



Press release

OSCE Chairman welcomes 'historic' accord between Armenia, Turkey

ATHENS, 11 October 2009 - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Greek Prime Minister and Foreign Minister George Papandreou, welcomed today the signing of an agreement between Armenia and Turkey to normalize ties.

"I welcome the historic agreement to normalize relations between Turkey and Armenia, and commend the effort and political will both leaders have invested to overcome differences and work towards a more secure and stable region, which is in all our interests," Papandreou said.

The accords were signed in Zurich on 10 October following months of Swiss-mediated talks. A roadmap for normalizing relations between Turkey and Armenia was agreed in April. Turkey closed its border with Armenia in 1993 because of its war with Azerbaijan over Nagorno-Karabakh.

Papandreou was sworn in as Greece's Prime Minister and Foreign Minister on 6 October. The Foreign Minister of the country holding the Chairmanship serves as the OSCE's Chairman-in-Office. --

Contacts

Virginie Coulloudon Deputy Spokesperson

- OSCE Secretariat
- Press and Public Information Section
- Wallnerstrasse 6
- 1010 Vienna
- Austria
- Tel: +43 1 514 36 6263
- +43 664 859 0899 (mobile)
- Fax: +43 1 514 36 6105
- [Send E-mail](#)