

RECALLING THE SPIRIT OF HELSINKI



HELSINKI 5-9 JULY 2015

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**HELSINKI
DECLARATION
AND
RESOLUTIONS
ADOPTED BY THE
OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
AT THE TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION**

HELSINKI, 5 to 9 JULY 2015

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PREAMBLE

We, Parliamentarians of the OSCE participating States, have met in annual session in Helsinki on 5 to 9 July 2015 as the Parliamentary dimension of the OSCE to assess developments and challenges relating to security and co-operation, in particular on Helsinki +40: Towards Human Security For All, and we offer the following views to the OSCE Ministers.

We wish every success to the next OSCE Ministerial Council and bring to its attention the following declaration and recommendations.

RECALLING THE SPIRIT OF HELSINKI

CHAPTER I

POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND SECURITY

1. Recalling the undiminished validity and historic role of the guiding principles and common values of the Helsinki Final Act signed in 1975, and reaffirming the commitment that participating States made “to peace, security and justice” with the objective of “promoting better relations among themselves and ensuring conditions in which their people can live in true and lasting peace free from any threat to or attempt against their security,”
2. Recalling the Charter of Paris for a New Europe adopted in 1990, which led to the creation of permanent institutions and operational capabilities, including the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE,
3. Recalling the Decision on the Helsinki +40 Process launched at the Ministerial Council meeting in Dublin in 2012, the Declaration on Furthering the Helsinki +40 Process of the Kyiv Ministerial Council in 2013, and the Declaration on Further Steps in the Helsinki +40 Process adopted by the Basel Ministerial Council in 2014, and considering the OSCE’s Helsinki +40 Process an opportunity for the OSCE to reaffirm the relevance of its founding principles relating to international law,
4. Stressing the need for enhanced efforts to settle protracted conflicts in the OSCE area in a peaceful and negotiated manner, refraining from the threat or use of force and respecting the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the countries involved, within their internationally recognized borders, in full respect of the United Nations Charter and the Helsinki Final Act,

5. Acknowledging the significance of the OSCE PA as an inclusive and comprehensive forum that facilitates dialogue and ultimately helps achieve diplomatic solutions to conflicts in the OSCE area without exclusions that would compromise its influence, as noted in the Astana Commemorative Declaration,
6. Recognizing the need to proceed with the ongoing discussions and negotiations in order to update and modernize the 2011 Vienna Document on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures,
7. Stressing the high relevance of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, regarding norms of politico-military conduct between and within States and the need for its effective implementation and best use as a confidence-building tool for further promoting openness and transparency in the field of arms control,
8. Regretting Russia's withdrawal from the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE), which hinders constructive dialogue on arms control and confidence-building measures and mechanisms,
9. Welcoming the entry into force on 24 December 2014 of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), a new chapter in collective efforts to bring responsibility, accountability and transparency to the global arms trade,
10. Deeply deploring Russia's aggression against Ukraine, including its illegal annexation and occupation of Crimea, in clear breach of the Helsinki Final Act principles and international law, which endangers broader Euro-Atlantic peace and stability and caused one of the worst crises in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian area since the fall of the Berlin Wall,
11. Expressing deep concern at increased nuclear threats arising from the deteriorating relationship between Russia and NATO, including potential violations of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, statements indicating an increased readiness to use nuclear weapons, and statements indicating potential plans to deploy nuclear weapons to additional territories in Europe,
12. Calling on all parties to fully implement the Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Agreements, adopted and signed on 12 February 2015 in Minsk by all signatories who also signed the Minsk Protocol of 5 September 2014, and the Memorandum of 19 September 2014, which is an essential step towards a peaceful settlement of the crisis in and around Ukraine, and condemning the ongoing violations of the ceasefire,
13. Welcoming the deployment of the Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) to Ukraine, which is an essential means of monitoring and supporting the implementation of all OSCE principles and commitments and of assisting in the implementation of the Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Agreements, including the Minsk Protocol and the Minsk Memorandum,

14. Urging all parties to the conflict in and around Ukraine, in keeping with the spirit and letter of the Minsk Agreement, to allow SMM monitors unfettered access to all parts of the territory of Ukraine, including Crimea and the area bordering the Russian Federation, with safety guarantees,
15. Highlighting the role of the OSCE in engaging all parties in constructive dialogue, monitoring and supporting the implementation of all OSCE principles and commitments on the ground, preventing further escalation of the crisis and promoting a diplomatic process towards a peaceful settlement of the crisis,
16. Welcoming the renewed partnership between the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine and the Ukrainian authorities on implementing an ambitious reform agenda,
17. Calling on Russia to use its full influence on the illegal separatists in Ukraine to comply with all commitments under the Minsk Agreement,
18. Regretting that no consensus was reached on the declaration on Ukraine at the 2014 OSCE Ministerial Council in Basel,
19. Underlining the need to strengthen the OSCE's engagement in the process of peaceful resolution of the conflict in Georgia, particularly in the Geneva International Discussions,
20. Expressing concern over the rapid evolution of the terrorist threat which has presented new challenges in the OSCE area and beyond, and condemning in the strongest terms the barbaric terrorist attacks in Canada, Paris, Copenhagen, Tunisia, and elsewhere, targeted at values of democracy, tolerance, freedom of expression and freedom of religion that the OSCE embodies,
21. Expressing deep concern over the acute and growing threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, and welcoming the declarations on the OSCE Role in Countering the Phenomenon of Foreign Terrorist Fighters and on the OSCE Role in Countering Kidnapping and Hostage-Taking Committed by Terrorist Groups adopted at the 2014 OSCE Ministerial Council in Basel, which reaffirm the need to enhance international co-operation to fight terrorism in all its forms, to prevent the movement of foreign terrorist fighters and to adopt effective measures for the prevention of the financing of terrorist organizations,
22. Recognizing the positive developments and significant progress in the international negotiations between the E3+3 group and the Islamic Republic of Iran to find a comprehensive resolution that will ensure the exclusively peaceful nature of the Iranian nuclear programme,
23. Welcoming the "Humanitarian Pledge", initiated by Austria and endorsed by over 100 governments, that notes the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from any use of nuclear weapons and commits to "filling the legal gap" for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons,

24. Expressing deep concern over the mass drownings in the Mediterranean Sea, involving hundreds of migrants fleeing conflict, poverty, political instability and human rights abuses in Africa and the Middle East, and the insufficient solidarity and burden-sharing among EU countries,
25. Reaffirming its strong commitment to the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation, based on the inextricable security link between the Mediterranean and the OSCE regions, and stressing the need for an enhanced OSCE Mediterranean dimension to be adequately reflected in the Helsinki +40 process and in overall efforts to address the root causes of global security threats;
26. Condemning without reserve all the manifestations of anti-Semitism, and stressing the need to improve the implementation of OSCE commitments to combat anti-Semitism, as highlighted in the Berlin Declaration, and to further promote and strengthen non-discrimination and tolerance in the OSCE area,
27. Acknowledging that today it is an indisputable fact that societies and countries characterized by social and gender equality flourish in several respects. This applies to everything from public confidence in politics, security aspects and welfare, to democratic development, both in community planning and various civil society activities,

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28. Reconfirms the fundamental principles governing the behaviour of States towards their citizens and each other as established by the Helsinki Final Act in 1975, and encourages all participating States to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the principles contained in the Helsinki Final Act, the purposes of the United Nations, and all OSCE norms and commitments;
29. Calls for a strong commitment by participating States to the Vienna Document on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures, and for the further updating and modernizing of the document, with the aim of increasing predictability, openness and transparency in the exchange of information on the armed forces of participating States, and opportunities for verification activities;
30. Calls upon OSCE participating States to recognize the relevance of democratic control of armed and security forces and to better implement and further develop the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security in the context of the existing political and military situation;
31. Stresses the importance of pursuing conventional arms control and improving the effectiveness of existing confidence- and security-building measures, including verification activities, in order to give stimulus to the Helsinki principles and put them successfully into practice;

32. Acknowledges the high significance of the ATT in global efforts aimed at achieving a solid security community, and calls for universal participation in the treaty, by encouraging all States, particularly major arms exporters and importers, to join it without further delay and to strictly adhere to its provisions, including by updating national legislative frameworks where needed;
33. Urges the Russian Federation to reconsider its withdrawal from the CFE Treaty, to honour its Treaty obligations, and resume dialogue with the international community on CFE-related matters;
34. Encourages participating States to take any necessary measure to prevent a further erosion of trust and confidence within the OSCE, which has already had an increasingly detrimental effect on the dialogue on politico-military aspects of security within OSCE Institutions;
35. Calls on all OSCE States with nuclear weapons or under extended nuclear deterrence relationships to reduce the risks of a nuclear war by taking nuclear weapons off high alert, and by adopting no-first-use policies;
36. Calls on all participating OSCE States to co-operate in filling the legal gap to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons, by supporting United Nations facilitated deliberations and negotiations for multilateral nuclear disarmament, commencing with the renewal by the United Nations General Assembly of the Open Ended Working Group on taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations;
37. Stresses the important role of the OSCE autonomous institutions and field operations in assisting participating States in implementation of the OSCE commitments, and calls for OSCE field operations to receive the funding they need to carry out their vital work;
38. Reconfirms that addressing protracted conflicts in the OSCE area and pursuing progress towards their settlement in a peaceful and negotiated manner, within agreed frameworks, in accordance with the United Nations Charter, the Helsinki Final Act and international law, remains a priority for the Organization;
39. Welcomes the active engagement of the OSCE Chairmanship in the crisis in and around Ukraine and the deployment of the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine as well as the initiatives and activities of OSCE Institutions and structures and other relevant international organizations operating in Ukraine with the aim of reducing tensions being stoked by illegal Russian-backed armed groups, and resolution of this crisis by diplomatic means on the basis of international law, while fully respecting the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders;
40. Calls on the OSCE and all participating States to help ensure that the Special Monitoring Mission in Ukraine receives all the funding it needs and is as well-staffed and well-equipped as possible to perform its critical duties, in particular in terms of security and access to healthcare, as well as food and accommodation;

41. Stresses the need to ensure safe access for SMM monitors throughout all of Ukraine, including Crimea and areas bordering the Russian Federation, and the importance of guaranteeing their security;
42. Calls for the expansion of the OSCE observer mission to two Russian check-points on the Russian-Ukrainian border to all relevant check-points in the Russian territory bordering Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts of Ukraine as well as the areas between those check-points to allow proper and comprehensive monitoring on the Ukrainian-Russian border and verification by the OSCE;
43. Calls for the strict and full implementation of all provisions of the Minsk Agreement, starting with a comprehensive ceasefire and the withdrawal of heavy weapons, foreign armed formations and military equipment, as well as the removal of mercenaries from the territory of Ukraine;
44. Calls for the resumption of a Ukraine-owned and Ukrainian-led inclusive national dialogue that includes all parts of Ukraine, and stresses the OSCE role in this regard;
45. Stresses the need to respect the principles of inviolability of frontiers and territorial integrity, peaceful settlement of disputes, equal rights and self-determination of peoples, as specified in the Helsinki Final Act, and calls on the Russian Federation to reverse the annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol in Ukraine;
46. Calls for greater transparency and urgency in the investigation into the downing of Malaysian Airlines Flight MH17, and a full accounting of this tragedy with a view towards ensuring justice and closure for the victims and their families;
47. Stresses the need to take effective measures to combat new forms of proxy and hybrid warfare and destabilization tactics, which also involve rapidly increasing disinformation and propaganda campaigns, and which are posing serious risks to the stability and security of the OSCE area as a whole;
48. Calls for further improvement of the OSCE's effectiveness in tackling transnational threats and challenges;
49. Calls upon participating States and Partners for Co-operation to unite and increase international co-operation to fight terrorism in all its forms, in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolutions on combating terrorism, comprehensive terrorism conventions and protocols, and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;
50. Stresses the need to put more emphasis on the prevention of terrorism, in particular on countering the radicalization, recruitment, equipment and financing of terrorism and addressing underlying factors that provide opportunities for terrorist groups to flourish;

