

ANNUAL REPORT 2013





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SECURITY ORGANIZATION**

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MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

As 2013 draws to a close, the OSCE has demonstrated it has the potential to bridge differences and serve the interests of all participating States in today's rapidly changing security environment. Even as old challenges persist, including unresolved conflicts in our region, we face a host of new threats that are increasingly complex, cross-dimensional and transnational. The re-emergence of mistrust and divisions threatens to undermine security in our region, as does instability in neighbouring regions. In order to preserve the effectiveness of the OSCE as a security organization, its agenda and structures must evolve and adapt.

The Organization experienced equally challenging periods in the past, and it found ways to adjust and reinvigorate itself. Today the OSCE's greatest strengths – our comprehensive approach to security, our inclusiveness, our permanent dialogue and our consensus-based decision-making – are more relevant than ever. Our challenge is to find ways to unlock our Organization's potential, putting the concept of co-operative security at the forefront.

This year we achieved progress in several key areas with a direct impact on people's lives, including facilitating voting in municipal elections in northern Kosovo¹, an important step toward building stability and trust in the wider region. The adoption of an initial set of confidence-building measures to reduce the risks of conflict stemming from information and communication technologies and the extension of our Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings have together enhanced our ability to

¹ All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244.

combat transnational threats. We are also strengthening our relationship with our Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation, which is especially important given the imminent withdrawal of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) from Afghanistan and the ongoing crisis in Syria.

In 2015, the OSCE will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act. Last year in Dublin, participating States agreed to initiate the Helsinki+40 process to advance all three dimensions of security and to identify how the Organization's enduring principles can help us to address contemporary challenges. I appreciate the dedication with which the Ukrainian Chairmanship set this process in motion, in close co-operation with the incoming Swiss and Serbian Chairmanships.

The Helsinki+40 process provides an opportunity to think creatively and strategically about the future of the OSCE. Although reform is not a goal in itself, given today's complex security environment and ongoing financial pressures, this process can help us modernize and streamline the Organization so that it provides greater added value. Helsinki+40 can move us toward consensus on many divisive and challenging issues, provided that participating States reinforce their engagement with the Organization and use it to address their differences co-operatively and to take common action on the basis of shared commitments and values, which need to be protected and nurtured.

An indispensable part of this approach is the determination to strengthen OSCE commitments in all three security dimensions and to implement them in good faith. The Organization should remain devoted to helping governments comply with their commitments, including protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and respect for the rule of law.

The Ministerial Council in Kyiv took place in challenging circumstances, yet it reached consensus on a balanced package of significant decisions in all three dimensions, including the human dimension for the first time in several years. Ministers welcomed the resumption of high-level dialogue toward the peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, encouraged efforts to achieve compromise solutions in the Transdniestrian settlement process, and reaffirmed their commitment to the Helsinki+40 process. This has provided us with a solid framework for further work in 2014.

Many of the OSCE's efforts are devoted to conflict prevention, so that often our work does not receive the attention and credit it deserves. To increase the Organization's visibility and reach broader audiences, we are increasing our engagement with civil society, academia and youth, and leveraging the Internet and social media. OSCE Security Days, launched in 2012, have quickly become a dynamic forum for discussing contemporary security challenges with external personalities who bring fresh perspectives to the OSCE debate. I am grateful for the generous support of participating States for this initiative, as well as for the newly established OSCE Academic Network, which injects innovative ideas into our security dialogue. I encourage interested institutions from all participating States to join the Network.

I would like to recognize the excellent co-operation we have had with the outgoing Ukrainian Chairmanship, and welcome the incoming Swiss Chairmanship. I also thank the talented and dedicated staff of the OSCE Secretariat, Institutions and Field Operations, who, despite working in challenging political and financial circumstances, remain devoted to the Organization's ambitious aim of promoting security and stability in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian space.



Lamberto Zannier
OSCE Secretary General
Vienna, 2013

WHAT WE DO

MANY FACETS OF SECURITY

The cornerstone of the OSCE’s work is the concept that security requires a comprehensive and co-operative approach. On this basis, the Organization’s founding documents divided its work into three baskets or “dimensions”: the politico-military, the economic and environmental, and the human dimension. Many activities have evolved over the decades since the OSCE’s founding years. Some cover not only one dimension but cut across several.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

help fight corruption and build accountable institutions

MILITARY REFORM AND CO-OPERATION

assist arms control and military reform, support confidence- and security-building measures, train staff

HUMAN RIGHTS

monitor, promote fundamental freedoms and rights

NATIONAL MINORITY RIGHTS

promote rights of national minorities, monitor and help resolve ethnic tensions

COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

prevent trafficking, protect its victims and prosecute traffickers

MEDIA FREEDOM AND DEVELOPMENT

monitor, review legislation, train journalists

ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

support economic growth, monitor impact of trafficking, take action against corruption and money-laundering

CONFLICT PREVENTION AND RESOLUTION

involved in the entire conflict cycle: from early warning to post-conflict rehabilitation

GENDER EQUALITY

empower women, build local capacities and expertise, help review legislation

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

raise awareness, promote public participation, run projects on water management, soil degradation and hazardous waste disposal

ROMA AND SINTI

strengthen political participation, combat racism and discrimination, protect rights of the displaced

TRANSNATIONAL THREATS

fight terrorism, support police reform, strengthen border management and security

EDUCATION

promote minority education and learning about human rights, environment, tolerance, gender equality

TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

combat all forms of racism, xenophobia and discrimination

RULE OF LAW

help reform judiciary, monitor implementation, assist institutions

ARMS CONTROL

stop the spread of surplus weapons and help destroy them

ELECTIONS

observe, provide technical and legal assistance

DEMOCRATIZATION

build institutions, hold free elections, promote gender equality and human rights, fight intolerance and discrimination

IN SUMMARY

In a time of increasing mistrust and division, the OSCE provided a useful forum for dialogue and an effective platform for action for its 57 participating States and 11 Partners for Co-operation. Despite a shrinking budget and a decrease in staff numbers, it continued to meet its mandate across the politico-military, economic and environmental and human dimensions. Under the leadership of the Ukrainian Chairmanship, the Organization focused in particular on the resolution of protracted conflicts and pushing forward with the Helsinki+40 process towards building a comprehensive, co-operative and indivisible security community.

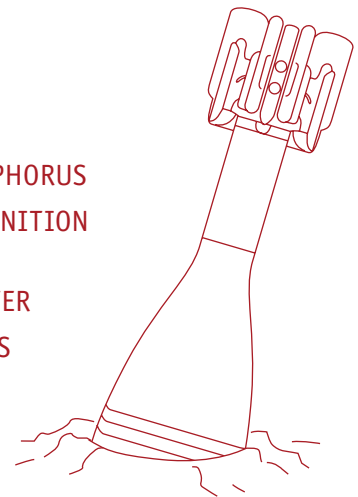
At the Ministerial Council meeting in Kyiv, the Organization's participating States agreed to reinforce efforts on the situation of Roma and Sinti; on human trafficking; and on the control of small arms and light weapons. They also adopted decisions on freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief; on renewable energy policies and the environment; and on the protection of energy networks from disasters. 2013 was also an anniversary year for the Organization.

ANNIVERSARIES:

- 20 YEARS** HIGH COMMISSIONER ON NATIONAL MINORITIES
- 20 YEARS** OSCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA
- 15 YEARS** REPRESENTATIVE ON FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA
- 10 YEARS** AARHUS CENTRES AND ENVSEC
- 10 YEARS** OSCE ACTION PLAN TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

DESTROYED:

- 6,400+** TONNES OF TOXIC ROCKET FUEL
- 175** TONNES OF NAPALM
- 1,097** PHOSPHORUS AMMUNITION
- 1,289** CLUSTER BOMBS
- 19** AIR-TO-AIR MISSILES
- 1,500+** TONNES OF UNSTABLE OR SURPLUS AMMUNITION
- 3,000** SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS



All data used in these pictograms are compiled from the information provided by the OSCE institutions, field operations and structures in this Report.

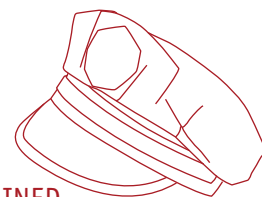
600+

OFFICIALS TRAINED IN
BORDER MANAGEMENT



3,600

POLICE OFFICIALS TRAINED



1,500

ELECTION OFFICIALS TRAINED



4,200

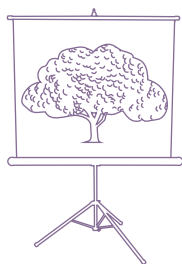
PEOPLE EDUCATED ABOUT
HUMAN TRAFFICKING



13,800

ENTREPRENEURS
RECEIVED
BUSINESS AND LEGAL ADVICE

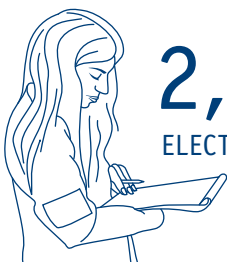
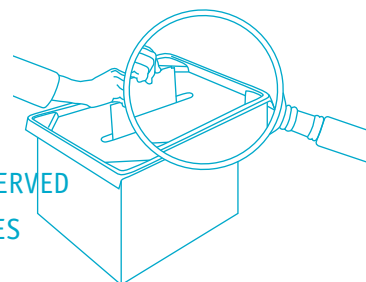
ENTREPRENEURS
RECEIVED
BUSINESS AND LEGAL ADVICE



EDUCATED HUNDREDS OF
PEOPLE ABOUT ENVIRON-
MENT AND ENERGY ISSUES

19

ELECTIONS OBSERVED
IN 18 COUNTRIES



2,000+

ELECTION OBSERVERS FROM
48 STATES DEPLOYED



115,000

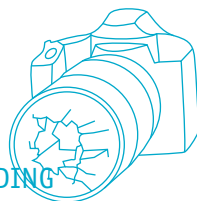
CITIZENS
REACHED
WITH VOTER EDUCATION

CITIZENS
REACHED
WITH VOTER EDUCATION

150

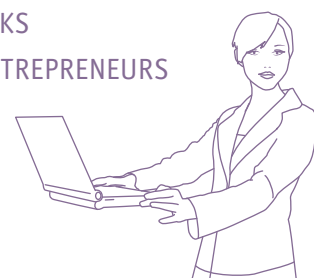
INTERVENTIONS REGARDING
FREE MEDIA AND FREE

EXPRESSION IN 35 PARTICIPATING STATES



SUPPORTING DEMOCRACY:

- HELPED FORGE WOMEN POLITICIAN NETWORKS
- ASSISTED WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS
- TRAINED GIRLS IN EDUCATION AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



20

SMALL GRANTS PROJECTS
IMPLEMENTED FOR ROMA
AND SINTI IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE



REPORT OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP- IN-OFFICE

The Chairmanship rotates annually and the post of the Chairperson-in-Office is held by the Foreign Minister.



2013: Ukraine in the OSCE Chair

www.osce.org/cio

COMMON VISION • COMMON GOALS • COMMON ACTIONS

When Ukraine took over the OSCE Chairmanship in January, it distributed a document that defined its work in 2013. These “Priorities for Action” emphasized a balanced approach to the Organization’s politico-military, economic and environmental and human dimensions. Ukraine’s key objective was to pursue the OSCE’s fundamental principles and goals and to promote trust and confidence among its participating States.



*The International Exhibition Centre in Kyiv, where the Ukrainian OSCE Chairmanship held the 20th Ministerial Council.
Copyright: Eoin O’Cathasaigh*

“The OSCE stands out among other international organizations, as it offers unique advantages and opportunities that stem from its origins, geographic reach and its comprehensive concept of security. It remains an indispensable platform for an inclusive dialogue among equal partners, bringing together different geographic, political and cultural backgrounds.”

Leonid Kozhara, Ukraine’s Foreign Minister and OSCE Chairperson-in-Office in 2013, address to the Permanent Council, Vienna, 17 January 2013.

www.osce.org/cio/98766

A STRONG POLITICAL IMPETUS: LAUNCHING THE HELSINKI+40 PROCESS

In accordance with a decision taken at the 2012 Dublin Ministerial Council meeting, the Ukrainian Chairmanship set into motion the three-year Helsinki+40 process, which provides an inclusive framework for informal discussions on the key challenges facing the OSCE today. This process is intended to provide strong and continuous political impetus to advancing work towards a Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community and strengthening trust and co-operation among the participating States in the run-up to the 40th anniversary of the 1975 signing of the Helsinki Final Act.

This anniversary provides a unique opportunity to reaffirm the participating States’ commitment to the concept of comprehensive, co-operative, equal and indivisible security, and to revive the co-operative “spirit of Helsinki” that prepared the ground for the landmark Helsinki Final Act. By reconfirming and building upon the Organization’s achievements across the three dimensions, the Helsinki+40 process aims to strengthen mutual trust and confidence, and to refine the Organization’s role in today’s rapidly evolving security environment to ensure that it is well equipped to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

The Chairmanship established an informal Helsinki+40 Working Group at the ambassadorial level representing all 57 participating States. Between March and May, the OSCE ambassadors held a strategic “orientation debate” to assess threats and challenges, discussing the Organization’s place in

the contemporary security architecture and potential areas for strengthening its role.

Following this debate, the Chairmanship concluded that there was an appropriate basis to hold thematic discussions on eight specific issues:

- effectiveness and efficiency of the OSCE;
- strategic orientation of the OSCE’s economic and environmental dimension;
- conventional arms control and CSBM regimes;
- implementation of OSCE commitments, in particular those belonging to the human dimension;
- OSCE ability to contribute to the resolution of protracted conflicts;
- OSCE capacities across the conflict cycle;
- OSCE capacities in addressing transnational threats; and
- interaction with Partners for Co-operation and international and regional organizations.

From June onwards, discussions on the first five areas took place. The Chair, together with the 2014 and 2015 Chairmanships of Switzerland and Serbia, jointly decided to appoint OSCE ambassadors as co-ordinators for specific thematic issues and to draw up a “roadmap” to strengthen the strategic and co-ordinated approach and bring a multi-year perspective into the process. This roadmap, which sets out the main objectives and possible outcomes in each area, was presented to the Kyiv Ministerial Council in December.

HIGHLIGHTS

17 JANUARY

VIENNA

Chairperson-in-Office announced Ukraine’s priorities for the 2013 OSCE Chairmanship.

21 – 22 JANUARY

LVIV

“5+2” talks on Transdnestrian settlement.

A TOP PRIORITY FOR THE CHAIRMANSHIP: FACILITATING RESOLUTION OF THE PROTRACTED CONFLICTS

“We are convinced that the so-called protracted conflicts continue to represent a serious threat to our regional stability. Helping the parties to find a political solution should remain the highest priority for the OSCE, the Chairmanship and for all participating States. Tested and proven instruments the OSCE has in stock, such as dialogue facilitation, mediation, preventive diplomacy and non-military confidence-building measures, as well as capacity- and peace-building activities, must be used in conjunction with meeting the immediate needs of people in conflict-affected territories. This would help create an atmosphere of trust and confidence between people, communities and nations, and pave the way for sustainable resolution of conflicts.”

OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, address to the OSCE Permanent Council, Vienna, 17 January 2013.

The Chairmanship engaged all sides to help bring about progress in the talks on the Transnistrian situation. In January, the Chairperson-in-Office paid his first visit to Moldova, underlining the importance Ukraine gave to making progress on the Transnistrian conflict.

two meetings of the Moldovan Prime Minister and the Transnistrian leader on 23 September and 30 October.

The atmosphere of the negotiations remained challenging. A number of incidents took place in the Security Zone, which required the Chair’s engagement to defuse tensions. However, it was possible to reach compromise solutions on some problematic issues. An out-dated cable car running across the Nistru/Dniester River was dismantled, and better co-operation was achieved on environmental issues.

A spotlight was also put on Georgia. As Co-Chair of the Geneva International Discussions, the Chairmanship, together with the European Union and the United Nations, made considerable efforts to achieve progress on the issues of security and stability in the conflict areas in Georgia. Four rounds of discussions were held in 2013, and the Chairperson paid a visit to the country on 18 June, where he discussed with the leadership prospects for advancing the talks.

Despite polarized positions of the participants, the Co-Chairs engaged with Georgian, Abkhaz, South Ossetian and Russian representatives to improve the situation of the population in the conflict areas. This included the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism, a measure created in February 2009 to give the parties an opportunity to discuss the day-to-day problems of these communities. The Co-Chairs paid particular attention to reaching progress on a joint declaration on the non-use of force, which would help secure stability.

TRANSDNIESTRIAN SETTLEMENT PROCESS EVENTS CALENDAR	
BRUSSELS 4 October 2013	Seminar “Benefiting from Peace: a New Perspective for the Transnistrian settlement process”. Participants discussed political aspects of the negotiation process.
GERMANY 30 – 31 October 2013	OSCE Conference in Landshut, focusing on potential confidence-building measures in the Transnistrian settlement process.
VIENNA 16 December 2013	Seminar “The history of OSCE mediation efforts in the Transnistrian settlement process: Lessons learned and lessons to be learned”. Participants looked at the OSCE’s conflict resolution toolbox and discussed how to best resolve crises and engage civil society to support the “5+2” negotiations.

Five rounds of negotiations in the “5+2” format took place in 2013, which maintained the dynamics of the negotiation process. They were held in conjunction with bilateral meetings between the two sides at various levels, including

18 – 19 MARCH

ADELAIDE

OSCE-Australia conference on security of women and girls.

27 MARCH

GENEVA

Co-chaired 23rd round of Geneva International Discussions.

25 APRIL

VIENNA

1st Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting discussed how to promote freer movement of people in OSCE area.

Another challenging issue was the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The Chairmanship supported the Minsk Group Co-Chairs in promoting dialogue between Azerbaijan and Armenia to settle this conflict.

During his visits to Azerbaijan on 7 and 8 July and to Armenia on 15 July, the Chairperson raised this issue with Presidents Aliyev and Sargsyan. He underlined the need for strict implementation of the ceasefire and called again for more active engagement in the negotiations on the basic principles of the settlement.

The Chairperson-in-Office appointed Ambassador **Andrii Deshchytsia** as his Special Representative for Conflicts. He visited the conflict areas in the OSCE region and explored where common interests could be found that could help define a common agenda for negotiations.

Ambassador Deshchytsia chaired five rounds of the "5+2" talks in the Transnistrian settlement process, co-chaired four meetings of the Geneva International Discussions, and helped organize 11 meetings of the Ergneti Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism.



Ambassador Andrii Deshchytsia (c) and the chief negotiators in the Transnistrian settlement process, Eugén Carpov and Nina Shtanski, during 5+2 talks in Vienna, 17 July 2013. Copyright: OSCE/Sarah Crozier

ENSURING GREATER MILITARY STABILITY, TRANSPARENCY AND PREDICTABILITY

The 2013 Annual Security Review Conference, held by the Chairmanship on 19 and 20 June in Vienna, proved a meaningful platform for reflecting on the security situation in the OSCE area, reviewing common responses to security threats and challenges, and promoting co-operation in different areas of security. The conference aimed at strengthening political dialogue, helped by the broad participation of key policy makers and experts from the participating States, various international and regional organizations, and other security-related institutions. Discussions focused on transnational threats and challenges; all aspects of the conflict cycle; arms control and confidence- and security-building measures; and Afghanistan.

AS a strong advocate of a global regime of non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the Chairmanship built consensus on updating the 1994 OSCE Principles Governing Non-Proliferation. This decision was endorsed by the Ministerial Council in December.

In co-operation with the Liechtenstein, Lithuanian and Luxemburg Chairs of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC), the Chairmanship launched a discussion on the role that conventional arms control and confidence- and security-building measures play in the European security architecture. The Chairmanship ran a series of events in 2013:

- Presentation of the initiative at FSC Plenary meeting, February
- Security Dialogue at FSC Plenary, May
- Working Session at Annual Security Review Conference, June
- Informal Helsinki+40 Working Group meeting, September
- Security Dialogue at FSC Plenary, October
- Security Dialogue at FSC Plenary, November

The OSCE Security Days in March featured a discussion on developing a new approach to conventional arms control.

7 MAY

VIENNA

Roundtable meeting on promoting freedom of religion or belief and facilitating inter-faith dialogue.

8 – 11 MAY

NEW YORK/WASHINGTON

Chairperson addressed UN Security Council and visited Washington, D.C..

13 – 15 MAY

WARSAW

Human Dimension Seminar on legal framework to support media freedom.

ADDRESSING COMMON THREATS TO SECURITY

The Chairmanship paid particular attention to strengthening co-ordination and coherence of action in countering transnational threats. It focused on the implementation of the Dublin Ministerial Council Decision on “OSCE Efforts to Address Transnational Threats” to translate political commitments into effective and sustainable programmatic actions.

In Kyiv, from 8 to 10 April, the Chairmanship hosted the annual meeting of the OSCE’s Border Security and Management National Focal Point Network. Participants discussed the role of national agencies in improving border management and confidence- and security-building measures. The meeting also addressed communication strategies, environmental and economic cross-border initiatives, ways of strengthening multilateral co-operation, and modern challenges to border security and cross-border co-operation.

“As the threat of terrorism persists, so must our collective determination to counter it. As the threat of terrorism evolves, so must the response of the international community. But in their response to terrorism, States must always uphold and protect what terrorists aim to deny and undermine: human rights and the rule of law.”

Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk, Permanent Council Chairperson



Ambassador Prokopchuk
Copyright: OSCE/J. Perfect

Private sector representatives who took part in the event discussed how they could help combat drug trafficking via the Internet and strengthen their co-operation with law enforcement agencies. Other international and regional organizations involved in anti-trafficking and money-laundering efforts also participated.

On 10 and 11 October, Ukraine hosted a conference on counter-terrorism in Kyiv, where the participating States discussed the challenges, concerns and initiatives in countering violent extremism and radicalization that leads to terrorism. They also addressed public-private partnerships; law enforcement co-operation; and protecting human rights and upholding the rule of law in the counter-terrorism context.

On 25 and 26 July, the Chairmanship and the Secretariat organized an OSCE-wide conference in Vienna on the “Prevention of Illicit Drug Trade on the Internet.”

The event’s main goal was to share information and best practices to improve the OSCE’s efforts to prevent the illicit drug trade, for instance with modern technologies and communication systems. Participants discussed recent trends in the illicit drug trade and new methods of forensic computer investigations. They also examined how to build stronger international and regional co-operation to combat the online drug trade.

On 24 and 25 October, an annual meeting of police experts took place in Vienna. Experts and representatives of police services from many participating States and members of OSCE field operations attended the event. They discussed such issues as norms, standards and examples of national police reform; community-based policing; and the development of international, national and local crime prevention frameworks. They also assessed a new guidebook on “Police Reform within the Framework of Criminal Justice Sector Reform”.

21 – 22 MAY

TIRANA

OSCE high-level conference on promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination.

23 – 24 MAY

ODESSA

“5+2” talks on Transdnestrian settlement.

26 JUNE

GENEVA

24th meeting of Geneva International Discussions.

“Against the backdrop of new political and economic challenges, it is crucial for the OSCE participating States to demonstrate unity of purpose and action for effectively countering transnational threats such as terrorism, trafficking in drugs and human beings, cyber and border-related crimes.”

From “Priorities for Action”, Ukraine’s strategic framework for its 2013 Chairmanship

One of the Chair’s key priorities was to support the development of a set of confidence-building measures in the field of cyber and information and communications technology security. These efforts took place in an open-ended informal working group and concluded with the adoption of a decision by consensus at the Ministerial Council meeting in Kyiv.

This laid the groundwork for further discussions on the OSCE’s role in this important area. Since dependence on new technologies will likely increase, it is vital that the participating States take measures to address the potential threats that might evolve with them.

STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY

The Chairmanship focused on improving the environmental footprint of energy-related activities. Its key goal was to contribute to stability and security by building consensus on the Organization’s future approach to the relationship between energy and the environment. Central to these efforts was the annual OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum process, which comprised two preparatory meetings, in February in Vienna and in April in Kyiv, and the concluding meeting in Prague in September. The Forum provided an opportunity to discuss energy and environmental challenges to security and to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy co-operation in the OSCE area.

The two preparatory meetings explored ways to strengthen co-operation on new and renewable sources of energy; linkages between sustainable energy and “Green Growth,” energy efficiency and energy savings; good governance in the energy field; promoting innovation in the field of sustainable energy; strengthening public-private partnerships; and reinforcing the role of civil society in promoting sustainable energy solutions.

The Economic and Environmental Forum in Prague produced a number of key conclusions and recommendations that were taken into consideration in the preparations for the Kyiv Ministerial Council meeting. Ideas discussed at the Forum

were explored further at a high-level international conference on energy security, organized jointly by the Chairmanship and the Government of Turkmenistan in Ashgabat on 17 and 18 October. This event complemented the economic and environmental debate in 2013, addressing the conditions for developing the energy sector; stronger regional energy co-operation; security and reliability of energy transport and infrastructure; and promoting sustainable energy, including energy efficiency.



Viacheslav Yatsiuk, Head of the OSCE Chairmanship Task Force
Copyright: O.Kuzmanenko

10 – 11 JUNE

KYIV

Chairmanship organized high-level conference for policy-makers and experts to strengthen OSCE response in combating trafficking in human beings.

18 – 19 JUNE

VIENNA

OSCE Annual Security Review Conference focused on transnational threats; preventing and resolving conflicts; conventional arms control; and Afghanistan.

25 JUNE

VIENNA

OSCE hosted 13th Alliance against Trafficking in Persons conference.

STRENGTHENING IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN DIMENSION COMMITMENTS

In 2013, the Ukrainian Chairmanship prioritized freedom of the media, combating trafficking in human beings, and human rights education for youth on the principles of tolerance and non-discrimination.

The Chairmanship also focused on such issues as free movement of people; inter-religious dialogue in promoting freedom of religion or belief; freedom of association and assembly; and democratic elections and election observation. With the support of the participating States for a balanced and relevant human dimension programme, the Chairmanship held several successful events in 2013:

- A Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Freedom of Movement and Human Contacts, held in Vienna on 25 and 26 April, provided a platform for an in-depth discussion on policy solutions regarding freedom of movement and cross-border mobility.
- The Human Dimension Seminar on Media Freedom Legal Framework in Warsaw, 13 to 15 May, discussed pressing issues of media freedom domestically and internationally, particularly in the context of the legislative framework that should guarantee and foster this freedom. This was one of the few OSCE events on media freedom to which all participating States agreed by consensus.
- A Supplementary Meeting on the Rule of Law in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, held in

Vienna on 11 and 12 July, addressed the role of different frameworks and instruments in protecting human rights and preventing human rights violations.

- A high-level Conference in Tirana, 21 and 22 May, focused on combating discrimination and intolerance, as well as prevention and response to hate crimes.
- A high-level Conference on the fight against human trafficking, held in Kyiv on 10 and 11 June, discussed a new Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings.
- An OSCE Youth Summit, held in the International Children's Centre "Artek" in Crimea, Ukraine, from 20 July to 1 August promoted tolerance and non-discrimination, respect for diversity, and peaceful development and friendship. It also raised awareness of OSCE activities among young people.

The Human Dimension Implementation Meeting held in Warsaw from 23 September to 4 October was unprecedented in scale in terms of number of both participants and side-events organized with civil society. The quality of discussions showed that the event continues to be an excellent platform for the OSCE participating States to affirm their dedication to the principles of democracy, human rights, fundamental freedoms, and the rule of law. It also gave them a forum to discuss how to strengthen the implementation of OSCE human dimension commitments.

SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE ON GENDER ISSUES

www.osce.org/cio/srgender

The activities of the Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on Gender Issues, **June Zeitlin**, promoted the implementation of the OSCE commitments on gender equality, which was a priority of the Ukrainian Chairmanship. She visited Armenia, Greece, Georgia, Spain and Switzerland, where she talked with decision-makers and civil society representatives about these commitments. Some of the key issues she raised in her discussions were non-discrimination, combating violence against women, how to better promote the representation of women in political decision-making, women's economic empowerment, and the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

Country visit reports: www.osce.org/cio/96657

She also participated in the Ninth Kyiv Dialogue on Gender Politics, the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation meeting in Warsaw, the Permanent Council, and other meetings on gender equality and women's rights.



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11 JULY

VIENNA

Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting focused on strengthening rule of law to better protect human rights.

17 JULY

VIENNA

Astrid Thors appointed as OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities.

17 JULY

VIENNA

Another round of "5+2" talks on Transnistrian settlement.

On 7 and 8 November, the final Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting of the year marked the 10th anniversary of the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti and took stock of its implementation.

All human dimension events held in 2013 made an important contribution to strengthening the implementation of OSCE commitments in the human dimension.

PROMOTING TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION THROUGH YOUTH EDUCATION

www.osce.org/cio/104072

“Our difference is our wealth, our unity is our strength” – under this motto, the OSCE Youth Summit in Crimea, which took place under the Ukrainian OSCE Chairmanship, invited more than 500 young people, representing some 60 countries from across the OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation.

“Youth participation can bring added value to the OSCE to achieve the goals and purposes of the Organization. Young people should be given a voice. ... [They] clearly have a role to play in challenging discrimination and in promoting diversity, mutual respect and understanding.”

OSCE Chairperson-in-Office at the opening of the event, which was also attended by the Secretary General.

The “Artek” Youth Summit, which was first held in 1925, focused on further engaging youth in OSCE activities.



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20 JULY – 1 AUGUST

CRIMEA

OSCE Youth Summit organized by Chairmanship.

25 JULY

VIENNA

Experts meeting on preventing and combating illicit drug trade on the Internet.

