520	0%	€381,520

Operational Activities			
	2024 / 2025	% Change	2023 / 2024
	Proposal		Budget
Programmes and Missions			
Staff Travel and Lodging	€30,000	-7.41%	€32,400
Equipment/Office Expenses	€1,000	-50.00%	€2,000
External Staff	€2,000	-50.00%	€4,000
Other operating cost	€3,000	0%	€3,000
	€36,000	-13.04%	€41,400
OSCE Field Visit & Engagement with Executive Bodies			
Staff Travel and Lodging	€10,000	New	N/A
Equipment/Office Expenses	€1,000	New	N/A
External Staff	€2,000	New	N/A
Other operating cost	€1,000	New	N/A
	€14,000	New	N/A
Presidential Support			
Staff Travel and Lodging	€30,500	0%	€30,500
External Staff	€3,000	0%	€3,000
Representation	€1,000	0%	€1,000
Other operating cost	€1,000	0%	€1,000
	€35,500	0%	€35,500
Election Observation			
Staff Travel and Lodging	€145,000	11.54%	€130,000
Conference Facilities	€70,000	32.08%	€53,000
External Staff (Interpreters and Local Staff)	€45,000	0.00%	€45,000
Other Operating cost	€5,000	0.00%	€5,000
Pre-electoral Visit and Needs Assessment			
Missions	€5,000	-50.00%	€10,000
Follow-up Missions	€3,000	-71.43%	€10,500
OSCE PA App	€4,500	0.00%	€4,500
	€277,500	8%	€258,000
Ad Hoc Committees: PST Ukraine, Countering Terrorism, Migration			
Staff Travel and Lodging	€25,000	56.25%	€16,000
External Staff (Interpreters and Local Staff)	€2,000	0.00%	€2,000
Other operating cost	€1,000	-50.00%	€2,000
	€28,000	40%	€20,000
Publicity Expenses			
Press Releases/Brochures	€3,000	0.00%	€3,000
Media Strategy	€3,000	0.00%	€3,000
Social Media	€4,000	0.00%	€4,000
P.R. Costs	€5,000	0.00%	€5,000
	€15,000	0%	€15,000
Total Activities	€407,000	10%	€369,900

Operational Expenditures			
	2024 / 2025	% Change	2023 / 2024
	Proposal		Budget
General Administrative Expenses			
Staff Recruitment/Removal Expenses	€1,500	-50.00%	€3,000
Cleaning/Maintenance	€18,000	0.00%	€18,000
Security	€5,500	-8.33%	€6,000
IT & Equipment	€28,000	0.00%	€28,000
Office equipment/printing	€10,880	0.00%	€10,880
Furniture/Small Fixed Assets	€2,000	-50.00%	€4,000
Postage/Freight	€1,000	0.00%	€1,000
Telephone	€25,000	-16.67%	€30,000
Stationery/Supplies	€16,000	0.00%	€16,000
Periodicals, Subscriptions	€1,000	-50.00%	€2,000
Translation of Documents	€1,500	-50.00%	€3,000
Use and Maintenance of Cars	€6,000	0.00%	€6,000
Depreciation	€1,000	0.00%	€1,000
Insurance	€18,000	0.00%	€18,000
Financial Audit / Accounting / Consulting	€25,000	-24.24%	€33,000
External Consultant / Legal and Legal Fees/Bank charges	€24,000	-7.69%	€26,000
Representation	€5,000	0.00%	€5,000
Representation	€1,000	-50.00%	€2,000
Miscellaneous Gen. Adm. Exp.	€2,000	-50.00%	€4,000
Total General Administrative Expenses	€192,380	-11.30%	€216,880
Vienna Office			
Office Rent	€40,000	-30.37%	€57,450
Representation Vienna	€1,000	0.00%	€1,000
Local transportation	€1,000	0.00%	€1,000
Deposit/Bank charges/Fee	€1,500	0.00%	€1,500
Electricity	€2,500	-50.00%	€5,000
Cleaning	€15,500	3.33%	€15,000
Postage/Freight	€500	0.00%	€500
Telephone/ Internet	€11,500	15.00%	€10,000
Stationery/Supplies	€3,000	0.00%	€3,000
Miscellaneous Office Expenses	€1,000	-33.33%	€1,500
Total Vienna Office	€77,500	-19.23%	€96,950

	2024 / 2025	% Change	2023 / 2024
	Proposal		Budget
Research Assistant, JPO Programmes			
Subsistence / Lodging Research Assistant	€130,000	-3.70%	€135,000
Junior Professional Officer Programme	€32,500	-18.75%	€40,000
Insurance	€2,500	-50.00%	€5,000
Equipment/Office Costs	€1,000	-50.00%	€2,000
Electricity / cable TV / internet	€1,000	-50.00%	€2,000
Total Research Assistant, JPO Programmes	€167,000	-9.24%	€184,000
Salaries And Staff Expenses			
Salaries	€1,600,600	-0.29%	€1,605,288
Insurance: Health & Accident	€155,000	-3.13%	€160,000
Dependent / Education Allowance	€264,000	-4.35%	€276,000
Post Allowance / Adjustment / Cost Living	€436,000	-0.22%	€436,955
Pension Fund	€282,000	-0.03%	€282,253
Inflation Adjustment Mechanism	€80,000	New	N/A
Total Salaries and Staff Expenses	€2,817,600	2.07%	€2,760,496
Accruals & Provisions 2024-2025			
Termination Indemnity Accrual	€175,000	2.08%	€171,437
Leave Accrual	€20,000	-20.00%	€25,000
Reserves Provision	€135,000	New	N/A
Total Accruals	€330,000	67.99%	€196,437
TOTAL OSCE PA BUDGET	€4,373,000	1.79%	€4,213,183

List of National Contributions for the Proposed Budget for the 2024/2025 Financial Year Reflecting a 3.7% Increase in OSCE PA Budget

<i>Country</i>	<i>Percent 2024/2025</i>	<i>Delegations Contribution 2024/ 2025</i>	<i>Increase from 23-24 to 24-25</i>	<i>Delegations Contribution 2023 / 2024</i>
USA	11.500	€502,895	€18,379	€484,516
France	9.364	€409,488	€14,965	€394,523
Germany	9.350	€408,876	€14,943	€393,933
United Kingdom	9.350	€408,876	€14,943	€393,933
Italy	9.337	€408,307	€14,922	€393,385
Russian Federation	6.000	€262,380	€9,589	€252,791
Canada	5.530	€241,840	€8,838	€233,002
Spain	4.584	€200,458	€7,326	€193,132
Netherlands	4.351	€190,269	€6,954	€183,316
Sweden	3.231	€141,292	€5,164	€136,128
Belgium	3.229	€141,204	€5,160	€136,044
Switzerland	2.810	€122,881	€4,491	€118,390
Austria	2.503	€109,456	€4,000	€105,456
Denmark	2.094	€91,571	€3,347	€88,224
Norway	2.050	€89,647	€3,276	€86,370
Finland	1.843	€80,594	€2,945	€77,649
Poland	1.350	€59,036	€2,158	€56,878
Turkey	1.010	€44,167	€1,614	€42,553
Portugal	0.980	€42,855	€1,566	€41,289
Greece	0.978	€42,768	€1,563	€41,205
Ireland	0.750	€32,798	€1,199	€31,599
Ukraine	0.680	€29,736	€1,087	€28,650
Romania	0.600	€26,238	€959	€25,279
Hungary	0.598	€26,151	€956	€25,195
Czech Republic	0.570	€24,926	€911	€24,015
Bulgaria	0.546	€23,877	€873	€23,004
Luxembourg	0.470	€20,553	€751	€19,802
Kazakhstan	0.360	€15,743	€575	€15,167
Uzbekistan	0.350	€15,306	€559	€14,746
Belarus	0.280	€12,244	€447	€11,797
Slovakia	0.280	€12,244	€447	€11,797
Slovenia	0.219	€9,577	€350	€9,227
Croatia	0.190	€8,309	€304	€8,005
Iceland	0.190	€8,309	€304	€8,005
Cyprus	0.189	€8,265	€302	€7,963
Estonia	0.189	€8,265	€302	€7,963
Latvia	0.189	€8,265	€302	€7,963
Lithuania	0.189	€8,265	€302	€7,963
Serbia	0.140	€6,122	€224	€5,898
Albania	0.125	€5,466	€200	€5,266
Andorra	0.125	€5,466	€200	€5,266
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.125	€5,466	€200	€5,266
Holy See	0.125	€5,466	€200	€5,266
Liechtenstein	0.125	€5,466	€200	€5,266
Malta	0.125	€5,466	€200	€5,266
Monaco	0.125	€5,466	€200	€5,266
North Macedonia	0.125	€5,466	€200	€5,266
San Marino	0.125	€5,466	€200	€5,266
Armenia	0.050	€2,187	€80	€2,107
Azerbaijan	0.050	€2,187	€80	€2,107
Georgia	0.050	€2,187	€80	€2,107
Kyrgyzstan	0.050	€2,187	€80	€2,107
Moldova	0.050	€2,187	€80	€2,107
Mongolia	0.050	€2,187	€80	€2,107
Montenegro	0.050	€2,187	€80	€2,107
Tajikistan	0.050	€2,187	€80	€2,107
Turkmenistan	0.050	€2,187	€80	€2,107
Total	99.998	€4,373,001	€159,814	€4,213,112



OSCE PA Contributions 2023 / 2024 Financial Year

Country	Percent 2023/2024	Delegations Contribution 2023 / 2024	Unpaid	Paid
Albania	0.125	€5,266	€0	€5,266
Andorra	0.125	€5,266	€0	€5,244
Armenia	0.050	€2,107	€0	€2,107
Austria	2.503	€105,456	€0	€105,456
Azerbaijan	0.050	€2,107	€0	€2,107
Belarus	0.280	€11,797	€11,797	€0
Belgium	3.229	€136,044	€0	€136,044
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.125	€5,266	€0	€5,266
Bulgaria	0.546	€23,004	€0	€23,004
Canada	5.530	€233,002	€0	€233,002
Croatia	0.190	€8,005	€0	€8,005
Cyprus	0.189	€7,963	€0	€7,963
Czech Republic	0.570	€24,015	€0	€24,015
Denmark	2.094	€88,224	€0	€88,163
Estonia	0.189	€7,963	€0	€10,000
Finland	1.843	€77,649	€0	€77,649
France	9.364	€394,523	€0	€394,561
Georgia	0.050	€2,107	€0	€2,107
Germany	9.350	€393,933	€0	€393,933
Greece	0.978	€41,205	€0	€41,205
Holy See	0.125	€5,266	€0	€5,266
Hungary	0.598	€25,195	€0	€25,195
Iceland	0.190	€8,005	€0	€10,000
Ireland	0.750	€31,599	€0	€31,599
Italy	9.337	€393,385	€0	€393,385
Kazakhstan	0.360	€15,167	€0	€15,167
Kyrgyzstan	0.050	€2,107	€0	€2,107
Latvia	0.189	€7,963	€0	€7,963
Liechtenstein	0.125	€5,266	€0	€5,266
Lithuania	0.189	€7,963	€0	€7,963
Luxembourg	0.470	€19,802	€0	€19,802
Malta	0.125	€5,266	€0	€5,266
Moldova	0.050	€2,107	€0	€2,107
Monaco	0.125	€5,266	€0	€5,266
Mongolia	0.050	€2,107	€0	€2,107
Montenegro	0.050	€2,107	€0	€2,107
Netherlands	4.351	€183,316	€0	€183,316
North Macedonia	0.125	€5,266	€0	€5,266
Norway	2.050	€86,370	€0	€86,370
Poland	1.350	€56,878	€0	€56,878
Portugal	0.980	€41,289	€0	€41,289
Romania	0.600	€25,279	€0	€25,279
Russian Federation	6.000	€252,791	€252,791	€0
San Marino	0.125	€5,266	€0	€10,000
Serbia	0.140	€5,898	€0	€5,898
Slovakia	0.280	€11,797	€0	€11,797
Slovenia	0.219	€9,227	€0	€9,227
Spain	4.584	€193,132	€0	€193,132
Sweden	3.231	€136,128	€0	€136,128
Switzerland	2.810	€118,390	€0	€118,390
Tajikistan	0.050	€2,107	€2,107	€0
Turkey	1.010	€42,553	€0	€42,553
Turkmenistan	0.050	€2,107	€0	€2,107
Ukraine	0.680	€28,650	€28,650	€0
United Kingdom	9.350	€393,933	€20	€393,913
USA	11.500	€484,516	€0	€484,516
Uzbekistan	0.350	€14,746	€0	€14,746
Total	99.998	€4,213,184.00	€295,364	€3,926,467.6



CORTES GENERALES

ANEXO IX

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM

on

Countering the proliferation of drugs, particularly fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, as well as mafias and criminal organisations involved in trafficking them

Submitted by: Eugenio Zoffili (Italy)

1. Mindful of the mounting global threat to human health posed by the proliferation of drugs and especially fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, which are responsible for a major health emergency in the United States as a result of the devastating consequences of the abuse of these substances, namely instant and insidious addiction, the deaths of thousands of people, and the destabilisation of entire communities;
2. Given the huge profits generated by the criminal activities associated with the ever-increasing proliferation of these new substances that have attracted additional interest on the part of transnational criminal organisations, which also exploit the dark web and other digital platforms to expand their illegal trafficking;
3. Reaffirming the importance of cooperation and international efforts to clamp down on illicit production and trafficking, and on the criminal networks running the illegal trade in fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, on top of the already existing criminal activities involved in drug trafficking;
4. Welcoming the international measures designed to counter the proliferation of drugs, including the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), soon to become the European Union Drugs Agency (EUDA), as well as the United Nations Synthetic Drug Strategy 2021-25 launched by the UNODC (the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime), as well as the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971), the United Nations Vienna Convention on against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs (1988), Decision 5/05 on Combating the Threat of Illicit Drugs, adopted by the OSCE Ministerial Council on 6 December 2005, Decision 1048 on the OSCE Concept for Combating the Threat of Illicit Drugs and the Diversion of Chemical Precursors, adopted by the OSCE Permanent Council on 26 July 2012, and the conclusions of the OSCE Conferences to counter illicit drug trafficking and related organized crime, in order to stop the proliferation of illicit drugs and diversion of the chemical precursors;
5. Considering also the importance of national actions, supported by the international framework of reference, including the recent 'National Prevention Plan against the abuse of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids', adopted by the Italian Government to prevent the proliferation of these substances in Italy and to raise the awareness of the general public, and especially the younger generations, of the danger of consuming them;
6. Emphasising the urgent need to counter the mafias and criminal organisations that profit from the illicit trade in fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, by adopting a systemic

approach, like the one promoted by the US-led 'Global Coalition to Address Synthetic Drug Threats' initiative, and the study and analyses carried out by the 'European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction', soon to become the European Union Drugs Agency (EUDA);

