

SalamAlum

Issue # 1, 2011



Alumni's Career
Developments

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Alumni Conference
"Central Asia: Comprehensive
Security and Sustainable
Development"

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OSCE Academy Alumni
Wedding
Zahid and Suhaila

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Dear Alumni,

We are glad to greet you with the first issue of the OSCE Academy's alumni journal, *SalamAlum*. The year 2011 has been rich with the activities of our Alumni Network and marked by many important events, news of which we would like to highlight in this edition.

First of all, we would like to thank you for your active engagement with the OSCE Academy after graduation. You have participated in our annual **alumni survey**, connected online, and helped each other! So far 119 of you have registered on our **alumni webpage**, and many have successfully used and contributed to our online services.

Our 1st **Alumni Conference "Central Asia: Comprehensive Security and Sustainable Development,"** was successfully conducted on 3 September 2011. The Bishkek Paper will be published soon to summarize our discussions and outcomes of the conference.

Throughout April and May members of our **alumni regional chapters** met in Bishkek, Dushanbe and Tashkent. We combined these with the opportunity to meet professionals who interested you in order to discuss your professional aspirations and gain first-hand information about the situation in Central Asia.

In June we tried **online conferencing** and got connected throughout Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan via Skype.

This **alumni journal** will help us to stay in touch even more, and to keep updated on developments in our Alumni Network. Your contribution to the content of this journal is very much welcome. Please share news about yourself and your classmates by sending them to alumni@osce-academy.net!

We congratulate the most active of our alumni Rustam Karimov '05 from Tajikistan with his OSCE Academy's **Alumnus of the Year Award for 2011!**

Our sincere gratitude goes to the **OSCE**, the **OSCE-participating states** and especially to the **Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)**, which support and fund alumni activities of the OSCE Academy!

Violetta Yan

Viktoriya Orazova



Alumni Profile

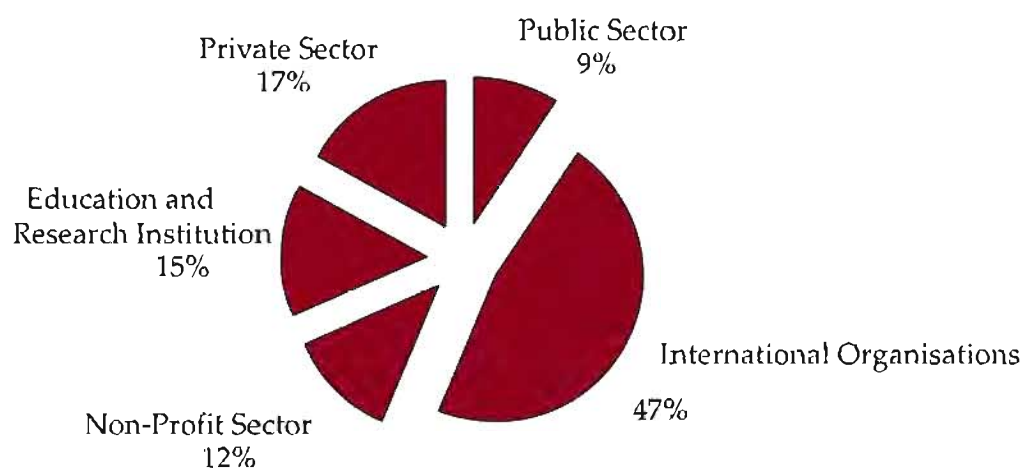
With the new group that graduated on 30 September 2011, the number of alumni reached 175. Unlike those who get grants to go abroad for their Western education, as many as **70% of the alumni of the Academy's Masters programme stay in Central Asia and Afghanistan**, contributing directly to the region's development. Meanwhile, **20 per cent of alumni abroad were originally from non-Central Asian states**, including Germany, Russia Poland, Italy, UK and China. Women make up 54 per cent of graduates, while 46 per cent are men.¹

According to the 2011 Alumni Survey and additional investigation, 71 per cent of the OSCE Academy's graduates are **employed**, 14 per cent continue **education** and 10 per cent combine **work and study**.

