

Chairmanship: Albania**1296th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 17 December 2020 (via video teleconference)

Opened: 10 a.m.
Suspended: 1.05 p.m.
Resumed: 3 p.m.
Closed: 6.10 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador I. Hasani

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson offered his condolences to the delegation of Switzerland on the passing of the former President of Switzerland, H.E. Mr. Flavio Cotti. Switzerland thanked the Chairperson for his expression of sympathy.

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

Agenda item 1: **PRESENTATIONS BY THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE SECURITY COMMITTEE; THE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE; AND THE HUMAN DIMENSION COMMITTEE**

Chairperson, Chairperson of the Security Committee (PC.DEL/1784/20 OSCE+), Chairperson of the Economic and Environmental Committee, Chairperson of the Human Dimension Committee, Germany-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1819/20/Rev.2), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1781/20 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1780/20 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/1799/20 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1779/20), Georgia (PC.DEL/1812/20 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/1811/20), Ukraine (PC.DEL/1788/20), Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/1802/20 OSCE+), Armenia (PC.DEL/1822/20)

Agenda item 2: REPORT BY THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
OSCE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE ON YOUTH AND
SECURITY

Chairperson, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Youth and Security (CIO.GAL/226/20 OSCE+), Germany-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1815/20/Rev.2), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1785/20), Turkey (PC.DEL/1805/20 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1782/20), United Kingdom, Spain (Annex 1)

Agenda item 3: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Chairperson

- (a) *Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine and illegal occupation of Crimea:* Ukraine (PC.DEL/1791/20), Canada (PC.DEL/20/21 OSCE+), Germany-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1818/20/Rev.2), Turkey (PC.DEL/1807/20 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1808/20 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1786/20), United Kingdom
- (b) *Situation in Ukraine and the need to implement the Minsk agreements:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1789/20)
- (c) *Aggression of Azerbaijan against Artsakh and Armenia with the direct involvement of Turkey and foreign terrorist fighters:* Armenia (Annex 2)
- (d) *Human rights violations in Belarus:* Germany-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Canada and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1816/20/Rev.1), United States of America (PC.DEL/1787/20), United Kingdom, Belarus (PC.DEL/1804/20 OSCE+)
- (e) *Fifty-first round of the Geneva International Discussions, held on 10 and 11 December 2020:* Germany-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1817/20/Rev.1), Georgia (PC.DEL/1813/20 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1792/20 OSCE+), United

States of America (PC.DEL/1790/20), United Kingdom, Ukraine (PC.DEL/1793/20), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1796/20 OSCE+)

- (f) *Federal executions in the United States of America*: Germany-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1821/20/Rev.1), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1814/20 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1797/20), United States of America (PC.DEL/1795/20)
- (g) *Human rights violations and abuses in the Chechen Republic of the Russian Federation – Two Years after the Publication of the Moscow Mechanism Report*: Netherlands (also on behalf of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America) (Annex 3), Russian Federation
- (h) *OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair statement*: United States of America (also on behalf of France and the Russian Federation) (PC.DEL/1/21), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1806/20 OSCE+), Germany-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1820/20), United States of America (PC.DEL/1794/20), United Kingdom, Canada (PC.DEL/24/21 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1798/20 OSCE+), Armenia (PC.DEL/1824/20), Turkey (PC.DEL/1809/20 OSCE+), France (PC.DEL/1810/20 OSCE+)

Agenda item 4: DECISION ON THE THEME, AGENDA AND
 MODALITIES FOR THE 29th ECONOMIC AND
 ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1387 (PC.DEC/1387) on the theme, agenda and modalities for the 29th Economic and Environmental Forum, the text of which is appended to this journal.

United States of America (interpretative statement, see attachment to the decision)

Agenda item 5: DECISION ON INVESTMENTS IN CAPITAL
REQUIREMENTS USING 2020 UNIFIED BUDGET
UNDERSPEND

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1388 (PC.DEC/1388) on investments in capital requirements using 2020 Unified Budget Underspend, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 6: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UKRAINE

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1389 (PC.DEC/1389) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Canada (interpretative statement, see attachment 1 to the decision), United States of America (interpretative statement, see attachment 2 to the decision), Ukraine (interpretative statement, see attachment 3 to the decision), Germany-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (interpretative statement, see attachment 4 to the decision), Russian Federation (interpretative statement, see attachment 5 to the decision), Turkey (interpretative statement, see attachment 6 to the decision), United Kingdom (interpretative statement, see attachment 7 to the decision)

Agenda item 7: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1390 (PC.DEC/1390) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 8: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE MISSION TO MONTENEGRO

