

21 August 2015

ENGLISH only



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Vienna, August 21, 2015

Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to inform you that the Serbia's Chairmanship, together with its Special Representatives on Youth and Security, will organize a conference "Working with Youth for Youth: Protection against Radicalization" on 3 and 4 September 2015 in Belgrade.

The purpose of the conference is to address one of the most worrying phenomena of today – radicalization of youth. It is for this reason that we engaged with the network of OSCE Youth Ambassadors in organizing this event, wishing to have a youth's point of view when discussing possible ways to tackle the problem of youth radicalization. The conference should also provide us with the possibility to further consider the potential of the OSCE in combating radicalization.

Please find attached the agenda, registration form and the organizational modalities of the Conference. Should you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Jasmina Petrović, Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Serbia to the OSCE (e-mail: jasmina.petrovic@mfa.rs).

I would be most grateful if you would respond positively to this invitation and actively participate at the conference.

Yours sincerely,



Vuk Žugić

Chairperson of the Permanent Council

To: All OSCE Delegations, OSCE Secretariat, Institutions and other Executive Structures
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, OSCE Field Operations, Partners for Cooperation



**Working with Youth for Youth:
Protection against Radicalization**

Belgrade, 3-4 September 2015

Annotated Agenda

Thursday, 03 September

- 09:00 - 09:30** **Registration and Accreditation, Palace of Serbia, East Entrance**
- 09:30 – 10:30** **Opening plenary session**
- 10:30 - 11:00** **Coffee break**
- 11:00 - 13:00** **Introductory plenary discussion:
Youth participation in the OSCE framework - Working with Youth for Youth**

Youth has a prominent place already in the Helsinki Final Act. Now, 40 years later there are number of youth-related activities implemented by different OSCE structures. Consecutive Chairmanships of Switzerland and Serbia in 2014 and 2015 prioritized youth in their Joint Work plan; 57 Youth Ambassadors developed Youth Action Plan and Special Representatives on Youth and Security were appointed. Declaration on Youth was adopted at the Ministerial Council in Basel last year acknowledging the potential of young people to contribute to economic, political and social development.

Nevertheless, youth policies across OSCE Participating States reflect diversity in terms of development, level of youth participation and understanding of 'youth' per se. Is working WITH youth still to be enabled within the OSCE? The plenary discussion will tackle questions of youth participation in the OSCE, benefits of it in commitments regarding peace, tolerance and cooperation, doubts and fears, while taking into account examples of good practice of other international organizations.

- 13:00 - 14:30** **Lunch**
- 14:30 - 15:30** **Parallel sessions**

**Session 1:
Countering radicalization and protecting human rights as mutually reinforcing goals: unwrapping the youth angle**

Violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism (VERLT) is a denial of democracy and of human rights, which are at the very core of the OSCE. What can be done towards an effective approach where countering radicalization and human rights protection are mutually reinforcing goals? Can young people, often marked as especially vulnerable in this context, have more than an observer role? How can we make educational efforts work in the digital era? While human rights and fundamental freedoms must be promoted and protected in the context of combating VERLT, particularly freedom of expression, (new) media sometimes are playing the exact opposite role. Members of religious and minority communities are often

being marked as 'suspects' in public discourse and attempts of Internet regulation are back-firing.

This session will examine a human rights angle in discussing the impact of VERLT on youth, their role in prevention measures, and an overall combating strategy of VERLT in the OSCE region - in the light of existing commitments and positions, as well with exploring fresh youth ideas.

Session 2:

Youth and politics in participating States - threat or remedy

Radicalization of youth that leads to terrorism seems to be spreading faster than development of prevention policies gets to see its implementation. Although there is strong political will to counter VERLT, the path from commitment to changes on the ground appears to be long. At the same time, recruitment methods and activities of extremists groups are maturing and getting more sophisticated, political mainstream itself is under threat of radicalism and extremist candidates are increasingly gaining favor on an electoral level. What is the relationship between law enforcement and dissatisfied youth escalating to the formation of paramilitary groups? Who are young foreign fighters and what Participating States can do to address this security issue? How can youth organizations become more concretely involved in anti-extremist strategies? This session will try to address these questions in the framework of politico-military dimension of the OSCE.

Session 3:

Bridging differences, building trust: Empowering youth in the Economic and Environmental Dimension

Economic and social disparities, lack of the rule of law, weak governance, corruption, widespread poverty and high unemployment are among the factors that contribute to global threats such as terrorism, violent extremism. Youth from marginalized groups, not seeing possibilities for self-fulfillment, might succumb to VERLT narratives.

Authorities are increasingly isolating their efforts to counter violent radicalization from initiatives aimed at achieving goals related to integration and social cohesion. Efforts to achieve these latter goals are important per se and authorities tend to believe that they can also help in countering violent radicalization. At the same time, it is increasingly believed that a counter-radicalization strategy that blurs the line between supporting social cohesion and countering radicalization is likely to achieve neither. Efforts are therefore increasingly kept separate and the entities implementing them are different.

This session will also try to address the following questions: How can the needs of youth be mainstreamed in migration policy? Which alternatives could public-private partnerships or Civil Society provide to youth? Is empowerment of youth to successfully develop and manage small and medium-sized enterprises as a poverty reduction measure a possible step in radicalization prevention?

