

Pictures from the field



PICTURES FROM THE FIELD

A short collection of photographs capturing
a few moments of the Mission's work
between 2003 and 2009

About the OSCE Mission to Georgia

The main tasks of the OSCE Mission to Georgia, which have gradually increased since its inception in late 1992, have been the following:

Politico-military dimension of security

Promoting peaceful conflict resolution

The Mission promoted negotiations between the conflicting parties in the zone of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict (1992), and supported the UN-led peace process in the zone of the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict (1993). It was a participant in the Joint Control Commission (co-chaired by the Georgian, Russian Federation, North Ossetian and South Ossetian sides), and monitored the Joint Peacekeeping Forces (JPKF) in the zone of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict.

Monitoring adherence to the Sochi Ceasefire Agreement of 1992, and the activity of the JPKF (comprising a battalion each of Georgian, North Ossetian and Russian personnel under Russian command) has also been an important focus for the Mission.

The Mission led an initiative funded by international donors to set up projects for economic and infrastructure rehabilitation in the conflict zone. Other grass-roots projects helped bring communities together and increase the capacity of the NGO sector.

After fighting broke out in August 2008, the Mission focused on the urgent need for stabilization and an easing of the humanitarian crisis; to this end, 20 new monitoring officers were rapidly deployed according to the will of the OSCE participating States. The Mission supports the Geneva discussions co-chaired by the EU, the UN and the OSCE, which aim to bring stability to the region, implementing the joint incident prevention mechanisms agreed at the discussions.

Destruction of surplus stockpiles

Through OSCE donor States, the Mission funded a programme for dismantling stockpiles of obsolete

ammunition, and also for neutralizing any dangerous chemicals left on former Russian bases in Georgia.

Assisting police reform and enhancing anti-terrorism capacities

The Mission supported the Georgian law enforcement structures in combating terrorism and organized crime. Assistance was given with police reform, in areas such as human resource management, community policing, and the Police Academy.

Strengthening border management capacities and security

Through an extra-budgetary programme, the Mission set out to promote inter-agency co-ordination and international co-operation on border issues. The Mission also designed and ran foundation programmes to address the short- and medium-term needs of the Georgian Border Police, offering training in specialized skills and management for junior officers and senior management alike. The Mission had previously run a monitoring operation on 280 kilometres of mandated border between Georgia and the Russian Federation.

Human dimension of security

The Mission helped the Georgian Government in its efforts to fulfill its OSCE commitments on human rights, the rule of law and democratization. It also monitored and supported the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Georgia, including in South Ossetia and Abkhazia, and promoted the building of civil-society and democratic institutions.

Economic and environmental dimension of security

The Mission regularly monitored, analysed and reported on developments in the areas of the economy, energy and the environment. Specifically, the Mission focused

on supporting small- and medium-size enterprise development, assisting the Georgian Government in its efforts to improve economic and environmental legislation, and facilitating OSCE regional economic and environmental activities.

Co-operation with other international organizations

The Mission co-operated closely with a range of international organizations and institutions on a number of issues relevant to the Mission mandate. Three relationships stand out: those with the United Nations, the European Commission and the Council of Europe.

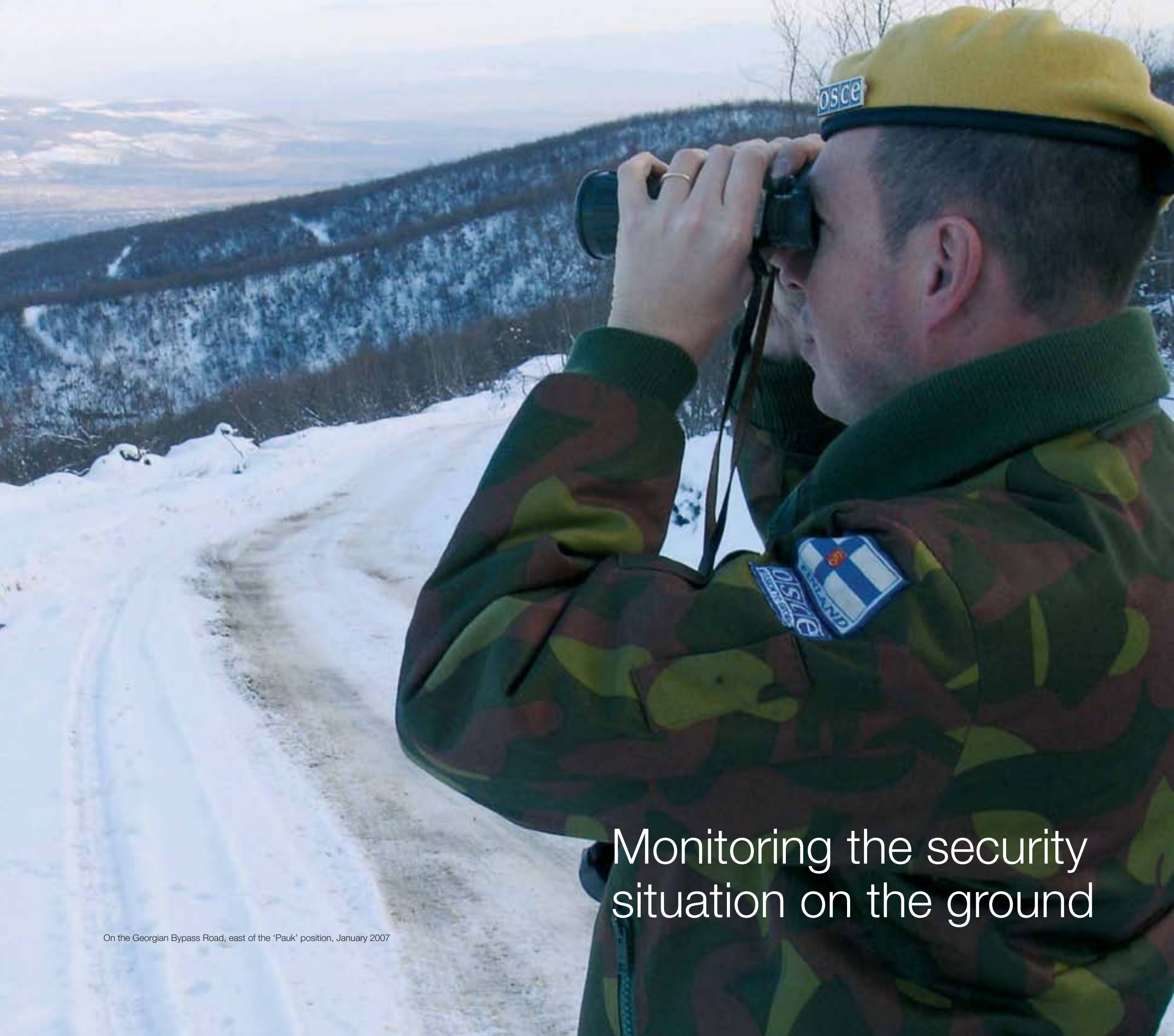
Discontinuation, pending negotiation on an OSCE presence (the situation at the time this publication went to print in early June 2009)

On 31 December 2008 the OSCE Permanent Council failed to reach consensus on the mandate renewal in the wake of the August conflict. Twenty unarmed military monitoring officers, who were deployed to the Mission to Georgia by a Permanent Council decision on 19 August 2008, continue to operate, monitoring the area adjacent to South Ossetia under a mandate that expires on 30 June 2009.