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1391 (PC.DEC/1391) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 9: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE MISSION TO SERBIA

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1392 (PC.DEC/1392) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Serbia, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 10: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE MISSION TO SKOPJE

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1393 (PC.DEC/1393) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Skopje, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 11: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE PRESENCE IN ALBANIA

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1394 (PC.DEC/1394) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Presence in Albania, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 12: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE MISSION TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1395 (PC.DEC/1395) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 13: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UZBEKISTAN

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1396 (PC.DEC/1396) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 14: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE OSCE PROGRAMME OFFICE IN BISHKEK

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1397 (PC.DEC/1397) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 15: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE OSCE PROGRAMME OFFICE IN NUR-SULTAN

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1398 (PC.DEC/1398) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Kazakhstan (interpretative statement, see attachment to the decision)

Agenda item 16: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE

Organizational matters related to the appointment of the new OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media: Chairperson

Agenda item 17: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT

- (a) *Update on the COVID-19 situation across the OSCE's executive structures:* Officer-in-Charge/Secretary General (SEC.GAL/189/20 OSCE+)
- (b) *International conference on "Policy of Neutrality and its Significance in Ensuring International Peace, Security and Sustainable Development", held in Ashgabat on 12 December 2020:* Officer-in-Charge/Secretary General (SEC.GAL/189/20 OSCE+)
- (c) *High-level principals meeting of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT), held on 15 December 2020:* Officer-in-Charge/Secretary General (SEC.GAL/189/20 OSCE+)
- (d) *Debating Perspectives 2030 Roadshow, held in Poland on 11 December 2020:* Officer-in-Charge/Secretary General (SEC.GAL/189/20 OSCE+)
- (e) *Meetings of the Parties to the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), held from 8 to 11 December 2020:* Officer-in-Charge/Secretary General (SEC.GAL/189/20 OSCE+)

- (f) *UNODC-OSCE online workshop for South-East Europe on organized crime, confiscation and social reuse of assets, held on 15 and 16 December 2020*: Officer-in-Charge/Secretary General (SEC.GAL/189/20 OSCE+)
- (g) *Webinar entitled “Towards resilient and inclusive societies”, held on 16 December 2020*: Officer-in-Charge/Secretary General (SEC.GAL/189/20 OSCE+)
- (h) *Deadline extension for the conflict cycle survey conducted by the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre*: Officer-in-Charge/Secretary General (SEC.GAL/189/20 OSCE+)

Agenda item 18: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Farewell to the Permanent Representative of Italy to the OSCE, Ambassador A. Azzoni*: Chairperson, Dean of the Permanent Council (Liechtenstein), Italy
- (b) *Farewell to the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan (Partner for Co-operation) to the OSCE, Ambassador K. F. Ebrahimkhel*: Chairperson, Afghanistan (Partner for Co-operation)
- (c) *Farewell statement by the Albanian OSCE Chairmanship*: Chairperson, Sweden
- (d) *Repatriation of Uzbek nationals from conflict zones within the framework of the humanitarian operation “Mekhr-3” (Kindness-3)*: Uzbekistan (PC.DEL/1800/20)

4. Next meeting:

To be announced



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

PC.JOUR/1296
17 December 2020
Annex 1

ENGLISH
Original: SPANISH

1296th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 2

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SPAIN

Mr. Chairperson,

Spain aligns itself completely with the statement by the European Union and would also like to make the following statement in a national capacity.

We are grateful for the excellent work carried out by the Albanian Chairmanship through its youth representatives Alba Brojka and Keisi Sefiri, and its focal point Ingrid Prinzeri.

Albania has given decisive stimulus this year to the youth and security agenda and has duly reflected its cross-cutting character by including youth in the working programmes of the committees in the Organization's three dimensions. This has been demonstrated in the activities of these committees, as mentioned by their chairpersons in the previous agenda item of this Permanent Council meeting.

I should also like to highlight the involvement of the Secretariat, through Anastasia Fusco and Ignacio Talegón, and its contribution to the promotion of the youth agenda.

The Group of Friends of Youth and Security is a valuable forum for giving visibility to and exchanging points of view between participating States on the youth and security agenda and of learning at first hand about the work carried out in this area by the OSCE Secretariat and the various field missions.

The two annual meetings we have organized during 2020 demonstrated once again the inclusive nature of the youth agenda and the potential of young people through their contribution to peace and security.

