
Chairmanship: Germany**1121st PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 1 December 2016

Opened: 10.10 a.m.
Suspended: 12.45 p.m.
Resumed: 3.05 p.m.
Closed: 5.10 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador E. Pohl

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

Agenda item 1: **REPORT BY THE OSCE REPRESENTATIVE ON
FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA**

Chairperson, Representative on Freedom of the Media (FOM.GAL/6/16/Rev.1), Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Iceland, member of the European Economic Area; as well as San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1694/16), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1682/16), Kazakhstan, Turkey (PC.DEL/1681/16 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1673/16) (PC.DEL/1691/16), Switzerland, Canada, Norway (PC.DEL/1692/16), Armenia, Ukraine (PC.DEL/1700/16), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/1674/16 OSCE+), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (PC.DEL/1687/16 OSCE+), Moldova, Montenegro (PC.DEL/1678/16 OSCE+), Georgia (PC.DEL/1670/16 OSCE+), Uzbekistan, Serbia, Belarus, Hungary (PC.DEL/1672/16), Chairperson of the Human Dimension Committee, Slovakia-European Union, Bosnia and Herzegovina (PC.DEL/1671/16 OSCE+)

Agenda item 2: UPDATE BY THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OSCE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE IN UKRAINE AND IN THE TRILATERAL CONTACT GROUP, AMBASSADOR MARTIN SAJDIK

Discussion under agenda item 3

Agenda item 3: REPORT BY THE CHIEF MONITOR OF THE OSCE SPECIAL MONITORING MISSION TO UKRAINE

Chairperson, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office in Ukraine and in the Trilateral Contact Group, Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1695/16), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1684/16), United States of America (PC.DEL/1675/16/Rev.1), Turkey (PC.DEL/1683/16 OSCE+), Switzerland, Canada, France (Annex), Ukraine (PC.DEL/1701/16)

Agenda item 4: REPORT BY THE OSCE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LATVIAN-RUSSIAN JOINT COMMISSION ON MILITARY PENSIONERS

OSCE Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners (PC.FR/33/16 OSCE+), Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1696/16), United States of America (PC.DEL/1676/16), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1686/16), Chairperson

Agenda item 5: DECISION ON THE AMENDMENT OF THE DATES OF THE 25th ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1234 (PC.DEC/1234) on the amendment of the dates of the 25th Economic and Environmental Forum, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 6: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

(a) *International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, observed on 25 November 2016:* Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro

and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Iceland, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1698/16), United States of America (PC.DEL/1677/16/Rev.1), Slovenia (PC.DEL/1680/16 OSCE+), Switzerland, Canada

- (b) *Concern about the conviction of Kazakhstani civil society activists Mr. M. Bokayev and Mr. T. Ayan*: United States of America (PC.DEL/1688/16), Kazakhstan
- (c) *Situation of the Russian media*: Ukraine (PC.DEL/1702/16), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1685/16), United States of America (PC.DEL/1690/16/Rev.1)
- (d) *The death penalty in Belarus*: Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; as well as Andorra, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1697/16), Norway (also on behalf of Iceland, Liechtenstein, San Marino and Switzerland) (PC.DEL/1693/16), Belarus

Agenda item 7: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
 CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Participation of the Chairperson-in-Office and the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office in Ukraine and in the Trilateral Contact Group in a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Normandy Format, held in Minsk on 29 November 2016*: Chairperson
- (b) *Seventy-second meeting of the Ergneti Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM), held on 30 November 2016*: Chairperson

Agenda item 8: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Visit by the Secretary General to Turkmenistan on 25 and 26 November 2016*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/187/16 OSCE+)
- (b) *Working lunch hosted by the Secretary General for the members of the high-level advisory group for the survey on violence against women, held in Vienna on 28 November 2016*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/187/16 OSCE+)
- (c) *Symposium on “Combating femicide”, held in Vienna on 25 November 2016*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/187/16 OSCE+)
- (d) *Participation by the Director of the Office of the Secretary General in the tenth civil society media seminar on “Communicating migration”, held in*

Vienna on 24 and 25 November 2016: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/187/16 OSCE+)