51. Recommends increased co-operation among OSCE participating States regarding the development and implementation of national activities related to various aspects of cyber security, particularly to take all necessary measures to prevent the use of information and communication technologies for terrorist purposes, while promoting a multidimensional approach to cyber security that takes into account the interests of various stakeholders and ensures respect for freedom of expression;
52. Emphasizes that the OSCE's consensus rule remains a serious obstacle to effective and immediate actions in times of crisis, and calls on participating States to address this issue in order to prevent countries from wielding an effective veto over the decision-making of the Organization;
53. Calls upon the OSCE to upgrade its Mediterranean dimension so that it better reflects the realities of the region, including by eventually extending partnership to those countries which share its principles;
54. Stresses the high potential of parliamentary diplomacy, within and beyond the OSCE Parliamentary Mediterranean Forum, and the significance of a more substantial and proactive role of the OSCE PA in this region;
55. Stresses the crucial role of parliaments in efforts to implement comprehensive and effective migration management and integration policies, and encourages OSCE participating States to further engage with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation and reinforce dialogue between countries of origin, transit and destination;
56. Acknowledges the important role that parliamentarians play in efforts to prevent genocide by condemning past genocides and raising their voices against ongoing massive and grave human rights violations, particularly against Christians and other ethnic and religious minorities in Syria and Iraq;
57. Calls upon participating States to be proactive and highlight the need for women's natural active participation in all contexts relating to the development of society, democratization, environmental and climate efforts and human rights;
58. Encourages participating States to take effective measures to provide comprehensive security guarantees and humanitarian relief to women in conflicts, and calls for the development of an OSCE-wide action plan on women, peace and security, which could be an important step in ending widespread conflict-related sexual violence, in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820;
59. Acknowledges the role of the OSCE in supporting global efforts to prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction and related materials and, in particular, its contribution to the implementation by the participating States of UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) on close co-operation with United Nations bodies;
60. Reiterates the need to address the continuing structural imbalances in the representation of women and men in various parts of the OSCE, in particular in the politico-military dimension, and emphasizes the importance of empowering women to contribute fully to protection, mediation and resolution efforts at all phases of the conflict cycle.

CHAPTER II

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT

61. Recognizing the foresight of the Helsinki Final Act's emphasis on energy co-operation, food and water security, as well as "changes in climate," and recalling the pledge that participating States made in 1975 to utilize "every suitable opportunity to co-operate in the field of environment," including on issues related to water supply, air pollution and land use,
62. Stressing the relevance of the Helsinki Final Act's call to increase the effectiveness of common efforts by participating States towards the solution of major world economic problems and the need for promoting stable and equitable international economic relations, and recognizing, in this context, the importance of further developing economic integration projects in the OSCE region,
63. Highlighting the importance that the Helsinki Final Act attached to "the progressive development, codification and implementation of international law as one means of preserving and enhancing the human environment, including principles and practices, as accepted by them, relating to pollution and other environmental damage,"
64. Recognizing food as a fundamental right as expressed by Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and recalling OSCE PA resolutions on food security adopted at the 2009 and 2014 Annual Sessions,
65. Welcoming the OSCE Ministerial Council decision No. 5/14 on the prevention of corruption adopted at the 21st OSCE Ministerial Council in Basel, Switzerland,
66. Welcoming the Swiss and Serbian OSCE Chairmanships' prioritization of sustainable water management in their joint 2014-15 work plan, as well as the efforts of the Office of the Co-ordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) in promoting a comprehensive security approach to water governance,
67. Welcoming the opportunity provided by Expo Milano 2015, being held in Milan, Italy, under the theme "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life," to address problems of nutrition and planetary resources with a view towards opening dialogue between international actors on these challenges,

68. Noting that the end of 2015 marks the target date for the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and welcoming the fact that many MDGs have already been met, including on reducing poverty and increasing access to improved drinking water sources, while other MDG targets are within reach, including the goal of reducing hunger and increasing access to technologies and health services,
69. Supporting, along with the United Nations Secretary-General, the proposal by the President of Tajikistan to launch a new international Decade for Action: “Water for sustainable development” (2015-2025) following the International Decade for Action: “Water for life” (2005-2015),
70. Stressing the importance of ensuring that women have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership of and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources,
71. Reiterating the OSCE PA 2014 Baku Declaration’s call for OSCE participating States to continue working towards a new universal climate agreement ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 21) being held from 30 November to 11 December 2015 in Paris, France,
72. Recognizing that advances in research on the causes of global pollinator decline and its threat to the global food supply demonstrates that parasite resistance has diminished due to the use of some pesticides, fungicides and other chemicals in agriculture,
73. Recalling the Baku Declaration’s emphasis on the burden that economic migration has placed particularly on Southern European States and the tragic loss of life associated with the dangerous journeys these migrants make in vessels that are often unseaworthy,
74. Urging participating States to fight migrant-smuggling carried out through their territory or through areas under their de facto control and reiterating the need for the OSCE to act as a facilitator of co-operation in this regard,
75. Also noting the recent spike in irregular migration in North America, including by unaccompanied minors, and the considerable difficulties this poses to border communities,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

76. Calls on all OSCE participating States to redouble their efforts, in the spirit of Helsinki, to identify and pursue comprehensive solutions to our common environmental and economic challenges, including food, energy and water security, climate change, migration and improved management and oversight of financial institutions and women’s economic empowerment;

77. Recognizes the need to develop and support co-operation between various integration processes and structures in the OSCE region, with the aim of establishing a common economic space consistent with the obligations enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act and the Astana Commemorative Declaration of 2010;
78. Urges the OSCE and its participating States to promote international standards and formats of good governance, fight corruption, combat financing of terrorism, boost state and private investment in environmentally friendly industries, the development of a green economy and implement alternatives to austerity that emphasize social cohesion and economic growth;
79. Invites participating States and OSCE parliamentarians to conduct a gender-based analysis of national economic policies, budgets and spending to ensure they provide equal benefits for women and men;
80. Implores participating States to pursue policies on the local, national and regional levels to take preventive measures, mitigate and adapt to climate change, as well as to forge bilateral and multilateral agreements toward this end, while continuing to negotiate a new universal climate accord with binding limits on greenhouse gas emissions for final agreement at the COP 21 in Paris, France;
81. Urges participating States to place climate change high on their political agendas, particularly within the framework of the G7 and G20 meetings, as well as of the United Nations General Assembly, and to support a low level carbon emission economy resilient to climate change and to disasters through development co-operation initiatives;
82. Considers water an indispensable element of national, regional and international security, an essential strategic resource that should serve as a basis for co-operation rather than competition;
83. Urges the OSCE and its participating States to maintain and increase their efforts to facilitate negotiations between the participating States, in particular in Central Asia, concerning agreements on shared water-resource management and on regional energy policies;
84. Emphasizes that co-operation on transboundary water governance can serve as a confidence-building measure, particularly in situations of conflict and in the absence of bilateral relations, and encourages participating States to use the OSCE as a platform of co-operation in this regard;
85. Calls on the OSCE and its participating States to develop best practices on reducing wasteful water use, upgrading irrigation techniques, promoting less water-intensive agricultural practices, encouraging a co-operative approach to sharing water resources, and protecting water resources from all forms of pollution, including the pollution of mountain glaciers and groundwater contamination associated with fracking;

86. Urges participating States to commit in principle and practice to reducing food waste and ensuring food security, encouraging co-operation between farmers, producers, and distributors to allow for better projections of consumer demand, and promoting agricultural cluster development and sustainable forms of agriculture and food production in light of climate change;
87. Encourages energy producer and consumer countries to promote greater balance in the distribution of energy resources, promote transparency in the extractive industries, adopt energy-efficiency measures at local and national levels and reduce energy consumption, pursue scientific and technological advances in energy generation;
88. Calls on parliamentarians of OSCE participating States to ensure robust regulations and oversight of the financial sector and to promote economic policies that invest in scientific research, renewable energy technologies, green-growth development, energy-saving technology, infrastructure improvements, and to spare no efforts in sectors such as transport and the construction industry, where improved energy efficiency can be achieved, by developing and using new, renewable and alternative sources of energy;
89. Recommends the introduction of financial transaction taxes on stock trading and other financial purchases, which would both generate significant public revenue and curb short-term speculation;
90. Acknowledges the negative role played by short-term speculation in the stability of financial markets and economies worldwide, and strongly recommends reinforcing the governance of the financial sector by strengthening national and international institutions responsible for financial oversight;
91. Urges participating States to prioritize legislative and administrative action to mitigate the threat to the global food supply posed by identified triggers of global pollinator decline;
92. Urges the participating States to be committed to effectively counteracting root causes of involuntary migration in all countries, with a particular focus on improved living conditions and personal security, democratization, political stability and the respect for human rights and equality for all;
93. Encourages the OSCE and its participating States to develop and share best practices on managing migration, including its economic and social effects, with the aim of alleviating the disproportionate burden assumed by some countries;
94. Urges the OSCE to use the Helsinki +40 process to strengthen economic co-operation with its Mediterranean Partners to promote growth and attract investment in the Mediterranean region.

