

Delegation of Germany

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR HORSTEN  
AT THE MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

5 November 2009

**The winners of the OSCE video contest on the theme of civil society**

As already announced by the Chairperson, Ambassador Marinaki, I am delighted that the winners of the OSCE video contest “Taking Part – Civil Society Initiatives in the OSCE Area” are here with us today.

They are, in alphabetical order according to which country they are from, Ms. Ani Harutyunyan from Armenia, Mr. Ulan Shamshet from Kazakhstan, Mr. Kaarmanbek Kuluev from Kyrgyzstan, Ms. Oxana Andriuc and Ms. Victoria Kriukova (they submitted a joint contribution) from the Republic of Moldova and Mr. Ignacy Kołaczyński from Poland.

After this meeting of the Permanent Council, there will be an opportunity for us all to gather in the Foyer of the Hofburg’s Neuer Saal to toast the winners’ success in the video contest and to see their contributions on video screens. These videos can also be viewed as of now on the OSCE website.

It is likewise a pleasure that, also today, we are officially opening the poster exhibition entitled “From Peaceful Revolution to German Unity” in the Foyer of the Neuer Saal, which will help us to get in the mood for the event on 6 November 2009 with the former German Foreign Minister, Mr. Hans-Dietrich Genscher. The winners of the video contest will also take part in that event and will have an opportunity to speak with Mr. Genscher afterwards.

I should like to close by thanking the OSCE Chairmanship for providing inspiration and practical support for the video contest and the staff of the OSCE Secretariat’s Press and Public Information Section and OSCE Conference Services for the professional way in which they have helped to supervise this project.