11 – 13 SEPTEMBER

PRAGUE

Energy sustainability and environmental impacts of energy-related activities the focus of OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES ON COMBATING INTOLERANCE AND DISCRIMINATION

- Ambassador Adil Akhmetov, Personal Representative on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims
- Ambassador Tetiana Izhevskaya, Personal Representative on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, also focusing on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians and Members of Other Religions
- Rabbi Andrew Baker, Personal Representative on Combating Anti-Semitism

The three Personal Representatives worked to promote better co-ordination of participating States' efforts to implement the relevant Ministerial and Permanent Council decisions in the field of tolerance and non-discrimination. They conducted joint country visits to Belgium and Greece and took part in a number of conferences. Rabbi Baker additionally paid official visits to France, Italy, Latvia and Romania. During their country visits, the three Personal Representatives raised a variety of tolerance and non-discrimination topics in meetings with state officials and civil society representatives. These included the role of education in the fight against discrimination and intolerance; investigating and reporting on anti-Muslim

hate crimes; anti-Semitism in the public discourse; and intolerance and incidents targeting Christians.

Meetings the Personal Representatives attended, together or individually, included the OSCE High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination (including an event on Human Rights Youth Education on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination), the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting; the Roundtable Meeting on Inter-Religious Dialogue in Promoting Freedom of Religion or Belief; and the 5th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations. The activities of the Personal Representatives were an important component of the OSCE's overall activities combating discrimination and promoting tolerance.



Ambassador Tetiana Izhevskaya (l), Rabbi Andrew Baker, Ambassador Adil Akhmetov (r)
Copyright: OSCE/Micky Kroell

ENHANCING RESULTS-ORIENTED CO-OPERATION WITH OSCE PARTNERS

The Chairmanship paid special attention to strengthening the dialogue with the OSCE Mediterranean and Asian Partners for Co-operation. On 8 February, it supported a seminar in Rome that was the first of its kind to focus on human trafficking from the southern rim of the Mediterranean to Europe, particularly for labour exploitation. Officials and civil society representatives discussed the exploitation of migrants and explored ways to ensure the protection of their rights, prosecution of perpetrators and sustainable prevention.

At the OSCE-Australia Conference in Adelaide on 18 March, the participating States and Asian Partners for Co-operation discussed how to improve the security of women and girls, promote their economic empowerment, and combat all forms of human trafficking. Six months later, on 28 and 29 October, the OSCE Mediterranean Conference in Monaco examined ways to improve the participation of women in public, political and economic life.

23 SEPTEMBER – 4 OCTOBER

WARSAW

OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, biggest event in the human dimension.

3 OCTOBER

BRUSSELS

New round of "5+2" talks on Transnistrian settlement.

17 – 18 OCTOBER

ASHGABAT

High-level conference on energy security and sustainability in OSCE region.

STRENGTHENING OSCE ENGAGEMENT WITH AFGHANISTAN

The Chairmanship supported strengthened OSCE engagement with Afghanistan in light of its impending political transition in 2014, and held discussions on developing collective measures in the OSCE area devoted to this issue. There was a broad understanding among the participating States, Afghanistan and other Partners for Co-operation of the need

to tackle emerging security risks facing Afghanistan and the wider Central Asian region. This was vividly demonstrated at a Security Days event devoted to Afghanistan on 12 March and at the special session of the Annual Security Review Conference on 19 and 20 June.

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY AND STABILITY IN AFGHANISTAN

In response to a request from the Government of Afghanistan, the Permanent Council decided on 24 October to send an election support team to Afghanistan to assist with the presidential and provincial council elections scheduled for 5 April 2014.

The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) will organize this team, which will include up

to 20 election staff. ODIHR will closely co-ordinate with national, regional and international representatives, and prepare a report on the electoral process, including a set of recommendations for the government to implement in the post-election period, aimed at enhancing the conduct of future elections and improving Afghanistan's legal framework and procedures. All necessary security arrangements will be put in place for the team.

The OSCE and ODIHR previously sent election support teams to Afghanistan in 2004, 2005, 2009 and 2010.

THE 20TH OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL IN KYIV

www.osce.org/event/mc_2013

On 5 and 6 December, the Chairmanship welcomed ministers from the participating States and the Partners for Co-operation to the Ukrainian capital for the 20th Ministerial Council.

Reflecting on discussions held throughout the year, Ukraine proposed a balanced package of decisions, focusing on areas that offered added value for the implementation of the OSCE's comprehensive security concept.

The Ministers agreed to a series of important decisions that provided a solid framework for the Organization's work in 2014 and contributed to efforts to strengthen trust and confidence in the OSCE region.

The Ministerial Council reached consensus on advancing the Helsinki+40 process; defining the role of the OSCE in the area of cyber and information and communications technology security; enhancing its capabilities in combating human trafficking; addressing transnational threats and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; and strengthening its mandate in the area of energy and environment. They also agreed to statements on the

Transnistrian settlement process and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, sending a clear message about the determination of the OSCE States to seek progress in resolving those conflicts.

For the first time in three years, the Ministerial Council adopted decisions in the OSCE's human dimension portfolio.



Copyright: OSCE/Sergey Gladkevich

28 – 29 OCTOBER

MONACO

OSCE conference on women's role in building prosperity in Mediterranean region.

6 NOVEMBER

GENEVA

25th meeting of Geneva International Discussions.

16 – 17 DECEMBER

VIENNA

Chairmanship organized seminar on the history of OSCE mediation efforts in Transnistrian settlement process.

SIDE EVENTS AT THE KYIV MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

- The OSCE Civil Society Parallel Conference, attended by representatives of non-governmental organizations and academia, reviewed the human rights situation in the region and presented a set of policy recommendations to the Chairmanship.
- A panel discussion on “Taking the Pulse of Helsinki+40: Academia Meets the OSCE,” hosted by the Chairmanship, profiled the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions that was created in the summer of 2013.
- An exhibition on the removal from Ukraine of a highly toxic rocket fuel component known as “mélange” highlighted the practical benefits of co-operation between the OSCE and a host country.

KYIV MINISTERIAL COUNCIL DECISIONS AND DECLARATIONS

<http://bit.ly/19UAR9k>



Foreign Ministers and Heads of Delegations pose for a family photo at the 20th OSCE Ministerial Council in Kyiv, 5 December 2013.
Copyright: OSCE/Sergey Gladkevich

DECLARATIONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

- 1 Declaration on Furthering the Helsinki+40 process
- 2 Declaration on strengthening the OSCE's efforts to address transnational threats
- 3 Ministerial statement on the work of the Permanent Conference on Political Issues in the Framework of the Negotiation Process for the Transdniestrian Settlement in the “5+2” format
- 4 Ministerial statement on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict
- 5 Ministerial declaration on the update of the OSCE Principles Governing Non-Proliferation

DECISIONS

- 1 Extension of the mandate of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (until 11 March 2016)
- 2 Appointment of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (Astrid Thors from Finland)
- 3 Freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief
- 4 Enhancing OSCE efforts to implement the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area, with a particular focus on Roma and Sinti women, youth and children
- 5 Improving the environmental footprint of energy-related activities in the OSCE region
- 6 Protection of energy networks from natural and man-made disasters
- 7 Combating trafficking in human beings
- 8 Small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition
- 9 Time and place of the next meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council (Basel, 4 and 5 December 2014)

5 – 6 DECEMBER

KYIV
20th OSCE Ministerial Council.

A GRADUAL TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The OSCE and the Contact Group are slowly handing over ownership of sub-regional arms control in South-eastern Europe.

Personal Representative for Article IV of the OSCE
Chairperson-in-Office: **Major General Michele Torres**.

www.osce.org/cio/articleiv

With close to 10,000 heavy armaments taken out of service and nearly 700 international inspections conducted in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia, the 1996 Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control is nothing short of a success story. Known among military experts as “Article IV of Annex 1-B of the Dayton Peace Accords”, the Agreement has for nearly 20 years been one of the key measures to rebuild peace and stability in South-eastern Europe. It was particularly designed to manage heavy weaponry and work towards a military balance in the region. To date, it is the only structural arms control agreement in Europe that is being fully implemented.

The Agreement outlines a number of very concrete, legally binding obligations and rights:

- hard limitations on national armaments in five heavy weapons categories
- a reduction regime
- an information and notification regime
- a verification and inspection regime.

The results are impressive: a huge number of heavy armaments have been destroyed, exported or put into museums. The four countries’ armed forces have been dramatically downsized. Consequently, there are fewer objects to inspect: from 244 in 1997, they decreased to 80 in 2013. To demonstrate a high degree of transparency, the states parties even accepted more inspections than required - a trend that continues.

“The Parties’ determination to consolidate stability, peace and security in the region is highly appreciated by participating States and the excellent level of implementation and co-operation that has been reached is underlined in every meeting.”

Major General Torres, Personal Representative for Article IV

In 2009, the Agreement moved into a new phase. An Action Plan was developed that would gradually move ownership from the office of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office’s Personal Representative - who so far had supported the process by brokering political consensus and ensuring the smooth operation of the arms control activities - to the countries themselves.

The first phase of this Action Plan ended in 2012. The countries agreed on a few amendments to the Agreement and took over several technical functions that hitherto had been taken care of by the Personal Representative’s office. The second phase, expected to conclude at the end of 2014, will see the transfer of full autonomy to them. At that point, the OSCE role will transform into mainly a technical and logistic support function. This, however, does not mean that the international community ceases to be engaged in this process; the Organization will continue to maintain close contact with all four states parties.



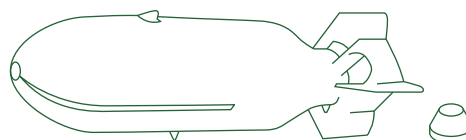
Article IV inspections have been going on since 1996
Copyright: OSCE

SINCE 1996:

9,976 HEAVY ARMAMENTS
REDUCED*

695 INSPECTIONS

129 REDUCTION
INSPECTIONS



* Destroyed, exported or put on display in historical collections

NAGORNO-KARABAKH: STRIVING FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT

It is one of the most complex challenges in the OSCE region: the search for a lasting political settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. In March 1992, the CSCE* decided to convene a conference in Minsk to discuss ways to resolve the conflict. This conference never took place, but it gave its name to the peace process and to the group of countries that provides a framework for negotiations.

In 1994, the Organization established a co-chairmanship to lead negotiations on behalf of the Minsk Group - a role fulfilled since 1997 by France, Russia and the United States. In 1995, the Chairman-in-Office appointed a Personal Representative on the conflict.

* *Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe*



The Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group, Ambassadors **James Warlick** of the United States (l); **Jacques Faure** of France; and **Igor Popov** of the Russian Federation (r). www.osce.org/mg

Copyright: Jeffrey A. Hulse

NO BUSINESS AS USUAL

The daily challenge an OSCE team faces in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office on the Conflict dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference: Ambassador **Andrzej Kasprzyk**. www.osce.org/prcio

More than 20 years have passed since conflict broke out in Nagorno-Karabakh, but a lasting and comprehensive political settlement has yet to be achieved. No day is “business as usual” for Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk, the OSCE Chairman-in-Office’s Personal Representative on the conflict. Since his appointment in July 1996, he and his team have travelled extensively back and forth across the affected region to monitor the situation on the border and the Line of Contact.

The task is arduous - and calls for careful management of risk. Despite the declaration of a ceasefire in 1994, shooting incidents in the area are frequent and violations of the ceasefire are reported on an almost daily basis.

Five civilians and 32 servicemen were reported shot and wounded in 2013 and another 14 servicemen killed. In that same period, Ambassador Kasprzyk’s team visited the Line of Contact 16 times, and the border nine times.

One of the Personal Representative’s tasks is to support the OSCE Chairmanship and the Co-Chairs of the Minsk Group in their efforts to help the parties reach a lasting settlement. This entails up-to-the-minute briefings on relevant developments and detailed reports on his activities and relevant events in and outside the region. His work requires regular and frequent liaison with the parties, including at the highest level; and co-operation and information-sharing with a variety of actors: representatives of the Minsk Group in Baku and Yerevan; the European Union and other multilateral organizations; and civil society organizations with an interest in the issue. In 2013, his team also supported two visits to the region by the Chairman-in-Office and several by the Co-Chairs.

In November, Ambassador Kasprzyk reported to the Permanent Council on the work of his team.

SNAPSHOTS FROM THE FIELD

“On a warm Thursday morning last October, I was walking along a trench on the southern part of the Line of Contact, less than 15 kilometres from where the River Arax separates Azerbaijan from Iran. I was accompanied by a representative of Azerbaijan’s Defence Ministry, and by two local commanders. A few hundred metres away to the east of us, OSCE colleagues were walking in our direction through a similar trench, accompanied by a liaison officer from the so-called Defence Army of Nagorno Karabakh and the local commander. Some moments earlier, local commanders on both sides had exchanged a set of security guarantees. Nevertheless, only moments later, members of both teams heard shots fired as we approached our

observation points. We could not determine where the shots came from or in which direction they were fired. We had to abandon the exercise.

“Two days later I was 250 kilometres away to the north-west, on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border. On this occasion, I was accompanied by several Armenian soldiers, overlooking the overgrown remains of a village now in no-man’s land. About one kilometre away to the north-east stood my colleagues with several Azerbaijani servicemen.

“We were here because a few weeks earlier, an Azerbaijani civilian was reported killed in a landmine explosion. I had consulted for this visit with Azerbaijan’s Defence Ministry and the International

Committee of the Red Cross. The relevant authorities in Yerevan had immediately agreed to my proposal: an exercise that would allow OSCE teams to help find the victim's body.

"Using OSCE radio equipment, the local commanders on each side established a shared understanding of the area to be searched. They discussed the relative merits of their respective observation sites and readily agreed to move to new ones. From these new observation sites they, their subordinates, my colleagues and I surveyed the area through binoculars from a distance of about 800 metres, guided by regular exchanges by radio between the local commanders.

"As it turned out, we were unable to identify any trace of a mine explosion or other evidence in the area to justify entering what was described as a heavily mined area. Nonetheless, the area to be searched was reduced. Both commanders concluded the exercise by expressing their readiness to continue the search under OSCE auspices at a later date, should they be requested to

do so. They also emphasised their intention to adhere strictly to the ceasefire.

"Despite this setback, these kinds of exercises can allow the sides to prove to themselves that honourable service can sometimes be discharged most eloquently by helping each other – and so build each other's confidence."



Ambassador Kasprzyk (r) and Field Assistant Jiri Aberle
 Copyright: OSCE/William Pryor

HIGH-LEVEL PLANNING GROUP

www.osce.org/hlpg

The OSCE High-Level Planning Group has the strategic priority to develop plans for the establishment, force structure requirements and operation of a multinational OSCE peacekeeping force in the area of conflict dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference. The Chairperson-in-Office appointed Col. Pavlo Shamaiev as Head of the Group for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013.

The High-Level Planning Group reviewed the four existing peacekeeping options and supporting documents to ensure that the OSCE has peacekeeping plans ready and available

that incorporate current best practices in international peacekeeping operations. The Group also provided assessments to the Chairmanship on the key challenges in the context of such an OSCE-led mission in the area of conflict.

Throughout the year, the Group liaised with the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference, as well as the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs. The Group participated in two monitoring exercises (in March and May) on the Line of Contact carried out by the Personal Representative and also co-operated with the UN Department for Peacekeeping Operations.

PERMANENT COUNCIL

The Permanent Council is the OSCE's regular body for political consultation and decision-making. It is responsible for the daily business of the Organization.



Permanent Council www.osce.org/pc



A delegate listens to simultaneous interpretation during a regular session of the Permanent Council.
Copyright: OSCE/Curtis Budden

Convening weekly at the Hofburg in Vienna, the Permanent Council is the principal decision-making body for regular political consultations and for governing the day-to-day operational work of the OSCE between meetings of the Ministerial Council. In 2013, the Council was chaired by Ukraine's Ambassador to the Organization, Ihor Prokopchuk, and it met 42 times. Many guest speakers were invited to address the Council, including the Foreign Ministers of Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Switzerland, Serbia and Georgia; the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly; the Executive Secretary of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Secretaries General of the Council of Europe, the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development (GUAM), Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the Regional Cooperation Council, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States and the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-Speaking Countries.

On 17 January, the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office addressed the Council and announced the Chair's priorities for 2013. These particularly emphasized progress on resolving protracted conflicts; pursuing the Helsinki+40 process; combating human trafficking; improving the environmental footprint of energy-related activities; and promoting the implementation of the Organization's human dimension commitments.

The three Permanent Council committees – on the politico-military, economic and environmental, and human dimensions – produced substantial work in 2013, as did the informal Helsinki+40 Working Group and the informal working groups on elaborating the Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings; on cyber security; on the OSCE Office in Baku; and on the OSCE Legal Framework. All these efforts, together with the work done by the many other OSCE bodies, helped shape the debates and decisions adopted by the Permanent Council in 2013, and eventually by the Kyiv Ministerial Council.

The Permanent Council adopted 41 decisions under the Ukrainian Chairmanship. Some stand out in particular, namely those that:

- adopt the Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings;
- send an election support team to Afghanistan in 2014; and
- establish an initial set of confidence-building measures on cyber and information and communications technology security.

The Permanent Council also recommended to the Ministerial Council the mandate extension of the Representative on Freedom of the Media and the appointment of the new High Commissioner on National Minorities.

The Permanent Council, jointly with the Forum for Security Co-operation, held a special meeting on 9 October devoted to the evolving situation in Afghanistan and the OSCE's co-operation with this country after the withdrawal of the international forces in 2014.

PERMANENT COUNCIL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON APPOINTMENTS

- **Ambassador Tacan Ildem**
Chair of the Security Committee
- **Ambassador Ol'ga Algayerova**
Chair of the Economic and Environmental Committee
- **Ambassador Vuk Zagic**
Chair of the Human Dimension Committee

PERMANENT COUNCIL GUEST SPEAKERS DURING 2013

17 January	Opening address by the Chairperson-in-Office	10 October	Georgia's Foreign Minister, Maia Panjikidze
31 January	Chairpersons of the Security Committee, the Economic and Environmental Committee, and the Human Dimension Committee, Tacan Ildem, Ol'ga Algayerova and Vuk Zugic	24 October	Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Thorbjorn Jagland
14 February	Secretary General of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Victor Tvircun	31 October	President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Ranko Krivokapic
14 March	Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister, Aleksey Meshkov , and Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, Janez Lenarcic	7 November	Personal Representatives of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination, Tetiana Izhevskva, Senator Adil Akhmetov and Rabbi Andrew Baker
11 April	European Union Special Representative for Central Asia, Patricia Flor	14 November	Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the Minsk Conference, Andrzej Kasprzyk ; the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Group, James Warlick, Igor Popov and Jacques Faure ; as well as the Co-Chairs of the Geneva International Discussions, Andrii Deshchytsia, Antti Turunen and Philippe Lefort
18 April	Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Director-General of the United Nations Office in Vienna, Yury Fedotov	28 November	OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Dunja Mijatovic
2 May	Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council, Goran Svilanovic	12 December	Incoming OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, Astrid Tors , and the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Gender Issues , June Zeitlin
14 May	Azerbaijan's Foreign Minister, Elmar Mammadyarov	19 December	Secretary General of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States, Halil Akinci , and the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries, Jandos Asanov
30 May	Secretary General of GUAM, Valeri Chechelashvili		
6 June	Armenia's Foreign Minister, Edward Nalbandian		
13 June	OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Dunja Mijatovic		
27 June	Executive Secretary of the Commonwealth of Independent States, Sergei Lebedev		
2 July	Switzerland's Foreign Minister, Didier Burkhalter , and Serbia's Foreign Minister, Ivan Mrkic		
11 July	Outgoing OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, Knut Vollebaek		
18 July	Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, Dmitry Mezentsev		
5 September	Chairpersons of the Security Committee, the Economic and Environmental Committee, and the Human Dimension Committee, Tacan Ildem, Ol'ga Algayerova and Vuk Zugic		

FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION

The Forum is one of the OSCE's key decision-making bodies on military aspects of security. Its participants meet weekly in Vienna to discuss such issues as arms control and confidence- and security-building measures.



Forum for Security Co-operation

www.osce.org/fsc

HIGHLIGHTS

Made progress on two key issues at Ministerial Council

Pursued intense work on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

Provided politico-military input into Helsinki+40 process

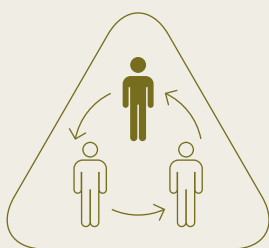
ARMS CONTROL, NON-PROLIFERATION AND HELSINKI+40

2013 saw important developments on several issues. In December, the Forum forwarded a decision to the Kyiv Ministerial Council on small arms, light weapons and conventional ammunition, tasking the Forum to continue and deepen its assistance to participating States for the handling of their arms and ammunition stockpiles. Following intensive negotiations, the Forum also updated the 1994 Principles Governing Non-proliferation at the Ministerial Council.

The OSCE continued to be one of the most active regional actors in the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass

destruction and their means of delivery. A Chair of the 1540 Committee was a guest speaker at one of the Forum's plenary meetings and several other country-specific dialogues were organized in co-ordination with the 1540 Committee and the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs.

A decision taken at the 2012 Ministerial Council invited the Forum to contribute to the Helsinki+40 process. In November, the Luxembourg Chair of the FSC sent a joint report by the three Chairs of the Forum in 2013 – Liechtenstein, Lithuania and Luxembourg – on the FSC's initial activities to implement this decision.



TROIKA

The Forum's Chairmanship rotates three times a year. At each meeting, the Chairmanship sets the agenda and brings attention to relevant issues. The Chairperson is assisted by the incoming and the outgoing Chairperson, who together form the Troika. In 2013, the Chairmanship was held by Liechtenstein, Lithuania and Luxembourg.

DEALING WITH ARMS AND AMMUNITION SURPLUSES

The OSCE Documents on Small Arms and Light Weapons and on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition remained key topics on the FSC’s agenda. The resumption of the work of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons and the appointment of the FSC Chairmanship’s Co-ordinator positively contributed to revitalizing the work of the Forum. The Forum concentrated its attention on the implementation of agreed commitments and on reviewing and further developing norms, measures and principles contained in the relevant OSCE documents to close existing loopholes and to increase their effectiveness.

The OSCE also continued its concrete assistance for participating States on small arms and light weapons and their stockpiles of conventional ammunition. In Georgia, it completed a project to destroy cluster bombs and missiles; in Belarus, Montenegro, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, it continued to work with the UN Development Programme to assist with capacity-building of small arms and light weapons stockpile management and security, as well as with the destruction of surplus arms stockpiles. The Forum also received three new requests for assistance: to help dispose of rocket fuel in Belarus and Kyrgyzstan and to destroy small arms and light weapons in Albania.

TARGETED TALKS

A number of targeted meetings and events deepened the dialogue within the Forum on an array of issues. A special meeting on arms control and confidence- and security-building Measures (CSBMs), as well as several discussions during the regular FSC “Security Dialogue,” included participants from academia and focused on the future of conventional arms control and its role as a major instrument for ensuring military stability, predictability and transparency in the OSCE area.

All three FSC Chairmanships in 2013 continued to work jointly with the Permanent Council on issues relevant to both bodies. To this end, they held a joint meeting in October on Afghan security challenges after 2014.

The Forum also organized several “Security Dialogues” on national, regional and other multilateral contributions to security and stability, providing opportunities to consider conceptual and practical issues, as well as lessons learned and avenues for further interaction.

The 23rd Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting in March discussed present and future implementation of agreed CSBMs and assessed the state of implementation. The Heads of Verification Centres meeting in December served to exchange experiences and information on technical aspects of the Vienna Document 2011. The FSC also contributed to the OSCE Annual Security Review Conference in June.

The Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security remained critically important for the FSC’s work in 2013. The second Annual Implementation Discussion in July provided a unique opportunity to discuss how to promote and improve the implementation of the Code and to examine its application in the context of the existing political and military situation. The Forum invited ODIHR to participate in two “Security Dialogue” discussions, focusing on the protection of human rights of armed forces personnel. On another occasion, the Forum discussed the issue of private military and security companies. In September, it held an outreach seminar for the Mediterranean region in Malta, where the newly available Arabic translation of the Code of Conduct was shared.

The Forum continued to examine ways in which it can help implement UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security in the OSCE region.

REMOVAL OF MELANGE, ARMS AND AMMUNITION CONTINUES

Since the signing of two documents on the regulation of small arms and the control on conventional ammunition, the OSCE has been involved in more than 40 projects in 17 different countries. It has helped clear mines from hundreds of hectares of land and destroyed hundreds of explosives and weapons. The most extensive initiative to date: the removal of “mélange,” a toxic and highly combustible liquid rocket fuel component, from many States’ territories.

MELANGE DESTROYED

Albania	30 tonnes
Armenia	873 tonnes
Montenegro	120 tonnes
Kazakhstan	410 tonnes
Ukraine (on-going)	14,945 of a total planned 15,660

PLANNED FOR 2014

(Melange and other rocket fuel components)

Belarus	c. 708 tonnes
Bulgaria	c. 1,060 tonnes
Kyrgyzstan	c. 110 tonnes

A photograph of a large assembly hall during an OSCE Parliamentary Assembly session. Numerous parliamentarians are seated at long desks, many holding up red cards. In the foreground, a man in a dark suit is seen from the back, holding a red card. The desks are equipped with microphones, water bottles, and nameplates. One nameplate clearly shows the word 'CANAL'. In the background, a row of national flags is visible on the left side of the stage area.

OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

The Parliamentary Assembly brings together 323 parliamentarians from across the 57-nation OSCE region. It provides a forum for dialogue, leads election observation missions, and strengthens international co-operation to uphold commitments on political, security, economic, environmental and human rights issues. Its Secretariat is based in Copenhagen.

OSCE Parliamentary Assembly*

Secretary General: **Spencer Oliver**

Budget: € 2,996,000

Staff: 18 full-time employees & 8 research fellows

www.oscepa.org

The OSCE's 1999 Istanbul Summit Document declared the Parliamentary Assembly "one of the most important OSCE institutions, continuously providing new ideas and proposals" and "a key component in our efforts to promote democracy, prosperity and increased confidence within and between participating States." Nearly 15 years later, in 2013, the Assembly strengthened its role as both the democratic foundation of the OSCE and a model for aspiring democracies. Through its core work of parliamentary dialogue and election observation, the Assembly took on an ambitious agenda in a year that featured its largest Annual Session in nearly a decade.

PARLIAMENTARY DIPLOMACY

22ND ANNUAL SESSION, ISTANBUL, 29 JUNE – 3 JULY

In providing a forum for debate and adopting decisions through majority voting, the Parliamentary Assembly is the only OSCE institution that exists today as was envisioned in the 1990 Charter of Paris.

Held under the theme "Helsinki+40," the 2013 Session in Istanbul saw parliamentarians push for redoubled efforts by participating States to meet their OSCE commitments as the Organization prepares to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act in 2015. The Istanbul Declaration adopted by the elected parliamentarians contained wide-ranging recommendations on human rights, democracy, the environment, arms control and humanitarian questions. Twenty-three supplementary resolutions were approved on a broad array of important issues.

Parliamentarians also issued a decisive call for institutional reform: A resolution by senior Parliamentarian Francois-Xavier de Donnea (Belgium) recommended parliamentary oversight of the OSCE Secretariat's budget and advocated increased transparency in its work. The Assembly built on its own record of fiscal transparency in 2013 and has received a clean assessment from outside, independent, professional auditors for more than 20 years in a row.

Ranko Krivokapic, the speaker of the Montenegrin Parliament, was elected to become the Parliamentary Assembly's first

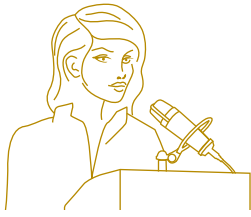
president from South-eastern Europe. Six new vice-presidents were also elected, as was new leadership for the Assembly's three general committees. Makis Voridis (Greece) was chosen to chair the Committee on Political Affairs and Security; Roza Aknazarova (Kyrgyzstan) was elected to head the Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment; and Isabel Santos (Portugal) was elected chair of the Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions.

"As parliamentarians, we have contact with real life, with real issues. We have a sense of what people are thinking and what they are hoping for the future. Let us use that advantage and be an organization of leaders, not followers."

Ranko Krivokapic, Parliamentary Assembly President

Turkey's foreign minister, the speaker of the Turkish Parliament and the OSCE Chairman-in-Office addressed the Assembly, which was attended by the largest number of participants in nearly a decade.

* This text was provided to the OSCE Secretariat by the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.



1,812 PEOPLE
ATTENDED
AN OSCE PARLIAMENTARY
ASSEMBLY CONFERENCE OR
MEETING IN 2013

+20% PARTICIPATION
IN THE
ASSEMBLY'S ANNUAL SESSION
INCREASED BY NEARLY 20%
OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS



IN 2013, THE OSCE PA ELECTED A PRESIDENT FROM
SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE FOR THE FIRST TIME

AUTUMN MEETING, BUDVA, 13 – 15 OCTOBER

Nearly 200 parliamentarians met in Montenegro for the Autumn Meeting. They addressed the role of the OSCE in countering transnational threats and protecting human rights, focusing on terrorism, the economic crisis and social integration, respectively. The agenda also featured meetings of the Bureau and Standing Committee and a Mediterranean Forum, where President Krivokapic called for parliamentarians to ensure that the Helsinki+40 process incorporates a strong Mediterranean component.

impact on the OSCE region. The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Special Representative for Mediterranean Affairs, Alcee Hastings (USA), and Marcela Villarreal from the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization addressed the parliamentarians on the situation. Meetings and debates in the Assembly's three General Committees were also held, while the Standing Committee focused on the Assembly's effort to improve co-operation with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) on election monitoring. Representatives of the NGOs Freedom House and Reporters Without Borders addressed the Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions on continuing regional concerns.



Secretary General Spencer Oliver (l) and President Ranko Krivokapic at the 2013 Autumn Meeting.

ELECTION OBSERVATION

The Assembly provided political leadership for seven election observation missions in 2013, sending teams to Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. In the year's largest mission, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's Special Representative on the South Caucasus, Joao Soares (Portugal), and Vice-President Ilkka Kanerva (Finland) led a delegation of 66 parliamentary observers from 25 countries to observe Georgia's October presidential election. The missions to Georgia and Azerbaijan also demonstrated restored co-operation and mutual support between the Assembly and ODIHR.



