

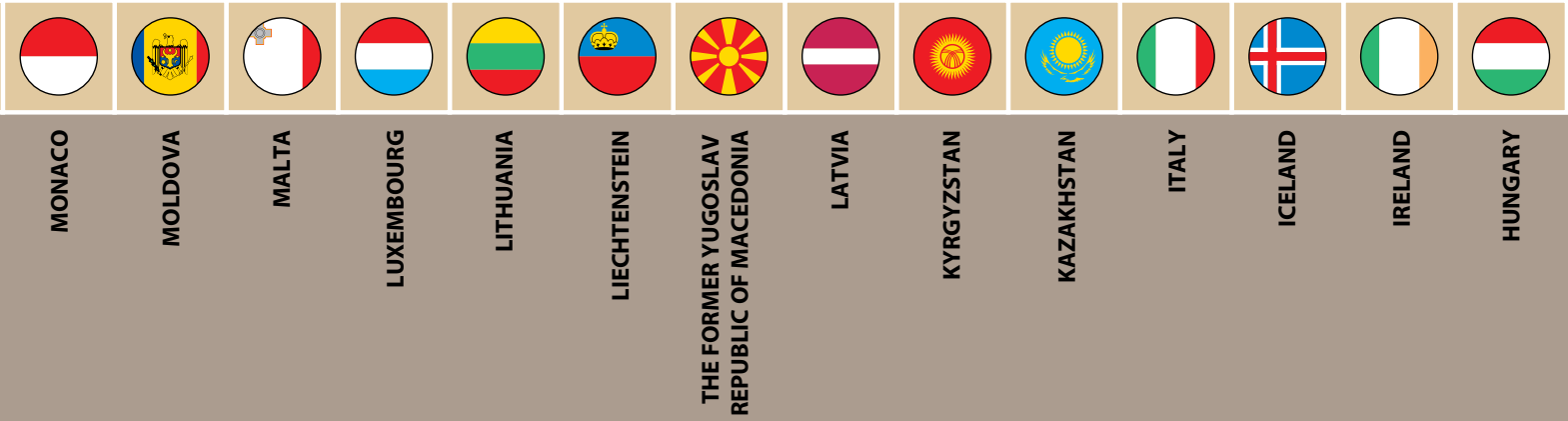


2009 Chairmanship: Greece will act as "honest broker"

Helsinki: Sixteenth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council

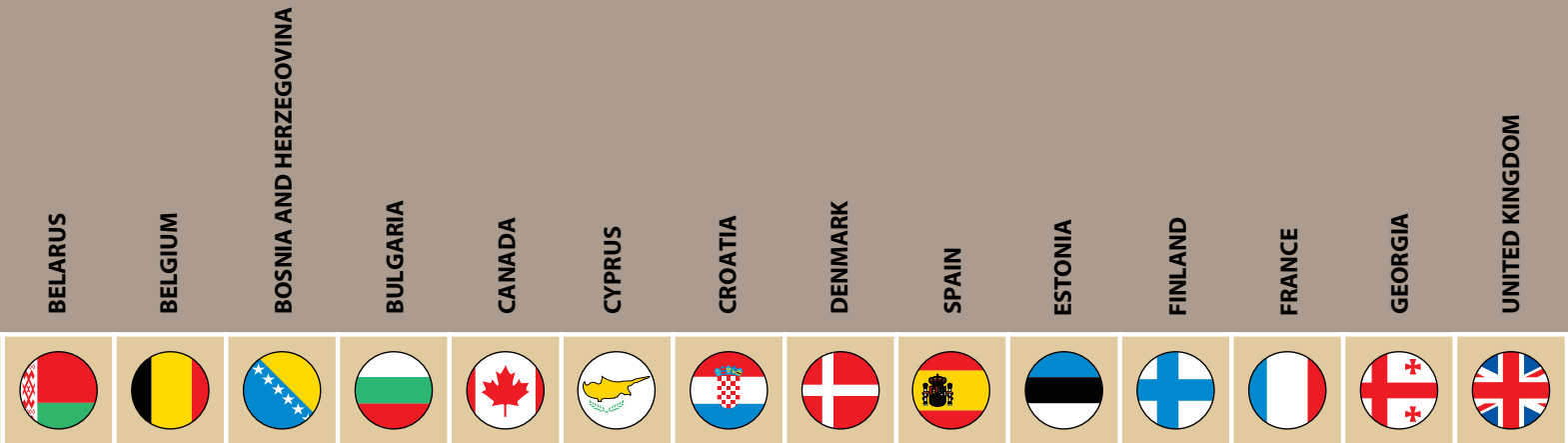
Ukraine and the OSCE: Productive partnership in projects

Legal personality for the OSCE: Making a credible case



Secretary General

Secretariat





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The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe works for stability, prosperity and democracy in 56 States through political dialogue about shared values and through practical work that makes a lasting difference.