Promoting Peaceful Conflict Resolution	6
Other Politico-Military Aspects of Security.....	34
Human Dimension of Security.....	54
Economic & Environmental Dimension of Security	64
Visits to the Mission.....	70

Promoting Peaceful Conflict Resolution





Monitoring the security situation on the ground

On the Georgian Bypass Road, east of the 'Pauk' position, January 2007

Monitoring patrols with the Joint Peacekeeping Forces

A joint monitoring team at the JPKF
checkpoint on the Transcaucasian
Highway (TRANSCAM) between Kekhvi
and Itrapisi, 17 March 2005



OSCE / Martha Freeman

1
2 3 4

1. Monitoring one of the causes of the water crisis in the zone of conflict in summer 2007

4. With the JPKF investigating an incident



OSCE



OSCE / Martina Freeman



OSCE / Martina Freeman



OSCE

Independent monitoring

1
2 3 4

1. The Mission's Chief Monitoring Officer Steve Young (centre right) briefs Head of Mission Ambassador Roy Reeve (centre left) July 2006, in zone of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict

3. One of the Mission's monitors compiling a report in the OSCE Tskhinvali Field Office, June 2005

4. Monitoring defensive positions in the zone of conflict, Autumn 2006



OSCE



OSCE / David Krizanin/ill



OSCE / Steven Vanberg



OSCE

Investigating incidents and defusing tensions



OSCE
1 2
3 4 5
6 7

- 1. Monitoring JPKF RF sappers starting an engineer reconnaissance for mines along the Georgian bypass road
- 5. Joint monitoring to investigate a night time cease-fire violation
- 8. Russian Officer handover, 10 February 2006





1
2 3

1. Challenging conditions, Winter 2006



OSCE



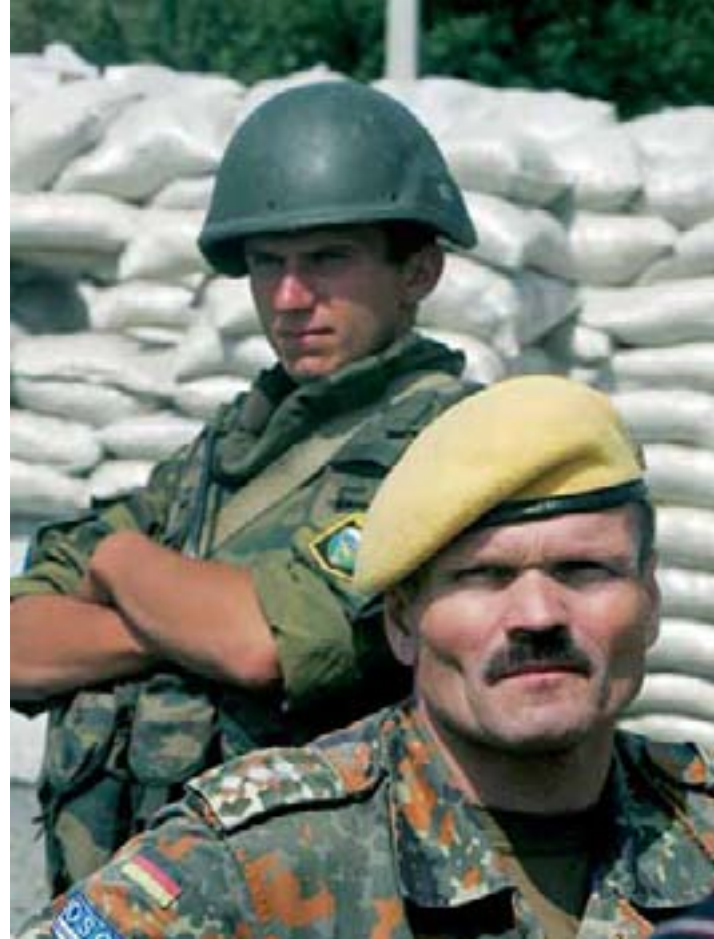
OSCE

More monitors after the fighting in August 2008

1 2 3
4 5
6

1. A newly deployed monitor at Russian checkpoint near Ali, 2 September 2008. The original group of 8 monitors was boosted after the OSCE participating States agreed to increase their number by 20 on 19 August 2008

6. Head of Mission, Ambassador Hakala (left) is briefed in the field, 4 November 2008



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili

The OSCE monitors the withdrawal of the Russian Armed Forces, 8 October 2008



OSCE / David Khachatryan

1
2 3
4

3. Monitoring the withdrawal of Russian Armed Forces on 8 October 2008 at Ergneti, 2 Km south of Tskhinvali

4. At Natsreti dismantled Russian observation post, 8 October 2008



OSCE / David Khizanishvili



OSCE



OSCE / David Khizanishvili



OSCE / Martha Freeman



The political process

1 2
3 4 5 6
7 8 9

1. The Mission's Emmanuel Anquetil and Veselin Nikolaev (standing, centre back) watch the Joint Control Commission (JCC) Co-Chairmen sign a Memorandum of Understanding on a European Commission-funded economic rehabilitation programme in the zone of the Georgian-Ossetian Conflict. The signing concluded the meeting in the OSCE's Tskhinvali Field Office, 31 January 2004

2. Boris Chochiev, Co-Chairman of the JCC for the South Ossetian Side (centre) signs

3. The North Ossetian and Russian Sides signing

4. The Head of Mission, Ambassador Roy Reeve (centre left) and First Counselor of the European Commission Delegation in Georgia, Jacques Vantomme (centre right) sign the MoU for the Euro 2.5 Million programme

5. Malkhaz Kakabadze (right) Georgian Minister for Special Affairs signing the memorandum

7. A JCC Meeting in Tskhinvali, 5 November 2006. As all JCC meetings, this one was facilitated by the OSCE Mission, and co-chaired by the Sides: the Georgian, South Ossetian, North Ossetian and Russian Sides. Representatives of the European Commission and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees also participated

8. Representing the OSCE, Head of Mission, Ambassador Roy Reeve (right) with non-resident Belgian Ambassador to Georgia Danielle del Marmol (left) of the OSCE Belgian Chairmanship, and the Mission's Manana Kobiashvili (centre) translating, 5 November 2006

9. Giorgi Volski (left) representing the Georgian side at a JCC meeting in Moscow, 25 October 2005

Negotiations



Steering Committees for Economic Rehabilitation



OSCE / Masha Freeman

1
2 3 4
5 6 7

2. Merab Antadze representing the Georgian Side (left) and Naveed Hussein of the UNHCR, at a Steering Committee meeting in Tskhinvali, 6 October 2006

3. The first Steering Committee for the OSCE-led Euro 8 million donor-funded Economic rehabilitation, 6 October 2006. Deputy Head Veselin Nikolaev (centre) and Gantcho Ganchev (right)

4. German Ambassador to Georgia, Patricia Flor addresses the meeting. The 21 donors funding the OSCE's Euro 8 million Economic Rehabilitation programme are represented at the Steering Committee

5. A group of donors and representatives of the Georgian and South Ossetian sides stop for lunch just north of the zone of conflict during their tour of earmarked projects for rehabilitation, Java 31 May 2006

6. JCC Deputy Co-Chairman for the South Ossetian side Leonid Tibilov

7. Deputy Co-Chairman for the Georgian side Ruslan Abashidze (left)



OSCE / Steven Warberg



OSCE / Steven Warberg



OSCE / Steven Warberg



OSCE / Masha Freeman



OSCE / Steven Warberg



OSCE / Steven Warberg



OSCE



OSCE / Steven Weinberg



OSCE / Steven Weinberg

- 1 2 3
- 4 5 6
- 7
- 8

3. Robin Liddell, First Counselor of the European Commission's Delegation to Georgia

6. Representatives of the North and South Ossetian sides

8. Deputy Chief of the US Mission to Georgia Mark Perry (right) signing a funding agreement with the OSCE at the end of the Meeting



OSCE / Steven Weinberg



OSCE / Steven Weinberg



OSCE / Steven Weinberg



OSCE / Steven Weinberg



OSCE / Steven Weinberg

Joint Control Commission meeting in the Mission's Tbilisi Headquarters, October 2007



1
2 3 4
5 6 7

1. Head of Mission Ambassador Terhi Hakala (right) at the Mission Headquarters in Tbilisi, with South Ossetian representative Boris Chochiev, Georgian representative Dimitri Manjavidze and Russian Special Envoy Yuri Popov, (left to right), 23 October 2007

2. From left to right, Major-General Marat Kulakhmetov, chief of the Russian battalion and overall Commander of the Joint Peacekeeping Forces (JPKF), the OSCE Mission's Chief Military Monitor Stephen Young and Commander of the Georgian battalion to the JPKF, Brigadier General Mamuka Kurashvili

3. The Head of Mission welcomes Georgian State Minister on Reintegration Issues, David Bakradze

All photographs on this page OSCE / David Kurashvili





1
2
3 5
4
6 7 8

3. The EC's Robin Liddell with Ruslan Abashidze of the Georgian side

5. The Mission's support staff for the meeting include information technology specialist Sasha Lutsenko (right)



All photographs on this page OSCE/ David Krizanisvili



Working level steering committee meetings



OSCE / David Kvaranvili



1
2

1. The Mission's Verena Blickwede goes through notes with a donor

2. The donors and sides go through the implementation details of rehabilitation projects in the basement meeting room of the OSCE Tskhinvali Economic Rehabilitation Office, 19 October 2007



Economic Rehabilitation

The EC-funded €2.5million Rehabilitation Programme



All photographs on this page OSCE / Martha Freeman



1
2

1. Georgian and Ossetian engineers at an irrigation water pump station for renovation works as part of an EC-funded economic rehabilitation project which pre-dated the ERP, Kekhvi, 16 March 2005

2. A Georgian company of engineers is repairing the domestic gas supply pipe in a street in Tskhinvali, March 2005

OSCE

**The donor-funded €8 million
Economic Rehabilitation Programme
for the zone of the Georgian-Ossetian
conflict and adjacent areas (ERP)**