Special Representative Joao Soares (r) and Vice-President Ilkka Kanerva during an election observation mission in Georgia.

MAKING AN IMPACT

The Assembly's leadership translated into real results in 2013. A prime example came in June, when Ukraine's aviation sector staff became the first civil employees in Europe to receive training to identify potential victims of human trafficking. Spearheaded by the Assembly's Special Representative on Human Trafficking Issues, Christopher Smith (USA), and in conjunction with the transportation industry and NGOs, the initiative is part of a plan to increase global co-operation in the fight against trafficking. Advocates say the training programmes, if implemented widely, have the potential to save thousands of people from modern-day slavery.

WINTER MEETING, VIENNA, 21 – 22 FEBRUARY

More than 200 parliamentarians gathered in Vienna for the annual Winter Meeting, which featured a special debate on the situation in Syria, the Sahel and North Africa and its

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osce SECURITYDAYS

17-18 June 2013

SECRETARIAT

Budget: €39,269,700

Staff: 386

www.osce.org/secretariat

The OSCE Secretariat, led by the Secretary General and located in Vienna, is responsible for the implementation of political decisions and supports the process of political dialogue and negotiation among the 57 participating States. It also provides operational support and works closely with the country that holds the Chairmanship.

In 2013, the Secretariat continued its political and operational support role. Working closely with the Ukrainian Chairmanship, it helped implement political decisions and made sure that the Organization's activities remained consistent, coherent and co-ordinated across all dimensions and throughout all OSCE executive structures.

THE SECRETARIAT CONSISTS OF:

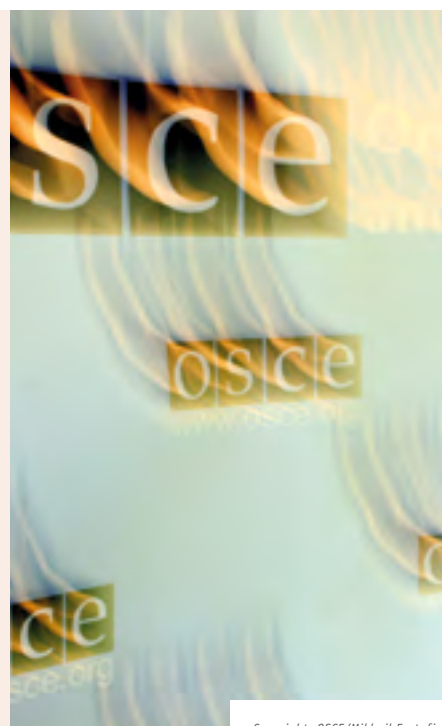
- Executive management
- Communication and outreach section
- Legal services
- Gender section
- Security management
- Office of internal oversight
- Department of human resources
- Department of management and finance
- Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings
- Transnational Threats Department
- Conflict Prevention Centre
- Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
- Section for external co-operation, in charge of the OSCE's partnerships

OSCE SECURITY DAYS

OSCE Security Days events foster informal dialogue among participating States and introduce fresh ideas and approaches into the Helsinki+40 process. These highly interactive conferences enable the OSCE delegations to engage in a free-flowing debate on contemporary security challenges with policy-makers, academic experts, leaders from civil society, youth and media, and representatives of international, regional and sub-regional organizations. OSCE Security Days bring attention to the Organization's comprehensive approach to security. They raise awareness of its work and the contributions it can make to enhancing security and stability in the OSCE region and beyond.

In 2013, OSCE Security Days were devoted to:

- Developing a new approach to conventional arms control (4 March)
- International community engagement with Afghanistan and Central Asian States – Challenges, synergies, possible responses and the OSCE role (12 March)
- The OSCE in the 21st Century (17-18 June)
- Promoting lasting solutions – Approaches to conflict resolution in the OSCE area (16 September).



Copyright: OSCE/Mikhail Eustafiev

Strengthening gender equality

Senior Adviser on Gender Issues: **Ambassador Miroslava Beham**

Budget: € 359,000

www.osce.org/secretariat/gender

Full and equal exercise by women of their human rights is essential to achieving a more peaceful, secure and democratic OSCE area. The Gender Section assists, promotes and monitors the implementation of the OSCE's commitments on gender equality.

STARTING NEW INITIATIVES

In 2013, the Gender Section undertook a number of initiatives to strengthen understanding of how gender equality is fundamental to achieving comprehensive security. Throughout the year, it focused on gender, peace and security, gender-based violence and capacity building for women through mentoring networks. Outreach on gender, peace and security successfully led to 35 participating States providing voluntary responses on this issue, under the Annual Information Exchange on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Affairs.

In Istanbul, the Section also launched a Guidance Note on Gender Responsive Mediation Processes and presented the work of the OSCE on mediation and gender at the UN Security Council Annual Open Debate on Resolution 1325 in New York, in October. A conference on the implementation of this resolution in the OSCE region was co-organized with UN Women in Almaty in November and has led to the beginnings of cross-regional co-operation to be further pursued in 2014.



White Ribbon Awards for outstanding contributions to OSCE efforts in promoting gender equality.

Engaging men on gender and comprehensive security remains a priority for the Gender Section. In December, the OSCE Secretary General awarded white ribbons to six male leaders within the Organization who promoted these issues actively and were involved with the OSCE MenEngage Network.

Support to the field operations on building the capacity and skills required to successfully mainstream gender into policies

and programmes remained a focus during 2013, with five field operations receiving targeted training. The Section continued to work with a number of other organizations, including the UN Department of Political Affairs, UNDP and the Council of Europe, and a large number of participating States. The goal is promoting the implementation of OSCE commitments in preparation for the 10th anniversary of the Organization's Gender Action Plan in 2014.

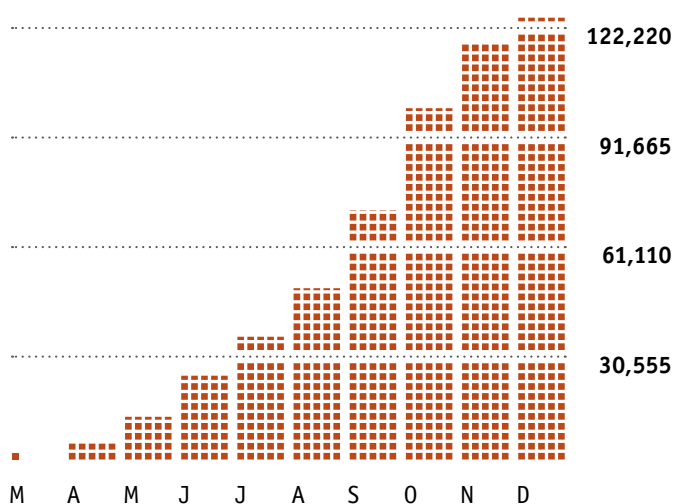
STRENGTHENING THE OSCE'S PROFESSIONAL WORKING ENVIRONMENT

- Improved process for handling disciplinary measures
- Better and clearer staff instructions
- New policy to protect against retaliation
- New online website and training on ethics
- New staff guide to address work-related concerns
- New modular training course on supervisory skills
- Leadership and management training
- Extensive staff training on performance management
- Broader outreach through social media
- More rigorous screening procedure

NEW TRAVEL SYSTEM RESULTS IN SAVINGS

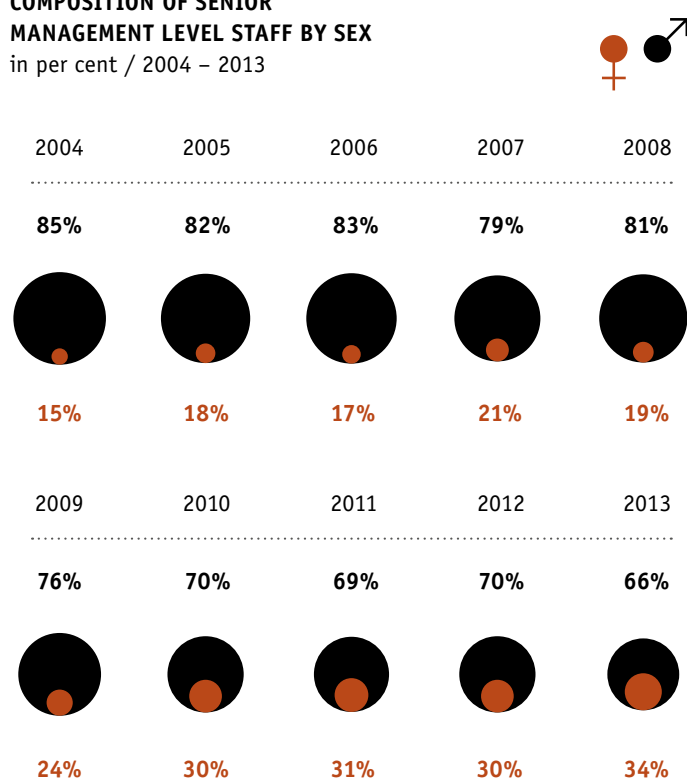
in € / March – December 2013

Gradual adoption of a new online self-booking tool resulted in significant savings compared to the fees of travel agent assisted bookings.



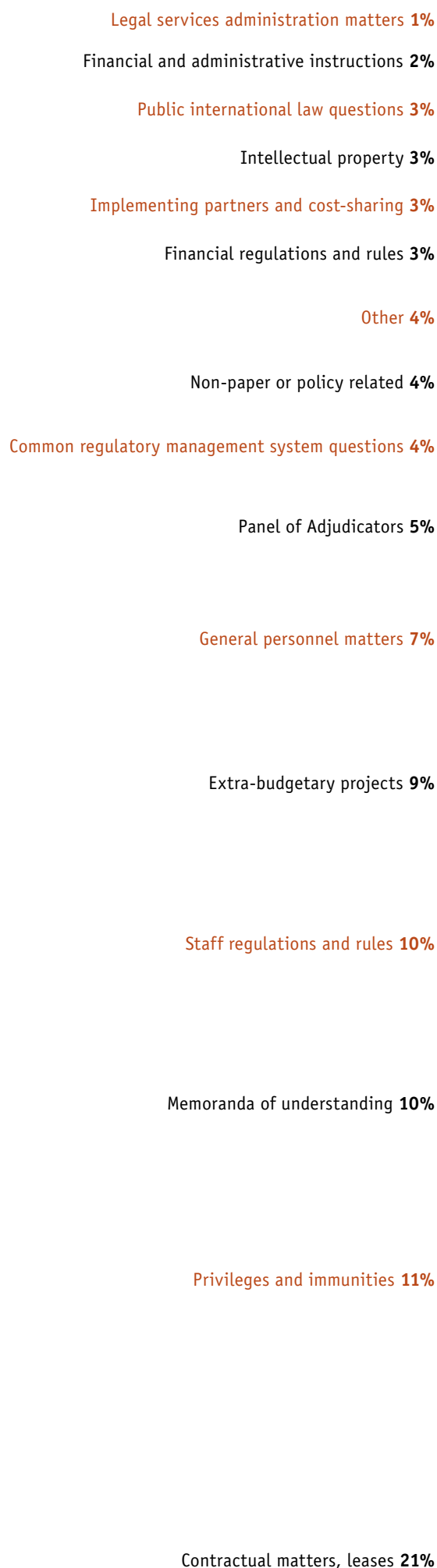
COMPOSITION OF SENIOR MANAGEMENT LEVEL STAFF BY SEX

in per cent / 2004 – 2013



LEGAL SERVICES DELIVERED

in per cent



Tackling economic and environmental challenges

Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities: **Dr. Halil Yurdakul Yigitgüden**

Budget: € 1,919,400

www.osce.org/secretariat/economic

www.osce.org/secretariat/environmental

The overarching objective of the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities is to strengthen security and stability by promoting international co-operation on economic and environmental issues. These include such themes as: good governance; transport; migration management; water management; climate change; hazardous waste; environmental governance and energy.

2013 witnessed the 10th anniversary of two building blocks of the Office's environmental engagement: the Environment and Security Initiative, ENVSEC, a co-operation among OSCE, UNDP, UNEP, UNECE and the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe, with NATO as associate partner; and the network of currently 50 centres that help OSCE participating States implement the Aarhus Convention, a key legal instrument on public participation in environmental decision-making.

THE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM CYCLE

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY ON THE AGENDA

Energy security and environmental aspects of energy-related activities were among the main priorities of the Ukrainian Chairmanship. Reflecting this, the 21st Economic and Environmental Forum focused on "Increasing stability and security: Improving the environmental footprint of energy-related activities in the OSCE region." The Forum cycle, consisting of three meetings, organized by the Office together with the Chairmanship, assessed this topic from various angles:

- The first meeting in Vienna analysed the impact of various energy sources on the environment.
- The second in Kyiv looked at the opportunities presented by renewable and sustainable energy.
- The concluding meeting held in Prague discussed such issues as the policy and regulatory frameworks; international co-operation to prevent adverse environmental impacts; and

reinforcing environmental good governance in planning, financing and implementation.

ENERGY IN CENTRAL ASIA

Under the auspices of the Ukrainian Chairmanship and Turkmenistan's Government, a high-level international conference on energy security and sustainability in Ashgabat in October (see also p. 14) continued the discussions begun at the Economic and Environmental Forum. It focused on conditions for developing the energy sector; regional energy co-operation, security and reliability of energy transport and energy infrastructure; and sustainable energy solutions, renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Earlier that month in Tashkent, Uzbekistan a regional workshop on sharing best practices to promote renewable energy brought together experts from all five Central Asian countries to hear from European counterparts about



FAST GROWTH: 10 YEARS OF OSCE-SUPPORTED AARHUS CENTRES

www.osce.org/secretariat/89067

An impressive number of Aarhus Centres have sprouted in the OSCE region over the last decade: nearly 50 of these offices now serve as key awareness raising hubs for the public to learn about their rights under the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, also known as the Aarhus Convention.

This network of centres gave the Convention a strong impetus in 13 OSCE countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

“The Aarhus Centres open up channels of communication between citizens and governments, and build and cement the relationship of trust among them.”

Dr. Yigitgüden, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, at the anniversary conference in Vienna in July

They not only promote the Convention’s principles but help citizens gain access to information about the environment and get them involved in any decision-making process that impacts on environmental issues, for instance by organizing public hearings and on-site visits, and assisting with access to legal means if necessary.

SAME AGE, DIFFERENT GOAL: THE ENVSEC INITIATIVE

www.envsec.org

The Aarhus Centres’ big year was directly linked to another anniversary: that of the Environment and Security aka ENVSEC Initiative. It helps finance the Aarhus network, but is involved in a great deal more: working with some 30 partner countries and more than 100 partners, it helped implement a total of 150 projects that have an impact on environment and security.

Publication: Transforming risks into co-operation

<http://bit.ly/Myad4P>

ENVSEC projects cover a wide range of activities: from cross-border management of the Dniester and the Drin river basins to hazardous uranium waste management in Kyrgyzstan. And the Initiative can point to concrete progress, whether in establishing joint monitoring and early warning systems or creating environmental protection areas across national borders.

experiences on sustainable energy and related environmental aspects.

BRINGING IN THE PARTNERS

In April, an expert workshop on sustainable energy issues in the Southern Mediterranean organized by the Office explored and identified potential areas for co-operation, involving governmental officials and representatives of the private sector and multilateral financial institutions.

THE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL DECIDES

The extensive discussions on energy over the year clearly signalled broad support to expand the Organization’s mandate in this area and led to the adoption of two key decisions at the Ministerial Council in Kyiv, on:

- Improving the environmental footprint of energy-related activities in the OSCE region
- Protection of energy networks from natural and man-made disasters

STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE

Working with participating States in Central Asia and South-eastern Europe, the Office held several events to promote best practices on customs and trade issues, with the goal to improve regional cross-border economic activity by creating more efficient border crossing points. These events were based on a joint OSCE-UNECE handbook, published in February 2012, that provides a concrete tool for capacity-building in this area.

The Office also organized several events to assist OSCE States in countering money-laundering and terrorist financing. It focused on supporting national efforts to develop action plans or hold risk assessment exercises. In October, it published a handbook on data collection on this issue, a publication financed by the 2012 Irish OSCE Chairmanship and now regularly used for training.



Energy and environment were high up on the OSCE’s agenda in 2013
Copyright: Mihalis Konstantinidis

Combating trafficking in human beings

Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

Special Representative and Co-ordinator: **Maria Grazia Giammarinaro**

Budget: € 894,000

www.osce.org/secretariat/trafficking

The Special Representative and the Office help participating States develop and implement effective policies to fight human trafficking. A central document defining the OSCE's activities in this area is the Action Plan, endorsed by the Ministerial Council in Maastricht in 2003. The Kyiv Ministerial Council adopted an addendum to mark the Action Plan's 10th anniversary that broadens the scope of OSCE commitments to cover all forms of human trafficking, such as forced and organized begging, forced criminality, domestic servitude, human trafficking for the removal of organs, trafficking facilitated by the use of the Internet; and any trafficking involving the exploitation of children.

HIGHLIGHTS

Held high-level conference on victim compensation

Issued three key publications for lawmakers

Undertook four country visits, issued three new country reports

STOLEN LIVES, STOLEN MONEY

Video interview: <http://bit.ly/1ib4mg4>

With over 350 participants, the 13th conference organized by the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons in June was the most significant event for the OSCE's anti-trafficking activities in 2013. "Stolen Lives, Stolen Money: The Price of Modern-Day Slavery," the title of the event, indicated clearly the topic that the attendees came to discuss: the costs of human trafficking. In policy terms, these meant the economic, social and political price paid in terms of human rights violations, and of the erosion of healthy and legitimate businesses and the rule of law. In concrete terms, it underscored the importance of promoting the possibility of obtaining compensation for victims.

"We are dealing with a dangerous industry that generates more than \$30 billion in profits each year. The profits are earned at an inexcusable price: namely stolen and destroyed lives."

Jan Eliasson, UN Deputy Secretary-General

Every year, the Alliance meets to exchange experiences and good practices, and to move forward in implementing OSCE anti-trafficking commitments. The event in 2013 had a particularly high profile due to its high-level participants, which included UN Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson and Sergey Lebedev, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

GATHERING KNOWLEDGE AND ANALYSES

Three specific problem areas were examined by individual publications issued by the Special Representative in 2013:

- a paper for legal experts and lawmakers focuses on the principle of non-punishment in international law, clarifying the obligation of law enforcement authorities to recognize that trafficked people are victims, who should not be criminalized or punished for unlawful activities they are forced to commit by their traffickers;
- a study on trafficking and torture that invokes analogies between the suffering of trafficking and torture victims and spells out the legal and clinical implications, as well as entitlements and state obligations, that flow from this characterization. This paper was published together with the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights in Vienna and the UK-based Helen Bamber Foundation; and
- a report on trafficking in persons for the purpose of removing organs, mainly for lawmakers, NGOs, the judiciary and medical professionals. Albeit still a small aspect of human trafficking, it is expected that it will become a larger problem. The paper looks at the scale, nature and scope of this organized crime and provides concrete recommendations and guidance on how to strengthen the legislative framework, increase prosecutions, and to improve victim assistance and victims' access to effective remedies.

Special Representative's keynote address at the Global Online Conference on Countering Child Trafficking

<http://bit.ly/1d0xvsa>
<http://counterchildtrafficking.org>



Maria Grazia Giammarinaro at Italy's Chamber of Deputies in Rome in July

Copyright: Umberto Battaglia/Italian Chamber of Deputies

PURSUING THE DIALOGUE: ON SITE VISITS

The Special Representative made visits to four countries in 2013: Italy (June and July), Kazakhstan (July), Romania (September) and Uzbekistan (November). These visits typically serve to establish and strengthen a direct and constructive dialogue with participating States on anti-trafficking policy and measures, and to share knowledge and good practices. In all four countries, the Special Representative met government authorities, parliamentarians, members of the judiciary and representatives of civil society.

She also issued the country reports of earlier visits to Ireland, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Portugal. Throughout 2013, the Special Representative followed up on visits with participating States. Such follow up can take the form of law and policy amendments; the development or review of national action plans and other policy guidance on anti-trafficking; invitations to participate in national anti-trafficking events and the active involvement of national actors in OSCE initiatives.

www.osce.org/secretariat/75804

WIDENING THE DIALOGUE

In February, the Special Representative's Office organized a high-level seminar in Rome on human trafficking prevention in the Mediterranean region. The event, held with the Italian Chamber of Deputies, attracted over 100 participants from the OSCE region and all six of the Organization's Mediterranean Partners. A central theme discussed there was the need to ensure that migrant workers are able to access their rights, remedies and justice, regardless of whether they are in a country on a regular or irregular basis. Many speakers stressed that a broader area of exploitation ought to be addressed than is currently the case. The seminar ended with a general agreement to continue the dialogue and discuss joint activities in such areas as the access to justice and the compensation for exploited and trafficked persons.

ADDRESSING HUMAN TRAFFICKING FOR DOMESTIC SERVITUDE

Work continued with the diplomatic and consular community to address the issue of domestic servitude in embassies and diplomatic households. The Office of the Special Representative, which has taken leadership on the issue, organized a workshop in Ukraine in June and in The Hague in October to continue to raise awareness and strengthen the protection of domestic servants who work in diplomatic households. In 2010, the Special Representative's Office had published a first study on the issue, entitled "Unprotected Work, Invisible Exploitation: Trafficking for the Purpose of Domestic Servitude."

www.osce.org/secretariat/107218

Combating transnational threats

Director of the OSCE's Transnational Threats Department: **Alexey Lyzhenkov**

Budget: € 2,279,500

www.osce.org/secretariat/terrorism

www.osce.org/secretariat/policing

www.osce.org/secretariat/borders

Modern security threats are not confined to one country or region. They are transnational in character and require a co-ordinated international response. The OSCE's Transnational Threats Department, created in 2012, does just that: working on threats that impact on the entire Organization. Its activities include anti-terrorism work, policing, combating illicit drug trafficking, border security and management and new initiatives to enhance cyber/ICT security. A Ministerial Council declaration in December further reinforced the Organization's involvement in this area.

HIGHLIGHTS

Countering terrorist radicalization

Held international conference on online drug trade

Linked up Afghan and Central Asian border officials

CLOSER LOOK AT A VICIOUS CIRCLE

Violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism is an area of growing concern. The OSCE continued to increase its efforts in this field, working together with other international organizations. It explored in particular how to encourage collaboration between state authorities and civil society and the need to protect and promote human rights. A series of national seminars, begun in 2012, continued in 2013, providing platforms to raise awareness of and promote dialogue on these issues. The Transnational Threats Department and ODIHR also prepared a guidebook, to be published in early 2014, that analyses the possible role of police-public partnerships as part of a comprehensive and human-rights-compliant approach to preventing terrorism.

DISRUPTING THE NETWORK OF ONLINE DRUGS TRADE

In July, the Department organized, together with the Ukrainian Chairmanship and UNODC, an OSCE-wide conference on the fight against Internet-based drug trafficking. Over 100 participants from the public and private sector focused on modern technologies and communication tools used by drug dealers to deliver their narcotics, and on how to strengthen national responses and co-operation in the OSCE region to tackle this challenge.

PROMOTING CO-OPERATION

IN BORDER SECURITY AND MANAGEMENT

To foster co-operation between border security and management officials from across the OSCE area, the Border Security and Management National Focal Points Network was utilized for expert discussions on countering trafficking in human beings and gender mainstreaming in border security and management. A series of workshops to promote new technologies in the area of tracing illicit small arms and light weapons were held together with Interpol and UNODC. A first workshop on Border Security and Management for Women Leaders was delivered in partnership with the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe. Specific to the Central Asian region, several seminars were held to promote dialogue and foster co-operation in border delimitation and demarcation, and a regional project was implemented to strengthen bilateral and regional co-operation with Afghanistan's border security and management services.

A Self-Assessment Tool for Nations to Increase Preparedness for Cross-Border Implications of Crises was developed and published and an anti-corruption training manual for Moldovan and Ukrainian border security and management agencies was prepared, together with the EU Border Assistance Mission to Ukraine and Moldova.

VIRTUAL THREATS, REAL CONFIDENCE

The OSCE developed an initial set of confidence-building measures to reduce the risks of conflict stemming from the use of information and communication technologies. These measures are a significant show of goodwill among participating States for increased co-operation and exchange of information to reduce the risks of misperception, escalation and conflict that may result from the use of such advanced technologies.

STRENGTHENING TRAVEL DOCUMENT SECURITY

Identity deceptions are a growing concern related to passport applications. This is but one of the many threats that the OSCE Travel Document Security Programme is addressing. In 2013 this included an expert roundtable meeting that focused on linking travel document issuance systems with civil registration.

DEEPENING THE DIALOGUE ON COUNTER TERRORISM

Several important counter-terrorism events took place in 2013. In September, the Department, together with UNODC, held an expert workshop on the use of legal anti-terrorism instruments to enhance co-operation in the Mediterranean region. In October, an OSCE-wide conference in Kyiv brought together representatives from more than 30 participating States and Partners for Co-operation to discuss latest concerns and policy options regarding terrorist radicalization, public-private partnerships, law-enforcement co-operation and the protection of human rights in the fight against terrorism.

COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM REFORM

In July, the Department published a guidebook on Police Reform within the Framework of Criminal Justice System Reform. It provides a compilation of good practices from the OSCE area in applying a holistic approach to police reform. It details reform steps to improve the collaboration of the police with other criminal justice institutions, non-state security and justice providers and civil society to make the entire criminal justice process more effective and efficient.

OSCE RESOURCE POLICE TRAINING GUIDE

In July, the Department published the OSCE Resource Police Training Guide: Trafficking in Human Beings. It serves as a minimum standard for the development of police activities to address human trafficking and can be used to amend existing police training curricula and training manuals in the OSCE participating States. The Guide introduces the Organization's cross-dimensional approach to human trafficking, reflects on new trends and emerging forms of this crime and highlights effective law enforcement responses.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS SUPPORT

OSCE's POLIS system is the Organization's on-line repository for all activities in the field of transnational threats. The system acts as a collaboration platform and allows for the sharing of relevant information.

In addition to providing online support for a variety of related projects, the Department continued to upload relevant materials from OSCE executive structures and field operations.



Identity deceptions are a growing concern related to passport applications.
International Civil Aviation Organization

Preventing and resolving conflict

Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre: **Ambassador Adam Kobieracki**

Budget: €3,473,100

www.osce.org/secretariat/conflict-prevention

Conflict prevention and helping find lasting political settlements for existing conflicts has been a core element of the OSCE's activities since the 1990s. The Organization's key instrument for this – the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) – addresses elements of the conflict cycle, interfaces between Vienna and the field, and serves as a cornerstone of the OSCE's politico-military dimension.

ENGAGED IN THE FULL CYCLE

The CPC collects, analyzes and assesses early warning signals from various sources. It has created a network of early warning focal points in field operations, institutions and the Secretariat as a tool to better share information and perform an early warning and conflict analysis function. In July, these focal points met and discussed further strengthening the regional aspect of this function.

The CPC provided extensive support to the Ukrainian Chairmanship's Special Representative for the South Caucasus, both in his role as co-Chair of the Geneva International Discussions. These are dealing with the consequences of the August 2008 conflict in Georgia and as co-facilitator of the Ergneti-based Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism.

Working closely with the OSCE Mission to Moldova, the CPC also extensively assisted the Chairmanship's efforts in the Transnistrian settlement process, notably during five rounds of talks in the "5+2" format held in 2013. It helped

the Chairmanship organize a seminar on the history of OSCE mediation efforts in this settlement process and assisted the International Peace Institute in organizing a workshop on international experiences with power-sharing and settlement processes.

To help diplomatic staff improve their negotiation skills in a multilateral environment, the Centre's Central Asia desk organized a workshop with the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna for officials from Central Asia, Mongolia and Afghanistan.

The CPC is building a systematic mediation-support capacity. As part of these efforts, it offers an integrated training programme for OSCE mediators and support staff. This included the first OSCE mediation course, which was held in Oberhofen, Switzerland, in October. The Centre also coached high-level OSCE mediators and debriefed them upon the fulfilment of their assignments.

The CPC completed a package of EU-funded projects that included refurbishing water infrastructure in Zonkari (dam safety), Znauri (potable water) and at the Nikosi pumping station (irrigation). These projects, developed in the framework of the Geneva Discussions, brought concrete improvement to the daily lives of communities on both sides of the administrative boundary line.

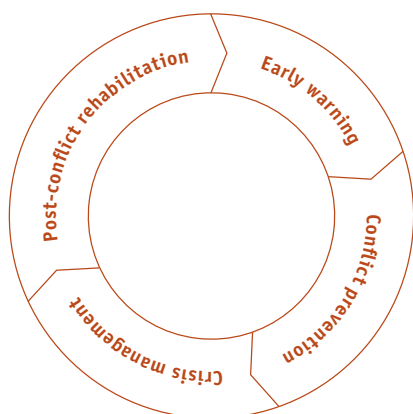


ON STANDBY, 24/7

An organization covering a region with several time zones needs to be alert at all times. The CPC's Situation/Communication Room is just that. It is on duty around the clock and serves as the operational link between OSCE structures.

It pays particular attention to potential emerging crises. In 2013 the SitRoom produced 205 daily and several special briefings, delivered operational assistance and provided a backstopping service in handling emergencies in the field.

CONFLICT CYCLE



CONNECTING VIENNA WITH THE FIELD

The CPC provides political and programmatic support to field operations so that work is performed in accordance with respective mandates and reflects Vienna-based policy. It also promotes regional co-operation, including dialogue with other international organizations.

The EU-led dialogue between Belgrade and Pristina helped prepare the ground for normalization in this part of the region. Both sides invited the OSCE to facilitate municipal elections in four northern Kosovo municipalities in 2013 (see also p. 58). Between June and October, the CPC chaired a series of meetings between the two sides to reach a common understanding on the conduct of the elections and the OSCE's role. The Organization's objective was to ensure that the highest international electoral standards were applied and to help build trust to overcome the heritage of past conflict.

