



WIN PROJECT UPDATE

Welcome to the sixth Project Update of the OSCE Secretariat Gender Issues Programme **WIN project**. This Update informs project stakeholders on key milestones during January – August 2024, and future plans for the project.

We warmly welcome your questions and comments, please write to win@osce.org.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS / JANUARY – AUGUST 2024

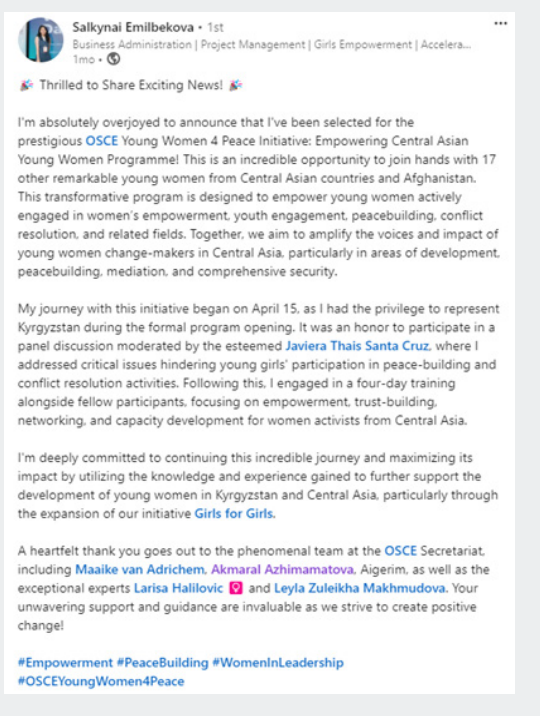


Women, Peace & Security

Empowering the Next Generation of Women Leaders

Young Women for Peace Initiative in Central Asia:

After a highly competitive selection process, 18 young women from Central Asia and Afghanistan became part of the Young Women 4 Peace in Central Asia, a new WIN initiative supported by the European Union. In April 2024, the participants gathered for the first time in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. In the coming months and until end 2025, they will receive targeted trainings and workshops, mentoring on crucial areas in peace and security in Central Asia and networking opportunities with peers and leaders.



The launch event in Bishkek provided an opportunity to discuss concrete strategies and approaches to enhance the meaningful participation of young women in conflict resolution and peacebuilding. Following the in-person event in Bishkek, two more online meetings were conducted on *Personal Development and Leadership and OSCE's role in peacebuilding/global peacebuilding architecture* on 4 June and 25 June 2024 respectively.

Women Peace Leadership Programme:

The second edition of the Women's Peace Leadership Programme provided comprehensive training in leadership, mediation, and dialogue facilitation to women peacebuilders from the OSCE region and Afghanistan. Guided by internationally acclaimed women leaders, including diplomats, mediators, and negotiators, the programme empowered participants through a blend of capacity-building activities, networking opportunities, and impactful peer-to-peer exchanges and mentoring. The theory of change of the programme is that by creating opportunities for networking and peer support participants will be better placed to meaningfully engage and influence peace processes at different levels.

In addition to the active networking – specific professional development skills were reported as a result of this programme. Participants stressed that they were able to use the technical skills they learnt to inform their work or inspire training programmes they were leading. Increased technical skills, combined with the practice in communication led to their increased capacity to lead, with participants demonstrating more confidence and proactivity as a result of the programme.

Explore the inspiring stories of the participants of the [OSCE WPLP](#).



Women peacebuilders in the spotlight:

In collaboration with the **Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP)** the second Women's Networks **WIN Together Regional Conference** was organized in Vienna. Over 30 women peacebuilders and mediators from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Ukraine had in-depth exchanges on WPS national and regional priorities and common advocacy strategies to strengthen the women-led networks across all three regions. WIN donors also had the opportunity to meet with the participants and learn more about the challenges and recommendations from women peacebuilders working at the grassroots level in the OSCE region.

On 6 June 2024, the event **“Advancing Women’s Leadership in Women, Peace, and Security and Humanitarian Action: Assessing Progress and Charting the Way Forward”** brought 10 remarkable women peacebuilders from Central Asia, Eastern Europe, and the South Caucasus together in Istanbul, Turkiye, to discuss the progress achieved in women’s leadership within the realms of peacebuilding and conflict resolution and identify effective strategies for stakeholders to address the emerging challenges faced by local women peacebuilders and how the principles and objectives of the WPS-HA Compact foster enhanced collaboration among civil society, governmental bodies, and international organizations. The event was organized in collaboration with the **Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP)** and in addition, served as an opportunity to celebrate WIN and GNWP’s three-year partnership.



“Through our nearly three-year partnership with the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders, we have made significant strides in integrating women’s perspectives into security policies and responses. This collaboration has been vital in creating inclusive and comprehensive strategies to address the multifaceted threats we face today.” -

*Dr. Lara Scarpitta,
OSCE Senior Adviser on Gender Issues*

Regional Networks for Women Professionals in P/CVERLT:

Over the period of January – August 2024 four online meetings were organized for both of the regional networks for women professionals focused on preventing and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism (P/CVERLT) in Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe. The discussions centered around strategies for preventing burnout and the role of artificial intelligence in P/CVERLT efforts. Additionally, a **call for new members** was conducted for both networks, resulting in the selection of 16 women (6 from South-Eastern Europe and 10 from Central Asia) joining the initiatives.