- (e) *Workshop on preventing modern-day slavery in supply chains, held in London on 29 and 30 November 2016*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/187/16 OSCE+)
- (f) *Consultations on improving instruments for the identification and referral of victims of trafficking in human beings, held in Geneva on 24 November 2016*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/187/16 OSCE+)
- (g) *Technical expert meeting on gender mainstreaming of operational responses to countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism, held in Vienna on 22 and 23 November 2016*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/187/16 OSCE+)
- (h) *Appeal for nominations for the post of Deputy Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/187/16 OSCE+)

Agenda item 9: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Eighteenth European Union-Ukraine summit, held in Brussels on 24 November 2016*: Slovakia-European Union (PC.DEL/1699/16), Ukraine (PC.DEL/1703/16 OSCE+)
- (b) *Organizational matters related to the Twenty-Third Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, to be held in Hamburg on 8 and 9 December 2016*: Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

To be announced



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

PC.JOUR/1121
1 December 2016
Annex

ENGLISH
Original: FRENCH

1121st Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1121, Agenda item 3

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF FRANCE

Mr. Chairperson,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement by the European Union, but I should like to add a few comments in a national capacity following the ministerial meeting in the Normandy format on Tuesday, 29 November in Minsk.

First, however, I should like to thank Ambassadors Sajdik and Apakan for their statements and pay tribute to their personal commitment and that of their teams to achieving a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

At the invitation of the French and German Ministers, the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Mr. Sajdik and three of the four OSCE co-ordinators of the working groups presented to the Normandy quartet a report of their activities in the political, security, economic and humanitarian domains. Subsequent discussion covered all of these subjects.

In the humanitarian domain, the parties discussed access by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to prisoners on both sides of the line of contact. The Russian and Ukrainian Ministers accepted the principle of a visit by the ICRC President Peter Maurer to the separatist regions before the end of the year. They decided to continue work to achieve the exchange of a significant number of prisoners, also before the end of the year, starting with the most vulnerable (including the injured or sick).

In the economic domain, the French and German Ministers called for a resumption of the economic working group meetings, in particular with a view to enabling the signing of an agreement required for the continued supply of water to 1.2 million people in the separatist region (Luhansk).

On the question of access, the French and German Ministers urged their Ukrainian and Russian counterparts to agree to the reopening of the Zolote crossing point and to improve crossing conditions along the entire length of the line of contact, although no firm commitments were made.

The French and German Ministers strongly emphasized that it was unacceptable that access by non-governmental organizations to the separatist regions was still very difficult and urged Russia to act on this matter. For its part, Ukraine should address the question of pension payments to retirees in the separatist regions.

In the security domain, it was not possible to obtain a firm commitment on the question of disengagement from the last of the three areas identified in September (Stanytsia Luhanska). The Ministers nevertheless hoped that agreement could be reached on the next four disengagement areas on the basis of existing proposals.

The Ministers recalled the aim of adopting a mutually acceptable road map as had been discussed at the Berlin summit on 19 October. Work is continuing on that matter.

I should like to add that at a press briefing the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Jean-Marc Ayrault, repeated that the only possible way of managing this crisis was through the full and comprehensive implementation of the Minsk agreements, without which the very real war between the parties, which had caused 10,000 deaths, would continue.

We shall maintain our undiminished commitment to the Minsk process so that the civilian populations, who are facing their third winter in extremely precarious conditions, can find some relief and so that the seriousness of this violation of the principle of inviolability of internationally recognized borders does not remain without consequences.

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



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

PC.DEC/1234
1 December 2016

Original: ENGLISH

1121st Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1121, Agenda item 5

**DECISION No. 1234
AMENDMENT OF THE DATES OF THE 25th ECONOMIC AND
ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling Permanent Council Decision No. 1217 of 21 July 2016 on the theme, agenda and modalities for the 25th Economic and Environmental Forum,

Decides that:

1. The concluding meeting of the 25th Economic and Environmental Forum will be held from 6 to 8 September 2017 in Prague;
2. The theme, agenda and other modalities for the 25th Economic and Environmental Forum, as agreed by Permanent Council Decision No. 1217 of 21 July 2016, will not be superseded by this decision, excepting the dates of the concluding meeting.