The Programming and Evaluation Support Unit is the Organization's central reference and support point for programme and project management. It assists managers to strategically plan, develop, implement and evaluate their programmatic work.

In 2013, the Unit organized a series of training events:

- project management courses for the Secretariat and the field presences in Moldova and Albania;

- individually tailored courses on evaluation for programme managers in Baku, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ukraine and Serbia;
- courses in the Secretariat on performance-based budgeting, key performance indicators and the OSCE's Integrated Resource Management System.

It also co-ordinated the review of 127 extra-budgetary project proposals, with a total value of €54.8m.

HELPING IMPLEMENT POLITICO-MILITARY COMMITMENTS

Continuing its support for States to implement their commitments on the control of small arms and light weapons, the CPC's Forum for Security Co-operation Support Section held two capacity-building events, on the enforcement of brokering controls and on the tracing of illicit small arms. Progress in small arms and light weapons stockpile security and capacity-building, as well as in destroying surplus weapons, ammunition and other military material, was made in Albania, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine.

- In Georgia, 1,289 cluster bombs and 19 air-to-air missiles belonging to the Moldovan Army – but stored in Georgia since 1992 – were destroyed.
- In Albania, 83 tonnes of hazardous military chemicals were secured and packed to be removed for final disposal.
- In Montenegro, the first 250 tonnes of unstable ammunition, out of a total of 1,340 tonnes, were destroyed.
- In Serbia, 175 tonnes of napalm powder and 1,097 tonnes of white phosphorus ammunition were disposed of.
- In Kazakhstan, a project to dispose of rocket fuel was completed (see p. 76); in Ukraine, 5,000 tonnes were removed. Additional removal initiatives were put forward in Bulgaria, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan.

In Belarus, two small arms and light weapons storage sites received stronger security measures, and in Moldova updated guidelines for small arms, light weapons and ammunition storage were developed. The Section organized "country-specific dialogues" and helped develop national action plans for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. It also co-organized training on the identification of military and dual-use goods for the South-eastern Europe region and held an outreach seminar for the Mediterranean Region in Malta on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security.

WHAT IS THE COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK?

In brief, it is a trusted platform for information exchange between the OSCE participating States. This information is principally related to arms control treaties and agreements. The Network, managed by the CPC, enables the States to share and exchange such information securely, encouraging transparency and openness between them. And its usefulness does not need to be confined to the politico-military sphere: information on cyber-security confidence- and security-building measures could also be exchanged via the Network.

OFFICE FOR DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Director: **Ambassador Janez Lenarcic**

Budget: € 16,039,300

Staff: 152

www.osce.org/odihr

www.facebook.com/osce.odihr

www.twitter.com/osce_odihr

As the primary OSCE institution dealing with issues in the human dimension, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) provides support, assistance and expertise to participating States and civil society to promote the implementation of OSCE commitments in the areas of democracy, rule of law, human rights, and tolerance and non-discrimination.

ELECTIONS

In 2013, ODIHR carried out election observation activities for 19 elections in 18 participating States. It also visited ten participating States to present its observation reports and recommendations to help improve the quality of elections. The Office provided expert opinions on draft and final election legislation and advised participating States on specific aspects of their electoral processes.

To refine its observation methodology, ODIHR published a handbook for the observation of new voting technologies and the second edition of the Guidelines for Reviewing a Legal Framework for Elections. It supported activities organized by participating States to train election observers and maintained an online training programme for short-term observers, launched in 2012. The Office also held

three training sessions for observers from the “Fund for Diversification” countries. Thanks to this fund, ODIHR continues to ensure observers represent a broad geographical area of the OSCE – in 2013, observers were deployed from 48 participating States.

At the request of the Ukrainian Chairmanship, ODIHR published a Review of Electoral Legislation and Practice to strengthen the implementation of commitments undertaken by the participating States. The review covered 63 electoral processes in 47 participating States. At its presentation in Vienna in October, the review generated constructive discussions among participating States on how electoral processes can be brought closer into line with OSCE commitments.

ELECTION OBSERVATIONS IN 2013

www.osce.org/odihr/89150

**11-12 JANUARY 2013
CZECH REPUBLIC**

Presidential elections

**18 FEBRUARY 2013
ARMENIA**

Presidential elections

**10 FEBRUARY 2013
MONACO**

Parliamentary elections

**9 MARCH 2013
MALTA**

Parliamentary elections

HUMAN RIGHTS

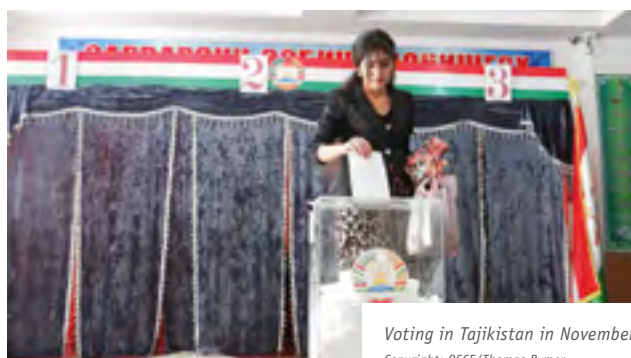
Continuing its freedom of assembly monitoring work, the Office observed assemblies in Greece, Montenegro and Portugal. In July and August, an ODIHR delegation visited the United States and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, on an assessment visit to gather information about proceedings before military commissions at Guantanamo, and on other human rights issues surrounding the detention of individuals there.

ODIHR began drafting guidelines on the protection of human rights defenders, to be issued in 2014. Consultations on this issue involved human rights defenders, as well as international organizations active in this field.

Together with the OSCE's Transnational Threats Department, the Office published a manual for law enforcement officials on how to protect human rights in counter-terrorism investigations; it also produced guidelines on human rights education for health workers and human rights activists.

In November, ODIHR hosted a strategic planning meeting of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions, the outcome of which will inform future action by the Network at the regional level. The Office also launched its Human Rights Discussion Series for representatives of the Forum for Security Co-operation with two expert meetings – on women's access to combat positions in the armed forces and on the role of ombudsperson institutions in protecting the human rights of armed forces personnel.

In multiple events for law enforcement officers, prosecutors and lawyers, ODIHR continued its anti-human trafficking project in participating States throughout Central Asia. Participants exchanged their experiences on human rights protection and discussed how to better provide legal assistance to trafficking victims.



*Voting in Tajikistan in November
Copyright: OSCE/Thomas Rymer*

SMALL STEPS, BIG IMPACT

From new wells in Albania to better sewage systems in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 20 projects funded by small grants significantly improved the lives of Roma in the Western Balkans in 2013. Although each project's funding was limited to 5,000 Euros, more than 10,000 Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians in 20 selected municipalities saw an immediate impact of the projects on their quality of life and access to rights.

The grants were provided by BPRI, the Best Practices for Roma Integration project, a regional initiative funded by the European Union, supported by OSCE participating States and implemented by ODIHR. It supports innovative programmes to increase Roma participation in political and public life and decision-making, helping to combat discrimination and contribute to better living conditions.

www.bpri-odihr.org

"These small grants helped local communities to address specific challenges of great local importance," said Mimoza Murati, an expert from Kosovo, tasked by BPRI with monitoring the local projects. "Roma communities in all jurisdictions felt they were tackling a range of fundamental local issues, such as lack of appropriate infrastructure, social isolation, education and health-related concerns."

BPRI supported a variety of projects: providing Roma settlements with infrastructure, giving help to a local Roma radio station, or assisting Roma pupils with their integration in schools. One of the programme's most important aspects was the direct involvement of Roma communities. They worked with local municipalities to identify and tackle the problems that needed most urgently to be addressed. This co-operation at all stages has not only raised awareness but also improved the quality of municipal services.

24 MARCH / 7 APRIL 2013
THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA Local elections

27 APRIL 2013
GEORGIA
Parliamentary (by-elections)

12 MAY 2013
BULGARIA
Parliamentary elections (early)

7 APRIL 2013
MONTENEGRO
Presidential elections

27 APRIL 2013
ICELAND
Parliamentary elections

23 JUNE 2013
ALBANIA
Parliamentary elections

Held 10 training sessions and peer-to-peer meetings for 212 law officials on war crimes justice

Trained 130 NGO members and 56 police officers on hate crimes response

Sent 2,073 observers from 48 States to monitor 19 elections

ROMA AND SINTI

Marking 10 years since the adoption of the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti in the OSCE Area, ODIHR launched its second report on the implementation of this plan at the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting in Vienna in November. The report tracks progress made by participating States in promoting Roma and Sinti integration and identifies persisting and recent challenges, including public anti-Roma rhetoric, extremism and racist violence.

At the event, ODIHR also hosted a Roma and Sinti civil society meeting. The participants, which included Roma youth and women, discussed their roles as catalysts for change and offered recommendations for an OSCE decision on Roma and Sinti women, youth and children. This decision was eventually adopted by the OSCE Ministerial Council in Kyiv, in December.

ODIHR began the Roma Youth Initiative, an innovative programme designed to strengthen Roma and Sinti youth participation in their communities. Grassroots activities in Italy, the Czech Republic, Romania and Spain focused on

helping Roma youth stay in school and improve their academic performance, and on giving Roma better access to health care.

To promote knowledge about the genocide of Roma during World War II, ODIHR supported “Dik I Na Bistar” (“Look and Don’t Forget”) an initiative by ternYpe, an International Roma Youth Network. www.ternype.eu

In August, more than 430 young Roma and non-Roma from 18 countries commemorated the genocide at the former Nazi concentration camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau.

In Moldova, the Office continued to help the government implement its national Action Plan for Roma. At a seminar organized by the Bureau for Interethnic Relations and the Prime Minister’s Office, ODIHR trained government officials on monitoring and data collection and on improving co-operation with civil society and the Roma community. Together with the General Police Inspectorate and Roma National Centre, the Office also introduced a translation of a manual on good practices in building trust and understanding between the police and Roma and Sinti.

DEMOCRATIZATION

ODIHR continued to assist participating States in improving the efficiency and transparency of their lawmaking processes, through assessments, workshops and consultative meetings.

As part of its assistance to improve Serbia’s lawmaking and regulatory reform processes, ODIHR worked with the Parliament’s legislative committee and the OSCE Mission to Serbia on a road map for legislative reform. At the request of participating States and field operations, it reviewed draft

legislation to ensure compliance with commitments in the areas of freedom of assembly, political parties, freedom of religion or belief, access to information and gender equality.

It also organized a study tour to Warsaw for 25 parliamentarians and experts from OSCE participating States in South-eastern Europe to promote parliamentary ethics. In addition, the Office presented a study on ethical standards for

26 JUNE 2013
MONGOLIA
Presidential elections

22 SEPTEMBER 2013
GERMANY
Parliamentary elections

9 OCTOBER 2013
AZERBAIJAN
Presidential elections

9 SEPTEMBER 2013
NORWAY
Parliamentary elections

29 SEPTEMBER 2013
AUSTRIA
Parliamentary elections

27 OCTOBER 2013
GEORGIA
Presidential elections

parliamentarians to 75 members of parliament and their staff from five OSCE countries.

The first of its kind in the OSCE region, a new comparative study analyses the functioning of women's parliamentary bodies that promote gender equality and women's representation. The Office presented the study to parliamentarians from Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Serbia and Tunisia, and supported a study tour for 23 Serbian MPs to Finland. It also trained 50 representatives of national human rights institutions from Mongolia, Serbia and Ukraine on strategies to protect and promote women's rights and gender equality.

At the request of the Georgian Government, ODIHR observed 210 hearings in 14 criminal cases involving former high-level government officials. The resulting analysis and recommendations will form part of a report intended to assist

the government in complying with OSCE fair trial standards. At its annual trial monitoring meeting, ODIHR trained 48 civil society members from six OSCE States on professional engagement with their governments, to ensure respect for fair trial rights.

The Office also published a handbook for monitoring administrative justice to further strengthen its trial-monitoring programme. It provides an overview of fair trial rights and practical information on how to establish and run trial monitoring for administrative justice cases.

“As a friend put it: administrative justice is the future of human rights protection.”

Richard Zajac-Sannerholm, Head of Rule of Law Programme, Folke Bernadotte Academy

TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

Building partnerships to devise effective responses to hate crimes remained a guiding principle for ODIHR. As part of its Training against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme, ODIHR trained 24 members of the Association of European Police Colleges from 11 countries. Italian and Montenegrin police authorities became the latest in the OSCE area to sign agreements to implement TAHCLE, in May and August respectively. The Office held training sessions for 110 civil society members on how to respond to hate crimes, including one on crimes against persons with disabilities. To empower people of African descent in responding to hate crimes, ODIHR organized a study tour to Washington, D.C. for representatives from ten countries.

At a high-level conference in Tirana in May, participants reviewed the challenges to implement commitments in promoting and protecting tolerance and non-discrimination focusing on intolerance and discrimination against any person, including racism, xenophobia and aggressive nationalism as well as on intolerance against Christians and

members of other religious communities, anti-Semitism and intolerance against Muslims.

ODIHR, the Ukrainian Chairmanship and the European Council of Religious Leaders together held a roundtable meeting on inter-religious dialogue in promoting freedom of religion or belief. To ensure that a set of guidelines on the recognition of religious or belief communities – a draft document set for publication in 2014 – cover pertinent issues and include examples of good practices, ODIHR held four consultative meetings with a total of 85 experts.

The Office also worked with the Chairmanship on a conference on challenges and good practices in addressing the security needs of Jewish communities. Participants recommended that governments and Jewish communities co-operate closely through dialogue, information-sharing and other confidence-building measures. Reaching out to Muslim community leaders to increase their awareness of hate crimes, ODIHR held a training course for representatives from 20 states.

6 NOVEMBER 2013
TAJIKISTAN

Presidential elections

15 DECEMBER 2013
TURKMENISTAN

Parliamentary elections

15 DECEMBER 2013
UKRAINE

Parliamentary (repeat elections)

HIGH COMMISSIONER ON NATIONAL MINORITIES

High Commissioner: **Astrid Thors** (since 20 August 2013)

previously: **Knut Vollebaek**

Budget: € 3,407,600

Staff: 31

www.osce.org/hcnm

The High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) was created in 1992 to identify and seek early resolution of ethnic tensions that might endanger peace, stability or friendly relations within or between OSCE participating States. In 2013, the HCNM continued this work, examining conditions for minority communities in many participating States and advising them on national legislation and policies related to minorities and inter-ethnic relations. The High Commissioner also supported bilateral dialogues on national minority issues.

ACTIVITY BY REGION AND COUNTRY

The High Commissioner's mandate includes regular visits to the OSCE participating States to discuss minority issues with government officials, minority representatives and members of civil society.

CENTRAL ASIA

To promote and encourage co-operation between the Central Asian countries on multilingual and multicultural education, the HCNM pursued a regional education initiative that was launched in 2012 and continued to support a Regional Education Liaison Officer. In May, the High Commissioner held a high-level roundtable discussion in London, which focused on inter-ethnic relations in the context of regional security and co-operation in Central Asia and Afghanistan.

KYRGYZSTAN

In July, High Commissioner Vollebaek visited Kyrgyzstan and High Commissioner Thors visited in November. Inter-ethnic relations in the country continued to be fragile. The High Commissioner called on the authorities to promote a balanced language policy that would safeguard linguistic diversity while addressing the legitimate need to support the state language, including by repealing decisions that effectively abolished national tests for school graduates in the Uzbek language or by introducing a transition period. The HCNM assisted the authorities in developing a comprehensive policy on national integration and improving majority-minority relations, and encouraged them to follow policies promoting participation and representation of national minorities.

CAUCASUS

GEORGIA

In June, High Commissioner Vollebaek travelled to Georgia, where he visited minority populated regions and the area near the Administrative Boundary Line with South Ossetia. He raised the longstanding issue of the repatriation and reintegration of the Meskhetian population, and discussed the Ljubljana Guidelines on Integration of Diverse Societies with the authorities. The office continued to support projects providing state-language training for civil servants.

TURKMENISTAN

During a visit to Ashgabat in February, the High Commissioner discussed issues related to dual citizenship and regional security and stability with the authorities.

SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

SERBIA

In October, High Commissioner Thors chaired the first meeting of the stakeholders' committee of the Bujanovac Department of the Subotica Faculty of Economics of the University of Novi Sad. The Department supports integration by providing multilingual education. The High Commissioner continued to be concerned about interethnic relations in the south of the country, the ethnic-Albanian dialogue with the central government and the lack of agreement between the Serbian

On 20 August, Astrid Thors, a former Minister of Migration and European Affairs from Finland, became the fourth High Commissioner, succeeding Knut Vollebaek of Norway.

Orthodox Church and the Romanian Orthodox Church, regarding services in the Romanian language.

In Kosovo, political progress toward normalization was tangible following the Belgrade-Pristina agreement in April. The High Commissioner remained concerned that a legal framework guaranteeing multilingualism had not been implemented and that the lack of integration within the education system was not being addressed.

THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

The High Commissioner continued to be concerned about the growing division of society along ethnic lines. High Commissioner Thors travelled to Skopje in October and

THEMATIC WORK

The High Commissioner's office also works on thematic issues, driven by the institution's priorities and the relevant political context.

INTEGRATION WITH RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY

To promote integration, the HCNM launched the Ljubljana Guidelines in 2012. These provide general principles and elements of an integration policy framework and offer advice on key policy areas. In 2013, the High Commissioner held events in Serbia, Georgia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Moldova to follow up on these Guidelines. In addition, the HCNM, together with the European University Institute, held a citizenship expert seminar in Florence in May, on such issues as dual citizenship and political participation.

ROMA AND SINTI

As part of the HCNM's engagement for Roma and Sinti issues, activities continued on regional aspects of civil status documentation and registration in South-eastern Europe.

Together with the European Commission and UNHCR, the High Commissioner continued to emphasize the need for governments to tackle the long-term problem of undocumented people in South-eastern Europe, in line with the recommendations of the Zagreb Declaration of October 2011. On 22 November, the HCNM, the European Commission and UNHCR published the conclusions of the Regional Conference on Access to Civil Registration and Documentation in South-Eastern Europe, held on 25 October in Podgorica, Montenegro, to review progress and discuss solutions to the remaining obstacles.

discussed the challenges of building a stable multiethnic state, the integration of society and a review of the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement with the authorities.

EASTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPE

MOLDOVA

In 2013, the Moldovan government decided to develop an integration strategy. It also increased funding for several HCNM-initiated projects to teach the state language to civil servants. However, concerns remained over national identity and integration, as well as the longstanding dispute over Latin-script schools in Transdnistria and the closure of minority-language schools in Moldova as part of a "school optimization" process.

The High Commissioner provided the authorities with recommendations regarding the integration strategy, and continued to support the Bureau of Inter-ethnic Relations by seconding an expert.

PROJECTS

Work on selective projects that contribute to the integration of society continued, for instance on a language training programme in Albanian and Serbian for officials in ten municipalities in Kosovo. The programme, launched in 2011, is funded by the High Commissioner and implemented by the European Centre for Minority Issues.



TWO DECADES OF ENGAGEMENT

When Max van der Stoep, the first High Commissioner on National Minorities, took office in 1993, ethnic conflict and tensions were rife in the OSCE region. Recognizing the potential for conflict that ethnic tensions can present, the July 1992 CSCE Helsinki Summit decided on a distinctive mandate for the High Commissioner: to provide "early warning and [...] early action at the earliest possible stage in regard to tensions involving national minority issues."

Confidentiality and quiet diplomacy were to be the key characteristics of the new institution; 20 years on, and the High Commissioner still works relentlessly behind the scenes.

The anniversary was celebrated in The Hague in March at a conference and a ceremony, attended by Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands. Knut Vollebaek, who also concluded his second three-year term as High Commissioner, reminded audiences of the institution's specific contribution to conflict prevention: "The HCNM is and remains in a unique position not only to sound the alert when tensions are brewing, but also to assist States in addressing tensions at an early stage in a way that is not only effective but also strengthens societies in the long run."

REPRESENTATIVE ON FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA

Representative: **Dunja Mijatovic**

Budget: € 1,451,600

Staff: 14

www.osce.org/fom

www.facebook.com/osce.rfom

The Representative on Freedom of the Media is an independent OSCE institution with a unique mandate to protect and promote media freedom in all 57 OSCE participating States. Under the direction of Dunja Mijatovic, the Representative since 2010, the Office continued to observe media developments, intervene on behalf of journalists and advocate for a free Internet and an end to criminal defamation. In March, Mijatovic was appointed for another three-year term.



#RFOM15: A SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY FOR A UNIQUE INSTITUTION

<http://rfom15.org>

The year 2013 marked the 15th anniversary of the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media. Representative Mijatovic marked the event with a series of events recalling the mission of the institution. Among those were an audio-visual presentation at the regular report to the Permanent Council with testimonials from media-freedom dignitaries from around the world and a website with interviews by leading free-expression advocates. She also produced a chronicle, in newspaper format, to explain the work of the Office since its inception in 1997.

View our publications: www.issuu.com/osce_rfom

HIGHLIGHTS

**Intervened
150 times
in 35 OSCE States**

**Commissioned
10 media
law reviews**

**Held three
regional media
conferences**

TAKING A STAND FOR FREE MEDIA AND EXPRESSION

Observing media freedom developments across the OSCE region consumes a majority of the Representative's time and effort. As a result of these activities, she intervened 150 times in 35 participating States on matters involving restrictions on free media or free expression.

Based on the belief that the threat of prison for unpopular speech casts a chill over free media, free expression and media pluralism, she continued a campaign to decriminalize defamation. To this end, she addressed legislatures and

provided legal assistance to States seeking to end jail as an option for speech offences.

However, in 2013 alone scores of journalists, the Representative believes, were jailed on fictitious charges that carry prison sentences for expressing unpopular views.

CAMPAIGNING TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST JOURNALISTS

The Representative carries out the mandate to promote full compliance with OSCE commitments by engaging in a host of thematic projects, many of which relate back to the early days of the Office. Most important among these is the campaign to

end the wave of violence against journalists that has swept over much of the OSCE region since 1997 and to put an end to the culture of impunity from prosecution for those who assault members of the media. In view of the increase in the number of attacks and harassment against members of the media in the OSCE region, in December the Representative launched a global campaign to end impunity for crimes committed against journalists.

www.youtube.com/oscerfom
www.twitter.com/osce_rfom
[#EndImpunity](https://twitter.com/osce_rfom)

KEEPING THE INTERNET OPEN

Recognizing the predominance of the Internet for global communication, the Representative has devoted considerable resources to promoting the end of unnecessary regulation of the medium. In February, she convened the largest OSCE conference dedicated to the subject in Vienna, with more than 400 participants from industry, government, academia and public-interest groups. The conference published recommendations that are designed to promote policies dedicated to keeping the Internet an open forum for communication.

“Today I am concerned that there is little or no political will [to ensure an open Internet]. Indeed, the opposite is true; too many in the OSCE simply refuse to believe there are problems related to media freedom in their countries.”

Representative Dunja Mijatovic, at the Permanent Council, 13 June 2013

The Representative also assists States with enacting legislation conducive to free media. In 2013, the Office commissioned 12 expert reviews of pending media legislation for eight States. The topics spanned most contemporary issues in media today, including public service broadcasting, defamation and the right of the public to access government-held information.

www.osce.org/fom/100112

LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN 2013

COUNTRY	ANALYZED
Belarus	Law on information, information technologies and protection of information. Decree of the president on introduction of amendments and changes to some decrees of the president of 7 October 2013
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Law on freedom of access to information Law on electronic communications
Georgia	Law on broadcasting
Italy	Amendments to law on defamation
Kazakhstan	Amendments to the criminal and administrative codes
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Three reviews of law on media and audiovisual media services
Tajikistan	Law on periodical print and other mass media
Ukraine	Law on public service broadcasting

MAINTAINING A DIALOGUE

A sustainable environment for free media rests, in large part, on the ability of government officials and media practitioners to meet and talk about contentious issues so that discussions can move forward. This is the goal of the Representative’s annual regional media conferences.

In 2013, the first of those took place in Bishkek in June. Participants from five Central Asian nations and Mongolia discussed media developments over the past 15 years at the 15th Central Asia Media Conference.

In Tbilisi in November, at the 10th South Caucasus Media Conference, government authorities, journalists and academics reviewed developments in that part of the OSCE region.

Finally in September, more than 200 government officials and journalists gathered in Tirana to debate contemporary issues facing media professionals at the 3rd South Central Europe Media Conference.

FIELD OPERATIONS

In addition to its political bodies, the OSCE maintains a network of 15 field operations, located in South-eastern Europe, Eastern Europe, South Caucasus, and Central Asia.



Overview of the current field operations

www.osce.org/where

The tasks of the field operations range from early warning to conflict prevention and resolution; they also give support to governments and authorities in their areas. Through their work, they help achieve normalization in post-conflict situations and support democratic transformation processes.

WE ARE PRESENT IN THE FOLLOWING REGIONS:

▲ SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

Presence in Albania
Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mission in Kosovo
Mission to Montenegro
Mission to Serbia
Mission to Skopje

✕ EASTERN EUROPE

Mission to Moldova
Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

■ SOUTH CAUCASUS

Office in Baku
Office in Yerevan

● CENTRAL ASIA

Centre in Ashgabat
Centre in Astana
Centre in Bishkek
Office in Tajikistan
Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan



Presence in Albania

Head of Presence: **Ambassador Florian Raunig**
 Budget: **€ 3,040,600**
 21 international staff
 64 local staff
www.osce.org/albania

We concluded 2013 with several success stories. Our long-term efforts to strengthen the country’s institutions and push ahead with judicial, legislative and electoral reform yielded some concrete results: good marks for electoral administration; improvements made in more than a dozen crucial laws; further progress in eliminating dangerous military material; and again several steps forward in fighting trafficking, creating more political diversity and strengthening human rights’ awareness. Another set of building blocks have been set down.

HIGHLIGHTS

Electoral reform assistance pays off

Helped improve 19 key laws



Repackaged 100 tonnes of military grade chemicals for safe storage

LESSONS LEARNED IN PREPARING ELECTIONS

Long-term assistance on election reform, including training for the Central Election Commission, paid off in June when ODIHR observers noted an “improved framework” of the parliamentary vote. The Presence helped empower election officials through a series of train-the-trainers courses for local election commissioners, preparation of voting materials, and information for disabled citizens.

Voter education video:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQE0wgXf4Aw

The Presence also assisted the Election Commission with its first-ever post-election analysis that looked at lessons learned and possible areas for improvement.

LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT BEARS FRUIT

The Presence helped improve 19 laws, several of which were crucial for Albania to move forward on its path toward European integration. Most of the Presence’s recommendations were included in the final legal texts, bringing them more in line with OSCE standards. Among others, these laws covered such issues as judicial administration and public administration reform; amendments to the Criminal Code and the Civil Code and Civil Procedure were also adopted.

WRAPPING UP AN EXPLOSIVE LEGACY

Citizen safety considerably improved after the Presence repackaged some 100 tonnes of dangerous chemicals from Albania’s military facilities in 2013. The chemicals were safely

stored, awaiting destruction in a facility abroad. In total, 37 different kinds of chemicals, some highly volatile, had been stored in military facilities in Tirana and other places, many near populated areas. In most cases, the existing packaging had almost totally corroded.

The destruction of surplus conventional ammunition also continued, with equipment provided over the recent years by the Presence. In total, 12,000 tonnes were destroyed in 2013.

NEW IDEAS TO FIGHT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The Presence continued work on initiatives to strengthen the national anti-trafficking response, through support in policy-making, capacity building and awareness-raising. It helped pioneer new anti-trafficking approaches, such as a new interviewing format and guidelines on forced labour. The Presence also trained labour inspectors on the use of the new guidelines.

CREATING BRIDGES AND REVIVING ALLIANCES

To nurture closer ties between parliamentarians and their constituencies, the Presence organized outreach forums and trained civil society on the functioning of parliament and possibilities for citizen participation. It ran initiatives to encourage more youth engagement in democratic decision-making and helped bring back to life a cross-party women parliamentarians alliance, inactive for more than five years. This alliance not only furthers gender equality but also helps close the gap between the various political affiliations.



Dangerous task: repackaging military chemicals
Copyright: OSCE

LEARNING ABOUT DIVERSITY

The concept of diversity and equality were introduced for the first time to Albanian prisons staff. While they had been trained in human rights issues and anti-discrimination, the diversity training gave them a different point of view of the treatment of people in detention.

BETTER CONCEALED, BETTER PROTECTED

The Presence trained police special forces on camouflage surveillance – the first time this type of training has been provided in South-eastern Europe. The police’s new skills will strengthen their protection against threats from organized criminals or terrorists, while gathering vital intelligence in extreme and difficult conditions.

RETHINKING LOCAL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

Responding to an initiative by the new government to review its administrative territorial division, the Presence, which has repeatedly advocated for the reform of the existing small local government units, helped create criteria for designing and implementing it. The Presence also provided technical assistance to the government on how to develop a reform framework and co-organized a national conference on territorial administrative reform, attended by some 100 representatives of central and local government, civil society and the international community.

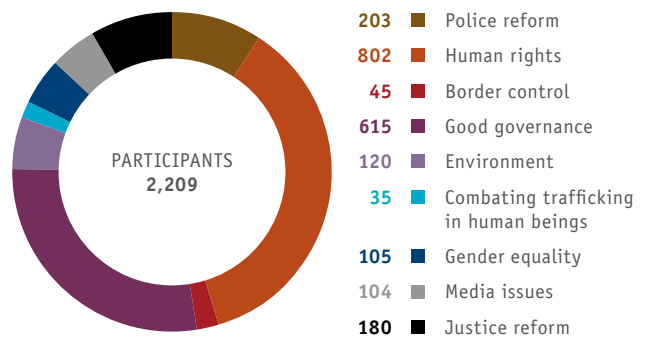
IN OTHER NEWS

The Presence also:

- helped organize five consultative meetings in southern Albania on plans for a new law on renewable energy;
- initiated discussions to reform Albania’s public broadcaster, with the goal of bolstering its independence as an unbiased information provider;
- organized meetings between students and people persecuted under the dictatorship to promote reconciliation and raise awareness for human rights;

- held a regional workshop for law enforcement and financial intelligence officials from South-eastern Europe to strengthen co-operation on anti-money laundering and the fight against terrorist financing; and
- provided expert assistance to the government on drafting an updated national anti-corruption strategy.