15:30 - 16:00 **Coffee break**

16:00 - 17:00 **Continuation of parallel sessions**

Friday, 04 September

09:00 - 10:30 **Plenary session- Reports from parallel sessions**

10:30 - 11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00 - 12:00 **Discussion**

12:00-13:00 **Closing remarks**



Conference “Working with Youth for Youth: Protection against Radicalization”

Hosted by the Serbian OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office together with its Special Representatives on Youth and Security

Belgrade, 3-4 September 2015

The Chairmanship-in-Office presents its compliments to all OSCE Delegations and participants and has the honour to inform them about the following logistical modalities for the OSCE Conference “Working with Youth for Youth: Protection against Radicalization”, to be held in Belgrade on 3-4 September 2015.

LOGISTICAL MODALITIES

1. Venue

Palace Serbia
2 Mihaila Pupina Blvd,
Belgrade, Serbia

2. Final Agenda and Logistical Modalities

Updates on the agenda will be provided regularly before the event, with the finalized agenda being circulated prior to the event.

3. Accreditation/Participation

Representatives from the OSCE participating States, OSCE Partners for Co-operation, OSCE institutions and field presences, OSCE Youth Ambassadors, representatives of governments, international organizations and NGO’s will participate at the Conference.

All Participants are kindly requested to fill in the registration form and to send it to Ms. Ivana Ivanov (ivana.ivanov@mfa.rs) no later than 1st September 2015.

Given the limited number of places ‘first come, first served principle’ will be applied.

No fee for participation is requested.

4. Registration at the Conference

Registration will take place on 3 September, 2015 from 9.00 - 9.30

We kindly ask participants to arrive at the Conference venue till 9.00 to allow time needed for registration.

5. Media

The conference will be opened to media at the opening plenary session and the closing session. Please address all media-related questions to marina.markovic@mfa.rs

6. Visa

Participants, if required under Serbian law, are asked to make their own arrangements for securing a visa for entry into Serbia. Please check if you need visa to enter Serbia: <http://www.mfa.rs/en/consular-affairs/entry-serbia/visa-requirements>. Should you need additional information, please contact Ms. Marija Borota, email marija.borota@mfa.rs. In case a letter of confirmation of participation for visa requirements is needed, please fill out Section 2 of the registration form.

7. Point of Contact:

Task Force OSCE Chairmanship of Serbia 2015

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Serbia

Ivona Bagaric

ivona.bagaric@mfa.rs
Tel: +381 11 306 8506

8. Transportation

Participants are kindly requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements and, unless previously specified, will not be paid by the OSCE.

9. Accommodation:

Participants are kindly requested to make their own hotel arrangements, which will not be paid for by the OSCE. The hotels we recommend at a discounted rate are:

Hotel Crown Plaza

(room rate per night: 100e/Single room, 150e/Club room, 180e/ Superior Apartment)

<http://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/belgrade/begcp/hoteldetail>

Falkensteiner Hotel Belgrade***s**

(single room rate per night 100e)

www.falkensteiner.com

In Hotel*****

(single room rate per night 100e)

www.inhotel-belgrade.rs

If booking room in the hotels, please highlight that you will be attending the OSCE Conference and request this special OSCE rate. Hotels are 10-15 minutes away from the venue (walking distance).

Practical information about Belgrade can be found at:

<http://www.beograd.rs/cms/view.php?id=220>

10. Conference Language

All Sessions of the Conference will be conducted in English.

11. Catering/social events:

Coffee/teas breaks and lunch will be provided to the participants during the Conference on 3-4 September.

12. General information

Currency: Serbian dinars (RSD)

1EUR=120 RSD

1USD=108 RSD

Electric current: the standard voltage throughout Serbia is 220V.

Insurance: It is responsibility of each participant to have adequate travel and health insurance for the whole duration of this trip. The organizing committee is not responsible for the loss of property and personal injury, including insurance certificates for such cases.

Time: Serbia time differs from Greenwich time by +1 hour.

**Working with Youth for Youth:
Protection against Radicalization
Belgrade, 3-4 September 2015**

REGISTRATION FORM

<i>Ms.</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Mr.</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Family Name: (as per passport)</i>	<i>First Name: (as per passport)</i>
<i>Title/Position:</i>			
<i>Institution/ Department:</i>			
<i>Contact Address:</i>			
<i>Mobile No. with all prefixes:</i>		<i>E-mail address:</i>	

Section II (only if support for visa is required)

<i>Date of Birth:</i>		<i>Nationality:</i>	
<i>Passport No:</i>		<i>Type of Passport:</i>	
		<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Normal</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Service Passport</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Diplomatic Passport</i>	
<i>Date of Issue:</i>		<i>Date of Expiry:</i>	
Departure airport:		Airport of arrival:	
<i>Date:</i>	<i>Time or Flight No:</i>	<i>Date:</i>	<i>Time or Flight No:</i>
<i>Stopover:</i>		<i>Stopover:</i>	
<i>Date:</i>	<i>Time or Flight No:</i>	<i>Date:</i>	<i>Time or Flight No:</i>
<i>Additional comments:</i>			

***Please return the completed Registration Form by Tuesday, 1 September 2015
to Ms Ivana Ivanov – E-mail: ivana.ivanov@mfa.rs
Tel: +381 11 306 8424***