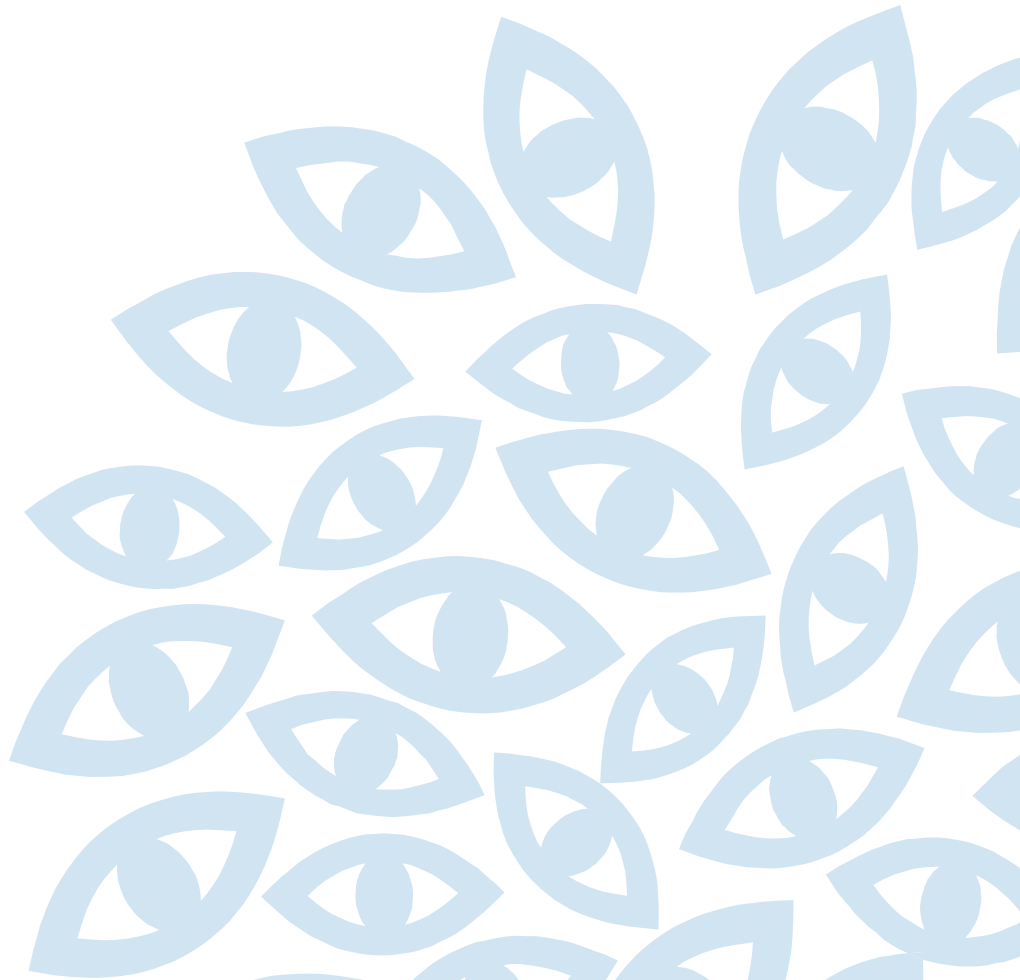


Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights



# ANNUAL REPORT 2011



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# Contents

- 4 | Overview by the ODIHR Director**
- 6 | Elections**
- 18 | Democratization**
- 38 | Human Rights**
- 50 | Tolerance and Non-discrimination**
- 60 | Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues**
- 68 | Programmes and Projects**
- 73 | Legislative Reviews**
- 75 | Selected 2011 Conferences and Meetings**
- 79 | 2011 Publications**
- 80 | Election Reports and Statements Released in 2011**
- 82 | ODIHR Structure and Budget**

# Overview by the ODIHR Director



OSCE/CURTIS BUDDEN

*Perhaps the most significant developments in 2011* for the OSCE and its comprehensive concept of security did not even take place within the OSCE region. The events that have come to be known as the “Arab Spring” reaffirmed, in their own way, the importance of one dimension of this concept of security — the human dimension.

Occurring across the Mediterranean Sea from the OSCE’s southern “border”, the Arab Spring was of direct importance for the Organization for at least three reasons.

First, from the very beginning, in the Helsinki Final Act of 1975, the OSCE participating States affirmed “the relationship which exists, in the broader context of world security, between security in Europe and security in the Mediterranean area”.

Second, in the intervening years this relationship has been reflected in the OSCE granting a special status to its Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia.

It was in the spirit of this partnership that Khadija Chérif, Secretary General of the International Federation for Human Rights and a prominent human rights defender from Tunisia, was invited to deliver the keynote address to the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM) in Warsaw — the largest human rights event in Europe in 2011.

In her address, Chérif stressed that the events in Tunisia and Egypt were the natural consequence of the systematic suppression of human rights and the marginalization and harassment of civil society.

In doing so, Chérif highlighted the third reason why the Arab Spring was of vital importance to the OSCE, in that it confirmed the universality of people’s aspirations for “dignity, freedom and respect for human rights” — the very concepts that lay at the heart of the OSCE’s human dimension.

From time to time we have heard from the authorities in different OSCE participating States arguments of the same character that have been used to justify authoritarian rule elsewhere in the world: that cultural or historical differences meant that certain people needed “strong leaders” and weren’t “ready” for democratic systems that guaranteed their human rights.

But the Arab Spring shattered these notions and highlighted the relevance of the OSCE commitments in this area, most recently re-affirmed in the Astana Commemorative Declaration of 2010, where the leaders of OSCE States, convinced “that the inherent dignity of the individual is at the core of comprehensive security”, reiterated “that human rights and fundamental freedoms are inalienable, and that their protection and promotion is our first responsibility”.

The year 2011 also provided a reminder that the work of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) is not yet completed; in reflecting on the Office's achievements, we recognize that more remains to be done.

In the field of elections, ODIHR observed or assessed a total of 20 elections in 19 participating States. This brought the total number of participating States in which ODIHR has conducted some form of observation activity to 53. Almost 2,000 observers from 48 participating States were deployed over the course of the year.

The Office also continued to focus on follow-up to recommendations included in election reports, by presenting recommendations in final reports to and discussing them with the authorities and a wide variety of stakeholders in a number of participating States.

The review of electoral legislation has become a central element in this process, and ODIHR continued in 2011 to offer comments on and assessments of draft legislation, often in co-operation with the Council of Europe's Venice Commission. ODIHR co-operated with the Commission in the publication of 12 legal reviews of electoral legislation in nine participating States.

In this same vein, a Human Dimension Seminar focusing on the role of political parties in the political process hosted by the Office in Warsaw in May saw the publication of the *Guidelines on Political Party Regulation*, also produced in co-operation with the Venice Commission.

Trial monitoring continued to be an important part of ODIHR's democratization activities in 2011, with a prime example being the monitoring of 12 trials, involving 41 defendants, five of whom were former candidates, charged in relation to the demonstrations in Minsk following the Belarus presidential election on 19 December 2010. The monitoring was carried out with the agreement of the Belarusian authorities, and the Office offered recommendations for addressing identified shortcomings in a report published in November.

October saw the conclusion of the 4 million euro War Crimes Justice Project, aimed at strengthening the capacity of national judiciaries in dealing with war crimes, ahead of the closure of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY). With funding from the European Union and in co-operation with the ICTY, the UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and OSCE field operations in the region, the project developed the first-ever training resource on international criminal law and practice for local justice actors. It also provided specialized training to more than 800 justice professionals working on war crimes cases and produced more than 60,000 pages of transcripts in local languages of the most relevant ICTY proceedings.

The promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination throughout the OSCE area is another important focus for the Office, and October saw the publication of the *Guidelines for Educators on Countering Intolerance and*

*Discrimination against Muslims*, the first international document of its kind. The guidelines were developed in partnership with UNESCO and the Council of Europe.

The next month, a Supplementary Human Dimension meeting in Vienna focused on the role educational and awareness-raising initiatives can play in preventing racism, xenophobia and hate crimes, and highlighted the even greater need to combat racism in times of economic and financial crisis.

The Office's work in the area of human rights included the launch of two new resources: the *Handbook on Monitoring Freedom of Peaceful Assembly*, which draws on good practices in monitoring assemblies in various participating States, and Associationline, a web-based guide to freedom of association for state authorities and civil society.

Gender equality and increasing women's participation in public life remain priorities for ODIHR, and the Office's activities in this area in 2011 included the launch of the "Women in Political Parties" project, aimed at enhancing knowledge of voluntary measures that can increase the number of women among political party leaders, decision-makers and candidates.

The ODIHR Contact Point on Roma and Sinti Issues continued to focus on promoting the implementation of the 2003 OSCE Action Plan, including during the HDIM, where special events focused on the role of media and Roma organizations in countering prejudices and negative stereotypes, and on challenges, risks and responses with regard to extremism and Roma and Sinti in Europe.

In all of these activities, ODIHR has worked within its mandate to assist participating States in meeting their OSCE commitments in the human dimension, which are based on the very same understanding of dignity, freedom and respect for human rights that spurred the Arab Spring.

Just as much important and difficult work lays ahead for our Mediterranean Partners, much still needs to be done to make the promises of the human dimension commitments a reality across the OSCE region.

ODIHR is grateful for the support it has received from participating States in this endeavor over the past year, during which we marked the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Office, and looks forward to further co-operation with governments and civil society in the future.

*Ambassador Janez Lenarčič*  
*Director*  
*OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions*  
*and Human Rights (ODIHR)*

# Elections

An OSCE/ODIHR  
observer taking notes  
during the local  
elections in Albania,  
8 May 2011. (OSCE/  
Jiffer Bourguignon)







The 1990 OSCE Copenhagen Document clearly sets out the commitments undertaken by the participating States to ensure democratic elections, and ODIHR is explicitly mandated to assist them in meeting this obligation. As such, elections continued to be a major focus of the Office's work in 2011.

ODIHR fulfils this mandate through the observation or assessment of elections in the OSCE region and by engaging in follow-up activities aimed at fostering the implementation of recommendations contained in reports by its observation missions. While the observation of elections has become its highest-profile activity, ODIHR also works actively in other election-related areas, such as reviewing electoral legislation, publishing guidelines and handbooks on election-related issues and contributing to the training of election observers.

In response to its specific mandate and tasks, ODIHR has developed a comprehensive methodology for election observation, based on a long-term approach involving an assessment of all key elements of the electoral process.

At the core of ODIHR's election observation methodology is the understanding that elections are not one-day events, and that a comprehensive, in-depth assessment of any election process must examine the whole electoral process, including before, during and after election day. The Office, therefore, focuses systematically on all elements of the electoral process, including the legal framework; the work of the election administration; the conduct of the election campaign; contestants' access to the media; election-day procedures, including the counting and tabulation of results; and the handling of election-related complaints.

ODIHR's election observation activities cover a broad geographical area: To date, election-related activities have taken place in 53 of the 56 OSCE participating States.

Encouraging and supporting participating States in the implementation of election-related recommendations made by ODIHR remains one of the Office's key challenges, and providing effective follow-up on recommendations was one of the main activities in 2011. A number of participating States, seeking to bring their election legislation in line with their OSCE commitments, have benefitted from the Office's assistance as they have made progress in the conduct of democratic elections. Follow-up activities continue to be closely co-ordinated among ODIHR's departments and with OSCE field operations to ensure the most efficient provision of support to participating States in complying with their obligations.

## MAIN ISSUES

### Democratic standards:

The commitments contained in the 1990 OSCE Copenhagen Document continue to serve as the basis for ODIHR's assessment of electoral processes. There has been undeniable progress in conducting elections in line with OSCE commitments, but serious challenges remain or, in some cases, have resurfaced.

Improvements have been seen, for instance, in the organization of elections, including in legal and administrative frameworks. These improvements, however, only make a difference if they affect actual practice. ODIHR continues to note and report serious shortcomings in the conduct of elections in a number of OSCE participating States. These shortcomings include, but are not limited to:

- ✦ The restriction of fundamental rights and freedoms;



A voter identifying his name on the voter list during the presidential and municipal elections in Bulgaria, Sofia, 23 October 2011. (OSCE/Jens Eschenbaecher)

- ❖ Limitations of candidacy rights;
- ❖ Impediments to universal and equal suffrage, resulting from inadequate voter registration, inequitable media access and biased coverage favouring particular candidates or parties;
- ❖ The misuse of state administrative resources, to the advantage of particular contestants;
- ❖ A lack of separation between state structures and candidates and/or political parties;
- ❖ Limitation of access for domestic and international observers;
- ❖ Ineffectual complaints and appeals procedures; and
- ❖ Fraud during voting or the counting and tabulation of votes.

### Implementing recommendations

ODIHR's election-related activities have an impact beyond observation, as the Office provides concrete and constructive recommendations at the conclusion of any observation activity. These recommendations are included in public final reports on observation activities and focus on ways in which the electoral practices of a particular state could be improved. Recommendations are meant to support participating States in bringing their elections closer in line with OSCE commitments

and with regional and international standards. ODIHR engages in post-election dialogue and works with the authorities of participating States to address election-related recommendations. Final reports are translated into local languages to facilitate this process and to enable all electoral stakeholders in a participating State to fully utilize them in their work. ODIHR continued its efforts to co-ordinate its approach with other international and regional organizations, such as the Council of Europe's European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission), to harmonize approaches and avoid duplication. The Office also continued to highlight post-election dialogue as an example of good practice participating States can present to the OSCE Permanent Council or Human Dimension Committee in detailing their follow-up on recommendations.

### New Voting Technologies

Participating States continue to explore the possibilities offered by new voting technologies (NVT) in the conduct of elections, especially where the purpose is to facilitate the administration of elections and voter participation. In 2011, awareness continued to grow about the possible limitations and risks associated with using these technologies or implementing them too quickly.



ODIHR Deputy Director Douglas Wake listens to a domestic observer during Kyrgyzstan's presidential election, Bishkek 30 October 2011. (OSCE/Jens Eschenbaecher)

While NVT can make the electoral process easier for both voters and those counting and tabulating votes, these technologies also introduce new issues regarding perceptions of transparency and accountability in the process, as well as the ability of election observers to perform their role effectively. For NVT to be effective, it is vital that they enjoy public confidence, by meeting the same international standards as traditional means of voting with regard to secrecy, accountability and the transparency of the voting and counting process. ODIHR has included NVT analysts in the relevant election missions and has had the opportunity to examine the challenges associated with the introduction of these new technologies. The Senior Adviser on New Voting Technologies actively follows developments and changes in this field, focusing on prospective modifications to ODIHR's election observation methodology to adequately address this issue in the Office's observation activities.

