



**Chairmanship: Italy**

**1200th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 8 November 2018

Opened: 10.05 a.m.  
Suspended: 1.10 p.m.  
Resumed: 3.05 p.m.  
Closed: 5.10 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador A. Azzoni

The Chairperson, on behalf of the Permanent Council, welcomed the new Permanent Representative of Georgia to the OSCE, Ambassador David Dondua.

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

Agenda item 1: REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE CONFLICT  
PREVENTION CENTRE

Chairperson, Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre (SEC.GAL/175/18 OSCE+), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; 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 and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1354/18), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/1346/18 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1334/18), Turkey (PC.DEL/1375/18 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1333/18), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1361/18 OSCE+), Kazakhstan, Belarus (PC.DEL/1344/18 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/1377/18), Georgia (PC.DEL/1343/18 OSCE+), Ukraine (PC.DEL/1348/18), Armenia (PC.DEL/1378/18 OSCE+), Canada

Agenda item 2:       DECISION ON THE TIMETABLE OF THE  
                          TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE  
                          OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1307 (PC.DEC/1307) on the timetable of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Russian Federation (interpretative statement, see attachment 1 to the decision), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Iceland, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (interpretative statement, see attachment 2 to the decision), Canada (interpretative statement, see attachment 3 to the decision)

Agenda item 3:       ADDRESS BY THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE MINSK GROUP

Discussion under agenda item 5

Agenda item 4:       ADDRESS BY THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF  
                          THE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE ON THE CONFLICT  
                          DEALT WITH BY THE OSCE MINSK CONFERENCE

Discussion under agenda item 5

Agenda item 5:       REPORT BY THE HEAD OF THE HIGH-LEVEL  
                          PLANNING GROUP

Chairperson, Co-Chair of the Minsk Group (Russian Federation), Co-Chair of the Minsk Group (France), Co-Chair of the Minsk Group (United States of America), Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference, Head of the High-Level Planning Group, Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro 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 Georgia, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1357/18), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1341/18), United States of America (PC.DEL/1340/18), Turkey, Switzerland (PC.DEL/1364/18 OSCE+), Kazakhstan, France, Slovakia, Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/1347/18 OSCE+) (PC.DEL/1353/18 OSCE+), Armenia (PC.DEL/1373/18 OSCE+) (PC.DEL/1379/18 OSCE+)

Agenda item 6: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Chairperson

- (a) *Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine and the illegal occupation of Crimea*: Ukraine (PC.DEL/1351/18), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; 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 Georgia and Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1355/18), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1362/18 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/1376/18 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1335/18), Canada (PC.DEL/1368/18 OSCE+)
- (b) *Situation in Ukraine and the need to implement the Minsk agreements*: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1342/18), Ukraine
- (c) *Upholding OSCE commitments in the treatment of Mr. I. Yerimbetov in Kazakhstan*: United States of America (PC.DEL/1338/18), Kazakhstan

Agenda item 7: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE  
CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE

*Upcoming Deputies' Field Trip to Belgrade*: Chairperson

Agenda item 8: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Visit of the Secretary General to Moscow on 1 and 2 November 2018*: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/180/18 OSCE+)
- (b) *Participation of the Director of the Office of the Secretary General in the 2018 OSCE Asian Conference, held in Canberra on 5 and 6 November 2018*: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/180/18 OSCE+)
- (c) *Outstanding payments to the Hofburg Congress Centre related to the Joint Consultative Group (JCG) and their impact on the 2018 OSCE Unified Budget*: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/180/18 OSCE+), Canada, Ukraine, Chairperson
- (d) *Participation of the Secretary General in the Chairmanship conference on "Developing Anti-Corruption Strategies for the Digital Age: Recent Trends and Best Practices in the OSCE Area", to be held in Rome on 12 and 13 November 2018*: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/180/18 OSCE+)

Agenda item 9: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Killing of Ukrainian activist Ms. K. Handziuk*: Ukraine (PC.DEL/1345/18), Chairperson, Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro 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, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1356/18), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1363/18 OSCE+), Canada (PC.DEL/1369/18 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1350/18), United States of America (PC.DEL/1358/18)

- (b) *Early parliamentary elections in Armenia, to be held on 9 December 2018:* Armenia (PC.DEL/1372/18)
- (c) *Outstanding payments to the Hofburg Congress Centre related to the Joint Consultative Group (JCG):* United States of America (PC.DEL/1359/18)

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 14 November 2018, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

PC.DEC/1307  
8 November 2018

Original: ENGLISH

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**1200th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1200, Agenda item 2

**DECISION No. 1307**  
**TIMETABLE OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE  
OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL**

(Milan, 6 and 7 December 2018)

The Permanent Council,

Recognizing that the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council will be conducted in accordance with the OSCE Rules of Procedure,

Adopts the timetable of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council as set out below.

