

**RESOLUTION ON**  
**GOOD PRACTICES FOR STATES RELATED TO PRIVATE MILITARY AND SECURITY COMPANIES**

1. Noting that since the start of the 1990s, the state role in guaranteeing security has changed, with certain traditional public security tasks now being delegated to private military and security companies (PMSCs) at both the national and international levels,
2. Recalling the 1994 OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, based on FSC.DEL/29/15, as an essential normative document governing the role of armed and security forces in democratic societies,
3. Welcoming the launching of a structured dialogue on the current and future challenges and risks to security in the OSCE area, as mandated in MC.DOC/4/16,
4. Underlining that States contracting with PMSCs retain their obligations under international law,
5. Bearing in mind that States have an obligation to ensure, through national legislation, that PMSCs operating in or from their territory act in accordance with international humanitarian law, human rights law and customary international law,
6. Emphasizing the existence of the Montreux Document on the pertinent international legal obligations and good practices for States related to the operations of private military and security companies during armed conflict,
7. Noting with satisfaction that the OSCE and a number of its participating States have joined the Montreux Document,
8. Noting the recent development of innovative international multi-stakeholder initiatives to ensure compliance of the private security sector with international human rights and humanitarian law obligations, such as the International Code of Conduct Association,
9. Concerned that the private security industry is not systematically subject to adequate democratic controls at the national level,
10. Repeating the concern voiced in its 2014 Baku Declaration that the absence of any specific regulatory framework for private military companies and private security companies and the lack of parliamentary oversight of these companies limit the most essential role of parliaments,
11. Concerned about the proxy role of private military companies in escalating conflicts in the OSCE area,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

12. Calls on participating States to discuss the topic of PMSCs within a structured dialogue as an important challenge and risk to security in the OSCE area;

13. Calls upon the participating States to provide voluntary information on PMSCs within the information exchange on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security;
14. Calls on the participating States to meet their obligations under international law, even in cases where they contract PMSCs to perform certain activities;
15. Reminds participating States that their right to outsource activities to PMSCs is subject to certain restrictions, notably in relation to the supervision of prisoner-of-war camps and places of internment of civilians;
16. Urges parliaments to draw up legislation that efficiently regulates the activities of private security companies on the basis of existing international standards;
17. Calls on parliaments to strengthen their powers on matters relating to the privatization of security services, democratic control and the regulation of the private security industry;
18. Recommends to parliaments of participating States not yet supporting the Montreux Document to raise awareness about it and to encourage their respective governments to consider joining the Montreux Document.