## ACTIVITIES

Observation missions are the most visible part of ODIHR's election mandate. The findings and recommendations of election observation reports provide a

valuable resource for the Office's other programmes, as well as for the activities of other OSCE institutions and field operations. In 2011, ODIHR's activities in the field of elections continued to focus on the following areas:

- ✦ Election observation;
- ✦ Follow-up to observation missions and their recommendations;
- ✦ Reform of electoral legislation;
- ✦ Development of election observation methodology;
- ✦ Training of observers; and
- ✦ Support for OSCE Partners for Co-operation.

### Election observation

In 2011, the Office was active in assessing the efforts by a broad range of OSCE participating States to conduct elections in line with OSCE commitments. Following its well-developed and globally recognized election observation methodology, an ODIHR election observation process begins with the deployment of a Needs Assessment Mission (NAM). A NAM is deployed several months before an election and assesses the pre-election environment and preparations underway for the elections. The NAM serves to determine and recommend the nature and scope of a possible ODIHR activity, based on the needs identified and the potential value



Serzhan Abdykarimov (l), the Director of the Department of European Co-operation in Kazakhstan's Foreign Ministry, discusses Kazakhstan's electoral system with Ambassador Daan Everts, the Head of the OSCE/ODIHR long-term observation mission for the 2011 presidential election in Kazakhstan, Astana, 9 September 2011. (OSCE/Andrew Offenbacher)

that such an activity could add in relation to the process. In 2011, ODIHR conducted 20 NAMs throughout the OSCE area.

These NAMs consider:

- ❖ Whether the legal framework for elections is in line with OSCE commitments;
- ❖ The level of public confidence in the election administration and the conduct of elections;
- ❖ The state of preparedness of the election administration;
- ❖ Respect for fundamental rights and freedoms;
- ❖ Existing checks and balances;
- ❖ The complaints and appeals system;
- ❖ The level of civil society activity; and
- ❖ The quality of the media environment.

ODIHR makes due effort to send a NAM to every participating State holding an election. However, due to limited resources in terms of funding and staff, this is not always possible. A NAM may also determine that an observation activity for a particular election may not be necessary or feasible and, instead, recommend increased follow-up on previous recommendations or intensified engagement with local actors on electoral-reform issues.

In 2011, ODIHR deployed election-related missions for 20 elections in 19 participating States. As with all

ODIHR missions, these were guided by two principal objectives: to assess whether the elections met OSCE commitments and other international standards for democratic elections and were conducted in accordance with national legislation, and to offer subsequent recommendations to help the states in question improve their electoral processes and legislation.

The purpose of election observation is not to commend or criticize those countries in which ODIHR deploys observation missions. Instead, the Office offers constructive feedback and provides concrete recommendations to rectify shortcomings. Over the course of 2011, ODIHR published 69 election-related reports, including NAM reports, interim reports, statements of preliminary findings and conclusions, final reports and legal reviews, with the objective of fulfilling its mandate in a transparent and accountable manner.

For six of the 20 elections, ODIHR deployed full-scale election observation missions (EOMs), including long- and short-term observers, which are seconded by individual participating States, as well as core teams of experts. Limited election observation missions (LEOMs), which include a core team of experts and long-term observers but no short-term observers, as they do not conduct a comprehensive and systematic observation of election day, were deployed for elections in four participating States. As per ODIHR's



Counting begins at a polling station in Jurmala during Latvia's early parliamentary elections, 17 September 2011. (OSCE/ Jens Eschenbaecher)

methodology, LEOMs are deployed to participating States where long-term observers are deemed necessary to ensure comprehensive regional coverage but election-day issues are expected to be unproblematic, or where fundamental shortcomings are so significant as to render election-day observation inconsequential.

In addition, ODIHR deployed election assessment missions (EAMs) to eight participating States, each comprising a core team of experts but no long- or short-term observers. EAMs are deployed to elections where the presence of short- and long-term observers is not considered necessary because of high levels of confidence in the conduct of elections, well-tested electoral practices and proven checks and balances, such as an independent judiciary, robust civil society and pluralistic media. As is the case with EOMs and LEOMs, EAMs make an overall assessment of the administrative and legal framework for the conduct of elections and provide targeted recommendations. ODIHR also deployed two election expert teams to look at specific targeted issues during local elections in two participating States.

Almost 2,000 observers from 48 participating States were deployed by ODIHR in 2011. To continue increasing the number of participating States represented in its election observation activities, ODIHR continues to make good use of its Fund for Diversification, an extra-budgetary programme to support the participation of

observers from countries that do not generally send observers. The Fund was used to send 31 long-term observers from 14 participating States and almost 40 short-term observers from 12 participating States to take part in nine election missions throughout the year. The continued funding and support from OSCE participating States for this programme is crucial to ensuring a broader geographical range of expertise.

Consistent with its tasking to improve work with various other organizations monitoring elections, through the development of "a framework for co-ordination in this field" (Budapest Summit, 1994), and on the basis of OSCE Ministerial Council Decision 19/06 on "Strengthening the Effectiveness of the OSCE" (Brussels, 2006), ODIHR maintained a strong partnership with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (on the basis of the 1997 co-operation agreement) and regularly worked with other parliamentary partners, including the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the European Parliament, to observe election-day proceedings.

ODIHR continued to co-operate actively with the Council of Europe's Venice Commission on legal reviews. It worked regularly with other international governmental and non-governmental organizations, such as the Electoral Assistance Division of the United Nations, the European Commission, the Carter Center,

## Election Observation Activities in 2011

COUNTRY	ELECTION TYPE	ELECTION DATE	MISSION TYPE
1 Estonia	Parliamentary elections	5 March	EAM
2 Kazakhstan	Early presidential elections	3 April	EOM
3 Finland	Parliamentary elections	17 April	EAM
4 Albania	Local elections	8 May	EOM
5 Cyprus	Parliamentary elections	22 May	EAM
6 Moldova	Local elections	5 June	LEOM
7 Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Early parliamentary elections	5 June	EOM
8 Turkey	General elections	12 June	EAM
9 Latvia	Early parliamentary elections	17 September	LEOM
10 Bulgaria	Presidential & local elections	23 October	LEOM
11 Switzerland	Parliamentary elections	23 October	EAM
12 Kyrgyzstan	Presidential elections	30 October	EOM
13 Poland	Parliamentary elections	9 October	EAM
14 Russian Federation	State Duma elections	4 December	EOM
15 Croatia	Parliamentary elections	4 December	LEOM
16 Spain	Parliamentary elections	20 November	EAM
17 Slovenia	Early parliamentary elections	4 December	EAM
18 Kazakhstan	Early parliamentary elections	15 January 2012 <sup>1</sup>	EOM

<sup>1</sup> Mission opened on 13 December 2011

the National Democratic Institute and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems, to promote common principles on international election observation. The Office has continued to strengthen its co-operation with the Organization of American States and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation through the sharing of ODIHR election observation experience and methodology. The year also saw increasing co-operation with the OSCE's Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation.

In addition, in co-ordination with other organizations involved in this area, ODIHR actively pursued the implementation of the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation, to further improve the quality, process and co-ordination of observation activities.

ODIHR also deployed election expert teams to Kyrgyzstan for the 17 April partial local elections in the Osh, Talas and Batken regions, and to Norway for the 12 September local elections.

### Key findings

While a number of positive developments were observed in the context of ODIHR election observation missions over the course of 2011, some serious shortcomings remained. These included:

- ✦ **Limitations to the right to be elected:** OSCE commitments require that all citizens have equal rights to stand for office and to be elected, yet many participating States continue to employ administrative rules to keep specific candidates and parties off the ballot or to de-register candidates during the campaign. In these instances, the right of citizens to seek political or public office without discrimination was not guaranteed.
- ✦ **Lack of a free campaign environment:** Some participating States failed to create the necessary conditions to allow parties and candidates to campaign freely on an equal basis, thus failing to ensure a level playing field. It is the responsibility of governments to ensure that public and administrative resources, both human and material, are not abused in support of any particular parties or candidates during election campaigns.
- ✦ **Inequitable access to media:** Individual candidates and parties frequently experienced difficulties gaining equitable access to media. This not only denied those running in elections the chance to convey their message to the electorate on an equal basis, but also withheld information voters need to make an informed choice. State-controlled and public media have a special responsibility in this regard.



ODIHR Director  
Ambassador Janez  
Lenarčič (r) meets the  
Chairman of the Russian  
Election Commission,  
Vladimir Churov, in  
Moscow, 13 September  
2011. (OSCE/Jens  
Eschenbaecher)

✦ ***Lack of transparency and accountability during the counting and tabulation of votes:*** Non-transparent or, sometimes, fraudulent procedures were observed during the counting of votes and tabulation of results in some instances. OSCE commitments require that votes be counted and reported honestly, and that the official results be made public.

✦ ***Lack of confidence in bodies administering elections:*** The work of individuals and institutions responsible for administering elections was not always transparent and free from government interference. To ensure genuinely democratic elections, those administering elections must provide for the effective organization of the vote and perform their duties in an impartial manner, so as to gain and maintain the confidence of parties and individual candidates.

✦ ***Inadequate complaints and appeals procedures:*** Relevant bodies and available procedures for the handling of election-related complaints did not always ensure effective and timely mechanisms for the protection of electoral rights at the various stages in the election process. It is important that disputes can be channelled through appropriately designated and independent courts of law that can provide effective

and timely remedies. This right to redress should be available to all stakeholders in an election process, including voters and contestants.

#### Support to OSCE field operations

ODIHR continues to actively support the activities of OSCE field operations. This includes following electoral events (referenda, local elections and by-elections) and advising on different election-related issues, from amendments to legal frameworks to electoral procedures and administration. ODIHR staff regularly participate in official working groups and roundtables on issues such as electoral-law reform, voter registration and women's participation.

ODIHR recognizes that OSCE field operations can play a longer-term role in the area of election-related technical assistance. ODIHR works closely with field missions to support them in their delivery of targeted technical assistance programmes and to ensure that these are designed in a manner that effectively addresses previous ODIHR recommendations and, thus, complements the Office's work.



Participants at a seminar on increasing the accuracy of voter registers, Warsaw, 31 August 2011.  
(OSCE/Shiv Sharma)

### Follow-up to observation missions

ODIHR consistently offers to present its final reports and to provide assistance to participating States in implementing the recommendations therein, with the aim of strengthening and improving compliance with OSCE commitments. Such follow-up activities were conducted in a range of OSCE participating States in 2011. ODIHR officially presented final reports to and discussed the recommendations they contained with the authorities and a wide variety of other stakeholders in Albania, Estonia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, to name just a few examples.

ODIHR staff and experts also participated in discussions on electoral-law reform in Albania, Armenia, Bulgaria, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova and Ukraine. Other specific aspects of the electoral process, such as women's participation, new voting technologies and voter registration, were discussed during visits to Georgia, Norway, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan.

Where sufficient political will to improve the election process exists, the post-election period provides an opportunity for participating States to benefit from ODIHR election observation recommendations through an active follow-up process. These recommendations

can assist participating States in meeting their commitments to conduct democratic elections.

### Reform of electoral legislation

The conduct of elections in line with OSCE commitments requires a strong and effective legislative base. The review of electoral legislation, therefore, has become one of the most important elements of the follow-up process.

Following its established practice of assisting participating States with legislative reform in the field of elections, ODIHR continued to offer comments on and assessments of draft election legislation, election laws and relevant amendments. The Office regularly co-operated with the Council of Europe's Venice Commission to offer joint opinions, primarily on draft electoral legislation or amendments to legislative frameworks for elections. In 2011, together with the Venice Commission, ODIHR provided and published 12 legal reviews on electoral legislation, in Albania, Armenia, Bulgaria, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine.



## Legal Reviews 2011

COUNTRY	TITLE OF DOCUMENT	DATE OF ISSUE
Serbia	Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Altering and Amending the Law on Election of Members of Parliament	31 March
Armenia	Draft Joint Opinion on the new Draft Electoral Code of Armenia	2 May
Montenegro	Draft Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and Members of Parliament	18 May
Montenegro	Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and Members of Parliament	17 June
Bulgaria	Joint Opinion on the Election Code of Bulgaria	21 June
Kyrgyzstan	Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Presidential and Parliamentary Elections, the Draft Law on Elections to Local Governments and the Draft Law on the formation of Election Commissions of the Kyrgyz Republic	23 June
Ukraine	Preliminary Draft Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Election of People's Deputies of Ukraine	12 September
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Joint Opinion on the Revised Electoral Code of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	17 October
Armenia	Joint Final Opinion on the Electoral Code of Armenia adopted on 26 May 2011	17 October
Ukraine	Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Election of People's Deputies of Ukraine	17 October
Georgia	Joint Opinion on the Draft Election Code of Georgia	19 December
Albania	Joint Opinion on the Electoral Law and the Electoral Practice of Albania	19 December

### Development of election observation methodology

ODIHR has developed a comprehensive methodology for the long-term observation of elections that encompasses all elements of the election process, beginning with a review of the legal framework, and including assessment of the performance of election administration bodies; the conduct of the campaign; the media environment and equitable media access; the complaints and appeals process; voting, counting and tabulation; and the announcement of results. This methodology is described in the *Election Observation Handbook*. The first edition of the Handbook was published in 1996, is now in its sixth edition and is also available in Russian.

ODIHR continues to identify areas where its observation methodology could be improved and challenges posed by the observation of NVT and issues related to voter registration, electoral dispute resolution and the financing of electoral campaigns. The Office continues to publish guidelines and handbooks on different election-related subjects, as part of its ongoing efforts to provide election observers with additional guidance and training.

### Observer training

As in past years, ODIHR continued in 2011 to contribute significantly to the training of election observers. While it is primarily the responsibility of OSCE participating States to provide ODIHR with trained and experienced observers, the Office assists in this area. The training provided gives observers the necessary skills and underscores the need for a common approach to implementing the Office's election observation methodology.

In 2011, two training courses for short-term observers were conducted in Sarajevo and Tbilisi, respectively, and one training course was held for long-term observers in Sarajevo. Such training aims to broaden the pool of observers from participating States eligible under the Fund for Diversification: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. Overall, 84 individuals from 15 participating States and two OSCE Partners for Co-operation participated in these training events.

In addition, ODIHR continued to support participating States' efforts by responding to requests to provide training for their election observers. In 2011, ODIHR



Participants in an OSCE/ODIHR workshop on election observation and human rights for Egyptian NGOs, Warsaw, 27 July 2011. (OSCE/Jens Eschenbaecher)

Election Department staff provided training at centres in a number of participating States: the German Centre for International Peace Operations (ZIF), the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights (NORDEM), the Russian Diplomatic Academy, the Austrian Study Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution (ASPR), the London-based Electoral Reform International Services (ERIS) and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), as well as at the European Commission's Network of Europeans for Electoral and Democracy Support (NEEDS).

ODIHR also extended its co-operation with the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation by providing training to its staff in election observation methodology.

