

# Reporting by the Chair of the Human Dimension Committee

**Permanent Council**

**22 March 2012**

**Ambassador Thomas Greminger**



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

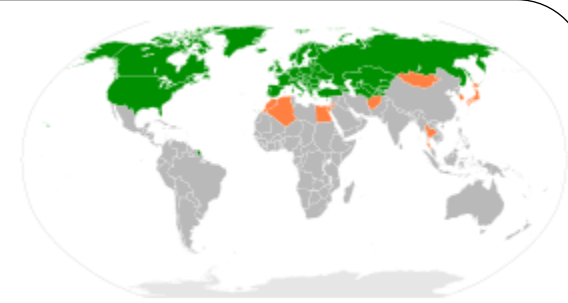
# Mandate



Decision no. 17/06, Improvement of the consultative process:

- Discuss human dimension issues, including implementation of the commitments
- Support the preparation of the HDIM and other human dimension meetings
- Consider cross-dimensional issues with a particular connection to the human dimension, when so requested by the Chairmanship in consultation with participating States
- Discuss recommendations to the Permanent Council on the programme of work, including actions to follow up on recommendations made at the human dimension meetings;

# Review of HDC in 2011

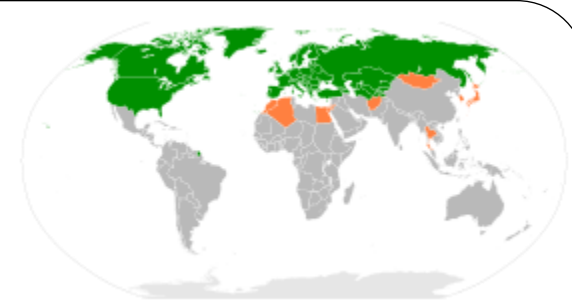


- 12 regular monthly HDC meetings, 3 special HDC meetings
- Structured agenda
- Monthly substantial exchanges on main topics
- Prominent speakers to introduce the main topics
  - Ambassador Lenarcic, director ODIHR
  - Ambassador Vollebaek, High commissioner on National minorities.
  - Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings
  - Wendy Patten, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Gender Issues
  - Roland Bless, principal advisor of the OSCE RFOM
  - Serghei Ostaf, Member of the OSCE/ODIHR Panel of Experts on Freedom of Assembly
  - Michael Head, former Chair of ECRI on hate crime
  - Fatos Araci, European Court of human rights
- Preparations of HD events and their follow-up

# Structured agenda

- (1) Main topic
- (2) Preparation of and follow-up to Human Dimension events
- (3) Voluntary reports by the participating States on implementation of commitments and follow-up to recommendations
- (4) Briefing by OSCE executive structures
- (5) Any other business

# Review of HDC in 2011



- Innovative voluntary reporting by 22 participating States
- Extensive interaction with the OSCE executive structures
- Process of review of human dimension events
- Constructive spirit without finger pointing
- Disappointing 2011 ministerial outcome in the human dimension.

# Voluntary reports by participating States

- 24 voluntary report by participating States (2011-12)
  - Elections - follow-up given to ODIHR's reports:
    - Albania
    - Austria
    - Finland
    - Moldova
    - Netherlands
    - Switzerland
  - Commitments related to equality, tolerance, and non-discrimination
    - Canada Multiculturalism and diversity
    - Croatia Reform of penal code and hate crime
    - Croatia Hate crime
    - United Kingdom Combating hate crime
    - Poland Prevention of hate crimes,
    - Turkey Tolerance and non-discrimination (victims of holocaust)
  - Best practices and implementation of commitments:
    - Germany Freedom of assembly
    - USA Combat trafficking in persons
    - USA Freedom of assembly
    - USA Women, Peace and Security
    - Belgium Counter-trafficking
    - Georgia Freedom of the media
    - UK Combating torture
    - Lithuania Domestic violence
    - Portugal Gender
    - Ukraine Public information (legislation)
    - Serbia National human rights institution
    - Switzerland Implementation of UN Resolution 1325



# Main objectives for 2012 HDC

- Consolidate the functioning of the HDC based on a **substantive work plan** and a **structured agenda**
- Contribute to building **trust and confidence** among participating States through a **balanced work plan**
- Achieve the necessary **formal PC decisions** on dates/agendas of human dimension events **in a timely and efficient manner**
- Contribute to obtaining **relevant MC decisions in targeted areas**
- Support the process on **the review of human dimension events** effectively

# HDC work programme 2012

<p><b>Durable solutions for refugees and IDPs in Western Balkans</b> <i>UNHCR SE Anne Willem Bijeveld</i></p>	<p><b>Gender issues</b> <i>OSCE Gender Adviser Mira Beham</i> <i>OSCE SR June Zeitlin</i></p>
<p><b>Freedom of the media</b> <i>OSCE RFoM Dunja Mijatovic</i></p>	<p><b>Human rights education</b> <i>ODIHR, Pavel Chacuk</i></p>
<p><b>Tolerance and non-discrimination</b> <i>Personal Representatives on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination</i></p>	<p><b>War crime justice project</b> <i>ODIHR, Head of democratization Dpt, T. Vennen</i></p>
<p><b>Review of human dimension events</b> <i>Ximpulse, Swiss think-tank</i></p>	<p><b>Death penalty</b> <i>ODIHR</i></p>
<p><b>Combating torture</b> <i>UN SR Juan Méndez</i></p>	<p><b>Roma and Sinti</b> <i>ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti, Andrzej Mirga</i></p>
<p><b>Freedom of association and peaceful assembly</b> <i>UN SR Maina Kiai</i> <i>Michael Hamilton, ODIHR Advisory Panel</i></p>	<p><b>Combating trafficking in human beings</b> <i>OSCE SR Maria Grazia Giammarinaro</i></p>
<p><b>Economic, social, and cultural rights</b> <i>Eibe Riedel, International law expert</i></p>	<p><b>Right to a fair trial</b> <i>ODIHR</i></p>
<p><b>Human rights of IDPs</b> <i>UN SR Chaloka Beyani</i></p>	<p><b>Briefing by field operation</b></p>
<p><b>Human rights and national minorities</b> <i>Professor Thürer, International law expert</i></p>	<p><b>Freedom of religion or belief</b></p>
<p><b>Democratic elections, election observation</b> <i>ODIHR Director Janez Lenarčič</i></p>	<p><b>Hate crime</b></p>



# Next months ahead

- Monthly substantial and structured meetings
- Numerous voluntary reports by participating States
- Discussion on the review of human dimension events
- Possible cross-dimensional events (e.g. good governance, anti-terrorism and human rights)
- Ministerial council preparations