CHAPTER III

DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS

95. Recognizing the important role that the Helsinki Final Act and the CSCE process played in bringing the Cold War to an end and promoting universal human rights in the OSCE region,
96. Recalling that the Decalogue of Principles of the Helsinki Final Act has played an important role in stabilizing relations in the OSCE area for decades,
97. Noting that the seventh of these Principles rests at the heart of the OSCE's success, as all participating States recognized that the human rights of all people in all OSCE countries are the legitimate concern of each and every OSCE participating State,
98. Affirming the right of and responsibility for OSCE participating States to speak out when abuses take place in other OSCE participating States, including in cases of politically motivated imprisonment, imposition of the death penalty, discriminatory treatment, including that of migrants, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees, and actions against journalists and human rights defenders,
99. Welcoming the work of OSCE Institutions in monitoring and calling attention to breaches of human rights, particularly in the fields of freedom of expression, minorities' rights, democratic rights and gender equality,
100. Expressing its appreciation to the High Commissioner on National Minorities, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), and the Representative on Freedom of the Media for their continued monitoring of States' implementation of commitments,
101. Reiterating the positive contribution that independent election observation by both domestic and international observers can make to democratic processes in all countries,
102. Convinced that the current decision-making structures within the OSCE are inadequate for addressing serious human rights concerns and advancing human rights norms, as these are best addressed through open and transparent processes,
103. Noting that the OSCE's annual Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, portrayed as the primary forum for discussing human rights issues, does not provide sufficient and timely monitoring or review of human rights in the OSCE region,
104. Concerned about the lack of agreement within the OSCE Ministerial Council in recent years on virtually any decisions related to human rights and humanitarian questions,

105. Concerned that participating States have been diluting the mandates of OSCE field missions to effectively monitor and report on human rights-related issues,
106. Recognizing that criminal terrorists and other non-state actors can pose significant security and human rights threats, and that neither existing criminal legislation nor the traditional laws of war may be adequate for addressing such challenges, yet mindful that it is necessary to balance the need to enhance counterterrorism measures with safeguarding fundamental rights and freedoms,
107. Recognizing the challenges that migration poses for participating States and expressing deep concern at the considerable number of migrants below the age of 18 who may be unaccompanied or are otherwise vulnerable to neglect, exploitation and abuse,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

108. Calls upon the OSCE Ministerial Council to adopt a decision clearly recognizing that the human rights of all populations and peoples in the entire OSCE region, particularly the rights of IDPs, refugees and people residing in conflict-affected areas are the legitimate concern of all OSCE participating States, and that effective implementation of these rights requires transparency through ongoing monitoring and public reporting;
109. Calls upon the OSCE's decision-making structures to once again put individuals' rights at the core of their mandates, and to this end reiterates its call for the Permanent Council to organize fortnightly meetings to examine issues having to do with human rights, with these meetings to be conducted in a manner that is open to the public and the media and with the participation of civil society representatives, and to undertake in this way the continuous monitoring of the implementation of OSCE human dimension commitments;
110. Expresses concern about efforts in several OSCE participating States to impose increasing and unnecessary restrictions on the work of civil society groups;
111. Calls upon the Russian Federation to end its attempts to stigmatize and discredit civil society groups by labelling them "foreign agents," urges Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan to refrain from enacting similar "foreign agent" legislation, and condemns the Russian Federation's suppression of civil society, in particular through legislation banning the activities of so-called "undesirable" organizations and projects funded by those organizations;
112. Strongly condemns the persecution and violence against Christians and other religious minorities in the OSCE area and beyond, including in the Middle East and North Africa, and actions that limit their right to religious freedom and to practise their faith;
113. Condemns the continued persecution and imprisonment on politically motivated charges of journalists and human rights defenders in several OSCE participating States, and expresses its concern at the continued misuse of tax and administrative legislation to justify these acts;

114. Expresses concern at the abuse of pre-trial detention mechanisms, particularly in politically sensitive cases, and calls upon OSCE participating States only to accept pre-trial detention in exceptional cases and when public security is at stake or when a suspect presents a genuine flight risk;
115. Calls upon the Georgian Government to address the concerns enumerated in the report of the OSCE/ODIHR Trial Monitoring (2014) conducted to observe the trials of former senior officials, and handle all cases in a transparent manner, consistent with the rule of law and fair trial standards;
116. Expresses further concern at the disappearance of and lack of information regarding numerous critics of governments within the OSCE area, and calls upon governments to provide any and all information on the whereabouts of these individuals to the families of these persons and to the international community;
117. Calls upon the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the Representative on Freedom of the Media to continue to speak out publicly when rights are abused, including in cases of politically motivated imprisonment, imposition of the death penalty, discriminatory treatment including that of migrants and refugees and actions against journalists and human rights defenders;
118. Calls upon participating States, in light of the horrific attacks in Paris and Copenhagen earlier this year, to intensify their efforts to implement the Basel Ministerial Council declaration on Enhancing Efforts to Combat Anti-Semitism, including supporting civil society efforts;
119. Calls upon participating States to hold a high-level conference to address racism and to develop an OSCE action plan to address racial justice, including adopting laws, policies, and practices to end discriminatory policing in the wake of numerous deaths by law enforcement of people of African descent and others across the OSCE region;
120. Reiterates its call for OSCE field missions to be given robust and multi-year mandates that include monitoring and reporting on human rights and humanitarian concerns;
121. Calls on the Azerbaijani authorities to reverse their decision to terminate as of 4 June 2015 the Memorandum of Understanding on the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Baku, and stresses that the field office of the OSCE must continue to be able to support Azerbaijan in upholding its OSCE commitments;
122. Supports the co-operation agreement between the OSCE PA and the OSCE on election observation activities, recognizing that the close partnership between the OSCE PA and the OSCE/ODIHR is essential to the successful conduct of this common endeavour;
123. Supports the conflict prevention work conducted by the High Commissioner on National Minorities, whose expertise on inter-ethnic relations also serves an important function in supporting minorities' rights and supports and encourages the joint efforts

of the HCNM and ODIHR to monitor the human rights situation in conflict-affected areas;

124. Emphasizes the need – as part of efforts to reconfirm and build upon OSCE achievements – to integrate a gender perspective into all policies at the level of the participating States and within OSCE structures and institutions, including the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and its Secretariat;
125. Calls upon the OSCE Ministerial Council to reaffirm the commitment of the participating States to respect the inherent rights of all persons as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Helsinki Final Act, and CSCE and OSCE human dimension commitments, to prioritize preventing violations of those rights, particularly violations against persons in vulnerable situations, to actively promote respect for such persons, and to actively promote tolerance and inclusiveness as part of OSCE values;
126. Further calls upon OSCE participating States to rescind all anti-Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) legislation, including the criminalization of providing information on LGBT issues;
127. Stresses that participating States must provide equal protections of fundamental rights to all residents, regardless of citizenship, as a clear recognition that the OSCE stands for human rights rather than just citizens' rights;
128. Applauds the significant efforts of States neighbouring crisis situations to care for refugees, and calls upon participating States across the OSCE area to increase their efforts to care for people fleeing their homes out of fear of persecution and personal safety, and to ensure the safe and dignified return of IDPs and refugees to their places of permanent residence;
129. Calls upon the participating States of the OSCE to improve mechanisms for co-ordination and co-operation of immigration policies, and to concentrate more efforts on stabilizing war and crisis zones as well as improving the economic situation in countries of origin and transit;
130. Urges the participating States to address the specific situation of migrant children, in particular by ensuring the protection of their rights, working towards durable solutions which are in the best interests of the child and are in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and strengthening mutual co-operation and co-operation with other countries as needed;
131. Deplores the continued fighting in Ukraine, which has led to thousands of deaths and has an enormously negative impact on the humanitarian situation;
132. Condemns the continued occupation by the Russian Federation of the Crimean peninsula, and the resulting abuses of minorities' rights, particularly those of Crimean Tatars, and attempts to silence human rights defenders and independent media;

133. Calls for the recognition of the special and troubling human rights situation of persons living in occupied territories, and stresses that occupying powers must recognize and live up to their particular responsibilities in this regard;
134. Calls for respect and realization of the basic human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons living in conflict zones;
135. Calls for the immediate release of Nadiya Savchenko, a Member of Parliament in Ukraine, from detention in the Russian Federation, on humanitarian grounds;
136. Urges the Government of Belarus to co-operate fully with the OSCE, to immediately release and rehabilitate all political prisoners and to secure full freedom for the media and the political opposition;
137. Deplores the persistence of cases of torture and other gross mistreatment within the OSCE area, and urges all OSCE participating States to guarantee independent monitoring of detention facilities in order to work towards the complete eradication of torture in the OSCE area;
138. Considers the death penalty to be an inhuman and degrading punishment, an act of torture unacceptable to states respecting human rights, and calls on retentionist states to impose an immediate moratorium on executions;
139. Encourages OSCE parliamentarians to educate and engage citizens, promote political dialogue, and build multi-party networks in order to support women's participation in public and political life in their countries;
140. Encourages participating States to consider adapting their legislation to deal with terrorists, including foreign terrorist fighters, to ensure that basic human rights, including the right to a fair trial within a reasonable time, are fully respected;
141. Calls upon the United States Government, working with other OSCE countries, to step up efforts to close the detention facility at Guantanamo, and to reconsider the application of traditional laws of war in the fight against terrorism in view of the amorphous and open-ended character of this fight.

RESOLUTION ON

HELSINKI +40: BUILDING THE OSCE OF THE FUTURE

1. Recalling the fundamental importance of the Decalogue of Principles of the 1975 Helsinki Final Act for today's security architecture, and recognizing that the future of the OSCE depends on the ability of the Organization to listen to and deal with the concerns of its participating States, regardless of their size,
2. Reiterating that the Helsinki Final Act is a testament to what is possible when States make a concerted effort to set aside differences and strive for common understanding, and reaffirming that political will and steadfast commitment to dialogue, trust and compromise must remain the bedrock of the Organization,
3. Deeply concerned that the 40th Anniversary of the OSCE has been marked by the crisis in and around Ukraine, which, while temporarily increasing the visibility of the OSCE, highlighted its ineffectiveness due to a lack of tools, mandate and dysfunctional decision-making procedures,
4. Emphasizing that the OSCE should use the 40th anniversary of its Helsinki Final Act as an opportunity to adopt concrete lines of action for the Organization to stay effective, efficient and relevant in the next decade, primarily through readjustment of its decision-making process,
5. Stressing the democratic legitimacy of the OSCE PA by definition and the need for its high relevance and potential in parliamentary diplomacy, within and beyond the Helsinki +40 context, to be reflected in its unequivocal recognition as an integral and full-fledged OSCE structure, in conformity with the spirit and letter of the Charter of Paris,
6. Acknowledging the contribution of the OSCE PA to the development of such reform proposals, notably through its multiyear Helsinki +40 Project, designed as a series of seminars bringing together politicians, experts and diplomats, building upon previously adopted resolutions and the 2005 Washington Colloquium Report, and recognizing the upcoming 25th Anniversary of the OSCE PA,
7. Taking note of the OSCE governmental side's parallel Helsinki +40 processes, such as the Informal Helsinki+40 Working Group in Vienna and the Panel of Eminent Persons on European Security as a Common Project, and believing that a self-critical organization is a healthy organization,
8. Regretting the continuing lack of international legal personality of the OSCE, which creates serious challenges for the whole organization on the operational level, most notably in the field and in crisis situations, as in Ukraine, and restating the PA's commitment to support the Organization in resolving this issue,

9. Reaffirming all OSCE commitments on gender equality, including the commitment of participating States to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion as enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act and the Ministerial Council Decisions on the 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

10. Urges the participating States to reaffirm, in a Ministerial Council Declaration, the significance of, and their respect for, all ten principles of the Helsinki Final Act and to make a concerted political effort to overcome the dividing lines between participating States;
11. Calls for public identification of those States which are not abiding by the Helsinki commitments and identification of concrete mechanisms for putting into practice the commitments undertaken, possibly through the development of a binding code of conduct for the OSCE participating States in the most problematic areas;
12. Strongly recommends increasing the transparency of the OSCE decision-making process by opening the proceedings of the Permanent Council to the press, including through live-streaming on the Internet;
13. Stresses the need for intensified co-operation between the OSCE PA and the OSCE executive structures, as per the commitment undertaken at the Astana Summit towards a Security Community and as a key element in the OSCE's reform efforts towards its greater effectiveness; points out the significance of the OSCE PA's further enhancing its influence and visibility across the Conflict Cycle, including by upgrading its mediation role and, eventually, by organizing fact-finding missions, upon the invitation of the parties concerned, and commits to best contribute to the OSCE's reform efforts by seeing to the continuous improvement of its work and functioning;
14. Calls on the OSCE PA and the OSCE/ODIHR, in the best interests of the overall Organization, to work co-operatively during election observation missions as one "OSCE election observation mission" using one OSCE logo and under the overall leadership of the Special Co-ordinator, as intended by the 1997 Co-operation Agreement endorsed by the 2006 Brussels Ministerial Council Decision on Strengthening the Effectiveness of the OSCE;
15. Stresses the importance of the commitment to uphold democratic election standards, both east and west of Vienna;
16. Calls for an increased role of the OSCE parliamentary dimension in the work and decision-making process of the Organization, taking into consideration best practices developed in the Council of Europe, including through the election by the OSCE PA of the OSCE Secretary General, decisions on the admission of new participating States and oversight over and approval of the Organization's budget;