### Support for OSCE Partners for Co-operation

ODIHR stands ready to continue its support for OSCE Partners for Co-operation, in particular Afghanistan, following the deployment there of an Election Support Team for parliamentary elections in 2010. In 2011, ODIHR's election department participated in assessment visits to Tunisia and Morocco, which resulted in an outline of possible activities in support of democratic development in these countries. The Office also organized a three-day workshop, from 27 to 29 July

in Warsaw, for Egyptian Human Rights and Election Observation NGOs to familiarize the 17 participants with ODIHR election observation methodology, including that related to media monitoring. On the sidelines of the OSCE Mediterranean Conference, which was held from 12 to 15 October in Budva and focused on the topic of democratic transformation, ODIHR organized a workshop on election observation methodology for 14 participants from Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia. Electoral practice was also the focus of one of the three working groups at the civil society conference for Mediterranean partners, organized in co-operation with the OSCE Chairmanship and held on the eve of the OSCE Ministerial Council on 4 and 5 December in Vilnius. Joint recommendations from the group were among those handed over to the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office at the end of the conference.

# Democratization

Participants at a working session on justice and legal reform during the OSCE-Mediterranean Partner Countries' Conference for Civil Society, Vilnius, 4 December 2011. (OSCE/Velimir Alic)





# Democratization

The strengthening of democratic systems and their institutions requires the support and active participation of governments and relevant professionals, as well as the engagement of civil society. While the Commemorative Declaration adopted at the OSCE Summit in Astana in December 2010 reaffirmed a commitment to democracy that applies equally to all, the OSCE participating States remain in various stages of democratic transition, institution building and the consolidation of democratic culture. In assisting states with the building and consolidation of democratic institutions, ODIHR aims to help governments become more responsive, responsible and representative. The Office's democratization work is aimed, therefore, at assisting participating States in meeting their OSCE commitments in areas such as democratic governance and lawmaking, the development of pluralistic party systems and political party regulation, strengthening the rule of law, parliamentary strengthening, ensuring freedom of movement and the integration of migrants, and promoting gender equality and women's political participation.

In its democratization activities, ODIHR helps develop the capacities of institutions and civil society in OSCE participating States to enhance the consolidation of democratic culture. Local ownership and learning from the experiences and expertise of others is critical to success. The recommendations provided to participating States by election observation missions provide the basis for much of this work.

Based on the commitments participating States have made, ODIHR provides technical expertise to various actors in the process of democratization, either directly or with the support of OSCE field operations. The Office's democratization programmes work in partnership with civil society organizations, encouraging them to contribute actively to work on and discussion of democratic governance. They also work on the strengthening and empowering of state institutions, to the benefit of men and women in an equal manner, and with a focus on political parties, migrants and other groups to increase democratic participation.

## MAIN ISSUES

### Rule of Law and Legal Reform

An understanding of the importance of good and effective legislation and the rule of law to the functioning of a democratic state is one foundation of the commitments made by OSCE participating States. As such, ODIHR's activities in the area of democratization are aimed at supporting and strengthening the rule of law and its core principles in the OSCE area. Special attention is given to improving the independence of the judiciary, fair trial standards, criminal justice reform and monitoring compliance with the law by state institutions and other actors.

All democracies undertake legal reforms on a regular basis. Such reforms are undertaken by participating States with a variety of goals, including to ensure the compliance of laws with new or existing human rights standards or OSCE



Participants at an ODIHR-supported roundtable on linkages between population registration and voter registration in Georgia, Tbilisi, 22 November 2011. (OSCE/Zoran Dokovic)

commitments, to address new challenges and socio-economic developments, to find new solutions to old problems, or as part of a regular process of monitoring existing laws. Legal reform is, therefore, a process that takes place in all countries.

In order to implement legal reform effectively, lawmakers need access to international experience, good practices, standards and expertise. The legal opinions and commentaries ODIHR offers participating States, upon their request, bring such assets to bear in helping states evaluate whether draft or existing legislation meets international standards and OSCE commitments.

### Democratic Institutions and Practices for Democratic Governance

Ensuring political pluralism, strengthening participation and increasing representation can only be achieved by addressing the institutions and practices that shape and direct the interaction between citizens and those who govern in their name. Political parties offer competing visions and options; parliaments incorporate this pluralism of voices into the policy process; civil society, by advocating for policy changes, helps to shape public debates and options for reform. In some parts of the OSCE area, however, these democratic mechanisms need targeted support. This can include addressing the

regulatory environment for political parties; assisting parliaments in strengthening their capacity to legislate, oversee the executive and pluralistically represent the people; or helping think tanks and civil society advocate for change.

### Gender Equality and Women's Participation in Politics

The equal participation of women and men in all spheres of public and private life is a core OSCE commitment and a cornerstone of representative democracy. When women's voices are silenced — whether through legal frameworks or through cultural practices — democracies lose legitimacy, accountability and effectiveness in representing the interests of citizens. ODIHR supports participating States in progressing towards *de jure* and *de facto* gender equality, by enhancing legal and policy frameworks for gender equality, sharing good practices for promoting women's participation in political and public life, and strengthening national mechanisms for the advancement of women.

### Migration and Freedom of Movement

As population mobility has increased, the traditional means and routes of migration have also changed,



Anatoliy Martsynkevych (l), Secretary of the Higher Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, and Benjamin Moreau, Chief of ODIHR's Rule of Law Unit, at a conference on identifying ways to strengthen the independence of Ukraine's judiciary, Kyiv, 20 December 2011. (U.S. Agency for International Development)

transforming many OSCE participating States from former source countries of migrants to countries of destination. This poses new challenges, including the political and socio-economic integration of migrants into receiving societies. Migration also presents an opportunity to promote cultural diversity and the exchange of knowledge and skills, as well as to boost economies in need of foreign labour. The development of population registration systems that respect freedom of movement and comply with international standards is also integral to the exercise of many other human rights in the OSCE region.

## ACTIVITIES

ODIHR's democratization activities can be divided into three basic areas:

- ✦ Rule of law and legal reform;
- ✦ Democratic governance and participation in public affairs; and
- ✦ Migration and freedom of movement.

## RULE OF LAW AND LEGAL REFORM

OSCE participating States use different institutional and legislative frameworks to address the many challenges in the field of rule of law and to improve compliance with OSCE core principles. Many countries grapple with poor infrastructure, underfunded and insufficiently trained judicial and legal personnel, and a lack of awareness among policymakers of existing legislation. The opportunity to learn from the experience of other OSCE participating States provides policymakers with examples of good practices they can draw upon in developing solutions for their own countries.

ODIHR assists OSCE participating States in the identification and promotion of best practices through a variety of means, including expert meetings and exchanges, monitoring projects and assessments, and the development of policy guidelines and recommendations, as well as through legislative reviews and comments. Inclusiveness and a participatory approach form the basis for ODIHR's activities, which are carried out in partnership with parliaments, political parties, judiciaries, government agencies, legal communities, international organizations and civil society.

Participants at an event co-organized with the OSCE Mission to Serbia on international standards of ethics and conduct for parliamentarians, Belgrade, 24 November 2011. (OSCE/Milan Obradovic)



## Independence of the Judiciary

ODIHR's *Kyiv Recommendations on Judicial Independence* continue to form the basis for country-specific discussions with decision makers, scholars and legal communities in the OSCE area, with the purpose of strengthening and safeguarding judicial independence. Published in 2010, the Recommendations have since been translated into Albanian, Armenian, Azeri, Bosnian, Georgian, Romanian, Russian and Ukrainian.

The recommendations formed the basis for discussion at the expert meeting "The Kyiv Recommendations and Judicial Independence in Armenia", held in the capital on 28 June and organized by ODIHR in co-operation with the OSCE Office in Yerevan. The roundtable, which was addressed by the Minister of Justice and drew together judicial policymakers and senior practitioners, focused on issues of special relevance in the context of ongoing judicial reform efforts in Armenia.

On 20 April, ODIHR held a roundtable, in co-operation with the Kyrgyz Supreme Court and the OSCE Centre in Bishkek, on judicial independence in Kyrgyzstan. The event was timed to contribute to the discussion of draft laws on the judiciary that were later adopted by the parliament. One element of the new legislation was the creation of the Council of Judges, responsible for selecting new members for the bench.

The Centre in Bishkek and ODIHR subsequently organized training on 3 and 4 November in Bishkek for members of the Council to share good practices and provide guidance on judicial selection procedures.

On 14 November, in Chisinau, ODIHR and the OSCE Mission to Moldova brought together decision makers from the Superior Council of Magistrates, the Ministry of Justice and the Parliament, as well as other stakeholders in judicial reform, to discuss the selection of judges and the evaluation of their performance, as well as disciplinary offences and proceedings. These and other issues were discussed in the context of Moldova's recently adopted "Strategy for Justice Sector Reform".

## Trial Monitoring

OSCE commitments recognize the value of trial observation as a confidence-building measure to promote adherence to the rule of law. ODIHR and OSCE field operations carry out trial-monitoring activities to gain first-hand information about fair-trial issues in individual cases and to obtain data about general trends in justice systems.

In agreement with the Belarusian authorities, ODIHR observed 12 trials from March through July, involving 41 defendants, including five former candidates, all of whom had been charged with offences related to





Judge Bakone Justice Moloto of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia speaking at a training session for judges, prosecutors, and defence lawyers from across Bosnia and Herzegovina as part of the War Crimes Justice Project, Sarajevo, 17 March 2011. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)

demonstrations in Minsk following the presidential election on 19 December 2010. The Belarus trial-monitoring report, published in November, includes recommendations to address identified shortcomings, and the Office remains ready to discuss its findings and recommendations with the Belarusian authorities.

ODIHR also continued its support for OSCE trial-monitoring activities through the continued development of tools for monitoring operations and sharing of experiences. Work moved forward in 2011 on a digest of international fair-trial standards, a repository of documents from past trial-monitoring operations carried out by the OSCE, and on a handbook on trial-monitoring methodologies. These activities are being carried out in consultation with a board comprising staff from ODIHR and from OSCE field operations.

ODIHR and the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina organized the annual OSCE trial-monitoring meeting from 17 to 19 November in Sarajevo. Around 50 participants attended the 2011 event, including, for the first time, ten participants from NGOs involved in trial-monitoring programmes. The meeting included training on the right to liberty and on the participation of victims and witnesses in criminal proceedings. Participants also discussed information-gathering, including gaining access to courtrooms and documents,

interviews with judges and prosecutors, and advocacy strategies.

### **Criminal Justice Reform**

In 2011, ODIHR continued to facilitate the exchange of expertise among and provide assistance to participating States in the field of criminal-justice reform. On 10 March in Yerevan, more than 60 participants took part in a conference organized by ODIHR and the OSCE Office in Yerevan to review progress and discuss the continued relevance of recommendations made in an ODIHR trial-monitoring report published in 2010. The Armenian authorities welcomed the report's input to the process of developing the new Code of Criminal Procedure, and lawyers and civil society representatives in attendance emphasized that the authorities should do more in following up on ODIHR's recommendations, particularly in relation to investigating allegations of ill-treatment in custody and to alternatives to pre-trial detention.

ODIHR published an analytical report on judicial authorization of pre-trial detention in Kazakhstan in May, presenting the results of a research project carried out by the Office in 2009 and 2010. The report welcomed the transfer of powers to remand suspects in custody from prosecutors to judges but concluded that



Colleen Rohan, Defence Counsel at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), and Romana Schweiger, War Crimes Justice Project (WCJP) Regional Co-ordinator, lead an advocacy-skills training session for defence lawyers appearing in war crimes cases as part of the WCJP, Prishtinë/Priština, 19 October 2011. (OSCE/Driton Paqarada)

more reforms are needed to achieve full compliance with international standards. In follow-up, the OSCE Centre in Astana and Kazakhstan's Supreme Court organized regional seminars for local judges to promote human rights protection at the pre-trial stage of criminal proceedings.

### Administrative Justice

An effective system of administrative justice is fundamental to the rule of law, as governments and public administrations must act within the scope of their legal authority to ensure accountability. OSCE commitments attach special importance to the right of individuals to seek legal redress whenever their rights and liberties are curtailed.

Recognizing the importance of this area, ODIHR, in co-operation with Sweden's Folke Bernadotte Academy, convened an expert meeting in Stockholm, on 12 and 13 May, to finalize the concept for a handbook on monitoring administrative justice proceedings before courts. Valuable input was provided at the meeting by experts from OSCE field operations, the Council of Europe, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from academia. The draft handbook, which combines a compilation of fair-trial standards with practical

guidance on monitoring these standards in courts, underwent further expert peer review on 10 and 11 November in Vilnius, where 30 participants from the judiciary, academia, the legal profession, international organizations and OSCE field operations provided their comments and contributions. The handbook will be finalized in 2012 to support monitoring exercises and awareness-raising initiatives on fair-trial standards in administrative proceedings.

### Supporting the Adjudication of War Crimes

October 2011 saw the conclusion of the 4 million euro War Crimes Justice Project (WCJP), which was funded by the European Union and implemented by ODIHR in partnership with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), with support from OSCE field operations in South-Eastern Europe. The project consolidated the capacity of national jurisdictions in the region to deal with practical issues related to war crimes cases, enhancing the capacity of the institutions that prosecute and adjudicate war crimes cases, facilitating the exchange of experience between justice actors from the region and the ICTY, and transferring relevant material from the ICTY to the region.



Ambassador Andrew Tesoriere (l), the Head of the OSCE Centre in Bishkek, Feruza Djamasheva (c), the Chairperson of the Supreme Court of Kyrgyzstan, and Dinara Bekboeva, a Judge from the Supreme Court of Kyrgyzstan, at a roundtable on strengthening judicial independence, Bishkek, 20 April 2011. (OSCE/Svetlana Levina)

Most notably, the project developed the first-ever training resource on international criminal law and practice for local justice actors, in co-operation with the International Criminal Law Services (ICLS) and based on input from local judicial and prosecutorial training institutions. An e-learning and training portal, developed by UNICRI, went online in 2011, allowing for web-based professional development in this area.<sup>1</sup> The *Manual on International Criminal Defense*, a practice-oriented reference tool for defense counsel working on war crimes cases in the region's courts, was developed by the Association of Defense Counsel practicing before the ICTY (ADC-ICTY) and UNICRI. The first of its kind, the manual presents their most effective and innovative practices.

More than 800 justice professionals working on war crimes cases in the region participated in a range of project-led training events and peer-to-peer meetings, which also provided a forum to strengthen regional co-operation. During the course of the project, 32 support staff were embedded in the justice institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia to bolster capacity in key areas, including prosecutorial analysis and legal research. A number of these support staff were retained by justice institutions beyond the project's end date.