7. Noting the G7 Leaders' Statement on synthetic drugs threats of 29 April 2024, with particular reference to fentanyl;

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

8. Urges the Participating States to enhance cross-border co-operation and the exchange of experiences within the OSCE in order to counter and dismantle the criminal organisations engaged in drug trafficking, and in particular in the illicit production and distribution of fentanyl and synthetic opioids, including the chemical precursors used to produce them;
9. Calls upon the Participating States to strengthen their legislation and law enforcement measures to target all the parties responsible for illicitly producing, trafficking and distributing these new substances, and the corresponding laundering of their proceeds, in addition to the already known illicit practices related to drug trafficking;
10. Encourages the Participating States to invest in public health schemes and national plans to prevent and combat drug use, in particular the illicit use of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, by raising public awareness of the dangers of drug use and by providing effective medical treatments, and health care and support services for people who have succumbed to addiction;
11. Recommends the establishment or reinforcement of national and international task forces dedicated to combating criminal activities linked to trafficking, including online trafficking, particularly of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, while simultaneously raising training standards of law enforcement officers on these substances and their risks, such as those posed by unintentional contact;
12. Calls on the OSCE Participating States to strengthen their border surveillance measures to intercept illicit drug shipments and trafficking, especially those organised via the dark web and other digital platforms, in particular of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, by using innovative technological solutions and adopting forensic techniques to improve the detection of these substances;
13. Welcomes the initiatives taken by several countries, such as those of the Italian Government, and encourages Participating States to exchange best practices, expertise and intelligence in order to step up international cooperation;
14. Supports the efforts of the Special Representative on Combating Organised Crime aimed at raising the visibility of issues relating to drug use and trafficking and related criminal activities, by promoting multilateral information exchange including through meetings and visits aimed at increasing co-operation between OSCE States, international organisations

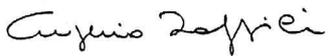
and relevant actors, in order to protect public health, promote the rule of law, combat crime and any mafia and safeguard the security of citizens;

15. Calls on the OSCE Secretariat to expand its international co-operation network in order to strengthen its systems for monitoring and analysing the proliferation of drugs, especially the illicit use of fentanyl and the related activities of mafias and criminal organisations, and to encourage the sharing of relevant experiences between the Participating States and the development of joint training projects to counter these criminal phenomena and activities;
16. Resolves to remain actively involved in analysing and combating criminal phenomena and activities related to drug trafficking, in particular of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, and to explore the most appropriate regulatory actions to prevent their further proliferation, while safeguarding public health and security in the Participating States.

Supplementary Item

“Countering the proliferation of drugs, particularly fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, as well as mafias and criminal organisations involved in trafficking them”

Principal Sponsor

Title	Given Name and Family Name in Capital Letters	Country	Signature
Mr	EUGENIO ZOFFILI	Italy	

Co-sponsored by:

Title	Given Name and Family Name in Capital Letters	Country	Signature

Please return signed copies by email to Valeria Galardini, Secretary of Delegation
email: ufficio.delegazioni@camera.it

and to the International Secretariat in Copenhagen not later than 25 May 2024:

Email address: [**bucharestdocs@oscepa.dk**](mailto:bucharestdocs@oscepa.dk)

Fax: +45 33 37 80 30



CORTES GENERALES

ANEXO X



BM (24) DRP 1 E
Original: English

DRAFT REPORT

**FOR THE GENERAL COMMITTEE ON
POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND SECURITY**

***“THE ROLE OF THE OSCE IN THE CURRENT SECURITY
ARCHITECTURE: A PARLIAMENTARY PERSPECTIVE”***

**Mr. Tobias Winkler
Germany**

BUCHAREST, 29 JUNE – 3 JULY 2024

REPORT FOR THE GENERAL COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND SECURITY

Rapporteur: Mr. Tobias Winkler (Germany)

Russian War of Aggression against Ukraine

The war of aggression waged by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, now entering its third harrowing year, continues to unfold a cycle of relentless bloodshed and widespread destruction. Following the 2014 illegal annexation of Crimea, the Russian Federation demonstrated its disregard for international norms and sovereignty, setting a dangerous precedent for state behavior as well as openly violating the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership signed in 1997. The unprovoked and illegal military invasion of Ukraine started by the Russian Federation with assistance from Belarus on February 24, 2022 further exemplifies this disregard. This act of aggression is a blatant violation of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity and aims to destabilize its legitimate and democratic government. It also attacks our international rules-based order and challenges the multilateralism that has been in place since the end of World War II. The international community is faced with one of its most crucial moments in the past decades and must confront this crisis with unwavering attention, ensuring that such violations of international norms are neither normalized nor overlooked.

In recent years, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and its General Committee on Political Affairs and Security has, on many occasions, emphasized its strong support for Ukraine's sovereignty and underscored the significance of President Zelenskyy's comprehensive 10-point peace plan as a foundation for negotiations. This plan is not merely a call for the cessation of hostilities but a comprehensive framework aiming for the full restoration of Ukraine's territorial integrity, including the return of Crimea, and the establishment of mechanisms for ensuring lasting peace and security in the region. Given Russia's history of flouting international agreements, a durable peace requires not only the cessation of military aggression but also a commitment to holding the Russian Federation accountable for violations of international law. Mechanisms for accountability and reassurance must be vigorously pursued to deter future acts of aggression and ensure that perpetrators of this conflict are brought to justice. International monitoring mechanisms, including the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine and the UN Commission of Inquiry in Ukraine, which issued its latest report on 15th March 2024, as well as the reports of the ODIHR and the OSCE Moscow Mechanism mission of experts should be a starting point for calling the Russian Federation into account for war crimes.

The conflict's toll on human lives and the damage to civilian infrastructure in Ukraine is catastrophic, with civilians, refugees, and military personnel suffering immense hardships and losses. The deliberate and relentless targeting of civilian infrastructure, such as hospitals, schools, residential areas, energy providers, and

public transport has led to widespread devastation, necessitating an urgent and robust international response. Russia's intensified missile attacks against critical civilian infrastructure of Ukraine on March 21, 2024, targeting among others Dnypro Hydropower Plant and Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant, resulted in damage, destruction, and degradation of internet, water, and heat supplies in multiple regions. Such brutal attacks aiming solely at causing death, destruction, and a migration crisis, must cease immediately.

Special attention is required for the plight of women and children, who face not only the immediate dangers of conflict but also long-term psychological and social repercussions. The international community must mobilize comprehensive support systems, including psychological aid, medical care, and social reintegration programs to address these deep-seated impacts. Documenting and denouncing war crimes is critical in this context, ensuring that such atrocities are not only recognized but also acted upon by international judicial bodies.

The Russian war of aggression in Ukraine constitutes a gross and undeniable violation of Russia's commitments, both under international law and as a member of the OSCE. Russia has violated Article 2(4) of the United Nations Charter, which prohibits the use of force and calls on all members to respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence of other states. Russia has violated its obligations and commitments under the Helsinki Final Act of 1975. It has disregarded its obligations under, as well as in the spirit of, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe of 1990 and violated the security assurances it provided under the Budapest Memorandum of 1994 and the Astana Summit of 2010. These violations not only undermine the principles of state sovereignty and territorial integrity, but also threaten the very foundation of international peace and co-operation. It is imperative for the international community and the OSCE to hold the Russian Federation accountable for these transgressions and to reinforce the rule of law at the international level.

The enduring deadlock of the conflict poses a significant risk of engendering "war fatigue", which could erode international support and resources crucial for Ukraine's defense and recovery. To counteract this, the OSCE and its participating States must sustain and enhance their support for Ukraine and demonstrate unwavering solidarity and commitment to upholding international norms. The OSCE's Support Programme for Ukraine exemplifies the Organization's active engagement in providing tangible assistance on the ground. It is essential that all OSCE participating States bolster this initiative with increased funding and support, to underscore their collective resolve to address the crisis and support Ukraine in its pursuit of peace and sovereignty. At the same time, in order to streamline parliamentary efforts in this field, the OSCE PA established the Parliamentary Support Team for Ukraine (PSTU). Its first visit to Kyiv in February demonstrated the Assembly's unwavering support for Ukraine and advocated for accountability regarding the devastation inflicted by the Russian Federation's aggression. It also served as an opportunity to discuss concrete actions and initiatives, including repatriation of abducted children and support for the three

former local staff members of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission in Ukraine illegally detained by the Russian Federation. The General Committee on Political Affairs and Security should continue working closely with PSTU and OSCE executive bodies, as well as with the delegation of Ukraine to the OSCE PA to reinforce the country's resilience and capacity to recover in line with their needs.

Conflict in the Middle East

Peace and security in the Mediterranean region, which is closely linked to security in the OSCE area, is another essential domain. The horrific terrorist attacks perpetrated by militant and terrorist groups led by Hamas in Israel on 7 October 2023 represent actions that cannot be justified and must be unequivocally condemned. The brutal massacre of Israeli civilians and the ongoing hostage crisis gives Israel every right to defend itself. It is absolutely crucial to minimize the number of civilian casualties, especially as terrorist structures are located in schools, hospitals and other civilian infrastructures, which is a war crime. The massive airstrike by the Iranian mullah regime on the night of 14 April 2024 demands our support for the sovereignty of the State of Israel to ensure the security of all people throughout the Middle East.

At the same time, the current situation in Gaza remains of deep concern. A swift end to hostilities and the prevention of all civilian casualties in Gaza, the West Bank, Israel, and Lebanon needs to be a priority. A ruling of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) of 26 January 2024 offers the first concrete hope to protect civilians and provides an important starting point for a dialogue with an international entity regarding the situation in Gaza, a dialogue that can save lives and have lasting consequences for peace with respect to international law. We also welcome the UN Security Council Resolution 2728 of 25 March 2024, which demands an immediate ceasefire, the immediate and unconditional release of hostages, and the urgent need to expand the flow of aid into Gaza.

Rising Global Tensions and Challenges

Moldova and Transdniestria

The OSCE is currently navigating through a period marked by significant increases in tensions and conflicts. The spillover effects from Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine have affected Moldova in particular. Whether through Russian drone and missile strikes crossing Moldovan airspace or the displacement of Ukrainian refugees into and through its territory, Russia's war of aggression threatens the security and stability of Moldova. The OSCE PA commends Moldova's stance of solidarity with Ukraine and welcomes the decision to open accession negotiations by the European Council in December of 2023. OSCE commitments and the EU accession process are complimentary to each other and help to build strong and resilient democratic institutions and promote European peace and stability.

Our Assembly remains committed to reaching a comprehensive, peaceful, and lasting political settlement of the Transdniestrian conflict in all its aspects. The OSCE PA stands in support of strengthening the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognized borders with a special status for Transdniestria. Since Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine has put the 5+2 talks on hold, the OSCE and its Mission to Moldova should play an important role in the continuation of negotiations and dialogue in the 1+1 format. In times of challenge, the work of the OSCE Mission to Moldova is more important than ever, and it should be able to continue, professionally and impartially, to carry out its monitoring activities and implement projects to promote confidence between people on both banks and strengthen policies and procedures in accordance with international standards. Moreover, OSCE participating States should put all political efforts into reaching a decision for returning to a traditional one-year mandate for the Mission, which was recently blocked by the Russian Federation, extending it to only a half-year period, which is in contradiction to established practice. At the same time, high inflation in Moldova affects the daily work of the Mission. Current salary scales in the OSCE Mission to Moldova do not meet the remuneration standards in Moldova. The Mission has been understaffed since 2022 and struggles to retain and recruit staff members. It is important to ensure proper financing of the Mission activities and the provision of fair remuneration for the professionals working there.

South Caucasus

In the South Caucasus the past year has demonstrated the need for the Organization to strengthen and reinvent its constructive engagement in the region, as the Organization has the potential to support peace processes and ensure sustainable peace and stability in a region that has long suffered under the impact of protracted conflicts. Following the fighting in the Karabakh region in September of last year, which has claimed numerous lives, virtually the entire Karabakh Armenian population has fled the region. The border area between Armenia and Azerbaijan has also continued to see fighting and clashes over the past year, while the border delimitation process between both states is yet to be concluded.

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly should play a constructive role, explicitly discouraging the use of violence and any intentional obstruction to undermine and delay political negotiations conducted in good faith. Concluding a comprehensive and sustainable peace treaty between Armenia and Azerbaijan, as a foundation for long-lasting peace and security, remains imperative for both countries and the entire South Caucasus region. Other participating States and members of the Assembly should collaborate constructively and in good faith to support both countries in overcoming any remaining obstacles to the ongoing peace process.

The ongoing Russian occupation of Georgia's Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia continues to contribute to a deteriorating level of regional security. No significant progress has been made in resolving this conflict, and in light of this lack of progress, the Organization needs to maintain its existing tools

and formats, in particular the Geneva International Discussions and the IPRM, in addressing and mitigating the negative effects of the ongoing occupation.

Overall, the Assembly should remain active in including the South Caucasus region in its thematic work and ensure that these security concerns and regional issues remain high on its agenda. Special Representative Kari Henriksen should remain closely engaged with our Delegations and partners within the region.

