



## **ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE (15 to 22 February)**

### **15-17 February - Summary of the three-day visit of OSCE Chairman-in-Office to Podgorica, Pristina and Belgrade**

#### **OSCE Chairman-in-Office met the President of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro and Montenegro authorities to discuss the referendum issue**

PODGORICA, 15 February - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, met President of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro Svetozar Marovic. He also met Prime Minister Milo Djukanovic, Parliament Speaker Ranko Krivokapic, Foreign Minister Miodrag Vlahovic, and representatives of opposition parties to discuss the referendum issue.

#### **OSCE Chairman-in-Office met the newly-elected PISG President Fatmir Sejdiu and urges Kosovo leaders to begin decentralization process, continue standards implementation**

PRISTINA/MITROVICA, 16 February - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, met the newly-elected PISG President Fatmir Sejdiu. He insisted on implementation of standards to go alongside the currently ongoing status talks. In talks with leaders of the Kosovo Serb community in northern Mitrovica, the OSCE Chairman-in-Office emphasized the importance of a negotiated solution of the status question.

#### **OSCE Chairman-in-Office met Serbian authorities and calls them to negotiate "compromise solution" for Kosovo**

BELGRADE, 17 February - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, met President of Serbia Boris Tadic and Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica and called upon the Serbian authorities to negotiate a compromise solution for the future status of Kosovo.

The OSCE Chairman-in-Office met also State Union Foreign Minister Vuk Draskovic.

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#### **OSCE Chairmanship's Special Envoy visited Georgia**

TBILISSI, 15-16 February - The Special Envoy of the Chairmanship, Senator Pierre Chevalier, met President Mikheil Saakashvili, Prime Minister Zurab Nogaideli and State Minister on conflict resolution issues George Khaindrava, to promote peaceful resolution of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict.

#### **OSCE Chairman-in-Office expresses consternation at Ukraine's decision to return Uzbek asylum seekers**

BRUSSELS, 17 February - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, has expressed his consternation at the decision taken by the Ukrainian authorities to extradite 11 Uzbek asylum seekers back to Uzbekistan.



**At informal OSCE meeting, called by the Chairman-in-Office, OSCE announced to be united on steps to ensure press freedom and respect for religious and other beliefs**

VIENNA, 17 February - An informal OSCE meeting, convened by the Chairmanship-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, discussed the contribution the OSCE can make in response to the controversy over the recently-published cartoons.

**OSCE Chairman-in-Office met the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly**

BRUSSELS, 21 February - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, met the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Alcee Hastings.

**OSCE Chairman-in-Office met the OSCE Special Representative on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings**

BRUSSELS, 22 February - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, met the OSCE Special Representative on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Helga Konrad.