17. Calls for better co-ordination, engagement and information-sharing between the Secretariat in Vienna, other OSCE Institutions and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's International Secretariat, possibly through the development of an annual strategic plan of action for mutual strengthening;
18. Urges greater involvement of the parliamentary dimension in conflict prevention, resolution and mediation of the OSCE, which can benefit from its parliamentarians' unique political expertise and leverage;
19. Calls for the establishment of a Best Practices Unit to provide the OSCE with a permanent lessons-learned capability, as well as for the development of a permanent Civilian Rapid Reaction Capability to be deployed in times of crisis to supplement the work of field missions;
20. Underlines the importance of supporting the OSCE presence in the field through adequate funding, qualified human resources and multi-year mandate attribution;
21. Calls for the reopening of OSCE field presences in Georgia and Belarus, as well as curbing the trend of restricting mandates of presences, such as in Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan;
22. Calls for greater ministerial consideration of the topic of legal personality, while underlining the importance of correct codification of the PA's role, status and involvement in the OSCE's work as one of the OSCE Institutions;
23. Calls on participating States to ensure that the Helsinki +40 process and its outcomes integrate a gender perspective and reaffirm a commitment to gender equality, which is essential to peace, sustainable democracy, economic development, inclusive dialogue, and therefore, to security and stability in the OSCE region;
24. Recommends that the Organization consider sharing the "spirit of Helsinki" with other parts of the world, notably East Asia, where there is strong interest in the OSCE's heritage, lessons learned and legacy;
25. Urges the OSCE Chairmanship to place before the Permanent Council the Helsinki +40 Report and this Resolution for consideration and discussion, including with representatives of the OSCE PA.

RESOLUTION ON

THE CONTINUATION OF CLEAR, GROSS AND UNCORRECTED VIOLATIONS OF OSCE COMMITMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL NORMS BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

1. Stressing that the Russian Federation has committed itself to upholding the principles enshrined in the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, which include sovereign equality; respect for the rights inherent in sovereignty; refraining from the threat or use of force; inviolability of frontiers; territorial integrity of States; peaceful settlement of disputes; non-intervention in internal affairs; respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; equal rights and self-determination of peoples; co-operation among States; and fulfilment in good faith of obligations under international law,
2. Recalling Article 2(4) of the Charter of the United Nations, the 1994 Memorandum on Security Assurances in Connection with Ukraine's Accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (Budapest Memorandum), the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership between Ukraine and the Russian Federation of 31 May 1997, and the Alma-Ata Declaration of 21 December 1991,
3. Expressing support for UN Security Council resolution 2202 (2015), in which the Security Council reaffirmed its full respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine and endorsed the Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Agreements of 12 February 2015,
4. Reaffirming the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Resolution on Clear, Gross and Uncorrected Violations of Helsinki Principles by the Russian Federation, adopted at its 23rd Annual Session in 2014,
5. Stressing that under international law, no territorial acquisition resulting from the threat or use of force shall be recognized as legal,
6. Noting with concern the continuing presence of Russian Federation-backed armed groups, military trainers and mercenaries in the territory of Ukraine,
7. Underscoring the need for the Russian Federation itself to meet in full its commitments in the 2014 Minsk Agreements and the 2015 Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Agreements, as well as to use its considerable influence over the pro-Russian illegal armed groups in certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine to do the same,
8. Endorsing the diplomatic efforts of the Normandy format, as well as the work of the Trilateral Contact Group and its four working groups, and convinced that the crisis in and around Ukraine can only be solved by diplomatic and political means,

9. Commending the work of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission and other OSCE institutions and structures,
10. Deeply alarmed that under conditions of occupation, the situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, continues to deteriorate, leading to serious violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms,
11. Deeply concerned by the dire humanitarian and economic situation in conflict-affected areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions,
12. Expressing deep sympathy for the millions of people affected by the crisis in and around Ukraine, including internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees,
13. Taking note of the request of Ukraine to the United Nations and the European Union for the deployment of a peacekeeping mission (operation) to certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine,
14. Stressing the responsibility of Ukraine to continue to ensure respect and protection for the human rights of all people in Ukraine, and to promote tolerance, dialogue and mutual understanding amongst its diverse linguistic, ethnic and religious communities,
15. Also stressing the importance of meaningful and effective economic, constitutional and governance reforms in Ukraine, as well as the Government of Ukraine's continuing efforts to fight corruption,
16. Understanding that the impact of the Russian Federation's aggression has made it significantly more difficult for Ukraine to realize the beneficial effects of recently undertaken reforms and anti-corruption measures on economic recovery and growth,
17. Expressing concern that economic circumstances in Ukraine are becoming sufficiently severe that generous outside support in the form of humanitarian aid, direct economic assistance and debt restructuring will be increasingly needed for eventual recovery,
18. Noting the ongoing violations of OSCE commitments within the Russian Federation, particularly in the human dimension, which allows and encourages egregious and destabilizing behaviour toward neighbouring and nearby States,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

19. Condemns the Russian Federation's unilateral and unjustified assault on Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity and the continuation of clear, gross and uncorrected violations of the principles of the Helsinki Final Act which define this assault;

20. Also condemns the Russian Federation's failure to respect the Helsinki principles of sovereignty, integrity, inviolability of internationally-recognized frontiers and the prohibition of the use of force and threat of force against other OSCE participating States;
21. Considers that the actions by the Russian Federation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, as well as in certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine, constitute acts of military aggression against Ukraine;
22. Declares that the referendum held in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol on 16 March 2014 had no legal validity, reiterates its call on the Russian Federation to reverse its unlawful annexation of this region, and calls on participating States to refrain from any action or dealing that might be interpreted as recognizing the unlawful annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol;
23. Expresses its grave concern over increasing militarization in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol and statements by some Russian officials indicating an intention to deploy nuclear weapons in that region by the Russian Federation, actions which undermine global, European, and regional peace and security;
24. Calls on the Russian Federation to halt its destabilization campaign in Ukraine, including the escalation of the conflict in certain areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, and otherwise to fully withdraw from Ukraine;
25. Further calls on the Russian Federation to stop the supply and flow of heavy weaponry, ammunition, units of the Russian Armed Forces and mercenaries across the Russian border into eastern Ukraine, cease providing any military, financial or logistical aid to illegal armed groups in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine— including by means of so-called “humanitarian convoys,” and reverse the build-up of troops and military material along the Russian border with Ukraine;
26. Calls for the full implementation of the 2014 Minsk Agreements and 2015 Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Agreements, including the comprehensive ceasefire, and calls on all parties to work towards a peaceful resolution and durable political settlement of the crisis in and around Ukraine;
27. Underscores that the resumption of effective control over the Ukrainian-Russian border remains crucial for a sustainable de-escalation of the crisis, and calls for the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to be given full and unhindered access throughout the entire territory of Ukraine, including in all territory controlled by pro-Russian illegal armed groups and in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol;
28. Calls on the Russian Federation to immediately release and return to Ukraine detained pilot and member of the Verkhovna Rada, Nadiya Savchenko, filmmaker Oleg Sentsov, Oleksander Kolchenko and all other illegally detained Ukrainian citizens;

29. Invites participating States to provide humanitarian assistance, as well as support for the Government of Ukraine's reconstruction efforts, in conflict-affected areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine, in line with international standards and with respect for Ukraine's sovereignty;
30. Condemns the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 on 17 July 2014 in the Donetsk region and calls for those responsible to be held to account, in compliance with OSCE commitments and international standards;
31. Condemns the deteriorating human rights situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, including intimidation, harassment and discrimination directed against the Crimean Tatar and ethnic Ukrainian populations, violations of freedom of religion, and violations of media freedom that include censorship and the closure of independent media outlets such as the television broadcaster ATR;
32. Calls on all participating States to respect OSCE human dimension commitments in and around Ukraine, and on all participating States, *de facto* authorities and other groups in and around Ukraine to adhere to their obligations under international humanitarian law, to respect and protect human rights, and to conduct prompt and effective investigations into all allegations of human rights violations;
33. Urges the Russian Federation, as the Occupying Power in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, to permit and facilitate the work in that region of international organizations and human rights non-governmental organizations, the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media;
34. Encourages participating States to help provide the OSCE with all the support necessary to fulfil its responsibilities in Ukraine;
35. Congratulates the Ukrainian people on holding presidential and parliamentary elections in 2014 that were largely in line with international commitments;
36. Commends the passage of several laws in Ukraine that, if implemented, will strengthen the economy and rule of law and assist in the fight against corruption;
37. Encourages participating States to provide more humanitarian aid as well as a meaningful level of economic assistance and other forms of support in direct response to a continued Ukrainian government commitment and ongoing efforts to combat corruption, encourage investment, ensure energy security and maintain the health and other services provided to the citizens of Ukraine;
38. Notes the beneficial effects of a strongly recovering Ukrainian economy on trade, cooperation and security across the OSCE region;
39. Affirms the right of Georgia and the Republic of Moldova to be free of coercive external influence from the Russian Federation and reconfirms its support for their independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity;

40. Supports efforts to find lasting, peaceful solutions to the conflict in Ukraine, as well as the frozen conflicts in Georgia (South Ossetia and Abkhazia), the Republic of Moldova (Transnistria) and Azerbaijan (Nagorno-Karabakh and adjacent territories) that respect the principles of the Helsinki Final Act and international law, in order to ensure a stable, prosperous and democratic future for all of the people of these states;
41. Calls on the Russian Federation to take practical steps to implement the 2014 OSCE PA Baku Declaration and the resolution entitled “Clear, Gross and Uncorrected Violations of Helsinki Principles by the Russian Federation”;
42. Urges the Russian Federation to bring itself into compliance with its commitments regarding respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as the building, consolidation and strengthening of democratic institutions;
43. Reminds all other participating States of the ongoing need to consider and take appropriate action to safeguard human rights, democracy and the rule of law by peaceful means in extraordinary circumstances when clear, gross and uncorrected violations of relevant OSCE commitments are taking place.