## OSCE Chairmanship 2009: Greece

### OSCE Structures and Institutions

- Permanent Council (Vienna)
- Forum for Security Co-operation (Vienna)
- Secretariat (Vienna)
- OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (Vienna)
- Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (Warsaw)
- High Commissioner on National Minorities (The Hague)
- OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (Copenhagen)

### Field Operations

#### South Caucasus

- OSCE Office in Baku
- OSCE Mission to Georgia
- OSCE Office in Yerevan
- The Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference

#### Central Asia

- OSCE Centre in Ashgabad
- OSCE Centre in Astana
- OSCE Centre in Bishkek
- OSCE Office in Tajikistan
- OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

#### Eastern Europe

- OSCE Office in Minsk
- OSCE Mission to Moldova
- OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

#### South-eastern Europe

- OSCE Presence in Albania
- OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina
- OSCE Mission in Kosovo
- OSCE Mission to Montenegro
- OSCE Mission to Serbia
- OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje
- OSCE Office in Zagreb

## Message from the Chairperson of the Permanent Council

Greece is assuming the Chairmanship at a challenging time for the OSCE. From the outset, we have sought to translate our pledge to act as an honest broker into action, and thanks to the goodwill and co-operation of our fellow participating States, I believe we have made a promising start, as the lead piece in this issue of the *OSCE Magazine* describes.



OSCE/MIKHAIL ELISTAYEV

Just as the *Magazine* was about to go to press, the participating States agreed to extend until 30 June the presence of the Organization's unarmed military monitoring officers in Georgia. Although this latest development did not affect the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Georgia, which ended on 31 December 2008, the Chairperson-in-Office, Greek Foreign Minister Dora Bakoyannis, was encouraged by the news.

"This decision shows that all the States agree that the Organization is a critical part of international efforts to secure lasting stability in the region," she said. "I am confident that we can build on this consensus to ensure that the OSCE will be able to continue its important work for all the peoples in the region and help to address urgent humanitarian challenges."

This is just the beginning, and there is still much to be done. We are committed to intensifying the discussion on the future of security in Europe that showed so much promise at the Ministerial Council Meeting in Helsinki. The Greek Chairmanship looks forward to exploring the possibilities of the OSCE as the proper forum for such a dialogue.

Our efforts in all the OSCE's dimensions are guided by "three Ss": the search for synergy, the pursuit of strategy and the concern for a symmetry of efforts in dealing with new threats and old challenges. Work is already proceeding at a brisk pace.

The first part of the Seventeenth Economic and Environmental Forum, focusing on the Greek Chairmanship's priority area of effective migration management, opened up a lively and constructive discussion on a cross-dimensional issue that affects us all. We will continue this results-driven approach in Athens in May.

In Helsinki, the foreign ministers also tasked the Greek Chairmanship with pursuing a dialogue on strengthening the legal framework of the OSCE, an interesting subject that the *OSCE Magazine* examines in great detail.

I do not expect 2009 to be easy. These are sobering times, but they have proved that we need the OSCE, and each other, more than ever. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Permanent Council in a spirit of openness and with an eye to building consensus.

Ambassador Mara Marinaki  
 Vienna, February 2009

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The **front and back covers** show the current seating arrangement of the OSCE Permanent Council at its meetings in the Hofburg's *Neuer Saal*. The counterclockwise sequence, which follows the French alphabetical order of the names of the participating States, starts with Greece (the Chairmanship) followed by Hungary to the right. The original version of this illustration appeared in the Finnish daily, *Helsingin Sanomat*, during the Ministerial Council Meeting in December 2008 and has been adapted for the *OSCE Magazine* with the kind permission of the newspaper's graphics team.