9 per cent of employed graduates work in the public sector (primarily in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs or Embassies of their countries). Among the **47 per cent working for international organizations**, 12 per cent (13 alumni) are in the OSCE; the rest are pursuing their careers in the UN, World Bank, ICC, GIZ etc.

Already now, after only a few years' operation, **28% of the alumni hold senior positions**, working for Central Asian governments, international organisations and NGOs, and **15% teach at the university level**. The 17 per cent in the private sector work mainly in the companies contributing to the sustainable development of the countries. **7 per cent are doing PhDs** in such universities as Moscow State Institute of International Relations, University of Helsinki, Konstanz University, Tsukuba University, and George Mason University.

Employment by sectors:



In 2010-2011, 13 graduates published their papers in *NUPI*, *PIR Center*, *AUCA Academic Review*, *GSCP Geneva Papers*, *China and Eurasia Forum Quarterly*, *Asian European Youth Platform OGE Publications*, *Monterey Terrorism Research and Educational Program Journal*, *Voprosy Istorii Kyrgyzstana*, and *Entre Nous*.

¹ According to the 2011 Alumni Survey

Alumni's Career Developments



At the beginning of this year, **Khushbakht Hojiev '06 (Tajikistan)** received his *first diplomatic rank* - Attache. Khushbakht had been working in the Department of Information, Press, Analysis and Foreign Policy Planning of the Foreign Ministry of Tajikistan since 2009. His daily work is to promote internationally Tajikistan's image, support Tajikistan's foreign policy, as well as to inform the public and media about the Ministry's activities.

After graduating from the OSCE Academy, **Sevilya Moradova '08 (Uzbekistan)** was invited to work for the German International Cooperation (GIZ) in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. She is heading the Macroeconomic Policy Component of the Programme "Sustainable Economic Development" and recently she was appointed to supervise a regional project on "Migration and Development".



Shakhnoza Nozimova '08 (Tajikistan) applied for the OSI Doctoral Fellowship Programme and received a scholarship to do a PhD in Political Science at George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia, USA. Shakhnoza plans to develop a research project in the area of political Islam and state and society relations in Tajikistan. She presented some of the outcomes of her MA thesis, "History Writing and Nation-Building in Post-Independence Tajikistan", written at the OSCE Academy, at the Association for the Study of Nationalities' Convention Conference in New York. Her conference paper was published in the Nationalities Papers of the Association.

Abdurahmon Davronov '09 (Tajikistan) has been recognized as the University of Central Asia's *Best Employee of the Year 2010*. He is an Assistant to the Co-ordinator of the Learning Centre at the University's School of Professional and Continuing Education in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.



Nuria Kutnaeva '05 (Kyrgyzstan) is currently a *Deputy Vice-President of the International University of Central Asia* (Tokmok, Kyrgyzstan). She is teaching courses on International Security, Politics and Religion, and Comparative Politics of Central Asian States. In addition, she is pursuing her PhD degree in Political Science at the Kyrgyz-Russian Slavic University. Nuria is writing her dissertation on the Central Asian Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone.

Alumnus of the Year 2011



We congratulate **Rustam Karimov '05 (Tajikistan)**, winner of the Alumnus of the Year 2011 Award!

Rustam is a Focal Point for Alumni Affairs of the Alumni Network in Tajikistan; Chairman of the Scout Association of Tajikistan and Expert of the Council of Tourist Organisations of Tajikistan; and Expert in the project of the European Union. His analysis on ecotourism development in Varzob district, Tajikistan, was published in the public project report. It is being used in 12 districts of the country and by the Council of Tourist Organisations of Tajikistan.