1 <http://wcjp.unicri.it/>

Finally, the project produced 60,800 pages of transcripts in local languages of ICTY proceedings identified by national legal institutions as the most relevant. The availability of these transcripts in the ICTY's Court Records Database and the ICTY website greatly enhances the ability of local professionals to access and use testimony given before the Tribunal and ensures that the transcripts will remain accessible to the public at large long after the Tribunal has completed its work.

### Strengthening Capacity for Legislative Reform

Decisions to conduct legal reform are ordinarily taken at higher levels of government and in legislatures. It is the drafters of legislation, however, who must reflect these political decisions in law, and they are sometimes faced with new and complex legislative issues or lack the relevant expertise to complete the task adequately. ODIHR provides the expertise needed to bridge this gap by assessing compliance of draft or existing laws with relevant international standards and OSCE commitments, making recommendations for improvement, and sharing good practices to help lawmakers explore other options. This process is often followed by consultations with legislators and civil society on draft or existing legislation.



Ambassador Janez Lenarčič, the Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (l), speaking with Judge Fausto Pocar (r) of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) as Jonathan Lucas, the Director of the UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) looks on, at an event marking the end of the 18-month War Crimes Justice Project, Sarajevo, 26 October 2011. (OSCE/Dejan Vekic)

ODIHR assists legislators in participating States on the following issues: freedom of assembly and association, freedom of religion or belief, political parties, judiciaries, criminal law, criminal procedure, administrative justice, gender equality, migration, anti-trafficking, disciplinary procedures for the armed forces, anti-terrorism and anti-discrimination.

Ideally, ODIHR assistance is sought by authorities at an early stage of the policy development and drafting process to assess the existing legislative framework, to discuss options and to guide decisions on how amendments should be put in place. In 2011, for example, ODIHR's initial review and recommendations on the Law on Equal Opportunities of Women and Men in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia were incorporated into the new Law on Equal Opportunities by the working group tasked to draft amendments to the original law. Following discussions, ODIHR was asked to review the new draft law's conformity with international standards.

In providing legislative assistance to participating States, ODIHR collaborates closely with other international bodies, including the Council of Europe's Venice Commission, on legislation pertaining to issues such as freedom of assembly, freedom of religion or belief, the judiciary, political parties and national human rights institutions. ODIHR also works with the Directorates

of the Council of Europe and UN OHCHR. In 2011, ODIHR initiated contacts with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in the field of freedom of association legislation.

Co-operation with the Panel of Experts on Freedom of Assembly and the Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief, both set up by the Office to bring forward best-quality recommendations, continued in 2011.

#### GROUP OF EXPERTS ON POLITICAL PARTIES

In order to strengthen its support in the area of legislation on the regulation and functioning of political parties, ODIHR established in 2011 the Group of Experts on Political Parties, composed initially of seven academics and practitioners from countries throughout the OSCE region. The Group acts as an advisory and consultative body to help ODIHR review related legislation and has already contributed to the preparation of a number of reviews of legislation related to the funding of political parties.

#### Improving Legislative Efficiency and Transparency

OSCE commitments have long recognized the importance of an open and transparent, participatory and efficient legislative process to providing predictable

government and strengthening democracy. ODIHR's experience in providing assistance to participating States on individual pieces of legislation has demonstrated that the shortcomings of individual laws are often the result of shortcomings in the lawmaking system. Therefore, in 2005, ODIHR began developing a methodology to address cases where lawmaking processes do not function adequately.

According to this methodology, assistance is provided following a comprehensive assessment of the legislative process in a participating State, in order to gain a detailed understanding of the specifics of the legislative system and tailor assistance to the needs identified.

Subsequent to the publication in 2010 of ODIHR's "Preliminary Assessment Report on the Legislative System of the Republic of Serbia", the Speaker of the National Assembly of Serbia requested, in March 2011, that ODIHR carry out a comprehensive assessment of the country's lawmaking process, focusing on the legal framework and existing practices, and provide detailed recommendations on how the system could be improved. The Office agreed with the National Assembly's Legislative Committee that the assessment would include an evaluation of the regulatory framework; of the structure, methods and levels of interaction among lawmaking bodies; and of the mechanisms and procedures in place for preparing, drafting, adopting, assessing, publishing and monitoring the implementation of legislation. The anticipated outcome of this assessment is the promotion of a home-grown, comprehensive reform process for national decision makers, followed by a series of thematic workshops in Serbia in 2012. The workshops will focus on challenges identified in the report to be published in early 2012 and possible solutions in light of the experience and practices of Serbia and other OSCE participating States, particularly those that have recently joined the European Union.

The "Conference on Better Regulation in Eastern Europe", held on 20 and 21 October in Tbilisi, in co-operation with Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the Georgian Ministry of Justice, and a workshop on "Interaction of Government and Parliament through Different Stages of the Legislative Process and Participatory Approach to Law Making", held on 23 November in Bishkek in co-operation with the OSCE Office in Bishkek, were also important activities to promote awareness of democratic lawmaking processes.

### Guidelines for Legislators

ODIHR assists legislators from the OSCE participating States through the development of guidelines on specific and, often, complex legislative issues. These guidelines offer advice and expertise on the regulation of specific areas in the human dimension, based on universal and regional treaties on the protection of

human rights and fundamental freedoms, evolving state practice and general principles of law, all of which are recognized by the OSCE participating States in their human dimension commitments.

Each set of guidelines is drafted through an extensive consultative process involving expert discussions and thematic roundtables with key stakeholders from a wide array of OSCE participating States. Recognizing the great diversity of legal traditions across the OSCE area, the guidelines do not seek to provide blanket solutions or to aid in the development of a single model for all OSCE participating States. Rather, they are intended to clarify key issues related to the respective subject matter and provide examples of good practices. ODIHR guidelines are usually prepared in co-ordination with the Council of Europe's Venice Commission.

In February, the Office presented the ODIHR-Venice Commission *Guidelines on Political Party Regulation* to OSCE delegations in Vienna, and both the English- and Russian-language editions were shared with participants in a Human Dimension Seminar from 18 to 20 May in Warsaw, where the publication was launched officially. Work also continued in 2011 on revision of the ODIHR *Guidelines for the Review of Legislation Pertaining to Religion or Belief*, originally published in 2004.



### Access to Law

Legislators often operate in a narrow legal space, and their work is sometimes impeded by a scarcity of locally available legal resources. ODIHR's legislative database, [www.legislationline.org](http://www.legislationline.org), improves access to laws and the sharing of good practices and precedents from other jurisdictions by providing a thematically structured online compilation of international standards and domestic laws from OSCE participating States related to the OSCE's human dimension. The website has interfaces in English and Russian, but collects legislation in all official OSCE languages. The site also contains all ODIHR reviews on draft and existing legislation, as well as on lawmaking processes.

## LEGAL REVIEWS IN 2011

COUNTRY	TITLE OF DOCUMENT	DATE OF ISSUE
ARMENIA	Opinion on the draft Law on the Disciplinary Rulebook of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Armenia	17 January
	Opinion on the draft Law of the Republic of Armenia on Making Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Alternative Services	8 September
	Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Draft Law on Freedoms of Conscience and Religion and on the Laws Making Amendments and Supplements to the Criminal Code, the Administrative Offences Code and the Law on the Relations between the Republic of Armenia and the Holy Armenian Apostolic Church of the Republic of Armenia	17 October
AZERBAIJAN	Comments on the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Freedom of Religion	21 June
BOSNIA and HERZGOVINA	Comments on the Law on Political Party Financing of Bosnia and Herzegovina	6 December
GEORGIA	Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the draft Law on Amendments and Additions to the Organic Law of Georgia on Political Unions of Citizens	22 December
KAZAKHSTAN	Opinion on the draft Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the Regulation of Migration Processes	11 April
	Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Constitutional Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the Judicial System and Status of Judges	17-18 June
LITHUANIA	Opinion on the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Seimas Ombudsmen	21 September
FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA	Opinion on the Law on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	9 June
	Opinion on the draft Law on Equal Opportunities of Women and Men of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	16 September
MOLDOVA	Opinion on Amendments and Addenda Enhancing Gender Equality in Certain Legal Acts of the Republic of Moldova	14 March
	Opinion on the Draft Law on Preventing and Combating Discrimination of the Republic of Moldova	13 October
	Review of the Legislation Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in the Republic of Moldova	14 December
MONTENEGRO	Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Law on the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of the Republic of Montenegro	19 October
SERBIA	Joint ODIHR- Venice Commission Opinion on the revised draft Law on Financing Political Activities of the Republic of Serbia	30 March
	Opinion on Selected Aspects of the draft Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Serbia	27 May
UKRAINE	Opinion on the draft Law on Counteracting Trafficking in Human Beings of the Republic of Ukraine	5 September
	Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the draft Law on Freedom of Assembly of the Republic of Ukraine	17 October



Agata Rzewuska, Web Assistant in the ODIHR Legislative Support Unit, making a presentation on the Legislationline website at the Human Dimension Seminar on the Role of Political Parties in the Political Process, Warsaw, 19 May 2011. (OSCE/Piotr Markowski)

In 2011, the database was expanded through the addition of topics in the fields of anti-discrimination, independence of the judiciary, national human rights institutions and administrative justice in order to reflect the dynamics of change in participating States and ODIHR's response thereto. The sections for a number of existing topics, such as gender, hate crimes and freedom of religion, were extensively revised and updated.

## DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In their OSCE commitments, participating States have affirmed that democratic governance involves the effective participation of individuals and groups in pluralistic and democratic institutions. These institutions, therefore, must function in a transparent and accountable manner to produce representative government.

OSCE commitments underscore the priority given by participating States to encouraging and ensuring the equal and effective participation of women and men in political and public life. ODIHR promotes gender equality by supporting the increased participation of women

in political life and strengthening national mechanisms to protect women's rights.

ODIHR's democratic governance programmes are designed and implemented to assist participating States in strengthening laws, institutions and democratic processes. In 2011, ODIHR promoted the better understanding and awareness of OSCE commitments in this field by targeting three major areas: increasing women's political participation, strengthening parliaments and ensuring pluralist political party systems.

### Increasing Women's Participation in Politics

OSCE participating States have committed themselves to promoting the equal participation of women and men in political and public life. Yet across the OSCE, women remain under-represented in political and public institutions, especially at decision-making levels. The average of women's representation in national parliaments in the OSCE region in November 2011 stood at only 22.3 per cent, with the figure in individual participating States ranging from 6.5 to 45 per cent.<sup>2</sup>

In 2011, ODIHR continued to promote women's meaningful political participation by organizing roundtables and conferences, commissioning research and

2 As of November 2011.

ODIHR presented its “Gender Equality in Elected Office: A Six-Step Action Plan” at a conference in Belfast on ways to increase the political representation of women in Northern Ireland, 9 March 2012.  
(OSCE/Shiv Sharma)



facilitating the sharing of good practices and concrete measures to increase women’s political participation among authorities and civil society representatives in participating States.

Women’s opportunities to access political office are often determined by political parties. As the “gatekeepers” of women’s participation, political parties manage processes related to candidate nomination, the allocation of campaign resources and promotion to key campaign positions. Thus, April saw the launch of the Office’s “Women in Political Parties” project, aimed at expanding political stakeholders’ knowledge of the range of voluntary measures available to increase the number of women as political party leaders, decision makers and candidates. ODIHR partnered with civil society organizations in five pilot countries — Albania, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Moldova — to identify both good practices in promoting and barriers to women’s involvement in political parties. The findings will provide essential material for the *Handbook on Measures to Promote Women’s Participation in Political Parties*, to be published in 2012.

In June, ODIHR published its commissioned baseline study *Gender Equality in Elected Office: A Six-Step Action Plan*, as part of its continuing support for the development of evidence-based research to build the capacity of political stakeholders and gender advocates

to influence political and policy agendas. The study provides an overview of trends in women’s political participation in the OSCE region and presents a concrete framework for assessing and promoting women’s political participation. The Office presented the study at a number of events organized in OSCE participating States in 2011, and the resource continues to serve as a useful tool for developing concrete measures for promoting women’s participation in political and electoral processes.

The Office’s work in 2011 to support capacity building to promote women’s political participation included co-operation with OSCE field operations and other partners, including central election commissions and gender equality bodies. ODIHR contributed to a roundtable and training event on 27 and 28 June in Podgorica on women’s representation, organized by the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, that highlighted the important role young party members play in promoting gender equality within political party structures. On 22 November in Sarajevo, in co-operation with the Parliamentary Committee on Gender Equality, the Gender Equality Agency and the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, ODIHR organized a conference on increasing women’s participation in public life. From 2 to 4 December in Yerevan, ODIHR initiated a pilot roundtable and training programme for political party





Participants at the annual OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, Warsaw, 26 September 2011. (OSCE/Piotr Markowski)

leadership and women candidates, in co-operation with the OSCE Office in Yerevan, to promote women as party candidates in the run-up to parliamentary elections in Armenia in 2012.

In 2011, ODIHR also began work to enhance the quality and consistency of reporting on women's political participation as part of the work of ODIHR election observation activities. These efforts will provide a more comprehensive foundation for follow-up activities in the sphere of women's participation in political life in OSCE participating States.

Recognizing the key role of civil society, ODIHR continued to support the active participation of women civil society representatives at ODIHR events. Women Power Breakfasts were organized in Warsaw on the margins of the Human Dimension Seminar from 18 to 20 May and of the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting from 26 September to 7 October to facilitate an exchange of experiences among representatives of OSCE institutions, civil society and international organizations.

### **Strengthening National Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women**

National mechanisms for the advancement of women give expression to women's and gender issues and serve

as protectors of women's rights, as well as monitors of state compliance with national and international obligations. Such mechanisms have been established across the OSCE region, albeit with varying degrees of effectiveness in ensuring that gender equality commitments are put into practice.

Implementation of ODIHR's National Human Rights Institutions and Gender Equality Project continued in 2011, with the commissioning of the *Pilot Comparative Review: National Human Rights Institutions and their Practices in Protecting and Promoting Women's Rights and Gender Equality*. The review identifies common structural and procedural challenges faced by national human rights institutions (NHRIs) in promoting gender equality and provides examples of effective gender programming. The workshop "NHRIs and Gender Equality", held on 28 and 29 March in Prague, provided a platform for the exchange of experiences among NHRI representatives. A survey of NHRI gender-equality practices in the OSCE region was conducted in 2011, the findings of which will inform the *Handbook for National Human Rights Institutions on Women's Rights and Gender Equality*, to be published by ODIHR in 2012.

ODIHR also continued to support participating States in the development of gender-equality legislation and strategies, including national action plans. In April,



Women political party members from Tajikistan taking part in the Human Dimension Seminar on the Role of Political Parties in the Political Process, Warsaw, 19 May 2011. (OSCE/Jolanta Cichoka)

the Office provided input to Tajikistan's draft national action plan, which was developed by the State Committee on Women and Family Affairs, in co-operation with women's organizations. ODIHR also provided legal opinions on the Law on Gender-Related Amendments and Addenda to Legal Acts of the Republic of Moldova, as well as on the Law on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. In support of the latter, ODIHR contributed expertise to a working-group session on law amendments, on 14 July in Mavrovo. ODIHR also reviewed the new draft Law on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men drafted by the working group.

