

## **Report on the Activities of the Chairperson-in-Office 959<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Permanent Council, 4 July 2013**

- On 27-29 June, the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Leonid Kozhara paid an official visit to Turkey.

In Ankara, Minister Kozhara met with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey H.E. Ahmet Davutoğlu. He also held a number of other high level meetings in the Turkish capital.

On 29 June in Istanbul, Minister Kozhara participated in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. In his statement, Minister Kozhara updated the parliamentarians on progress in the Ukrainian Chairmanship's priority areas, including protracted conflicts, energy security, combating human trafficking, media freedom.

He welcomed efforts to improve co-operation with the OSCE's neighboring countries, including Afghanistan and the Southern Mediterranean region, noting in particular Libya's recent request to be granted the status of OSCE Partner for Co-operation.

- Yesterday, 3 July, the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Leonid Kozhara made a statement marking the 40th anniversary of start of the Helsinki process. Praising the leaders for their strategic vision he made a parallel with the current Helsinki +40 process designed for helping to accomplish our work in building trust and confidence and to strengthen the effectiveness of our Organization.

The OSCE Chair expressed its confidence that we should be inspired by foresight of our predecessors and should strive for equally ambitious and forward-looking results while building a security community.

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