All photographs on this page OSCE / David Kizentsev

1 2
3 4

1. Farmers belonging to the ERP farmers' agricultural association use machinery to transplant tomato seedlings, Sagolasheni near Gori, 2 July 2008

2. The Head of Mission Ambassador Terhi Hakala tastes the water supplied by the ERP to the village of Ksuisi, during a donors' visit to the site, 12 December 2007

3. A new beekeeper sets up his hives and bee families, after being trained and supported by the ERP, June 2008

4. The ERP's Kirk Ramer with farmers in Breti, with their new crop of quality strain tomatoes grown from seed provided by the ERP, September 2008



1 2
3

1. The ERP's Verena Blickwede donating agricultural machinery and equipment to eight ERP agricultural associations in the Shida Kartli area, Breti, 16 April 2009

3. An Ossetian farmer and the ERP's Eduard Shermandini (left) discussing his new ERP crop of high-yield alfalfa, west of Tskhinvali, July 2008



All photographs on this page OSCE / David Khuzandini





1
2

2. Domba, one of the first calves to be born from the ERP artificial insemination project to enrich the productivity and quality of indigenous stock, Breti, January 2009



OSCE / David Khazishvili

Head of the Tskhinvali Field Office
Grzegorz Michalski talking to students
at the University in Tskhinvali, June
2008

The Field Office in Tskhinvali

Improving the context on the ground with civil society development



OSCE / Agnes Montanari



OSCE / Agnes Montanari



OSCE / Agnes Montanari



OSCE

- 1 2
- 3 4 5

2. Students at an award ceremony for best essay in English for an OSCE-supported NGO-run English language course, 31 October 2006

3. Supporting civil society development: human rights NGO members at a certificate ceremony for OSCE-supported projects, Tskhivnali, 6 August 2006



OSCE / David Khrantsevili

The Small Grants Programme



OSCE / David Kizianishvili



OSCE / David Kizianishvili



OSCE / David Kizianishvili



OSCE



OSCE

- 1 2
- 3
- 4 5

4. The Mission's Democratization Officer Isabel Covic monitoring an OSCE Small Grants project for English language training for Georgian and Ossetian children in Avenvi, South west of Tskhinvali, 8 September 2006



OSCE / David Kizariashvili



OSCE / David Kizariashvili



OSCE / David Kizariashvili

5 6
7 8

5. An OSCE-supported arts centre for vulnerable children, Tskhinvali, autumn 2006

6. A new kindergarten playground built by an NGO which won funding from the OSCE's Small Grants Programme, Tskhinvali, November 2006

8. A grant for physical training for children with learning difficulties, Tskhinvali, November 2006



OSCE / David Kizariashvili



OSCE / Agnes Morlanari



OSCE / David Kizariashvili



OSCE / David Kizariashvili



OSCE / David Kizariashvili

1 2
3 4

1 – 4. Members of the Mission visit the beneficiaries of the OSCE's Small Grants Programme, which put special emphasis on new NGOs and initiatives working for vulnerable groups

The Programme for Professional and Responsible Journalism



1 2
3
4 5

1. The Mission's photographer David Khizanishvili during part of an OSCE media programme to promote confidence and awareness of economic rehabilitation successes for Georgian and Ossetian communities, Tskhinvali University, June 2008

3 – 5. The first joint Georgian and Ossetian film in the zone of conflict: an OSCE project for a film on economic rehabilitation, 20 December 2006





1 2 3
4 5
6

2. The Mission's Magdalena Frichova and Martha Freeman (first and second left) and Thomson Foundation's Russell Isaac (right) during a discussion between Georgian and Ossetian journalists, Tskhinvali July 2005

3. The Mission Field Office's Nana Tedeeva with the professional conflict reporting study visit to Great Britain and Northern Ireland, December 2005

4. Goga Khaindrava and Boris Chochiev (first and second right), Co-Chairmen of the Joint Control Commission for the Georgian and South Ossetian Sides attend the certificate ceremony for a conflict reporting training with Head of Mission Ambassador Reeve (third left), and Deputy Head of the British Embassy in Tbilisi (back, fourth left), at the Tskhinvali Field Office, 14 July 2005

5. Georgian and Ossetian journalists in Northern Ireland for an OSCE programme on responsible journalism and conflict transformation, December 2005

6. The journalists with the Mission's Spokesperson Martha Freeman (left) visiting a Belfast boxing trainer who had trained catholic and protestant sportspeople together, December 2005

Other Politico-Military Aspects of Security





Strengthening Border
Management

The Border Monitoring Operation



The OSCE's Border Monitoring Operation (BMO), from 1999 to December 2004, was tasked to observe and report to the Organization all movements on the ground or in air over a mandated stretch of border between Georgia and the Russian Federation. At full expansion of the Operation, that stretch was 280 Km bordering

the Russian Federation's Chechnya, Dagestan and Ingushetia.

From several small OSCE bases in the mountains the teams of unarmed OSCE monitors, and their detachment of accompanying border guards, were deployed near vantage points by helicopter. They

then hiked to their observation points sometimes through very challenging terrain, set up camp and monitored day and night, so that all possible border crossing points in that part of the Caucasus Mountains were continually covered.





OSCE / Tibor Nemes



OSCE / Cliff Valpe



OSCE / Cliff Valpe



OSCE / Martha Freeman



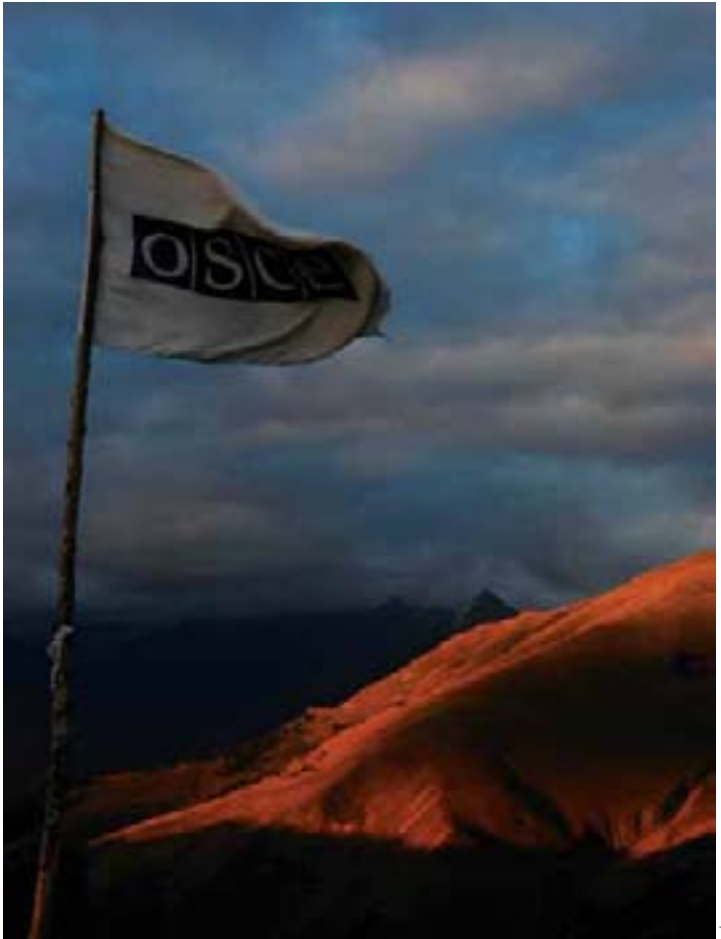
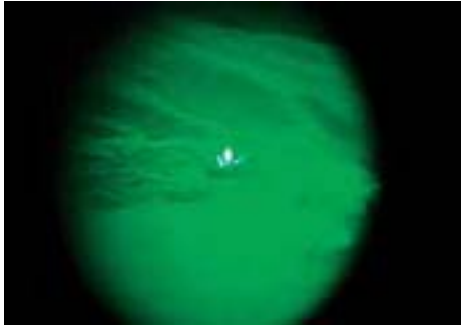
OSCE / Cliff Valpe



OSCE / Cliff Valpe



OSCE / Cliff Valpe





Alphabets on this page OSCE/OMI/Nope



- 1 5
- 2 6
- 3 7
- 4

5. A sign post made at the Omalo base illustrating the diversity of participating States represented in the BMO



The Training Assistance & Capacity Building Programmes for the Georgian Border Police

- 1
- 5
- 2 4 6
- 3

1. TAP manager Rory McCorley watching a demonstration exercise of some of the border police's newly acquired skills, July 2005



The Training Assistance Programme (2005- 2006) and the Capacity Building programme (2006-2007) for the Georgian Border police aimed at passing on the OSCE's specialist knowledge of successfully monitoring the border in the Caucasus mountains. The different elements of the programmes were tailor-made for a range of border police personnel including at management level.





OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / Steven Weinberg

- 1 2
- 3 5
- 4 6

4. Head of Mission Ambassador Roy Reeve presents certificates to the first group of 77 Georgian border police to be TAP trained, Kazbegi, 11 July 2005

5. Trainers Peter Kitzberger (right), and Czeslaw Bielawski (far left) about to begin a practical lesson with a group of border police, at the Lilo training centre outside Tbilisi, September 2006



OSCE



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / Steven Weinberg



OSCE / David Krizanishvili

The Search and Rescue Programme (SART)

The SART programme (2007 to 2008) trained specialist skills for rescue in urban and mountainous areas.



OSCE / David Kizashvili



OSCE / David Kizashvili



OSCE / David Kizashvili



OSCE / David Kizashvili



OSCE / David Kizashvili

1 2
3 4 5
6 7

1. The OSCE trainers Thomas Kitzberger and Hrvoje Kamenjarin watching the scenario rescue exercise putting together all the trainees' new theoretical and practical knowledge, in the Kojori, outside Tbilisi, November 2007



OSCE / David Kizashvili



OSCE / David Kizashvili

The Transitional Institutional Support Programme (TISP)



1 2
3 4
5

2. Programme Manager Burgi Arlow at an OSCE TISP training course in Dzoraget, Armenia, with Georgian and Armenian border police, 10 October 2008

5. Head of Mission Ambassador Terhi Hakala presenting certificates to TISP graduates at the Police Academy in Tbilisi, 27 March 09

The TISP (2008 to 2009) focused on strengthening border agencies' ability to facilitate free and secure movement of people and trade across borders, while at the same time reducing trans-border threats; and to co-operate with counterparts in other participating States.



Dismantling of obsolete weapons from abandoned military bases





OSCE / Jan Širok



OSCE / David Krizanek



OSCE / David Krizanek



OSCE / Martin Freeman

1 2
3 4

3. Mission members visit the MoD's Dedoplistskaro base for the delivery ceremony of a new TNT smelter for complete recycling of obsolete warheads, 12 March 2007

1 2 3
4 5

3. The Mission's Chief Monitoring Officer Zbigniew Fec at the dismantling base, Dedoplistskaro, 4 April 2004





OSCE / David Krizanishvili

1

1. The Head of Mission Ambassador Terhi Hakala donating equipment for dismantling and recycling obsolete TNT-filled munitions to the Georgian Defence Ministry, 13 May 2009

The logo for the OSCE Mission to Georgia, featuring the letters 'OSCE' in a stylized font where each letter is contained within a dark blue square. The letters are white with a slight shadow effect.

OSCE

Mission to Georgia

Assisting police reform

Developing the police academy



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili

1 2
3 4

2. Ambassador Reeve opening the newly refurbished, equipped and stocked library of the Police Academy, Tbilisi, 30 November 2005

3. The Mission's Police Adviser Ralf Palo with the cadets at the opening ceremony

Developing a curriculum for the police academy

1 2
3
4

1. Cadets of the new Police Academy curriculum, which was developed with assistance from the Mission, April to November 2008

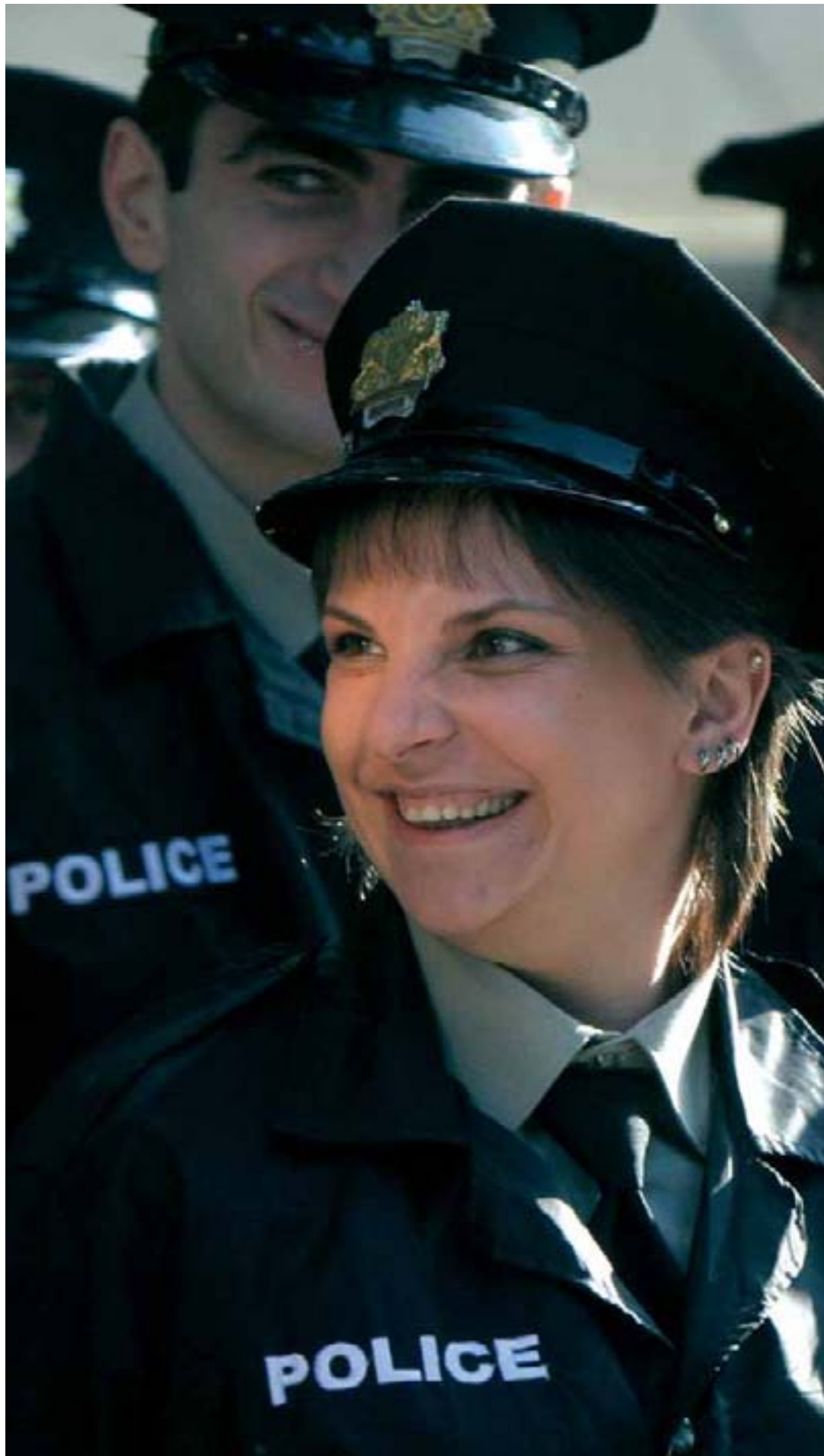
Opposite page:

1 4
2
3

1. Marco Kubny, the Mission's Police Advisor, addresses a seminar on community policing in the regions, Samtskhe-Javakheti, 21 May 2007

3. Head of Mission Ambassador Terhi Hakala and Minister of the Interior, Ivane Merabishvili open the language school of the Police Academy, Tbilisi 7 March 2008

4. The first police open day at Tbilisi's Digomi police station, 1 July 2007



OSCE / David Khazarashvili



OSCE / David Khazarashvili



OSCE / David Khazarashvili

Developing community policing and improving the human resources system



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



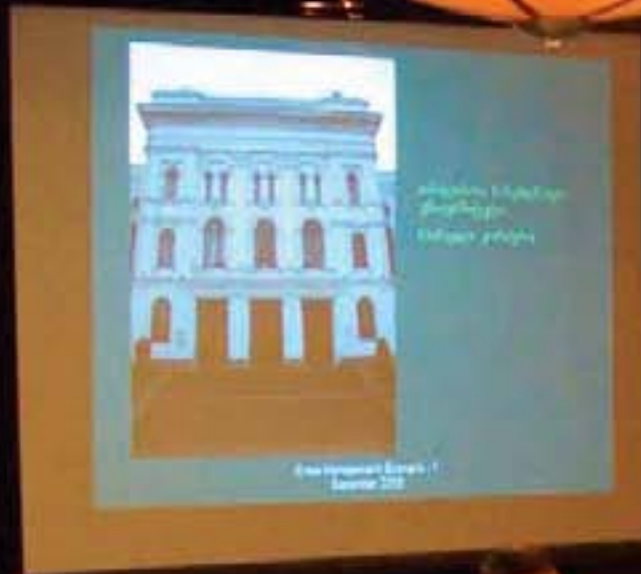
OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili

