

Chairmanship: Serbia

1042nd PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. Date: Thursday, 5 March 2015

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 1.15 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador V. Žugić

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson drew the attention of the Permanent Council to a joint press release issued by the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and the OSCE Secretary General condemning the murder of Russian opposition politician Mr. Boris Nemtsov in Moscow on 27 February 2015 (SEC.PR/178/15). The delegations of the Russian Federation (PC.DEL/295/15), Canada (PC.DEL/302/15 OSCE+), the United States of America (PC.DEL/253/15/Rev.1), Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/285/15/Rev.1), Ukraine (PC.DEL/260/15 OSCE+), Switzerland and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly delivered statements in response to the Chairperson's announcement.

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

Agenda item 1: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Chairperson

- (a) *Ongoing aggression against Ukraine and violations of OSCE principles and commitments by the Russian Federation:* Ukraine (PC.DEL/263/15 OSCE+), Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well

as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/287/15/Rev.1), Canada (PC.DEL/301/15 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/262/15), Turkey (PC.DEL/267/15 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/283/15 OSCE+), France, Chairperson

- (b) *Situation in Ukraine and the need to implement the Minsk agreements:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/274/15), United States of America (PC.DEL/278/15) (PC.DEL/279/15), Ukraine, Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment), Germany
- (c) *Abduction and illegal detention of Ukrainian citizens by the Russian Federation:* Ukraine (PC.DEL/261/15 OSCE+), Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/291/15), Canada, United States of America (PC.DEL/273/15)
- (d) *Abduction of the Estonian police officer Mr. E. Kohver:* Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/286/15/Rev.1), Canada (PC.DEL/300/15 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/254/15), Norway (PC.DEL/258/15), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/297/15)
- (e) *Parliamentary elections in Tajikistan held on 1 March 2015:* Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/290/15/Rev.1), Belarus (PC.DEL/275/15 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/294/15), United States of America (PC.DEL/280/15), OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Tajikistan (PC.DEL/264/15 OSCE+)
- (f) *The ODIHR and Council of Europe Venice Commission Guidelines on Freedom of Association, launched in Geneva on 5 March 2015:* Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the

Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/289/15), United States of America (PC.DEL/255/15), Switzerland, Chairperson of the Human Dimension Committee (Norway) (PC.DEL/257/15)

- (g) *Zero Discrimination Day, observed on 1 March 2015*: Montenegro (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States of America) (PC.DEL/269/15/Rev.1 OSCE+), Russian Federation (also on behalf of Belarus) (PC.DEL/298/15)
- (h) *Recent political developments in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*: Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/288/15/Rev.1), United States of America (PC.DEL/272/15), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- (i) *Situation in the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan*: Azerbaijan (Annex 1), Georgia, Ukraine (PC.DEL/271/15 OSCE+), Moldova, Turkey (PC.DEL/282/15 OSCE+)
- (j) *Ceasefire violations along the Line of Contact between Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan and on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border*: Armenia (Annex 2), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/265/15 OSCE+)
- (k) *Statement by the countries co-chairing the OSCE Minsk Group*: France (also on behalf of the Russian Federation and the United States of America) (PC.DEL/293/15 OSCE+), Armenia (PC.DEL/292/15), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/266/15 OSCE+)
- (l) *International Women's Day, observed on 8 March 2015*: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/296/15), Belarus (PC.DEL/276/15 OSCE+), Norway
- (m) *Ratification by Mongolia of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance*: Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as

well as Andorra, Moldova, Monaco and Ukraine, in alignment)
(PC.DEL/284/15/Rev.1), Chairperson of the Human Dimension Committee
(Norway) (PC.DEL/259/15), Mongolia (PC.DEL/270/15 OSCE+)

Agenda item 2: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of the report of the Chairperson-in-Office (CIO.GAL/22/15):* Chairperson
- (b) *Invitation by the Chairperson-in-Office to the participating States to contribute human and financial resources to the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (CIO.GAL/21/15 Restr.):* Chairperson