TRAINING EVENTS IN 2013



In addition to these events, the Presence also coached 50 high-level police officials and trainers on election issues, which via the train-the-trainers principle then cascaded down to a grand total of roughly 5,700 police officers. The same system was used to empower some 2,000 visually impaired voters. They took part in courses run by 100 trainers who, in their turn, had been initially trained by the Presence.

Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Fletcher M. Burton**

Budget: **€ 13,081,200**

68 international staff

346 local staff

www.osce.org/bih

www.facebook.com/oscebih

www.twitter.com/oscebih

Positive change remained our objective. In close co-operation with domestic and international partners, we continued efforts focused on justice reform, war crimes processing, arms control, education reform, combating discrimination and strengthening inter-parliamentary communication. EU accession remained a priority of Bosnia and Herzegovina and many of the Mission’s activities in support of the reform process translated into direct benefits for the country. Beyond the borders of the country, Mission staff helped facilitate the 2013 local elections in four northern Kosovo municipalities and contributed to greater regional co-operation among the governments and parliaments in South-eastern Europe. We also continued our internal reform agenda, made significant budget reductions, and closed three field offices by the end of the year, leaving 11 in total.

HIGHLIGHTS

Launched a broad-based civil society project to tackle hate crimes

Kicked off a five-year housing programme for 14,000 displaced persons

Signed a landmark agreement on weapons storage security

HATE CRIMES - CONDEMNING AND PREVENTING

With an innovative approach, the Mission continued efforts to tackle hate crimes and other incidents motivated by bias and prejudice. Drawing on its unique field presence and working with 15 municipalities - several with large returnee or minority communities - the Mission helped establish local coalitions involving civil society organizations, municipal authorities and the media. These coalitions are now instrumental in condemning and reacting to hate-related incidents. The Mission also created websites that track hate-motivated crimes and enable citizens to report both incidents and efforts that promote community cohesion. Parallel to this, the Mission lobbied for the adoption and implementation of hate crime legislation and continued training for police law officials and municipal authorities.

[#hatemonitorbih](#)
[#supergradjani](#)

HOUSING FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

Sustainable return and the provision of permanent housing for refugees and internally displaced persons remained one of the most complex issues in Bosnia and Herzegovina and neighbouring countries following the wars of the 1990s. The Regional Housing Programme, a multi-year initiative involving several international organizations and the countries’ governments, was created in 2010 to tackle this problem. The Mission forged a strategic partnership with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to implement the Bosnia and Herzegovina part of the Programme, which is expected to provide housing solutions for 5,400 families - roughly

INTERACTIVE MEDIA FOR CIVIC ACTIVISM

The “Hate Monitor” and “Super Citizens” are two online platforms that track bias-motivated incidents and empower citizens to become more involved in reducing and preventing hate crimes. While the Hate Monitor <http://hatemonitor.oscebih.org> gives access to the latest statistics and trends on hate crimes, Super Citizens is a crowdsourcing tool that maps incidents, responses and steps for prevention. Both are not only useful analytical tools, but also a way for local authorities, civil society, media and judiciary to engage in a dialogue, with one firm goal: to lower the number of hate crimes.

<http://supergradjanke.ba>
www.supergradjani.ba

14,000 individuals. A key concern was to ensure the most vulnerable were selected. Through the Mission’s field network, it supported the work of local selection commissions, aiming to ensure local authorities distributed donor money fairly and equitably.

A SAFE PLACE FOR GUNS AND AMMUNITION

In keeping with a priority of the Ukrainian Chairmanship, arms control and security sector reform remained important priorities. A landmark agreement on defence and security issues, signed in 2013 between the government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the OSCE, opened the way for, among other things, the start of a half million Euro project. This is aimed at improving security standards at two weapons and two ammunition storage sites and contributing to overall better stockpile management. This initiative, dubbed the “SECUP BiH Project,” contributed to securing the country’s large amounts of military stockpiles through infrastructure upgrades such as improved fencing and installation of intruder detection systems. This agreement bolstered co-operation between the Mission and the country’s authorities in the area of security sector reform, an initiative successfully launched this year through the Mission’s longstanding work in support of security policy development and implementation.

Significant progress was made to overcome the risks posed by surplus weapons and ammunition. Together with UNDP, the Mission implemented the EU-financed “Explode Project,” which uses new technologies and stronger safety features for destroying these stockpiles.

SUPPORTING LOCAL ELECTIONS IN FOUR NORTHERN KOSOVO MUNICIPALITIES:

|||||
85 staff deployed from Bosnia and Herzegovina

|||||
24 polling centres assisted in northern Kosovo municipalities

MAKING INROADS ON WAR CRIMES PROCESSING

The Mission launched a new project to accelerate the rate of war crimes processing by the country’s judiciary. This provided for more staff in courts and prosecutors’ offices and training for law officials and the police. A backlog of some 1,300 cases needed processing, and although 2013 saw some progress, significant obstacles remained. The Mission developed a specialized training manual for war crimes investigators and trained them on such topics as wartime sexual violence. The Mission also continued to monitor trials of war crimes cases throughout the country.

Listen to stories from the Mission - search for [#oscebih](#) on soundcloud.com.

HISTORY FOR THE FUTURE

The Mission continued working on education reform. The third phase of the “History for the Future” project, which aims to strengthen social cohesion by reforming history teaching in schools, included training of 300 teachers in learning outcomes and standards of achievement. The Mission also continued projects to prevent violence in schools, promote greater social inclusion, and reduce discrimination. In the case of one high-profile school controversy, the Mission played a constructive role of mediation.

Roma inclusion in society remained a priority. Working with a regional integration project, the Mission trained law officials and Roma civil society members; helped municipalities obtain grants for infrastructure reform; and reported on the status of settlements. It also produced widely acclaimed documentary films on young Roma professionals and Roma women and elections.

www.youtube.com/oscebih



Mufid Besic, a young Roma professional, at a Roma settlement in Capljina
Copyright: OSCE/Meri Musa

Mission in Kosovo

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Jean-Claude Schlumberger**

Budget: **€ 20,512,800**

166 international staff

437 local staff

www.osce.org/kosovo

www.youtube.com/oscekosovo

It was a year with many “firsts.” For several months, we were involved in the first local elections since 2002 that also took place in the north, leading to the establishment of new municipal institutions there. Religious leaders met for the first interfaith conference. And one of the most important legal training institutions in Kosovo took affairs into its own hands - a special occasion also for the Mission.

HIGHLIGHTS

500 electoral staff in 94 polling stations trained to run northern Kosovo elections

Mission accomplished: Kosovo Judicial Institute becomes independent

First interfaith conference held with Kosovo religious communities

NOT JUST ANOTHER VOTING DAY

In November, local elections were held in Kosovo - an important event because it was the first time since 2002 that such a vote could be held on the same day in all municipalities, leading to the establishment of new municipal institutions in the north. The Mission spent significant time and resources to support the process: it facilitated candidates' certification, ran an extensive voter information campaign and trained more than 500 electoral staff and 100 Mission members in 94 polling stations in northern Kosovo. After five months of support, Election Day came, and then also the neighbours pitched in: nearly 100 support staff were dispatched from the OSCE field operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania and Skopje. The OSCE also facilitated out-of-Kosovo voting in Nis and Podgorica and helped with two partial re-votes and a runoff poll in December.

“Successful elections in the north have opened the way for further democratic processes in Kosovo.”

Head of Mission, Ambassador Schlumberger

LEGAL EDUCATION COMES OF AGE

A key legal training institution originally established by the Mission, the Kosovo Judicial Institute, made an important step forward in 2013: it now performs its tasks independently. The Mission concluded that it was operating sustainably and no longer needed support. Kosovo legislation stipulates that future judges need to pass 15 months of training at the Institute. Another good sign came from the Kosovo Judicial Council, the body that appoints judges and manages the judiciary: it produced its first legal assessment. The Mission remains an important partner of these institutions, and continues to monitor how the judiciary performs. To improve the judiciary's relationship with the media, it ran a conference with judges and journalists that included role-plays so that both sides gained better understanding of each other's work and viewpoints.

DIFFERENT FAITHS, COMMON CONCERNS

With 18 interfaith forums and one large-scale conference held in 2013, dialogue between religious communities in Kosovo has come a long way. It all began when the Mission brought representatives of the Islamic, Serbian Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant and Jewish communities together to discuss property rights, freedom of religion legislation, and how to better protect religious heritage. Interfaith forums were held in all Kosovo regions, and the final conference in September ended with a call by the 100 participants to improve legislation so that religious communities could register as

legal entities, request restitution of property and regulate their finances.

Religious heritage is also an issue for the Police. To protect religious heritage sites against attacks, a new Kosovo Police unit has been created, and in 2013 the Mission trained 180 officers in religious and cultural background and how to interact with religious clergy. It also brought young people to visit heritage sites.

“These kind of visits help enhance co-operation with the municipalities, [...] and also convey a positive message to the local population.”

Father Sava, Serbian Orthodox Visoki Decani Monastery



In June, the Mission held mini-Paralympic Games
Copyright: OSCE/Hasan Sopa

Another initiative to build understanding among communities has been the training on conflict-sensitive reporting for journalists from Mitrovica/Mitrovica North and Mitrovica/Mitrovica. The Mission brought together 10 reporters from each side to talk about responsible reporting standards. These two groups have usually very little-to-no contact and thus limited understanding of public opinion in their neighbouring communities.

In six municipalities, the Mission worked with Kosovo Roma, Kosovo Ashkali and Kosovo Egyptian communities on local action plans for integration and protection of their rights.

SAFETY FIRST

The Mission gave technical assistance and organized training for the staff of a newly-established co-ordination office that will be in charge of the safety of communities in the future. It also helped establish five more local public safety committees, bringing the total to 38. These bodies, which consist of local civil society leaders and police officers, discuss all kinds of local issues, including security concerns and local solutions.

Some 400 middle and senior police managers received training on community policing. The Mission also helped develop training plans for the police and the Academy for Public Safety, which is aiming to become a higher education institution.

120 EMERGENCY LINE DISPATCHERS
TRAINED IN HOW TO HANDLE
PEOPLE IN DISTRESS TO IMPROVE RESPONSE
TO VICTIMS AND THOSE REPORTING CRIMES



600 POLICE OFFICERS
TRAINED IN HOW
TO COMBAT HATE CRIMES

785 POLICE OFFICERS RECEIVED
GENERAL TRAINING

Mission to Montenegro

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Janina Hrebickova**
 Budget: **€ 2,243,900**
 11 international staff
 32 local staff
www.osce.org/montenegro

Furthering Montenegro’s reforms and strengthening the capacity of its institutions continued to be the focus of the Mission’s assistance in 2013. This included supporting implementation of new legislation to fight organized crime and corruption, which has seen positive results, and assisting human rights institutions in capacity building of the Ombudsman and Constitutional Court. Our assistance to the border management strategy improved police efforts to confront drugs smuggling and illegal migration. We contributed to developing Codes of Conduct and Ethics for local civil servants and helped put together anti-corruption action plans. We also advised and supported the newly established media trade union.

HIGHLIGHTS

Assisted efforts to strengthen independence of the judiciary

Organized donor’s conference to destroy unstable ammunition



Made further inroads on media reform



RULE OF LAW REFORM YIELDS RESULTS

Progress on judicial reform and a more accessible, efficient and independent judiciary were the key results in 2013. The Mission assisted in building the capacity of legal practitioners on provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, Criminal Code and the Law on Free Legal Aid. It promoted mediation as an alternative to litigation in resolving civil disputes and assisted in a plan to rationalize the court network. Its expertise was usefully employed to help develop a more effective legal and institutional framework to fight corruption and organized crime, especially for conducting financial investigations and managing temporarily seized illegal assets.

STRENGTHENING HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS

To assist Montenegro in improving its human rights environment, the Mission organized training seminars for Constitutional Court officials and staff; helped the Ombudsman institution become more effective as the country’s national preventative mechanism; assisted the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights to implement the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination; and provided legal

expertise in drafting amendments to anti-discrimination and Ombudsman laws.



A new plan will reduce and control small arms and light weapons
 Copyright: Lillian Florence Palmbach

NEW INITIATIVES TO ENHANCE POLICING

The Mission signed an updated Memorandum of Understanding with the Interior Ministry defining areas for co-operation in law enforcement to strengthen police relations with local government, civil society and media. The document outlined where capacity building by specialized training will help further develop efficient policing strategies. Also with the Interior Ministry, the Mission organized a regional conference that agreed on co-operation in forensic evidence to fight cross-border crime more effectively. Assistance to the Police Directorate continued on such issues as suppressing smuggling; trafficking in human beings; intelligence-led policing; fight against terrorism; border policing and police education.

FEWER GUNS, MORE SECURITY

To support the host country to address threats posed by surplus stockpiles of small arms and light weapons, the Mission helped draft a strategy and five-year action plan to reduce and control them. Under an initiative run by the Mission together with the government and the UN Development Programme, some 248 tonnes of unstable ammunition was destroyed - a total of 1,450 tonnes since the programme began in 2007.



Training on how to run stand-up interviews
Copyright: OSCE/Oksana Polyuga

MODERNIZING THE MEDIA ENVIRONMENT

The Mission continued providing expertise toward enhancing the media environment. It ran a total of 18 training seminars to assist national and local officials with the implementation of the 2012 Law on Free Access to Information. It also helped Montenegro's public broadcaster develop its human resources and improve the technical and reporting skills of its news teams. The Mission supported the newly-established media trade union on organizational, fundraising and advocacy skills and trained students of journalism on the fundamentals of news reporting and ethics. It also brought together human rights experts and media editors for a debate on protecting the presumption of innocence and privacy when covering court cases.

GOVERNANCE WITH AN EMPHASIS ON INTEGRITY AND STANDARDS

To strengthen good governance policies, the Mission developed a handbook outlining steps toward a comprehensive integrity policy at local level and held a series of national anti-money laundering workshops. It also helped the Parliamentary Committee for Gender Equality conduct research on the implementation of Montenegro's gender equality legislation, and put together a handbook for media on the use of gender sensitive language. The Mission supported the first monitoring of how the legal and institutional framework is being implemented to improve the functioning of the civil sector.

MORE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

The Mission organized several workshops for national and local authorities, covering topics that range from waste management to environmental impact assessments. The School for Ecological Activism, an annual three-month course on environmental decision-making and policy organized by the Mission with the local NGO, Ozone, continued its programme for political party and civil society representatives, focusing in 2013 on strategic planning and policy-making for environmental protection.

IN OTHER NEWS:

The Mission also:

- initiated, together with the NGO, Centre for Democracy, a project that introduces anti-corruption mechanisms and accountability into police practices. It also supported a workshop to draft a national action plan and strategy for the prevention and suppression of terrorism, money-laundering and terrorist financing;
- held a regional workshop with the Interior Ministry to control and reduce small arms and light weapons in the Western Balkans;
- organized visits to Kosovo for 250 displaced persons to obtain legal documents and continued to work with its partners on the Regional Housing Programme.

SMALL BUT POSITIVE STEPS ON INTEGRATION

Roma continue to face barriers to integration into public life in Montenegro. Although the majority of Roma still live in poor health and hygienic conditions, with only a small number employed and a high illiteracy rate, there are some positive signs.

The OSCE - notably ODIHR in co-operation with the field operations, among them the Mission to Montenegro - is working to change the situation, with a focus on integration. ODIHR and the field operations are implementing the "Best Practices for Roma Integration" project in South-eastern Europe that began in 2012, with funding provided by the EU.

ODIHR report: www.osce.org/odihr/102083

Mission to Serbia

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Peter Burkhard**

Budget: **€ 6,909,500**

30 international staff

116 local staff

www.osce.org/serbia

2013 witnessed the adoption of key strategies on judicial reform and anti-corruption. We saw the creation of an important network of women parliamentarians, which has already made an impact on political life. Work with national minorities, media reform and community policing, to name but a few, advanced with visible results.

HIGHLIGHTS

Enhanced minority integration and equality

Involved 1,000 citizens in media reform debates

Promoted humane treatment for detainees and persons deprived of liberty

LINKING UP FOR MORE GENDER BALANCE

The Mission’s efforts to foster gender equality in the political system made a large step forward in February when all 84 women members of parliament, regardless of party affiliation, set up the Women Parliamentary Network. This group will play an important role in ensuring gender participation throughout society and monitor the gender-balanced implementation of laws. The Mission supported networking efforts through seminars on political representation and a study visit to the Finnish Parliament in May. Informal in nature, the Network has already branched out and established contact with local assemblies.

“Promoting equal rights and opportunities in Serbia is more than a moral imperative – it means political and economic progress at all levels in a society.”

Marija Obradovic, Member of Parliament and first co-ordinator of the Women Parliamentary Network

GIVING THE PUBLIC A VOICE IN MEDIA LAW REFORM

By organizing a series of public debates across the country, the Mission significantly increased transparency of Serbia’s media law reform process. More than 1,000 people attended the eight events, among them members of media and journalists’ associations, civil society organizations, public

officials and interested citizens. They discussed transparency of media ownership and financing, as well as freedom of expression on the Internet.

BRINGING CONSISTENCY TO DETAINEE RIGHTS

The approval of a new instruction manual on custody, in December 2012, was a major milestone for the Mission’s efforts to improve the handling of detainees and protect their rights. Building on this positive development, the Mission and the Interior Ministry organized several train-the-trainers courses for police officers. The Mission also helped protect vulnerable groups deprived of liberty, such as persons in psychiatric institutions, by supporting the implementation of the Law on Protection of Persons with Mental Health Disabilities and training medical staff and the judges who enforce the law. These measures not only provide for the consistent application of rights and procedures for detainees, but also help ensure a safer environment for officers and medical staff in these institutions.

MORE INTEGRATION, MORE DIVERSITY

National minority integration remained high on the Mission’s agenda. In southern Serbia, the Mission helped improve Serbian language instruction for ethnic Albanian secondary school students. It supported training for Serbian language teaching assistants and worked to create new extra-curricular opportunities for students to have fun while perfecting their Serbian language skills. This is based on the conviction that better language skills help ethnic minorities better integrate into the public sphere. The Mission also graduated its work

DIALOGUE AND TRANSPARENCY

Serbia's multi-ethnic areas continued to be a special focus of the Mission. In southern Serbia, through its office in Bujanovac, the Mission facilitated the dialogue process between the Government of Serbia and local ethnic Albanian representatives as they work to address longstanding challenges facing the region and affecting its Albanian minority.

<http://bit.ly/1g5vZcP>

In Novi Pazar, where it maintains a training facility, the Mission helped all six municipal governments of south-western Serbia to develop anti-corruption action plans to increase transparency in local governance and build trust between citizens and the municipal authorities.

with the Basic Police Training Centre in Sremska Kamenica to promote more diversity of minorities in the police service; these efforts were embraced by the Training Centre staff and are fully sustainable. The Mission also organized a summer school for women representatives of National Minority Councils and sponsored a Roma women mentoring programme to improve career perspectives.

MINORITY INTEGRATION PROJECTS:

800 YOUTH FROM NATIONAL MINORITIES LEARNT ABOUT A CAREER IN THE POLICE SERVICE

240 ALBANIAN AND ROMA PUPILS IN SOUTHERN SERBIA PARTICIPATED IN SERBIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES

20 WOMEN FROM MINORITIES PARTICIPATED IN SUMMER SCHOOL ON "CULTURE, TRADITION AND GENDER EQUALITY"

www.osce.org/serbia/105039

15 WOMEN, FOUR OF WHOM WERE ROMA, PARTICIPATED IN A WOMEN MENTORING PROGRAMME

<http://bit.ly/1my9Stg>

TRAINING INCREASES COMPETENCE AND EFFICIENCY OF LEGAL STAFF

Criminal justice reform, a key goal of the Mission, made a big step forward when a new criminal procedure code entered into force in 2012. The Mission continued training judicial officials and the police to increase the efficiency of criminal proceedings. A pool of 51 trainers held some 150 training sessions for more than 1,000 participants, with the result that most of the judges and prosecutors in Serbia are now familiar with the new code. In 2012 and 2013, the Mission trained more than 60 per cent of all criminal judges and prosecutors.

MAKING PROGRESS ON THE RULE OF LAW

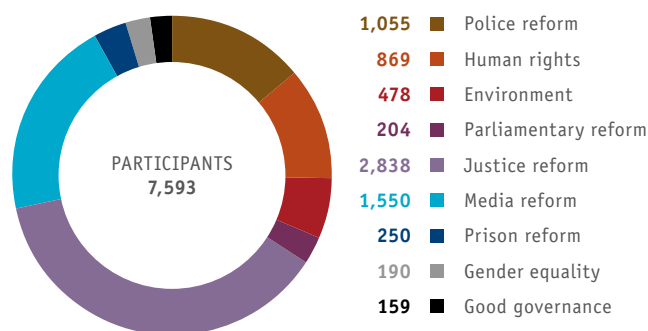
Two key national strategies were adopted by the National Assembly in 2013: one on judicial reform and another on anti-corruption. The Mission was significantly involved with both, by holding public debates, providing expert comments, and participating in the working groups that elaborated them. The first is aimed at improving the independence, transparency, accountability and efficiency of Serbia's judiciary, while the second covers key issues for the effective combat of corruption. The Mission also supports effective implementation of the strategies.

IN OTHER NEWS

The Mission also:

- trained 250 police officers on a community policing strategy adopted by Serbia in 2013;
- helped draft a law to better protect people in psychiatric institutions;
- ran several seminars, including with regional participation, on public participation in flood risk management;
- held regional consultations on freedom of expression and self-regulation on the Internet; and
- trained media in multi-ethnic regions of southern and south-western Serbia to improve the quality and independence of news production.

TRAINING EVENTS IN 2013



Mission to Skopje

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Ralf Breth**

Budget: **€ 6,564,300**

52 international staff

117 local staff

www.osce.org/skopje

2013 brought us elections, further efforts to promote integrated education and support to the country's reform agenda. Through the added value of our country-wide field presence, we were able to fulfil our early warning function, while continuing to work with the national authorities and the civil society on our central goal: to promote stability and security, support the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement and strengthen inter-ethnic relations.

HIGHLIGHTS

Support to government towards inclusive implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement

Advocating for integrated education system

Country-wide field presence involving all programmes

A UNIQUE ROLE: EARLY WARNING AND SECURITY

Early warning is at the core of the Mission's mandate. This includes the Head of Mission's central co-ordination role and concrete field activities. The Mission remains the sole organization with the capacity and expertise to monitor the field situation country-wide.

PROMOTING A SPIRIT OF TOLERANCE

Pursuing its longstanding work to strengthen anti-discrimination and equality in legislation, the Mission built the capacity of the Commission for Protection from Discrimination. It also helped develop a long-term strategy to raise public awareness about discriminatory attitudes and the existing protective mechanisms. The Mission supported the Participatory Forum, as an informal consultative body, to promote participation of all minorities in the decision-making process.

MOVING TOWARDS A NEW CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

In December, a New Law on Criminal Procedure came into force and brought about significant changes that aim at increasing fairness, effectiveness and efficiency of justice. The Mission held an intensive advanced training for 220 legal practitioners and 516 police officers. It also organized two roundtable discussions on legal remedies and monitored the efforts of the national working group to refine parts of the new law.

THE AGREEMENT

A key priority for the Mission is to monitor and support the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement (OFA), which put an end to the 2001 armed conflict in the country. The OFA is meant to guarantee the participation of all ethnic communities in political, social and cultural life. It focuses on decentralization, non-discrimination, education, equitable representation and use of languages.

In 2013, the Government made public its first OFA Review Report. This was meant to follow up on the Mission-facilitated review process. The Mission continues to work with the Government and support the Secretariat on the implementation of the OFA to advance further stages of this important process and help overcome the existing impasse.

SUPPORTING ELECTORAL REFORM

The Mission worked with the Government on two main electoral issues in 2013: the revision of the voters' list and amendments of the electoral code in line with ODIHR's recommendations. After the March local elections, the Mission assisted the State Election Commission with the drafting of a strategic plan.

MAKING SCHOOLS A SAFER PLACE

Since 2012, a project launched by the Mission aims at reducing violent incidents and behaviour in schools. "Prevention Clubs" were set up in nine primary schools and one high school in Skopje.

"I believe the safe schools project helps identify solutions against potential school violence [...] especially when caused by inter-ethnic tensions."

Natalija Aceska, Adviser at the Bureau for Education Development



Students marching against violence
Copyright: OSCE/Adela Mustajova

TRIAL MONITORING

The Mission monitored and analysed 13 high profile cases, with potential impact on inter-ethnic relations and security and political stability.

TEACHING AND LEARNING IN A MULTI-ETHNIC SOCIETY

Integrated education continued to be a central element of the Mission's work. Such projects as pre-service training for teachers and school mediation received close to 90 per cent of the Mission's extra-budgetary donor support. The Mission also worked on monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of a Strategy towards Integrated Education.

JOINT EFFORTS TO FIGHT ORGANIZED CRIME

The Mission supported cross border co-operation between Serbia and the host country in combating transnational organized crime by establishing a fully operational Common Contact Centre.

IN OTHER NEWS

The Mission also:

- piloted the implementation of a quality management tool (Common Assessment Framework Model) in five state institutions;
- supported institutions in adopting a new administrative law;
- facilitated an anti-corruption regional conference for the police;
- established a pool of experts on operational crime intelligence analysis;
- organized six workshops and one roundtable meeting with central and local governments on the Law on Free Access to Public Information;
- developed six analytical papers on decentralization.



Sticker of a media campaign for equality.

Mission to Moldova

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Jennifer Brush**

Budget: € 2,125,200

13 international staff

39 local staff

www.osce.org/moldova

www.facebook.com/OSCEMoldova



With the additional intensity injected by the Ukrainian Chairmanship, the efforts to settle the Transdniestrian conflict moved forward in 2013. In addition to the mediation work, we were able to run a wide array of activities to help Moldova achieve its unfulfilled potential. We also commemorated our 20th anniversary, an occasion to look back at the progress made, but also a reminder of what challenges still lie ahead.

HIGHLIGHTS

Intense diplomacy brings some progress in Transdniestria conflict

100 tonnes of Soviet-era pesticides removed from Transdniestria

3,000 confiscated arms smelted into scrap metal

CONTINUED TALKS ON TRANSDNIESTRIA CONFLICT

A key priority for the Ukrainian Chairmanship, the negotiations of the Transdniestrian settlement made some progress in the socio-economic sphere in 2013. Five rounds of official negotiations in the “5+2” format took place, bringing together representatives of the sides, mediators and observers in the settlement process – Moldova and Transdniestria, along with Ukraine, the OSCE, the Russian Federation, the EU and the USA. The Chairmanship visited Moldova seven times, facilitating several meetings of the Political Representatives and two meetings of the Moldovan Prime Minister, Iurie Leanca, with the Transdniestrian leader, Yevgheniy Shevchuk. One of the meetings took place on the margins of a Confidence-Building Measures Conference co-organized by the German Foreign Ministry. The Mission, with its mandate to help find a lasting, comprehensive political settlement of this conflict, worked closely with the Special Representative for Conflicts, Ambassador Andrii Deshchytsia.

REDUCING DANGEROUS CHEMICALS, RAISING TRUST

Some 100 tonnes of pesticides from the Soviet era left Transdniestria in several batches this year. The Mission financed and technically supported the removal of the dangerous chemicals, which were a threat to the population and the environment. This represents not only an important step for health and safety in the region; it also aimed to build confidence and trust between Moldova and Transdniestria. The two sides co-operated in organizing the transport and expediting the chemicals via Poland to Germany, where they will be safely destroyed. However, the project only scratched the surface: there are still hundreds of tonnes remaining in the region, representing an environmental risk and producing a considerable financial burden for the local authorities.

“Such co-operation on both banks of the river promotes sound environmental governance and helps build confidence.”

Mission Head, Ambassador Jennifer Brush

MELTING 3,000 GUNS DOWN AT 1,600 DEGREES

Other dangerous items found their final resting place in Moldova itself: in November, several truck-loads of confiscated small arms and light weapons arrived in a foundry in Chisinau, where they were smelted at 1,600 degrees Celsius into scrap metal. Their disposal is part of a larger programme to rid the country of such weapons, and of excess conventional ammunition. The weapons had been confiscated by the police because they were either held illegally or had been altered without proper authorization. Some had also been handed in voluntarily.

Photo gallery: <http://on.fb.me/1fcV8yy>

One week every year, a part of the security zone between Moldova and Transnistria turns into a summer camp for future leaders. In July, some 50 young women from both sides of the Dniestr/Nistru arrived in the Romanita Camp Resort in Vadul-lui-Voda to learn about gender issues, women empowerment, business plans and community engagement. Aged between 16 and 19, they participated in activities to build up their self-confidence and self-esteem. They also learned more about the risks of domestic violence, trafficking and Internet-based sexual exploitation. In short, they were given the tools to become leaders. The initiative, run by the Mission, together with the non-profit organization Winrock Moldova, is also an occasion to build confidence between the populations from both sides.



Future leaders
Copyright: OSCE/Igor Schimbator



The great heat: turning weapons into scrap metal.
Copyright: OSCE/Igor Schimbator

REDUCING RADIOACTIVE RISKS

Radioactive items, originally installed by the Soviet authorities in fire alarms, have long been out of use, but their radioactive content still presents considerable dangers. In 2013, expert teams – financed by the Mission – removed nearly 1,000 radioactive sources. For many years, the Mission has worked with the authorities on both sides of the River Dniestr/Nistru on the safe disposal of radioactive waste – building confidence at the same time.

ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION

Getting young people interested in politics can be a daunting task. The Mission employed a multi-pronged approach to this challenge: it organized several negotiation skills workshops with students, a summer school on environmental issues and a Model OSCE event, where for a few days the young participants became ambassadors and simulated the Organization's decision-making process. Sport being a universal language, the Mission also worked with Moldova's tennis federation to raise awareness among youth about the dangers of domestic violence. As a further initiative, the Mission ran a series of lectures in Gagauzia by international experts and officials, to stimulate youth political and civic participation.

Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

Project Co-ordinator: **Ambassador Madina Jarbussynova**
 Budget: **€ 2,826,000**
 3 international staff
 41 local staff
www.osce.org/ukraine

We are looking back at a busy year. All in all, we were implementing 25 projects with a total budget of more than €4.1m, the majority of which - over €2.9m - was related to multi-year projects financed with extra-budgetary contributions. This investment generated considerable progress in many areas: from arms control to environmental education, e-governance to human rights education, rule of law to civil society development - to name but a few.

HIGHLIGHTS

1,050 election commissioners trained with new online toolkit

4,200 more practitioners trained in human trafficking assistance

Three-year environmental project ends with 1,000 more teachers trained

ELECTION TRAINING GOES ONLINE

A nationwide vote usually requires hundreds of thousands of electoral staff; all need pre-election day training. A new and unique system now makes this easier: in 2013, the Project Co-ordinator developed an online tool <http://bit.ly/Kp5oJH> for the Central Election Commission that combines distance learning, knowledge testing and performance monitoring in one. To demonstrate its usefulness, 26 public presentations were organized across the country, with some 1,000 members of election commissions, political parties, civil society and media in the audience. In addition, 98 representatives of NGOs and five parliamentary parties received training in the system. The by-elections of 15 December have already put it to the test: 1,050 district and precinct election commission members used the new tool.

The Co-ordinator’s office also promoted e-solutions in other areas. In four regions, it helped install online governance solutions which citizens can use to submit forms, obtain certificates and track their requests. In other regions, investment portals and specialised e-learning tools were introduced.

ANTI-TRAFFICKING MECHANISM EXTENDED

The National Referral Mechanism is a state-lead, inter-agency strategy to provide assistance to human trafficking victims.

The Project Co-ordinator helped spread the Mechanism to cover seven more regions, beyond the six already included. A series of train-the-trainers events targeted social service providers, law enforcement officers, medical practitioners and educators.

TRAINED:

4,200

PEOPLE TRAINED

51

PEOPLE GRANTED VICTIM STATUS IN 2013

GREEN PACK PROJECT ENDS ON HIGH NOTE

With green thinking, it is often the small gestures that make a big difference. This is a concept usefully employed in the so-called Green Pack, a toolkit that helps teachers explain to school children and students everything about environmentally sensitive behaviour, from closing taps to energy saving light bulbs. The kit, which was introduced in 2011, www.greenpack.in.ua has been distributed to primary

HELD IN 2013:

48 TRAINING SESSIONS 2 SUMMER CAMPS

DISTRIBUTED IN 2013:

2,400 GREEN PACKS TO SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS

1,000 MANUALS TO TEACHERS

and secondary schools throughout the country. The three-year project concluded in 2013 with an additional 1,000 teachers and activists trained in the Green Pack methodology.

The Project Co-ordinator also helped Ukraine's environmental protection and border agencies handle environmental risks better. It ran several training workshops and seminars on radiation control; designed a customized training programme for environmental inspectors and border guards; and helped equip a newly-established training centre for environmental inspectors.

ELIMINATING A DANGEROUS HERITAGE

Continuing its substantial arms control work, the Project Co-ordinator helped clear more than 4,500 tonnes of the rocket fuel "mélange" from two sites and ran field surveys of seven sites to compile information on equipment and training needs for ammunition and mine clearing personnel. It also launched the Ukrainian version of a widely used geospatial information management tool, and trained emergency service managers on international mine action standards and their application. To make sure that children in particular are educated about the dangers of mines and unexploded ordnance, the office continued its safety lessons at schools.

MORE MONITORING MEANS BETTER PROTECTION

Important progress was made in preventing torture and ill treatment in detention centres. The Project Co-ordinator helped the Parliamentary Ombudsman re-energize the national prevention mechanism, which provides for systematic monitoring visits by the Ombudsman's office and civil society activists to detention facilities. In Ukraine, these include over 6,500 police stations and prisons, as well as psychiatric hospitals and other places where people's freedom is lawfully limited. Between August and October, 55 such visits took place in 16 regions. The Co-ordinator's office also helped train 60 members of monitoring groups, 20 officers from the Ombudsman's office, and 22 penitentiary officers and officials of the Ministry of Social Policy.

"More activists than ever monitor detention facilities to help prevent torture and ill-treatment. This clearly indicates that the mechanism is working."

Valeria Lutkovska, Ukrainian Parliament's Commissioner for Human Rights

IN OTHER NEWS

The Co-ordinator's office remained involved in a wide array of other issues. It helped develop legislation; published manuals and handbooks, including legal opinion writing and the application of international legal instruments by courts; reviewed draft legislation; and ran a variety of training events on such issues as:

- international security and cybercrime;
- environmental crimes at borders;
- fair trial, human rights, international legal texts and writing of legal opinions;
- human rights education at schools and legal education at universities;
- domestic violence and gender equality;
- registration of civil society organizations; and
- journalists' rights in relations with law enforcers.

TRAINING EVENTS IN 2013

TOPIC OF TRAINING	WHO WAS TRAINED	PARTICIPANTS
Helping trafficking victims	Social service providers, activists, law enforcers, medical staff	4,200
Administration of parliamentary elections	Election commissioners	1,050
Teaching of environmental issues	Teachers	1,000
Application of international legal instruments	Judges, their assistants, lawyers	780
Civilian professions in the field of information technology, management, security, entrepreneurship, etc.	Discharged and soon-to-be discharged military officers	680
How to register public associations	Civil servants and NGO activists	550
Writing of legal opinions	Judges, their assistants	240
What are human rights and how can they be protected?	School children	130
Fair trial guarantees	Judges, advocates	100
Radiological control	Border and environmental protection personnel	100
Monitoring violations of detainees' rights	NGO activists, civil servants	100
TOTAL		8,930

Office in Baku

Head of Office: **Ambassador Koray Targay**

Budget: **€ 2,829,900**

11 international staff

29 local staff

www.osce.org/baku

www.facebook.com/oscepcib

Even more so than in previous years, we were able to tie together our efforts and address key areas from different angles. Our work on domestic violence or human trafficking, for instance, not only looked at the law enforcement side but also the rule of law and the humanitarian situation. We continued many initiatives, and often saw progress; others still need more attention, such as the work on cybercrime, a relatively new phenomenon in Azerbaijan. At the end of the year, the Office in Baku transformed into the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Baku, in line with a Permanent Council decision adopted in July.

HIGHLIGHTS

Continued wide-ranging campaign to combat domestic violence

Helped state oil company prepare first oil spill contingency plan

Gave legal and business advice to 1,300 entrepreneurs

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS: CURBING VIOLENCE AT HOME

The Office continued its concerted efforts to support Azerbaijan in combating domestic violence. It trained social workers and civil society organizations, sponsored a telephone hotline, and supported a shelter where victims could receive legal and economic help and psychological counselling.

In parallel to this, the Office trained police officers, law professionals and students on the state’s obligations on domestic violence. The Office also prepared a comprehensive analysis and recommendation on legislation to prevent domestic violence, which was shared with government and civil society counterparts.

OIL SPILL CONTINGENCIES: BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY

Oil exploration in Azerbaijan goes back more than 100 years, and many drilling sites are located in the Caspian Sea. In line with the country’s legislation and international guidelines, the Office helped the state oil company, SOCAR, consolidate its plan to prepare for the possibility of an oil spill. While previous work on this issue focused on policy questions, 2013 saw more involvement on the operational side by the Office.

BY POPULAR DEMAND: MORE BUSINESS ADVICE

The number of entrepreneurs seeking the Office’s assistance in business affairs went up significantly in 2013, reaching more than 1,300 entrepreneurs - 700 more than in 2012. One explanation might be that the Office expanded the service from legal help to business development assistance, covering anything from preparing business plans to marketing strategies.



Most urgent: preparing for oil spill emergencies
Copyright: OSCE/Zaur Zeynal

OBTAINING LEGAL HELP

Citizens can also obtain legal advice in four OSCE-supported legal resource centres in the regions. In some cases, these can even represent clients before court and state authorities. All of them run a library with law-related publications, train law professionals, and organize awareness-raising programmes.

IN 2013:

- 3,000 clients
- 47% female
- Efficiency: 70% - roughly 1,000 cases resolved

MAIN ISSUES:

- property and housing
- family and children
- social protection



Poster for the traffic safety programme

A contest for reporters to recognize the best investigative journalism on human trafficking and forced labour generated a number of excellent articles. The winners in the three categories – sexual exploitation, forced labour and child exploitation – afforded the reader a rare view behind the scenes.

OPEN ACCOUNTS: DISCLOSING OIL AND GAS INCOME

An entirely new project in the Office's economic security portfolio helps Azerbaijan live up to the latest standards of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), a mechanism for disclosing oil and gas industry earnings to improve public transparency and accountability. Azerbaijan was among the first to endorse the Initiative in 2003. The mechanism also foresees an open dialogue between civil society and the public and private sectors, a process the Office supported by bringing in EITI's practitioners from other countries to provide expert input to the dialogue in Azerbaijan.

CLOSING LOOPHOLES: STRICTER ANTI-TRAFFICKING LAWS

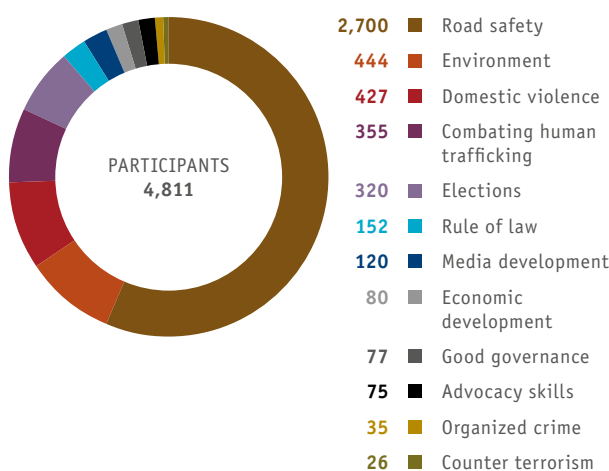
Progress continued in the fight against human trafficking. The Office trained police, legal staff, humanitarian protection workers, immigration and border guards, as well as journalists in how to identify and investigate trafficking cases. It also provided recommendations - of which a large majority were included - for the next national anti-trafficking action plan and new anti-trafficking policy documents, and helped fund three shelters. In 2013, these gave more than 400 victims psychological, legal, and employment assistance.

IN OTHER NEWS

The Office also:

- supported implementation of a newly-adopted law on the rights of people in detention, it held several train-the-trainers seminars on international standards and study visit to share best practises in this area;
- built the capacity of law enforcement officials in fighting terrorism, preventing radicalization and countering terrorist recruitment;
- trained state officials in tactics to investigate organized crime, dealing with hostage negotiations and tackling drug trafficking;
- helped prepare a needs-assessment report as a first step in countering cybercrime;
- ran a traffic safety programme for some 2,500 school children;
- concluded a "Public Assembly Management" project, which increased the capacity of law enforcement officials;
- trained local election observers in the run-up to the October presidential elections;
- it helped meet the demands of a growing Internet community by providing training for young social media specialists and advanced capacity building for professional journalists and media outlets;
- worked with senior levels of government to improve access to information practices.

TRAINING EVENTS IN 2013



Office in Yerevan

Head of Office: **Ambassador Andrey Sorokin**
 Budget: € 2,791,400
 7 international staff
 40 local staff
www.osce.org/yerevan

The numbers speak for themselves: many of our long-term efforts were rewarded with impressive results in 2013. We trained thousands of election officials before the presidential vote. We extended our programme to cut regulatory red tape and expanded the community policing project. We also saw Armenia move up the ranks in its efforts to curb human trafficking and witnessed how smart interventions can considerably change the environment for media freedom.

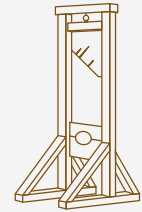
HIGHLIGHTS

Trained 12,500 electoral commissioners for February presidential poll

Expanded community policing to 10 regions



Cut red tape in eight regulatory sectors



ENSURING A QUALITY ELECTION

As part of a two-year project financed by the European Union, the Office organized a large-scale training programme for election commissioners in the run-up to the February presidential vote.

Not only election staff but also journalists, first-time voters and members of regional ombudsman offices received pre-

electoral training. The Office produced two voter education videos www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oe49jGQKFFg that were aired nationwide and delivered manuals, posters and copies of the election code to the commissions.

SPREADING A SUCCESSFUL MODEL

The community policing model, originally launched in Yerevan in June 2012, was gradually expanded until, by the end of 2013, it covered all of Armenia’s 10 provinces. The Office ran several training seminars on the model, involving local police officers, university students and school children. It also donated computer equipment to community police stations in Yerevan and organized a high-level international conference that discussed police reform and civilian oversight of police activities.

12,500 PRECINCT ELECTORAL COMMISSIONERS TRAINED

5,000 (OR 40 PER CENT) OF THEM WERE WOMEN

649 TRAINING SESSIONS

432 DOMESTIC OBSERVERS SUPPORTED



Youth learn about police work in Armenia
 Copyright: OSCE/Laura Hayruni

CUTTING COSTS TO BUSINESS

Some €40m, or 0.5% of Armenia's Gross Domestic Product, have been saved in 2013 by the next step of the Regulatory Guillotine programme, which cuts red tape, redundancies and inefficient legislation in the public sector. In total, eight additional sectors were modernized, including public utilities, health care, transport, tax and customs, social issues and culture. The measures improved overall governance and decreased risks of corruption. They were implemented by an OSCE-led donor consortium that supported the Armenian government. Having completed the initial two-year programme, fundraising began at the end of the year to continue guillotining unnecessary regulations in the remaining nine sectors.

MOVING AWAY FROM MINING

The Office has implemented several projects to help diversify the economy in the Syunik region, which is heavily dominated by the mining industry. In November, it held a high-profile investment forum with 172 participants that included the Vice Prime Minister, heads of diplomatic missions, and private business. The event represented an important first step to introduce other economic sectors to Syunik. The participants discussed opportunities in agricultural production, food processing and tourism, and paid visits to local production facilities and environmental projects.

TEACHING SOLDIERS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS

For seven months, the Office embarked on a large-scale human rights training programme for Armenia's armed forces. Based on the train-the-trainers principle, it coached 300 servicemen from various military agencies on basic human rights and fundamental freedom standards. Each course lasted 20 hours

and was attended by 20 to 30 servicemen. Officers in military units dealing with personnel were also trained.

MOVING UP THE RANKS

The Office continued to support the government's action plans to consolidate and further strengthen progress in combating trafficking and managing migration. It trained judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officials on best practices in combating trafficking, and ran training classes for military staff due to be deployed as peacekeepers.

LAYING OFF THE CHARGES

Independence of the media benefited considerably from the dramatic drop of libel charges in 2013. After several years of intervention by the Office and the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, the number of charges decreased from 54 in 2010-2011 to only eight two years later. The Office's efforts to strengthen mechanisms such as the Information Disputes Council www.idcarmenia.am which offers out-of-court solutions, played an important role. The Office also organized seminars for journalists and media lawyers and produced a guidebook on online media ethics.

IN OTHER NEWS

The Office also:

- completed an assessment and feasibility study for the clearing of a pesticides dump site near Yerevan;
- helped organize several parliamentary hearings, seminars and an international conference to strengthen public oversight of the security sector;
- continued its support for police education with a focus on increasing the number of female cadets;
- held a Model OSCE conference for some 300 students.

TRAINING EVENTS IN 2013

TOPIC OF TRAINING	WHO WAS TRAINED	PARTICIPANTS
Elections	election commission members, journalists, first time voters, local observers	13,237
Policing	community policing, communication and negotiation, public order management	544
Leadership training, debating skills	youth, conscripts	1,470
Economic development	local government officials	69
Environmental issues	civil society	190
Human rights	armed forces, penitentiary officials, civil society, ombudsman's staff	559
Rule of law	advocates and military investigators	80
Media issues	journalists, lawyers, civil society, judges	60
Cyber security	police officials, police experts	30
Good governance	National Assembly staff, civil servants	40
TOTAL		16,279

Centre in Ashgabat

Head of Centre: **Ambassador Ivo Petrov**

Budget: **€ 1,511,700**

6 international staff

19 local staff

www.osce.org/ashgabat

Continuity could be the key word to describe our work in 2013. Building on many achievements of previous years, we continued to work on such issues as border security, arms control, legal support, media training and good governance. But a few areas stand out: for instance, the landmark energy security conference with high-level participants from Turkmenistan and OSCE States.

HIGHLIGHTS

Held high-profile energy security conference

Conducted maritime security training courses

Presented first-ever commentary on country's Criminal Code

KEY EVENT DISCUSSES ENERGY SECURITY

The Centre continued its work on energy security by supporting a top-level international conference that focused on improved and stable transit and diversification of energy resources in the OSCE region. The event was organized by the Chairmanship, Turkmenistan's government, the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities and the Centre. The 120 participants discussed issues such as resource management; transparency in energy markets; security and reliability of energy infrastructures; potential threats to energy security; and renewable energy development.

TRAINING FOR BORDER AND AVIATION SECURITY OFFICIALS

Workshops and seminars on border management and security remained a fixture in the Centre's work calendar. It ran two five-day courses for naval officers on maritime border and port security management, looking at such issues as passport and cargo control and marine vessel inspection. It also trained border and law enforcement officials on integrated border management in a series of five-day courses held across the country. Topics included advanced screening techniques and the patrolling of land borders.

A separate set of events targeted aviation officials. The Centre trained 57 senior airline managers, airport security and transport police officials in search and rescue operations and crisis management to help them respond effectively to emergency situations.

LEGAL COMMENTARY TO BETTER APPLY CRIMINAL CODE

The applicability of legislation depends significantly on the capacity of law officials to interpret it. To strengthen this capacity among legislators and law officials, the Centre unveiled a comprehensive commentary on the country's Criminal Code - the first of its kind. The 676-page article-by-article interpretation is a crucial tool to apply the provisions of the Code to concrete cases. Legal experts and state officials debated the Code's provisions on punishment and relief from criminal responsibility, and crimes against person, peace and security.

LEGAL SUPPORT IN 2013:

137 INDIVIDUALS SUBMITTED HUMAN RIGHTS CASES AND REQUESTED ASSISTANCE

THE CENTRE:

- PROVIDED LEGAL COUNSEL
- SHARED LEGAL INFORMATION
- DRAFTED 44 APPEALS TO AUTHORITIES ON 16 CASES

SUPPORTED SAFETY IMPROVEMENT AT ARMS STORAGE SITES

To strengthen arms and ammunition security, the Centre partnered with the U.S. Defense Threat Reduction Agency to organize technical training for managers and ammunition handlers who work at army storage facilities. The officials discussed arms security technologies, ammunition compatibility and surveillance measures, and participated in a table-top exercise on risk management and ammunition compatibility.



Journalism students at an OSCE-run media training course
Copyright: OSCE/Svetlana Ostroushenko

THREE-YEAR WATER MANAGEMENT PROJECT COMPLETED

Concluding an initiative to modernize water resource management, the Centre trained local officials in the use of electronic geo-mapping tools, such as the Geographical Information and the Global Positioning Systems (GIS and GPS). These activities served to stimulate the transfer from obsolete paper-based maps to modern digital technology, which will help officials operate and maintain the country's irrigation infrastructure more efficiently. Along with the training the Centre provided equipment, software licences, GPS units and training material for local experts.

MODERNIZING MEDIA LEGISLATION

In January, a new media law came into force. Having supported the legal drafting process with expert advice, the Centre continued its support by organizing several meetings on freedom of online media and access to information via the Internet for officials from Parliament, the Government, research and academic institutions, and online, print and broadcast media. It also organized a study visit to Estonia for officials to learn more about Internet access policies and free information access.

CONNECTED: TURKMENISTAN JOINS COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

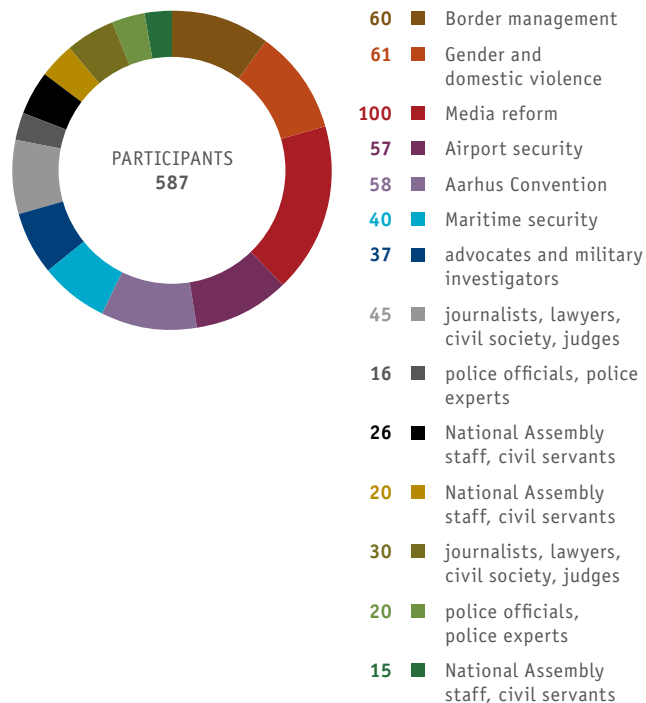
To help the country fulfil its commitments on confidence- and security-building measures, the Centre worked closely with the Conflict Prevention Centre to connect Turkmenistan to the Communications Network, an OSCE-wide system that allows for timely information exchange on military issues (see also p. 43).

IN OTHER NEWS

The Centre also:

- ran several workshops on anti-corruption and anti-money laundering mechanisms for representatives from financial and economic institutions and judicial and law enforcement officials;
- organized a seminar on prisoners' rights and a study visit for law officials to Turkey, to promote legal and penitentiary reform;
- held a training course for defence lawyers and police on the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking crimes;
- organized a seminar on women's rights and gender issues;
- continued its support for a domestic violence hotline and a shelter for victims;
- trained students at the Interior Ministry's Institute in international human rights standards;
- organized a study visit for election officials to observe the parliamentary vote in Norway; and
- coached journalism students on online writing skills.

TRAINING EVENTS IN 2013



Centre in Astana

Head of Centre: **Ambassador Natalia Zarudna**

Budget: **€ 2,148,400**

6 international staff

22 local staff

www.osce.org/astana

2013 featured many highlights. We intensified our co-operation with local and national partners in such areas as local self-governance, labour migration management, green growth promotion, actions against violent extremism and cybercrime, torture prevention, criminal and administrative justice as well as penal reforms. We continued engaging youth and academia in discussions on addressing security challenges in Central Asia.

HIGHLIGHTS

Removed more than 400 tonnes of toxic rocket fuel

Engaged youth and academia in debates on regional security

Continued intensive anti-trafficking work

ALIVE AND KICKING: CAYN ENTERS ITS TENTH YEAR

On Facebook (needs login): <http://on.fb.me/KEhaQr>

CAYN - the Central Asian Youth Network - is gaining more prominence with politically-active youth region-wide. Empowering youth against violent extremism was the focus of this year's three-day event in Almaty. More than 70 emerging leaders from Central Asia, Europe and - new in 2013! - Afghanistan participated in team building, leadership training seminars and interactive performances.



Copyright: OSCE/Kamila Seikhanova

GETTING RID OF A DANGEROUS LEGACY

After long and intensive preparation, over 400 tonnes of the hazardous rocket fuel, mélange, left Kazakhstan in June for Russia. There it was disposed of at a specialized chemical plant. It is part of a larger OSCE programme - the largest OSCE donor-financed activity to date - to rid several of its participating States of mélange.

MÉLANGE REMOVED:

402.3 tonnes

TURNING YOUTH AND ACADEMIA INTO PARTNERS

A conference, which engaged young researchers and renowned scholars from Central Asia and Europe in discussions on how to strengthen the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community, was held in Almaty as a step toward establishing an OSCE-wide academic network.

A leadership programme – the second already – for young environmentalists from Central Asia and an annual national conference for law students on human rights were two more examples of the Centre's efforts in this regard.

STRENGTHENING ANTI-TRAFFICKING EFFORTS

The fight against human trafficking and domestic violence made considerable inroads in 2013. The Centre promoted the adoption of a law amending national legislation on combating human trafficking, most notably introducing stronger sanctions for child labour. All in all, it supported 17 training events for judges, police officers, defence lawyers and gender focal points throughout the country on these issues. The provision of social services to victims of cruel treatment was the focus of a national conference co-organized by the Centre.

BUILDING CONFIDENCE, REDUCING RISKS

The Centre promoted confidence- and security-building measures in a regional context. With its support, military staff from Central Asia, Europe and, for the first time, Mongolia reviewed the practical implementation of the OSCE Vienna Document in May at a seminar in Astana. It was also the first time that Mongolian officers and observers from the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building in Asia, alongside military specialists from 29 OSCE participating States, took part in air-base visits in September. Another key regional event brought technical experts and military staff from Central Asia and Afghanistan to Almaty. They discussed risk assessment mechanisms and technical co-operation on explosive hazards, including ammunition.

The Centre actively promoted the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution on Women, Peace and Security, both at the national level and in the framework of an international conference in Almaty.

PULLING THE PLUG ON ONLINE CRIME

Several training events and roundtable discussions targeted cybercrime, drug trafficking and violent extremism. The Centre helped prosecutors, police and other law enforcement officers better understand cybercrime challenges. Countering violent extremism and terrorism, including money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, were the topics of a national antiterrorism forum and several training seminars facilitated by the Centre in the country's regions.

With the Centre's support, border guards and law enforcement officers, discussed how to combat organized crime and terrorism, both domestically and regionally, while border and document security were the topics of regional and national training events.

SPREADING THE WORD ON NEW CONCEPTS

After Kazakhstan adopted a law on local self-governance, the Centre was the first to launch two pilot projects in the country that aimed to help officials and civil society in rural areas and towns better implement this legislation. Later on, best international practices and tools for responsive and accountable governance were reviewed at a workshop, followed by intense training exercises for newly-elected mayors.

Another new concept that attracted the Centre's attention and support was a national strategy on a green economy adopted in 2013. The Centre engaged in events across the country that aimed at promoting green growth principles with a focus on energy efficiency, rational use of natural resources, water resource management, renewable energy and waste handling.

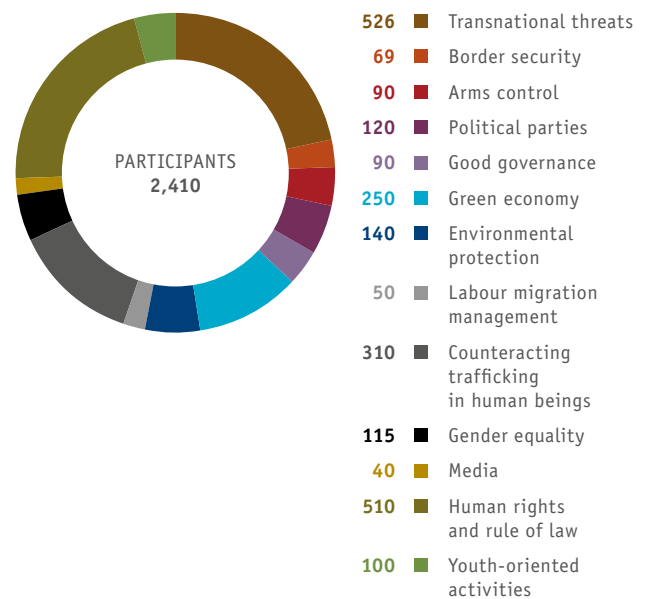
A high-level national preparatory meeting for the OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum also focused on these topics as well as on promoting environmental democracy through the network of Aarhus Centres.

IN OTHER NEWS

The Centre also worked on:

- promoting implementation of a National Preventive Mechanism against torture that was adopted in 2013;
- assisting criminal and administrative justice reform, as well as promotion of penal reform;
- promoting media pluralism, in particular at the fourth Central Asian Internet Forum;
- publishing guidelines on anti-money laundering for the business and financial sectors, a book on integrated water resources management in Central Asia, a guidebook on eco-journalism, a manual for journalists on information technology tools and a research paper on political parties in Kazakhstan.

TRAINING EVENTS IN 2013



Centre in Bishkek

Head of Centre: **Ambassador Sergey Kapinos**

Budget: **€ 6,810,400**

26 international staff

91 local staff

Community Security Initiative: 51 staff

www.osce.org/bishkek

We saw progress in several areas in 2013. Police reform moved ahead, and we continued working with the authorities on electoral and penitentiary reform. Several new training facilities also opened - for customs and financial intelligence officials - boding well for progress on border security and anti-money laundering activities.

HIGHLIGHTS

Started new project to control small arms

Supported new anti-financial crime training centre

Organized public dialogue on electoral reform

PREPARING FOR NEW SECURITY CHALLENGES

In light of the expected security changes in Afghanistan in 2014, the Centre focused on combating transnational threats through a series of anti-terrorism simulation exercises for local partner agencies, including Kyrgyzstan's "snow leopards" special forces. It also embarked on a five-part programme to control small arms, light weapons and conventional ammunition. The first phase was completed with the destruction of 51 man-portable air defence systems.

RESPONDING TO FINANCIAL SECURITY THREATS

A new training centre of the State Financial Intelligence Service was opened in March in Bishkek with the Centre's support. The institution offers courses to strengthen the technical expertise of public officials and parliamentarians to combat money-laundering and terrorist financing.

