



Belgrade: Deputy Prime Minister of Serbia, Miroslav Labus (left) meets Ambassador Hans Ola Urstad.

Hans Ola Urstad of Norway assumed the position of **Head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia and Montenegro** on 7 February, succeeding Maurizio Massari of Italy.

Ambassador Urstad has extensive and intimate knowledge of the region, having served as Norway's Ambassador to Yugoslavia — later Serbia and Montenegro — from 2001 to 2005. It was during his term, in September 2004, that the Royal Norwegian Embassy took over as NATO's Contact Point Embassy in the country.

"I am very happy to be back in Serbia and Montenegro and am fully committed to assisting our host country in the reform process on its way to achieving OSCE standards and European integration," said Ambassador Urstad. His new appointment came just a few months after he had returned to Oslo from Belgrade to serve as Senior Adviser in the Norwegian Foreign Ministry.

"The Mission has established excellent co-operation with a wide range of

governmental and non-governmental partners, and I look forward to continuing and strengthening this."

After joining the Foreign Ministry in 1980, he served at the Norwegian Embassy in Warsaw and the Norwegian Delegation to NATO in Brussels. In 1989, he was appointed Head of the Ministry's Personnel Division. From 1991 to 1995, he was Head of the International Department of the Norwegian Parliament, as well as Chief of Staff of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

In 1995, Hans Ola Urstad was appointed Consul General in San Francisco, covering the 12 western states of the United States. Back in Oslo, he served as Special Adviser on Stability Pact issues in the Foreign Ministry, before becoming Norwegian Ambassador to Yugoslavia.

Ambassador Urstad holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and British and Nordic studies, and a master's degree in political science and international relations from Oslo University.



Kevin Carty has been named the OSCE's **Senior Police Adviser and Head of the Strategic Police Matters Unit in the Secretariat** as of 20 February. He holds the rank of Assistant Commissioner in the National Police of Ireland (*An Garda Síochána*).

During the course of a distinguished career, he has held lead responsibility for the Policing Sections of the National Drug Bureau, National Surveillance Unit and the National Criminal Investigation Unit; Ireland's State Security Intelligence Service; and the Border Region with Northern Ireland. In 2004, he was appointed as Police Commissioner of the Dublin Metropolitan Region.

Mr. Carty has chaired various working groups of the European Commission and served as project manager for several European projects designed to enhance global security strategies.

He has gained extensive international experience working

with the European Union and the United Nations. From March 2004 to December 2005, he served as Commissioner of the EU Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina. As Head of the first policing operations of the EU under its European Security and Defence Policy, he oversaw some 470 international police officers and 60 civilian personnel. He also served as international policing expert on the Police Restructuring Commission for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Prior to his EU assignment, Mr. Carty served as special adviser to the Independent Panel on the Safety and Security of United Nations Personnel in Iraq, which examined the implications for the UN security system in the aftermath of the bomb attack on UN offices in Baghdad in August 2003. He was subsequently appointed a member of the UN's Security in Iraq Accountability Panel.

His academic background includes a bachelor's degree in police management and administration from the National University of Ireland, and advanced studies in public administration and information technology. An Eisenhower Fellowship in the United States enabled him to examine interagency co-operation in law enforcement.

Mr. Carty succeeds Richard Monk of the United Kingdom, who served as the first OSCE Senior Police Adviser from February 2001 to early 2006.



Seoul: South Korean Foreign Minister Ban Ki-moon (left) and Martin Nesirky at a Reuters interview

Martin Nesirky took up his post as OSCE **Spokesperson and Head of Press and Public Information** on April 10. He was born in London, graduated in German and Russian from Bath University in England and then spent more than 23 years with Reuters news agency, most recently as Bureau Chief in Seoul, where he covered North and South Korea.

Mr. Nesirky is a newcomer to Vienna, but knows the region well and is keen to improve and update his knowledge with help from across the OSCE.

His previous assignments took him to many parts of Europe, tracking the Cold War, the collapse of the Berlin Wall and the new realities

and challenges that then emerged across the continent. During his assignment on the divided Korean peninsula, he found much interest in the OSCE's confidence-building measures.

His work and earlier studies closely tracked OSCE — and OSCE — activities right from his first schoolboy trip to Moscow in the mid-1970s.

"The OSCE's grassroots work deserves to be even more widely recognized, and I look forward to hearing from the missions so we can spread the word," Martin Nesirky said. "The Organization's activities and planned reforms remain relevant to all the participating States and Partners for Co-operation. The Press and Public Information Section can help to show how."