Enhancing anti-terrorism capacity

A conference for 21 middle-ranking Georgian Interior Ministry officials on effective crisis response to terrorism incidents, Tbilisi, 28 November 2005





OSCE / David Khazarishvili



OSCE / David Khazarishvili

2 3
1 4

1. The Mission's Bogdan Udriste at the Mission headquarters in Tbilisi delivers software to the Ministry of Interior for its new Bomb Data Centre the Mission helped set up, 15 November 2006

2-4 Theoretical and practical training delivered to the Ministry of Interior for the bomb data centre, 26 March 2008



OSCE / David Khazarishvili



OSCE / David Khazarishvili



OSCE / David Khazarishvili



OSCE / David Khazarishvili

5 6
7

5-7 Hostage negotiation training and practical scenario exercise in the police academy, Tbilisi 10 May 2006



OSCE / David Khazarishvili

Human Dimension of Security



OSCE

Mission to Georgia

Human Dimension of Security

- human rights
- democratization
- election monitoring
- freedom of the press
- anti-traffic
- building civil society
- institution building



Strengthening Rule of Law



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / Cliff Volpe



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / Cliff Volpe



OSCE / Cliff Volpe

1

2

3 4

5

1. Head of Mission Roy Reeve with Minister of Justice Konstantine Kemularia (centre left and right) and US Ambassador John Teft (left) at a signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on a package of assistance to help Georgia establish a modernized civil registry system, 17 October 2005

3. Residents of Gori at one of the legal clinics organised by the Mission for eastern Georgia, 23 May 2006

4. Head of Mission Roy Reeve, and the Mission's Rule of Law Officer Valerie Marchand visit the new penitentiary in Kutaisi, west Georgia, 26 September 2005

2. Some of the 300 penitentiary personnel in western Georgia at a three-week OSCE training programme focusing on humane treatment of detainees, security, defence and legal issues, as well as international standards and control mechanisms, September 2005

Democratization



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE



OSCE

- 1
- 2
- 3 4

1. Ambassador Reeve donates almost 4,000 Euros worth of modern textbooks on good governance to the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs, 24 April 2005

2. Ambassador Reeve speaking at the National Democratic Institute's presentation of an OSCE-supported analysis into voter lists, Tbilisi, 21 November 2006

3. Parliamentarians sign the new Code of Conduct which was drawn up with the support of the Mission, 12 October 2004



OSCE / David Krizanishvili

The South Caucasus Media conference



OSCE / Olli Vuolo



OSCE / Olli Vuolo



OSCE / Olli Vuolo



OSCE / Olli Vuolo



OSCE / Olli Vuolo



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili

- 1 2
- 3 4 5
- 6 7
- 8
- 9

2. Delegates of the First OSCE South Caucasus Media Conference, November 2004

3. Head of Mission Ambassador Roy Reeve (left) and OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Miklos Haraszti open the conference on label and access to information, 26 October 2004

4. Ana Karlsreiter (left) and Alexander Ivanko, of the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, work on the conference declaration, November 2004

5. The Mission's head of the Human Dimension Department Mark Behrendt (left), Head of Mission Roy Reeve and Hanna Vuokko of the Office of the Freedom of the Media, October 2004

6. The fourth South Caucasus media conference, October 2007

7. Delegates including the Turkish and Netherlands (right) Ambassadors at a break during the fourth OSCE annual South Caucasus Media Conference, Tbilisi, October 2007

1
2
3

1. The Mission's Freedom of the Media Officer, Zurab Khrikadze addresses delegates at the third media conference, November 2006

2. Press Officer for the Mission Ilona Kazaryan (left) and Ana Karlsreiter (centre) of the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, before the fifth annual conference, November 2008

3. Head of Mission Terhi Hakala, OSCE Representative on the Freedom of the Media Miklos Haraszti and the Mission's Head of the Human Dimension Department Inkeri Aarnio-Lwoff, during a coffee break from the media conference in Tbilisi, 13 October 2008



Human rights and fundamental freedoms



OSCE



OSCE / David Khazarishvili

1 2
3 4

1. The Mission's Human Rights Officers, Iris Muth (centre) and George Tugushi (left) monitor OSCE organised human rights training for young people in the region of Samtskhe-Javakheti which is home to a large communities of national minorities, 12 November 2004

2. NGO staff running courses at the OSCE supported Civic Education Center in Marneuli, 7th May 2007

3. Tina Gewis (second right), the Mission's Human Rights Officer and Head of Mission Ambassador Hakala at the presentation of the ODIHR's handbook on human rights, 16 June 2008

4. Mission Democratization Officer Sven Holdar opens the conference on the legislative framework for anti-trafficking, Tbilisi 11 November 2004



OSCE / David Khazarishvili



OSCE



All photos on this page OSCE / David Kizashvili



- 1 2
- 3 4
- 5

1. The Mission's Khatuna Metreveli (left) and Ia Dadunashvili (right) discuss anti-trafficking campaigns with the IOM's Ruth Krcmar, Batumi, 1 June 2007

2. The winning entry for a Mission organised public awareness campaign against trafficking in human beings, 1 June 2007

3. Human rights education in Kobuleti, western Georgia, 6 July 2005

4. The Head of the Mission's Human Dimension Department Guillaume Siemienski (left) and Human Rights Officer Iris Muth before a meeting with civil society on anti-torture, April 2005

5. The Mission's Ambassador Reeve (right), attends a meeting with the Ombudsman and representatives of civil society, 12 April 2004

Promoting integration of national minorities

1

2

1. Democratization Officer Lola Ansede (left) and head of the Mission's Human Dimension Department Guillaume Siemienski (centre) holding a meeting on integration with NGO leaders in Tsalka, Kvemo Kartli, which is home to large communities of national minorities, 31 June 2007

2. The OSCE supported centre in Bolnisi, which helps promote integration, October 2007



OSCE / Agnes Montanari



OSCE / Agnes Montanari



New OSCE donated books to help the students learn Georgian, Tsalka, October 2007

Economic & Environmental Dimension of Security



OSCE / David Kravtshin

A winning entry for an awareness campaign organised by the OSCE supported Aarhus Centre for access to environmental information, 9 July 2008





OSCE / David Kizianishvili

- 1
- 2
- 3 4

1. From right to left, Head of Mission Ambassador Terhi Hakala, US Ambassador to Georgia John Teft, and Prime Minister Vladimer Gurgendze open an anti-corruption conference in Tbilisi, 25 June 2008

3. Delegates at the anti-corruption conference in Tbilisi, 25 June 2008

4. The Mission's Economic and Environmental Officer, William Hanlon, at the Tbilisi headquarters of one of the leading banks in Georgia, 3 October 2005. The Mission worked with the Government, financial institutions, legislators and other representatives of the international community to address economic threats to regional security



OSCE / Cliff Volpe



OSCE / David Kizianishvili



OSCE / Cliff Volpe



OSCE

1
2

1. The Mission's William Hanlon (right) and scientists from Tbilisi State University take river samples for the Caucasus Regional Water Surface Monitoring Project, part of the OSCE/NATO Science for Peace Programme, Tbilisi, November 2004

2. The Mission participates in an Environment and Security (ENVSEC) initiative meeting, 8 April 2008



OSCE



1 2
3 4

1&3. Young people in western Georgia learning about protecting the environment at an OSCE supported Eco-Camp, 16 September 2005

2&4. Children during the environment-awareness sessions of the Black Sea Day, 31 October 2007



All photos on this page OSCE / David Kizianishvili





All photos on this page OSCE / David Kitzanishvili



1
2

1-2. Ambassador Terhi Hakala looking at energy saving initiatives in the OSCE supported Energy-Efficiency Promotion Bus set to tour around Georgia to raise awareness, 25 March 2009

Visits to the Mission





2003 Netherlands Chairmanship

Following the parliamentary briefings, ODIHR/OSCE and PACE Officials give a press conference at the Sheraton Hotel, Tbilisi, 3 November 2003



OSCE / ODIHR

1
2 3 4

1. Protesters gather to hear opposition leaders speak in Freedom Square, Tbilisi, 4 November 2003

2. OSCE Chairman-in-Office Jaap de Hoop Scheffer (right) in Tbilisi, with Ambassador Roy Reeve, Head of Mission, 23 October 2003