### Combating Violence against Women

Violence against women is one of the most pervasive and traumatic violations of human rights, and combating this problem is a necessary precursor to activities in the field of women's participation in public life. ODIHR's efforts in this area include facilitating the participation of experts from the OSCE region in events organized by OSCE field operations and partners and, upon request, assisting participating States in improving legal frameworks to combat domestic violence.

The Office's financial support provided three experts on violence against women with the opportunity to

participate in the "European Women's Congress", held in Warsaw on 17 and 18 September, under the auspices of the Polish Presidency of the European Union. The experts presented good practices for the judiciary, regional governments and civil society as part of the discussions on women's participation in all spheres of public life.

### Strengthening Parliaments

Effective, pluralistic and representative parliaments are a key requirement of democratic governance. ODIHR's democratic governance programme provides assistance to parliaments, focusing on increasing their capacity to carry out their legislative, representative and oversight functions, with the support of a professional and modern parliamentary secretariat. This assistance is offered largely in collaboration with OSCE field operations, although work began in 2011 on research publications to be released by ODIHR in 2012.

The Office co-operated closely with the OSCE Mission to Serbia in 2011 as the latter advised the National Assembly of Serbia on parliamentary codes of conduct. ODIHR participated in advisory meetings in June and helped the Mission to plan and organize an international conference on ethics and codes of conduct for parliamentarians on 24 and 25 November. The



Alexandru Tanase, a judge at the Constitutional Court of Moldova and former Minister of Justice, delivers the keynote speech at the opening of the OSCE Human Dimension Seminar on the Role of Political Parties in the Political Process, Warsaw, 18 May 2011. (OSCE/Piotr Markowski)

“Standards of Ethics/Conduct for Parliamentarians” conference brought together MPs and parliamentary staff from several OSCE participating States, as well as experts, civil society representatives and OSCE Parliamentary Assembly officials. This experience led to the development of an ODIHR project to study different practices of parliamentary ethics and conduct regulation in the OSCE region.

The OSCE has built up a wealth of experience and know-how in implementing parliamentary-support projects, and ODIHR is uniquely situated to collect and share this experience. The Office, therefore, has promoted special practice- and experience-sharing structures, such as an online discussion group hosted on the parliamentary development expert portal Agora ([www.agora-parl.org](http://www.agora-parl.org)), a joint project of a number of international organizations. In 2011, ODIHR also organized and contributed to regular meetings of OSCE programmes working on parliamentary strengthening, including through a side event during the Human Dimension Seminar on “The Role of Political Parties in the Political Process”, held in Warsaw from 18 to 20 May.

In another example of productive co-operation with field operations, ODIHR assisted the OSCE Mission in Kosovo during a workshop in November for parliamentarians and parliamentary staff by presenting an

overview of how parliamentary human rights committees function in a number of OSCE participating States.

### Ensuring Pluralistic Political Party Systems

Political parties are a critical means by which citizens participate in their government, and a political-party system that offers real choice and works with fair rules can help to ensure that citizens are represented, policy debates are vibrant and democratic renewal takes place. Parties also often serve as bridges between the executive and legislative branches of government and help to effectively prioritize the legislative agenda within a system of government.

The Human Dimension Seminar on “The Role of Political Parties in the Political Process”, mentioned above, was an important part of the Office’s efforts in this area in 2011, gathering more than 230 participants from 41 OSCE participating States and Mediterranean Partner countries to discuss the role of political parties in democracy and develop detailed recommendations.

ODIHR’s support of efforts to establish a legal and regulatory framework that can guarantee the basic conditions in which multi-party systems can thrive is based on OSCE commitments and the principles expressed in the *Guidelines on Political Party Regulation*, published by ODIHR and the Council of Europe’s Venice

Marta Achler, the Chief of ODIHR's Legislative Support Unit, addresses participants at a conference entitled "Better Regulation in Eastern Europe" held in Tbilisi, 21 October 2011. (Photo: Levan Chkhatarashvili)



Commission in 2010. Based on these guidelines and its expertise, ODIHR's democratic governance programme continued to provide support and advice on how to best protect and advance political pluralism to participating States and their institutions, OSCE field operations and civil society.

The registration and financing of political parties — based on the principles contained in the guidelines — were key focus areas for ODIHR's support in 2011. In Georgia, ODIHR worked with the Central Election Commission and a number of civil society organizations to organize a special "Conference on Political Party Funding and Women's Participation in Political Life", on 29 and 30 June. This contributed to the introduction of amendments to the Election Code, adopted in December, that introduce financial incentives for political parties to include more women on party lists. ODIHR participated in discussions of political-party regulation at events organized by OSCE field operations and local think tanks and civil society in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Moldova.

ODIHR also continued to help civil society organizations increase their analytical capacity and abilities to advocate for policy reform, providing assistance in the development of comprehensive assessment reports on political-party regulations in their countries. ODIHR worked closely with the think tank National Association

of Political Scientists in Tajikistan (NAPST), sharing its know-how and tools in the development of a comprehensive report on political-party regulation, to be published in 2012.

## MIGRATION AND FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

OSCE participating States have committed themselves to facilitating the movement of people and protecting human rights, including those of migrant workers, refugees and displaced and stateless persons. Progress in the application of these commitments in the OSCE region, however, has been uneven, as those forcibly displaced often face obstacles to accessing international protection, and voluntary migrants experience various direct and indirect barriers to the exercise of basic human rights. To address these concerns, ODIHR provides assistance to OSCE participating States in the development of human rights-based migration policies and legislation, with a particular focus on gender-sensitive migration policies.

In the OSCE context, freedom of movement extends beyond the movement of people within and across borders of their own states to include entry procedures for

their citizens across borders into the territories of other participating States. Freedom of movement is often a prerequisite for the exercise of many other rights, as the lack of freedom to choose one's own place of residence can prevent an individual from exercising his or her political rights, chosen religion, right to marriage or family life, or to access employment or education. ODIHR consolidates good practices in protecting and promoting freedom of movement across the OSCE area and shares it with participating States.

### Migrant Integration

In 2011, ODIHR identified Ukraine as a new recipient country for immigrants that faces a number of policymaking and practical challenges related to migrant integration, for the implementation of a pilot project in this area. In co-operation with the International Organization for Migration Mission in Ukraine, the Council of Europe and the East European Development Institute, ODIHR carried out an assessment of the situation and needs related to migrant integration in Ukraine, the results of which were discussed at a roundtable on 13 July in Kyiv. The event gathered some 40 participants from government, civil society and international organizations to identify existing challenges to migrant integration. The roundtable's conclusions were the basis for the development by ODIHR, the IOM Mission in Ukraine and the Council of Europe of a project to provide capacity-building measures in 2012 to facilitate the further integration of migrants in Ukraine.

In Kazakhstan, in co-operation with the Migration Policy Group, ODIHR carried out an assessment of migrant-integration measures, according to the internationally recognized MIPEX<sup>3</sup> methodology. The results of the MIPEX assessment, which were presented to the authorities at the International Labour Organization/OSCE/UN Women Roundtable at the Parliament of Kazakhstan in May, could serve as a basis for further discussion and exchange of good practices regarding migrant integration in the OSCE region.

At the 2011 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting held from 23 September to 7 October in Warsaw, ODIHR, in co-operation with the Migration Policy Group, organized a side event on the political participation of migrants in the OSCE region. The event raised awareness among the OSCE participating States and civil society of the importance of civil and political rights to the integration of migrants, and highlighted good practices.

<sup>3</sup> The methodology of the Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX) provides a quantitative, comparative and systematic database to assess, compare and improve integration policies. The indicators MIPEX identifies for equal treatment, opportunities and obligations are anchored in the relevant UN and ILO conventions. The indicators also underlie all OSCE political commitments and follow relevant standards of the Council of Europe and the European Union.

### Gender-Mainstreaming Migration Policies

The proportion of women in global migratory movements has increased considerably. While labour migration provides new opportunities, it also exposes women migrants to the risk of exploitation. To safeguard the rights of women migrants, OSCE participating States have begun to develop gender-sensitive migration policies.

To assist these efforts, ODIHR supported the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) in conducting regional training on 17 and 18 May in Vienna for government officials, employers and workers associations. Based on the *Gender and Labour Migration Trainer's Manual*, which focuses on gender mainstreaming in migration policy, the course focused on the integration of gender issues into existing migration policies.

The Office also collaborated with the OCEEA in 2011 on the revision of the *Gender and Labour Migration Trainer's Manual*, which was first published in 2010. The updated version will be published in 2012 and serve as the basis for training by ODIHR and OCEEA at OSCE field operations.

### Refugees, Displaced Persons and Stateless Persons

Preventing forced migration and finding durable solutions to current displacement situations are part and parcel of the three dimensions of the OSCE's concept of comprehensive security. ODIHR provided expert input and an update on its work relating to refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) at the "Special Thematic Event on IDPs and Refugees", co-organized on 27 May in Vienna by the Swiss Chairmanship of the Human Dimension Committee and UNHCR. The event raised awareness and deepened understanding among OSCE participating States of relevant international frameworks, including OSCE commitments, to identify current and emerging challenges and explore ways to integrate work by ODIHR with that of other OSCE structures. The Office is already exploring ways to help implement recommendations made at the event.

### Population Registration

ODIHR assists participating States in which population-registration systems are in place to ensure that these systems do not limit the right to freedom of movement. The *Guidelines on Population Registration*, published in 2009, remain the Office's primary tool in providing assistance to political decision makers, practitioners and relevant authorities in assessing and, where warranted, making adjustments to their population-registration systems.

For example, ODIHR continued to provide assistance to Kyrgyzstan's State Registration Service in finalizing



Irena Hadziabdic, the President of the Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina, speaking at a seminar on population registration and increasing the accuracy of voter registers, Warsaw, 31 August 2011. (OSCE/Shiv Sharma)

its “Strategy for the Establishment of a Unified State Population Register”, which envisages the computerization of residency and civil-registration services, the simplification of residency-registration procedures and the establishment of a system for data sharing with other public institutions.

The guidelines also provided the basis for discussions with civil and residency-registration authorities in Prishtinë/Priština, in September, in the context of ongoing development of a population-registration system.

### Voter and Population Registration

In many OSCE participating States, the quality of the population register directly affects the exercise of universal and equal suffrage, as voter lists are linked to or produced from them. The Office assists states in implementing recommendations made by ODIHR Election Observation Missions by helping them build efficient links between their voter lists and population-registration systems.

ODIHR organized the seminar “Synergies between Population and Voter Registration: Implications for the Accuracy of Voter Lists”, on 31 August in Warsaw, which for the first time gathered representatives of OSCE participating States to present and discuss good practices in efficient data sharing between election

and population-registration authorities in the compilation of voter lists. The seminar was attended by 60 participants, including representatives of 16 OSCE participating States and nine OSCE field operations, as well as from the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), the Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance and the EC-UNDP Taskforce on Electoral Assistance.

In partnership with the Central Election Commission of Georgia and IFES, ODIHR also organized a roundtable on increasing the accuracy of voter lists, on 22 November in Tbilisi. The event, which brought together more than 60 participants from political parties, NGOs and international donor and development agencies, as well as local and international experts and representatives of Georgian media, produced concrete recommendations on policy measures to improve the accuracy of voter lists in the country.

# Human Rights

Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, highlighted the importance of protecting migrant children and children from marginalized communities during a side event on “Enhancing Child Protection and Prevent Child Trafficking” held at the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw, 6 October 2011. (OSCE/Piotr Markowski)







# Human Rights

Although the OSCE participating States have made extensive and detailed commitments to promote, protect and fulfil universal human rights, the effective implementation of these commitments continues to face a number of challenges across the OSCE area. In line with its mandate, ODIHR supports participating States in the implementation of their human dimension commitments through its monitoring efforts, capacity-building activities and development of practical resources.

ODIHR's human rights programmes have addressed key issues and developments in participating States, ensuring prompt reaction to requests and providing tailored assistance to best fit the expressed needs. In doing so, ODIHR has strengthened its co-operation with governmental authorities, national human rights institutions and civil society alike.

## MAIN ISSUES

### **Support for Human Rights Defenders and National Human Rights Institutions**

Human rights are best secured when citizens, either individually or collectively, are able to hold their government accountable. Human rights defenders and National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) play a crucial role in promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms throughout the OSCE region. In a number of participating States, human rights defenders continue to face challenges, including pressure from authorities, restrictions of their right to freedom of assembly and association, and arbitrary detention and ill-treatment. ODIHR, thus, works directly with civil society representatives and organizations to improve participating States' implementation of their human dimension commitments — and thereby the environment for human rights defenders' work — and to strengthen co-operation between civil society and state authorities. ODIHR also assists participating States in the establishment and strengthening of independent and efficient NHRIs, as these mechanisms greatly contribute to monitoring of and response to human rights violations at the national level.

### **Human Rights Training and Education**

Human rights education is essential for the effective promotion of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. ODIHR is very active in this area, working with the OSCE participating States to build the capacity of governments and civil society to educate about, through and for human rights. In particular,

A participant at an ODIHR-supported training session for non-governmental organizations on international standards relating to freedom of association in the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic, Azerbaijan, 5 September 2011. (OSCE/ Zhala Azizova)



this work includes supporting the establishment of more comprehensive and high-quality human rights education in schools and universities, as well as training for civil society and specialist groups, such as law enforcement officials and public health professionals.

### Protecting Human Rights in the Fight against Terrorism

Efforts to combat terrorism cannot be considered successful if they are not carried out in compliance with human rights standards. In multiple human dimension commitments made by participating States, they have acknowledged that anti-terrorism measures that do not protect human rights are counter-productive. They are, therefore, committed to preventing and combating terrorism in full compliance with these commitments and international human rights standards. ODIHR assists participating States in addressing the protection of human rights within the context of all anti-terrorism measures. The Office provides support in developing effective counter-terrorism strategies, policies and practices that are multi-dimensional, human rights compliant and in line with the OSCE's comprehensive concept of security.

### Human Rights and the Armed Forces

The OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security commits OSCE participating States to protecting the human rights of armed forces personnel. Security sector personnel in the OSCE region face a host of problems, such as mistreatment or bullying; official discrimination in recruitment and active service on the basis of gender or other factors; excessive limitations of the exercise of their civil and political rights; and restrictions on forming military associations. A lack of independent oversight and complaint mechanisms, such as military ombudsperson institutions, means that these grievances are often not adequately addressed. ODIHR will continue to foster discussions on how to tackle these challenges and offer examples of good practices and recommendations from across the OSCE region in 2012, as part of its comprehensive programme on Human Rights, Gender and Security.