NEW FACILITIES FOR CUSTOMS COACHING

Another training facility in the Centre, for customs officers, was opened in November. In 2013 and 2014, some 360 Kyrgyz and Afghan officers are to be trained there on such issues as narcotics identification and detection, risk analysis, and the examination of containers and cargo documents. The establishment of the new facility is part of an OSCE project to help the authorities combat economic and environmental threats.

ELECTORAL, JUDICIAL AND PENITENTIARY REFORM

The Centre organized a public debate on electoral reform issues to support preparations for the parliamentary and presidential elections in 2015 and 2017. It also provided international expertise to the working groups drafting the new criminal, and criminal procedural and penitentiary codes.

Continuing its work on penitentiary reform, the Centre trained close to 1,000 prison staff on human rights standards and opened the first income-generation units in settlement colonies to improve the chances of inmates to reintegrate into society after their release.

Following the adoption of a law establishing a national mechanism to prevent torture, the Centre helped the authorities develop a strategic multi-year plan for the new body. In December, it presented a report on torture prevention in detention facilities. The report's analysis is based on information collected from some 460 unannounced monitoring visits to 51 penitentiary and police facilities and 23 psychiatric institutions.

SUPPORTING DIALOGUE BETWEEN POLICE AND COMMUNITY

A significant step forward was the signing of a governmental decree on approving comprehensive police reform measures and the creation of a government sanctioned Steering Committee to oversee implementation of the reform. A viable action plan was forged and approved by the Prime Minister's office in the autumn. The Centre helped the authorities develop a strategic community policing plan and new training methods for the Police Academy and School. The Neighbourhood Management project expanded from nine to 23 regions, strengthening the relationship between local crime prevention centres and the police.



Special forces at an anti-terrorism training exercise
 Copyright: Igor Sapojnikov/Slovo Kyrgyzstana

IN OTHER NEWS

In addition, the Centre:

- expanded its anti-trafficking activities by reaching out to religious leaders;
- organized a pilot Youth Model Parliament;
- ran a series of lectures on the UN Security Council Resolution on Women, Peace and Security; and,
- to raise awareness on environmental issues, organized a summer camp for children from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan and a musical theatre.



Kyrgyz students at an internship programme in August
 Copyright: OSCE/ACCELS

OSCE ACADEMY

EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND DIALOGUE

The first class of the Academy’s new graduate programme - the Master of Arts in Economic Governance and Development - graduated in 2013. The Academy continued developing its research and dialogue-platform functions. Together with the Centre in Bishkek, it also developed a project proposal to establish a Research Centre for Afghanistan-Central Asian relations.

COMMUNITY SECURITY INITIATIVE

CRIME-PREVENTION AND CONFIDENCE-BUILDING

The Community Security Initiative expanded to Batken city and prepared to expand to Nookan (Jalal Abad region). In the Community Police Training Centre in Osh, training seminars were held on such topics as strengthening the dialogue between the Police and the community and policing in a multi-ethnic society. International Police Advisors started to deliver training under a unified programme as part of in-service training. Mobile units continued to operate in remote areas with a multi-ethnic population, and served a total of 27,696 individuals. The Initiative also continued working on its juvenile delinquency prevention programme. The population’s trust in the police increased in the majority of the Initiative’s areas of responsibility, according to an opinion poll conducted in December.

Office in Tajikistan

Head of Office: **Ambassador Markus Mueller**

Budget: **€ 6,718,200**

28 international staff

132 local staff

www.osce.org/tajikistan

We have a busy year behind us. Tajikistan held elections and we helped with voter education. The Government adopted several crucial policy documents and new laws, which we helped develop. We also contributed to strengthening Afghani-Tajik relations, trained border staff and, with the help of our five field offices, institutionalized inter-party dialogue.

HIGHLIGHTS

**Informed
115,000 citizens on
voting procedures**

**Received border
management trainees
from 39 countries**

**Brought together
Tajik and Afghan experts
on water co-operation**

BRINGING STRUCTURE TO POLITICAL DIALOGUE

Inter-party dialogue, a longstanding goal of the Office, is gradually developing. Over 800 government officials (and civil society members) participated in discussions on social, economic and political issues – reducing tensions and institutionalizing democratic processes.

MAKING POLICE REFORM A REALITY

In March, a national police reform strategy was signed, a milestone document for which the Office had prepared the ground. The Office helped the authorities organize and plan activities to prepare the reform programme and a concrete action plan for the coming seven years.

PROFESSIONALIZING BORDER SECURITY

The Office organized a series of practical training courses for border and customs staff. Some 200 Tajik and Afghan officials were trained in green border protection, learning about fixed-point surveillance, tactical movement, how to read maps and use night vision goggles. The Office also held courses on winter patrolling, mountaineering and survival techniques, a train-the-trainers class and an advanced medical course. A training course for Tajik, Kyrgyz and Afghan border officials on combating narcotics and organized crime helped strengthen regional co-operation.

PREPARING FOR THE POLL

www.osce.org/tajikistan/110107

Between 22 October and 4 November, the Mission and Tajikistan's Central Election Commission reached out to more than 115,000 Tajik citizens, explaining how to cast their ballot for the 6 November presidential election. Alone in Dushanbe, voter educators, involved in a door-to-door campaign, spoke to 56,000 people.



Copyright: Jamshedi Davlat

THREE NEW AARHUS CENTRES ESTABLISHED IN:

- Tursunzade
- Kumsangir
- Garm

BORDER EXPERTS FLOCK TO DUSHANBE

www.oscebmsc.org

With two dozen highly diversified courses and workshops, attracting more than 500 participants, the Border Management Staff College continued to build its reputation as a key institution for the training of senior border officials and experts in the OSCE area. Nine more countries sent trainees to the College in 2013 - a considerable increase over 2012, bringing the total to 39.

As always, the key events were the three, one-month-long senior officer courses, which were supplemented by 21 additional events, such as a first training seminar for women leaders on border security, or a course held jointly with the Austrian Ministry of Finance for Tajik and Afghan border officials on inter-agency co-operation, risk analysis and customs intelligence.

EMPOWERING WOMEN

50 WOMEN POLITICIANS TRAINED IN HOW TO BUILD A POLITICAL CAREER

THE WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE NETWORK PROVIDED:

2,013 FREE LEGAL CONSULTATIONS

1,789 OTHER CONSULTATIONS

EDUCATED:

278 WOMEN ON HOW TO READ AND WRITE

1,119 WOMEN ON HOW TO USE COMPUTERS OR SEW FOR THEIR LIVELIHOOD

2,074 PEOPLE ON IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION FOR GIRLS AND PREVENTION OF FAMILY VIOLENCE

COMMUNICATING ECONOMIC NEEDS

Working closely with Tajik authorities, the Office was a driving force behind a new dialogue initiative that was set up for the Rasht Valley region. For long a restive and under-developed part of the country, the region now has its own voice when national economic development and investment priorities are being decided.

PUSHING AHEAD ON ANTI-TORTURE MEASURES

The Government adopted a national anti-torture action plan in 2013, a document signalling continued commitment to policy change. The Office, working with a coalition of civil society partners, assisted in the organization and co-ordination of legal aid for victims and improved the documentation of torture allegations. In 2013, coalition partners documented 25 allegations of torture, delivered legal aid in 12 cases, held 22 working meetings with defence attorneys and, together with the General Prosecutor's Office, trained 75 prosecutors in effective investigation techniques.

SUPPORTING MEDIA DEVELOPMENT

Tajikistan's media self-regulation body, established with the Office's support, mediated nine out-of-court settlements. The Office also trained judges in media policy, libel and defamation cases and the new media law adopted in March.

"We have witnessed that the decrease of corrupt practices, fewer conflicts among the traders, and better legal awareness among the trade participants can be directly attributed to the work of the Resource Centres in the markets."

Boimamad Alibakhshov, Chairman of the Association of Mountainous Entrepreneurs and farmers "Milal Inter"



IN OTHER NEWS

The Office was also involved in:

- giving technical and operational support to the authorities on humanitarian de-mining, as a result of which a strategy for the coming three years was adopted and more than 136,000 square metres of land cleared from mines;
- training Tajik military and law enforcement officials on arms security and stockpiles management; and
- establishing three advisory centres along the Afghan-Tajik border to promote cross-border trade.

Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

Project Co-ordinator: **Ambassador Gyorgy Szabo**

Budget: **€ 1,979,100**

2 international staff

18 local staff

www.osce.org/uzbekistan

In 2013, we made good on a goal we had already been pursuing for many years: to reach out with our projects into all the regions of Uzbekistan. We continued to assist the Government with initiatives in the field of economic development, legal reform, and the fight against human and illicit drugs trafficking, to name but a few. And, after long preparations, we finally started work on an action plan to implement UN Security Council Resolution 1540 on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction – an important step forward.

HIGHLIGHTS

Kicked off new economic empowerment project for women

Trained 250 judges and legal professionals on fair trial standards

Began work on preventing weapons proliferation

TALKING BUSINESS

Setting up a business is always daunting, and can be even more so for women entrepreneurs in Uzbekistan. They do not only face the usual financial and legal demands; they also have to surmount psychological and social barriers. Good communication and networking skills are essential, as are direct contacts with banks, local authorities and civil society. To help women establish such contacts, the Project Co-ordinator organized seminars throughout the country, focusing on many facets of business and entrepreneurship in the local context.

RAISING FAIR TRIAL STANDARDS

In support of judicial and legal reform, the Co-ordinator helped organize 10 workshops on international fair trial standards for 250 judges and legal professionals from regional, district and municipal levels. It also organized a conference to introduce international best practices to improve the curricula for the re-training of judges and defence lawyers at the Lawyers' Training Centre, and supported the publication of a handbook on human rights and fair trial principles.

STEMMING PROLIFERATION

In May, the Co-ordinator launched the first of a series of events to help the authorities develop a national action plan for the implementation of a UN Resolution on the non-proliferation

of weapons of mass destruction. The meetings were attended by officials from the border, customs and nature protection authorities. It is expected that the action plan will be finalised in 2014.

DEVELOPING INTEREST IN RENEWABLES

In March, a presidential decree encouraged the authorities, private sector and civil society to promote renewable energy. To support this growing interest in the issue, the Co-ordinator held a regional workshop in October to discuss new technologies, the required political framework and ways how to use renewables to better supply remote areas with power.

“The benefits of renewable energy are now widely understood [...] and we are reaching out to farmers to introduce the new technologies...”

Dr. Majid Khodjaev, Executive Director of the Central Asian Regional Centre for Renewable Energy, Uzbekistan

A SUM GREATER THAN ITS PARTS

“Starting a business was very difficult for me. I have no husband - I am the woman and the man for my family,” says Shafoat Nurullaeva, owner of a greenhouse business in the Navoi region. “But I managed to overcome these challenges, and today my products are distributed on the local markets.”

Ms Nurullaeva’s story is only one of many. Women start-ups often face difficulties - they quickly need to learn about legal issues, taxes, how to interact with government agencies. But they also need to network and to support each other. That’s where the OSCE-supported Business Women Association comes in.

“All my knowledge and skills I got from the Association and they helped me grow as an entrepreneur,” says Firuza Bakaeva, who owns a hotel in Bukhara. “The business women there helped each other to find the best solutions, they exchanged their experiences through the association.”

This is perhaps the single-most important lesson the women learnt: don’t go it alone. But, as Ms Bakaeva confirms, positive thinking beats everything: “Women can achieve many things in life, and if they want to they can be as successful in business as men.”



Firuza Bakaeva (top), Shafoat Nurullaeva
Copyright: Aleksandr Klepalov

CONTINUED FIGHT AGAINST TRAFFICKING

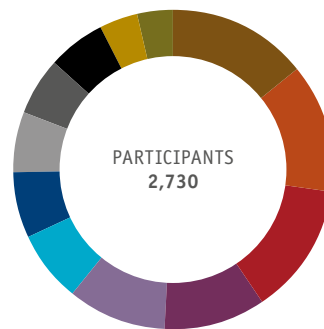
To establish more systematic, sustainable and co-ordinated anti-trafficking action, the Co-ordinator’s office held a series of specialized workshops for anti-trafficking commission officials. It also worked with the trade union federation and a women’s rights NGO on a project to empower at-risk groups and trained diplomatic staff of the Foreign Ministry on victim identification and assistance.

IN OTHER NEWS

The Project Co-ordinator also:

- trained bank and finance officials on how to detect and prosecute money-laundering and terrorist financing and held a regional seminar on recent updates of international standards in this field;
- organized several events on the latest regulations and measures on the fight against illicit drugs trafficking;
- trained police officers in human rights standards;
- held a meeting to discuss recommendations on torture prevention made by two UN human rights bodies; and
- organized an international debate on public and parliamentary control and a seminar on scientific human rights research.

TRAINING EVENTS IN 2013



390	Energy security and renewable energy
360	Civil society issues
360	Fostering economic competition
282	Media professionalism
272	Justice reform
200	Fight against corruption and money laundering*
180	Fighting human trafficking
165	Policing
161	Rural development
160	Woman empowerment
103	Human rights for police
97	Drug control

* Anti-money laundering, combating the financing of terrorism, prevention of corruption

“I want to ride my bicycle...” was probably not a song heard when the Project Co-ordinator symbolically blew the whistle to start a national cycling event in the streets of the capital Tashkent in September. The event, held with the NGO, Eco-Movement, promoted green transportation and hinted at the need for infrastructure improvements to make it easier for drivers to make cycling more attractive.



Cycling for the environment, an OSCE event in Tashkent in September
Copyright: OSCE/Umida Sharifbaeva

Representative to the Latvian–Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners

Representative: **Helmut Napiontek**

Budget: € 9,300

www.osce.org/lrmpc

2013 brought little change for the work of the Representative, who continued to help implement the 1994 bilateral agreement between Latvia and Russia on social guarantees for military pensioners and their families living in Latvia. The Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners did not receive any new complaints. Discussions between the two parties, which required the participation of the Representative as a third party, concentrated on reimbursement of medical care expenses for military pensioners.

MILITARY PENSIONERS FALLING UNDER THE 1994 BILATERAL AGREEMENT:

11,500 (according to Latvia)

13,000 (according to Russia)

NO COMPLAINTS

The Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners did not receive any individual complaints by military pensioners in 2013.

DISAGREEMENTS PERSIST

The differences over the number of military pensioners falling under the agreement remain unchanged. The two sides differ over who is subject to the bilateral agreement, or rather under which procedures individuals might be included in the list of eligible military pensioners.

COSTS FOR MEDICAL COVERAGE:

RUSSIA TO VERIFY NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES

In 2013, both Latvia and Russia avoided a resumption of the discussion on how to interpret the agreement, and shifted their attention to the reimbursement of medical care expenses

for military pensioners. The agreement stipulates that Russia is obliged to cover these expenses for its military pensioners, but Latvia considers the current procedures as outdated and not in line with actual costs, nor taking into account the actual health status of the beneficiaries.

Responding to a request by the Latvian authorities to increase the reimbursement levels, the Russian authorities are verifying how many military pensioners they are meant to compensate. This data check, which is expected to establish whether all notified Russian military pensioners fulfil the requirements to be subject to the Agreement, could bring a solution for an amended compensation scheme for medical care in 2014. This would also result in mutually agreed procedures on counting military pensioners.



PARTNERSHIPS FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION

Dialogue and co-operation with partner states and other international, regional and sub-regional institutions and initiatives is a vital aspect of the OSCE's work. The Organization regularly works with a network of Mediterranean and Asian partner countries, as well as the United Nations, European Union, NATO and the Council of Europe.

www.osce.org/networks



Asian and Mediterranean Partners

The Mediterranean and Asian Partnerships saw increased ownership and contribution by the Partners in 2013, leading to more practical and result-oriented co-operation on a number of issues. Libya's application to join the Mediterranean Partnership was a testimony to the importance of such a framework for the region.

Several OSCE events also focused again on Afghanistan, including the Security Days in March and the final session of the Annual Security Review Conference. Training for Afghan experts continued in such areas as border management, customs security and counter-terrorism. In addition, new projects were developed to study the impact on Central Asia of the planned withdrawal of international forces from Afghanistan in 2014, and to shed light on the empowerment and role of women in the country's reconciliation process.

"The OSCE will continue to engage with Afghanistan and support the Heart of Asia process. The transition and withdrawal of international troops from Afghanistan in 2014 necessitates further international engagement, not only with Afghanistan, but also – importantly – with its Central Asian neighbours."

OSCE Chairman-in-Office at the UN Security Council, 7 May 2013

CHAIRMANSHIP'S REPORT

The Ukrainian Chairmanship promoted the involvement of the Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation in OSCE events and activities, encouraged participation in relevant committee meetings, looked for ways for the Partners to provide their valuable contribution to the Helsinki+40 process and encouraged closer engagement by them.

Ukraine also spared no effort to negotiate with participating States on the issue of granting Libya Partnership Status. The issue was carried forward by the 2014 Swiss Chairmanship for further consultations.

The annual meetings of the OSCE Ministerial Troika with the Asian and Mediterranean Partners, with participation of the Chairman-in-Office, the Secretary General and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, took place on the margins of the Kyiv Ministerial Council in December.

SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT

The Secretary General continued informal consultations with each group of Partners. With the Mediterranean Partners, these led to the identification of preferred areas of engagement and the implementation of a number of projects on combating human trafficking, anti-terrorism, sustainable energy and the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security. Work also began to establish channels with academia and think-tanks across the Mediterranean to increase OSCE visibility and inject new ideas and momentum into the Mediterranean Partnership.

On every possible occasion, the Secretary General engaged with the leadership of the Mediterranean Partners. At meetings with the foreign ministers of Jordan, Morocco and Egypt and the Speaker of Tunisia's Constituent Assembly, he presented the value of the OSCE experience and expressed readiness to co-operate more closely with their countries, on the basis of their concrete priorities and needs. He also met Libya's Foreign Minister to discuss with him the country's application to join the OSCE Partnership.

The Asian Partners continued to actively contribute to the OSCE dialogue and provide financial and human resources to the Organization's activities. They demonstrated growing interest in studying OSCE experience and practices regarding confidence-building processes. At the same time, the OSCE Secretariat shared its experience and plans to support the Asian Partners' activities in 2014.

Political dialogue between the Secretary General and the Asian Partners was marked by intense informal consultations and high-level meetings to identify possible areas of stronger co-operation. The Secretary General met senior government officials from Afghanistan, Japan, Thailand and the Republic of Korea. He also gave a keynote speech at the 2013 Seoul Defence Dialogue and shared OSCE experience as a regional model for multilateral security co-operation.

THE PARTNERSHIP FUND

The Partnership Fund strengthens engagement between the Partners for Co-operation and the OSCE by sponsoring projects and Partners' participation in the Organization's activities. It is managed by the Secretary General.

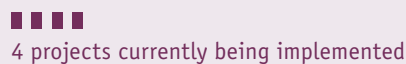
In 2013, five meetings at political and expert level were held with support from the Fund: one seminar and one expert meeting on preventing human trafficking in the Mediterranean region; an expert workshop on the implementation of universal anti-terrorism instruments; an expert workshop on Sustainable Energy Issues in the Southern Mediterranean; and a regional conference on the OSCE Code of Conduct for Politico-Military Aspects of Security.

The Fund also helped sustain the Organization's engagement with Afghanistan, by supporting, among other things, an event at which potential trends and challenges emanating from the changing security situation in Afghanistan in 2014 were discussed, alongside a possible role for the OSCE in this. A new initiative to facilitate and foster interaction of academia and think-tanks - the so-called Track II participants - between OSCE participating States and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation was also launched with help from the Fund. Numerous OSCE participating States contributed to the Partnership Fund in 2013.

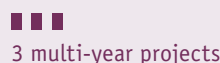
THE FUND IN FIGURES

Pledges since creation in 2008:	€ 1,675,686
New pledges in 2013:	€ 175,865
Sponsored participants from Partner States in OSCE activities in 2013:	10

PROJECTS DEVELOPED SINCE CREATION: 32



PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN 2013: 9



The Secretary General participated in the Heart of Asia Ministerial meeting in Almaty, Kazakhstan, where he presented a number of ways how the OSCE can make an impact across the three security dimensions in this regional initiative.

REPORTS OF THE CONTACT GROUPS

ASIAN CONTACT GROUP

Asian Partners for Co-operation: Afghanistan, Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Thailand

Chair: **Ireland**

Ireland, as Chair of the Asian Contact Group, assisted the Ukrainian Chairmanship in fostering an open and interactive dialogue with the Asian Partners for Co-operation, based on their priorities and requests. The Contact Group met five times in 2013 and discussed a number of topics of mutual concern:

- Freedom of expression of minorities in the digital age
- The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation www.hcoc.at
- Human security
- Rule of law, crime prevention and sustainable development
- Good governance and combating corruption
- Combating the illicit trade and misuse of small arms and light weapons
- New threats and challenges, including cyber security
- "Trustpolitik" in Asia.

The Asian Partners' Representatives regularly briefed the participants at these meetings on security related activities in their countries, and possible areas for further co-operation.

Together with Switzerland, which chaired the Mediterranean Contact Group in 2013, Ireland organized the annual joint meeting of both Contact Groups, which focused on the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security.

MEDITERRANEAN CONTACT GROUP

Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia

Chair: **Switzerland**

Switzerland, as Chair of the Mediterranean Contact Group in 2013, worked together with the Mediterranean Partners to foster an open and interactive dialogue within the Group and followed a demand-driven approach by responding to the interests and priorities of the Mediterranean Partners. Topics of the discussions covered:

- tolerance and non-discrimination;
- mediation;
- combating human trafficking;
- fighting corruption; and
- anti-terrorism.

IMPROVING SECURITY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

The 2013 OSCE-Asian Partners Conference, held in Adelaide, Australia on 18 and 19 March, focused on how to improve the security of women and girls.

The participants discussed the prevention of gender-based violence against women and girls; empowering women as decision-makers; promoting women's entrepreneurship; combating all forms of trafficking in human beings; and the impact of anti-trafficking policies on the human rights of vulnerable and trafficked persons, especially women and girls.

"Women are still the majority of trafficked persons, not only for sexual exploitation but also for labour exploitation including domestic servitude, and other forms of trafficking."

Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

ODIHR AND THE MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERS

www.osce.org/odihr/97636

To promote democratic structures in the OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation, ODIHR provided legislative assistance in the fields of freedom of assembly, national human rights institutions, and anti-terrorism, and completed three reviews of legislation. After issuing its opinions, ODIHR held consultative meetings with key Tunisian government authorities.

ODIHR also contributed its expertise to events organized by international organizations, governments and civil society in Tunisia and other Mediterranean Partner countries. This focused on women and youth participation in politics and political parties; capacity-building of women candidates and youth leaders; and political party regulation. Participants from the Mediterranean Partners took part in ODIHR training activities, such as courses on short- and long-term election observation and expert workshops.

Presentations were made by Jordan, Morocco, Israel, Tunisia and Algeria. At the last meeting, Libya presented its case for applying to join the OSCE Mediterranean Partnership.

The Mediterranean Conference, held in Monaco on 28 and 29 October, focused on enhancing the role of women in public, political and economic life and highlighted the importance of

the OSCE Mediterranean Partnership as a forum for exchanging best practices and promoting the co-operation between the Organization and its Partners. The event also touched upon other topics: the combat of trafficking in human beings and the financing of terrorism, particularly the issue of kidnapping for ransom.

At a workshop in Tunisia, ODIHR provided expertise on election observation reporting to representatives of more than 20 citizen observer groups. The Office also printed and distributed 1,200 Arabic-language copies of its election-related handbooks to counterparts from the Mediterranean Partner countries.

In its engagement with the Mediterranean Partners, ODIHR partnered with UN agencies, the Union for the Mediterranean, the National Democratic Institute (NDI), the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), the National Constituent Assembly of Tunisia and the Tunisian School of Politics.

ODIHR ORGANIZED:

28 ACTIVITIES WITH MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERS FOR...

481 GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND CIVIL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES

International, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions

Co-operation with other international organizations is a key element of the OSCE's approach to resolving outstanding global and regional issues. The complex and interconnected nature of today's threats calls for close co-ordination between multiple international players. Such collaboration contributes to the political, financial and operational efficiency of our activities, promotes the best use of available resources and reduces unnecessary duplication.

In 2013, co-operation with other international, regional and sub-regional organizations from the OSCE area and beyond continued to gain importance on the OSCE's agenda. It was among the priorities of the Ukrainian Chairmanship, which invited 66 organizations to the Ministerial Council meeting in Kyiv.

For his part, the OSCE Secretary General met 10 foreign ministers of OSCE participating States and three Partners for Co-operation on the margins of the UN General Assembly

opening session in September in New York. He also held a number of bilateral meetings with senior representatives from the UN and other international and regional organizations, including the EU, NATO and the League of Arab States. In addition, he participated and delivered statements at a number of high-level multilateral events, such as at the Friends of Mediation Ministerial Meeting, co-hosted by the Finnish and Turkish foreign ministers; the Heart of Asia Senior Officials Meeting of the Istanbul Process; and the UN Alliance of Civilizations Group of Friends Ministerial Meeting.

UNITED NATIONS

As the principal partner organization of the OSCE, co-operation with the UN received particular attention during the year. Contacts were furthered both at the political and working levels.

The Chairman-in-Office addressed the UN Security Council on 7 May, highlighting the Chairmanship's priority areas for greater collaboration with the UN.

The Ukrainian Chairmanship also took part on behalf of the OSCE in the UN Security Council debate on co-operation between the UN and regional and sub-regional organizations in maintaining international peace and security, held on 6 August in New York. The Chairmanship stressed the OSCE's commitment to create more synergies with the UN in key regions of common concern and work closely on issues such as addressing post-conflict challenges and transnational threats.

The Secretary General met the UN Secretary-General in October. They discussed OSCE-UN co-operation, particularly concerning Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, and developments in the OSCE area and neighbouring regions.

The Secretary General also twice met the UN Deputy Secretary-General, in June in Vienna and in September in New York. Preventative diplomacy, mediation, building closer operational links through staff exchange and enhancing relationships between the UN and regional organizations under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter were among the issues discussed.

OTHER SENIOR UN OFFICIALS WHOM THE SECRETARY GENERAL MET IN 2013

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

Administrator of the UN Development Programme (UNDP)

Executive Director of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Director-General of the UN Office in Vienna (UNOV)

Director General of the UN Office at Geneva (UNOG)

Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Under Secretary-General for Political Affairs

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of UNAMA

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction

Head of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)

UN High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations

Assistant Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations

Deputy Executive Director of UN Women

Assistant Secretary-General for the Rule of Law and Security Institutions in the UN Department for Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO)

Director of the Bureau for Europe of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

In addition to this active agenda, the Secretary General signed a number of agreements with UN-family organizations, aimed at strengthening the institutional co-operation and advancing co-ordination during the planning and implementation of programmes and activities. Examples include the UNODC-OSCE Joint Action Plan for 2013-2014 signed in April; the Memorandum of Understanding with UNDP signed in October; and the extension of the Memorandum of Understanding with the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA).

Working-level co-operation was strengthened by the pilot staff exchange with the UN, initiated by the OSCE Secretary General with the aims of stimulating desk-to-desk contacts, fostering the exchange of information and deepening the knowledge of the tools and procedures of the two organizations. Two exchanges were held in 2013, the first focusing on UN and OSCE engagement in Eastern Europe, and the second on mediation-related activities.

The annual staff meeting with the UN was hosted by the OSCE in Vienna in June. It discussed regional and thematic issues of common interest with participation from the OSCE Secretariat, OSCE Institutions, UNDPA, DPKO, UNDP and OHCHR.

EUROPEAN UNION

The institutional interaction with the EU further intensified in 2013. The Secretary General addressed the EU Political and Security Committee and the European Parliament. He also met

key EU players, including the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy; the President of the European Council, President of the European Commission; and the Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy.

At the EU Ministerial meeting in October in Luxembourg, the OSCE Troika discussed developments in the entire region, with a focus on protracted conflicts. This event was co-chaired by the OSCE Chairman-in-Office and Lithuania's Foreign Minister. Earlier in June, the Troika and the EU met in Vienna at ambassadorial level to exchange views on matters of mutual interest.

Two staff meetings were also held to exchange information, lessons learned and best practices.



*NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen (r) and Secretary General Zannier at NATO Headquarters.
Copyright: NATO Press Office*

NATO

The polls in northern Kosovo provided an example of the excellent co-operation on the ground between the OSCE and NATO. The Kosovo Force (KFOR) and the OSCE Mission in Kosovo worked together to ensure safe and peaceful elections.

Such practical co-operation was endorsed at several high-level political consultations, including those held between the two Secretaries General in Brussels in November. That month, the Chairperson of the Permanent Council addressed NATO's Euro-Atlantic Cooperation Council to give an update on key matters on the OSCE Chairmanship's agenda.

Throughout the year, the Secretariats' staff participated on a mutual basis in events organized by the two Organizations, which provided regular opportunities to share information and ideas.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The OSCE and the Council of Europe (CoE) continued to share information on issues of common interest. Two regular meetings of the Co-ordination Group took place in 2013, reviewing progress in the four areas of enhanced co-operation.

The Ukrainian Chairmanship issued a "food-for-thought" paper on developing efficient interaction between the two organizations, supporting the development of goal-oriented co-operation with the CoE.

On 9 October, the OSCE Secretary General addressed a meeting of the CoE's Committee of Ministers' Deputies. The Secretaries General met on the margins to discuss co-operation between the two organizations.

On 19 October, the CoE Secretary General addressed the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna. The Chairmanships of both organizations also presented their priorities for the year at each other's decision-making bodies. The OSCE Secretariat participated in the 123rd Session of the CoE's Committee of Ministers meeting on 16 May, while the Council's Secretary General participated at the OSCE's 20th Ministerial Council meeting.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Throughout the year, the Secretary General held bilateral meetings with heads and senior officials from a number of international, regional and sub-regional organizations and attended some of their high-level events.