Regional Workshop for Central Asian participating States on Women, Peace, and Security and UNSCR 1325 National Action Plans:

In close co-operation with the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) Chair`s Coordinator on matters relating to UNSCR 1325, one-day regional workshop on Women, Peace, and Security and UNSCR 1325 National Action Plans for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan was organized on 28 June 2024. The workshop provided an opportunity for key policy experts from Central Asian participating states to hear from the experts about best practices and lessons learned from developing, implementing, and updating their National Action Plans.



OSCE Scholarship for Peace and Security & WIN Project - Graduate Capacity-Building Workshop: "Breaking the barriers for young women in conflict prevention and resolution":

In close co-operation with OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre, the Forum for Security Co-operation Support Unit, on 15 and 16 July 2024 a capacity-building workshop on overcoming the barriers faced by young women working in conflict prevention and resolution was organized for 15 young women graduates of the OSCE Scholarship for Peace and Security training programme in Vienna. The two-day event aimed to enhance the capacity and skills of the participants to contribute to peace and security processes through mediation and dialogue facilitation.



Leading efforts to integrate gender perspectives into sustainable resource management

New publication: Gender and Corruption in the access to natural resources:



Exploring further the **nexus of gender and corruption**, the WIN project published a **new ground-breaking research** on women's access to water, land, forestry and extractives. The preliminary findings of this research highlight the vital role natural resources play in the economic empowerment of women as well as the pervasive impact that corruption has on the environment. It finally brings to the attention of policy makers in the OSCE area essential data and recommendations for boosting gender-responsive policies in natural resources and women's access. The report was launched during a high-level side event at the Commission of the Status of Women in New York in March 2024.

The event recording can be watched online at [this link](#)

Violence Against Women & Girls

Networking and Capacity Building Conference for women resource centres and civil society organizations in Central Asia:

The **first** and **second** Regional Networking and Capacity Building Conferences, held in 2022 and 2023 respectively, established vital connections among Women's Resource Centres (WRCs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and other stakeholders in Central Asia. These events facilitated knowledge exchange and strengthened the capacity of service providers. Based on the outcomes of these two meetings, the **final conference** for WRCs and CSOs in Central Asia was held on 21-23 May 2024 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Over 35 participants including representatives from a range of civil society organisations, women's resource centres, crisis centres, experts and staff from OSCE field offices in Central Asia, as well as the OSCE Secretariat had an opportunity to discuss Strategies and actions to support GBV survivors in Central Asia.





Participation in the conferences allowed us to exchange experiences, study best practices to adapt in our own country, and strengthen partnerships in the region. Co-operation provides an opportunity to discuss new methods, techniques, and effective mechanisms for preventing gender-based violence and supporting survivors of gender-based violence in Central Asian countries.” –

*Mr. Rustam Geldiyev –
Specialist at NGO ‘Yenme’, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan*

Advancing the fight against femicide:

On 16 May 2024, WIN project, together with UNODC and the Permanent Mission of Malta, co-organized a side event “Advancing the fight against femicide: Data collection approaches and other promising practices” at the 33rd session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. This side event showcased promising practices implemented by the states to prevent and tackle femicide, the most extreme manifestation of gender-based violence against women and girls. OSCE panelist presented initial findings from the report on mapping trends in addressing femicide in the OSCE region and highlighted examples of effective practices.

Cross-cutting

Training of Trainers (ToT) on Gender Equality and Comprehensive Security:

The OSCE WIN Academy Training of Trainers was held on 28-31 May 2024 in Tirana, Albania. Until July 2024, over 80 OSCE staff and external experts have taken part in Trainings of Trainers on delivering the transformative training modules, creating a roster of trained trainers on gender equality and comprehensive security. The sessions were developed based on WIN Academy materials: 12 training modules and training materials on



gender equality in the context of comprehensive security with a facilitator’s manual. These resources are intended to provide OSCE staff across functions and offices with the knowledge and capacity necessary to integrate a gender perspective more systematically into their work.

WIN LINKS:



WIN web-site:

www.winprojectosce.org

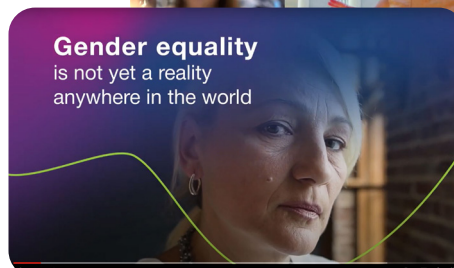
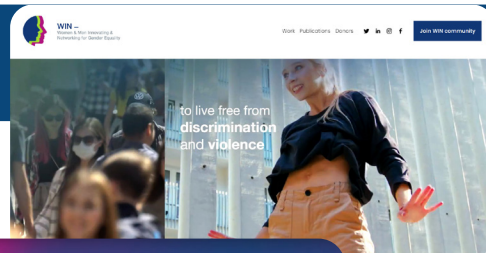
OSCE web-site project page:

www.osce.org/winproject



[WIN Video](#)