3. Riot police stand ready in Republic Square, Tbilisi, Georgia, 5 November



OSCE / Cliff Volpe



OSCE



OSCE



OSCE / Cliff Volpe

2004 Bulgarian Chairmanship



1 2
3

1. US Secretary of State Colin Powell (left) and OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Bulgarian Foreign Minister Solomon Passy, at new Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili's inauguration ceremony outside the parliament building, Rustaveli Avenue, 25 January 2004

2. Director of OSCE/ODIHR Christian Strohal and Head of Mission Roy Reeve meet Prime Minister Zurab Zhvania on 10 March 2004, ahead of the 28 March parliamentary elections

3. OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Solomon Passy with Catholicos-Patriarch of All Georgia Ilia II, Tbilisi, January 2004

Special Envoy of the OSCE
Chairmanship, former Bulgarian
President Zhelyu Zhelev (second right),
and Head of Mission, Ambassador Roy
Reeve (fourth right), talk to reporters
in Tbilisi about the situation in the
Georgian-Ossetian conflict zone,
Tbilisi, 27 July 2004



OSCE / Bordo Dalainji

2005 Slovenian Chairmanship



- 1
2
1. OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel meets Georgian Speaker of Parliament Nino Burjanadze, 1 April 2005
 2. Former Foreign Minister of Romania and 2001 OSCE CiO, Mircea Geoana (left) visits Tbilisi in October 2005 as the OSCE CiO's Personal Representative for Georgia

OSCE



OSCE / Natalia Grgashvili

2006 Belgian Chairmanship



- 1 2
- 3 4 5
- 6 7 8

1. OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Belgian Foreign Minister Karel De Gucht (left) and his Georgian counterpart Gela Bezhushvili at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tbilisi, 22 June 2006

2. At the VIP building of Tbilisi airport, the visiting Belgian delegation and the Mission go through final protocol details

3. The Chairperson-in-Office and South Ossetian leader Eduard Kokoity, 23 June 2006

4. Talks with the South Ossetian leader in Tskhinvali

5. Talking to Ossetian journalists in Tskhinvali through interpretation by the Mission's Nino Liluashvili

6. Visiting the hospital in Tskhinvali. A week earlier, the Chairperson-in-Office hosted a donors' conference in Brussels, where some Euro 8 Million was pledged for economic rehabilitation in the zone of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict

7. A briefing on security in the zone of conflict by the Commander of the Joint Peacekeeping Forces, Major-General Marat Kulakhmetov at his headquarters in Tskhinvali, 23 June 2006

OSCE / David Kizianishvili

OSCE / David Kizianishvili

OSCE / David Kizianishvili

A visiting OSCE delegation of Ambassadors



All photos on this page OSCE / David Kizashvili

1
2
3 4 5
6 7 8

1. The heads of 13 delegations of OSCE participating States meet Georgia's Foreign Minister Gela Bezhuashvili, at the beginning of their five day visit, Tbilisi, 24 July 2006

2. Head of Mission Ambassador Roy Reeve introducing the visiting delegation to State Minister for Conflict Resolution Issues, Merab Antadze (left), Tbilisi July 2006

3. OSCE Permanent Council Chairman, Belgian Ambassador Bertrand de Crombrughe (left) with Minister of Justice, Gia Kavtaradze

4. Ambassadors Roy Reeve and Bertrand de Crombrughe

5. Deputy Head of the OSCE's Conflict Prevention Centre Monika Wohlfeld sets off with the delegation to Tskhinvali

6. A briefing in the OSCE Tskhinvali Field Office for the ambassadors, July 2006

7. Deputy State Minister for Conflict Resolution Issues, Giorgi Volsky (right) in the Tskhinvali Field Office with the Georgian Ambassador to the OSCE, Viktor Dolidze

8. The delegation with the Deputy JCC Co-Chairman for the South Ossetian side, Leonid Tibilov (centre)





1 2
3

1. The Secretary General and Ambassador Roy Reeve at the Mission Headquarters in Tbilisi, May 2006

2. The Secretary General with Irakli Alasania, the President's Advisor on Georgian-Abkhazian Conflict Resolution Issues, May 2006

3. President Mikheil Saakashvili in a meeting with OSCE Secretary General Marc Perrin de Brichambaut (centre) and Head of OSCE Mission to Georgia Roy Reeve (right), 15 May 2006

The OSCE Secretary General visits, May 2006



OSCE / David Khrantshvili

Easing tensions: brokering transfer from Georgia to Russia of Russian military officers charged with espionage, October 2006

1
2
3 4 5

1. President Mikheil Saakashvili and the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office at a press conference at the start of the visit. The Mission's Sophio Tchitchinadze translates. Tbilisi, 2 October 2006

3. The OSCE Chairperson arriving in Georgia after a weekend of intensive diplomacy between Tbilisi and Moscow, 2 October 2006

2. Deputy Minister of the Interior, Eka Zghuladze (left) briefs the Minister De Gucht and Ambassador Reeve (standing)

4. Georgian Foreign Minister Gela Bezhushvili (right) at the press conference, and the Mission's Martha Freeman (centre background) briefs journalists by telephone



All photos on this page OSCE / Steven Wehring





OSCE / Stefan Wenzel



OSCE / David Kizaniashvili



OSCE



OSCE / David Kizaniashvili

1

- 2
- 3
- 4

1. The officers being handed over to the OSCE which then drove them to Tbilisi international airport to board a special Russian flight out of Georgia

4. Deputy Minister of the Interior Ekaterine Zghuladze, the OSCE Chairperson and Georgian Foreign Minister Gela Bezhuashvili (from left to right) wait outside the Interior Ministry for the handover of the Russian officers to the OSCE

2007 Spanish Chairmanship

OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Miguel Angel Moratinos (left) at a meeting with Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili in Batumi on the Black Sea, 4 September 2007



OSCE / Martin Nashky

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

1. At lunch with Prime Minister Zurab Noghaidebi (left)

4. OSCE Chairperson Miguel Angel Moratinos with Chairperson of Parliament Nino Burjanadze, 4 September 2007



OSCE / David Krtzaniashvili



OSCE



OSCE / David Krtzaniashvili



OSCE / David Krtzaniashvili



OSCE / David Krtzaniashvili



OSCE

1
2
3

1. Some of the OSCE Mission staff waiting for a visiting delegation, 20 January 2006

3. During a short break in that day's visit programme, Josep Borrell Fontelles with the Mission's Security Officer Oleg Bayandin and Executive Adviser Matthieu Goostein (from left to right), 11 November 2007



OSCE



OSCE / David Krzysinski

Easing tensions in November 2007

1 2

3

4 5

1. The OSCE Chairperson-in-Office's Special Envoy, Josep Borrell Fontelles (right) and Prime Minister Zurab Noghaideli, Tbilisi, 11 November 2007

2. Miklos Haraszti, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, gives a press conference at the Mission's Headquarters in Tbilisi, 22 November 2007

3. At a meeting with the Prime Minister, OSCE Chairman-in-Office's Special Envoy Josep Borrell Fontelles (left), with the Mission's Deputy Head Veselin Nikolaev, head of the OSCE's Conflict Prevention Centre Caucasus Desk Harri Kamarainen, and the Mission's Spokesperson Martha Freeman, 11 November 2007

4. Rustaveli Avenue, Tbilisi, 7 November 2007

5. Tbilisi, 25 November 2007



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE / David Krizanishvili



OSCE

2008 Finnish Chairmanship

1

2

3 4

2. President Mikheil Saakashvili's inauguration ceremony outside the Parliament building in Tbilisi on 20 January 2008. The OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre's Harri Kamarainen, the Special Envoy of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Heikki Talvitie, and OSCE Secretary General Marc Perrin de Brichambaut attend (second row on balcony, 4th, 5th & 6th from left respectively)

3. The Chairperson-in-Office and the Head of Mission (front left and right) at a meeting with Salome Zurbishvili (back, centre) and other opposition leaders, February 2008

4. The Chairperson on Rustaveli Avenue with Georgian Deputy State Minister of Reintegration Dmitri Manjavidze going towards the latter's Ministry buildings, February 2008



OSCE / German Aagaard



OSCE / David Kizianishvili



OSCE / David Kizianishvili



OSCE / David Kizianishvili



Al. Photos on the page OSCE / David Krizanek

1

2 3

1. The OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Finnish Foreign Minister Ilkka Kanerva, Tbilisi 27 February 2008

2. The OSCE Chairperson with Foreign Minister David Bakradze, 27 February 2008

3. Head of Mission Ambassador Terhi Hakala (right) and Goran Lennmarker, President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, at the Chairperson's press conference in the Foreign Ministry



OSCE



OSCE



Heads of delegations of 21 OSCE participating States meet the Prime Minister Vladimir Gurgenzidze, during their three-day visit to Georgia from 7 to 9 July 2008