In recent years, close and regular dialogue at the institutional level has been established between the OSCE and the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO). In 2013, the two organizations explored venues for co-operation in areas dealing with transnational threats, such as combating terrorism, the fight against drug-trafficking, fighting trafficking in human beings, and combating threats stemming from Afghanistan, as well as border patrolling in Central Asia. CSTO representatives participated in and contributed

to several OSCE events, including the Kyiv Ministerial Council meeting, the Annual Security Review Conference in June, and the OSCE Security Days in March and June. OSCE representatives took an active part in the CSTO high-level conference on peacekeeping, in November, and the CSTO Working Group meeting on Afghanistan in Moscow, in December.

OSCE staff also engaged with representatives of other international bodies, aimed at fostering co-operation and common approaches. Those organizations included:

- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)
- Interpol
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
- Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)
- Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA)
- Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)
- Cooperation Council of Turkic-Speaking States (CCTS)
- Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking Countries (TURKPA)
- Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)
- Central European Initiative (CEI)
- Organization for Democracy and Economic Development (GUAM)
- Regional Co-operation Council (RCC)
- South-East European Cooperation Process (SEECP)
- Centre for Security Cooperation (RACVIAC)
- Community of Democracies

SECRETARIAT

The TRANSNATIONAL THREATS DEPARTMENT continued its close co-operation with the UNODC, based on the 2013-14 Joint Action Plan. They worked together on

- developing a guidebook on police reform as part of the reform of the wider criminal justice system;
- a joint conference on the prevention of illicit drug trade through the Internet;
- a joint project with IOM on the links between irregular migration and transnational crimes impacting migrants.

The Department maintained an active dialogue with several organizations on joint efforts to assist states in effectively addressing transnational threats, in particular terrorism and illicit drugs trafficking. These included the

- EU
- CoE
- NATO
- Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC)
- CIS and its Anti-terrorism Centre
- CSTO
- SCO

On activities such as enhancing co-operation in criminal matters related to counter terrorism; tackling violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism; and increasing travel document security, the Department co-operated with several entities of the UN Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force, including

- UN Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate
- UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch
- INTERPOL

and with others such as the International Civil Aviation Organization. It also participated in several working group meetings of the Global Counter Terrorism Forum and contributed to the promotion of criminal justice systems.

With several organizations, the Department addressed border security and management issues, including:

- UNODC
- UNHCR
- IOM
- International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
- Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)
- RACVIAC
- George Marshall Centre
- World Customs Organization (WCO)
- European Agency for the Management of Operational Co-operation at the External Borders of the Member States (Frontex)
- CSTO
- Council of the CIS Commanders of the Border Guard Services, and
- EU missions e.g. the Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) and the Border Management Programme in Central Asia (BOMCA).

Many of these organizations work with the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Tajikistan to deliver training courses for participating States and Partners for Co-operation.

In the area of cyber and information and communications technology security, co-operation was strengthened with the UN, EU, CoE and NATO.

On cybercrime, particularly on combating the sexual exploitation of children on the Internet, the Department worked with Europol, Interpol and the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre.

The CONFLICT PREVENTION CENTRE co-operated with a number of international organizations in 2013. Together with the UN and the EU, the Organization co-chaired four rounds of the Geneva International Discussions. OSCE also co-facilitated, together with the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia, 11 meetings of the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism in Ergneti.

Following an invitation by the parties of the EU-led Belgrade-Pristina dialogue to the OSCE to facilitate municipal elections in four northern Kosovo municipalities, the CPC worked

closely with the European External Action Service (EEAS) on preparations for the election facilitation operation.

The Centre worked with UNHCR in a collective international effort that included the CoE Development Bank, the European Commission and US State Department to support implementation of the Regional Housing Programme. This five-year programme, launched in April 2012 at the Sarajevo Donors' Conference, aims to provide durable solutions for approximately 74,000 of the most vulnerable refugees and displaced persons from the 1991-95 conflict. Three OSCE field operations are actively engaged in this initiative: the missions to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia.

The Centre also worked with UNHCR on the development of a protection checklist that addresses the protection needs of persons at risk of or affected by forced displacement. The checklist demonstrates a best practice of institutional co-operation on conflict cycle issues.

The CPC deepened its co-operation with other organizations in the area of mediation-support. UN staff took part in an OSCE mediation course and mediation experts from the UN Standby Team participated in several OSCE mediation events. Exchanges at the strategic and working levels were organized between CPC and the EEAS mediation-support team, including mutual invitations to mediation training courses.

The CPC and the Transnational Threat Department organized a joint OSCE-UNODA-UNODC-Interpol Conference on Tracing Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons. The OSCE Secretariat and UNODA also extended a Memorandum of Understanding on Joint Implementation of Projects on Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and Their Means of Delivery, in Response to OSCE Participating States' Requests.

Phases II and III of the joint OSCE-UNDP project were completed with the destruction of 1,450 tonnes of unstable and surplus ammunition. Phase II of a joint small arms and light weapons capacity building project in Belarus continued with a security upgrade of two storage sites. A project aimed at destroying 1,288 cluster bombs in Georgia was completed in the summer, with 19 missiles brought from Moldova to Georgia in 1992, destroyed as part of the same project. The first phase of a joint OSCE-UNDP project in Serbia was also completed, destroying 162 tonnes of napalm powder in October. In autumn, a project kicked off to upgrade security of ammunition storage sites in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The CPC strengthened co-operation with the EU, which provided approximately 800,000 Euros to support the non-proliferation of illicit small arms and light weapons in the OSCE region.

GENDER SECTION: In October, the OSCE addressed for the first time the annual UN Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security. In her statement, the OSCE Senior Gender Adviser outlined the Organization's key contribution to maintaining international peace and security through its work on women, peace and security.

“While it is obvious that States have the primary responsibility for ensuring that the Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security are translated into action, regional organizations working on the maintenance of international peace and security, such as the OSCE, also have a recognized role.”

Ambassador Miroslava Beham, OSCE Senior Gender Adviser, at the UN Security Council, 18 October 2013

Two new partnerships were launched in 2013 by the Section:

- with the Business Council for Peace to support women entrepreneurs in Central Asia to become community leaders for peace and economic prosperity;
- with Promundo, on engaging men and boys in combating gender-based violence and building on the OSCE MenEngage Network.



Senior Gender Adviser Ambassador Miroslava Beham, at the UN Security Council in October
Copyright: UN Photo

The Section continued working together with several organizations on women’s participation in conflict resolution, mediation and the security sector, including:

- UN Women
- UNDPA
- Peace Research Institute
- DCAF

It co-operated with the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) on data on prevalence rates of gender-based violence in the OSCE region; and with the CoE on promoting the Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women, and domestic violence.

The OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND CO-ORDINATOR FOR COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS further developed bilateral co-operation with partners of

the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons. On the occasion of European Anti-Trafficking Day, on 18 October, the Special Representative, together with the UN Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and the President of the CoE Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, called for a concerted and human rights-based global action to end human trafficking.

The OFFICE OF THE CO-ORDINATOR OF ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES partnered with the

- UNODC
- OECD
- World Bank
- International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- Financial Action Task Force
- CoE

and others, on promoting good governance and anti-corruption, anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism.

It also worked with IOM and ILO on migration management issues, with UNECE on transport and with WCO on customs issues.

The Office worked with UNECE on water issues, public participation in environmental decision-making and sustainable energy. The Co-ordinator also continued to develop close co-operation with the ENVSEC partner organizations. The Office co-operated with the European Commission Instrument for Stability on climate change and security issues. On energy, it engaged in a regular exchange with the members of the Vienna Energy Club, Energy Charter Secretariat, EU Directorate-General for Energy, International Energy Agency and International Renewable Energy Agency.

INSTITUTIONS

The HIGH COMMISSIONER ON NATIONAL MINORITIES co-operated closely with relevant bodies and experts of the UN, the CoE and the EU, with respect to requirements of confidentiality. Cross-institutional staff participation in relevant events and expert dialogue continued. Civil society organizations, particularly those representing minority communities, served as important interlocutors for the High Commissioner during country visits. In several countries, the High Commissioner also worked with NGOs as implementing partners.

The REPRESENTATIVE ON FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA co-operated with special rapporteurs from the UN, OAS and African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights to produce a Declaration on the Protection of Freedom of Expression and Diversity in the Digital Terrestrial Transition that focused

on ways to ensure a pluralistic media environment when implementing the digital switchover.

The Office participated in several events held in co-ordination with UNESCO and its various organs, including one addressing the issue of handling online content while not violating free speech principles.

The Representative also spoke at a conference organized by the CoE, promoting freedom of expression in the digital age and discussing ways to provide increased safety for journalists.

The OFFICE FOR DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS continued its regular partnership in the observation of elections with delegations from the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, CoE Parliamentary Assembly, European Parliament and NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

The Office also developed further its co-operation with other international election observation organizations. In September, it hosted the Eighth Annual Implementation Meeting for endorsers of the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation, which now totals more than 40 organizations.

ODIHR worked closely with the CoE in the field of legislative assistance, democratic governance and the rule of law. The Office issued joint opinions on human dimension legislation, including electoral legislation, with the CoE Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission). It co-organized a meeting on judicial reform with the CoE in Armenia in April.

The Office partnered with the CoE Group of States against Corruption on issues related to party and candidate financing during an expert seminar on political party regulation in July

in Warsaw, and at a conference in Skopje in October, on good practices for political party and campaign financing.

ODIHR co-operated with UN agencies in the field of rule of law and gender equality. In Bishkek in May, it organized a regional expert roundtable meeting on legal aid in Central Asia, in co-operation with OHCHR and UNODC. The event provided a platform for an exchange of expertise among legal practitioners from all five OSCE participating States in Central Asia. The Office also co-operated with UNDP in the organization of the regional workshop "Equal and Empowered: Women's equal participation in politics" in June in Chisinau, presenting good practices for establishing parliamentary women caucuses.

Together with the EC, FRA, OHCHR and UNHCR, the Office was active in fighting racism and intolerance. ODIHR trained representatives from OSCE field operations, UNHCR and IOM on freedom of religion or belief, and hate crimes. Together with its Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief, ODIHR worked closely with the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, the European Council of Religious Leaders and the Association of European Police Colleges to further tolerance and non-discrimination.

The OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (PA) reached out more than ever to partner organizations in 2013 to consider new avenues for collaboration. At the initiative of the OSCE PA Secretary General, the Secretaries General of NATO, PACE and the OSCE PA began a series of regular consultations aimed at expanding co-operation on election observation and other activities. Among several visits to partner organizations in 2013, the Assembly President and Secretary General met the UN Secretary General in November. They discussed the value that increased Assembly involvement can bring to bear on the UN's work, especially on protracted conflicts in the OSCE area.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD

SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

The PRESENCE IN ALBANIA worked with the EU on police assistance and training. With the CoE, it organized training courses for lower-level election commissioners. Together with the CoE and UNDP, it helped design and implement a Territorial Administrative Reform. The Presence also worked with UNDP on public participation on environmental issues and with the EU's EURALIUS Mission on reform of the criminal procedures code.

The MISSION TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA co-operated with UNDP, NATO and EU on arms control initiatives; with the EU on a Structured Dialogue on Justice, support to war crimes processing in the country and education reform; with the CoE on local government, education and prison reform, and implementing judicial decisions; with UNHCR on durable solutions for displaced persons, refugees and returnees; and with UNICEF on education reform.

The MISSION IN KOSOVO worked with EULEX, UN agencies, KFOR, CoE and other partners on initiatives to enhance the capacities of institutions, strengthen civil society and

promote human rights, particularly community rights. Other issues included the reintegration of returnees and repatriated persons, language rights, human rights compliance of media, anti-discrimination related legislation and gender equality.

The MISSION TO MONTENEGRO co-operated with the EU on the reform process, in particular in areas that complement Montenegro's requirements for EU accession. Together with the EU, DCAF and the International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program, the Mission worked on strengthening the capacity of rule of law institutions in the fight against corruption and organized crime. Co-operation with the European Broadcasting Union continued in reforming the public service broadcaster. Together with UNDP, the Mission organized a donor's conference to secure funds to complete a demilitarization programme. With UNHCR and EU, it organized visits for displaced persons to obtain identity documents from their former municipalities in Kosovo.

The MISSION TO SERBIA worked with several UN agencies, including UNDP, on the Capacity Development Programme for Conventional Ammunition Stockpile Management. With

OHCHR, it gave support to the authorities to develop a follow-up mechanism for recommendations of the situation of human rights and UN treaty bodies' decisions on individual petitions. It also co-operated with the CoE to support the judicial reform process, human rights, anti-corruption and democratization. On refugees, the Mission continued working with UNHCR and the EU on providing durable solutions for refugees in need. It co-operated with the EU on judicial reform, the fight against organized crime, war crimes monitoring, economic transparency, media legislation reform and social inclusion of Roma; and with DCAF on security and intelligence governance and accountability.

As part of its efforts to monitor the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement review efforts, the MISSION TO SKOPJE co-operated with the EU, NATO, UNESCO and UNDP. It also worked with EULEX and KFOR on improved border security, with DCAF on cross-border co-operation, and with ICITAP and EU on police reform. On judicial reform, the Mission worked with the Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training, EU, UNICEF, UNHCR, ICRC and the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative. It continued to work with EU, USAID, UNICEF and UNDP on democratic governance.

EASTERN EUROPE

The MISSION TO MOLDOVA worked with the EU, UN agencies, IOM and CoE on the fight against human trafficking, domestic violence and discrimination and human rights issues.

The PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UKRAINE continued its work with NATO on a social adaptation project; partnered with EUBAM on border guards training; and worked on mine action and ammunition standards with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). With the EU, he worked on a project to strengthen the capacities of administrative courts; and with CoE, IOM and UNDP on the prevention of human trafficking, promotion of gender equality and combating cybercrime.

SOUTH CAUCASUS

The OFFICE IN BAKU and the CoE co-operated on a detention monitoring programme. Together with UNHCR and IOM, it worked on the countering of human trafficking, and with the EBRD on building the capacities of small and medium-sized enterprises. It co-operated with UNECE on a national dialogue on water management; with the EU on Integrated Water Basin Management; and with UNDP on projects for Civic Action on Security and Environment.

The OFFICE IN YEREVAN worked with the World Bank on the Regulatory Guillotine project and with the EU on support for the presidential elections. With DCAF, it helped security sector reform, and co-operated with the ENVSEC partners on environmental projects. It also worked with the CoE, EU, UN, Asian Development Bank, EBRD, IMF and the World Bank on such issues as combating corruption, police assistance, human rights, economic reforms, environmental issues, judicial reform, media, gender, anti-trafficking and migration.

CENTRAL ASIA

The CENTRE IN ASHGABAT continued to work with international partners on projects that assist Turkmenistan in further improving the physical security and stockpile management of small arms and light weapons and conventional ammunitions.

The CENTRE IN ASTANA worked with various UN bodies and agencies, including UNODC on law enforcement; UNOHCR on human and refugee rights; UNECE on transparency and sustainable development; WCO on trade facilitation; UNESCO on journalist education and climate change; and UN Women on gender-related issues such as gender sensitive labour migration. It also partnered with IOM on combating trafficking in human beings and promoting migration management. Through the BOMCA programme, it worked on judicial reform and border management. It also co-operated with the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) and the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea on integrated water management efforts.

The CENTRE IN BISHKEK continued to work with UN, EU and other partners on reconciliation, conflict prevention, peace building and mediation. It co-operated with the BOMCA programme, IOM and UNODC on border-related projects. On anti-terrorism and small arms and light weapons initiatives, it worked with UNODC and EU. The Centre co-operated with EU, ICRC, OHCHR and UN agencies on various human dimension activities.

The OFFICE IN TAJIKISTAN co-operated on border security and management issues with UNDP, EU Border Management Northern Afghanistan (BOMNAF), DCAF, UNODC, IOM, UNHCR, UNDP, UN Mine Action Service, the Ottawa Convention Implementation Support Unit and GICHD. On political dialogue the Office worked with UNRCCA; on environmental and economic issues, with the OECD Anti-Corruption Network, Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project, IFC, WCO and ENVSEC. In the human dimension, it co-operated with UN Women on political participation, gender equality and prevention of domestic violence; with IOM, ILO, UNHCR and UNODC on human trafficking and forced migration issues; and with EU, ICRC, UNICEF, OHCHR and UNDP on international human rights standards.

The PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UZBEKISTAN co-ordinated its activities with the UN, BOMCA and the EU Project on Support to criminal Justice Reforms in Uzbekistan. Its interaction with the UN and its agencies was concerned in particular with anti-corruption issues, fighting trafficking in human beings, policing and the implementation of the UN Human Rights Council and Treaty Bodies' recommendations on human rights issues in the country.

ANNEXES



Staff*

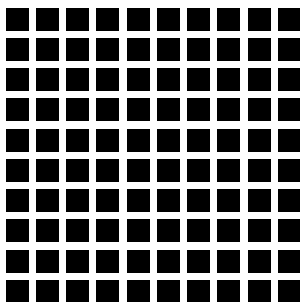
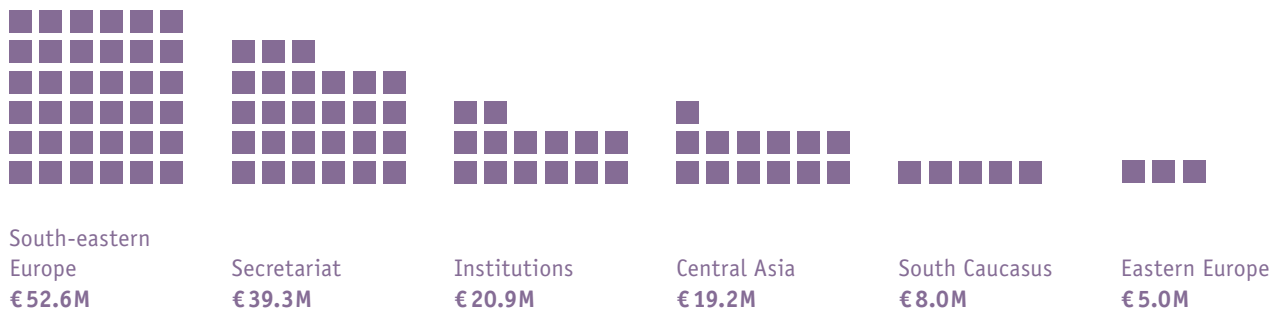
NATIONALITY	Kosovo	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Skopje	Serbia	Montenegro	Albania	Baku	Yerevan	PR CiO Minsk Conference	Moldova	Ukraine	Astana	Ashgabat	Bishkek	Tajikistan	Uzbekistan	Totals for Field Operations	Secretariat	RFOM	HCNM	ODIHR	Totals for Secretariat and Institutions	GRAND TOTALS
Armenia		1												1			2	1			2	3	5
Austria	8	1	2	2		2											15	11	1		3	15	30
Azerbaijan																		1				1	1
Belarus	1												1				2	2			2	4	6
Belgium																		2			1	3	3
Bosnia and Herzegovina	11			2											1		14	4	1		2	7	21
Bulgaria	1						1		1			1	1	3	1		9	1				1	10
Canada	7	1		1		1									2		12	11			5	16	28
Croatia	5	2	1														8	2	1			3	11
Czech Republic	1	2			1			1	1	1		1					8	3		1	1	5	13
Denmark															1	1	2		1		1	2	4
Estonia										2							2			1		1	3
Finland	2	1	1												1		5	4		3		7	12
France	6	3	2	1		1	2			1				1	1		18	11		2	4	17	35
Georgia	4		1										1	1	2		9	3			3	6	15
Germany	2	4	4	1		2				1		1	1	2	3	1	22	22	1	2	7	32	54
Greece	4		1											2			7	1				1	8
Hungary	3		5		1										1		12	2	1		2	5	17
Iceland	1																1						1
Ireland	7	6	2	3	1										1		20	1			1	2	22
Italy	11	7	1	4	1	1	1							2	1		29	14			4	18	47
Kazakhstan											1			1			2	3	1		2	6	8
Kyrgyzstan		1					1										2	1			1	2	4
Latvia	1																1			1	1	2	3
Lithuania																		2				2	2
Luxemburg																		1				1	1
Malta	1																1						1
Moldova	2		1					1				1		2			7				1	1	8
Montenegro	1					1											2						2
Netherlands			1														1	2		2	2	6	7
Norway				2		1									2		5				2	2	7
Poland	4	2	1		1			1	1	1				2	2		15	2			6	8	23
Portugal	1	1															2	2				2	4
Romania				1													1				1	1	2
Russian Federation	1	1	2	1	1			1						9	2		18	12	1	1	3	17	35
Serbia										1		1		1			3	3			1	4	7
Slovakia	1	1					1							1			4	2				2	6
Slovenia						1									1		2	1			4	5	7
Spain	2	1	2			2				1					1		9	7	1		1	9	18
Sweden	2			1	1				1	1				2	3		11	2	1		1	4	15
Switzerland	1			1						1					1		4	4		1		5	9
Tajikistan			1														1						1
fYR of Macedonia	18														1		19				1	1	20
Turkey	7		4				2						1	1	1		16	4				4	20
Turkmenistan															1		1	1				1	2
Ukraine	1		1		1				1			1		1			6	8			3	11	17
United Kingdom	13	5	2	3	1	3			1	1							29	16		2	5	23	52
United States	10	10	2	5	1	1	1	2		3		1	1	1	6	4	48	14	1	3	4	22	70
Uzbekistan								1			1						2	2				2	4
Internationally recruited staff	140	50	38	27	10	16	9	7	6	14	3	7	6	42	31	3	409	185	11	19	77	292	701
Locally recruited staff	432	342	110	133	32	60	32	51	11	43	56	23	19	120	189	18	1,671	201	3	12	75	291	1,962
Total number of staff	572	392	148	160	42	76	41	58	17	57	59	30	25	162	220	21	2,080	386	14	31	152	583	2,663

* includes staff in posts as at 30 September 2013 financed from Unified Budget and extra-budgetary contributions.

Unified Budget

	UNIFIED BUDGET (€)	% OF TOTAL
FUNDS RELATED TO THE SECRETARIAT AND INSTITUTIONS		
Secretariat	39,269,700	27%
Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights	16,039,300	11%
High Commissioner on National Minorities	3,407,600	2%
Representative on Freedom of the Media	1,451,600	1%
TOTAL FOR FUNDS RELATED TO THE SECRETARIAT AND INSTITUTIONS	60,168,200	42%
FUNDS RELATED TO OSCE FIELD OPERATIONS		
South-eastern Europe		
Mission in Kosovo	20,512,800	14%
Tasks in Bosnia and Herzegovina	13,294,100	9%
Mission to Serbia	6,909,500	5%
Presence in Albania	3,040,600	2%
Mission to Skopje	6,564,300	5%
Mission to Montenegro	2,243,900	2%
Total for South-eastern Europe	52,565,200	36%
Eastern Europe		
Mission to Moldova	2,125,200	1%
Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine	2,826,000	2%
Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners	9,300	0.01%
Total for Eastern Europe	4,960,500	3%
South Caucasus		
Office in Yerevan	2,791,400	2%
Office in Baku	2,829,900	2%
High-Level Planning Group	245,100	0.17%
The Minsk Process	927,500	1%
Personal Representative of the CiO on the Conflict Dealt with by the Minsk Conference	1,167,000	1%
Total for South Caucasus	7,960,900	5%
Central Asia		
Centre in Astana	2,148,400	1%
Centre in Ashgabat	1,511,700	1%
Centre in Bishkek	6,810,400	5%
Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan	1,979,100	1%
Office in Tajikistan	6,718,200	5%
Total for Central Asia	19,167,800	13%
TOTAL FOR FUNDS RELATED TO OSCE FIELD OPERATIONS	84,654,400	58%
TOTAL	€ 144,822,600	100%

FUNDS RELATED TO SECRETARIAT, INSTITUTIONS AND FIELD OPERATIONS IN EACH REGION*



TOTAL: € 144.8M

* individual figures are rounded to the nearest € 100,000.

Pledges and expenditures

DONOR	APPROVED PLEDGE AMOUNT (€)	%
Andorra	20,000	0.09%
Austria	252,340	1.19%
Czech Republic	43,200	0.20%
Denmark	801,044	3.78%
European Commission	1,705,000	8.05%
European Union	6,189,487	29.23%
Finland	293,246	1.38%
France	75,000	0.35%
Germany	1,445,148	6.83%
Hungary	120,000	0.57%
Ireland	100,000	0.47%
Japan	642,154	3.03%
Kazakhstan	10,414	0.05%
Liechtenstein	168,999	0.80%
Luxembourg	128,000	0.60%
Monaco	50,250	0.24%
Netherlands	527,031	2.49%
Norway	699,996	3.31%
Norwegian Institute of International Affairs	45,737	0.22%
Poland	72,286	0.34%
Russian Federation	25,000	0.12%
Serbia	14,000	0.07%
Slovakia	15,000	0.07%
Slovenia	5,000	0.02%
South Korea	7,360	0.03%
Sweden	1,461,877	6.90%
Switzerland	2,622,285	12.38%
Trust Fund ENVSEC	211,515	1.00%
Turkey	56,000	0.26%
United Kingdom	1,516,154	7.16%
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	14,332	0.07%
United States	1,836,254	8.67%
GRAND TOTAL	€ 21,174,109	100%



APPROVED PLEDGES BETWEEN 2004 AND 2013

Total of approved pledges in 2013:
€ 21,174,109

Total number of pledges:
192

Total cash received:*

€ 30,069,824

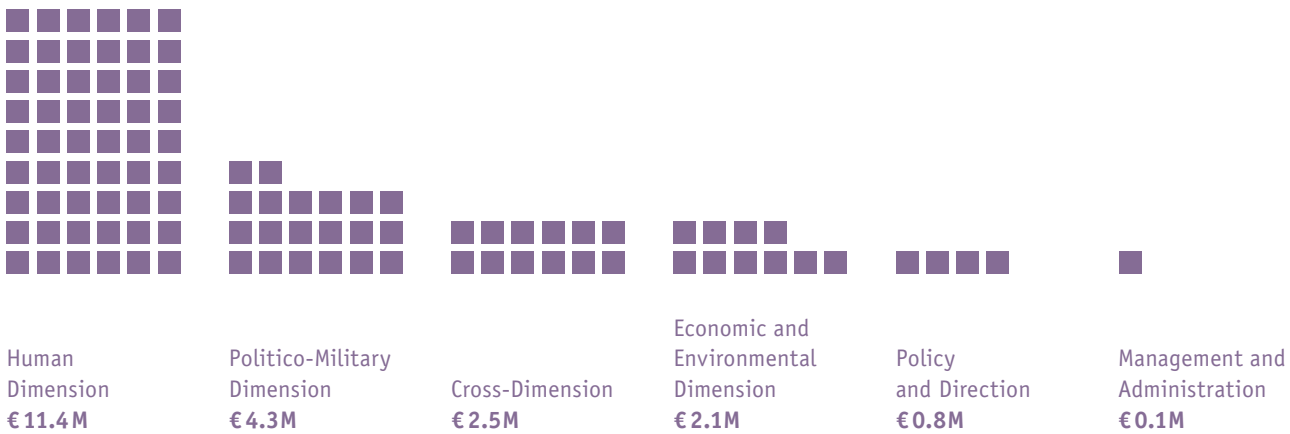
* includes cash from approved pledges of previous years

DONOR	EXPENDITURE (€)	%
Andorra	6,087	0.02%
Australia	141,238	0.49%
Austria	327,349	1.13%
Azerbaijan	10,610	0.04%
Belgium	112,462	0.39%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	4,891	0.02%
Canada	413,478	1.42%
Czech Republic	65,096	0.22%
Denmark	800,966	2.76%
ENVSEC Trust Fund	43,077	0.15%
European Agency for Reconstruction	11,000	0.04%
European Commission	2,274,637	7.83%
European Union	1,771,369	6.09%
Finland	747,573	2.57%
Foundation on Inter-Ethnic Relations (HCNM)	11,440	0.04%
France	118,385	0.41%
Germany	1,462,746	5.03%
Hungary	27,557	0.09%
International Organization for Migration	36,706	0.13%
Ireland	512,629	1.76%
Italy	173,129	0.60%
Japan	530,415	1.83%
Kazakhstan	634,987	2.18%
Kosovo Consolidated Budget	40,615	0.14%
Liechtenstein	141,839	0.49%
Lithuania	38,117	0.13%
Luxembourg	146,350	0.50%
Monaco	150,881	0.52%
Netherlands	652,490	2.25%
Norway	2,484,377	8.55%
Norwegian Institute of International Affairs	36,921	0.13%
Open Society Fund - Bosnia and Herzegovina	8,341	0.03%
OSCE Charity Ball Project	10,000	0.03%
Poland	43,729	0.15%
Russian Federation	21,027	0.07%
San Marino	8,511	0.03%
Serbia	5,349	0.02%
Spain	199,705	0.69%
Sweden	1,227,050	4.22%
Switzerland	1,076,069	3.70%
Turkey	132,485	0.46%
United Kingdom	286,696	0.99%
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	4,299	0.01%
United Nations Office for Project Services	448,451	1.54%
United States	11,065,715	38.07%
United States Agency for International Development	591,969	2.04%
World Customs Organization	4,680	0.02%
GRAND TOTAL	€ 29,063,496	100%

ALLOCATED TO SECRETARIAT, INSTITUTIONS AND REGIONS*



ALLOCATED TO DIMENSIONS*



* individual figures are rounded to the nearest € 100,000.

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This year's front page picture was selected through a photo contest. The photograph of the contest winner, Mavjuda Gaffurova, was selected from more than 150 submissions. It displays a group of women and girls who were taking part in self-defence training at a women's resource centre in Kulyab, Tajikistan.

The photo contest jury included:

Marcel Pesko, Office of the OSCE Secretary General
Natacha Rajakovic, OSCE Deputy Spokesperson
Gunnar Vrang, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media
Alexander Nitzsche, Annual Report editor
Eric Gurlan, internationally renowned photographer

2,663 staff

144.8 million Euros

57 participating States

15 field operations

1 goal: security and co-operation

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