RESOLUTION ON

ADHERENCE TO THE HELSINKI PRINCIPLES IN INTER-STATE RELATIONS ACROSS THE OSCE AREA

1. Recalling the principles of the Helsinki Final Act:
 - (a) Sovereign equality, respect for the rights inherent in sovereignty,
 - (b) Refraining from the threat or use of force,
 - (c) Inviolability of frontiers,
 - (d) Territorial integrity of States,
 - (e) Peaceful settlement of disputes,
 - (f) Non-intervention in internal affairs,
 - (g) Respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,
 - (h) Equal rights and self-determination of peoples,
 - (i) Co-operation among States, and
 - (j) Fulfillment in good faith of obligations under international law,
2. Also recalling the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, in which the OSCE participating States pledged their full commitment to the Ten Principles of the Helsinki Final Act and affirmed that these principles form the basis for relations among the OSCE participating States,
3. Taking into account the Declaration on furthering the Helsinki +40 process adopted at the Ministerial Council in Kyiv in 2013, which states that the 40th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act is a unique opportunity to reaffirm the participating States' commitment to the concept of comprehensive, co-operative, equal and indivisible security, by recording practical results reflecting intensified efforts to fully implement OSCE commitments,
4. Reiterating that the OSCE, as a regional arrangement under Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, as a primary organization for the peaceful settlement of international disputes within its region, and as a key instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management, conflict resolution and post-conflict rehabilitation, continues to play an important role in building a secure and stable OSCE community from Vancouver to Vladivostok,
5. Expressing deep concern over the persistence of conflicts in various regions of the OSCE area, in particular in the territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine,
6. Acknowledging that conflicts in the OSCE area undermine the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence of the participating States concerned, impede democratic reforms and sustainable development in those States and hinder regional co-operation and development,

7. Gravely concerned over the attempts to misinterpret the true value and meaning of the principles of the Helsinki Final Act, and convinced in this regard that the strong reaffirmation of the commitment to those principles and of their importance will contribute to settling disputes peacefully, preventing and resolving armed conflicts, promoting the rule of law among States, strengthening the international legal order and, consequently, maintaining more effectively international and regional peace and security,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

8. Underlines the enduring validity of the principles of the Helsinki Final Act in guiding relations among the participating States;
9. Emphasizes that the inherent connection and balance between all the principles of the Helsinki Decalogue must be applied equally and unreservedly, and urges all participating States to strictly observe these principles in their international relations;
10. Reaffirms that every State has the duty to refrain in its international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;
11. Reaffirms also the principles of inviolability of frontiers and territorial integrity of States, and recalls in that regard the established principle of international law on the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force;
12. Reiterates the obligation of States not to recognize as lawful a situation resulting from the use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of States, nor render aid or assistance in maintaining that, and to refrain from any action or dealing that might be interpreted as a recognition of it, whether direct or indirect;
13. Reaffirms the principles of equal rights of people and their right to self-determination in conformity with Charter of the United Nations and with the relevant norms of international law, including those relating to territorial integrity of States, and stresses in that regard that this shall not be construed as authorizing any action against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State;
14. Also reaffirms the inalienable right of the populations of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine displaced as a result of conflicts to return to their homes in safety and with dignity, and stresses the necessity of creating appropriate conditions for their soonest return;

15. Underlines the role of the rule of law in preventing conflict, mitigating the effects of the conflict once it has arisen, and in resolving conflicts, reaffirms its strong opposition to impunity for serious violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, and emphasizes the responsibility of States to comply with their relevant obligations to end impunity and to thoroughly investigate and prosecute persons responsible for war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity or other serious violations of international humanitarian law, in order to prevent violations, avoid their recurrence and seek sustainable peace, justice, truth and reconciliation;
16. Stresses the importance of compliance by conflicting parties with and the implementation of the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and the relevant documents of other international organizations;
17. Expresses its deep regret at the lack of sustainable progress toward a political settlement of the existing conflicts in various regions of the OSCE area;
18. Maintains that the peaceful settlement of conflicts in the OSCE area should remain a top priority for the Organization, including within the “Helsinki +40” process;
19. Urges all parties involved to engage in good faith in the search for negotiated solutions in order to achieve a comprehensive and lasting political settlement of the conflicts, including those affecting the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, based on the norms and principles of international law, in particular those relating to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the States concerned, and to make full use of the available conflict settlement mechanisms and formats to that effect.

RESOLUTION ON

OSCE CODE OF CONDUCT ON POLITICO-MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY: AWARENESS RAISING, DISSEMINATION, BETTER IMPLEMENTATION AND OUTREACH

1. Recalling the importance of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (the Code) adopted on 3 December 1994 as a normative key document for the governance of the security sector, the democratic oversight of armed, internal, paramilitary and intelligence forces as well as the police, and for the application of the provisions of international humanitarian law and the law of armed conflicts,
2. Bearing in mind the achievements of the Code and its agreed instruments in raising awareness of the importance of democratic oversight of the armed and security forces, in increasing confidence and transparency in the OSCE area by sharing information and in providing guiding norms and principles prompting armed forces to operate by fully respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms of their members, also during armed conflict,
3. Recalling the obligation of participating States to provide for democratic oversight of the armed and security forces, to ensure that defence policy and doctrine are consistent with international law, that their forces remain politically neutral and will not be used to limit the peaceful and lawful exercise of human and civil rights by persons as individuals or as representatives of groups, nor to deprive them of their national, religious, cultural, linguistic or ethnic identity, particularly considering issues related to women, peace and security (UNSCR 1325),
4. Concerned about implementation loopholes, on-going breaches of provisions of the Code by participating States and their deleterious effects on confidence-building and stability in the OSCE area,
5. Underlining the role and responsibility of parliamentarians and parliamentary security commissions on the oversight of the security sector in participating States,
6. Emphasizing the need to better vest the Code with parliamentary legitimacy by higher attention and active support through the elected representatives of the participating States' citizens,
7. Reaffirming the recent resolutions on the Code taken by this Assembly at the meetings in Monaco and Istanbul,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

8. Calls upon OSCE participating States and OSCE executive structures to bolster the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security as a fundamental principle of security sector governance and security sector reform (SSG/R);

9. Expects participating States to preserve carefully the unique *acquis* of the Code, to implement all provisions and requirements stemming from the Code fully and in a timely manner and its agreed instruments, as well as to increase their substance by updating the questionnaire on the Code with new aspects such as border guards, private military and security companies as well as cyber security;
10. Invites all members of parliament to assume their responsibility fully by exercising their rights and prerogatives in order to foster an effective and accountable security sector by ensuring a permanent parliamentary oversight of its related executive structures and by prompting those executive structures to implement the Code;
11. Encourages participating States to support awareness-raising and dissemination of the Code in the whole OSCE area by periodically organizing workshops and seminars aimed at national and international key stakeholders dealing with the Code, and by taking advantage of such activities by including them in discussions for further development and better implementation of the Code;
12. Encourages participating States and OSCE executive structures to continue the periodic discussions on better implementation, awareness raising, dissemination and outreach of the Code, its norms and principles and its agreed instruments, as well as to consider the adoption of a Ministerial Council Decision in this respect;
13. Calls upon the participating States and OSCE executive structures to support the outreach of the norms and principles of the Code also towards its Mediterranean and Asian Partners for Co-operation and beyond;
14. Institutionalizes the discussions on the Code at the level of the OSCE PA by regularly setting an item related to the Code on the agenda of its General Committee on Political Affairs and Security;
15. Supports efforts to enhance coherence and to improve the operational guidance for the OSCE on the use of the Code within SSG/R;
16. Declares its strong commitment to foster the implementation of the Code in all its aspects and to remain involved in discussions and activities of the participating States and in activities of OSCE executive structures related to the Code.

RESOLUTION ON

**THE CO-OPERATIVE PHASE IN POST-CONFLICT BORDERS:
NEW TOOLS AND NEW ACTORS FOR A BROADER VIEW
OF THE CONFLICT CYCLE**

1. Recognizing the historic role played by the OSCE under Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter in the peaceful settlement of conflicts and in the promotion of security in its area of influence,
2. Reaffirming the significance and validity of all elements of the conflict cycle as reflected in the CSCE Helsinki Document 1992, including crisis management, conflict resolution and peacekeeping,
3. Considering the OSCE's vast experience in prevention, analysis, early warning, reaction, promotion of dialogue, support of mediation, establishment of a secure environment, post-conflict rehabilitation, stabilization, confidence-building and reconstruction in all stages of the crisis cycle,
4. Fully aware of the OSCE's already comprehensive range of activities in post-conflict periods, such as the restoration of institutionality, judicial and electoral reforms, human rights empowerment, handling of inter-ethnic conflicts, educational reforms, protection of the rights of national minorities and economic recovery,
5. Considering likewise the Resolution on "Enhancing Cross-border Co-operation Policies in Post-Conflict Scenarios," adopted at the OSCE PA's 2012 Annual Session in Monaco, and the Resolution on the "Role of Local and Regional Authorities in Post-conflict Rehabilitation Scenarios," adopted at the OSCE PA's 2013 Annual Session in Istanbul,
6. Bearing in mind the adoption by all regional integration international systems of the political paradigms of the principle of subsidiarity and multilevel governance,
7. Considering the introduction of a horizontal perspective of problem solving for border issues in the activities of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the nomination of an OSCE PA Special Representative for Border Issues,
8. Being aware that many conflicts in the OSCE area have a cross-border component, be it legal borders or *de facto* borders (contact lines, administrative lines, etc.),
9. Recognizing that because every conflict with an impact on border areas has its own characteristics, it would not be wise to apply a universal model for pacification, and that the possibilities will depend on various factors, including the degree of post-conflict settlement, but considering nonetheless that there are potential practical solutions for the improvement of the daily life of populations, even without assuming the solutions to be a breakthrough in the discussions on the substance of the conflict,

10. Considering that the existence of political, economic, social and cultural relations of a certain density and continuity in a border region make resorting to conflict by any actor a more politically costly option and a difficult one to legitimize in the eyes of public opinion,
11. Being aware that the traditional players and tools of military or police security are necessary but insufficient in this co-operation phase, and are also insufficient in connection with individual, legal, or political reforms by each state in the conflict,
12. Concluding that the creation of ties of interconnection as a preventive element demand a common strategy and not simply unconnected bilateral logics,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

13. Proposes a revision of the framework of analysis of the Organization to adopt and generalize a new, wider concept of the conflict cycle in border scenarios, under the fundamental principle that a conflict between neighbours does not end with a safe border, but with a co-operative border;
14. Recommends, in consequence, the extension of the usual scheme of the conflict cycle beyond the traditional stabilization and rehabilitation phase to include a new final co-operative stage to prevent the crisis cycle;
15. Proposes a reassessment of the scale of the human factor in this co-operative final stage of the border conflict, to ensure that the effects on people's lives become the foreground concern and part of the political agenda, together with the issues of substance (territorial integrity, sovereignty, verification, stabilization, international marks of mediation and negotiation);
16. Calls for an analysis of each previous individual case, and in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity, the incorporation of new actors and the use of new instruments in this co-operative final stage;
17. Proposes to incorporate the tasks of post-conflict co-operation with the relevant state authorities and in close co-ordination with these, to other relevant actors on both sides of the border, and among those, to women and their specific organizations, to local and regional authorities, to educational, academic or university centers, and their intellectual assets, to local religious leaders (both in border dividing communities with the same religion as in those dividing also from that point of view); to local and regional media; to civil society organized in the so-called third sector (foundations, associations, etc.) and to private companies (whose activity in post-conflict areas is a clear sign of normalization);
18. Also proposes the adoption of new mechanisms of action and new horizontal tools designed for this final co-operative stage of the conflict cycle that serve to strengthen its preventive profile, as has already been noted by the OSCE PA as an instrument of this nature in its 2012 resolution, exploring their potential and the use of the vast experience that many actors within the OSCE possess in this regard;

19. Proposes the adoption of a scheme of two-level talks, together with the usual high-level talk scheme (bilateral with international mediation) about matters of substance (territorial integrity, sovereignty, border control, verification, stabilization, etc.), which would boost a new system of contacts of proximity to manage bilaterally the practical problems and daily difficulties created by the situation in the daily lives of people and communities, directly affected by a post-conflict border (checkpoints at *de facto* borders, access to health and education services, water availability or traditional farming land, difficulties in family or interpersonal communications, barriers to sharing public services, etc.);
20. Proposes moreover, that these two areas of different nature and scale are formalized in various forums and are also to some extent autonomous, so that their agendas are complementary but not made conditional each on the other;
21. Proposes that the level of proximity is bilaterally constructed and transmits an objective and common report of the repercussions that the situation has over the people directly affected as well as an analysis of the relationship schemes that contribute to the settlement of the conflict.

