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Ressort: Politik

OSCE Press Statement after meeting of TCG

Rome/Vienna, 03.07.2019 [ENA]

The President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, will arrive at Fiumicino "Leonardo da Vinci" Airport in Rome on Thursday 4 July 2019. This is an occasion to remember the situation in Ukraine and the process of disengagement of forces and hardware in the agreed zone.

The Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office in Ukraine and in the Trilateral Contact Group, Ambassador Martin Sajdik,

on 2nd of July made the following statement to the press after the meeting of the TCG ?and its working groups in Minsk on 2 July 2019:

"Last week we witnessed the process of disengagement of forces and hardware in the agreed zone at Stanytsia Luhanska.

Launched ?at noon? of 26 June 2019, this process has become a welcome and important step.

It is a clear evidence that, if there is will, the agreements reached can be swiftly implemented. This inspires hope and optimism for our future work.

I would like to once again express my gratitude to the sides for their resolute steps. I was especially impressed by the personal presence of Leonid Kuchma at Stanytsia Luhanska in the course of the disengagement.

I also thank the staff of OSCE Special Monitoring Mission and personally Chief Monitor Yasar Halit Çevik and Deputy Chief Monitor Mark Etherington for the support and follow-up on this process.

At the same time, I am very concerned about recent increase in the number of ceasefire violations. I was shocked by media reports about the death of two military medics near Vodiane yesterday and the injury of two medical volunteers near Marinka today.

Now about our work. The Security working group, of course, concentrated on issues

concerning the disengagement of forces and hardware at Stanytsia Luhanska.

As to the so-called "harvest ceasefire", the sides once again confirmed that recommitment was crucial and agreed to continue discussion on the issue at the next meeting.

Among other points on the agenda, the Economic working group paid particular attention to water supply issues in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions on both sides of the contact line, specifically, to the financial situation of the 'Voda Donbasa' company.

Redaktioneller Programmdienst:
European News Agency

Annette-Kolb-Str. 16
D-85055 Ingolstadt
Telefon: +49 (0) 841-951. 99.660
Telefax: +49 (0) 841-951. 99.661
Email: contact@european-news-agency.com
Internet: european-news-agency.com

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The Humanitarian working group continued discussions related to the exchange of detainees. The Political working group took forward its exchanges on its well-known agenda, namely the implementation of the 'Steinmeier formula', amnesty and the modalities of local elections in certain areas of Donetsk and Luhansk region."

Compared with the previous days, the SMM (Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine) recorded fewer ceasefire violations in Donetsk region and more in Luhansk region.

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V.i.S.d.P. und gem. § 6 MDStV: Dr. Carlo Marino

**Redaktioneller Programmdienst:
European News Agency**

Annette-Kolb-Str. 16
D-85055 Ingolstadt
Telefon: +49 (0) 841-951. 99.660
Telefax: +49 (0) 841-951. 99.661
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