



Copenhagen Anniversary Conference

"20 years of the OSCE Copenhagen Document: Status and future perspectives"

Copenhagen, 10-11 June 2010

Contribution of Slovenia

Session 5: Measures to improve implementation of the human dimension commitments

Mr. Moderator, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all Slovenia would like to commend the Chairmanship in Office and the Danish Government for giving us the opportunity to discuss this important topic. Unfortunately, even 20 years after the adoption of the Copenhagen Document the lack of implementation of commitments remains a main challenge in the OSCE Human Dimension. Therefore, Slovenia believes that it is of utmost importance that while we celebrate this important anniversary, we also look into possibilities how to improve the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the OSCE region in future.

As Slovenia has already stressed in the framework of the "Corfu dialogue", our common goal should be to find ways to improve an overall implementation of Human Dimension commitments. We believe that this could be achieved through cooperation and understanding that existing commitments were adopted by all of us, therefore they apply equally to all and should not be questioned, but only unequivocally reaffirmed. We need to accept that none of us is perfect in implementation of commitments, therefore each of us needs to find political will to improve it. And finally we should understand that we will all benefit from an overall improvement of Human Dimension in the OSCE area, which can be achieved only if participating States cooperate in good faith and are accountable to each other.

Due to the fact that existing mechanisms for monitoring implementation of commitments are not efficient, we fully support efforts aimed at their improvement. The OSCE should mainly concentrate on analyzing why our specific and unique mechanisms did not work and on

finding solutions making them more effective in future. Therefore, we would wholeheartedly welcome proposals for the “revitalization” of the Moscow Mechanism, especially in making it easier to be used; involving more intensively the Human Dimension Institutions; and enhancing trust and confidence among participating States *via* honest and constructive political dialogue. In order to preserve the relevance of the OSCE, we should be able to react quickly and efficiently to situations of grave violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in our region.

In conclusion the Slovenian delegation would like to underline the importance it attaches to the work of the OSCE institutions in the Human Dimension. We believe that their autonomy and impartiality must be preserved and their role enhanced, particularly in election related activities. Participating States should not be afraid to make use of assistance and advice of these Institutions; they can be truly beneficial. In this context, Slovenia is one of the co-sponsors of an initiative relating to improvement and a more systematic and substantial follow-up to election observation recommendations.

Slovenia hopes that our future endeavors and discussions will lead us to finally reach a goal enshrined in the Copenhagen document, namely *“that full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the development of societies based on pluralistic democracy and the rule of law are prerequisites for progress in setting up the lasting order of peace, security, justice and co-operation ...in Europe”*.

I thank you for your attention.