RESOLUTION ON

A COMPREHENSIVE LEGISLATIVE REFORM ON

FOREIGN TERRORIST FIGHTERS

FROM THE OSCE AREA

1. Considering that:
 - (a) the current global security scenario, characterized by multidimensional challenges, requires the urgent attention of OSCE lawmakers in order to adapt domestic legislation in response to new dynamic and devious threats,
 - (b) the complex and interconnected phenomena such as religious radicalization and so-called "home-grown terrorism," in all of their forms, are ominously present in the OSCE region as a whole,
 - (c) the foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) phenomenon is not new but the recent increase in the flow of these FTFs into Syria and throughout the Middle East has been the largest and most important influx into any region,

2. Taking into account that collecting information about people who choose to take part in foreign armed conflicts is extremely difficult, although different estimates suggest that:
 - (a) approximately 15,000 foreigners from around 80 countries have successfully joined terrorist groups in the Middle East, mainly in Syria and Iraq (of these, approximately 3,000 are Europeans),
 - (b) the proportion of militants, mostly young Chechens, from the Russian Federation is trending upward,
 - (c) Turkey is the major transit hub for travel routes to Syria,

3. Noting with concern that tragic international events have shown that kidnappings, beheadings, mass executions (with victims primarily being women and children), gang rapes, torture and acts of genocide against religious minorities are included among the acts that FTFs consider lawful means to achieve their political purpose,

4. Acknowledging the pressing need to address the root causes in the States of origin of FTFs and between the northern and southern shores of the Mediterranean, namely socio-economic hardship and discrimination, but also personal dissatisfaction and the impossibility of self-fulfilment, which are fertile grounds for radicalization and terrorist acts,

5. Stressing that it is necessary to send a clear message strengthening the existing provisions against terrorism and introducing new ones designed to prevent and monitor movements and activities of those who have clearly travelled to or are seriously suspected of travelling to a State other than their States of residence or

nationality for the purpose of the perpetration, planning, or preparation of, or participation in, terrorist acts or the providing or receiving of terrorist training, including in connection with armed conflict,

6. Recognizing that compliance with internationally recognized human rights standards, especially with regard to persons most at risk, particularly in correctional facilities, is critical for countering terrorism,
7. Having regard to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288),
8. Welcoming UN Security Council resolutions 2170 of 15 August 2014 and 2178 of 24 September 2014 on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,
9. Recalling the 5 May 2014 Note of the EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator according to which FTFs remain a major threat to the European Union and its Member States, as well as to the Middle East and North Africa region,
10. Having regard to the Declaration on the OSCE's role in countering the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters in the context of the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014),
11. Emphasizing that the OSCE participating States must prepare themselves to face a huge legal challenge, since beyond the military dimension, the threat of FTFs is a multi-faceted issue containing many sub-problems at the legal level,
12. Remembering that many OSCE participating States do not have effective laws addressing the FTFs issue, which should be distinguished from generic anti-terrorism laws that in many cases have not been updated for five to ten years or even more,
13. Believing that it is imperative that all OSCE participating States carefully evaluate the need for introducing new laws to strengthen the current anti-terrorism legal framework,
14. Remaining fully committed to working in close collaboration with its global and regional partners,
15. Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

16. Asks the participating States of the OSCE, in full compliance with international human rights law principles and provisions, to move very fast to fully implement all the provisions of the UN Security Council resolution on terrorist foreign fighters (Num. 2178, 24/09/2014);

17. Encourages the OSCE to increase its co-operation with participating States in Central Asia and the Partner for Co-operation – Afghanistan – in particular in terms of combatting drug trafficking and organized crime, which are contributing to instability in the region and to the financing of terrorism, and also in terms of supporting democratic institutions;
18. Urges the participating States of the OSCE to promote a wide range of actions at national, regional and international levels, including the study of new comprehensive strategies to tackle the more subtle security threats, such as FTFs and “lone wolves”;
19. Invites all the OSCE States to start a comprehensive reform process of national anti-terrorism legislation, including the introduction of new and co-ordinated measures directed at FTFs;
20. Asks the Member States of the European Union to:
 - (a) tighten controls effectively at external borders, within the existing legal framework;
 - (b) better co-ordinate counter-terrorism efforts among European Governments and Security Agencies, with full awareness of the multi-layered decision-making process in national security and intelligence within the EU members;
21. Asks participating States of the OSCE which are members of NATO to:
 - (a) start a long-term process of harmonization and co-ordination of national anti-terrorism legislation;
 - (b) design new and more effective information-sharing mechanisms, including regular update procedures, among all the Members’ Security Agencies;
 - (c) promote a wide range of initiatives in order to examine new global mechanisms for addressing the issue of Western-born fighters, including effective ways to deal with them if they manage to return home;
22. Encourages participating States to strengthen their national identification systems by considering the introduction of biometric passports;
23. Further asks the United States and the Russian Federation to make serious efforts in order to restart actual security and intelligence co-operation against terrorist groups active in the MENA region, co-operation that at the moment is limited due to mistrust and competing motivations;
24. Calls upon its participating States to increase and improve exchanges of information, primarily between the Central Asian States, the Russian Federation and Turkey, especially in the area of borders, telecommunications, and the prevention and suppression of the financing of terrorism, in order to minimize the flow of foreign fighters;

25. Calls for innovative and pragmatic co-operation with internet companies against extremist propaganda on the Web in the OSCE area, and calls on participating States to encourage and promote educational and preventive co-operation with the media to counter terrorist propaganda, notably by training journalists specialized in religion;
26. Encourages the sponsoring of de-radicalization measures tailored to FTFs returning to their OSCE countries of origin;
27. Calls for more attention to be devoted to possible reintegration programmes for recruits – provided they have clean criminal records and have not participated in any banned and/or illegal terrorist organizations abroad – when they return to their countries of origin, including through closer co-operation between States and international and regional NGOs active in countering violent terrorism and extremism, and, as part of wider reintegration and rehabilitation efforts, the provision of employment, education, healthcare and other services for returning jihadists who have not committed any crimes;
28. Encourages exploring new channels to prevent youth radicalization, especially in national prison systems;
29. Invites the OSCE Institutions to report on progress made in meeting the commitments set out in this resolution.

RESOLUTION ON

RESPONSIBILITY TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS FOR GOODS AND SERVICES

1. Recalling the principles of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's St. Petersburg Declaration (1999), Brussels Declaration (2006) and Kyiv Declaration (2007), and the Belgrade Declaration of 2011, as well as efforts by participating States to implement the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, and Addendums to the Action Plan in 2005 and 2013, and all OSCE commitments related to combating trafficking,
2. Recalling that the 2013 Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings calls on participating States to develop and implement policies and actions, including law enforcement co-operation between participating States, to prevent the tourism industry from being used for all forms of trafficking in human beings, in particular for sexual exploitation of children, and that the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Baku Declaration of 2014 called on OSCE participating States to facilitate appropriate law enforcement co-ordination and notification procedures between participating States, as well as with other destination States, so that States are aware in advance of travel by individuals previously convicted of serious sex crimes against children,
3. Welcoming the designation of 30 July as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons in line with UN General Assembly resolution 68/192 of 18 December 2013,
4. Recognizing the importance of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, adopted by UN General Assembly resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, and stressing the importance of its full implementation,
5. Remembering the proceedings of the 11th High Level Alliance against Trafficking Conference on "Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings for Labour Exploitation: Decent Work and Social Justice,"
6. Emphasizing that the 2013 Addendum to the Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings calls on OSCE institutions to update internal regulations so that no activities of the OSCE executive structures, including contracts for goods and services, contribute to any form of trafficking in human beings,
7. Underscoring that the 2013 Addendum to the Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings also calls on participating States to consider "including a zero-tolerance policy...in government procurement of good and services" as well as to promote "clear criteria...for the official registration of recruitment and placement agencies, and monitoring the activities of such agencies in an effort to prevent all forms of [trafficking in human beings]" and for considering the removal of recruitment fees,

8. Alarmed that, according to the International Labour Organization, human trafficking in the private economy generates US \$150 billion in illegal profits per year, predominantly in the sectors of construction, manufacturing, entertainment, domestic work, and agriculture,
9. Concerned that most legal businesses do not have in place policies, audits, and reporting procedures to ensure that the goods and services they sell to participating States are free of products made, mined, or harvested by human trafficking victims,
10. Encouraged that some corporations are beginning to examine their supply chains and insist on best practices to ensure that their suppliers are not utilizing trafficking victims or participating in fraudulent recruiting practices,
11. Welcoming the example that some governments now require contractors for goods and services to have in place a plan to ensure that subcontractors and employees do not participate in activities that contribute to or that constitute human trafficking, including regulations that penalize contractors, subcontractors and/or their employees who:
 - a. destroy, conceal, remove, confiscate, or otherwise deny an employee access to that employee's identity or immigration documents without the employee's consent,
 - b. fail to abide by any contractual provision to pay return transportation costs upon the end of employment for the purpose of pressuring an employee into continued employment,
 - c. solicit a person for the purpose of employment, or offers employment, by means of materially false or fraudulent pretences, representations, or promises regarding that employment,
 - d. charge recruited employees unreasonable placement or recruitment fees, or any such fee that violates the laws of the country from which an employee is recruited, or
 - e. provide or arrange housing that fails to meet host country housing and safety standards,
12. Concerned that most participating States do not have in place policies, audits, reporting procedures, and penalties to ensure that the billions of tax dollars spent each year on government contracts for goods and services are not increasing the illegal profits of human traffickers,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

13. Urges the OSCE to review existing requirements and ensure that OSCE contracts for goods and services only go to businesses that have in place the appropriate policies, audits, reporting procedures, and recruitment safeguards to prevent human trafficking in their supply chains;

14. Calls on the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, in consultation with the Co-ordinator for Economic and Environmental Activities, to consult with participating States to develop a handbook on best practices for companies to prevent human trafficking in their supply chains;
15. Calls on participating States to require by law and regulation that all government contracts for goods and services go only to businesses that have a plan in place to ensure that their subcontractors and employees do not participate in activities that contribute to or that constitute human trafficking;
16. Urges participating States to officially register recruitment and placement agencies and monitor the activities of such agencies in an effort to prevent all forms of trafficking in human beings;
17. Invites participating States to encourage all businesses to adopt policies and procedures to prevent labour trafficking in their supply chains;
18. Calls on the European Union, its Member States and other OSCE participating States to create and make public a common list of companies guilty of trafficking in human beings. Listed companies may no longer participate in public tender procedures initiated by the authorities involved in drawing up the list for two years and must change their practices before being permitted to tender for contracts;
19. Calls on the European Union, its Member States and other OSCE participating States to conduct a study to see if low prices applied to goods and services under public contracts are connected with trafficking in human beings, including not respecting minimum wages;
20. Calls on the European Union, its Member States and other OSCE participating States to invalidate the awarding of public contracts if the company has a history of violating the enumerated human rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