### Trafficking in Human Beings

OSCE participating States continue to fall short of the full implementation of human dimension commitments in the field of anti-trafficking. Lack of access to justice, including compensation, continues to undermine the human rights of trafficked persons across the region.



Participants at the first training seminar on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security held by the OSCE Mission to Moldova and ODIHR, Chişinău, 8 December 2011. (OSCE/Igor Schimbător)

This is often preceded by inadequate victim identification and assistance, particularly in the context of labour trafficking. Without specialized legal assistance, victims are even more vulnerable to punishment and stigmatization by criminal justice actors and immigration officials. Furthermore, state authorities in many countries have failed to adopt comprehensive victim-centred support mechanisms and to reach out to vulnerable groups, such as undocumented migrants and other marginalized communities. Policies, practices and measures to guarantee the safe return of trafficked persons are still severely lacking throughout the OSCE region.

### Human Rights, Women and Security

Effective security institutions, policies and programmes should reflect the needs and interests of both men and women. This can only be assured by having women present in all ranks of security-sector institutions and in peacekeeping efforts. Furthermore, in order to better serve their communities, all security-sector personnel should be equipped to address the needs of women before, during and after conflict. United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security first coined these principles in 2000. Since then, subsequent UNSC resolutions, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against

Women (CEDAW) and OSCE commitments, such as the OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 14/05 on “Women in Conflict Prevention, Crisis Management, and Post-Conflict Rehabilitation,” have provided reinforcement and served as comprehensive “calls to action” in this area. These documents show the resolve of OSCE participating States to support gender equality in the security sector. ODIHR assists this effort by providing training based on the *Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit* to law-enforcement, border management and armed forces personnel in order to strengthen the capacity of national security institutions on gender issues.





Law-enforcement officers participating at a training session in Zaječar, Serbia, on increasing awareness of women's security issues at the local level, 10 November 2011. (OSCE/Andreea Vesa)

## ACTIVITIES

### Support for Human Rights Defenders and National Human Rights Institutions

In 2011, ODIHR continued to work with civil society actors to build their capacity to monitor and report on the human rights situation in participating States.

During the first six months of 2011, ODIHR supported the efforts of a Georgian NGO, the Human Rights Centre, to carry out systematic monitoring of assemblies. Monitors trained by ODIHR observed 75 assemblies in Tbilisi and other parts of the country. Their preliminary findings were compiled in a comprehensive report, prepared by the Human Rights Centre and to be published in early 2012. Its recommendations should form the basis for dialogue with authorities on strengthening the freedom of assembly.

From 1 to 3 February, ODIHR delivered training in Bishkek on human rights monitoring to 21 civil society representatives, mainly from Bishkek and southern Kyrgyzstan, the area most affected by ethnic violence in 2010.

ODIHR organized a roundtable on monitoring freedom of assembly on 13 May in Chisinau, Moldova, with the participation of civil society actors from Armenia,

Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova and Serbia. During the roundtable, past experiences were evaluated in order to provide input for future monitoring activities by civil society and OSCE actors. Training on freedom of assembly and the policing of assemblies was delivered to 18 police chiefs and representatives of the Ministry of Interior of Armenia on 17 May in Yerevan. On 5 and 6 September, ODIHR organized, jointly with the OSCE Office in Baku, training for 22 civil society representatives on international standards relating to freedom of association, with a focus on registration standards. On 1 and 2 December in Belgrade, ODIHR organized, jointly with the OSCE Mission to Serbia, training on assembly monitoring for Serbian civil society. Given the positive feedback on the training, Serbian NGOs are expected to take on additional monitoring functions in the area of freedom of assembly in 2012.

ODIHR also launched two new tools on freedom of assembly and association in 2011. The *Handbook on Monitoring Freedom of Peaceful Assembly*, available in English and Russian, is a guide for groups undertaking independent monitoring of assemblies in their countries. The Handbook draws on established good practices in monitoring assemblies and on training programmes for NGOs supported by ODIHR in various participating States. AssociatiOnline, a web-based interactive guide to freedom of association for

An ODIHR delegation visited human rights defender Azimjan Askarov in prison in Bishkek on 15 December 2011. (OSCE/Bernhard Knoll)



government authorities and civil society, offers policy-makers, legislators and civil society representatives the resources and references necessary to advocate for the protection of the right to freedom of association, as well as to initiate and/or review legislation and practices.

In order to review and discuss implementation of OSCE commitments and international standards on freedom of peaceful assembly, ODIHR observers monitored assemblies in eight participating States, collecting information on challenges and examples of good practices in meeting relevant OSCE commitments. The report will be published in 2012. In addition, the Office continued to monitor closely the situation of imprisoned human rights defenders: Evgheny Zhovtis (Kazakhstan), Azimjon Askarov (Kyrgystan) and Ales Bialiatski (Belarus). ODIHR officials visited Zhovtis on 3 September and Askarov on 15 December, and made public statements highlighting fair-trial issues.

Between March and July, ODIHR monitors observed trials in Belarus of individuals who were charged with crimes in the aftermath of events in Minsk following the December 2010 elections. Trial monitoring was carried out to assess compliance of proceedings and relevant domestic law with international fair trial standards, to identify possible shortcomings in the criminal justice system, and to present recommendations aimed at improving the administration of criminal justice to

Belarusian authorities. The monitoring findings were published in a comprehensive report in November.

ODIHR continued its activities aimed at strengthening National Human Rights Institutions by organizing a “Workshop on NHRIs on the Promotion of Women’s Rights and Gender Equality” on 28 and 29 March in Prague. On 14 and 15 April in Vienna, ODIHR organized the OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) on NHRIs (ombuds institutions, commissions, institutes and other mechanisms). During the meeting, NHRIs presented to participating States a list of recommendations agreed upon during a preparatory meeting for NHRIs, also organized by ODIHR. As a follow-up, the Office organized, jointly with the Lithuanian OSCE Chairmanship, a conference for NHRIs in the OSCE area on 13 and 14 July in Vilnius, aimed at promoting a deeper understanding of the relationships between the executive, parliaments, the judiciary and civil society, on one hand, and NHRIs on the other.

From 14 to 16 September in Tashkent, ODIHR co-ordinated, with the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan, the Autumn School of the Ombudsperson Institution of Uzbekistan, focusing on international standards, good practices and their regional application. ODIHR co-organized, with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the



Police trainer Jean-Pierre Devos explains the importance of respecting human rights during counter-terrorism activities at a training course organized by ODIHR, the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo, 16 September 2011. (OSCE/S. Andrews)

“Regional Workshop on NHRIs in Compliance with the Paris Principles and their Role in Torture Prevention in Central Asia.” The event, hosted by the Human Rights Ombudsman of Tajikistan on 12 and 13 October in Dushanbe, gathered more than 50 participants, including ombudspersons, parliamentarians, government officials, diplomats and representatives of civil society from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

### Human Rights Training and Education

Because governments are responsible for providing human rights education in schools and universities, as well as to civil servants, the implementation of such programmes should take place within a legislative or policy framework to ensure sustainability. In 2011 ODIHR began the development of four sets of guidelines on human rights education (for secondary schools, law-enforcement officials, public health professionals and human rights activists, respectively) aimed at promoting good practices in human rights education. This innovative work is part of a consultative process involving various stakeholders in follow-up to the 2009 regional forum “Human Rights Education: Achievements, Lessons Learned and Perspectives”, held in Vilnius, and the 2010 workshop

“Moving Towards Human Rights Education Standards”, which took place in Istanbul. These initiatives received broad support among education professionals working in schools, universities and in-service training institutions, as well as those in the non-formal training environment. The initial documents were drafted in collaboration with working groups, and the final versions are being elaborated on the basis of input provided by an additional group of human rights practitioners representing all OSCE geographical regions and groups, such as trainers, educational administrators, NGO specialists and representatives from NHRIs, as well as inter-governmental agencies, such as the Council of Europe, UNESCO and the UN OHCHR. These guidelines have been elaborated with reference to key policy and resource documents promulgated by the United Nations, regional human rights bodies and other agencies, and are intended for programme designers, practitioners, policymakers and other stakeholders. They serve as a measuring stick for quality programming, setting benchmarks in the short term and beyond, and as a resource for those interested in initiating, expanding or reviewing human rights education activities. ODIHR plans to finalize the four documents in 2012.

In 2011 ODIHR also expanded its human rights education activities in Central Asia. At the request of



Participants at an OSCE-supported discussion on international best practices for democratic control of the armed forces and human rights protection in the military in Armenia, Yerevan, 22 February 2011. (OSCE/Gayane Ter-Stepanyan)

Turkmenistani authorities, ODIHR, jointly with the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat, conducted a roundtable to present *The Compendium of Good Practice in Human Rights Education in the School Systems of Europe, Central Asia and North America* on 27 and 28 January in Ashgabat. ODIHR experts presented human rights education practices from the Compendium, with special focus on aspects of possible relevance for Turkmenistan. Twenty Turkmenistani participants — including representatives of the Ministry of Education, the National Institute of Education, the National Institute for Democracy and Human Rights, Turkmen State University, the Pedagogical Institute and the Institute for International Relations — discussed the practices and their possible implementation in Turkmenistan.

In the Kyrgyz Republic, where the relevant governmental structures expressed some political will to strengthen the human rights component of the country's educational programmes in schools and universities, ODIHR facilitated a roundtable to support it in practice. On 26 and 27 May, ODIHR co-organized, with the OSCE Centre in Bishkek and the Regional Office of the OHCHR for Central Asia, the roundtable "Problems and Perspectives of Reforms Related to Human Rights and Civic Education in Schools and Universities in the Kyrgyz Republic: International Experience". The event was a response to needs and opportunities identified

during an ODIHR assessment visit to Kyrgyzstan in March and April 2011.

Approximately 40 practitioners and policymakers in the sphere of education participated in the roundtable. ODIHR experts presented the international human rights education framework, as well as examples of educational approaches from the Compendium related to both secondary schools and university levels. The Kyrgyzstani participants made a presentation about the current status of civic and human rights education and plans for further development. Recommendations included the need for a human rights-based assessment of school and university systems, as well as more effective and extensive integration of human rights into existing and new curricula in schools, universities and teacher training.

### Protecting Human Rights in the Fight against Terrorism

ODIHR continued to raise awareness and understanding of human rights issues and obligations related to the fight against terrorism, as well to address gaps in the understanding of the factors involved in radicalization leading to terrorism.

On 12 December in Vienna, ODIHR, in co-operation with the OSCE Secretariat's Action against Terrorism



Participants at a training course on the protection of human rights during the investigation of terrorist crimes, organized by ODIHR in Skopje, 3 November 2011. (OSCE/Faruk Ademi)

Unit and Gender Section, organized an expert roundtable “Preventing Women Terrorist Radicalization”. The event provided a forum for more than 60 experts from academia, civil society, the media and the authorities in OSCE participating States to discuss the dynamics behind the terrorist radicalization of women and identify ways to prevent it.

Training of law-enforcement officers on the protection of human rights while countering terrorism was provided in Prishtinë/Priština on 14 and 15 February, and in Sarajevo from 14 to 16 September. The training module developed by ODIHR, *Countering Terrorism, Protecting Human Rights*, aims to provide public officials and counter-terrorism practitioners with a better understanding of the main human rights issues that arise while addressing terrorism, and ways to ensure the protection of human rights in line with international standards and OSCE commitments. The training module has been delivered in more than a dozen OSCE locations since its introduction in 2005.

In 2011, ODIHR launched a project aimed at elaborating a specific training course on the protection of human rights while countering terrorism for its future integration into the regular curricula of the law enforcement training institutions of Tajikistan. The project is being implemented jointly with the OSCE Office in Tajikistan, in the context of the ongoing

police reform process and subsequent review of police curricula.

Pilot training on human rights and the investigation of terrorist crimes was organized for law-enforcement officers on 31 October and 1 November in Prishtinë/Priština, and on 3 and 4 November in Skopje. The initiative, which aims to develop a practical training module on operational issues in this area, was launched within the framework of a joint project with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit.

Finally, training sessions on human rights, counter-terrorism and border security were also delivered jointly, with the OSCE Border Management Staff College (BMSC) in Tajikistan, during the BMSC’s staff courses on 15 and 16 March, and 17 June in Dushanbe, as well as during the Lithuanian OSCE Chairmanship seminar on counter-terrorism and border security, in Vilnius from 17 to 21 October. The training aimed to provide officials from border and customs agencies in OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation a human rights based approach to securing borders against terrorism.

### Human Rights and the Armed Forces

ODIHR continued to raise awareness and publicize the recommendations and good practices outlined





Mariana Katarova, ODIHR's Senior Adviser on Anti-trafficking Issues, speaks during a side event on "Enhancing Child Protection and Preventing Child Trafficking" at the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw, 6 October 2011. (OSCE/Piotr Markowski)

in the *Handbook on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Armed Forces Personnel*, published by the Office and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF). An ODIHR representative participated in an event on the right to conscientious objection to military service, one of the core issues analyzed in the handbook, on 22 February in Yerevan. As follow-up, ODIHR conducted a legislative review of Armenia's military discipline legislation. The Handbook was presented to armed forces representatives assembled for the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation "Seminar on the OSCE Code of Conduct and Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the South Caucasus and Black Sea Region" from 5 to 7 July in Odessa, Ukraine. A version of the Handbook, in Azeri, was launched at a roundtable event on the role of NHRIs in addressing infringements on rights of armed forces personnel, on 13 December in Baku.

### Trafficking in Human Beings

ODIHR continued to advocate for inclusion of civil society actors in victim identification and National Referral Mechanisms, increased protection of the rights of migrant workers, and better victim identification and assistance, in particular with regard to labour trafficking. ODIHR supported provision of legal assistance to

trafficked persons and promoted peer education as an effective form of outreach that enhances rights protection of marginalized and vulnerable groups. The Office continued to train key stakeholders and criminal justice actors on international standards and good practices on access to justice and effective remedies, including compensation, for trafficked persons. This included support to OSCE field presences in building the capacity of local and national policymakers and practitioners to combat trafficking, including the OSCE Office in Baku and the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan.

ODIHR continued to highlight the need to enhance human rights protection in the return of trafficked persons, undertaking expert research in a wide range of countries of origin and destination to inform the development of its *Guide on Human Rights Protection in the Return of Trafficked Persons*, to be published in 2012.

In an effort to strengthen cross-border exchange of expertise and co-operation between lawyers on issues relevant to access to justice for trafficked persons, ODIHR organized an international workshop from 28 to 30 March in Istanbul, in co-operation with the Istanbul Bilgi University. Participants examined pre-conditions for access to justice and reviewed the effectiveness of criminal, civil, administrative and other mechanisms for accessing justice and compensation at the national and international levels. The workshop enabled 26 lawyers

and NGO staff from 15 countries across the OSCE region to share their expertise, with the participation of the anti-trafficking focal points of several OSCE field missions. Building on the Istanbul workshop and consultations with legal practitioners working on individual cases, ODIHR enhanced its efforts to facilitate the establishment of a network of legal practitioners in the OSCE region, specializing in issues of access to justice and effective remedies for trafficked persons. In this context, the Office also supported lawyers' participation in the European Pro-Bono Forum, organized by the Global Network for Public Interest Law (PILnet), from 16 to 18 November in Berlin.

