



**Report on the Activities of the Chairperson-in-Office
938th Meeting of the Permanent Council, 24 January 2013**

- Chairperson-in-Office, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Leonid Kozhara visited Vienna last week and attended a series of events to launch the Chairmanship. The Minister addressed the Permanent Council, setting out priorities for the Ukrainian Chairmanship. He also had a bilateral meeting with the OSCE Secretary-General, Lamberto Zannier and addressed the annual meeting of the OSCE Heads of Missions.
- On 21-22 January Minister L. Kozhara paid a working visit to the Republic of Moldova. In Chisinau the Minister met with Moldova's President Nicolae Timofti, Prime Minister Vlad Filat, Parliament Speaker Marian Lupu, Deputy Prime Minister for Reintegration Eugen Carпов and Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Integration Iurie Leanca. In Tiraspol the Chairperson met with the Transdniestrian leader Yevgeniy Shevchuk.

The Minister urged the leaders at both banks of the Dniestr to maintain the dynamics of the negotiations in the 5+2 format, and stressed that Ukraine, as Chair of the OSCE and as mediator and close neighbor, offers a unique opportunity to achieve progress in the settlement process. Noting the important role of direct contacts between Chisinau and Tiraspol, the Minister extended his invitation to Vlad Filat and Evgeniy Shevchuk to visit Ukraine in the context of the next round of the 5+2 talks that will take place on 18-20 February in Lviv.

Recalling the Ministerial Council Statement adopted in Dublin, the Chairperson stressed the need to ensure a balanced consideration of all three baskets of the agreed agenda in the 5+2 negotiations. In this regard Leonid Kozhara underlined that addressing the institutional, political and security issues would be of benefit for the social and economic development of Transdniestria.

Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the to the International Organizations in Vienna

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- On 21-25 January the Co-Chairs of the Geneva Discussions are visiting Georgia, where they are having meetings with interlocutors in Tbilisi, Sukhumi and Tskhinvali discussing preparations to the next round of the Discussions due to take place on 26-27 March. The OSCE is represented by the Special Representative of the Chairman-in-Office for conflicts, Ambassador Andrii Deshchytsia.
- Minister L. Kozhara paid a working visit to Turkmenistan on 22-23 January. During the visit he met with President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow, and Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Rasit Meredov. The priorities and program of the Ukrainian Chairmanship for 2013 were discussed during the meetings.