

Second day of the Twenty-Seventh Meeting
MC(27) Journal, Agenda item 7

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE
NEGOTIATIONS ON THE TRANSDNIESTRIAN SETTLEMENT
PROCESS IN THE “5+2” FORMAT**

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Participating States of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe:

1. Recall the past ministerial statements on the work of the Permanent Conference on Political Issues in the Framework of the Negotiation Process for the Transdniestrian Settlement in the “5+2” format;
2. Reiterate their strong resolve to attain a comprehensive, peaceful and sustainable settlement of the Transdniestrian conflict based on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognized borders with a special status for Transdniestria that fully guarantees the human, political, economic and social rights of its population;
3. Underline the need to continue the result-oriented settlement process reaffirmed by the Hamburg, Vienna, Milan and Bratislava ministerial statements. In this regard, we call upon the Sides to continue to engage accordingly in the negotiation process in 2021 when Sweden will be chairing the OSCE;
4. Encourage the Sides to enhance their co-ordination and interaction in addressing the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, stress the importance of ensuring continued interconnectivity between both banks of the Dniester/Nistru River in times of the pandemic and in this context call for constructive work towards rapid restoration of freedom of movement;
5. Urge the Sides to further consolidate the achievements reached since the Vienna Ministerial meeting on priority issues and to work towards the full and continuous implementation of all agreements expressed in the protocols of the “5+2” meetings in Rome 2018, Vienna 2017 and Berlin 2016 thus contributing to building a solid basis for further advancing the settlement process;
6. Encourage the Sides to develop joint proposals on further confidence-building measures, based on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Berlin-plus package, and to intensify their dialogue on and efforts with regard to the protection of human rights;

7. Call upon the Sides to continue to work at all levels of the negotiation process in a rhythmical manner to achieve tangible progress on all three baskets of the agreed agenda for the negotiation process: socio-economic issues, general legal and humanitarian issues and human rights, and a comprehensive settlement, including institutional, political and security issues;
8. Underline the importance of the Permanent Conference on Political Issues in the Framework of the Negotiation Process for the Transdnestrian Settlement in the “5+2” format as the only mechanism to achieve a comprehensive and sustainable settlement, call for the organization of a result-oriented meeting in this format as soon as possible in 2021 and reaffirm the important role the OSCE plays in supporting this process;
9. Applaud the unified and active approach by the mediators and observers of the OSCE, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, the European Union and the United States of America in the Permanent Conference on Political Issues in the Framework of the Negotiation Process for the Transdnestrian Settlement in the “5+2” format and encourage them to continue to co-ordinate their efforts and to make full use of their collective potential to promote progress in all dimensions towards achieving a comprehensive resolution of the Transdnestrian conflict.