Resilience to Cyber Threats

Cyber threats continue to undermine stability and democracy in the OSCE area. Hybrid warfare, cyber criminality, and disinformation campaigns destabilize legitimate democracies, fund terrorist and criminal groups, and undermine the rule of law. Ensuring the safety and security of critical infrastructures as well as the realms of cyberspace is absolutely essential. The impact and hybridity of cyber threats on warfare also constitutes a cause for concern insofar as the spillover effects on civilian populations are concerned.

Technology has become a central means of geopolitical competition: states are de-risking and weaponizing semiconductor supply chains, promoting conflicting visions of global tech governance, and competing for dominance in AI technology. This increased tech competition comes with prosperity losses and new security threats. Diminished international co-operation leads to less efficient tech supply chains and a lack of global regulation to address technology risks.

Emerging technologies constitute a common challenge that must be harnessed and shaped according to our values and for the common good. As the digitalization of society increases, so does its exposure to emerging technologies, cyber threats, and disinformation. This reality should inform participating States' efforts in combating cyber threats and shaping emerging technologies, as well as any regulations that could govern the latter.

Building upon the OSCE's commitment to bolster cyber resilience within its participating States, it is imperative to recognize the increasingly sophisticated cyber threats that jeopardize not only national security but also the democratic processes and economic stability of nations. Therefore, enhancing the cyber resilience framework requires a multifaceted approach, encompassing the strengthening of cyber defenses, promoting cyber awareness, and fostering international co-operation in cyber incident response and threat intelligence sharing.

Gender-Based Violence

Gender-based violence permeates all conflicts, where women and children are the most vulnerable to the hardships of war. Women and children have been disproportionately affected and displaced by the Russian war of aggression on Ukraine. The restrictions imposed on the women and girls of Afghanistan and Iran

are of particular concern to the OSCE PA, as they deprive them of all forms of freedom and opportunity to participate in public and political life. Forms of sexual and gender-based violence perpetrated by terrorist groups, including abductions, human trafficking, rape, forced marriage, enslavement, and all other forms of violence suffered by women and children continue to be of deep concern to the OSCE PA, especially as women and children are most vulnerable upon migration.

Escalating Polarization and Declining Trust in Multilateral Institutions

Security challenges in the OSCE area also are characterized by political and military polarization, a resurgence of nationalism, eroding trust in multilateral institutions, and a notable trend of non-compliance with international commitments, that not only jeopardizes regional stability and security but also threatens the core principles of co-operation and dialogue that define the OSCE. Recent years have seen a pronounced rise in nationalism and polarization among OSCE participating States, which is contributing to a fragmented international landscape. This trend is manifested through increasingly aggressive foreign policies, militarization of disputes, and a rhetoric that emphasizes division over unity. Such dynamics pose a direct challenge to the OSCE's foundational mission of promoting mutual respect, understanding, and co-operation among its participating States.

Trust and confidence in multilateral institutions have seen a marked decline across the OSCE region. This trend can be attributed to perceived inefficiencies and a lack of transparency, coupled with these institutions' struggles to address and resolve current challenges effectively. The diminishing faith in these platforms for dialogue and conflict resolution exacerbates the prevailing tensions, undermining their role as effective mechanisms for international co-operation.

Institutional Challenges of the OSCE

The situation can also be observed in the OSCE itself that is facing significant institutional challenges. Key mandates of OSCE Executive Heads of Institutions are set to expire in September. Last year the process of appointment has been notably hindered by the Russian Federation's obstruction of consensus on these appointments, undermining the functionality and leadership stability within the OSCE. The Organization requires the appointment of candidates with substantial political stature, ensuring the Organization's leadership remains steadfast and capable of navigating the complex political landscape. Those participating States that may seek to block consensus in the hopes that this will silence criticism of their human rights record and disregard for international law should take heed, however: the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, working together with experts in OSCE institutions, is fully able to remain outspoken on important developments in all countries of the OSCE. If consensus is not reached on the appointments of the Director of ODIHR, the High Commissioner on National Minorities, and the Representative on Freedom of the Media, the OSCE PA President should immediately designate senior Assembly Members to serve as pivotal points in

these fields to ensure that the OSCE family remains vocal in these fields. In such a case, the OSCE PA Secretary General should be requested to establish working-level contacts with experts in these OSCE institutions to strengthen the work of the OSCE PA focal points. Furthermore, the OSCE's Field Missions are pivotal to its operational success, serving as the immediate mechanisms in promoting security, cooperation, and peace across the region. It is essential that these missions receive unwavering political and financial support to enable them to execute their activities effectively and reaffirm the collective commitment of OSCE participating States to the Organization's fundamental principles and objectives.

Equally critical is the adoption of the Unified Budget, which the OSCE has not managed to agree on since 2021. Speaking at the OSCE Ministerial Council in Skopje last year, OSCE Secretary General Schmid highlighted that such a situation is “truly unsustainable”. At the same time, the lack of an approved budget and the impact of insufficient resources based on more than a decade of zero nominal growth policy constrains the Organization's capacity to respond dynamically to emerging challenges and inhibits the expansion of its crucial activities. A reversal of this policy and the full funding of the OSCE at an appropriate level are essential measures to safeguard the Organization's ability to uphold its commitments and address the myriad security challenges facing the region. The adequate resourcing of the OSCE not only facilitates the continuation of its existing programs but also allows for the development of new initiatives in response to the evolving security environment. Parliamentarians are crucial in the effort to rebuild trust in the OSCE and in the broader principle of multilateralism as they have the capacity to spearhead initiatives that highlight the importance of multilateral co-operation and the unique role the OSCE plays in fostering dialogue, peace, and security across its participating States.

Another particularly alarming issue is the widespread non-compliance with OSCE commitments and other international obligations, especially in the political-military sphere. Central to these commitments are the principles outlined in key OSCE documents, such as the Vienna Document on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures, the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, and the Istanbul Document, among others. These agreements are instrumental in fostering transparency, predictability, and co-operation across the OSCE area, aiming to reduce the risk of conflict and enhance mutual understanding among participating States. Violations of arms control agreements, reluctance to engage in confidence- and security-building measures, and disregard for the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity, clearly demonstrated by the Russian war of aggression in Ukraine, are illustrative of this trend. Accountability for non-compliance plays a crucial role in maintaining the integrity of the OSCE's security framework, and parliamentarians hold a unique and powerful position in promoting compliance with international commitments. As legislators, OSCE PA members should advocate for the ratification and implementation of OSCE agreements within national legal frameworks, ensuring that commitments made on the international stage are reflected in domestic policy. By leveraging legislative,

oversight, and advocacy roles, parliamentarians can foster a culture of compliance and accountability within and among OSCE participating States.

Conclusion

Since Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine began, the co-operative and democratic European security order that had been in place since the end of the Cold War has been compromised. It is the future of a democratic and free Europe that is at stake in Ukraine. It is the multilateralism that is at the heart of the OSCE and its vision that are under attack. A renewed commitment towards a multilateral rules-based international order must be made, and multipolar division must be cautioned against and rejected. In an increasingly conflict-ridden world, the significance of Ukraine's brave fight for freedom and peace needs to remain the key priority, which cannot be forgotten or minimized.

Today's ongoing conflicts, especially those in Ukraine and the Middle East, but also elsewhere on the planet, have put the cohesion and legitimacy of the rules and norms-based international order and the institutions that underpin it under strain. The rising tensions in the South Caucasus, Moldova, Transdniestria, and Gagauzia, as well as in cyber space, also require our uninterrupted attention. The OSCE PA stands in staunch support of its institutions, an international rules-based order, and of international law. Freedom, peace, and value-based democracies are ideals that must be protected and fought for. Whether it is an ambition or a cherished reality, they cannot be taken for granted.

The OSCE PA continues to uphold multilateralism as the community of states' best chance of achieving lasting peace and security, and addressing the common challenges our world faces. The OSCE PA therefore remains firmly convinced that dialogue is key to addressing these challenges.



BM (24) DRS 1 E
Original: English

DRAFT RESOLUTION

FOR THE GENERAL COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND SECURITY

***“THE ROLE OF THE OSCE IN THE CURRENT SECURITY
ARCHITECTURE: A PARLIAMENTARY PERSPECTIVE”***

**RAPPORTEUR
Mr. Tobias Winkler
Germany**

BUCHAREST, 29 JUNE – 3 JULY 2024

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND SECURITY

Rapporteur: Mr. Tobias Winkler (Germany)

1. Strenuously reiterating firm condemnation of the full-scale military invasion and war of aggression against Ukraine waged by the Russian Federation, with the shameful facilitation of Belarus, which took place following the ongoing Russian aggression against Ukraine that has, since 2014, violated Ukraine's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders and territorial waters,
2. Recalling that the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine demonstrates a gross and unprovoked violation of our international rules-based order, all basic principles of international law and international commitments under the Charter of the United Nations (UN) and the Helsinki Final Act, as well as a flagrant violation of, *inter alia*, the 1994 Budapest Memorandum, and expressing steadfast support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, as well as its inherent right to defend itself from any external aggression, in line with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations,
3. Consternated by the severe and widespread breaches of international humanitarian and human rights laws, as well as war crimes and crimes against humanity perpetrated by Russian forces in Ukraine,
4. Condemning in the strongest possible term the relentless and intentional targeting of civilians, torturing, raping, and killing innumerable people, including children, women, and the elderly, as well as the forceful abduction and deportation of children to the Russian Federation,
5. Condemning in the strongest possible terms the deliberate targeting of civilian infrastructure, including heating and electricity networks, schools, hospitals, residential areas, and places of worship, which has led to widespread devastation, necessitating an urgent and robust international response,
6. Seriously concerned with the increasing numbers of displaced persons and refugees requiring humanitarian aid,
7. Concerned about the health of women and children in conflict zones, suffering not only the immediate threat of violence but also from long-term psychological and social consequences,

8. Recalling that conflicts exacerbate gender-based violence, with women and children being the most vulnerable to the hardships of war and war-induced migration, especially during the Russian war of aggression on Ukraine,
9. Welcoming the OSCE Moscow Mechanism reports “On Violations of International Humanitarian and Human Rights Law, War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity Committed in Ukraine since 24 February 2022” (April 2022); “On Violations of International Humanitarian and Human Rights Law, War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity, Committed In Ukraine from 1 April-25 June 2022” (July 2022); and “On Violations And Abuses Of International Humanitarian And Human Rights Law, War Crimes And Crimes Against Humanity, Related To The Forcible Transfer And/Or Deportation of Ukrainian Children to the Russian Federation” (April 2023), which provide strong evidence of the extensive atrocities carried out by the Russian Federation and its military forces in the ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine,
10. Underscoring the necessity of documenting and registering war crimes committed by the Russian Federation in Ukraine, and welcoming all international efforts, including those of the International Criminal Court, to conduct a comprehensive investigation to prosecute all violations of international humanitarian and human rights law,
11. Strongly condemning the Russian Federation’s efforts to recognize the illegitimate administrative bodies it has set up within the temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions in Ukraine in February 2022 and reiterating the non-recognition of Russia’s illegal attempts to annex the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine,
12. Decisively condemning the Russian Federation’s illegitimate so-called presidential elections held in temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine, which represent a severe breach of international law and an infringement on Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as all its democratic endeavors, marking another effort to assimilate these areas into the Russian Federation,
13. Greatly concerned by the Russian Federation’s irresponsible disregard for nuclear safety and security obligations, and emphasizing Russia’s complete accountability for the worsening conditions at the temporarily occupied Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant,
14. Underscoring the significance of President Zelenskiy’s comprehensive 10-point peace plan as a foundation for negotiations and a comprehensive framework aiming for the full restoration of Ukraine’s territorial integrity, including the return of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, and the establishment of mechanisms for ensuring lasting peace and security in the region,

15. Condemning in the strongest terms the horrific terrorist attacks perpetrated by Hamas and other militant groups against civilians in Israel on 7 October 2023, and all other attacks on Israeli territory that have followed, which represent unjustifiable acts of brutality and must be unequivocally condemned by the international community, and alarmed by the airstrikes conducted by Iran on the night of 14 April 2024, which exacerbate regional tensions and undermine efforts towards lasting peace in the Middle East,
16. Commending the rulings of the International Court of Justice dated 26 January 2024, which provide a foundation for protecting civilians that are innocently exposed to the violence of Hamas and initiating a constructive dialogue aimed at resolving the conflict in Gaza, and welcoming the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2728 on 25 March 2024, which calls for the unconditional release of Israeli hostages, an immediate ceasefire, and the expansion of humanitarian aid flows into Gaza,
17. Recalling that the Republic of Moldova is one of the countries most affected by the unprovoked war of aggression waged by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, and welcoming Moldova's solidarity with Ukraine and its people, including by accommodating hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian citizens who have transited through or sought refuge in the Republic of Moldova,
18. Recognizing the lack of progress in the Transdniestrian settlement process in the Republic of Moldova continues to pose a serious threat to security and stability in the region, and reaffirming the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's commitment towards reaching a comprehensive, peaceful, and lasting political settlement with full respect for the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognized borders,
19. Recognizing the commitment of Armenia and Azerbaijan to the peace process between both countries, and acknowledging the significant steps taken, including the exchange of prisoners of war in December 2023, as well as the April 2024 agreement by the respective commissions dedicated to delimitating state borders,
20. Recalling the ongoing Russian occupation of the Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, which continues to violate Georgia's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders,
21. Expressing concern about the growing risk of geopolitical tensions and territorial claims in the Arctic and High North, which could severely affect the livelihoods of its inhabitants, the environment, and the regional economy, and convinced that the Arctic region should remain a region of low military tension,