ODIHR also continued to support the European Action for Compensation for Trafficked Persons (COMP.ACT), including as a member of the organization's advisory board. With Anti-Slavery International, La Strada International and the Permanent Missions of Germany and the Philippines to the United Nations, ODIHR co-organized a special event on trafficked persons' access to justice and compensation on 31 May at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva. The event, which was opened by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, extended its support to the findings and recommendations of the 2011 report of the UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons which focused on effective remedies.

ODIHR also continued its efforts to enhance co-operation and exchange of expertise, as well as to seek synergies with the work of international organizations, such as the UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, the Council of Europe and its Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA), and the European Union, in particular the Office of the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, Frontex and the Fundamental Rights Agency. Upon invitation by ODIHR and as a first step towards joint consultations, the UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons presented her report, including the draft basic principles on the right to an effective remedy for trafficked persons, to OSCE participating States on 6 October at the 2011 OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw. On the occasion of EU Anti-Trafficking Day, on 18 October in Warsaw, ODIHR's presentation at the expert panel on prevention highlighted the need to strengthen the effectiveness and co-operation of EU agencies in combating trafficking in human beings and to focus prevention efforts on rights protection. It emphasized the need for states to tackle exploitation by addressing inequalities within and between countries, including through ensuring adequate access to social and economic rights for vulnerable groups.

At an expert seminar on human trafficking, ODIHR, jointly with the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, highlighted the need for a human rights-based approach to combating the problem, including within strategies in the areas of prevention, identification, safe

return, risk assessment and the reintegration of trafficked persons. The seminar was organized by the Polish presidency of the European Union, in partnership with ODIHR, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development and the International Organization for Migration, on 30 November and 1 December in Warsaw.

Finally, throughout 2011, ODIHR worked with the OSCE Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and OSCE field missions to ensure that the human dimension is adequately reflected in OSCE events and policy documents, as well as in support provided to participating States. This included a two-day meeting of all focal points on anti-trafficking issues within OSCE institutions and bodies, jointly organized with the Office of the Special Representative and co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and held on 23 and 24 November in Vienna.

### Human Rights, Women and Security

In the wake of the tenth anniversary of UNSCR 1325, ODIHR held eight training events in 2011 based on the OSCE/ODIHR, DCAF and UN Women *Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit*. In March and June, ODIHR provided training on gender mainstreaming to border officials from various countries in the OSCE region as they participated in two, separate staff courses organized by the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe. On 19 and 20 September, ODIHR organized training based on the toolkit for 50 law-enforcement officers in Montenegro, focusing on the importance of properly addressing security issues that are predominantly experienced by women, such as domestic violence. From 10 to 15 November, ODIHR, together with the Belgrade Centre for Security Policy, implemented a series of three training events on the toolkit, and UNSCR 1325 in general, for local government officials in the Serbian towns of Zaječar, Niš and Kraljevo, respectively. These events were prime opportunities for discussions on gender equality in the security sector at the local level, as Serbia had recently adopted a national action plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325. Lastly, on 8 and 9 December, at the request of the Ministry of Defence of Moldova, ODIHR provided training on the skills and tools needed to develop comprehensive gender mainstreaming for the armed forces.

ODIHR also participated, in April and May, in a review of Tajikistan's draft national action plan on gender, which includes a chapter on implementation of UNSCR 1325, as well as in an OSCE-wide conference, on 27 and 28 October in Sarajevo, on the importance of developing such plans. Co-operation with NATO on implementation of UNSCR 1325 was renewed, with ODIHR sharing its expertise at the workshop "Lessons Learned from Implementing UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security", on 1 December in Brussels.

# Tolerance and Non-discrimination

Larry Olomofe (l) of  
ODIHR's Tolerance and  
Non-discrimination  
Department, speaks with  
a participant during a  
workshop on election  
observation and human  
rights for Egyptian NGOs,  
Warsaw, 27 July 2011.  
(OSCE/Jens Eschenbaecher)





# Tolerance and Non-discrimination

The OSCE participating States have adopted a broad range of commitments to combat racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance, including where the targets are Muslims, Christians or members of other religions. In these commitments, participating States pledge to take action to protect individuals and communities, thus recognizing the threat that violent manifestations of intolerance pose to the security and stability of societies. Despite this, violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms continue to occur throughout the OSCE region. ODIHR works with participating States and a wide network of civil society organizations to protect freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief and to eliminate manifestations of intolerance in order to build cohesive, diverse and pluralistic societies based on respect for human rights and the rule of law.

## MAIN ISSUES

### Hate-Motivated Crimes and Violent Manifestations of Intolerance

ODIHR's annual report *Hate Crimes in the OSCE Region: Incidents and Responses*, published on 16 November, documented that hate crimes continue to be a serious problem, with numerous reported cases of intimidation, threats, assaults and desecration of places of worship, arson and other property damage. Once again, the report highlighted that the absence of reliable data remains a major obstacle to understanding the full extent of hate crimes.

### Freedom of Religion or Belief

Religious and belief communities sometimes face considerable challenges in realizing their rights in the OSCE area. Problems include violations of the right to change, adopt or renounce a religion or belief and limitations of the right to manifest one's religion or belief. These constraints are manifested, for example, through restrictive regulations on the registration of these communities, the limitation of their autonomy or the prohibition of public displays of religious symbols.

### Challenging Biases and Prejudices through Education

Since violent manifestations of intolerance are generally rooted in bias and prejudice, the OSCE participating States have recognized how important educational activities can be to preventing this phenomenon. Education is even more crucial in times of economic and financial crisis, when vulnerable groups are often the target of negative stereotyping. The range of relevant educational approaches encompasses teaching about fundamental rights and equality, challenging stereotypes and bias, raising awareness about the positive aspects of diversity and promoting the remembrance of the Holocaust.

Doreen Lawrence, mother of murdered British teenager Stephen Lawrence, gives the keynote address at the OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Prevention of Racism, Xenophobia and Hate Crimes through Educational and Awareness-Raising Initiatives, Vienna, 10 November 2011. (OSCE/Sarah Crozier)



## ACTIVITIES

In line with its mandate, ODIHR assists participating States and civil society to effectively combat hate crimes, to protect and promote freedom of religion or belief and to promote mutual respect and understanding. ODIHR has developed a broad range of programmes to build the capacities of law-enforcement agencies, government officials and civil society to combat hate crimes and to raise awareness through educational programmes. ODIHR activities also focus on monitoring, collecting and disseminating information on hate crimes and good practices to address this problem.

In 2011, activities were conducted in the following fields:

- ✦ Collecting and disseminating information about hate crime;
- ✦ Awareness raising;
- ✦ Reviewing legislation;
- ✦ Supporting law-enforcement agencies;
- ✦ Supporting civil society;
- ✦ Responding to intolerance against Muslims;
- ✦ Responding to anti-Semitism;

- ✦ Raising awareness about intolerance against Christians; and
- ✦ Promoting freedom of religion or belief.

### Collecting and Disseminating Information about Hate Crime

Although some participating States have taken steps to respond to hate crimes, the absence of reliable data continues to be an obstacle to assessing the nature and scope of this problem across the OSCE region and within individual states. Reliable and detailed data on the number and types of hate crimes, their perpetrators, and the targeted communities are essential to developing effective policies and responses.

To fill this gap, ODIHR continued in 2011 to collect data and publish its annual report on hate crime. The report, published since 2006, remains ODIHR's main activity in this area. *Hate Crimes in the OSCE Region: Incidents and Responses*, based on data from 2008 to 2010, again emphasized the significant differences in data collection in most participating States. Fifty participating States collect some data on hate crimes. Of these, only 22 states provided data on hate crimes that have been collected by government agencies within their jurisdictions. The recommendations in the report highlighted the need to identify, record, investigate and

Larry Olomofe, ODIHR's Advisor for Combating Racism and Xenophobia, addresses participants at a workshop for NGOs on reporting and monitoring hate crimes against Roma and Sinti, Warsaw, 13 April 2011. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)



prosecute hate crimes. Co-operation with civil society is also seen as an essential complement to the initiatives of national authorities.

To help participating States address the data deficit, ODIHR is developing a practical guide for policymakers on how to collect hate crime data. The guide is the first step of a larger programme that will provide tailored assistance to interested participating States.

ODIHR also continues to work with intergovernmental agencies and civil society to collect additional information on hate-motivated crimes. In June, ODIHR signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to co-operate on activities aimed at combating racism, xenophobia and related intolerance. Within this framework, ODIHR prepared technical guidance for UNHCR staff on hate crime monitoring. ODIHR also continued to organize its annual training seminar on hate crime. The event, from 28 to 30 March in Warsaw, was attended by representatives from nine OSCE field operations, as well as from the International Organization for Migration and UNHCR.

### Awareness Raising

As part of efforts to assist participating States in implementing their commitment to raise awareness about

hate crime, ODIHR conducted workshops on hate crime for government officials on 13 September in Sofia and on 29 and 30 June in Bratislava.

The aim of these activities is to raise awareness of hate crimes amongst government and criminal-justice officials, as well as civil society. Participants receive information about ODIHR's toolbox for responding to hate crimes and are encouraged to make use of it.

ODIHR organized a Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on 10 and 11 November in Vienna, focusing on prevention of racism, xenophobia and hate crimes through educational and awareness-raising initiatives. The event highlighted the acute need to develop comprehensive measures to combat racism, especially in times of financial and economic crisis. Participants, including representatives from the OSCE participating States, the OSCE Partners for Co-operation, NGOs and international organizations, recommended garnering support and resources for extra-curricular educational activities to combat violent manifestations of intolerance.

ODIHR also continued to develop its guides and tools to help address hate crime. In November, Albanian, Serbian and Turkish language versions of the ODIHR booklet *Understanding Hate Crimes* were published in Kosovo with the assistance of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo. The publication aims to assist police,

Police Superintendent Paul Giannasi (l), United Kingdom Ministry of Justice, Sergeant Bahri Bylykbashi (c), Kosovo Police Service, and Sergeant Brett Parson, Washington D.C. Police Service, speak after an ODIHR meeting launching a hate crime training programme for law-enforcement officers, Vienna, 13 May 2011. (OSCE/Jonathan Perfect)



prosecutors, government officials and NGOs in understanding the concept of hate crime and associated issues within the local context.

### Reviewing Legislation

ODIHR reviews legislation related to anti-discrimination and hate crime, upon the request of participating States. The reviews provide support to lawmakers in ensuring that legislation is in line with OSCE commitments and other international standards and also offer recommendations on addressing potential areas of concern. These reviews are based on *Hate Crime Laws – A Practical Guide*, which was published by ODIHR in 2009 and is currently available in six languages (Bosnian, English, French, German, Romanian and Russian).

In 2011, ODIHR reviewed draft anti-discrimination legislation in Moldova. In April, the Office also presented the results of its review of anti-discrimination legislation in Montenegro to the Ombudsman's Office.

ODIHR continued to provide joint legislative reviews with the Council of Europe's Venice Commission in the area of freedom of religion or belief, including providing comments on Armenia's legislation pertaining to freedom of religion and alternate service and discussing the results of the review with Armenian authorities.

### Supporting Law Enforcement Agencies in their Efforts to Tackle Hate Crimes

In co-operation with the International Association of Prosecutors, ODIHR is currently developing *Prosecuting Hate Crime: A Practical Guide*. ODIHR held two consultation events in Vienna, the first on 7 and 8 March and the second on 17 November, to gather feedback on the draft guide. ODIHR also developed training materials and delivered training seminars in December to prosecutors in Ukraine on how to prosecute hate crimes. Training was also provided in Kosovo.

ODIHR consulted police experts from throughout the OSCE region in May for its programme Training against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE). TAHCLE, the successor to ODIHR's Law Enforcement Officers Programme (LEOP), is tailored to the needs and experiences of each country, so that it can be integrated into other training efforts. TAHCLE draws on existing resources and curricula of police training institutions and can be delivered directly to police or as training of trainers for pre-service or in-service training curricula. ODIHR helps authorities maximize the results of training by supporting the development and implementation of measures to ensure the skills acquired by police through the programme are put into practice. This multi-year programme includes





Participants at an ODIHR roundtable on contemporary forms of racism and xenophobia affecting people of African Descent in the OSCE region, Vienna, 10 November 2011. (OSCE/Veronika Sperl)

monitoring the delivery and evaluating the impact of the training.

In December, ODIHR piloted TAHCLE in Prishtinë/Priština, with the support of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo. Forty investigators and police trainers were provided instruction on identifying hate crimes and providing adequate and quick responses to them.

Following the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding in Bulgaria in February, the authorities there established an intergovernmental working group to support the implementation of TAHCLE. The implementation plan includes the delivery of training for trainers in March 2012 and the inclusion of TACHLE in the national curriculum for police cadets and investigators.

An additional five participating States in 2011 indicated interest in implementing TAHCLE.

### Supporting Civil Society

An OSCE Ministerial Council Decision in 2006 tasked ODIHR to continue its close co-operation with civil society working in the field of combating intolerance and discrimination, including through the collection of data on hate crimes. ODIHR supports civil society organizations in various ways, including training civil

society representatives, assisting their awareness raising efforts and developing useful resources.

In 2011, ODIHR trained more than 100 representatives from civil society organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Greece, Italy, the Russian Federation, Serbia and Turkey. Two training seminars were also organized for more than 40 Roma representatives, from 13 to 15 April in Poland and from 13 to 15 July in Italy. These programmes provided participants with an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the concept of hate crime and explore potential activities to complement government efforts to combat hate crimes.

On the margins of the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting in November in Vienna, ODIHR organized a roundtable for people of African descent, focusing on the prevention of racism, xenophobia and hate crimes through educational and awareness-raising initiatives. Fifteen participants from 12 countries discussed the manifestations of contemporary racism targeting African communities, exchanged information on effective responses, and concluded that additional information is needed to determine the scope of the problem in the OSCE region.



Rabbi Andrew Baker, Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism, speaks at the OSCE meeting on “Confronting Anti-Semitism in Public Discourse”, Prague, 23 March 2011. (OSCE/Jens Eschenbaecher)

## Responding to Anti-Semitism

To support efforts by participating States to combat anti-Semitism and promote remembrance of the Holocaust, ODIHR has developed educational tools on addressing anti-Semitism and on Holocaust education. Beginning in 2004, the Office has developed these programmes in co-operation with a number of partners, including the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research, the Yad Vashem International School of Holocaust Studies in Israel, and Anne Frank House in Amsterdam.