This change in the narrative from young people as consumers of security through programmes to combat violent extremism towards a narrative highlighting their contribution to peace and security – through mobilization in support of the environment or reconciliation in regions marked by recent conflicts, for example – is a very important development. This narrative is bound to be reinforced by the effects of COVID-19. As mentioned in the statement by the European Union, we must do everything possible to prevent the

2020 generation from being a lost generation. We shall pursue efforts in that regard throughout 2021 through the Group of Friends of Youth and Security.

The youth and security agenda is in line with a number of OSCE ministerial declarations, the most recent of which, adopted at the 2018 Milan Ministerial Council, gives the OSCE a solid basis – together with United Nations Security Council resolutions 2250 (2015), 2419 (2018) and 2535 (2020) – for intensifying its youth and security agenda. This agenda follows the orientations of the 2017 Málaga Decalogue and the 2019 OSCE-wide Youth Forum Bratislava – Perspectives 20-30. We shall continue to explore possibilities for strengthening the youth and security agenda in 2021.

Lastly, I should like to express our willingness to continue to push forward the youth and security agenda in 2021 in close co-ordination with the Swedish OSCE Chairmanship.

Thank you.

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



1296th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 3(c)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF ARMENIA

Mr. Chairperson,

On 11 and 12 December, for the first time since the signing of the trilateral statement on cessation of fire and hostilities in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone, which was intended to put an end to the aggression of Azerbaijan against the Republic of Artsakh, the Azerbaijani armed forces committed a serious violation of the ceasefire resulting in the occupation by Azerbaijan of two more villages in Artsakh and several casualties.

In particular, on 11 December, around 8.40 p.m., the special forces of the Azerbaijani armed forces, in a blatant violation of the 9 November statement, launched an attack on the line of contact between the armed forces of Artsakh and Azerbaijan in the area of the villages of Hin Tagher and Khtsaberd of the Hadrut region of Artsakh, taking advantage of the fact that the Russian peacekeeping forces were not deployed in this area of the Republic of Artsakh. As a result of the offensive, six servicemen of the Artsakh Defence Army were wounded.

It should also be noted that thanks to the intervention of Russian peacekeepers, a group of servicemen of the Artsakh Defence Army, who were surrounded by Azerbaijani troops, were safely withdrawn from encirclement. In this context, we attach great importance to the presence of the Russian peacekeeping forces on the ground and believe that their presence helps to prevent possible violations of the ceasefire or any other attempts to further destabilize the fragile situation.

The actions of the Azerbaijani military constitute a flagrant violation of the trilateral statement of 9 November and, despite the Azerbaijani regime's futile attempts to come up with justifications for these actions that could be seen as plausible, they demonstrate once again that the pronounced assurances of the Azerbaijani leadership of their commitment to promoting the so-called "peaceful co-existence" and the prospects for peace in the region are nothing more than hollow words. The Azerbaijani forces even now continue their provocations and encroachments in various places, including in the "Lachin corridor". With this tactic of "creeping occupation", Azerbaijan hopes to continue seizing the territory of Artsakh one village at a time, while repeating absurd territorial claims towards Armenia. Moreover, according to reports we receive, the settlements and roads of the Syunik region of Armenia are no longer secure and occasionally come under sporadic fire.

Mr. Chairperson,

These recent provocations by the Azerbaijani troops were accompanied by no less provocative statements and claims by the president of that country. We are not going to reflect on the anti-Armenian hate rhetoric contained in his statements, which amount to extreme manifestation of intolerance towards Armenia and the Armenian people in general.

However, I would like to refer to the territorial claims made by President Aliyev to the part of the territory of Armenia, including the capital Yerevan. We strongly condemn such statements, which show that the hereditary President of Azerbaijan, encouraged and emboldened by the impunity for all previous cases of the use of force against Artsakh, is promoting the idea of expanding the zone of instability. This goes against the latest set of commitments undertaken by Azerbaijan under the 9 November statement, as well as the explicit calls of the international community.

Mr. Chairperson,

It is important to note that the military provocations by Azerbaijan took place amid the visit of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs to the region. Apparently, they were aimed at undermining the efforts of both the Co-Chairs and the Russian Federation and its peacekeeping forces.

Encouraged by the complete impunity for his actions, the Azerbaijani President stated unapologetically and without hesitation that Azerbaijan “resolved the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict” by force. Such narratives challenge the very essence of the OSCE and the European security architecture.

In light of the highly controversial and belligerent statements made by the Turkish President in Baku last week and the continued presence of Turkish military and foreign terrorist fighters in Azerbaijan, such behaviour once again demonstrates the Turkish-Azerbaijani expansionist policy, which continues to undermine regional security and stability and threatens to expand into neighbouring regions.