22. Recognizing the growing threat posed by cyber criminality, hybrid warfare and disinformation campaigns, and alarmed by the increasing frequency and sophistication of cyberattacks on critical infrastructures which threaten to disrupt essential services and jeopardize democratic structures and public safety,
23. Stressing the need for an enhanced cyber resilience framework within the OSCE participating States to protect national security, democratic processes, and economic stability from cyber threats and disinformation,
24. Recognizing the necessity of shaping the global governance of technology and critical infrastructure in a manner that supports open, stable, and secure use of cyberspace, while preventing the militarization and politicization of technology supply chains,
25. Reaffirming the core principles of co-operation, dialogue, and mutual respect as fundamental to the mission of the OSCE, and expressing deep concern about the eroding trust in multilateral institutions and the trend of non-compliance with international rules and commitments, undermining the capacity of the OSCE to address regional security challenges effectively,
26. Noting the importance of timely and orderly appointments of the Heads of Institutions, thereby preventing institutional challenges for the OSCE,
27. Alarmed by the sustained inability to adopt a Unified Budget since 2021, and recognizing the detrimental impact of the zero nominal growth policy on the OSCE's operational capacity,
28. Acknowledging the crucial role of OSCE Field Operations in promoting security and co-operation and the importance of unwavering support for these Operations to ensure their effectiveness and sustainability,
29. Emphasizing that Security Sector Governance and Reform is in line with the OSCE's comprehensive approach to security and provides for cross-dimensional co-operation in all three dimensions, as well as in all phases of the conflict cycle,
30. Alarmed by widespread non-compliance with OSCE commitments, particularly in the political-military sphere, and the urgent need for enhanced accountability and adherence to established international norms and agreements,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

31. Unequivocally condemns and firmly opposes the unprovoked, unjustified and illegal war of aggression of the Russian Federation and its continued violation and breach of international law and OSCE principles;
32. Reiterates its urgent call to the Russian Federation to immediately and unconditionally stop its aggression against Ukraine and completely withdraw from the territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders of 1991;
33. Urges the Russian Federation to refrain from any further unlawful threat or use of force against Ukraine and all other sovereign states, including those with Russian populations or minorities, and demands that Belarus stop its support for the Russian war of aggression;
34. Calls for enhanced solidarity and consistent support for Ukraine, and emphasizing the need for sustained international aid, including military, humanitarian, and financial assistance;
35. Encourages comprehensive international efforts to document, denounce, and prosecute war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by the Russian Federation during the war in Ukraine, ensuring accountability through established international legal frameworks;
36. Urges OSCE participating States to continue to hold the Russian Federation accountable for the ongoing severe violations of international law and OSCE commitments, and emphasizing the urgency of international collaboration to facilitate the de-occupation of Crimea and all other regions of Ukraine currently under temporary occupation;
37. Urges the Russian Federation to reverse the illegal occupation of and to withdraw its troops from temporarily occupied regions of Ukraine;
38. Reiterates its call on the Russian Federation to immediately and unconditionally release all three illegally detained OSCE officials;
39. Calls for the instant release of all Israeli hostages and an immediate and sustained ceasefire across the regions affected, including Gaza, the West Bank, Israel, and Lebanon, to prevent further loss of life and to facilitate peaceful resolutions;
40. Calls for the expansion of international efforts to mediate and resolve conflicts in the Mediterranean region by utilizing diplomatic channels and international legal frameworks to foster dialogue and reconciliation;

41. Encourages both Armenia and Azerbaijan to maintain their ongoing engagement in constructive bilateral discussions aimed at concluding a comprehensive and sustainable peace agreement based on the recognition of each other's territorial integrity, the inviolability of borders, and the principle of the non-use of force, to establish good neighbourly relations, peace, and security in the South Caucasus region;
42. Welcomes diplomatic efforts by the international community aimed at facilitating dialogue, conducted in good faith, as well as other efforts dedicated to build confidence and trust between Armenia and Azerbaijan;
43. Reiterates its call for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Russian military forces from the occupied Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, in line with the European Union-mediated ceasefire agreement of 12 August 2008;
44. Stresses the need to continue active engagement, in particular within the framework of the Geneva International Discussions, to achieve a peaceful resolution of the Russian Federation-Georgia conflict, in full respect of Georgia's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders;
45. Urges OSCE participating States to strengthen their national cyber defenses through increased investment in technology, critical infrastructure, human resources, and infrastructural resilience and to advocate for the development and implementation of comprehensive strategies to combat disinformation, hybrid threats, state-sponsored propaganda, and cyber criminality, focusing on prevention, response, and recovery mechanisms;
46. Encourages the establishment of a robust international co-operation framework within the OSCE for sharing information, best practices in cyber incident response, and technological expertise and development of OSCE-led initiatives aimed at facilitating the exchange of technology and expertise among participating States to bolster collective cyber resilience;
47. Calls upon all OSCE participating States to reaffirm their commitment to the basic principles of the OSCE, actively engaging in dialogue and co-operation to address the prevailing challenges of nationalism and polarization;
48. Calls for stringent adherence to and enforcement of OSCE commitments within national legislatures to promote a culture of compliance and accountability through parliamentary advocacy, legislative action, and oversight;

49. Encourages an environment where violations of international agreements are met with prompt and effective accountability measures, strengthening the integrity of the OSCE's security framework;
50. Urges OSCE participating States to comply with the Vienna Document and other key OSCE commitments on confidence- and security-building measures to prevent military escalations and enhance transparency;
51. Calls on OSCE Executive Structures to adopt a cross-dimensional, comprehensive, and human rights-based approach to Security Sector Governance and Reform support, taking into account regional and national sensitivities and engaging all participating States, upon their request, in a transparent manner, recognizing the key principles of national ownership and accountability;
52. Calls upon OSCE Ministers of Foreign Affairs to personally and directly engage in working to find consensus on the appointment of the next OSCE Secretary General, the Director of ODIHR, the High Commissioner on National Minorities, and the Representative for Freedom of the Media, and expresses the support of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly for competent candidates, including those with high-level political experience;
53. Expresses its full support for the efforts of the Maltese OSCE Chairmanship to achieve rapid consensus on the appointment of senior OSCE officials, as well as on identifying post-2025 Chairmanships-in-Office, ensuring stability and continuity;
54. Recommends that if the appointment of senior OSCE officials does not occur due to obstruction by any participating State, the OSCE PA President should designate senior Assembly Members to serve as focal points in these fields to ensure that the OSCE family remains vocal on important developments in all countries of the OSCE, and calls upon the OSCE PA Secretary General to establish working-level relations in the OSCE Institutions to support this work.



CORTES GENERALES

ANEXO XI



AS (24) PDT E
Original: English

OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

PROCEDURAL DOCUMENT AND TIMELINE

DRAFT AS OF APRIL 22, 2024

Bucharest, 29 June – 3 July 2024

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This document seeks to give a brief and basic guide to the procedures of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the practical arrangements in view of the 31st Annual Session to be held in Bucharest from 29 June to 3 July 2024. This document is not exhaustive and should be read in conjunction with the Rules of Procedure dated 30 July 2023.

DOCUMENTS

Please pay special attention to the Rules of Procedure and the document deadlines (page 10) regarding the submission of *Supplementary Items, Amendments, Compromise Supplementary Items and Questions of Urgency*.

General Committees Reports and Draft Resolutions

The Rapporteur of each General Committee will present a report which will form the basis of the debate in the General Committee. The text of the report is the responsibility of the Rapporteur.

The Rapporteur will also present a draft resolution based on the report. Both documents will be translated and circulated as soon as possible, expected to be in early May 2024.

The Draft Resolution, but not the Report, is subject to amendment by Members of the Assembly in accordance with the provisions of Rule 22, paragraph 1 of the Rules of Procedure. Amendments should, therefore, relate only to the subjects addressed by the Rapporteur in the Draft Resolution.

Supplementary Items

Rule 21 of the Rules of Procedure states that the agenda of the Annual Session may be supplemented by an item or a motion on any matter within the competence of the OSCE, **which does not relate directly to subjects proposed by the General Rapporteurs to the three General Committees**. Proposed supplementary items may therefore only be submitted to the Secretariat after the Reports and Draft Resolutions of the Rapporteurs are made available in early May but at least 35 days before the opening of the first plenary session, on **29 June 2024**.

Supplementary Items shall be in the form of a draft resolution with signatures of at least twenty Members representing at least four different countries. There can only be one Principal Sponsor per Supplementary Item. A Principal Sponsor of a Supplementary Item may sign, as a co-sponsor, up to four additional Supplementary Items.

In addition, a Member of the Assembly cannot be a co-sponsor of more than four supplementary items.

The Standing Committee may place only **fifteen** supplementary items on the agenda of the Annual Session. The Standing Committee decides by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast whether to include a supplementary item on the agenda of the Annual Session. If more than fifteen supplementary items receive a two-thirds majority in the Standing

Committee, a ballot shall be held to determine which items are placed on the agenda, and the fifteen supplementary items receiving the highest number of votes shall be placed on the agenda of the Annual Session. The Standing Committee shall then decide by a majority of votes cast whether to refer a supplementary item to the competent Committee or to submit it to the plenary.

According to Rule 21.3, Supplementary Items which obtain the level of support required by Rule 21.1 and have no amendments meeting the requirements of Rule 22.1, but which are not placed on the agenda of the Annual Session by the Standing Committee under Rule 21.1, are referred directly to the Plenary or competent Committee.

Supplementary Items must be received at the International Secretariat in Copenhagen not later than Saturday, 25 May 2024 at midnight CEST.

Amendments

According to paragraph 1 of Rule 22 of the Rules of Procedure, amendments to the Draft Resolutions presented by the General Rapporteurs or to Supplementary Items shall be submitted in writing and signed by at least five Members representing at least two participating States. **A Member of the Assembly may not sign more than four Amendments to a draft resolution or to a supplementary item.**

Amendments to the Draft Resolutions prepared by the Rapporteurs of the three General Committees shall be received at the Secretariat with the required signatures at least fourteen days before the opening of the first plenary session (Saturday 15 June 2024). Amendments to Supplementary Items shall be received at the Secretariat with the required signatures at least seven days before the opening of the first plenary session (Saturday 22 June 2024).

Each Amendment may only relate to one paragraph. If two or more Amendments relate to the same paragraph, they will be voted upon according to the following order:

- Amendments to delete the entire paragraph
- Amendments to delete part of the paragraph
- Amendments that modify the paragraph
- Additional Amendments that insert a new paragraph.

Delegations are particularly requested not to present Amendments which incorporate or re-order large sections of the Rapporteur's original draft resolution. In order to allow proper debate, it is necessary that any Amendments be addressed specifically to individual paragraphs of the Rapporteur's text. Amendments should not take the form of alternative resolutions.

The forms for submitting amendments to draft resolutions and supplementary items will be forwarded to you.

Amendments to the three General Committee Draft Resolutions must be received at the International Secretariat in Copenhagen not later than Saturday, 15 June 2024 at midnight CEST.

Amendments to Supplementary Items must be received at the International Secretariat in Copenhagen not later than Saturday, 22 June 2024 at midnight CEST.

Final Document

The draft Final Document to be debated and considered at the Plenary Session on **Wednesday, 3 July 2024** will be, in principle, a composite of the three resolutions of the three General Committees. Supplementary Items adopted in General Committees will also be considered by the Plenary Session. In the event of incompatibilities between the texts adopted by the General Committees, a Drafting Committee composed of representatives of the three General Committees and others appointed by the President will seek to reconcile the texts (Rule 39, paragraph 3).

Validation of Signatures

Please note that according to Rule 24 of the Rules of Procedure, for the purposes of validation of signatures, the Standing Committee is expected to approve the list of registered participants maintained by the Secretariat.

RULE 24

Validation of Signatures

1. The signatures of Members of the Assembly who signed a supplementary item or an amendment in accordance with the Rules of Procedure are valid provided they register for the Annual Session; the Secretariat shall maintain a list of registered participants subject to approval by the Standing Committee.
2. In the event that a Member of the Assembly who registered for but cannot attend the Annual Session due to unavoidable obligations, his or her signatures shall remain valid provided that the President of the Assembly and the Secretary General are notified in writing by the Head of a Delegation before the Standing Committee meeting.

Working Languages

The Reports and Draft Resolutions of the three General Committees as well as the Supplementary Items that become valid after the deadline of 25 May 2024 will be translated into English, French and Russian. Amendments to the three General Committee Draft Resolutions and Supplementary Items will also be translated into English, French and Russian.

During the Annual Session, all procedural documents will be translated into English and French, and the Draft Declaration will be presented in English and French. Russian language translations will not be available in Bucharest.

As is the case in all statutory meetings, there will continue to be six-language simultaneous interpretation in Bucharest.

Submission of Documents and Signatures

For the submission of documents and signatures (Supplementary Items, Amendments, etc.), please use **ONLY** the following:

Email: **bucharestdocs@oscepa.dk**
Fax: **+45 33 37 80 30**

List of Speakers for General Debates

In advance of general debates held in both Plenary Sessions and General Committees, Members wishing to speak should submit their name via email to: tableoffice@oscepa.dk **not later than one hour before the announced time for the opening of the sitting** (Rule 27, paragraph 2). Please note this email address will be open to receive requests to be added to various Speakers Lists beginning on **Wednesday 26 June 2024**.

Considering the time constraints, Members wishing to speak in the General Debate in all Plenary Sessions are particularly encouraged to email the Table Office in good time and in all cases not later than one hour before the announced time for the opening of the sitting.

The order of speakers and the speaking time will be determined by the Chair, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

Voting and Voting Cards

Under Rule 34, paragraph 1, decisions in the Assembly, Standing Committee, General Committees or Bureau can only be taken when a majority of Members are present. The Chair shall determine the presence of a quorum.

Under Rule 32, paragraph 1, the Assembly shall vote by a show of hands except in cases where a roll-call vote or secret ballot is required.

Each delegation will receive colour-coded voting cards for the three General Committees and for the Plenary Sessions. Further information regarding the distribution of voting cards will be sent to you at a later date.

The voting cards for the three General Committees will be distributed according to Rule 36, paragraphs 2 and 4. The OSCE PA International Secretariat will distribute the voting cards divided equally, to the extent possible, among the General Committees. The difference between voting cards distributed for each committee shall not exceed one.

