

30 September 2016

Human Dimension Implementation Meeting  
Working Session 3, The International Covenants on Human Rights and their importance for the  
OSCE human dimension (continued)

September 20, 2016

As delivered by

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Ms. Moderator,

My delegation has already had an opportunity to communicate its assessment of the  
implementation of the International Covenants on Human Rights in the OSCE area in the previous  
session.

Hence, I would like to reiterate my points made earlier today and concentrate exclusively on  
the economic and cultural rights enshrined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and  
Cultural Rights.

The article 1 of the Covenant establishes that by virtue of the right of self-determination all  
peoples shall freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and  
cultural development.

Furthermore, it recognizes that all peoples may for their own ends, freely dispose of their  
natural wealth and resources. It maintained that in no case may a people be deprived of its own  
means of subsistence.

Unilateral coercive measures undertaken as a collective punishment upon the entire people  
clearly violate the Covenant.

People residing in the conflict areas should not be deprived of economic means. They have  
right to economic activities and development by the virtue of this Covenant. In our view, the  
population of conflict areas should be integrated into international system of human rights and  
development.

In conclusion, we recommend to the OSCE executive structures to assess the impact of the  
unilateral coercive measures on affected economies and cooperate closely with the UN Human  
Rights Council special rapporteur on unilateral coercive measures.

Thank you