Alumni Network Events

The Academy's Alumni Network formally organises and follows up on the cross-regional networks that it builds through its educational and capacity-building activities. In 2010-2011, the activities included alumni meetings, workshops, online networking and alumni conference on comprehensive security and sustainable development to assist alumni career progress. A devoted webportal has been created (<http://www.osce-academy.net/en/alumni/>), and other electronic networking tools are also used (Facebook, Odnoklassniki etc.):

Date	Event
Sept. 10, 2010	JPO Agreement signed with the MFA of the Republic of Kazakhstan <i>Every year one /two graduate(s) of the OSCE Academy will be offered a 3-months position of a junior public officer within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan.</i>
Nov. 2010 and March 2011	Chapter Meetings in Tajikistan <i>Graduates met in Dushanbe to discuss Tajik alumni activities, including the action plan to assist the OSCE Academy with students recruitment for the 2011-2012 Masters Programme in Politics and Security in Tajikistan.</i>
Dec. 14, 2010	Lecture by Alumnus to MA students (Akmal Abdullaev '05 from Uzbekistan) <i>Akmal talked to the 2010-2011 MA students of the OSCE Academy on radioactive waste management in Central Asia.</i>
Jan. 12, 2011	JPO Agreement signed with the MFA of the Kyrgyz Republic <i>Every year one /two graduate(s) of the OSCE Academy will be offered a 3-months position of a junior public officer within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan.</i>
Jan., 2011	Annual Survey 2011 <i>Annual Surveys have been conducted since 2009. Results are used to calculate general statistics. 73 alumni participated in the 2011 Survey.</i>
Feb. 5, 2011	Chapter Meeting in Kyrgyzstan <i>Alumni shared their news, reflected in their study at the OSCE Academy; discussed career opportunities and strategies; and planned their assistance to the Academy with recruitment of students for the 2011-2012 Masters Programme in Politics and Security.</i>
Feb. 19, 2011	Open House <i>An Open House for candidates interested in the OSCE Academy's Masters Programme in Politics and Security was organized by the Academy's alumni in Bishkek. Alumni talked to 70 candidates about study at the Academy and answered related questions.</i>
Apr. 28, 2011	Meeting with the UN Resident Co-ordinator in Central Asia (see pg. 3)
May 18, 2011	Meeting with the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan (see pg. 3)
May 27, 2011	Meeting with Mr. Talant Sultanov, expert in economic development (see pg. 3)
June 4, 2011	Online Conference <i>The Conference connected Bishkek, Astana, Dushanbe and Tashkent. Alumni discussed the latest political, social and economic developments in the region.</i>
June 15, 2011	JPO Agreement signed with the MFA of the Republic of Tajikistan <i>Every year one /two graduate(s) of the OSCE Academy will be offered a 3-months position of a junior public officer within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan.</i>
Sept. 3, 2011	Alumni Conference <i>The OSCE Academy organized a forum for alumni from <u>Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Russia and Europe</u> to analyse the key regional security dynamics and functional issues in Central Asia in 2011.</i>
Sept. 4, 2011	Alumni Retreat <i>Alumni discussed activities implemented throughout 2011 and agreed on a plan of actions for 2012.</i>
Sept.- Oct., 2011	JPOs start their assignments in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan (see pg. 8)

Meeting the United Nations Resident Co-ordinator in Tajikistan

On 28 April 2011, alumni met with Mr. Alexander Zouev, the UN Resident Co-ordinator and the UNDP Resident Representative in Tajikistan. Mr. Zouev showed a great interest in learning about the OSCE Academy and talked to alumni about the UN global and regional agenda and developments as well as answered alumni's questions about career development.



Mr. Alexander Zouev, the UN Resident Co-ordinator and the UNDP Resident Representative and Ms. Violetta Yan, Deputy Director, OSCE Academy

Kushbakht Hojiev '06, Camilla Mamadnazarova '07, Gulbahor Djumabaeva '05, Abdurahmon Davronov '09, Boturkhon Gulomshoev '10

Meeting the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

On 18 May 2011, alumni met with Mr. H.E. Istvan Venczel, the Ambassador of Hungary, the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan. The Ambassador told the alumni about the activities of the OSCE Centre in Uzbekistan and answered their questions about the country and the region as a whole.