Where the Assembly's accounts show that a participating State has not made its due contribution for a period of 9 months, Members of its Delegation shall not be allowed to vote until the contribution has been received (Rule 41, paragraph 5).

Side Meetings

Proposals to organize side meetings need to be communicated to the International Secretariat of the OSCE PA from Monday 6 May 2024 to Monday 3 June 2024. Please send proposals to: room.booking@oscepa.dk

OFFICERS OF THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU

Name	Country	Position	Term
Ms. Pia Kauma	Finland	President	To end 2024 Session
Mr. Roger Wicker	U.S.A.	Vice-President	To end 2024 Session
Mr. Reinhold Lopatka	Austria	Vice-President	To end 2024 Session
<i>Vacant</i>		Vice-President	To end 2024 Session
Ms. Irene Charalambides	Cyprus	Vice-President	To end 2025 Session
Mr. Mark Pritchard	United Kingdom	Vice-President	To end 2025 Session
Mr. Pere Joan Pons	Spain	Vice-President	To end 2025 Session
Mr. Mykyta Poturaiev	Ukraine	Vice-President	To end 2026 Session
Mr. Daniela De Ridder	Germany	Vice-President	To end 2026 Session
Mr. Kyriakos Hadjiyianni	Cyprus	Vice-President	To end 2026 Session
Mr. Johan Buser	Sweden	Treasurer	To end 2025 Session
<i>Vacant</i>		President Emeritus	To end 2024 Session

OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEES

I. GENERAL COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND SECURITY

Mr. Richard Hudson	U.S.A.	Chair
Mr. Costel Neculai Dunava	Romania	Vice-Chair
Mr. Tobias Winkler	Germany	Rapporteur

II. GENERAL COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Azay Guliyev	Azerbaijan	Chair
Mr. Artur Gerasymov	Ukraine	Vice-Chair
Ms. Gudrun Kugler	Austria	Rapporteur

III. GENERAL COMMITTEE ON DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS

Ms. Lucie Potuckova	Czech Republic	Chair
Mr. Sargis Khandanyan	Armenia	Vice-Chair
Mr. Malik Ben Achour	Belgium	Rapporteur

Calendar of Key Deadlines for Bucharest Annual Session

Date	Action	Further information
25 May 2024	Deadline for registration for Annual Session	General Information
25 May 2024	Deadline for submission of Supplementary Items	Rule 21
3 June 2024	Deadline for registration of non-parliamentary delegations	General Information
3 June 2024	Deadline for booking meeting rooms	General Information
15 June 2024	Deadline for submission of Amendments to General Committee Draft Resolutions	Rule 22
22 June 2024	Deadline for submission of Amendments to Supplementary Items	Rule 22

For the submission of documents and signatures (Supplementary Items, Amendments, etc.), please use **ONLY** the following:

Email: bucharestdocs@oscepa.dk

Fax: +45 33 37 80 30



**Process for electing Assembly and Committee Officers of the
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly**

Bucharest Annual Session, July 2024

DRAFT

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1. Oversight of the Electoral Process¹

- a. The President has appointed Mr. Johan Buser (Sweden), Dr. Hedy Fry (Canada) and Mr. Kyriakos Hadjiyianni (Cyprus) to serve as Tellers to oversee the election process. This document has been compiled under the supervision of the Tellers.
- b. The Tellers will oversee the preparations for the elections in the weeks leading up to the Bucharest Annual Session, as well as the voting procedure on location for Officers of the Assembly. The International Secretariat will support them in their work.
- c. Separate Tellers will be appointed within each General Committee to oversee Committee Officer elections. The International Secretariat will support them in their work.
- d. Candidates for elections can monitor the voting procedures, counting and tabulation in Bucharest, or appoint representatives to do so.
- e. An updated draft List of Registered Participants will be made available by the International Secretariat to all National Delegations some 10 days before the opening of the Annual Session. These lists are early drafts and may not fully reflect attendance in Bucharest.

2. Candidacies, Campaigning²

- a. Candidates for the offices of President and Vice-President must be sponsored in writing by twenty-five or more Members of the Assembly.
 - i. Official nomination papers will be available upon request from the Table Office (tableoffice@oscepa.dk) from 29 June (a sample candidacy paper is annexed to this document).
 - ii. Completed nomination papers must be handed in hard copy at the Table Office in Bucharest, or electronically to tableoffice@oscepa.dk no later than 10:00 EEST on Tuesday, 2 July 2024.
 - iii. During its meeting on Tuesday, 2 July 2024 at 11:00-11:30, the Bureau is expected to verify the candidatures. Following the Bureau meeting, the Table Office will issue a list of the candidates for each office.
- b. Candidates for General Committee offices of Chair, Vice-Chair and General Rapporteur shall be sponsored in writing. There is no minimum number of sponsors and candidates may sponsor themselves.
 - i. Official nomination papers will be available upon request from the Table Office (tableoffice@oscepa.dk) from 29 June (a sample candidacy paper is annexed to this document).
 - ii. Unless the General Committee decides otherwise, candidates shall be nominated before the opening of the last scheduled meeting of the General Committee during the Annual Session. Based on previous practice, it is recommended that General Committees decide upon a nomination deadline of Monday 1 July at 18:00 EEST (to be confirmed by General Committees in Bucharest). Completed nomination papers must

¹ Reference: Rule 32 paragraph 4

² Reference: Rules 4 paragraph 5 and Rule 36 paragraph 5

be handed in hard-copy at the Table Office in Bucharest, or electronically to tableoffice@oscepa.dk.

- c. Upon request, the International Secretariat will provide email addresses for all Secretaries of National Delegations, to facilitate communication among parliamentarians, including for campaigning purposes. The International Secretariat will not distribute or forward any material deemed as related to campaigning for any office.
 - i. At the Romanian Palace of Parliament there will be a designated area with a table on which Members can place material related to their election campaigns within the Assembly. Campaign materials at the Palace of Parliament placed in other locations than this designated area will be removed.

3. Voting

a. **Voting for President and Vice-Presidents³**

- i. In considering proposed candidates for the Offices of President and Vice-President, the Assembly shall take account of the national composition of the Assembly.⁴
- ii. If the number of candidates for a post is the same as or fewer than the number of positions to be filled, no ballot will be held for that post and the candidate or candidates will be declared elected by acclamation.
- iii. All voting, including early voting, will be overseen by the Tellers appointed by the President, and by candidates or their representatives if they so wish.
- iv. Voting will take place on Wednesday, 3 July 2024 between 08:30 and 10:30. The elections will be conducted by secret ballot, which will take place in “Dimitrie Cantemir Hall”, level P1. Signs and staff will direct delegates to the voting area.
- v. Each voting member shall cast their ballot in person. Delegates must show their blue Session badges to gain access to the voting room. The administration of the elections will be implemented by the International Secretariat, under the supervision of the Tellers.
- vi. Ballot papers for each contested election will be provided to delegates in the voting room on production of their badges as identification, and in accordance with the List of Registered Participants.
 - i. Where more members of a delegation are present than the number of votes to which that delegation is entitled, only full members of that delegation (not alternate members) will be able to vote, unless written notification has been received by the President that an alternate member will be voting in place of a full member. It is requested that such notifications are handed in to the Table Office by 17:30 EEST on Tuesday, 2 July. Once such notification has been given, further written notification is required to change that arrangement.
- vii. Ballot papers will be issued at tables arranged by country to allow speed of voting. Ballot papers for each race will be prepared on a single sheet of

³ References: Rule 5, paragraphs 1 to 5; Rule 31 paragraphs 1 to 3; Rule 33

⁴ Reference: Rule 4 paragraph 9

paper, in English, French and Russian. Delegates should mark the ballot paper/s with ONE CROSS to indicate the candidate/s of their choice and then deposit the paper in the appropriate ballot box.

viii. Voting will end at 10:30.

ix. Election of the President

- i. The President shall be elected by secret ballot and each Member entitled to vote may cast one vote.
- ii. If no candidate has obtained an absolute majority of the votes cast, a second ballot shall be held between the two candidates who obtained the most votes in the first ballot. The candidate who, on the second ballot, obtains the most votes shall be elected.
- iii. If a second ballot is needed, it would take place as soon as possible after the announcement of results of the first ballot. For technical preparations, a delay of some 15 minutes may be needed to prepare for the second round and will be announced; voting for a second round will be open for at least 30 minutes.
- iv. Ms. Pia KAUMA (Finland) was elected President in Vancouver in 2023 for a one-year term. Ms. Kauma is eligible for re-election as President.

x. Election of Vice-Presidents

- i. Each Member entitled to vote may cast as many votes as there are positions to be filled. The three candidates who obtain the most votes shall be elected for three years. If there are unexpired terms to be filled the candidates receiving the next highest number of votes shall be elected.
- ii. At the time of preparing these guidelines, it is expected this year there will be elections for three Vice-Presidents. If a Vice-President is elected to another Assembly Office (President), without having resigned as Vice-President prior to the Bureau's verification of candidatures on 2 July, the Vice-President's office will remain vacant until the next Annual Session.
- iii. The Assembly will vote on all three positions of Vice-President simultaneously. The three candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes will serve for three years until the end of the 2027 Annual Session⁵.

- Mr. Roger WICKER (U.S.A.), elected Vice-President in 2017 in Minsk for a three-year mandate, and re-elected Vice-President in a remote session in 2021 for a three-year mandate, is not eligible for re-election as Vice-President.
- Mr. Reinhold LOPATKA (Austria), elected Vice-President in a remote session in 2021 for a three-year mandate, is eligible for re-election as Vice-President.
- Ms. Pia KAUMA (Finland) was elected Vice-President in a remote session in 2021 for a three-year mandate. Upon Ms. KAUMA's election as President in 2023, this mandate, which expires in 2024, became vacant.

⁵ Reference: Rule 4 paragraph 7

xi. Announcing the results

- i. The final results of the elections for all Officers of the Assembly (President and Vice-Presidents shall be announced only after all elections have been decided, including in the event of a second round.
- ii. The Chair shall announce the results to the Assembly.

b. Early voting for President and Vice-Presidents⁶

- i. A Member who has an unavoidable obligation to leave the Annual Session before 3 July has the right to vote earlier provided that he or she has notified in writing the Assembly President accordingly. Requests for early voting must be submitted to the Table Office prior to 17:30 EEST on Tuesday, 2 July.
- ii. Early voting will take place in the Table Office from 12:00 to 18:00 on Tuesday, 2 July. Those voting must show their blue badges and be crossed off the early-voting list as they vote. Early voting procedures will be overseen by the Tellers. Under the supervision of the Tellers, the early voting ballot box will be closed at 18:00 and votes will be sealed and secured overnight.
- iii. In the event of a second ballot, any Members who have left the Annual Session early will be unable to vote in the second ballot.

c. Voting for Officers of the General Committees⁷

- i. Voting for Officers of the General Committees will take place as the last item of business in the Committees.
- ii. The Chair will appoint Tellers, who will supervise the election procedures and count the votes. The International Secretariat will support them in their work.
- iii. The elections will be conducted by secret ballot. Each General Committee will vote for all three of its officers at the same time. Voting will take place in the same room as the General Committee's regular business. The precise timing will be announced in the Committee; voting will be open for at least 15 minutes.
- iv. If only one candidate has been nominated, he/she will be declared elected by acclamation. Otherwise, up to three separate ballot boxes will be provided for each Committee by the Secretariat. Before voting, the Chair will announce the candidates who shall be asked to stand so they can be recognised.
- v. Each delegate will be issued with a ballot paper for each contested office. Ballot papers for each race will be prepared on a single sheet of paper, in English, French and Russian. Delegates should mark the ballot paper/s with ONE CROSS to indicate the candidate/s of their choice and then deposit the paper in the appropriate ballot box.
- vi. The Chair will call upon the delegates to cast their ballots in the boxes provided. The Tellers, assisted by the Secretariat, will oversee the casting of ballots. They will, in particular, ensure that only the appropriate number of delegates vote from each country. The procedure will be as follows:
 - i. *If there are only two candidates:* the Tellers must ensure that a voting card for the relevant Committee is surrendered for every ballot paper

⁶ Reference: Rule 31 paragraph 3; and Rule 4 paragraph 5

⁷ Reference: Rule 36 paragraph 5

issued. The Tellers (or assistants) will retain the voting cards since the cards will not be used again.

- ii. *If there are more than two candidates:* a second ballot may be necessary. Every delegate collecting a ballot will have his or her voting card marked and returned. If no candidate has obtained an absolute majority of the votes cast, a second ballot shall be held between the two candidates who obtained the most votes in the first ballot. A second ballot will be held as soon as possible; for technical preparations, a short delay will be needed to prepare for the second round and will be announced. Fresh ballot papers will be provided. In the event of a second ballot, voting cards will be retained.
- vii. The Tellers, assisted by officials, will count the votes and announce the results.

4. Timeline

19 April 2024		Mr. Buser, Mr. Hadjiyianni and Ms. Fry appointed Tellers by President
14 June 2024		Updated draft List of Registered Participants made available
21 June 2024		Updated draft List of Registered Participants made available
29 June 2024		Candidacy papers available for all Assembly and Committee officers, available by request from tableoffice@oscepa.dk
29 June 2024		Approval of List of Registered Participants by the Standing Committee
30 June or 1 st July 2024 TBC		Meeting in the Palace of Parliament of Tellers with interested candidates / representatives
2 July 2024	09:00 or 11:30 EEST	Deadline for submission of candidacy as Chair, Vice-Chair, Rapporteur in General Committees
2 July 2024	TBD	Voting in General Committees for Chair, Vice-Chair, Rapporteur
2 July 2024	10:00 EEST	Deadline for submission of candidacy as President and Vice-Presidents
2 July 2024	11:00	Meeting of Assembly Bureau, verification of candidacies
2 July 2024	12:00- 18:00	Early voting for President and Vice-Presidents
2 July 2024	17:30 EEST	Deadline for submission of requests for early voting
3 July 2024	08:30- 10:30	Voting for President and Vice-Presidents
3 July 2024	TBD	Possible second ballot for President
3 July 2024		Announcement of results of elections for President and Vice-Presidents

Annex 1: Sample candidacy form for General Committees



NOMINATION FOR OFFICERS OF GENERAL COMMITTEES

NOMINATION DES MEMBRES DU BUREAU DES COMMISSIONS GENERALES

КАНДИДАТЫ НА ВЫБОРЫ ДОЛЖНОСТНЫХ ЛИЦ ОБЩИХ КОМИТЕТОВ

Candidates wishing to put their name forward to be an Officer of one of the General Committees do **not** require other members to nominate them, but may obtain signatures from other delegates if they wish. Candidates should indicate below for which post they wish to stand, then sign the form and return it to the Table Office **before** the scheduled opening of the final session of the General Committee for which they are standing.

