



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

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**DECISION No. 670
CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY
AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

The Permanent Council,

Pursuant to its Decision No. 637 of 2 December 2004 on enhanced co-operation between the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the Council of Europe (CoE),

Decides to adopt the declaration on co-operation between the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe as annexed to this decision.

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.