SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL
(1033rd Plenary Meeting)

1. Date: Thursday, 15 January 2015

Opened: 10.05 a.m.
Suspended: 12.55 p.m.
Resumed: 3.40 p.m.
Closed: 4.45 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador V. Žugić

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, on behalf of the Council, extended condolences to the families of the victims of the terrorist attacks in Paris and to the families of those killed or wounded in the recent rocket attack in eastern Ukraine.

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

Agenda item 1: ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE OF THE OSCE, FIRST DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF SERBIA, H.E. IVICA DAČIĆ

Chairperson-in-Office (CIO.GAL/4/15 OSCE+), Youth Ambassador of the Model OSCE, Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/21/15), United States of America (PC.DEL/12/15), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/37/15), Canada (PC.DEL/39/15 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/23/15 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/15/15 OSCE+), Belarus (PC.DEL/25/15 OSCE+), Kazakhstan, Ukraine (PC.DEL/27/15/Rev.1 OSCE+), Montenegro (PC.DEL/36/15 OSCE+), Holy See (PC.DEL/30/15 OSCE+), Norway, Armenia (PC.DEL/34/15 OSCE+), Turkmenistan, Georgia (PC.DEL/32/15 OSCE+), Albania (PC.DEL/14/15 OSCE+), Moldova (PC.DEL/24/15),
Bosnia and Herzegovina (PC.DEL/13/15 OSCE+), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/17/15 OSCE+), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Austria, Japan (Partner for Co-operation), Afghanistan (Partner for Co-operation) (PC.DEL/26/15 OSCE+), France

Agenda item 2: DECLARATION ON THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN PARIS

Chairperson

**Document adopted**: The Permanent Council adopted the Declaration on the Terrorist Attacks in Paris (PC.DOC/1/15), the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 3: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Chairperson

(a) **Ongoing aggression against Ukraine and violations of OSCE principles and commitments by the Russian Federation**: Ukraine (PC.DEL/33/15 OSCE+), Canada (PC.DEL/41/15 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/18/15), Turkey, Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/22/15), Switzerland

(b) **Situation in Ukraine and violations of the Minsk agreements by the Ukrainian authorities**: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/29/15), United Kingdom, France, Ukraine

(c) **Abduction and illegal detention of Ukrainian citizens by the Russian Federation**: Ukraine (PC.DEL/28/15 OSCE+), Latvia-European Union, United States of America (PC.DEL/19/15), Canada (PC.DEL/40/15 OSCE+), Russian Federation

Agenda item 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) **Parliamentary elections in the United Kingdom, to be held on 7 May 2015**: United Kingdom (PC.DEL/11/15 OSCE +)

(b) **Parliamentary elections in Finland, to be held on 19 April 2015**: Finland (Annex 1)

(c) **Parliamentary elections in Estonia, to be held on 1 March 2015**: Estonia (Annex 2)
(d) Parliamentary elections in Greece, to be held on 25 January 2015: Greece (PC.DEL/31/15 OSCE+)

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 22 January 2015, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal
STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF FINLAND

Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to inform the Permanent Council that the next Finnish parliamentary election will be held on 19 April of this year. In line with its commitments, the Government of Finland invites the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, all OSCE participating States and other appropriate organizations and institutions that wish to do so to observe the election process. We have circulated a verbal note in this regard on 14 January.

I kindly ask that the text of this statement be attached to the journal of this meeting.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.
STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF ESTONIA

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

The date for the next general election in Estonia has been set as 1 March 2015.

I wish to inform colleagues that in line with its OSCE commitments, the Government of the Republic of Estonia has invited the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the OSCE participating States and other appropriate institutions and organizations that wish to do so to observe the election process.

The note verbal in this regard has been distributed on 30 December 2014.

I use this opportunity to express my Government’s support for ODIHR’s work to enhance democracy and the rule of law, including through election observations and we are looking forward to further co-operation with the ODIHR in this field.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.
DECLARATION ON THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN PARIS

The Permanent Council,

Appalled by the horrific terrorist attack on French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo on 7 January 2015, and followed by the shooting of a local police officer in Montrouge on 8 January 2015, as well as the anti-Semitic terrorist attack against the Jewish community in Paris on 9 January 2015, which cost the lives of many people and wounded many others,

Expressing its profound solidarity with victims of acts of terrorism, their families, as well as with the people of France,

Taking note of relevant statements by the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, the Secretary General, the Representative on Freedom of the Media and the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

Being guided by relevant OSCE commitments, particularly those relating to the fight against terrorism, to freedom of expression and to tolerance and non-discrimination:

Strongly condemns the above-mentioned terrorist attacks and stresses the need to prosecute the perpetrators;

Declares its resolute and unconditional condemnation of terrorist acts, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed and reaffirms its determination to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

Emphasizes that terrorism has no justification, whatever its motivation or origin are and should not be associated with any race, ethnicity, nationality or religion;

Condemns these terrorist attacks against journalists and free media, and recalls that freedom of expression is a fundamental and internationally recognized human right;

Strongly condemns manifestations of intolerance, including against Christians, Jews, Muslims and members of other religions and non-believers, and reaffirms its will to foster non-discrimination and tolerance, mutual respect and understanding in our societies.