



## **Report on the Activities of the Chairperson-in-Office 947th Meeting of the Permanent Council, 11 April 2013**

- On 21 March the Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office for conflicts, Ambassador Andrii Deshchytzia visited Berlin for consultations at the Federal Foreign Office.
- On 28-29 March Chairman-in-Office, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine H.E. Leonid Kozhara paid a working visit to the Russian Federation. In Moscow he met with Russian Foreign Minister Mr. Sergey Lavrov.

During a meeting with Minister Lavrov, the Chairperson outlined Ukraine's priorities in the OSCE, including in the area of protracted conflicts. Ministers also discussed the Helsinki+40 process.

CiO met with Speaker of the State Duma Mr. Sergey Naryshkin and Vice-Prime Minister and President's Special Representative for Transdnistria Mr. Dmitriy Rogozin.

Minister Kozhara gave a speech on Ukraine's OSCE Chairmanship at the Diplomatic Academy of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

- The 17th meeting of the Co-ordination Group between the Council of Europe and the OSCE was held in Strasbourg on 5 April.

The meeting was co-chaired by Chairman of the OSCE Permanent Council, Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk and Chairperson of the Ministers' Deputies of the Council of Europe, Ambassador Josep Dalleres. Representatives of the OSCE Troika, HCNM and Secretariat also participated in the meeting.

The Group reviewed progress in two of the four priority areas of cooperation between the OSCE and the Council of Europe: protection of

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rights of persons belonging to national minorities and promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination.

The next meeting of the Co-ordination Group will take place in Vienna in the second half of this year. The issues of cooperation in fight against terrorism and combating trafficking in human beings will be discussed at that meeting.

- On 8-10 April Ukraine hosted the 2013 Annual Meeting of the OSCE Border Security and Management National Focal Point Network, which took place in Kyiv.

Deputy Head of the OSCE Task Force, high level officials from the relevant Ukrainian ministries and agencies addressed the conference. The number of experts, representatives of international and regional organizations, national agencies and the OSCE field operations took part in the meeting.

The issues of the role of border security and management agencies in confidence-building processes across borders, good practices and communication strategies, environmental and economic cross-border initiatives, ways of enhancing multilateral interaction as well as modern challenges for border security and management co-operation were discussed during the meeting.

- Chairmanship has been invited by the leadership of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to attend the upcoming OSCE PA Bureau meeting in Copenhagen on 14-15 April.

Chairmanship will brief the leadership of the OSCE PA on current developments related to the governmental part of the OSCE work as well as on current activities within the Organization. The Chairman of the OSCE Permanent Council, Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk will represent Chairmanship at this meeting.

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