The Ambassador appreciated the OSCE Academy's work in the region and said that the influence of the OSCE Academy was growing annually. "It is pleasant to realise that the Academy has big authority, and it is not political, but, in a greater degree, professional authority," he said.



Ambassador Istvan Venczel, OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

Ilhom Teshabayev '09, Akmal Abdullayev '05, Fakhriiddin Karimov '05

Meeting Successful Professional Peer

On 27 May 2011, alumni in Bishkek met with Mr. Talant Sultanov, who is a successful young professional and Vice-President for Finance at the American University of Central Asia. Mr. Sultanov shared with alumni his personal professional experience and answered questions related to economic and political development of Kyrgyzstan.



Mr. Talant Sultanov and alumni

Conference “Central Asia: Comprehensive Security and Sustainable Development”

“It was great to be in the OSCE Academy again (our alma mater) at the very well organised Alumni Conference; to see my classmates and professors, and to meet new alumni”

Parvina Abduvakhobova '07 (Tajikistan)



Elhum Gharji '10 (Afghanistan)

Ambassador Andrew Tesoriere, Head of Mission, OSCE Center in Bishkek and Ms. Anne Marte B. Amble, Deputy Head of Mission of the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Astana.

On 3 September 2011, the OSCE Academy's Alumni Network held its first Alumni Conference entitled "Central Asia: Comprehensive Security and Sustainable Development." Fifteen alumni presented papers within the three OSCE dimensions-panels: Political-Military, Human and Economic and Environmental. Five opponents argued against the papers' presenters, thus opening up group discussions. A summary of the papers will be published in the 'Bishkek Papers' and will be available on the OSCE Academy's website, as well as in hard copies. Mr. Michael Unland, from the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe, Mr. Sean McGreevy and Ms. Zeinep Isakova, both from the OSCE Centre in Bishkek, chaired and excellently moderated the conference panels. The Conference was honoured by the attendance of Ambassador Andrew Tesoriere, Head of the OSCE Centre in Bishkek, and Ms. Anne Marte B. Amble, Deputy Head of Mission of the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Astana, who welcomed the participants.

The participants reflected on prospects for **political stability and security** while taking into account issues of **collective identity, the situation in Afghanistan** and the **role of security organizations** engaged in/with the region. The human dimension was scrutinized through the **post-conflict situation in the South of Kyrgyzstan** and country-specific **records in human rights and democratization**. Looking into some aspects of **water management** and **environmental security** finalized the conference day and its comprehensive security agenda.

The Alumni Conference was followed by a joint reception with reputable international and regional experts from the Seminar on Security in Central Asia, co-organised by the OSCE Academy, Geneva Centre of Security Policy (GCSP), the Norwegian Institute of Foreign Affairs (NUPI) and NESAs. Alumni also had a chance to meet their professors, who have taught at the OSCE Academy for many years, including Dr. Tim Epkenhans, Dr. Pal Dunay, Dr. Indra Overland and Dr. Graeme Herd.

2011 Alumni Retreat

On 4 September 2011, alumni gathered for a retreat at the Ala-Archa National Park, Kyrgyzstan. We discussed the Network activities conducted during the past year, agreed to continue the established ones and brainstormed new ideas for the year 2012:

- **Mentorship:** alumni are willing to assist current students in professional and academic development through sharing their experiences and coaching.
- **Alumni Fund:** alumni will collect alumni donations to make research and travel grants to alumni and students of the Academy.
- **Couches/Housing:** alumni will help each other with housing via a request-reply service on the OSCE Academy website and Facebook. Travelling alumni will be able to find an alumnus/a in their country of destination who is willing to host them for a couple of nights.

