

Report on the Activities of the Chairperson-in-Office

- On **28 April**, the Special Representative of the CiO in Ukraine, Ambassador Sajdik, and the Chief Monitor of the SMM, Ambassador Apakan, informed the UN Security Council on the state of implementation of the Minsk agreements and on the security situation in the conflict area, as well as on restrictions and intimidations against SMM Monitors.
 - On **29 April**, the OSCE Chairperson Steinmeier welcomed the agreement reached by the Trilateral Contact Group (TCG) on full respect of the ceasefire in eastern Ukraine, starting with the Orthodox Easter and May holidays. Stressing that this was a chance to prevent further escalation, the CiO called on all sides to strictly adhere to what had been agreed.
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- On **World Press Freedom Day** on 3 May, the OSCE Chairperson Steinmeier and OSCE Representative Mijatović stressed the importance of free and independent media for the development of democracy. The CiO paid tribute to journalists worldwide who brave violence, persecution and intimidation to record and report the truth. He also stressed that free, independent media are an indispensable cornerstone of free and democratic societies and underlined that the OSCE has a crucial role to play in setting and upholding common standards to promote this principle.
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