



**Report on the Activities of the Chairperson-in-Office
966th Meeting of the Permanent Council, 10 October 2013**

- On 3 October, the official round of negotiations in the Transdniestrian settlement process took place in Brussels, chaired by the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for conflicts, Ambassador Andrii Deshchytsia. The Chairmanship would like to use this opportunity to express our appreciation to the European External Action Service for hosting this meeting.

In preparations to the round, the Chairmanship was encouraged by the stable situation in the Security Zone, as well as by an intensified dialogue between the sides following the summer break, which culminated in the meeting between the Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova Iurie Leanca (Юріє Лянка) and the Transdniestrian leader Yevgeniy Shevchuk in Tiraspol on 23 September.

Agenda of the talks focused on the issues pertaining to the freedom of movement. The round resulted in an understanding that specific steps will be taken by the sides in the nearest future aimed at eliminating the existing administrative barriers to the free movement of people through Moldova, as well as creating simplified procedures for migration control.

After the round, Ambassador Deshchytsia and Deputy Secretary General of the EEAS Helga Schmid opened the art exhibition, featuring works of artists from both sides of the Dniester/Nistru River.

The next round of the negotiations will take place in Kyiv on 25-26 November.

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- Following the official talks, on the 4th of October upon the request of the Ukrainian Chairmanship, and with kind support of Switzerland, the International Peace Institute hosted a seminar «Benefiting from peace: a new perspective for the Transdnestrian settlement process». The event gathered the representatives of the 5+2 format and a number of international experts who discussed potential benefits from reintegration.

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