We have repeatedly called on Turkey, the country that instigated and openly supported the Azerbaijani aggression against Artsakh through direct engagement of its armed forces and provided political support, to withdraw its troops and military equipment, as well as foreign terrorist fighters and jihadists from Azerbaijan.

However, reports continue to emerge revealing Turkey’s recruitment and deployment of foreign terrorist fighters in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone. One of the recent reports presented the personal data of 88 foreign terrorist fighters brought from Libya to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict area.

In this regard, we call on OSCE participating States to exert pressure on Turkey to put an end to its malicious practice of recruiting and using terrorists as a proxy army.

We regret this stance of Turkey, which could have played a more constructive and responsible role in the region aimed at creating an environment for peace and prosperity for all the people of the region without distinction.

Mr. Chairperson,

We would like to highlight the recent exchange of prisoners of war and hostages, which should have taken place earlier, if not for the undue delays and artificial preconditions put forward by Azerbaijan with regard to this purely humanitarian process.

Thus, on 14 December, the first round of the exchange of prisoners of war and hostages took place with the direct involvement and facilitation of the commander of the Russian peacekeeping forces.

However, there are still Armenian prisoners of war and hostages in Azerbaijan, whose return is a matter of urgency and absolute priority given the legitimate concerns about the conditions of their detention and the high probability of their torture and ill-treatment. The reason for these concerns stems from the numerous video footage of executions, beheadings, torture and mutilation of bodies circulated on social media, as well as from the testimonies of survivors. One of the recent videos posted on social media shows summary execution by Azerbaijani soldiers of 11 servicemen of the Artsakh Defence Army lying on the ground with their hands tied behind. These war crimes and crimes against humanity must not go unpunished.

There were also cases of enforced disappearances and arbitrary killings, which require immediate, proper and prompt investigation.

Mr. Chairperson,

I will touch upon issues related to the peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict later, under the current issue raised by the delegation of the United States. However, let me conclude by reiterating that the current situation is the result of the use of force, accompanied by numerous violations of international humanitarian law and war crimes and, therefore, cannot ensure a durable and lasting peace. All issues related to the Nagorno-Karabakh peace process and the final settlement of the conflict, including the status of Artsakh, must be discussed within the only internationally agreed format of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs.

Thank you.



1296th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 3(g)

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE NETHERLANDS
(ALSO ON BEHALF OF AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, BULGARIA,
CANADA, CROATIA, CYPRUS, THE CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK,
ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY, GREECE, ICELAND,
IRELAND, ITALY, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, LUXEMBOURG, MALTA,
MONTENEGRO, NORTH MACEDONIA, NORWAY, POLAND,
PORTUGAL, SAN MARINO, SLOVAKIA, SLOVENIA,
SPAIN, SWEDEN, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)**

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Moscow Mechanism invoking participating States: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States, as well as the following countries: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, North Macedonia, Malta, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain.

Mr. Chairperson,

In November 2018, 16 participating States took the important step of invoking the OSCE Moscow Mechanism to look into multiple allegations of serious human rights violations and abuses in the Russian Federation's Republic of Chechnya that allegedly were committed during January 2017 to November 2018 against LGBTI persons, human rights defenders, members of the independent media, lawyers and others.

In December 2018, the report resulting from the Moscow Mechanism found that "harassment and persecution, arbitrary or unlawful arrests or detentions, torture, enforced disappearances and extrajudicial executions" had indeed occurred. The report also found "a climate of impunity" surrounding such violations and abuses. We called on the Russian Federation to make full use of the report and to implement all recommendations contained therein, in order to address the issues raised in a constructive manner and to stop the human rights violations and abuses in its Chechen Republic under the leadership of Ramzan Kadyrov.

Mr. Chairperson,

Two years have passed since the report resulting from the Moscow Mechanism was issued. Still, there has been no constructive response to the report or its recommendations from Russian federal and local authorities. Meanwhile, new information has come to light about additional allegations of serious human rights violations and abuses in Chechnya.

Reports of abuses against LGBTI persons continue to emerge. A young woman, Aminat Lorsanova, has come forward and alleges that in 2018 her relatives had her institutionalized successively in two separate treatment centres where she was beaten repeatedly in an attempt to change her sexual orientation. Chechen authorities have created an atmosphere that normalizes and condones such despicable acts of violence against LGBTI persons, while federal authorities continue their deafening silence. In January of this year, Aminat Lorsanova filed a complaint with the Russian Investigative Committee, which still has taken no action.

