



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council

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**OSCE Secretary General
Marc Perrin de Brichambaut**

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to have this opportunity to address the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council. Like the OSCE, the EAPC provides an inclusive forum for addressing the security challenges shared by the States making up the broad community of greater Europe. I remain convinced that our efforts can and should complement each other.

Building comprehensive, co-operative and indivisible security throughout the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian community requires hard work on a broad spectrum of issues and intense co-operation between States and organizations. If we are to succeed in this effort, we must rebuild mutual trust and confidence throughout this diverse community.

Two decades have passed since the end of the Cold War. Yet, the ambitious vision set forth twenty years ago in the 1990 Charter of Paris for a New Europe, a vision of an OSCE community characterized by “a new era of democracy, peace and unity,” continues to elude us.

Recent years have seen some conflicts in the OSCE area remain volatile and unresolved, and others can erupt into violence.

In Kyrgyzstan, political upheaval in April and the escalation of violence last month have demonstrated the terrible mix that weak state institutions and deep-rooted tensions within society can produce. We have all been shocked by the tragic loss of life.

Under the leadership of Kazakhstan, the OSCE community has come together to work in several directions to help the Kyrgyz authorities restore public order and the rule of law, ensure protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and set the country back on a course of stability and development. The OSCE Centre in Bishkek has been strengthened in its efforts across all three OSCE dimensions. The OSCE is now working to deploy a Police Advisory Group to support efforts to reduce inter-ethnic tensions and restore public order and trust.

The constitutional referendum on the 27th of June was an important moment. But uncertainties and challenges remain. We are embarked on a long term process, where the sustained contribution of all members of the OSCE family will be vital.

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

What is true for our efforts in Kyrgyzstan is true for the OSCE region as a whole. Only with unity of purpose and renewed dedication to our common vision of an inclusive, indivisible

security community stretching from Vancouver to Vladivostok, rooted in common goals and common values, can we succeed in facing the challenges before us.

It was with this in mind that the 2009 Greek OSCE Chairmanship launched the Corfu Process, with a view to strengthening the unity of the OSCE community by dealing honestly and seriously with our most pressing security concerns. The Kazakh Chairmanship has carried this process forward with energy and determination, and has proposed to organize an OSCE Summit prior to the end of this year, as a means of mobilizing political will at the highest level. At their recent informal meeting in Almaty, OSCE Foreign Ministers were in general agreement on this initiative, and ambassadors in Vienna are seeking to finalize decisions on the venue, date and modalities of the Summit and relevant preparatory work.

As we look toward an OSCE Summit, the discussions that have taken place over the past year in the framework of the Corfu Process provide a strong foundation. The Corfu Process is not about the OSCE as an organization. It is about the security of our shared Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian space as a whole. A renewed security dialogue cannot be divorced from actual security challenges, and ministers in Almaty made clear that we should not shy away from real-world challenges. I know the Kazakh Ambassador intends to brief you about the outcomes of the Almaty Ministerial.

While the OSCE, with its inclusive membership and its comprehensive, cross-dimensional security concept, offers a natural home for an open dialogue on these and other issues, the Organization cannot confront such challenges alone. Ultimately, our common success will require the support and input of other Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security organizations, including NATO.

In this context, we welcomed the support expressed by NATO Heads of State and Government last year at the Strasbourg-Kehl Summit for a broad strategic dialogue in the framework of the OSCE. Now is the time for NATO to contribute to that dialogue in a meaningful way. As the Alliance debates a new Strategic Concept aimed at dealing more effectively with 21st century challenges, its contribution to the broader work of the OSCE, and its views on how the two organizations can complement each other, will be very important.

The 2010 NATO Strategic Concept offers the opportunity to reaffirm the Alliance's commitment to engage the broader Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian community also through the OSCE, and to set forth an ambitious vision for the Organization's future. This vision should not be limited to modalities of interaction in the field between the two organizations, but should recognize and capitalize on the ability of NATO member states, who represent half of the OSCE 56 participating States, to help shape the Organization's future *from the inside*.