Les délégués qui présentent leur candidature à un poste de membre du bureau de l'une des commissions générales n'ont **pas** à demander à d'autres membres de la proposer mais peuvent, s'ils le souhaitent, demander leur signature à d'autres délégués. Les candidats doivent indiquer ci-dessous le poste qui les intéresse, puis signer le formulaire et le retourner au Service de la séance **avant** la date et l'heure prévues pour l'ouverture de la dernière séance de la commission générale concernée.

Кандидатам, желающим представить свою кандидатуру на выборы должностных лиц одного из Общих комитетов, **не** требуется быть выдвинутыми другими членами, но при желании они могут получить подписи других делегатов. Кандидаты должны ниже указать должность, на которую они намерены баллотироваться, затем подписать данный бланк и сдать его в комнату Международного секретариата (Table Office) **до** начала запланированного заключительного заседания Общего комитета, на должность в котором они претендуют.

Candidate's name: / Nom du candidat : / Фамилия кандидата

Committee: / Commission : / Комитет

Position: / Poste : / Должность

Signature: / Signature : / Подпись

Annex 2: Sample candidacy form for Officer of the Assembly



**Nomination for election of Vice-Presidents
Candidatures aux postes de Vice-Président
Кандидаты на выборы заместителей Председателя**

Nomination papers should be handed in at the Table Office no later than 10:00 on Tuesday 2 July. In accordance with Rule 4:5, the Bureau will verify the candidatures prior to submission to the Assembly.

Les formulaires de candidature doivent être déposés auprès du Secrétariat international (Service de la séance) le mardi 2 juillet à 10 heures au plus tard. Conformément à l'Article 4.5 du Règlement, le Bureau vérifiera les candidatures, avant de les soumettre à l'Assemblée.

Документы о выдвижении кандидатур должны быть сданы в комнату Международного секретариата (Table Office) не позднее 10 час. 00 мин. во вторник, 2 июля. В соответствии с правилом 4.5 Бюро утвердит кандидатуры до представления их Ассамблее.

CANDIDATE – CANDIDAT – КАНДИДАТ		COUNTRY – PAYS – СТРАНА	

SPONSORS – PARRAINEURS – СПОНСОРЫ		COUNTRY – PAYS – СТРАНА	
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

Annex 3: Sample ballot for General Committee election



**GENERAL COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS,
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

**COMMISSION GÉNÉRALE DES AFFAIRES ÉCONOMIQUES,
DE LA SCIENCE, DE LA TECHNOLOGIE ET DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT**

**ОБЩИЙ КОМИТЕТ ПО ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКИМ ВОПРОСАМ, НАУКЕ,
ТЕХНОЛОГИИ И ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ**

**BALLOT PAPER – BULLETIN DE VOTE – БЮЛЛЕТЕНЬ ДЛЯ ГОЛОСОВАНИЯ
ELECTION OF CHAIR – ÉLECTION DU PRÉSIDENT –
ВЫБОРЫ ПРЕДСЕДАТЕЛЯ**

	CROSS CROIX КРЕСТИК	CANDIDATE CANDIDAT КАНДИДАТ	COUNTRY PAYS СТРАНА
1		NAME ENGLISH NAME FRENCH NAME RUSSIAN	COUNTRY ENGLISH COUNTRY FRENCH COUNTRY RUSSIAN
2		NAME ENGLISH NAME FRENCH NAME RUSSIAN	COUNTRY ENGLISH COUNTRY FRENCH COUNTRY RUSSIAN

*Please put a cross in the indicated box beside the name of ONE (1) candidate
(you are voting FOR that candidate).*

*Prière de cocher la case figurant à côté du nom d'UN (seul) candidat (vous votez
POUR ce candidat)*

*Просьба проставить крестик в клеточке против фамилии ОДНОГО (1)
кандидата (вы голосуете ЗА этого кандидата)*

Annex 4: Sample ballot for election of President of the Assembly



**BALLOT PAPER – BULLETIN DE VOTE – БЮЛЛЕТЕНЬ ДЛЯ ГОЛОСОВАНИЯ
ELECTION OF PRESIDENT – ÉLECTION DU PRÉSIDENT – ВЫБОРЫ ПРЕДСЕДАТЕЛЯ**

X	<p><i>Please put a cross in the indicated box beside the name of <u>ONE (1)</u> candidate (you are voting <u>FOR</u> that candidate).</i></p> <p><i>Prière de cocher la case figurant à côté du nom d'<u>UN (seul)</u> candidat (vous votez <u>POUR</u> ce candidat)</i></p> <p><i>Просьба проставить крестик в клеточке против фамилии <u>ОДНОГО (1)</u> кандидата (вы голосуете <u>ЗА</u> этого кандидата)</i></p>
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	CROSS CROIX КРЕСТИК	CANDIDATE CANDIDAT КАНДИДАТ	COUNTRY PAYS СТРАНА
1		NAME ENGLISH NAME FRENCH NAME RUSSIAN	COUNTRY ENGLISH COUNTRY FRENCH COUNTRY RUSSIAN
2		NAME ENGLISH NAME FRENCH NAME RUSSIAN	COUNTRY ENGLISH COUNTRY FRENCH COUNTRY RUSSIAN
3		NAME ENGLISH NAME FRENCH NAME RUSSIAN	COUNTRY ENGLISH COUNTRY FRENCH COUNTRY RUSSIAN

Annex 5: Sample ballot for election of Vice-President(s) of the Assembly



BALLOT PAPER – BULLETIN DE VOTE – БЮЛЛЕТЕНЬ ДЛЯ ГОЛОСОВАНИЯ
 ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENTS – ELECTION DES VICE-PRESIDENTS – ВЫБОРЫ ЗАМЕСТИТЕЛЕЙ
 ПРЕДСЕДАТЕЛЯ

X	<p><i>Please put a cross in the indicated box beside the name of <u>up to THREE (3) candidates (you are voting FOR these candidates).</u></i></p> <p><i>Veillez mettre une croix dans la case indiquée à côté du nom de jusqu'à TROIS (3) candidats (vous votez POUR ces candidats)</i></p> <p><i>Просьба проставить крестик в клеточке против фамилий <u>вплоть до ТРЕХ (3) кандидатов (вы голосуете ЗА этих кандидатов)</u></i></p>
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CROSS CROIX КРЕСТИК	CANDIDATE CANDIDAT КАНДИДАТ	COUNTRY PAYS СТРАНА
1	NAME ENGLISH NAME FRENCH NAME RUSSIAN	COUNTRY ENGLISH COUNTRY FRENCH COUNTRY RUSSIAN
2	NAME ENGLISH NAME FRENCH NAME RUSSIAN	COUNTRY ENGLISH COUNTRY FRENCH COUNTRY RUSSIAN
3	NAME ENGLISH NAME FRENCH NAME RUSSIAN	COUNTRY ENGLISH COUNTRY FRENCH COUNTRY RUSSIAN

Annex 6: Rules cited

Rule	Para.	Text
Rule 4	5	Candidates for the offices of President, Vice-President or Treasurer must be sponsored in writing by twenty-five or more Members and their candidatures verified by the Bureau, prior to submission to the Assembly.
	7	The Vice-Presidents shall hold office from the close of the Annual Session in which they are elected to the close of the third Annual Session thereafter, except when they are elected to fill a vacancy of an unexpired term.
	9	In considering proposed candidates for the Offices of President, Vice-President and Treasurer, the Assembly shall take account of the national composition of the Assembly.
Rule 5	1	The President shall be elected by secret ballot and each Member entitled to vote may cast one vote. If, on the first ballot, no candidate has obtained an absolute majority of the votes cast, a second ballot shall be held between the two candidates who obtain the most votes in the first ballot. The candidate who, on the second ballot, obtains the most votes shall be elected. In the event of a tie, the issue shall be decided by lot.
	2	The Vice-Presidents shall also be elected by secret ballot. Each Member entitled to vote may cast as many votes as there are positions to be filled. The three candidates who obtain the most votes shall be elected for three years. If there are unexpired terms to be filled the candidates receiving the next highest number of votes shall be elected. In event of a tie the matter shall be decided by lot. If a Vice President ceases to be a member of the Assembly or resigns the resulting vacancy shall be filled at the next Annual Session.
	3	The Treasurer shall be elected by secret ballot, in accordance with the procedure provided in paragraph 1 above.
	4	Whenever, in an election, the number of candidates is the same or less than the number of positions to be filled, the candidates shall be declared to be elected by acclamation.
	5	The Officers shall be elected by those Members present and entitled to vote in accordance with the provisions of Rules 31 to 33 below. All ballot papers bearing the names of persons who have been duly nominated as candidates shall be taken into account for the purpose of calculating the number of votes cast.
Rule 31	1	Each Member has a single vote.
	2	Members shall not vote by proxy.
	3	A Member who has an unavoidable obligation to leave an Annual Session before the day of the election of a President, Vice-President and a Treasurer has the right to vote earlier provided that he or she has notified in writing the Assembly President accordingly. Early voting shall start only when all candidates have been duly nominated.

Rule 32	4	In the case of election of officers, voting will take place in accordance with Rule 5 above. Three tellers shall be appointed by the Chair. All duly appointed candidates or those that represent them have the right to monitor voting procedure, the counting of the ballot papers and the tabulation of the votes in all polling places. Only those ballot papers bearing the names of persons who have been duly nominated as candidates shall be taken into account for the purpose of calculating the number of votes cast. The Chair shall announce the result.
Rule 33		The majorities required, except as otherwise provided, are the following: (a) a majority of the votes cast, meaning more than half of the votes cast; (b) in the case of election of officers, as provided in Rule 5.
Rule 36	5	General Committees shall elect a Chair, a Vice-Chair and a General Rapporteur, who are the Officers of General Committees, at the close of the sitting at each Annual Session for the following year. Candidates shall be sponsored in writing. Unless the General Committee decides otherwise, they shall be nominated before the opening of the last scheduled meeting of the General Committee during the Annual Session. The General Committee Officers shall be elected by a majority of votes cast in a secret ballot. If no candidate has obtained a majority, a second ballot shall be held between the two candidates having obtained the highest number of votes in the first ballot. In the event of a tie, the issue shall be decided by lot. If there is only one candidate nominated for an office the candidate shall be declared elected by acclamation. In the event of a vacancy arising during the course of the year, the President may appoint a substitute.

Annex 7: Officers of the Assembly

MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU OFFICERS OF THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Name	Country	Position	Since	Term
Ms. Pia Kauma	Finland	President	2023	To end 2024 Session
Mr. Roger Wicker	U.S.A.	Vice-President	2017	To end 2024 Session
Mr. Reinhold Lopatka	Austria	Vice-President	2021	To end 2024 Session
<i>Vacant</i>		Vice-President	2021	To end 2024 Session
Ms. Irene Charalambides	Cyprus	Vice-President	2021	To end 2025 Session
Mr. Mark Pritchard	United Kingdom	Vice-President	2022	To end 2025 Session
Mr. Pere Joan Pons	Spain	Vice-President	2022	To end 2025 Session
Mr. Mykyta Poturaiev	Ukraine	Vice-President	2023	To end 2026 Session
Ms. Daniela De Ridder	Germany	Vice-President	2023	To end 2026 Session
Mr. Kyriakos Hadjiyianni	Cyprus	Vice-President	2023	To end 2026 Session
Mr. Johan Buser	Sweden	Treasurer	2023	To end 2025 Session
<i>Vacant</i>		President Emeritus	2023	To end 2024 Session

OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEES

I. GENERAL COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND SECURITY

Mr. Richard Hudson	U.S.A.	Chair
Mr. Costel Neculai Dunava	Romania	Vice-Chair
Mr. Tobias Winkler	Germany	Rapporteur

II. GENERAL COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Mr. Azay Guliyev	Azerbaijan	Chair
Mr. Artur Gerasymov	Ukraine	Vice-Chair
Ms. Gudrun Kugler	Austria	Rapporteur

III. GENERAL COMMITTEE ON DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS

Ms. Lucie Potuckova	Czech Republic	Chair
Mr. Sargis Khandanyan	Armenia	Vice-Chair
Mr. Malik Ben Achour	Belgium	Rapporteur



CORTES GENERALES

ANEXO XII

Planned / expected activities – 2024/25¹

2024		
Meeting of the OSCE PA Bureau	Copenhagen	29 April
Meeting of the OSCE PA Rules Committee	Online	2 May
Visit of the Ad Hoc Committee on Countering Terrorism to Turkiye	Turkiye	6 - 7 May
EOM to North Macedonia	Skopje	8 May
Lisbon Conference, on "Security in the Age of Artificial Intelligence"	Lisbon	20 May
Visit of the Ad Hoc Commitee on Migration to Turkiye	Turkiye	20 - 23 May
OSCE PA ANNUAL SESSION	Bucharest	29 June - 3 July
Meeting of the OSCE PA Bureau (TBC)	Dublin	1 October (TBC)
OSCE PA AUTUMN MEETING	Dublin	2 - 4 October
Delegation visit to OSCE field presence in South East Europe	TBC	TBC
Presidential visit to Finland (incoming OSCE Chairpersonship), with Committee Officers	Helsinki	TBC
Visit of the Ad Hoc Committee on Migration to Morocco	Rabat	TBC
EOM to Moldova (TBC)	Chisinau	20 October + 3 November
EOM to Georgia (TBC)	Tbilisi	26 October
EOM to Uzbekistan (TBC)	Tashkent	27 October
EOM to the United States of America (TBC)	Washington, DC	5 November
Meeting of the OSCE PA Bureau	Valletta	4 December
OSCE Ministerial Council	Valletta	5 - 6 December
2025		
OSCE PA WINTER MEETING	Vienna	20-21 February
Delegation visit to OSCE field presence in Central Asia	TBC	TBC
Meeting of the OSCE PA Bureau	Copenhagen	April TBC
OSCE PA ANNUAL SESSION	Porto	Early July
Helsinki +50 Commemorative Event	TBC	TBC
OSCE PA AUTUMN MEETING	San Marino	October TBC

¹ Activities listed are those currently expected, and which are likely to involve more than 3 Members' personal engagement. Numerous other meetings and activities by individual Members take place throughout the year on an ongoing basis.