We also are alarmed by reports of a sharp increase in enforced disappearances in Chechnya. Ramzan Kadyrov's security forces continue to routinely engage in appalling acts of violence to punish any form of dissent. The Chechen authorities appear to be targeting primarily young persons who have engaged with content on the Internet criticizing the Chechen authorities. According to the human rights group Memorial, at least 22 individuals have been unlawfully detained in recent months. Some reportedly remain in incommunicado detention under the control of Chechen authorities.

We are particularly concerned by credible reports of the recent disappearance of 19-year-old Salman Tepsurkayev, a moderator for the Telegram social media channel 1ADAT. He was allegedly kidnapped by Chechen security officials on 6 September and taken to the Terek Special Rapid Response Police Compound in Grozny. Subsequently, Salman Tepsurkayev appeared in a video that showed him under conditions of extreme duress for allegedly helping to "spread lies" about Chechen authorities.

We also are deeply troubled by the case of Movsar Umarov, who was arrested at his workplace in Grozny on 18 July, allegedly for watching a video blog produced by Tumso Abdurakhmanov, a popular critic of Chechen authorities. In late August, Movsar Umarov's family was informed that he had "escaped" from detention and was no longer in custody. His family has not heard from him since. In October, local authorities opened a murder investigation at the request of Movsar Umarov's mother, who fears he may have been extrajudicially killed.

Mr. Chairperson,

Multiple times over the past two years, we have called on the Russian Federation to put an end to the human rights violations and abuses in its Chechen Republic, to protect the victims, and to respect the dignity and human rights of all individuals without discrimination. We have repeatedly called on the Russian Federation to conduct prompt, effective and thorough investigations into all reports of such violations and abuses, in order to ensure that anyone responsible or complicit is held accountable.

Despite these calls, the climate of impunity described in the Moscow Mechanism report continues to prevail in Chechnya.

We renew our call on the Russian Federation to pursue investigations and to act without further delay on the recommendations of the Moscow Mechanism rapporteur to:

1. “Open an inquiry into the actions of the government of the Chechen Republic towards LGBTI people”;
2. “Express a commitment at the highest level of the executive branch of the Russian Federation to fully investigate the allegations and to bring to justice the alleged perpetrators, including those belonging to the local security forces”;
3. “Make sure that all Chechen authorities, including law enforcement and security agencies, fully comply with Russia’s domestic legislation and international human rights obligations”;
4. “Assure that the pre-investigation in politically sensitive cases in the Chechen Republic is led by investigators from the federal and not the regional level”;
5. “Reform the pre-investigation (pre-check) mechanism in a way that fully ensures its independence and effectiveness; in the case of investigating alleged human rights violations in Chechnya the Federal Investigative Commission and its investigators should be used”;
6. “Open a new pre-investigation/pre-check on the federal level into the case of the 27 persons allegedly killed by Chechen security forces or undertake a special investigation with the inclusion of international experts.”

We will continue to monitor the situation in Chechnya and to raise our concerns until we receive a substantive response from the Russian Federation and observe tangible progress in Chechnya.

1296th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 4

**DECISION No. 1387
THEME, AGENDA AND MODALITIES FOR THE
29th ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM**

The Permanent Council,

Pursuant to Chapter VII, paragraphs 21 to 32, of the Helsinki Document 1992; Chapter IX, paragraph 20, of the Budapest Document 1994; Ministerial Council Decision No. 10/04 of 7 December 2004; Ministerial Council Decision No. 4/06 of 26 July 2006; Permanent Council Decision No. 743 of 19 October 2006; Permanent Council Decision No. 958 of 11 November 2010; and Permanent Council Decision No. 1011 of 7 December 2011,

Relying on the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension (Annex 1 of MC(11).JOUR/2) and relevant Ministerial Council decisions,

Building on the outcomes of past Economic and Environmental Forums, as well as on the results of relevant OSCE activities,

Decides that:

1. The theme of the 29th Economic and Environmental Forum will be: “Promoting comprehensive security, stability and sustainable development in the OSCE area through women’s economic empowerment”;
2. The 29th Economic and Environmental Forum will consist of three meetings, including two preparatory meetings, one of which will take place outside of Vienna. The concluding meeting will be held on 9 and 10 September 2021 in Prague. These arrangements shall not set a precedent for future meetings of the Economic and Environmental Forum. The Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, under the guidance of the OSCE Chairmanship for 2021, will organize the above-mentioned meetings;
3. The agenda of the Forum will focus on the impact of the following topics on the comprehensive security of the OSCE area:
 - Promote policy and legislative measures that lead to women’s equal economic participation and opportunities, including their equitable access to public services and resources in all stages of life;