On social media: [#WINGenderEquality](#)



WIN PROJECT OUTPUTS FOR UKRAINE

Enhancing Protection and Response to Violence Against Women and Girls: 3rd exchange between women human rights activists from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Ukraine:

In October 2022, OSCE's Secretariat Gender Issues Programme through the WIN Project (WIN for women and men – strengthening comprehensive security through innovating and networking for gender equality) launched an exchange platform for women civil society actors working on preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In the scope of exchanges two face-to-face meetings were held in Sarajevo and Vienna, in addition to several online meetings and participation at different events.



The WIN Project continues to support civil society efforts to bring justice to survivors of violence against women and girls (VAWG) and the 3rd in-person meeting was organized on 16-18 July in Tbilisi which aimed to facilitate a valuable exchange of experiences and strategies among women activists on GBV prevention and response in conflict and post-conflict settings.

Addressing violence against women in the context of war:

New partnership agreement with **THE WAVE (Women Against Violence Europe) Network** was signed in June 2024 for the support to the eliminating violence against women pillar of the project. WAVE (Women Against Violence Europe) is a network of over 170 members in 46 European countries, who are all working towards tackling and preventing violence against women and their children.

PROJECT OUTLOOK FOR 2024-2025

The WIN Project is planned to continue until the end of 2025.

It will continue to respond to the thematic, capacity building and networking needs of women and men, supporting the acceleration of regional work towards gender equality.

Upcoming activities include:

Women, Peace and Security (WPS) pillar

- Collaboration with GNWP: side event at the Summit of the Future
- YW4P: series on-line training sessions and workshops
- Regional Association of Women in Law Enforcement Agencies – Central Asia event in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- Side-Event at the Geneva Peace Week 2024, Pathways to Peace: Empowering Young Women as Agents of Change
- Closing event of the 2nd Edition of the Women's Peace Leadership Programme
- Women's Peace Leadership Programme Alumni Network
- Meetings of cross-regional networks for women practitioners in P/CVERLT
- Work on National Action Plans on UNSCR 1325
- Trainings for the State Emergency Service of Ukraine

Economic and Environmental Participation of Women pillar

- Needs assessment on digital tools for the economic empowerment of Afghan women in Central Asia
- 3rd Edition of the Women's Peace Leadership Programme, with special focus on gender, climate and security
- Side event on women and climate at the WPS Open debate

Eliminating Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAW) pillar

- Launch of the [first joint OSCE and United Nations Population Fund \(UNFPA\) report](#) on Domestic's Violence Perpetrator Programmes in Central Asia.
- 26th WAVE Conference 'From emergency support to violence prevention: 30 years of championing women's rights
- Sides event on the margins of the Warsaw Human Dimension Conference, respectively on the Minimum standards and Components of the Training Curricula for Police and Judicial Training on VAWG
- Work to fight online gender-based violence

Cross-cutting pillar:

- Side event on the margins of the Warsaw Human Dimension Conference on Engaging Men to Support Gender Equality

Looking ahead, the WIN team will work on the next phase of the project, to be launched by the end of 2025. This new phase will be informed by an in-depth commissioned evaluation and extensive consultations with partners, beneficiaries, OSCE staff and donors.

About the WIN Project

TIMEFRAME	2019-2025
GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE	Eastern Europe, Southeast Europe, South Caucasus, Central Asia
PLANNED BUDGET	EUR 6.2 Million
FUNDING RECEIVED	EUR 5 Million
FUNDING GAP	EUR 1 Million

WIN Project (WIN for Women and Men - Strengthening comprehensive security through innovating and networking for gender equality) is a strategic project of the OSCE that aims to accelerate the implementation of the 2004 Action Plan. The WIN Project supports the achievement of substantive gender equality on all three OSCE dimensions covering the WPS agenda and women's role in conflict prevention, gender perspectives in economic and environmental activities, and preventing and combating violence against women and girls.



Through studies, development of new tools, capacity-building, and other activities, WIN Project supports existing OSCE-supported networks and incubates new networks at the national and regional levels, focusing on women's participation and leadership, as well as broader men's engagement in achieving gender equality, etc.

The WIN Project relies on a **collaborative approach** and complements existing cooperation among various actors – OSCE executive structures, OSCE's 16 Field Operations, International Organizations, and International NGOs, and creates new synergies

by implementing **activities** aimed to accelerate implementation of OSCE commitments on gender equality. WIN creates platforms for OSCE-wide exchange of good practices, lessons learned and knowledge transfer of the intersection of gender equality and comprehensive security.

WIN introduces **innovative and transformative approaches** to gender equality in all dimensions of comprehensive security through the development and application of cutting edge learning methodologies, monitoring and evaluation tools.

Donors of the project:



For more information about the WIN project, please contact win@osce.org and subscribe to the [Gender Equality Newsletter](#) to keep well-informed about the latest activities to promote gender equality in the OSCE.

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