

The OSCE Secretariat bears no responsibility for the content of this document and circulates it without altering its content. The distribution by OSCE Conference Services of this document is without prejudice to OSCE decisions, as set out in documents agreed by OSCE participating States.

MC.DEL/7/21
2 December 2021

ENGLISH
Original: ITALIAN

**STATEMENT BY
LUCA BECCARI, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO,
AT THE TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE
OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL**

Stockholm, 2 and 3 December 2021

Madam Chairperson,
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Like 2020, the year 2021 has been another very hard year for all of us.

First of all, I should like to extend my condolences to all of you and your fellow citizens who have lost loved ones owing to the ongoing pandemic. I wish you a speedy and solid economic recovery.

The year 2021 has also been a hard one for multilateralism.

Let me extend my heartfelt thanks to the Swedish Chairmanship, which has managed to carry on the work of the OSCE under difficult conditions, while continuing to work to strengthen security in our area and proposing new formats and solutions.

Of course, the challenges we face today do not only concern the area from Vancouver to Vladivostok, but the whole planet.

Around the world, unfortunately, we are registering an increase in military tensions on old and new fronts; we are witnessing alarming environmental disasters; and we are seeing a horrifying erosion of human rights and democratic institutions.

All these trends have significantly damaged the ability of multilateralism to provide solutions. This is particularly evident when looking at the management of anti-COVID vaccines over the past year.

Instead of finding shared solutions regarding the use and distribution of these vaccines, we have witnessed a factional and dishonest political confrontation that has had dramatic repercussions on the lives of those most in need.

From that perspective, dear colleagues, what contribution can this Organization make within and beyond the borders of our 57 countries?

San Marino believes that the consensus rule should become the OSCE's strength and not its weakness.

It is vital that the decisions we take together are based on a genuine and concrete will to co-operate, to break down old and new barriers that divide us and to overcome counterproductive bloc-based politics.

Our success will be measured not by the number of decisions we take, but by their scope and relevance.

San Marino will continue to pay special attention to those issues that are particularly close to the heart of its people: the promotion of fundamental human rights – first and foremost the right to life, the abolition of the death penalty and respect for territorial integrity.

At the same time, we will never forgo dialogue, because only through dialogue do we have a chance of finding shared and therefore sustainable solutions.

In other words, only through a relentless promotion of dialogue and multilateralism do we have a chance of promoting security and co-operation in our area.

Another invaluable asset of our Organization is its autonomous institutions and field operations. Thanks to them we are closer to the people and can better understand the problems that affect them. By being better aware of the problems, we can work out better solutions.

The institutions and field operations provide us all with indispensable guidance, and we should therefore support and defend their work.

Therefore, Mr. Chairperson, I should like to reiterate San Marino's support for the Secretariat, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the Representative on Freedom of the Media, the High Commissioner on National Minorities, the Parliamentary Assembly and the field operations.

I hope that the Organization's budget can be adopted quickly, without political manipulation that delays and complicates our activities and projects.

In conclusion, I wish the incoming Polish Chairmanship every success and thank the States that have put themselves forward for the OSCE Chairmanship in the coming years, ensuring order and continuity in our work.

Thank you for your attention.