Agenda item 3: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/46/15 OSCE+):* Secretary General
- (b) *Meeting between the Secretary General and the Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations on 2 March 2015:* Secretary General (SEC.GAL/46/15 OSCE+)

Agenda item 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Report issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus entitled “The Most Resonant Human Rights Violations in Certain Countries – 2014”: Belarus
(PC.DEL/277/15 OSCE+)

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 11 March 2015, at 3.15 p.m., in the Neuer Saal



1042nd Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1042, Agenda item 1(i)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF AZERBAIJAN

Mr. Chairperson,

According to the reports circulated by the mass media outlets of the Republic of Armenia, the so-called “elections” to the “parliament” of the puppet separatist regime are planned to be held in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 3 May 2015.

The Azerbaijani side reiterates in this regard that the separatist regime established by the Republic of Armenia in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan is ultimately nothing other than the product of aggression and racial discrimination; it is under Armenia’s direction and control. It is well known that the Republic of Armenia unleashed the war and used force against Azerbaijan, seized almost one fifth of its territory, including the Nagorno-Karabakh region and seven adjacent districts, carried out ethnic cleansing of the seized areas by expelling about one million Azerbaijanis from their homes and committed other serious crimes during the conflict.

The international community has consistently deplored in the strongest terms the use of military force against Azerbaijan and the resulting occupation of its territories. In 1993, the United Nations Security Council adopted resolutions 822 (1993), 853 (1993), 874 (1993) and 884 (1993), condemning the occupation of the territories of Azerbaijan and reaffirming respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the inviolability of its internationally recognized borders. In those resolutions, the Security Council also confirmed that the Nagorno-Karabakh region is part of Azerbaijan, and demanded immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of the occupying forces from all the occupied territories of Azerbaijan. Other international organizations have adopted a similar position.

Against the background of continuing military occupation and ethnic cleansing of the territories of Azerbaijan, the holding of “elections” to the structures of the puppet separatist regime there constitutes a clear violation of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the norms and principles of international law, and, therefore, shall have no legal effect whatsoever.

Armenia’s policy of annexation of the seized territories of Azerbaijan has no chance of succeeding. The only way to achieve a durable and lasting settlement is to ensure the

unconditional and complete withdrawal of the Armenian armed forces from the Nagorno-Karabakh region and other occupied territories of Azerbaijan, the exercise by the forcibly displaced population of its inalienable right to return and the establishment of relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan on the basis of respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity within their internationally recognized borders.

The Republic of Azerbaijan once again calls on the Armenian side, instead of wasting time and misleading its own people and the international community, to cease its policy of annexation and ethnic cleansing and to engage constructively in the conflict settlement process and comply with its international obligations.

I ask that this statement to be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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

PC.JOUR/1042
5 March 2015
Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

1042nd Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1042, Agenda item 1(j)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF ARMENIA

Mr. Chairperson,

We would like to draw the attention of the Permanent Council to the continued ceasefire violations along the Line of Contact between Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan and on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border.

Since the last Permanent Council meeting the situation has again escalated as a result of acts of provocation by the Azerbaijani armed forces. The military incursions and subversive acts conducted by Azerbaijani armed forces along the line of contact between Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan have resulted in the NK Defence Army suffering three casualties.

By undertaking these actions the Azerbaijani side has once again demonstrated its attitude towards the calls made on Baku by the Co-Chairmen of the OSCE Minsk Group to observe the ceasefire strictly and refrain from steps likely to escalate the situation.

In the statement made following their latest visit to the region, the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Group noted that the Presidents had agreed to consider the proposals made by the Co-Chairmen in order to strengthen the ceasefire. Regrettably, by committing further ceasefire violations Azerbaijan is yet again displaying its disrespect for the Co-Chairmen's proposals.

Armenia calls on the Azerbaijani side to observe its commitments to a peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and to refrain from actions that will further escalate the situation on the line of contact between Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan and on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border.

We request that the statement of the delegation of Armenia be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you.