The delegation of OSCE Ambassadors, July 2008



All photos on this page OSCE / David Krizanek

- 1
- 2 3
- 4 5

1. Head of the delegation, Finnish Ambassador Antti Turunen (left) and Finnish First Secretary Mikko Kivikoski with Mission Spokesperson Martha Freeman (centre)

2. The Head of Mission, Ambassador Terhi Hakala with the delegation of her colleagues during their visit

3. State Minister for Reintegration Issues Temur Iakobashvili (left) and the head of the visiting delegation Ambassador Turunen address the delegation in Tbilisi

4. The Mission's Elections and Democratization Officer Marie-Carin von Gumpenberg (right) and Georgian Young Lawyers' Association Head Giorgi Chkheidze, before the meeting with civil society representatives

5. Leader of the Parliamentary Minority Christian Democrats Giorgi Targamadze and other opposition representatives brief the Ambassadors





OSCE / David Kizianishvili



OSCE / David Kizianishvili



OSCE / David Kizianishvili



OSCE / David Kizianishvili



OSCE / Martha Freeman

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

1. The Mission's Chief Security Officer, Laszlo Belagyi helps one of the delegation with a flak jacket, Karaleti, 8 July

2. At the headquarters of the Temporary Administrative Unit in the Georgian village of Kurta, 9 July 2008

3. Meeting the head of the Temporary Administrative Unit, Dimitry Sanakoev, in Kurta, 9 July 2008

4. OSCE Permanent Council Chairman, Finnish Ambassador Antti Turunen speak to the press at Kurta through interpretation by the Mission's Press Officer Nino Sanikidze

5. Ossetian OSCE engineer Temuraz Kulukhov (left) update the Ambassadors on the Economic Rehabilitation Programme works at the village of Dzari in the north of the zone of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict



All the pictures on this page OSCE / Martha Freeman



- 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
1. Deputy Head of the US Mission to the OSCE. Kyle Scott (centre left) speaks with South Ossetian leader Eduard Kokoity (right) at Didi Gupta, the northern most point of the zone of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict, 8 July 2008
2. A late lunch in Java before heading back southwards to the zone of conflict
3. The delegation at the Roki Tunnel near the border with the Russian Federation, 8 July 2008
4. Leaving the zone of conflict to continue northwards on the Transcaucasian Highway (TRANSCAM)

The OSCE Chairperson-in-Office in August 2008

1 2
3
4 5 6
7 8 9

2. OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Finnish Foreign Minister Alexander Stubb on 10 August, Tbilisi

3. Head of the OSCE Mission to Georgia, Ambassador Terhi Hakala, at the arrival of OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Finnish Foreign Minister Alexander Stubb, 10 August 2008

4. The Head of Mission with French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner

5. With Foreign Minister Eka Tkeshelashvili (right), 11 August

6. The Foreign Ministers (right) with President Saakashvili, 10 August

7. OSCE/Grzegorz Michalski 8 August. The University in Tskhinvali

8. 21 August near Gori, on the main motorway through Georgia

9. 21 August. An apartment building on the outskirts of Gori



OSCE / David Khizanishvili



OSCE / David Khizanishvili



OSCE / David Khizanishvili



OSCE / David Khizanishvili



OSCE / David Khizanishvili



OSCE / David Khizanishvili



OSCE / German Asgryan



OSCE / German Asgryan



OSCE / David Khizanishvili



At the pictures on this page OSCE / German Agency



- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4 5

1. The Mission's Political and Military Monitoring Officers at the briefing

2. The Mission updates the Chairperson-in-Office: Head of Mission Terhi Hakala with Chief Military Monitor Stephen Young (left) and Spokesperson Martha Freeman (right), 21 August 2008

4. The Mission briefs the Chairperson-in-Office and his Finnish delegation, 21 August

5. The Mission's Chief Security Officer Laszlo Belagyi briefing about the August conflict



1. Meeting other international organisations operating in the Gori area, Gori Municipal Building, 21 August 2008

2. The Mayor of Gori shows the delegation around

3. The Chairmanship and Mission delegation beyond the village of Igoeti on the way to Gori on Georgia's main motorway, 21 August



All the pictures on this page OSCE / David Khvanishvili



1

2 3 4

2. Meeting Internally Displaced Persons who had arrived that day in Gori from the zone of conflict, 21 August 2008



All the pictures on this page OSCE / David Khamatshvili



The Secretary General in Georgia in December 2008

1 2

3

1. The Secretary General Marc Perrin de Brichambaut with Mission staff at the Mission's Tbilisi head office, December 2008

3. State Minister for Reintegration Issues Temur Iakobashvili (right) in Tbilisi with (from left to right) OSCE Secretary General, Deputy Head of the OSCE Greek Delegation Eleni Sourani, Senior Advisor to the Secretary General Dov Lynch and the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre's Peter Svedberg, 11 December 2008



OSCE / David Khizanishvili



OSCE / David Khizanishvili



OSCE

The OSCE Secretary General and Senior Advisor Dov Lynch (left), with the Mission's Deputy Head Gottfried Hanne (second right) and Chief Military Monitor Stephen Young (third right) north of Odzisi on the Akhgori valley road, near the administrative boundary, 13 December 2008



2009 Greek Chairmanship



All the pictures on this page OSCE / David Krizanishvili



1 2
3

1. 2009 Greek Chair

2. The Chairperson-in-Office Greek Foreign Minister Dora Bakoyannis in Tbilisi, with Georgian Foreign Minister Grigol Vashadze, 23 March 2009

3. The OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre's Deputy Head Pascal Heyman (second left at table) co-facilitating an Incident Prevention and Response meeting in the area affected by the August fighting, Dvani, 29 May 2009





All the pictures on this page: OSCE / David Khramishvili



1 2
3 4 5

1. The Chairperson addresses the Mission staff, 23 March 2009

2. Georgian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Alexandre Nalbandov (left), with the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Minister Dora Bakoyannis at Tbilisi airport, 23 March 2009

3. The Chairperson meets the leader of the Democratic Movement-United Georgia party Nino Burjanadze, and other opposition leaders at the Mission's headquarters

4. The Chairperson with Temur Iakobashvili State Minister for Reintegration Issues (right)

5. The OSCE Mission to Georgia headquarters



Mission survey

Heads of the OSCE Mission to Georgia

1. Halil Akinci (1992-1993)
2. Aleksander Tsvetkov (1993-1994)
3. HansJorg Eiff (1994)
4. Dieter Boden (1995-1996)
5. Michael Libal (1996-1998)
6. Jean- Michel Lacombe (1999-2003)
7. Roy Reeve (2003-2007)
8. Terhi Hakala (2007-2009)

1. Basic decisions

Establishment:

- 17th CSO Meeting, 6 November 1992, Journal No. 2, Annex 2 Modalities:
- 14th Permanent Committee Meeting, 29 March 1994, Journal 14/Revised, Annex 1
- Permanent Council Decision No. 115, 24 April 1996 (PC.DEC/115)
- Permanent Council Decision No. 334, 15 December 1999 (PC.DEC/334)
- Permanent Council Decision No. 450, 13 December 2001 (PC.DEC/450)
- Permanent Council Decision No. 523, 19 December 2002 (PC.DEC/523)
- Permanent Council Decision No. 668, 14 April 2005 (PC.DEC/668)

2. Tasks

According to the original Modalities and Financial Implications approved at the 18th CSO Meeting on 13 December 1992, the objective of the Mission was to promote negotiations between the conflicting parties in Georgia which are aimed at reaching a peaceful political settlement.

At the 14th Meeting of the Permanent Committee on 29 March 1994, new Modalities were decided for an expanded CSCE Mission to Georgia, based on recommendations submitted by the Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office in accordance with the Decisions of the Rome Council, which provided for a strengthening of the Mission. The original objective was complemented by a series of new objectives, namely to promote respect for human rights and assist in democratic institution building throughout the country; to monitor and promote free

media principles; to facilitate co-operation with and among the parties concerned and, with their consent, to monitor the joint peacekeeping forces established under the Sochi Agreement of 24 June 1992, in order to assess whether their activities are carried out in conformity with CSCE principles, in particular those mentioned in chapter II, 3 of the Decisions of the Rome Council Meeting.