The 2012 activity plan will be posted on our alumni webportal later this year.

Enjoy the **video** of our Conference and Retreat available at <http://osce-academy.net/en/video/1/> and on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/OSCE-Academy/177035805689225>



Violetta Yan '05. (Kyrgyzstan)

Alexey Dvordich '05 (Russian), Akmal Abdullaev '05 (Uzbekistan)



Junior Public Officers (JPO) Programme

In support of alumni professional integration in public service, the Academy also runs a Junior Public Officers (Junior Professionals) Programme with the Central Asian MFAs. In 2010-2011 respective Agreements were signed with and implementation has started in **Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan** and **Tajikistan**. The objective is to give alumni valuable work experience in the foreign ministries, and at the same time to integrate them into the governments/public service of the countries in the region.

In September-October 2011, four graduates start their JPO assignments:



"I see an internship at the MFA as a great opportunity not only to gain personal experience in the Ministry in the foreign affairs field, but also to bring back new visions and ideas to Kazakhstan, regardless of whether in the future I work in governmental or civil society agencies."
Dinara Mussabalina '11 (Kazakhstan)



"I regard the possibility given by OSCE Academy in Bishkek and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyz Republic as a great opportunity to pursue my professional goals and serve my country with my knowledge and experience."
Elnura Omurkulova '11 (Kyrgyzstan)



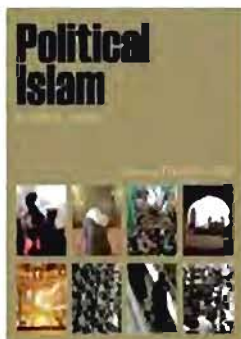
"I believe that the Junior Public Officers Program at OSCE Academy is a unique opportunity for me to enrich my knowledge and gain new practical experiences. I am also confident that I can make my own contribution in effective work of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic by combining my skills and knowledge."
Daniyar Suyunov '05 (Kyrgyzstan)



"The opportunity to serve as an intern with the MFA of Tajikistan in the Junior Public Officers programme will allow me to learn how to promote a good political image of my beloved country, Tajikistan. I would also like to learn about diplomatic processes through which I could serve my country and be able to defend its positions diplomatically."
Shoira Olimova '11 (Tajikistan)

The OSCE Academy expresses its sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Norwegian Institute of Foreign Affairs for their support of this new initiative.

Books to Read



Political Islam: A Critical Reader
Editor: Frederic Volpi
Published by: London; New York:
Routledge
Year: 2011

**Dead Ends of Transition:
Rentier Economies and
Protectorates**
Editors: Michael Dauderstädt,
Arne Schildberg
Published by: Campus Verlag
Year: 2006



These books are available at the OSCE Academy's Library.

Zahid & Suhaila, the OSCE Academy Alumni Couple

The OSCE Academy's alumni are not only professionals in career development, but also successful in building relationships and marriages! This year we congratulate **Zahid Jalali '09 (Afghanistan)** and **Suhaila Khyber '10 (Afghanistan)** who were married on 19 June 2011.

Zahid and Suhaila met in 2004 at a meeting organized for Afghan students at the university in Kyrgyzstan. *"She occupied my heart and reserved a very special place in my mind, which was extraordinary and only for her, and I am happy that she is still the empress of both,"* said Zahid.

In August, the young family came to Bishkek for Zahid's first diplomatic mission at the Afghan Embassy in Kyrgyzstan. They are happy and full of hope for the future.



"Firstly, we are happy to be together, to have accomplished our goal, and succeeded in our struggle," said Zahid. *"However, it hasn't been an easy task, particularly in a country like Afghanistan, but we were among the very few lucky people to overcome the difficult moments. Nevertheless, we have entered a new stage of life which needs more responsibility and accountability toward each other and toward our families. So we are longing for a happy and prosperous life and a shining future together."*

**OUR HEARTIEST
CONGRATULATIONS
TO YOU!**



Alumni to Alumni



"My one-year of study at the OSCE Academy was a matter of active learning in an atmosphere of intellectual excitement. Recently initiated engagement with alumni and support alumni endeavors will perhaps have an impact on the credentials of the academy. The commitment and enthusiasm of the Alumni Coordinators has been noteworthy in this regard."