**Timetable**

**Thursday, 6 December 2018**

- 10 a.m.      **Opening session (open)**
- Formal opening and adoption of the agenda
  - Address by the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office
  - Address by the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
  - Report by the OSCE Secretary General
- First plenary session (closed)**
- Statements by heads of delegations
- 1.15 p.m.    Family photo
- 1.30 p.m.    Working lunch for ministers of foreign affairs/heads of delegations

- Separate lunch for members of delegations

3–6 p.m.      **Second plenary session (closed)**

- Statements by heads of delegations

7.30 p.m.      Official dinner for ministers of foreign affairs/heads of delegations

Reception for members of delegations

**Friday, 7 December 2018**

10 a.m.      **Third plenary session (closed)**

- Statements by heads of delegations
- Adoption of Ministerial Council documents and decisions
- Closing statements by delegations
- Any other business

**Closing session (open)**

- Formal closure (statements by the current and incoming Chairpersons-in-Office)

1.30 p.m.      Press conference

PC.DEC/1307  
8 November 2018  
Attachment 1

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:

“In joining the consensus regarding the Permanent Council decision on the adoption of the timetable of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, the delegation of the Russian Federation expresses its deep disappointment at the fact that once again it proved impossible to reach agreement on a list of international organizations, institutions and initiatives whose representatives will be invited to the Ministerial Council meeting and will have the right to address the meeting and/or distribute written statements, as provided for in the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE.

Unfortunately, during the discussions, once more it was not possible to agree on the question of equal rights for organizations. We note the attempts to establish a discriminatory hierarchy of organizations, artificially giving some a higher status than others. This contravenes the provisions of the Platform for Co-operative Security as part of the 1999 Charter for European Security.

The Russian delegation hopes that in future the OSCE participating States will manage to overcome their differences on this question.

We take the position that, in the absence of a Permanent Council decision on the organizational modalities for the holding of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, statements by representatives of international organizations during the Ministerial Council meeting should be possible solely in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE – only on the basis of an oral consensus decision by all OSCE participating States.

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

**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 Austria, 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 just adopted on the timetable for the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council and in accordance with paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure, the European Union would like to make the following interpretative statement.

Paragraph IV.2(B)2 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure states that ‘the decision on the timetable and organizational modalities for each Ministerial Council meeting shall be adopted by the Permanent Council not later than one month before the meeting.’

While the European Union welcomes the decision adopting the timetable for the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, we regret that consensus could not be reached on the modalities for the Meeting, and in particular on which organizations to invite and the modalities of their participation.

Under the OSCE Rules of Procedure for meetings of the Ministerial Council, Paragraph IV.2(B)5 states that, ‘For each meeting, the Permanent Council shall specify the list of international organizations, institutions, and initiatives to be invited to attend and to make oral and/or written contributions.’ In the absence of consensus on this issue, the Chairmanship-in-Office should fall back on past agreed modalities.

The decision on the timetable of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council does not represent a precedent for the organization of future Ministerial Council meetings.

We request that this statement be attached to the relevant decision.”



The candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia<sup>1</sup>, Montenegro<sup>1</sup>, Serbia<sup>1</sup> and Albania<sup>1</sup>, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the EFTA country Iceland, member of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Georgia and San Marino align themselves with this statement.

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

PC.DEC/1307  
8 November 2018  
Attachment 3

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,

In connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the timetable for the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, Canada would like to make the following interpretative statement in accordance with paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

Canada regrets that consensus could, once again, not be reached on the modalities for the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, in particular on which organizations should be invited and on the modalities for their participation.

The decision on the timetable of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council does not represent a precedent for the organization of future Ministerial Council meetings.

We invite the Chairmanship to draw upon past agreed modalities to conduct this important meeting.

We ask that this statement be attached to the decision we have just adopted and included in the journal of the day.”