CORTES GENERALES

ANEXO XIII

AS (24) G I E
26-02-24



General Information

OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY 31st ANNUAL SESSION

*“The Role of the OSCE in the current Security Architecture:
a Parliamentary Perspective”*

Bucharest - Romania
June 29 – July 3, 2024

VENUE

The Parliament of Romania
Palace of Parliament
2-4 Izvor Str., Sector 5, Bucharest

Click [here](#) for a map of the area.

Access for all delegates is through the official entrance (C1) facing Constitution Square. All badges and documents should be collected from the OSCE PA Registration desk located in the foyer on Level P (ground level). Once delegates have collected their badge, they can access the session areas.

CONTACTS

Chamber of Deputies

Ms. Irina STUPAR, Head of Directorate, Directorate for relations with international organizations and the EU

Tel: +4 021.414.1875; e-mail: oscepa@cdep.ro

Senate

Ms. Cristina DUMITRESCU, Head of Directorate, Directorate for External Multilateral Relations

Tel: +4 021. 311.21.56; e-mail: oscepa@senat.ro

International Secretariat of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

Ms. Odile LELARGE, Head of Conference Services

Tel.: +45 33 37 80 40 ; e-mail: conference.coordination@oscepa.dk

DRAFT PROGRAMME¹

<u>Friday, 28 June</u>	Arrival of participants - Registration (in the afternoon) Meeting of Secretaries of Delegations followed by a visit of the Parliament building (evening)
<u>Saturday, 29 June</u>	Meeting of the Standing Committee (morning) Opening Plenary Session (afternoon)
<u>Sunday, 30 June</u>	General Committee Meetings (morning) Working lunch on Gender Issues (upon registration) Thematic activities (afternoon)
<u>Monday, 1 July</u>	General Committee Meetings (morning and afternoon) Evening reserved for embassies and consulates
<u>Tuesday, 2 July</u>	General Committee Meetings (morning) Plenary Session (afternoon)
<u>Wednesday, 3 July</u>	Plenary Session (morning) Departure of participants
<u>Thursday, 4 July</u>	Departure of participants

¹ Please note that this draft programme is subject to change.

HOTELS AND ACCOMMODATION

Block reservations have been made by the Romanian Parliament in several hotels (Official hotels of the Annual Session) from 28 June to 3 July 2024.

Participants are kindly requested to make **their own room reservations** as soon as possible in one of the official hotels of the Session listed in the annex to this document, by using the reservation link or the email address provided. Requests for hotel reservations will be treated on a **first-come-first-served basis**.

Please note that cancellation policies may vary for each hotel. The prices include accommodation per night, breakfast, city tax and VAT. All hotels have free Wi-Fi or internet connection.

Please consult the official websites of the hotels for details about their amenities.

REGISTRATION

Secretaries of the Parliamentary Delegations to the OSCE PA should register participants via the OSCE PA [Registration Website](#) by **Saturday 25 May 2024**. Kindly note that the online registration system will be activated on 15 March 2024. Please indicate the preliminary travel information and the name of the hotel when you register your delegation.

The specific links for registration of Parliamentary Delegations of Partners for Co-operation and Official Observers will be sent to the Points of Contact of those delegations on 15 March 2024.

The Registration and Information desk, located in the foyer of the Palace of Parliament on Level P (ground level), C1 entrance, will be open starting with **Friday 28 June 2024 from 14:00 to 20:00**. For the following days of the Annual Session, registration will be open at the Palace of Parliament from 7:45 until the end of official meetings.

All participants, including accompanying persons, are kindly requested to register as soon as possible after their arrival. They will be required to show photographic identification when registering (passport or identity card). All participants and accompanying persons will be able to collect their badges, conference bags and documents after their registration.

A provisional List of Participants will be made available. In order to enable the OSCE PA International Secretariat to issue the final list and to ensure the accuracy of its content, national delegations are kindly requested to indicate any corrections to the provisional list at the Registration desk.

TRANSPORTATION

Airport transfers:

Participants arriving on **28 and 29 June 2024 at the Henri Coandă International Airport** will be offered transportation to their respective official hotels. On these dates there will be a Welcome Desk in the arrivals terminal. **Participants arriving on other dates or staying in other hotels than the official hotels are invited to make their own arrangements.**

Henri Coandă International Airport (<http://www.bucharestairports.ro/en>) is located approximately 20 km from the city centre, approx. 50 minutes' drive, depending on traffic.

Transportation from the official hotels to Henri Coandă International Airport will be also organized on **Wednesday, 3 July 2024, from 12:00 to 22:00 and on Thursday, 4 July 2024 (all day)**.

Transportation schedules will be available at the official hotels and at the Transportation Desk at the Palace of Parliament. There will be no direct shuttle service from the Palace of Parliament to the airport.

Secretaries of Delegations are requested to indicate - and update when necessary - information about accommodation and flight information (flight numbers, arrival and departure dates) for all

their delegates, as well as accompanying staff and accompanying persons via the OSCE PA online registration system.

Bus

[Express bus line 100](#) is available between the airport and the city center (Piața Unirii) every 15-30 minutes (depending on the time of day) 24 hours a day.

Train

[The National Railway Transport Company](#) provides a fast connection between Henri Coandă Airport and Bucharest North Railway Station. Trains run daily from 06.00 and 23.00 and the duration of the trip is approx. 20 minutes.

Taxi

Licensed [taxis](#) without prior request will be available for passengers arriving at Bucharest Henri Coandă International Airport. These cars will be situated in a taxi station located at the exit of the terminal and will take passengers in order of arrival.

In addition, touch screen terminals for taxi requests for customers who want to order taxi from a certain company are available.

Transportation during the Session:

Transfers for delegates between the official hotels, the Palace of Parliament and social events will be provided by the host parliament.

Transportation schedules will be available at the official hotels, at the Transportation Desk in the Palace of Parliament and on the OSCE PA APP.

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

All participants must check beforehand if they need a Visa to enter Romania, by visiting the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs official [website](#).

Delegates who require an entry visa should contact the Romania's Embassy or Consulate in their country of residence to check the formalities necessary for obtaining a visa for the Annual Session, or visit the following website to [apply on-line for a visa](#). Please be advised that visas are not issued in electronic form!

Applicants must hold a valid passport with three months' validity from the date of entry.

It is recommended to apply for a visa no more than three months and at least three weeks before travel. Letters of invitation for visa purposes can be provided to officially registered participants if needed.

IDENTIFICATION AND SECURITY

For security purposes, all participants, including accompanying persons, observers, delegation staff and members of the press, are requested to wear their identity badges at **all** meetings and social events. Identity badges will be needed to access all conference events, including social events. Loss of identity badges should be reported immediately to the conference staff at the Registration desk.

For security reasons, all participants, observers, delegation staff and members of the press must also be able to show their identity card or passport upon request.

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS

The list of the diplomatic missions in Romania is available on the official [website](#) of the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Please inform your diplomatic representations about your stay in Bucharest.

The evening of Monday 1st July will be reserved for embassies and consulates.

DOCUMENTATION AND COPYING SERVICES

The OSCE PA International Secretariat will send electronic documentation folders in PDF format to all delegations. Most of the documents related to the Annual Session will be uploaded on the OSCE PA event APP and can also be downloaded from the [OSCE PA website](#).

A limited number of documents will be printed. Secretaries of Delegations are advised to make arrangements to print documents needed in advance.

Printers and photocopying machines will be at the disposal of the Secretaries of Delegations at the Palace of Parliament in the designated areas.

INTERPRETATION

During the various official meetings of the Annual Session, simultaneous interpretation will be provided in all six official languages of the OSCE: English, French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish and in Romanian.

It will not be possible to accommodate requests for organizing simultaneous interpretation in any additional languages during the official meetings of the Annual Session.

Organizers of side events will have to make their own arrangements for interpretation if needed.

SPONSORSHIP FOR ACCESS OF NON-PARLIAMENTARY PARTICIPANTS AND SIDE EVENTS

As in most parliaments in the OSCE region, access for non-parliamentary participants to the premises for OSCE Parliamentary Assembly meetings is granted upon request by Members of Parliament.

Only Members of Parliament who are official delegates in the Annual Session of the OSCE PA will be able to register and organize side events in the premises of the Palace of Parliament. Delegates hosting a meeting or an event are fully responsible for the costs, programme and participants invited.

The OSCE PA International Secretariat declines any responsibility for these events.

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly meetings are streamed on the internet, and open to the public through other means including coverage of meetings by journalists. Meetings are intended to facilitate dialogue among parliamentarians, but access by non-parliamentarians is welcome - space allowing - upon request by Members of the OSCE PA officially registered for the Annual Session 2024. **Sponsoring Members take full responsibility for the sponsored participants and are requested to clarify the duration of their access to the OSCE PA meeting.** Access to certain parts of the premises and programme may be restricted to parliamentarians and their staff.

Those sponsoring access of non-parliamentary participants are asked to use the form Annex A (available upon request). The registration deadline for non-parliamentary participants is Monday 3 June 2024.

Proposals to organize side meetings need to be communicated to the International Secretariat of the OSCE PA from Monday 6 May 2024 to Monday 3 June 2024, by filling out and returning the application form (Annex B – available upon request), clearly indicating the purpose of the event and names/titles/functions of the registered organizers.

Due to necessary security checks and planning constraints, it will not be possible to organize side-events at the last minute.

All participants must be accredited by the OSCE PA and in possession of an OSCE PA badge. They will be subject to security checks upon entering the building.

Due to the limited number of rooms available, bilateral discussions and meetings between delegations or between OSCE PA bodies will be given priority. To the extent possible, the International Secretariat will allocate meeting rooms for side events on a first-come, first-served basis.

Events involving third parties should preferably be planned outside the premises of the Palace of Parliament. Most official hotels have meeting spaces available for hire and there are many other meeting spaces in central Bucharest. Early booking is recommended.

CATERING

Catering will be provided exclusively by the Parliament of Romania. Side event organizers will be responsible for catering orders and for covering the costs.

Details including deadlines will be provided to organizers of side events upon request.

Lunch facilities will be available for the participants in the Palace of Parliament.

In accordance with the Palace of Parliament's regulations, please note that food and/or beverages are not allowed in any of the meeting rooms.

ACCOMPANYING PERSONS' PROGRAMME

A programme for accompanying persons will be arranged while delegates are engaged in conference sessions and meetings. A detailed programme will be announced in due course.

Accompanying persons may participate in all evening events organized by the host. Accompanying persons are kindly requested to sign up for the programme within the indicated deadline and to wear their identity badges during the entire programme.

Children under 18 years must be accompanied by a parent. The participation in the accompanying persons' programme is under the exclusive liability of the individual participants.

INSURANCE

Personal and medical insurance is the responsibility of individual participants. The host Parliament will not be responsible for any lost luggage, currency or personal effects, or any medical costs.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

Medical assistance will be available throughout the meetings. A medical office will be located in the Palace of Parliament. However, illness/condition requiring medical treatment or hospitalization is the responsibility of the individual. Participants under treatment should bring enough medicine to cover their needs.

Please note that the general telephone number in case of emergency (medical, fire or security) is 112.

DRESS CODE

Business attire is required for formal occasions and evening social events.

CLIMATE AND TIME ZONE

Bucharest is part of the Central European time zone (UTC/GMT + 2 hours). The average temperature in Bucharest in June and July is around 25°C.

Weather forecasts and other information about climate in Bucharest can be found at <https://www.accuweather.com>.

CURRENCY

The official currency in Romania is RON (1 EUR = approx. 5 RON). Most types of cards are accepted by merchants. Cash can be withdrawn at any time from ATMs in the city, as well as from ATMs located in the building of the Palace of Parliament.

ELECTRICITY

The voltage in Romania is 220V and European style two-pin sockets (types C and F) are used.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The international code for Romania is 0040/+40, followed by a phone number. Access to Wi-Fi will be available at the Palace of Parliament. Many public places in Bucharest offer free wireless internet, including restaurants and bars.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Secretaries of Delegation should inform the Secretariat of the Chamber of Deputies at oscepa@cdep.ro about delegates with mobility limitations in order to make the necessary arrangements in advance. Moreover, Secretaries will need to fill in information regarding dietary restrictions through the online registration system.

SMOKING

Smoking is prohibited in all public buildings in Romania. The Palace of Parliament has a designated smoking area, and this area will be clearly signposted.

INFORMATION ABOUT BUCHAREST

Bucharest is the capital and the largest city in Romania, documented in 1459. Besides being an administrative and economic centre, it is also the starting point for tourist destinations in Romania. Bucharest has an important number of tourist attractions and monuments, such as the Palace of Parliament, the Arch of Triumph, the Romanian Athenaeum, the Romanian Peasant Museum, the National Museum of Art or the National Museum of History. For more practical information please visit <https://visitbucharest.today/> .