Akmal Abdullaev '05 (Uzbekistan)



"On behalf of the students of the OSCE Academy I would like to express gratitude for the knowledge and experience gained at the Academy. Our deepest respect and special thanks to the staff and the faculty of the Academy, who during the whole period of studies supported us and helped with the arising issues. I would like to wish prosperity and success to the OSCE Academy and its staff with the existing and future projects. And most importantly, I would like to wish good luck to my fellow students in any step forward to the future!"

Shakhnoza Aupova '11 (Uzbekistan)



"I came to OSCE Academy to learn political science. Experiencing the marvelous environment here, it not only taught me lessons of science but also of politics and real life. Handful, returning back to my homeland, I cannot skip saying this to Academy and students that if you target a prosperous friendly Central Asia than start from now on and cultivate only friendship.

I give my word: a peaceful Central Asia requires enlightened friendly and respectful students and young generation and without that it will be just a DREAM!"

Ahmad Javeed '11 (Afghanistan)



"I'd like to take this opportunity to wish OSCE Academy students, staff and alumni all the best for the next five years. The Academy has provided an excellent opportunity for young people with similar ideals for peace and justice from around Central Asia and beyond to meet each other through their study, and to move forward together with their common interests. Academy alumni working across a range of specialisations are in a strong position to work together in pursuit of common goals. Thank you OSCE Academy for making this possible!"

Matthew Naumann '05 (United Kingdom)



"Future Leaders of Central Asia, I wish you all successful and prolific experiences at the Academy and in future. Do not be afraid to FAIL because it is the First Attempt In Learning. Grasp all that you are given and sorting out you will find valuable ideas. More than that, I wish you all enjoy new friendships and together in future bring positive changes to Central Asia and to the world."

Aygul Hanova '11 (Turkmenistan)

Welcome Our New Alumni '11



Abid Ahmad
(Afghanistan)



Ahmad
Javeed
(Afghanistan)



Dinara Mussabalina
(Kazakhstan)



Erlan
Djunushev
(Kyrgyzstan)



Elnura
Omurkulova
(Kyrgyzstan)



Anara Alieva
(Kyrgyzstan)



Danila Alymbayev
(Kyrgyzstan)



Shirin Narymbaeva
(Kyrgyzstan)



Bakhtom Mananov
(Kyrgyzstan)



Nazira
Kozubekova
(Kyrgyzstan)



Raushan Bolotalieva
(Kyrgyzstan)



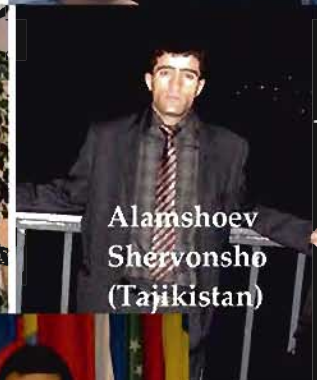
Marcin Szymanek
(Poland)



Khafiza Sanginova
(Tajikistan)



Shoirra Alimova
(Tajikistan)



Alamshoev
Shervonsho
(Tajikistan)



Nazik Mamedova
(Turkmenistan)



Ayygul Hanova
(Turkmenistan)



Bobur
Nazarmuhamedov
(Uzbekistan)



Shakhnoza Aupova
(Uzbekistan)

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Look for the OSCE Academy's Alumni Network Online Services at
www.osce-academy.net/alumni:

- ✓ Alumni Network News
- ✓ Alumni Forum
- ✓ Request for Transcript and Recommendation
- ✓ Professional and Education Opportunities
- ✓ Photos and Yearbooks