The above objectives for the expanded Mission are specified in a mandate consisting of the following points:

1) In relation to the Georgian-Ossetian conflict:

- facilitate the creation of a broader political framework, in which a lasting political settlement (...) can be achieved on the basis of CSCE principles and commitments;
- intensify discussions with all parties to the conflict, including through the organisation of round tables, in order to identify and seek to eliminate sources of tension and extend political reconciliation throughout the area of conflict.
Make recommendations regarding the early convening of an international conference under CSCE auspices and with the participation of the United Nations, aimed at the resolution of the conflict, including the definition of the political status of Southern Ossetia;
- in pursuit of the monitoring role concerning the joint peacekeeping forces, establish appropriate forms of contact with the military commanders of the forces within the overall context of the CSCE negotiating efforts, gather information on the military situation, investigate violations of the existing cease-fire and call local commanders' attention to possible political implications of specific military actions;
- be actively involved in the reconvened Joint Control Commission in order to facilitate co-operation with and among the parties concerned;
- establish contact with local authorities and representatives of the population and maintain a visible CSCE presence throughout the area.

2) In relation to the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict:

- ensure liaison with the United Nations operations in Abkhazia, in order to follow events closely and report regularly to the CSCE, inter alia with a view to facilitating the participation of the representative of the Chairman-in-Office, at the invitation of the United Nations, to the negotiations carried out under United Nations auspices.

3) In relation to Georgia as a whole:

- promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and assist in the development of legal and democratic institutions and processes, including providing advice on the elaboration of a new constitution, the implementation of a legislation on citizenship and the establishment of an independent judiciary as well as monitoring elections;
- co-ordinate these activities with the CSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities and the ODIHR and co-operate with the Council of Europe, keeping also in touch with other international organizations active in Georgia in this field.

In addition, at the 550th Plenary Meeting on 14 April 2005, the OSCE Permanent Council tasked the OSCE Mission to Georgia to implement the Training Assistance Programme (TAP) (PC.DEL/108/05/Rev.6) «in order to support the Georgian border guards in strengthening their border-management capacities and capabilities».

Also, at the 642nd Plenary Meeting on 29 June 2006, the OSCE Permanent Council tasked the OSCE Mission to Georgia to implement the Capacity Building Programme (CBP) (PC.DEC/731) in order to support the Georgian Border Police in the strengthening of their border management capabilities.

3. Deployment

The Mission started to work on 3 December 1992. The MoU with the Government of Georgia was signed on 23 January 1993, and the MoU with the Leadership of the Republic of South Ossetia was agreed by an exchange of letters on 1 March 1993.

The Mission operates throughout Georgia from the Headquarters established in Tbilisi. The Modalities of 29 March 1994 provide for a branch office in Tskhinvali, which became operational on 22 April 1997.

In 1997, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the OSCE and the UN Human Rights Office in Abkhazia, Georgia where one (at times two) OSCE officer has been working since. The MoU enables the OSCE Mission to Georgia to implement the relevant parts of its mandate relating to the monitoring of the human rights situation in Abkhazia, while supporting the activities of the UN Human Rights Office in the region.

From 15 December 1999 until 31 December 2004 the Mission was also mandated to observe and report on movement across parts of the border between Georgia and the Russian Federation. While the area of operation of the Border Monitoring Mission (BMO) first only covered the border between Georgia and the Chechen Republic of the Russian Federation, it was extended in subsequent years also to the Ingush and Dagestan segments of the Georgian-Russian border. The BMO then operated from its Head Office in Tbilisi, a Forward Supply Point in Telavi, eight Patrol Bases in Sno, Shatili, Girevi, Omalo, Napareuli, Kvareli, Akhalsopeli and Kabali as well as one Permanent Patrol in Assa.

From 18 April 2005 until 30 June 2006, the Mission carried out a Training Assistance Programme providing training for the Georgian Border Guards at four OSCE training centres in Lilo, Kazbegi, Lagodekhi and Omalo.

Within the framework of the Capacity Building Programme, the Mission began carrying out training for the Georgian Border Police on 1 July 2006. The Capacity Building Programme was successfully completed on 30 June 2007.

4. Duration

The original Modalities provided for an initial operating period of 3 months. Subsequent prolongations of the Modalities were decided at:

- 19th CSO Meeting, 4 February 1993: until 23 August 1993;
- 22nd CSO Meeting, 30 June 1993: until 23 February 1994;
- 10th Permanent Committee Meeting, 24 February 1994: until 4 March 1994;
- 25th CSO Meeting, 3 March 1994: until 30 June 1994.

The new Modalities, decided at the 14th Permanent Committee Meeting on 29 March 1994, were valid until 30 September 1994. Further prolongations were agreed at:

- 34th Permanent Committee Meeting, 22 September 1994: until 31 March 1995;
- 9th Permanent Council (PC), PC.DEC/18, 23 February 1995: until 30 September 1995;
- 35th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/70, 14 September 1995: until 30 June 1996;
- 70th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/122, 23 May 1996: until 31 March 1997;
- 104th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/156, 6 March 1997: until 31 December 1997;
- 141st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/199, 27 November 1997: until 30 June 1998;
- 173rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/234, 17 June 1998: until 31 December 1998;
- 198th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/267, 13 November 1998: until 30 June 1999;
- 235th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/299, 17 June 1999: until 31 December 1999;

- 260th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/320, 2 December 1999 until 30 June 2000;
- 286th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/355, 8 June 2000: until 31 December 2000;
- 313th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/393, 7 December 2000: until 31 December 2001;
- 375th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/456 of 21 December 2001: until 31 December 2002;
- 427th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/522 of 19 December 2002: until 31 December 2003;
- 487th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/575 of 11 December 2003: until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/650 of 16 December 2004: until 31 December 2005;
- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/700 of 17 November 2005: until 31 December 2006.
- 642nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/766 of 14 December 2006: until 31 December 2007.
- 693rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/831 of 21 December 2007: until 31 December 2008.
- The modalities established for the Border Monitoring Operation were decided at:
- 262nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/334, 15 December 1999: until 30 April 2000.
- Subsequent prolongations of these modalities were decided at:
- 279th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/346Corr1, 13 April 2000: until 15 November 2000;
- 300th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/372, 21 September 2000: until 15 April 2001;
- 329th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/406, 29 March 2001: until 15 November 2001;
- 365th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/442/Corr.1, 2 November 2001: until 31 December 2001;

- 427th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/523, 19 December 2002: until 30 June 2003;
- 456th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/546, 17 June 2003: until 31 December 2003;
- 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/586, 18 December 2003: until 30 June 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/650 of 16 December 2004: until 31 December 2005;
- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/700, 17 November 2005: until 31 December 2006.
- The modalities established for the Training Assistance Programme for Georgian Border Guards were decided at:
- 550th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/668, 14 April 2005: until 31 December 2005;
- 586th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/713, 22 December 2005: until 30 June 2006.

The modalities established for the Capacity Building Programme for the Georgian Border Police were decided at:

- 616th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/731, 29 June 2006: until 30 June 2007.

5. Composition

Originally, the authorized strength of the Mission was 8 members (including the Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office). Subsequent increases of the number of international staff were authorized by the 19th Meeting of the CSO (4 February 1993), the 25th Meeting of the CSO (3 March 1994), the 14th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council (29 March 1994), the 18th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council (27 April 1995), the 387th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council (12 April 2002) and the 522nd Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council (6 August 2004).

The decision of the Permanent Council in December 1999 to establish the Border Monitoring Operation and its subsequent decisions to enhance the operational efficiency and the area of operation of the BMO led to a phased increase of the number of international personnel to 148 persons at the peak of the operation, all of whom left following the closure of the BMO.

The Mission had 30 international staff working under the Training Assistance Programme during 2005/2006.

After the establishment of the Capacity Building Programme in June 2006 and until its closure in June 2007 the Mission had up to 64 international staff, 26 of whom were working under the CBP.

As of 1 February 2008, the Mission had a total of 142 staff, of whom 106 were national staff, 7 contracted international staff and 29 seconded international staff.

6. Decisions in 2008 and 2009 on Military Monitors

728th Plenary Meeting, PC.DEC/861, 19 August 2008: Increasing the number of military monitoring officers in the OSCE Mission to Georgia.

750th Plenary Meeting, PC.DEC/883, 12 February 2009: Extension of PC Decision No. 861 of 19 August 2008 until 30 June 2009.

7. Discontinuation pending negotiation on an OSCE presence (the situation at the time of printing this publication, 7 June 2009)

On 31 December 2008 the OSCE Permanent Council failed to reach consensus on the mandate renewal in the wake of the conflict in August. However, twenty unarmed military monitoring officers, who were deployed to the Mission to Georgia by Permanent Council decision 861 on 19 August 2008, continue to operate, monitoring in the areas adjacent to South Ossetia under PC Decision No. 883 which expires on 30 June 2009.

Design: Paul Gallagher | paulmgallagher.me
Print: Ragtime Ltd. | ragtime.ge

OSCE Mission to Georgia
Press & Public Information Office
osce.org

OSCE

June 2009

OSCE / Cliff Volpe