Hotel reservation procedures and details

Hotel	Room rates	Reservation deadline	Cancellations deadlines
<p>JW Marriott Bucharest Grand Hotel (5*) Calea 13 Septembrie 90, Bucharest 050726</p> <p>Check in starts at 15.00, checkout until 12.00</p> <p>Mr. Teodor DOLACHE Phone: +4021.403.1106 Email: teodor.dolache@marriott.com</p> <p>Web site : https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/buhro-jw-marriott-bucharest-grand-hotel/overview/</p>	<p>Deluxe Room Single: 179 € Double: 197 €</p> <p>Grand Superior Room Single: 201 € Double: 219 €</p> <p>Executive Room Single/Double: 235 €</p> <p>Grand Executive Room Single/Double: 257 €</p>	4 June 2024	<p>Rooms and rates are only guaranteed until <u>3 June 2024</u>.</p> <p>Free cancellation until 27 May 2024</p> <p>Cancellation between 28 May and 19 June: you will be charged for the first night</p> <p>Cancellation after 20 June: you will be charged for the entire stay</p>
<p>Booking link: Book rooms at the JW Marriott Bucharest Grand Hotel <i>* For early bookings starting with 26 June/ late bookings until 5 July, please contact the hotel via e-mail teodor.dolache@marriott.com.</i></p>			
<p>InterContinental Athénée Palace Bucharest (5*) Episcopiei 1-3 Bucharest 010292</p> <p>Check in starts at 15.00, checkout until 12.00</p> <p>Mr. Radu NICULESCU</p> <p>Phone: +4021 303 799 Email: Radu.Niculescu@ihg.com</p> <p>Web site : https://www.ihg.com/intercontinental/hotels/us/en/bucharest/buhap/hoteldetail</p>	<p>King Classic Room Single: 190 € Double: 205 €</p> <p>Premium Classic Room Single: 220 € Double: 235 €</p> <p>Junior Suite Single: 250 € Double: 265 €</p> <p>One Bedroom Suite Single: 350 € Double: 365 €</p> <p>Palace Suite Single: 900 € Double: 916 €</p>	3 June 2024	<p>Rooms and rates are only guaranteed until <u>3 June 2024</u>.</p> <p>Free cancellation until 27 May 2024</p> <p>Cancellation between 28 May and 19 June: you will be charged for the first night</p> <p>Cancellation after 20 June: you will be charged for the entire stay</p>
<p>Booking link: Book rooms at the InterContinental Athénée Palace Bucharest</p>			
<p>Radisson Blu Hotel (5*) Calea Victoriei 63-81, Bucharest 010065</p> <p>Check in starts at 15.00, checkout until 12.00</p> <p>Ms. Simona SERCAN PAPUC Phone: +40 216 013 615 Email: simona.sercan@radissonblu.com</p> <p>Web site : https://www.radissonhotels.com/ro-ro/hoteluri/radisson-blu-bucharest</p>	<p>Standard Room Single: 166,5 € Double: 177,6 €</p> <p>Superior Room Single: 183,15 € Double: 194,24 €</p> <p>Premium Room Single: 199,8 € Double: 210,9 €</p> <p>Executive Room* Single: 222 € Double: 238,65 €</p> <p>Junior Suite* Single/Double: 288,6 €</p>	3 June 2024	<p>Rooms and rates are only guaranteed until <u>3 June 2024</u>.</p> <p>Free cancellation until 27 May 2024</p> <p>Cancellation between 28 May and 19 June: you will be charged for the first night</p> <p>Cancellation after 20 June: you will be charged for the entire stay</p>
<p>Booking link: Book rooms at the Radisson Blu Hotel <i>* To book at a preferential rate an Executive Room or a Junior Suite, please contact the hotel directly by sending an e-mail to simona.sercan@radissonblu.com.</i></p>			

Hotel	Room rates	Reservation deadline	Cancellations deadlines
Park Inn by Radisson Bucharest Hotel & Residence (4*) 2-4 Luterana Street, Bucharest 010162 Check in starts at 15.00, checkout until 12.00 Ms. Simona ȘERCAN PAPUC Phone: +40 216 013 615 Email: simona.sercan@radissonblu.com Web site : parkinn.com/hotel-bucharest	Standard Room Single: 127,65 € Double: 138,74 € One Bedroom Apartment* Single: 166,5 € Double: 183,15 € Two Bedroom Apartment* Single: 299,7 € Double: 316,35 €	3 June 2024	Rooms and rates are only guaranteed until <u>3 June 2024</u> . Free cancellation until 27 May 2024 Cancellation between 28 May and 19 June: you will be charged for the first night Cancellation after 20 June: you will be charged for the entire stay
Booking link: Book rooms at the Park Inn by Radisson Bucharest Hotel & Residence <i>* To book at a preferential rate a One/Two Bedroom Apartment please contact the hotel directly by sending an e-mail to simona.sercan@radissonblu.com.</i>			
Union Plaza Hotel (4*) Bulevardul Unirii 47C, Bucharest 030825 Check in starts at 15.00, checkout until 12.00 Mr. George MANDAGHIOS Phone : +40726 022 227 E-mail: George.mandaghios@apxhotels.ro Website: https://unionplaza.ro/	Superior Room Single: 125 € Double: 135 € Superior Twin Room Single: 125 € Double: 135 € Deluxe Double Room Single: 135 € Double: 145 € Executive Room Single: 155 € Double: 165 €	3 June 2024	Rooms and rates are only guaranteed until <u>3 June 2024</u> . Free cancellation until 28 May 2024 Cancellation between 29 May and 20 June: you will be charged for the first night Cancellation after 21 June: you will be charged for the entire stay
Booking link and promo code: To book a room at the preferential rate please access this link and use the promo code: CDEP2024 <i>* For early bookings starting with 26 June/ late bookings until 5 July, please contact the hotel via e-mail George.mandaghios@apxhotels.ro</i>			
Novotel Bucharest City Centre (4*) Calea Victoriei 37B, Bucharest 010061 Check in starts at 15.00, checkout until 12.00 Mr. Eduard Muñoz Phone: +4021 308 85 26 E-mail: eduard.munoz@accor.com Website: https://www.novotelbucharestcitycentre.com/	Single Room Single: 127,65 € Double: 139,86 € Junior Suite Single: 202,65 € Double: 214,65 €	28 May 2024	Rooms and rates are only guaranteed until <u>28 May 2024</u> . Free cancellation until 27 May 2024 Cancellation between 28 May and 19 June: you will be charged for the first night Cancellation after 20 June: you will be charged for the entire stay
Booking link: Book rooms at the Novotel Bucharest City Centre			
ibis Styles Bucharest City Center (3*) Str. Știrbei Vodă 146, Bucharest 010119 Check in starts at 15.00, checkout until 12.00 Ms. Amalia STANCIU Phone: (+40) 374 492 712 Email : amalia.stanciu@accor.com Website: https://ibisstylesbucharestcenter.com/ro/	Single Room Single: 82,14 € Double: 93,24 €	14 June 2024	Rooms and rates are only guaranteed until <u>14 June 2024</u> . Announced cancellation until 14 June: you will be charged for the first night Cancellation after 14 June / No Show: you will be charged for the entire stay
ibis Styles Bucharest City Center: To book a room at the preferential rate please send an e-mail to amalia.stanciu@accor.com and mention the booking reference: 2024OSCEPA			



Draft Programme

OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY 31st ANNUAL SESSION

*“The Role of the OSCE in the current Security Architecture:
a Parliamentary Perspective”*

Bucharest - Romania
June 29 – July 3, 2024

Friday 28 June 2024

	Arrival of participants
14:00 – 20:00	Registration
18:00 – 19:00	Meeting of the Secretaries of Delegations followed by a visit of the Parliament building

Saturday 29 June 2024

08:00 – 09:15	<i>Time reserved for meetings of various groups</i>
09:30 – 12:30	Standing Committee
12:30 – 15:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
15:00 – 18:00	Opening Plenary Session

Sunday 30 June 2024

08:00 – 08:45	<i>Time reserved for meetings of various groups</i>
09:00 – 10:30	General Committee on Political Affairs and Security
09:00 – 10:30	General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 12:30	General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions
12:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
12:30 – 14:30	Working lunch on Gender Issues (upon registration)
14:30 – 16:30	Thematic activities

Monday 1 July 2024

08:00 – 08:45	<i>Time reserved for meetings of various groups</i>
09:00 – 10:30	General Committee on Political Affairs and Security
09:00 – 10:30	General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 12:30	General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions
12:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:30 – 16:00	General Committee on Political Affairs and Security
14:30 – 16:00	General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment

16:00 – 16:30 *Coffee break*
16:30 – 18:00 **General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions**
Evening reserved for embassies and consulates

Tuesday 2 July 2024

08:00 – 08:45 *Time reserved for meetings of various groups*
09:00 – 11:00 **General Committee on Political Affairs and Security**
09:00 – 11:00 **General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment**
11:00 – 11:30 Meeting of the **Bureau**
11:00 – 11:30 *Coffee break*
11:30 – 13:30 **General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions**
13:30 – 15:00 *Lunch break*
15:00 – 18:00 **Plenary Session**

Wednesday 3 July 2024

08:00 – 08:45 *Time reserved for meetings of various groups*
09:00 – 12:00 **Plenary Session**
12:00 Adjournment
End of Annual Session
Departure of participants

Thursday 4 July 2024

Departure of participants



2024 ANNUAL SESSION
DOCUMENT DEADLINES

Supplementary Items	25 May 25 2024
Amendments to Committee Draft Resolutions	15 June 2024
Amendments to Supplementary Items	22 June 2024

Please send all signatures to: bucharestdocs@oscepa.dk



CORTES GENERALES

ANEXO XIV

Expected elections in the OSCE area in 2024/2025

As of 18.04.2024

North Macedonia	24 April 2024	1st round Presidential
North Macedonia	8 May 2024	Parliamentary (2nd round Presidential)
Lithuania	12 May 2024	Presidential
Iceland	1 June 2024	Presidential
Belgium	9 June 2024	Federal
Bulgaria	9 June 2024	Parliamentary
San Marino	9 June 2024	General
Mongolia	28 June 2024	Parliamentary
United Kingdom	Autumn 2024	Parliamentary
Austria	Autumn 2024	Parliamentary
Lithuania	13 October 2024	Parliamentary
Moldova	20 October 2024	Presidential and Referendum
Georgia	26 October 2024	Parliamentary
Moldova	3 November 2024	Presidential (2nd round) TBD
Uzbekistan	27 October 2024 (date tbc)	Parliamentary
U.S.A.	5 November 2024	General
Croatia	by December 2024	Presidential
Romania	2024, date tbc	Presidential and Parliamentary
Liechtenstein	9 February 2025	Parliamentary
Azerbaijan	February 2025	Parliamentary
Tajikistan	by 31 March 2025	Parliamentary
Ireland	by March 2025	Parliamentary
Albania	by June 2025	Parliamentary
Poland	by August 2025	Presidential
Moldova	by 11 July 2025	Parliamentary
Iceland	by 27 September 2025	Parliamentary
Norway	September 2025	Parliamentary

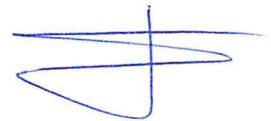
Expected elections in the OSCE area in 2024/2025

Canada	by 20 October 2025	Parliamentary
Germany	by 26 October 2025	Parliamentary
Czech Republic	by October 2025	Parliamentary
Belarus	2025, date tbc	Presidential



CORTES GENERALES

ANEXO XV



OSCE PA Future Planning
President's proposed elements for ensuring strategic impact
April, 2024

To contribute to advance planning in the future, the PA should grant serious consideration to introducing a regular strategic planning process. The active conflicts in the OSCE region and beyond, and general unpredictability coupled with increasingly scarce financial resources and inflationary pressures, all call for improved strategic planning in our work. The below elements are intended to contribute to starting this process.

Based on the considerations from the informal Bureau meeting held in January 2024, as well as the deliberations at the Winter Meeting, in my capacity as the President I present and propose to the Bureau the following priorities for the work of the OSCE PA in coming years:

1. Ensure effective debates on the most topical issues impacting the OSCE region and **productive outcomes** of the Annual Session in Bucharest and the Autumn Meeting in Dublin, paving the way for constructive work in the coming years, including the marking of the 50th Anniversary of the Helsinki Act. Our General Committees should remain our main policy-making instruments, ensuring a comprehensive approach that addresses political, economic, environmental, human rights and humanitarian concerns.
2. Continue to support regional activities by parliamentarians across South-East Europe, East Europe, the Mediterranean, the South Caucasus, and Central Asia, in support of reaching sustainable solutions to protracted conflicts and challenges. Continue comprehensive support for **Ukraine's safe development**, including through the Parliamentary Support Team for Ukraine.
3. Support established thematic dossiers by channelling resources where the PA generates added value, including particularly our ad hoc committees on migration and terrorism, but also in the fields of gender, youth, conflict resolution and mediation, human trafficking, corruption and other issues from the OSCE portfolio.
4. **Preserve election observation** as a flagship activity and prepare to observe sensitive upcoming elections. Leading up to summer 2025, this is likely to include observation in North Macedonia, Uzbekistan, Georgia, Moldova, the USA, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, and Albania.
5. Actively work to strengthen the institutional structures and functioning of the OSCE including through political support for the appointment of strong leaders in the Organization. Further develop our relations with the governmental side of the OSCE, while making full use of the Assembly's independence and flexibility to ensure effective parliamentary impact that strengthens the entire Organization.
6. Proceed with amendments of the OSCE PA **Rules of Procedure** conducive to more stability and strategic planning, notably on the term of office of the President.
7. Continue to explore **voluntary contributions** to support the important work of the PA and to ensure continued functioning despite financial difficulties arising from inflation and the void created by the refusal by the Russian Delegation to pay its contribution.
8. Support **continuity** and **predictability** for the OSCE PA International Secretariat's staff, providing stability for their continued professional support to all Assembly priority activities.

The OSCE PA is a strong yet flexible body that can achieve great things. Support for the above proposals can help Assembly leadership to ensure strategic focus on priorities in the face of unpredictable international developments, and will enable the International Secretariat to further strengthen its support to our work.