RESOLUTION ON

ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES IN THE HIGH NORTH

1. Recalling the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Oslo Declaration (2010) resolution on the Arctic,
2. Considering the transformative change now occurring in the Arctic driven by the forces of climate change and globalization resulting in tighter economic and geopolitical links,
3. Underlining the positive development of Arctic co-operation and with a view to promoting even closer and deeper co-operation,
4. Emphasizing the role of parliamentarians in the OSCE area in advising and contributing to this work,
5. Welcoming the US Chairmanship of the Arctic Council and its focus on climate change and ocean governance,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

6. Supports cross-border and trans-border economic and human co-operation in the Arctic region;
7. Stresses the importance of co-operation and co-ordination when developing sustainable infrastructure and domain awareness in the Arctic region, such as satellite surveillance, Unmanned Aircraft Systems, communications, maps, and marine infrastructure and looking for financial solutions that encourage a regional and international approach;
8. Encourages the Arctic States to take nature conservation measures to protect endangered flora and fauna in the Arctic region, and develop research on the impact of global warming on the nature and biodiversity of the Arctic;
9. Supports the development of renewable energy suitable for the Arctic region to drastically reduce black carbon emissions;
10. Calls for new technological innovation and research that supports sustainable energy generation pilot projects in the Arctic for affordable electricity production and heating, and creates efficient waste disposal and emission reduction in order to establish self-supporting energy production for Arctic communities;
11. Encourages the creation of infrastructure to support food security, such as local processing and incentives supporting Arctic traditional livelihoods, fisheries and agriculture;

12. Supports the creation of infrastructure, such as roads, ports and airports, that support and assist in the development of sustainable tourism, local economies and other environmentally friendly economic activities;
13. Recognizes the important ongoing work in the International Maritime Organization to develop a mandatory Polar Code on shipping and encourages increased collaboration towards its expeditious completion;
14. Supports relevant capacity-building, particularly through education and training, to ensure that local communities will continue to benefit from economic development;
15. Underlines the importance of sharing and utilizing existing technologies and affordable energy generation and deployment practices, particularly in remote communities, as a way to reduce the cost of energy, reduce carbon emissions, support infrastructure development, and contribute to the well-being of residents of the Arctic, and the viability of communities across the Arctic;
16. Encourages the exchange of experiences and best practices about how industrial projects and traditional industries can coexist and benefit from one another;
17. Supports sustainable resource development in the Arctic by assessing the impact of development on the environment, societies and cultures, including resilience assessments;
18. Recognizes the importance of tourism and encourages examination of the possibilities of eco-tourism and geo-tourism in the Arctic while developing joint guidelines for sustainable land- and sea-based tourism;
19. Encourages mutual understanding of the rights of the peoples of the Arctic to utilize their resources in a sustainable way, and recognizes the importance of securing their livelihoods by expanding the markets for traditional products;
20. Asks participating States in the Arctic to develop overall strategies for assessing environmental, social and cultural benefits and impacts when developing natural resources in the Arctic, to ensure that any such development is based on principles of sustainability;
21. Calls on participating States in the Arctic to initiate joint research on challenges related to oil drilling and transportation of oil and other hazardous goods in Arctic waters in order to prevent accidents and improve capacity in the event of oil spills and other environmental accidents;
22. Encourages closer co-operation on challenges related to oil drilling and transportation of oil and other hazardous goods in Arctic waters;
23. Underlines the importance of comprehensive adaptation strategies to prepare Arctic societies for the consequences of climate change;
24. Promotes the health and growth of forests through the sustainable management and use of forest resources while facilitating adaptation to climate change.

RESOLUTION ON

THE MODERNIZATION OF THE SYSTEM OF NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OSCE BUDGET

1. Recalling that the scales of contributions established by the Charter of Paris for a New Europe in 1990 have been subsequently modified by Summit, Ministerial Council and Permanent Council decisions,
2. Regretting that the current Scales of Contributions have not been updated since the Slovenian Chairmanship of the OSCE in 2005,
3. Aware of the current distortions between the current scales and the economic situation in the OSCE area,
4. Concerned by the growing discrepancy between the scales of contributions and the distribution of Gross National Income (GNI) among OSCE participating States that has accelerated since the start of the financial crisis in 2008 and that is accentuated by the emergence of some fast-growing economies among participating States,
5. Taking note of the Permanent Council Decision No.1072 of 7 February 2013 on Scales of Contributions for 2013-2015 establishing an Open-ended Informal OSCE Working Group on Scales of Contributions tasked to submit to the Permanent Council by 1 October 2015 the recommendations for the revised Scales of Contributions for the period covering 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2018,
6. Stressing that Rule 41 (4) of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Rules of Procedure stipulates that in accordance with Article 10 of the Madrid Declaration, as amended by the Committee of Heads of Delegation on 13 January 1992, national contributions to the Budget of the Assembly shall be apportioned according to the formula used to divide costs of the intergovernmental OSCE,
7. Considering that the budget of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly is not sufficient to ensure all the tasks our Assembly is bound to perform,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

8. Urges the participating States and its Permanent Council to finalize a substantial modernization of the Scales of Contributions by the end of the year 2015;
9. Encourages the work of the Open-ended Informal OSCE Working Group on Scales of Contributions;
10. Stresses that the modernization process should be driven by the principle of capacity to pay while taking into account the economic realities amongst participating States;

11. Calls for taking into consideration the criteria of Gross National Income (GNI) as one of the essential factors in the calculations;
12. Suggests amending Rule 41 (4) of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Rules of Procedure to allow for appropriate exceptions from the governmental formula;
13. Suggests that in order to initiate the reform process immediately and as a first step without modifying the existing Scales of Contributions, national parliaments at the lower end of the scale should contribute a minimum fixed-sum amount of 10,000 Euros except countries where GDP per capita does not exceed 3,000 Euros and that the additional revenue generated should supplement the current budget of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly;
14. Calls for the creation of a working group composed of the Treasurer and five Bureau members in charge of making detailed reform proposals to the Assembly with the aim of adopting new Scales of Contributions.

RESOLUTION ON

MISSING PERSONS IN CONNECTION WITH ARMED CONFLICTS

1. Expressing deep concern at the significant numbers of missing persons worldwide, in connection with international and non-international armed conflicts and concomitant violations of international treaty and customary humanitarian law and human rights, notably the right to life and dignity for all people,
2. Stressing the primary relevance of the principles and norms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Geneva Conventions on Protection of Victims of War/1949 and Additional Protocols/1977, the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, International Covenants, the European Convention on Human Rights and other pertinent international instruments and jurisprudence,
3. Recalling pertinent UN resolutions, particularly General Assembly resolutions 69/184 of December 2014 and 68/165 of December 2013 and related resolutions of the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) and the Inter-Parliamentary Union,
4. Recognizing the strong need for a comprehensive response regarding the issue of missing persons and states' responsibility to address this problem, on the basis of universal, uniform and binding standards,
5. Having regard to the five key areas identified by the PACE in its Resolution 1956/2013 entitled "Missing persons from Europe's conflicts: the long way to finding humanitarian answers," on which states must focus to solve the problem of missing persons,
6. Stressing the high relevance of the OSCE reconciliation and peace-building efforts across the conflict cycle and upon the principles of comprehensive and indivisible security towards a security community,
7. Based on the principle that no missing person may be considered and established as dead on the grounds of speculation, unconfirmed information and unsubstantiated data,
8. Placing particular emphasis on the need to put an end to the prolonged anguish of the families of missing persons and on the inalienable human right of these people to know about the fate, whereabouts and circumstances, under which their relatives have gone missing, to recover the remains of identified missing persons, and honour their memory according to their religion and funeral customs,
9. Condemning the executions of prisoners of war or civilians in captivity during hostilities or after the cessation thereof, as a heinous war crime,

10. Pointing out notable scientific and technological progress achieved in efforts to locate and identify missing persons and to investigate violations of humanitarian law and human rights law in connection with armed conflicts,
11. Commending the work of the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP), the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (RCRC) and other international and regional organizations and mechanisms in this field; in particular, the recommendations contained in the ICMP 2013 comprehensive Report entitled “The missing: an agenda for the future,” as well as the RCRC 31st International Conference of 2011 and four-year Action Plan,
12. Praising the commitment of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia to the systematic location and identification of missing persons and to promoting basic principles and practices in this field and their signing of the ICMP “Declaration on the Role of the State in addressing the issue of persons missing as a consequence of armed conflict and human rights abuses” of 29 August 2014,
13. Deploring persisting reluctance by states which have been/are parties to an armed conflict, to honestly and effectively address the issue of missing persons and to allow unimpeded and impartial investigations in this regard,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

14. Calls upon OSCE participating States to strictly observe their commitments under international treaty and customary humanitarian law, human rights law, and the rule of law, particularly with regard to missing persons in connection with armed conflicts;
15. Invites OSCE participating States that have not done so to proceed to the ratification of pertinent international legal instruments;
16. Stresses the legitimate human right of the relatives of missing persons and societies to truth, justice and remedy, as a primary humanitarian necessity and an essential condition, in efforts towards reconciliation and the peaceful settlement of conflicts, the end of impunity and the non-repetition of such crimes;
17. Stresses the need to enhance efforts, at the level of States and the international community, towards a comprehensive and binding legal instrument on missing persons;
18. Urges OSCE participating States, which have been/are parties to an armed conflict, to comply with pertinent judgments of International Courts and Tribunals, particularly the European Court of Human Rights, regarding their obligations towards the victims and their relatives;
19. Fully endorses the ICMP “Declaration on the role of the State in addressing the issue of persons missing as a consequence of armed conflict and human rights abuses,” and encourages OSCE participating States to join this initiative and see to the promotion and effective implementation of the principles and commitments set out therein;

20. Calls upon OSCE participating States, which have been/are parties to an armed conflict, to address the issue of missing persons from a humanitarian perspective and in consistence with international norms, standards and customs:
- (i) To adopt and implement all necessary legal and practical measures to ensure their increased ownership and full accountability regarding missing persons, through comprehensive, effective, transparent and reliable processes;
 - (ii) To ensure that families' needs are met and their active engagement and participation in these processes are safeguarded;
 - (iii) To provide all necessary information and assistance and to allow adequate, prompt and impartial investigations and to accelerate those underway about the fate, whereabouts, circumstances and cause of death of missing persons, including by allowing access to their archives and to mass gravesites, which are clandestine and/or located in sensitive areas under their legal or *de facto* control;
 - (iv) To ensure the collection, protection and management of data on missing persons, unidentified remains and burial sites, and to refrain from deliberate relocation of remains from mass graves, which further complicates their location, identification, skeletal reconstitution and return in their entirety to the families;
 - (v) To facilitate all processes, particularly criminal proceedings, towards the prosecution of perpetrators of crimes related to missing persons and human rights abuses in connection with armed conflicts and to foster international and regional judicial co-operation to this effect;
 - (vi) To ensure information sharing, networking, exchange of experience and best practices and other means of substantial co-operation and co-ordination with state institutions, commissions on missing persons, competent regional and international organizations and mechanisms, particularly the ICMP and the RCRC and with other actors and civil society, towards promoting highly reliable investigations, forensic operations and reliable data, in strict compliance with human rights principles and norms, as well as common guidelines, standards and policies, capacity building, education and training;
21. Calls upon the OSCE to engage more actively regarding the issue of missing persons in connection with armed conflicts, across the conflict cycle and through its field missions, by providing expertise, where applicable, further promoting dialogue and co-operation between States concerned and with stakeholders and further encouraging and supporting bilateral and regional co-operation initiatives in this field;
22. Stresses the fundamental legislative and oversight role of Parliaments towards the implementation of the above goals, and decides to closely follow this matter and to use its full potential in parliamentary diplomacy to this effect.