- Promote equal opportunities for the participation of women in the labour market, through closing pay gaps and equal access to education and training;
 - Promote women’s entrepreneurship and participation in trade and transport facilitation, through equal market access and improved disaggregated data collection and impact assessments;
 - Promote sustainable development, by empowering women as contributors to the protection of the environment, energy efficiency and water management;
4. The agendas of the Forum meetings, including timetables and themes of the working sessions, will be proposed and determined by the OSCE Chairmanship for 2021, after being agreed upon by the participating States in the Economic and Environmental Committee;
 5. The Economic and Environmental Forum will review the implementation of the OSCE’s commitments in the economic and environmental dimension, including through presentations of activities implemented by the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities and the field operations;
 6. The discussions at the Forum should benefit from cross-dimensional input provided by other OSCE bodies and relevant meetings organized by the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, under the guidance of the OSCE Chairmanship for 2021, and from deliberations in various international organizations;
 7. The participating States are encouraged to be represented at a high level by senior officials responsible for shaping international economic and environmental policy in the OSCE area. Participation in their delegations of representatives from the business and scientific communities and of other relevant actors of civil society would be welcome;
 8. As in previous years, the format of the Economic and Environmental Forum should provide for the active involvement of relevant international organizations and encourage open discussions;
 9. The following international organizations, international organs, regional groupings and conferences of States are invited to participate in the 29th Economic and Environmental Forum: Asian Development Bank; Barents Euro-Arctic Council; Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation; Central European Initiative; Collective Security Treaty Organization; Commonwealth of Independent States; Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia; Council of Europe; Council of the Baltic Sea States; Economic Cooperation Organization; Energy Community; Energy Charter Treaty; Eurasian Economic Commission; Eurasian Economic Union; European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; European Environment Agency; European Investment Bank; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; Green Cross International; International Atomic Energy Agency; International Energy Agency; International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA); International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea; International Maritime Organization; International Monetary Fund; International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement; International Committee of the Red Cross; North Atlantic Treaty Organization; Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC); OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID); Organisation for Economic Co-operation and

Development; Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM; Organisation of Islamic Cooperation; Regional Cooperation Council; Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification; Southeast European Cooperative Initiative; Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; Shanghai Cooperation Organisation; United Nations Development Programme; United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development; United Nations Environment Programme; United Nations Human Settlements Programme; United Nations Industrial Development Organization; United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction; United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees; UN Women; United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia; World Bank Group; World Health Organization; World Meteorological Organization; World Trade Organization; Advisory Group on Environmental Emergencies; Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit; International Strategy for Disaster Reduction; United Nations Children’s Fund; Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI); United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination; International Civil Defence Organization; World Food Programme; Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery; Inter-Parliamentary Union; Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe (REC); Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC); Secretariat of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity; and other relevant organizations;

10. The OSCE Partners for Co-operation are invited to participate in the 29th Economic and Environmental Forum;

11. Upon request by a delegation of an OSCE participating State, regional groupings or expert academics and business representatives may also be invited, as appropriate, to participate in the 29th Economic and Environmental Forum;

12. Subject to the provisions contained in Chapter IV, paragraphs 15 and 16, of the Helsinki Document 1992, the representatives of non-governmental organizations with relevant experience in the area under discussion are also invited to participate in the 29th Economic and Environmental Forum;

13. The 2021 preparatory meetings will be held in English and Russian with interpretation. These arrangements will not constitute a precedent to be relied upon in other circumstances.

PC.DEC/1387
17 December 2020
Attachment

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the United States of America:

“Regarding the Economic and Environmental Forum (EEF), the United States wishes to make an interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

The United States welcomes the adoption of this decision and the 2021 Swedish Chairmanship’s efforts to promote comprehensive security, stability, and sustainable development in the OSCE area through women’s economic empowerment.

In joining consensus on the EEF theme, agenda, and modalities, the United States wishes to review and reiterate the commitments that participating States have made regarding inviting relevant organizations to the EEF. Relevance for the purpose of being invited to participate in the EEF has two essential elements: first, the international organizations’ expertise or programming relevant to the EEF theme of the year; and second, that those organizations’ goals and actions are consistent with the commitments participating States made at the 1999 Istanbul Summit in the Charter for European Security, paragraph III.32, and the Platform for Co-operative Security, paragraphs I.1-2.

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.”

