



DELEGATION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN
TO THE OSCE

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Statement by
Ambassador Kairat Sarybay, the Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Kazakhstan to the International Organizations in Vienna
at the 1171st meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
in response to the Address by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and
International Cooperation of Italy, H.E. Angelino Alfano
(11 January, 2018)

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

We warmly welcome Foreign Minister Alfano to the Permanent Council and thank him for outlining the priorities of the Italian Chairmanship under the motto “Dialogue, Ownership, Responsibility” and we fully support your, Mr Minister, approach to be open, transparent and inclusive.

We commend the intention of Italian Chairmanship to focus its efforts on strengthening the Organization in the framework of the conflict cycle, arms control, including further deepening of structured dialogue, that have already been initiated by the German and Austrian Chairmanships.

We believe that preventive tool box of the OSCE to tackle existing conflicts, growing challenges like terrorism, radicalization, trafficking in human beings and uncontrolled migrants influx should be further developed. In this regard, we support your priorities and are ready to cooperate fully with you in their advancement.

We express our full support to the efforts of Italian Chairmanship to seek a peaceful resolution of the conflict in and around Ukraine on the basis of the Minsk agreements. In the same vein, we support focus on strengthening the OSCE’s work to address protracted conflicts in the South Caucasus and Transdnistria through the existing formats.

We adhere to a balanced and realistic approach to conflicts resolution which is based on the fundamental principles of international law. Kazakhstan supports continuation of relevant negotiations in all formats and at all levels to foster meaningful solutions to conflict situations, improve conditions of ordinary people in the conflict affected areas. Kazakhstan is ready to contribute respectively.

In addressing transnational threats we highly encourage promoting of cooperation between OSCE and such international institutions as CICA, SCO, CSTO, which play a significant role in the development of regional and sub-regional co-operation in this area. My country promotes counter-terrorism initiatives in the framework of its non-permanent membership in the UN Security Council.

Kazakhstan strongly supports the OSCE activities with regard to a pertinent challenge – migration crisis. We welcome the plan of Italian Chairmanship to actively involve our Mediterranean partners for cooperation in order to find relevant solutions to this crisis. We also need to tap full potential of our interaction with Asian partners for cooperation.

While addressing all these challenges we should keep in mind the significance of the third dimension. Issues of human rights, democracy and rule of law should be combined with responsibility, solidarity and social order. Modern trends of violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism, particularly in light of popularization of radical views in Europe, as well as the danger of intrastate and interstate armed conflicts require a broadening and strengthening of inter-ethnic and inter-religious, intercultural and inter-civilizational dialogue in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian space.

In this regard, we welcome third dimension priorities to fight against intolerance and discrimination, promote pluralism, inclusion and inter-cultural and inter-religious dialogue, as well as the empowerment of women and youth. Also I would like to attract your attention to upcoming VI Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions to be held in Astana in October. I hope that the Chairmanship, its Personal Representatives on Religious Affairs, OSCE Secretary General, heads of relevant OSCE Institutions and participating States' representatives will be able to take part in the work of this Congress.

Dear Mr Minister,

I would like to thank the Italian Chairmanship for entrusting Kazakhstan to chair the Economic and Environmental Committee this year.

OSCE Ministerial Council meeting in Vienna once again demonstrated the conducive potential of the second dimension, which resulted in adoption of a Ministerial Decision on Promoting economic participation in the OSCE area, Declaration of the Austrian OSCE Chairmanship and the Chair of the Economic and environmental committee on greening our economies and fostering our

environmental co-operation and joint statement by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Eurasian Economic Union member states on connectivity and alignment of integration processes in the OSCE area.

All these documents have created an excellent blueprint for our future activities in the economic sphere and paved the way for an enhanced co-operation in the Second Dimension. I strongly believe that we should build upon this positive momentum to further progress towards the vision of the 2010 Astana Declaration of a security community stretching from Vancouver to Vladivostok.

I assure you that Delegation of Kazakhstan to the OSCE will contribute its utmost for successful Italian Chairmanship as it was the case with Austrian Chairmanship last year.

I believe that priorities of the Italian Chairmanship in the second dimension aiming to enhance dialogue on issues of promoting economic progress and security through innovations, including green ones, human capital and good governance open new avenues for mutually beneficial cooperation. I would like to underline that your priorities correspond closely to those ones outlined yesterday by President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev in his annual Address to the Nation. They include effective public administration, human capital, digitalization and industrialization, increasing the efficiency of transport and logistics infrastructure, introduction of smart and modern technologies in construction and municipal sector, etc.

As Minister Abdrakhmanov stated at Vienna Ministerial, we welcome initiative of Secretary General Thomas Greminger on creation of OSCE thematic missions and we offer the former EXPO 2017 grounds to serve as a platform for establishment of an OSCE thematic center on green economy and connectivity in Astana. We hope for Italian Chairmanship's and participating States' support on this matter.

In conclusion, let me assure you that the delegation of Kazakhstan is ready to actively contribute to implementation of your program. You can rely on our support. We wish you and all of your team every success.

I thank you.