Greater collective work is required by reality itself. Take the challenges posed by transnational threats that reach well beyond regional borders and operate on a global scale. The OSCE offers a mechanism for developing broad-based co-operation to combat trafficking in persons, narcotics and weapons, to fight organized crime, terrorism and proliferation, and to promote the ratification and implementation of relevant UN conventions (such as UNSCR 1540) throughout the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian region. It also offers a platform for enhancing Confidence Building Measures (CBM) and preserving a reliable system of arms control in the framework of the JCG which services the parties to the CFE Treaty.

Addressing the situation in and around Afghanistan also urgently requires our best collective efforts.

In May of last year, the OSCE opened a Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, aimed at providing targeted training to personnel from Central Asia, Afghanistan and throughout the OSCE area. At the same time, the OSCE is assisting Tajikistan in improving its border patrols and customs service in order to combat trafficking of weapons and drugs. This includes efforts to promote co-operation between Tajik and Afghan personnel. In addition, the OSCE has launched a Customs Training Facility in Kyrgyzstan to train national and regional customs officers together with Afghan personnel. The OSCE was also actively engaged in providing electoral assistance to Afghanistan in 2009, building on similar efforts in 2004 and 2005.

Last week's Conference in Kabul was a milestone, demonstrating increased international support across a range of vital areas. The OSCE can do more in this context, but only if our participating States can muster the necessary political will and resources to support and expand our efforts. Beyond border management, the OSCE has rich expertise in civilian capacity-building, economic rehabilitation, support for democratic governance and the rule of law, empowerment of women, and combating terrorism, corruption and human trafficking. The Kazakh Chairmanship has made the enhancement of the OSCE's engagement with Afghanistan one of its top priorities. As the Astana Summit draws near, participating States will want to set clear goals and priorities in this area.

Excellences,

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Le Sommet qui va se tenir à Astana à la fin de l'année va être la première rencontre des Chefs d'États et de gouvernements des pays membres de l'OSCE depuis 1999 à Istanbul.

A Helsinki en 1975, puis à Paris et Copenhague en 1990, les états Participants à l'OSCE ont adopté ensemble des objectifs ambitieux pour la communauté de l'OSCE. Mais la réalisation de ces objectifs requiert une volonté politique et un soutien constant des plus hautes autorités. Le *status quo* n'est pas suffisant, et il y a encore beaucoup à faire. Un Sommet de l'OSCE va permettre de faire le point sur notre situation, de réaffirmer nos valeurs et engagements communs, et de forger de nouveaux objectifs face aux défis du futur. Ce sera une nouveauté pour l'OSCE que de préparer un Sommet en une si courte période de temps, mais l'innovation a été un facteur de la permanence de l'organisation au cours de ces 35 dernières années. Nous ne résoudrons sans doute pas tous les problèmes qui aujourd'hui nous divisent, mais nous aurons l'opportunité de lancer des processus pour y parvenir.

L'OSCE a joué un rôle crucial en contribuant à effacer les lignes de divisions et à rapprocher les pays pendant et après la Guerre Froide. Elle peut et elle se doit de jouer ce rôle à nouveau aujourd'hui en étroite liaison avec toutes les organisations concernées par la sécurité dans la grande Europe.

Ce rendez-vous aura lieu peu après le Sommet de l'OTAN à Lisbonne. La fin de l'année 2010 va donc nous offrir un moment privilégié pour assurer une complémentarité active entre

l'OTAN et l'OSCE, mais aussi avec l'UE et d'autres organisations, et profiter ainsi d'autres dynamiques positives.

Enfin cette année marque un nombre d'étapes importantes : le 65^e Anniversaire de la fin de la Seconde Guerre Mondiale, le 35^e Anniversaire de l'Acte Final d'Helsinki, et le 20^e Anniversaire de la Charte de Paris. C'est l'occasion de montrer que notre attachement à partager nos engagements passés sert de fondation pour notre futur commun.

Merci de votre attention.