



Statement by the Deputy Prime Minister of Spain

Mr. Manuel Chaves Gonzalez

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Mr. Chairman, Mr. Secretary General, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Introduction

I want to first express my satisfaction at being able to represent the Government of Spain at this Summit and to thank the Kazakh authorities for the hospitality they have shown us.

It is difficult to overstate the significance of this event for the present and the future of our Organization. Eleven years after the Istanbul Summit, it is clear that the future relevance of the OSCE will necessarily depend on how it adapts to the demands of the international sphere today.

**Spain the OSCE
And Central Asia**

My country, which had the honor to serve as President of the OSCE for three years ago, believes that the necessary renewal of the Organization can only arise from a clear mandate from the Heads of State and Government of the 56 participating States.

Therefore, we have supported from the beginning the celebration of this Summit and I warmly congratulate the Presidency of Kazakhstan, which with perseverance and hard work has enabled us to meet here today. I do wish to point out also the importance we attach to the fact that a country of Central Asia is hosting the Summit: it shows the growing importance of this region and its commitment to security in our region as well as to the principle and commitments of the OSCE.

**Security
Community**

As is apparent from the main theme that has been chosen for this Summit, the main concept on which to base our organization is the security community. This concept is founded on two principles.

First, the 56 States cannot form a community if there is no sense of belonging that allows each and every one of them to share the ambitions and objectives of the OSCE.

Second, the notion of community requires an all-encompassing vision of security, in which the three dimensions of the OSCE (the politico-military, the economic and environmental and the human dimensions) receive adequate attention.

**Transnational
Threats and
Partners for
Cooperation**

Mr. Chairman,

The international community is faced with an increasing number of transnational threats, which by their very nature, cannot be met with other than transnational mechanisms.

**Partners for
Cooperation**

In order to achieve this, the OSCE has to increase its openness as an Organization by strengthening and enhancing cooperation with all partners, Mediterranean and Asian. In relation to the Asian Partners for Cooperation, I want to reiterate that the Spanish Government condemns the armed attack by forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea against the Republic of Korea's island of Yeonpyong, and considers it an extremely grave incident. It regrets that as a result, there have been military and civilian casualties, as well as material damage. The Spanish Government urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to refrain from any action that could lead to a new armed confrontation on the Korean Peninsula and to respect its international obligations.

Mr. Chairman,

We also need more regular dialogue with other international organizations which are also of great importance in generating security. But just as the OSCE has to be an outward looking Organization, it also must carry out an internal effort to improve flexibility, transparency and coordination.

The awareness of the existence of threats of a transnational nature is incompatible with the maintenance of watertight compartmentalization and one-dimensional views; and, by the same principle, the resolution of protracted conflicts or the management of emerging ones should be done with a global and integrative approach.

**Proposition to
manage crisis**

Mr. Chairman,

With the aim of increasing efficiency, flexibility and responsiveness of the OSCE to crises that may arise in their area of competence, my Government believes that the role of the Presidency should be enhanced.

**Economy and
enviornment**

We also believe that over time the OSCE has to consider seriously its capacity to act in the economic and environmental dimension, for these two elements also directly affect the security of persons and peoples. OSCE institutions and field missions still have much room for development to promote confidence-building measures and security opportunities in what concerns economic and environmental issues.

**Vienna
Document, FACE**

The OSCE, in its endeavor to build security, must also redouble its efforts in creating conditions that prevent the use or threat of force and in this vein, just as I welcome the review and updating of the 1999 Vienna Document on confidence-building measures, I also call from this stand for the implementation of a modernized CFE Treaty.

Mr. President,

HumanDimension

The OSCE is universally known and respected for its great effort and progress achieved in the human dimension, mainly aimed at strengthening democratic institutions and opening spaces for the increased exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms, be it through electoral observation, field missions themselves or its programmes to promote civil society and the rule of law.

At this summit, we must pledge to devote more efforts towards promoting and ensuring human rights. In this sense there are certain areas that deserve priority attention. I want to mention in particular two that I consider of special interest:

Death Penalty

Firstly, Spain is fully convinced that the abolition of the death penalty leads to a more humane and compassionate society, and that maintaining the death penalty in no way provides a higher level of security for its citizens. We are therefore determined to continue working so that the abolition of the death penalty is a reality throughout the whole OSCE region, in order that our organization follow the example of other organizations that share our values, such as the European Union and the Council of Europe.

Alliance of Civilizations

Secondly, I wish to underline the great potential for synergy and complementarity that we can establish with the Alliance of Civilizations as a tool for expanding and strengthening the values and principles of the OSCE, in particular those concerning the human dimension. The offer of collaboration with our organization made by President Sampaio, High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations, in his speech last June to the Permanent Council, should be well received. In this regard, we should remember that only a few weeks ago the European Union adopted its second Action Plan 2010/2013 for the initiative of the Alliance of Civilizations, in which the OSCE figures as an essential reference.

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen,

Farewell,future

The twentieth century was a time of great progress for mankind but also a time of wars that ravaged the European continent. Precisely because we understood the magnitude of the tragedies experienced, the horror of exclusive nationalism, the barbarity of violence and hatred towards what is different, we created instruments and institutions to provide peace and security in order to work together despite our differences and build respect for each other through embracing our common values: freedom, democracy and economic and social progress. This is the great commitment of the OSCE. If we achieve this our children and future generations will thank us.

Lithuanian Presidency

In this shared effort to work for greater security for all and greater cooperation among all, the future Chairmanship of Lithuania, to which I wish every success, as well as all other participating States count on the full collaboration and contribution of Spain.

Thank you.