

Chairmanship: Italy

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL
(1201st Plenary Meeting)**

1. Date: Monday, 12 November 2018

Opened: 4.05 p.m.
Closed: 5.05 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador A. Azzoni

The Russian Federation, Ukraine, the United States of America, Canada, Austria-European Union and the Chairperson delivered comments on the draft agenda.

3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:

Agenda item 1: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE

Chairperson, Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to
Ukraine

Agenda item 2: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Chairperson

- (a) *Illegal and fake so-called “elections” in the Russia-occupied territories of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine:* Ukraine (PC.DEL/1382/18), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1384/18 OSCE+), Canada (PC.DEL/1397/18 OSCE+), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Australia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1387/18/Rev.1), Georgia (PC.DEL/1386/18 OSCE+), France (also on behalf of Germany) (Annex), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/1381/18 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/1396/18 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/1412/18),

Moldova, United States of America (PC.DEL/1385/18), OSCE Parliamentary
Assembly

- (b) *The expression of the will of the people in Donbass*: Russian Federation
(PC.DEL/1383/18)

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 14 November 2018, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1201
12 November 2018
Annex

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1201st Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1201, Agenda item 2(a)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF FRANCE
(ALSO ON BEHALF OF GERMANY)**

Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic, and Angela Merkel, Federal Chancellor of Germany, met today in Paris with Petro Poroshenko, President of Ukraine.

The French President and the German Chancellor, mediators in the Normandy format, stated that the illegal and illegitimate elections in certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions held this Sunday, 11 November, in spite of numerous appeals by the international community for their cancellation, contradict the spirit of the Minsk agreements and the declaration signed by the four Heads of State or Government in the Normandy format in February 2015 in connection with the Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Agreements.

They emphasized that the holding of these so-called elections undermined the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine.

The French President and the German Chancellor pointed out that any local election in certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions should respect the Minsk agreements and thus be held in accordance with Ukrainian legislation and OSCE standards.

They welcomed the extension until 31 December 2019 by the Ukrainian Parliament, at the initiative of President Poroshenko, of the Law on the Special Status of the Local Autonomous Government of Certain Areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk Regions. They also welcomed the announcement by President Poroshenko regarding completion of the process of disengagement from the area of Stanytsia Luhanska.

They drew attention to the forthcoming discussions by foreign ministers, which will focus in particular on a possible mission under the mandate of the United Nations.

The President of the French Republic and the Federal Chancellor of Germany recalled the responsibilities of all parties regarding respect for the ceasefire, disengagement, withdrawal of heavy weapons and full implementation of the Minsk agreements.

They firmly support the prospect of a new exchange of detained persons and the liberation of all political prisoners before the end of the year.