



JOINT STATEMENT

The Chairman of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe,

Taking into account the important roles of the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe in promoting security, co-operation, peace and stability, based on the core values of human rights, democracy and the rule of law,

Recognizing that the issue of cooperation between international and European organizations and institutions constitutes an important element of the agenda of the Third Summit of the Council of Europe,

Guided by mutual desire to further strengthen co-operation between the two Organizations,

Recalling the Decisions by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (No CM/Del/Dec(2005)925/2.3) and the Permanent Council of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (No. 670),

Convinced that the prompt implementation of these decisions will constitute an important step towards achieving genuine complementarity between the two Organizations,

Wish to announce the adoption of the Declaration on Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the text of which is attached hereto, and bring it to the attention of the participants of the Third Council of Europe Summit.

In Warsaw, 17 May 2005

Dr Adam Daniel Rotfeld
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Poland
Chairman of the Committee
of Ministers of Council of Europe

Dr Dimitrij Rupel
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Slovenia
Chairman-in-Office of the
Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe

Declaration on Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Member States of the Council of Europe and the participating States of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe,

Recalling the decisions taken in December 2004 by the Committee of Ministers' Deputies of the Council of Europe (No. CM/865/01122004) and the Permanent Council of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (No. 637),

Recognizing the need to adapt relations between the two Organizations to the evolving international environment, with due respect for the aims and principles enshrined in the Council of Europe's Statute and the OSCE's Charter for European Security and other agreed documents and decisions of both Organizations,

Resolved to strive for a whole and free Europe without dividing lines based on shared values and a common commitment to democracy, respect for human rights, the rule of law, comprehensive security, social justice and market economy,

Convinced that, to achieve this objective, the two Organizations need to work more closely together in identifying effective co-ordinated responses to the threats and challenges of the twenty-first century, on the basis of the principles of complementarity, transparency and democratic accountability, while respecting the autonomy, different membership and distinctive tasks of each Organization,

Determined to base this enhanced co-operation on the existing legal acquis of the Council of Europe and the OSCE's political commitments,

Welcoming the work initiated by the Co-ordination Group established in December 2004, which illustrates the commitment of Member and participating States to enhanced co-operation between both Organizations,

Call on the Co-ordination Group to give priority in its work to the formulation of concrete recommendations on how to foster co-ordination and co-operation between the two Organizations in areas of common interest, taking into account their respective work in the field, and starting with questions concerning the fight against terrorism, the protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, combating trafficking in human beings, as well as promoting tolerance and non-discrimination;

Agree that, to this end, various forms of co-operation between the two Organizations should be explored such as joint meetings and joint activities, with more active involvement of the Member and participating States, in order to produce synergies and avoid unnecessary duplication, giving the fullest account however to the different nature and membership of the two Organizations, and make best use of their comparative advantages;

Call for better co-ordination within the national administrations of the Member and participating States in order to ensure that the above principles are effectively implemented;

Decide to bring this Declaration to the attention of both the Council of Europe and the OSCE Parliamentary Assemblies and would welcome their intention to enhance co-operation between the two Assemblies.