1296th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 5

DECISION No. 1388
INVESTMENTS IN CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS USING
2020 UNIFIED BUDGET UNDERSPEND

The Permanent Council,

Taking note of the projected underspending of the 2020 OSCE Unified Budget due to constraints on activity resulting from late budget approval and the COVID-19 pandemic,

Taking note of the presentations on “Addressing projected underspending of UB 2020” delivered by the Department of Management and Finance to the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance on 22 September 2020, 25 September 2020, 21 October 2020, 3 November 2020, 13 November 2020, and 11 December 2020,

Taking note of outstanding capital investment requirements for which no funding source has previously been identified,

Taking note of the increased urgency of the ICT requirements for remote working and blended meetings as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic,

Decides to:

1. Request the OSCE Unified Budget Fund Managers to, on an exceptional basis and without creating a precedent, reprioritize from the identified 2020 underspending, an amount of 2,938,000 euros for the purpose of contributing to the financing of the following capital requirements:

- (a) Replacement of ICT core infrastructure equipment: 2,057,000 euros
- (b) Replacement of the DocIn/DelWeb platform: 154,000 euros
- (c) Replacement of ICT client equipment: 307,000 euros
- (d) Upgrade of the main firewall cluster and VPN: 104,500 euros
- (e) Development of Hofburg infrastructure for blended meetings: 230,000 euros
- (f) Replacement of Hofburg entrance security equipment: 85,500 euros

2. Authorize the use and future availability of 2020 Unified Budget funds in support of these requirements until fully implemented, in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.03 within the limits of the total amount of 2,938,000 euros;

Further decides that:

3. Any funds remaining available at the time of completion of the activities will be treated in accordance with Financial Regulation 7.07;

4. Any additional costs in the implementation of these projects cannot be financed by the 2020 Unified Budget underspending;

Requests:

5. The Secretary General to provide reports on the implementation of these projects on a quarterly basis;

6. The Secretary General to ensure that the activities foreseen under these projects are completed in the most cost-effective and timely manner.



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

PC.DEC/1389
17 December 2020

Original: ENGLISH

1296th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 6

**DECISION No. 1389
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UKRAINE**

The Permanent Council,

Referring to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Ukraine and the OSCE of 13 July 1999,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine until 30 June 2021.

PC.DEC/1389
17 December 2020
Attachment 1

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Canada:

“Mr. Chairperson,

Canada wishes to make an interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure in connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine.

The mandate of the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, as with the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, applies to the entire country of Ukraine, including Crimea. In this context, we wish to reiterate our full support for Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders. Canada, like the vast majority of participating States, has not and will not recognize the illegal annexation of Ukraine’s Autonomous Republic of Crimea by the Russian Federation.

Canada requests that this statement be attached to the decision and reflected in the journal of the day.

Thank you.”

PC.DEC/1389
17 December 2020
Attachment 2

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the United States of America:

“In connection with the adoption of the decision for the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, the United States joins the other speakers here today in making the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure:

The United States notes that Crimea remains an integral and internationally recognized part of Ukraine, despite Russia’s attempted annexation. The mandate of the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine applies to the entire territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including Crimea.

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.”

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Ukraine:

“Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with adoption of the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, the delegation of Ukraine would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

The Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, which are an integral part of Ukraine, were illegally occupied and subjected to attempted annexation by the Russian Federation in violation of the OSCE principles and commitments and norms of international law. The sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders are safeguarded by the Constitution and legislation of Ukraine and norms of international law.

The territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders was in particular reconfirmed by the UN General Assembly resolutions 68/262 ‘Territorial integrity of Ukraine’ of 27 March 2014, 71/205 ‘Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (Ukraine)’ of 19 December 2016, 72/190 ‘Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine’ of 19 December 2017, 73/263 ‘Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine’ of 22 December 2018, 74/168 ‘Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine’ of 18 December 2019 and 75/192 ‘Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine’ of 16 December 2020, as well as by the UN General Assembly resolutions 73/194 ‘The problem of the militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov’ adopted on 17 December 2018, 74/17 ‘The problem of the militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov’ adopted on 9 December 2019, and 75/29 ‘The problem of the militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov’ adopted on 7 December 2020.

Ukraine emphasizes that the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine covers the whole territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

The delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be attached to this decision and registered in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.”

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

The delegation of Germany, in its capacity as EU Presidency, passed the floor to the representative of the European Union, who delivered the following statement:

“In connection with the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, the European Union would like to make the following interpretative statement under the relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure.

The European Union stresses that the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine covers the whole territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

We request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day as well as to the decision in question.”

The candidate countries the Republic of North Macedonia¹, Montenegro¹ and Albania¹, and the EFTA countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as the Republic of Moldova, Georgia and San Marino align themselves with this statement.