RESOLUTION ON

ABDUCTED AND ILLEGALLY DETAINED UKRAINIAN CITIZENS IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

1. Recalling the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Resolution on Clear, Gross and Uncorrected Violations of Helsinki Principles by the Russian Federation, containing *inter alia* the Assembly's call on the Russian Federation to end its intervention in Ukraine and to bring itself into compliance with the Helsinki principles in its relations with Ukraine and with all other participating States,
2. Reiterating its call on participating States to co-operate with international institutions like the OSCE to help ensure that, in the future, there will be no political prisoners in the OSCE area, as envisaged by the OSCE PA Baku Declaration, adopted at the 23rd Annual Session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,
3. Emphasizing that according to the Minsk Agreements, notably the Minsk Protocol of 5 September 2014 and the Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Agreements of 12 February 2015, all hostages and unlawfully detained persons must be released, which includes those who have been abducted from the Ukrainian territory and are illegally detained in Russia,
4. Recalling that the right to a fair trial is guaranteed by each State, and attempts to use justice as a tool for political pressure undermines the credibility of the judicial system as a whole,
5. Expressing concern on the illegal detention and retention of Ukrainian pilot Nadiya Savchenko;
6. Taking note of the deterioration of the health of Nadiya Savchenko due to her illegal detention in the Russian Federation,
7. Noting that the release of a Member of the Ukrainian Parliament and of the Ukrainian delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Nadiya Savchenko, as a person enjoying international diplomatic immunities and exemption from arrest and prosecution, remains a legal obligation of the Russian Federation under Article 15 of the General Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Council of Europe,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

8. Strongly condemns the abduction of Ukrainian citizens from the territory of Ukraine, including Member of Parliament Nadiya Savchenko, filmmaker Oleg Sentsov and others, their illegal transfer across the Ukrainian-Russian state border and further detention in the Russian Federation;

9. Considers that these actions by the Russian Federation, as well as criminal prosecutions of those Ukrainian citizens, are illegal and illegitimate as they constitute a flagrant violation of norms of international law in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms and OSCE principles and commitments, as well as running counter to the commitments undertaken by the Russian Federation under the Minsk Agreements in September 2014 and February 2015;
10. Deplores that the Russian Federation continues to ignore its legal obligations under the General Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Council of Europe by holding Nadiya Savchenko behind bars;
11. Emphasizes that efforts to open new criminal cases against Nadiya Savchenko and other Ukrainian citizens illegally detained in the Russian Federation are unacceptable;
12. Condemns politically motivated persecutions against defenders of Nadiya Savchenko;
13. Calls on the Russian Federation to strictly abide by the norms and principles of international law, the OSCE principles and commitments, the Minsk Agreements and to immediately release Nadiya Savchenko, Oleg Sentsov and other Ukrainian citizens that are illegally detained in Russia, as well as to ensure their safe return to Ukraine;
14. Encourages the Members of the Parliamentary Delegation of the Russian Federation to the OSCE PA to facilitate their immediate release;
15. Urges the OSCE Chairmanship, OSCE Institutions and the participating States to take vigorous efforts and use all instruments available to facilitate the release of all abducted and illegally detained Ukrainian citizens who have become political prisoners in Russia.

RESOLUTION ON

CALLING FOR URGENT SOLUTIONS TO THE TRAGEDY OF DEATHS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

1. Taking into account the Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 28 July 1951, as supplemented by the New York Protocol of 31 January 1967 (“The Geneva Convention”), which ensures that no one is sent back to their country of origin to face persecution, maintaining the principle of “*non-refoulement*,”
2. Recalling the Resolution on Comprehensive Immigration Reform of the 2014 Baku Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, which asks the participating States to call for a comprehensive immigration reform at the national and European level,
3. Taking into account that the increasing number of arrivals on the southern coasts of Europe puts in evidence the limits of the EU’s Dublin Regulation, according to which the whole responsibility for receiving irregular migrants and asylum seekers is laid upon a restricted group of receiving countries (mostly Italy, Malta, Greece, Turkey, Spain),
4. Appalled by the tragic loss of life in the Mediterranean Sea, and expressing deep sympathy for the families of the victims and concern for the survivors,
5. Also recalling the previous resolutions of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly which consider the problem of migration and its social and economic consequences as a permanent challenge for the OSCE (the Oslo Declaration of 2010, the Astana Declaration of 2008, and Chapter II of the Kyiv Declaration of 2007),
6. Noting that, in accordance with the European Commission’s evaluation, immediate measures should be taken by means of long-term programmes and initiatives aimed at addressing the root causes of irregular migration working in close co-operation with third countries especially countries of origin and transit,
7. Welcoming the new regulation of the European Union Council of Ministers of 20 April 2015 (ten-point action plan) on migration,
8. Recalling the final statement of the special meeting of the European Council on Migration of 23 April 2015, establishing a stronger presence at sea in order to tackle the flow of illegal migrants (by reinforcing the Triton and Poseidon operations), reinforce legal and political instruments to prevent illegal migration flows, and fight trafficking of human beings in the Mediterranean, and reinforce solidarity and responsibility among countries, in order to attain a common legal framework on the right to asylum,

9. Taking into account the launch of the EU naval operation EUNAVFOR Med, which aims to disrupt the business models of human smugglers and traffickers in the Mediterranean and for which the approval of the United Nations Security Council or a request from the Libyan authorities is needed,
10. Welcoming the decision of the European Commission on the new migration agenda of 13 May 2015, establishing resettlement mechanisms and country-specific quotas for the distribution of migrants in EU Member States,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

11. Strongly reaffirms the full right of all people fleeing from persecution and armed conflict to apply for asylum in an OSCE country, as enshrined in the Geneva Convention and other international covenants;
12. Calls for concerted, consistent and determined action to be taken through the United Nations in order to fight against traffickers in human beings, who, in order to maximize profits, use inappropriate and dangerous means of transport through the Mediterranean that put the lives of thousands of people at risk;
13. Holds it essential that all EU Member States make efforts to make sure that ships in the Mediterranean comply with the “Montego Bay” UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, by rescuing vessels in distress transporting refugees and migrants;
14. Invites the European Union and especially Italy, whose decision to treble the resources made available for Triton is highly commendable, to promote a fresh, more pervasive and effective search and rescue initiative;
15. Encourages Italy to make efforts for an EU humanitarian admittance plan, in order to set up application desks in transit countries in the Southern Mediterranean which, with the assistance of UNHCR, the European Union's external action service, and the embassies of Member countries, may receive asylum applications according to set quotas and resettlement procedures, and ensure that migrants can travel safely at no risk to their lives;
16. Calls upon the participating States of the OSCE to make full use of existing instruments to issue humanitarian visas in their embassies and consulates;
17. Expresses deep concern and grief that many of the victims of the mass tragedies in the Mediterranean are children, and urges national governments, the EU and the international community to promote and protect the rights of people, especially children on the move, infants and unborn children, who are particularly vulnerable to the devastating impact of all forms of physical or mental violence, injury, abuse, neglect and exploitation;

18. Recalls the 2013 statement by the European Independent Human Rights Institutions for Children that children on the move are children first and that fundamental principles with regard to children's rights as enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international human rights instruments need to be mainstreamed into the development, implementation and monitoring of laws, policies, procedures and practices affecting children on the move;
19. Holds it essential that, from the moment of their arrival, the particular and specific needs and interests of children on the move, infants and unborn children are immediately taken into account and effectively dealt with so as to safeguard their physical, mental and social wellbeing;
20. Calls for States to fulfil their obligation to secure immediate access to the same health care and education services to children on the move as those offered to other children within the jurisdiction of the transit or host State, as this would strengthen their psycho-physical and psycho-sexual development and ensure their social integration and unqualified right to enjoy their upbringing;
21. Supports the efforts of the European Union to develop migrant reception quotas for Member countries under a new Agency on Migration, calls for an increase in the number of migrants to be accepted and hopes that migrants will be provided with decent conditions of reception in full compliance with fundamental human rights and the international conventions on the protections of migrants and refugees;
22. Invites the President and the Bureau of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to strengthen the interparliamentary Mediterranean dimension, also through the Mediterranean Forum and a Special Representative on Migration, for the purpose of tackling the challenge of migration and refugees in a consistent fashion, through an intensification of relations with Mediterranean countries of transit and origin, especially Libya and Syria;
23. Invites the OSCE participating States to enhance their development co-operation with States of origin and transit in order to tackle the root causes of migration flows, such as instability, poverty and conflicts.

RESOLUTION ON

WOMEN AND GIRLS MADE VULNERABLE BY ARMED CONFLICT, CRISIS OR MINORITY STATUS

1. Reaffirming the importance of the OSCE participating States' existing commitments on gender equality, tolerance and non-discrimination, improving the situation of Roma and Sinti women and girls within the OSCE area, and preventing violence against women, including the Ministerial Decision on *Preventing and Combating Violence against Women* (MC.DEC/7/14/Corr.1),
2. Outraged by credible reports of sexual violence, exploitation and abuse of women and girls affected by armed conflict and displacement in parts of the Mediterranean region and the Middle East, and cognizant that security in the OSCE area and in these regions is linked,
3. Expressing deep concern regarding the particular vulnerability of Indigenous, Roma and Sinti women and girls, and women and girls from other minority groups in the OSCE region, to violence, including sexual violence, as well as other forms of exploitation and abuse,
4. Emphasizing that preventing and responding to sexual violence, exploitation and abuse of women and girls significantly contributes to comprehensive security in and around the OSCE region,
5. Expressing concern at the fact that violence against women and girls remains at a high level and that vulnerable groups of women have limited access to justice,
6. Noting that in the past decade the world has faced new threats and challenges, such as growing internal and external migration among women and the rise of the influence of religious fundamentalism,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

7. Calls on participating States to ensure that the specific needs of women and girls are incorporated into all aspects of humanitarian assistance programming, and that addressing violence against women and girls, including sexual violence, is prioritized;
8. Calls on participating States to enhance educational and vocational training and economic opportunities for women and girls, especially those affected by armed conflict or crisis and those from minority groups, as a means to reduce their vulnerability to violence, including sexual violence, exploitation and abuse;
9. Calls on OSCE parliaments and parliamentarians to begin or enhance the collection of sex-disaggregated data, and to use effective gender-based analysis tools to ensure that public policy is evidence-based;

10. Calls on OSCE parliamentarians to promote action and to work together with civil society to combat all forms of violence, including sexual violence, against women and girls, and to end child, early and forced marriage and other forms of gender-based exploitation and abuse, taking care to address the specific needs of those made vulnerable as a result of armed conflict, crisis or minority status;
11. Encourages the OSCE and participating States to adopt action plans on the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and urges parliamentarians to take an active role in reviewing the effectiveness of their implementation;
12. Calls on countries in the OSCE region to make every effort to create a society free from violence, corruption and xenophobia and to create conditions and opportunities in which every member of society can gain access to quality healthcare, education, justice and personal security.