



## Spanish Chairmanship of the OSCE

2 January 2007 On the occasion of Spain's assumption of the chairmanship of the OSCE, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation has addressed the following message to the 56 countries of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe:

"On assuming the OSCE Chairmanship-in-office for the year 2007, I should like to express my heartfelt wishes for peace and prosperity for the entire family of OSCE members and assure them of my unswerving determination to work to consolidate and enhance the democratic principles and values that constitute our common acquis, give our organization its *raison d'être* and comprise the firmest guarantee of our security.

I hope to receive and I rely upon your valuable assistance in ensuring that this year we may continue to reinforce the OSCE as the Forum for Dialogue and Cooperation that has achieved so much for peace, security and democracy in our continent. From this very moment, I invite you to meet with us in Madrid on 29-30 November this year so that, together, we may conclude a year of achievements and progress in satisfying the hopes that our peoples have entrusted in us.

With your support and that of the other participating States, I am confident that we shall further consolidate this Organization in its role as a vital instrument for our security and cooperation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century".