1 The Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

PC.DEC/1389
17 December 2020
Attachment 5

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the Russian Federation:

“Having joined the consensus regarding the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, the Russian Federation takes the position that the geographical area of activity of the Co-ordinator will fully reflect the political and legal realities existing since 21 March 2014, namely that the Republic of Crimea and the federal city of Sevastopol are integral parts of the Russian Federation. Consequently, the Co-ordinator’s activities, including project activities, do not apply to these constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

Given the protracted nature of the crisis in eastern Ukraine caused by the continuing military operations of the Ukrainian Government against the population of Donbas, and also in view of a number of pressing internal problems, there is a need for active efforts on the part of the Co-ordinator to facilitate proper implementation by Ukraine of its OSCE commitments, including respect for the rights of the Russian-speaking inhabitants of the country and members of national minorities, and also ensuring the rule of law.

I request that this statement be attached to the adopted decision and included in the journal of the day.”

PC.DEC/1389
17 December 2020
Attachment 6

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Turkey:

“Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with the adoption of the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Turkey wishes to make the following interpretative statement under the relevant provisions of the OSCE Rules of Procedure:

Turkey reiterates that the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine covers the entire territory of Ukraine, including Crimea, which Turkey continues to regard as part of Ukraine.

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the journal of the day as well as to the decision in question.

Thank you.”

PC.DEC/1389
17 December 2020
Attachment 7

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the United Kingdom:

“In connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, the United Kingdom would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

We recall our resolute support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its international borders, including its territorial waters. We strongly condemn Russia’s illegal annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, which the United Kingdom will not recognize. We join the European Union and our international partners in reiterating that the mandate of the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine covers the entire territory of Ukraine, including Crimea.

I request that this statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.”



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

PC.DEC/1390
17 December 2020

Original: ENGLISH

1296th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 7

**DECISION No. 1390
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova until
31 December 2021.



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

PC.DEC/1391
17 December 2020

Original: ENGLISH

1296th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 8

**DECISION No. 1391
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE MISSION TO MONTENEGRO**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro until
31 December 2021.



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

PC.DEC/1392
17 December 2020

Original: ENGLISH

1296th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 9

**DECISION No. 1392
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE MISSION TO SERBIA**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Serbia until
31 December 2021.



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

PC.DEC/1393
17 December 2020

Original: ENGLISH

1296th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 10

**DECISION No. 1393
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE MISSION TO SKOPJE**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Skopje until
31 December 2021.



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

PC.DEC/1394
17 December 2020

Original: ENGLISH

1296th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 11

**DECISION No. 1394
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE PRESENCE IN ALBANIA**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Presence in Albania until
31 December 2021.



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

PC.DEC/1395
17 December 2020

Original: ENGLISH

1296th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 12

**DECISION No. 1395
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE MISSION TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina until 31 December 2021.



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

PC.DEC/1396
17 December 2020

Original: ENGLISH

1296th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 13

**DECISION No. 1396
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UZBEKISTAN**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan until 31 December 2021.



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

PC.DEC/1397
17 December 2020

Original: ENGLISH

1296th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 14

**DECISION No. 1397
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE PROGRAMME OFFICE IN BISHKEK**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek until
31 December 2021.



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

PC.DEC/1398
17 December 2020

Original: ENGLISH

1296th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1296, Agenda item 15

**DECISION No. 1398
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE PROGRAMME OFFICE IN NUR-SULTAN**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan until 31 December 2021.

PC.DEC/1398
17 December 2020
Attachment

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Kazakhstan:

“Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

In relation to the adoption of the decision on extension of the mandate of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan until 31 December 2021, the delegation of Kazakhstan would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure:

We underline the importance of the work within the mandate of the Programme Office and its close co-operation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan. A proper evaluation of the work of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan is essential in order to streamline priority areas of co-operation in all three dimensions.

Yesterday, Kazakhstan has marked its 29th anniversary of independence. For the past years, Kazakhstan made significant progress in social-economic development. In 2019, the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Mr. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev launched large-scale political and economic reforms, which opened a new stage in the consistent liberalization of social and political life. They affect the further advancement of the basic institutions of democracy, including peaceful assembly, pluralism of opinions, democratic elections and development of political parties.

In this context, we would like to remind once again of Article 41 of the Charter for European Security, which states: ‘The host country of an OSCE field operation should, when appropriate, be assisted in building its own capacity and expertise within the area of responsibility. This would facilitate an efficient transfer of the tasks of the operation to the host country, and consequently the closure of the field operation.’

We request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and journal of the day.

I thank you.”