ODIHR’s country-specific teaching materials on historical and contemporary anti-Semitism, including the history of the persecution of Jews in Europe, are used in 14 participating States. In 2011, ODIHR worked to improve the visibility of and accessibility to these teaching materials by preparing a web version, which will be uploaded to the Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Information System (TANDIS) website and the websites of partner institutions.

In 2011, ODIHR compiled data to update *Holocaust Memorial Days in the OSCE Region*. The document, which was last updated in 2009 and provides a country-by-country overview of official commemorative

activities in OSCE participating States on Holocaust remembrance days, will be available in 2012.

ODIHR organized a high-level conference on combating anti-Semitism in public discourse on 23 and 24 March in Prague. The main objectives of the meeting were to increase understanding of intolerant discourse and its impact on security, to explore the role media may play in promoting tolerance and preventing hate crimes, and to identify practical measures to mitigate the problem. The event gathered more than 150 participants, who provided recommendations for participating States, NGOs and intergovernmental organizations.

## Responding to Intolerance against Muslims

In October, ODIHR published *Guidelines for Educators on Countering Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims*. The publication, which is the first international document of its kind, was developed in partnership with UNESCO and the Council of Europe to advise educators on how to confront intolerance and discrimination in schools.

ODIHR also organized the “High-Level Meeting on Confronting Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims in Public Discourse”, in co-operation with the 2011 OSCE Chairmanship, on 27 and 28 October in



Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk addresses the opening session of an OSCE meeting on combating hate crimes against Christians, Rome, 12 September 2011. (OSCE/Jens Eschenbaecher)

Vienna. The meeting welcomed more than 150 participants, who examined the impact of intolerant discourse on individual security and social cohesion. Participants also discussed the role of media and political representatives in promoting mutual understanding and respect for diversity. At the end of the conference, participants provided recommendations for participating States, NGOs and intergovernmental organizations.

### **Raising Awareness about Intolerance against Christians**

In co-operation with the Lithuanian Chairmanship-in-Office, ODIHR also organized the “High-Level Meeting on Preventing and Responding to Hate Incidents and Crimes against Christians”, on 12 September in Rome. The meeting was attended by some 150 representatives from participating States, religious communities and non-governmental organizations. Participants discussed how to raise awareness and collect data on this issue. A special focus was placed on attacks on places of worship, one of the most common forms of hate crimes experienced by Christian communities.

### **Promoting Freedom of Religion or Belief**

ODIHR organized the “Capacity Building Seminar on Freedom of Religion or Belief” for the State Committee on Religious Affairs of Kyrgyzstan on 14 and 15 June in Istanbul. Participants learned about international norms and standards pertaining to freedom of religion or belief, including the broad range of OSCE commitments in this area.

ODIHR shared good practices on combating hate crimes committed on the basis of religion or belief following the adoption of the UN Human Rights Council Resolution 16/18 on combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons based on religion or belief.

ODIHR continued work on updating its *Guidelines for the Review of Legislation on Freedom of Religion or Belief*, and consultations with governments, belief communities and experts on the draft will take place in 2012.



# Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues





# Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues

The work of ODIHR's Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues (CPRSI) is based on the 2003 OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area, as well as on Ministerial Council Decision No. 6/08, "Enhancing OSCE Efforts to Implement the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area" (Helsinki, 2008) and Decision No. 8/09, "Enhancing OSCE Efforts to Ensure Roma and Sinti Sustainable Integration" (Athens, 2009).

Combating hate crimes and hate speech directed against Roma and Sinti has become a recurrent issue in a number of OSCE participating States. In 2011, ODIHR continued its efforts to provide assistance in this area by conducting visits to a number of countries to share the Office's expertise. In addition, a full day during the annual Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, 5 October, was designated the Special Day on Roma and Sinti and dedicated to enhancing OSCE commitments in this area. ODIHR continued to provide support to participating States in developing policies to improve the situation of Roma and Sinti and in implementing these policies effectively. The Office also enhanced its co-operation with other international and European actors, and with EU institutions in particular. ODIHR has become a key partner for the European Commission Directorate General Enlargement: In 2011, the Office organized and participated in a series of high-level roundtables on Roma inclusion in South-Eastern Europe, and in November ODIHR was awarded a European Commission grant of more than 3 million euros for the regional project "Best Practices for Roma Integration" in the Western Balkans.

## ACTIVITIES

Guided by the OSCE commitments with regard to Roma and Sinti, ODIHR concentrated its activities in 2011 in the following areas:

- ✦ Supporting governments and enhancing policy instruments;
- ✦ Combating hate crimes and discrimination against Roma and Sinti throughout the OSCE area, including conducting follow-up activities on ODIHR field assessment visits to Italy (2008) and Hungary (2009);
- ✦ Teaching about the Roma and Sinti genocide and promoting official recognition of the genocide;
- ✦ Supporting the empowerment of Roma and Sinti representatives; and
- ✦ Addressing the situation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in the Western Balkans region.

### Supporting governments and enhancing policy instruments

ODIHR provided assistance to participating States in the development of national Roma integration strategies. The Office supported the Moldovan authorities in the development and finalization of the *Action Plan for the support of Roma people in the Republic of Moldova for 2011-2015* and, in co-operation with the Moldovan Bureau for Interethnic Relations, hosted a roundtable on 7 and 8 April in Chisinau to discuss the Action Plan with relevant government representatives, Roma civil society organizations and international stakeholders.

In the area of education, ODIHR, in co-operation with the Council of Europe, met with Greek authorities on 4 and 5 May in Athens to promote access of Roma

Katalin Barsony, Executive Director of Romedia Foundation, speaks at a side event on the role of the media in countering negative stereotypes against Roma during the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, Warsaw, 5 October 2011. (OSCE/Jens Eschenbacher)



children to education. In addition, the Contact Point engaged with Polish authorities throughout the year to promote access to early and quality education for Roma children in Poland and to develop tools for raising awareness among Roma of the importance of early education.

To address the particularly vulnerable situation of Roma without civil registration documents, ODIHR shared its expertise at the regional “Conference on Provision of Civil Documentation and Registration in South Eastern Europe”, organized by the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, in co-operation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, on 26 and 27 October in Zagreb.

The Office also supported the filming of *We Want to be Heard*, a short documentary on Roma and Sinti, during the HDIM Special Day on Roma and Sinti. The film, by a young Roma director, includes interviews with civil society and government representatives about discrimination against Roma and Sinti at the local level and highlights ODIHR’s work in prevention and education in this area. The Office actively promoted the documentary by sharing it through social networks. It is also available on the ODIHR website.

### Combating hate crimes and discrimination throughout the OSCE area

The Special Day on Roma and Sinti during the HDIM focused on effective responses to intolerance directed at these communities, on enhancing implementation of OSCE commitments in this area, and on building partnerships between participating States and Roma and Sinti representatives in the design and implementation of integration policies. ODIHR organized three additional side events: on the role of the media and Roma organizations in countering prejudices and negative stereotypes; on challenges, risks and responses with regard to extremism and Roma and Sinti in Europe; and, in co-operation with the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), on ECRI’s General Policy Recommendation No. 13 on combating anti-Gypsyism and discrimination against Roma. In addition, another side event during the HDIM, “Enhance Child Protection and Prevent Child Trafficking”, was aimed at raising awareness of challenges and good practices in the protection of children from vulnerable communities, including Roma and Sinti.

Following an increasing number of marches by extremist groups targeting Roma neighborhoods in the Czech Republic, ODIHR’s Senior Adviser on Roma and Sinti Issues visited a number of locations in the





Andrzej Mirga (l), ODIHR's Senior Adviser on Roma and Sinti Issues, and Krisztina Rostás, Senior Councillor responsible for Romani Affairs at the Interior Ministry of Hungary, at a seminar on building trust and understanding between police and Roma, Budapest, 8 November 2011. (OSCE/Anita Danko)

country on 20 and 21 August to assess the situation in the field and discuss adequate responses with relevant authorities.

In reaction to violent anti-Roma protests in a number of cities in Bulgaria following the death of a young man in Katunitsa in September, ODIHR's Senior Adviser visited Bulgaria on 14 and 15 November to discuss with the Ministry of Interior measures taken to prevent further violence. He also participated in a conference, hosted by the Bulgarian National Council on Ethnic and Integration Issues (NCEI) on 24 June in Sofia, to discuss the draft National Strategy for Roma Integration (2010-2020), which had been prepared in follow-up to the European Council conclusions on the framework for national Roma integration strategies.

ODIHR continued to promote the improvement of relations between police and Roma and Sinti communities. In co-operation with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit, the OSCE manual *Police and Roma and Sinti: Building Trust and Understanding* was launched on 8 July in Bucharest, and on 8 November in Budapest. The events aimed at introducing elements of the manual into educational and training curricula for police academies, schools and front-line officers, and at increasing the number of Roma and Sinti serving in law-enforcement bodies. ODIHR also facilitated a special session on combating hate crimes against Roma

at the "Annual Scientific Conference of Prosecutors in Hungary" on 20 and 21 October in Budapest.

With regard to addressing the root causes behind the vulnerability of Roma to trafficking in human beings, ODIHR provided expertise and supported financially the production of a study on the social inclusion of Roma in Italy, "Un'altra città è possibile", by the non-governmental organization Geordie Onlus. The study was launched at an event on 18 April in Rome, during which ODIHR discussed ways to promote integration of Roma, especially those living in camps throughout the city, with municipal officials and Roma civil society representatives. On this occasion, meetings were also held with relevant authorities to discuss implementation of recommendations from an ODIHR report on Italy following a field assessment visit to the country in 2009, in co-operation with the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities.

### Teaching about the Roma and Sinti genocide and promoting its official recognition

Following the declaration of the Polish Parliament recognizing 2 August as the official Roma and Sinti Genocide Remembrance Day, ODIHR organized the international seminar "The Roma and Sinti



Participants from the Roma Youth Network TERNYPE at the ODIHR organized seminar “The Roma and Sinti Genocide: Memory, Identity and Present-day Racism”, 1 August 2011, Krakow, Poland. (OSCE)

Genocide: Memory, Identity and Present-day Racism” on 1 August in Krakow to provide a forum for discussions on the Roma genocide in Auschwitz-Birkenau and on ways to combat modern forms of racism and discrimination. The seminar was attended by historians, survivors and more than 90 young Roma from throughout Europe. As in the previous year, ODIHR put special emphasis on empowering Roma youth and supporting the Roma youth network Ternype. At the same event, ODIHR, in co-operation with the Council of Europe, launched a website dedicated to the Roma genocide (<http://www.romagenocide.org/>). The website serves as a virtual library on the Roma genocide, providing information on publications, curricula, teaching materials, textbooks, places of remembrance and innovative practices introduced by government ministries, civil society, international organizations, museums and schools.

ODIHR also actively contributed to an expert meeting on the development of teaching materials on the Roma genocide organized by the Anne Frank House on 19 and 20 June in Amsterdam. The Office also participated in the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research, sharing information on ODIHR’s activities in this area and highlighting the importance of education on and commemoration of the Roma genocide.

### Empowerment of Roma and Sinti representatives

To build capacity among Roma civil society, ODIHR provided training on combating hate crimes for more than 25 Roma and civil society actors from various OSCE participating States, from 13 to 17 April in Warsaw. ODIHR also conducted training on combating hate crimes for Roma civil society from 13 to 15 July in Rome.

The Office continued its dialogue with Roma and Sinti civil society and hosted the second “Roma Consultation Meeting” in Warsaw on 4 October, prior to the Special Day on Roma and Sinti. The meeting, which was attended by more than 45 Roma and Sinti representatives from the OSCE region, focused on how these communities can actively participate in policy implementation and respond to current human rights challenges. On the Special Day on Roma and Sinti, civil society organizations from these communities issued a joint statement emphasizing the urgent need to address increasing anti-Roma rhetoric and the actions of extremists by unequivocally denouncing acts of violence and hatred, prosecuting the perpetrators of these acts and providing assistance to victims.

ODIHR further supported the Campaign Preventing and Combating the Practice of Early Marriage,

implemented by the National Union of Roma Communities. As part of the campaign, the organization produced a documentary on early marriage and conducted activities in ten traditional Roma communities in five counties in Romania. ODIHR also supported the efforts of Roma organizations there to enhance youth activism, including training by the Roma Civic Alliance on youth mobilization and civic participation, which led to the establishment of the Roma Youth Alliance.

### **Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in the Western Balkans region**

With regard to Roma in post-crisis situations, ODIHR fostered co-operation with European institutions to find sustainable solutions for refugees and displaced Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians, as well as to promote full inclusion of these communities. In addition, ODIHR's Senior Adviser on Roma and Sinti Issues visited Southern Mitrovica on 22 and 23 February to assess the return project for displaced Roma from the lead-contaminated camps Osterode and Cesmin Lug. He also met with municipal representatives to discuss the economic and educational integration of Roma returnees.

ODIHR also enhanced its co-operation with the European Commission. ODIHR shared expertise and best practices for Roma integration at seminars on 21 and 22 June in Belgrade, from 27 to 29 April in Podgorica, on 10 and 11 May in Prishtinë/Priština, on 4 July in Sarajevo, on 25 and 26 July in Skopje, and on 15 December in Tirana. As part of this co-operation, the Commission's Directorate General Enlargement, Regional Cooperation and Programmes selected ODIHR to implement the 3.3 million euro, 90 per cent EU-funded, "Best Practices for Roma Integration" project, aimed at facilitating co-operation between local and national governments, independent institutions and civil society, and promoting equal opportunities for Roma. The project will be launched in early 2012 and run for 23 months.

ODIHR further co-operated with relevant EU institutions and provided input to the "Fifth Meeting of the EU Platform for Roma Inclusion", on 7 and 8 April in Budapest, and the discussion on the use of EU structural funds in Slovakia for the benefit of the Roma population, on 23 May in Bratislava. ODIHR also hosted the annual meeting of the Roma Focal Points of OSCE field operations, on 24 February in Skopje. The meeting focused on the return and reintegration of displaced Roma, as well as on designing the approach for the EU-funded project for the Western Balkans.



# Annexes

# Programmes and Projects

(Funded by extrabudgetary contributions)

## ELECTIONS

Programmes/Fund	Region/country	Included work on:
Fund for Enhancing the Diversification of Election Observation Missions	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deploying experts and nominees from eligible participating States<sup>1</sup> as long-term and short-term election observers within OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Missions or Assessment Missions in Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Moldova, Russian Federation</li> </ul>
Election Observer Training	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training of short-term and long-term election observers from participating States eligible for the Fund for Enhancing the Diversification of Election Observation Missions</li> <li>Developing a Moodle-enabled e-learning module for short-term election observers</li> </ul>
Election Technical Assistance	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expert reviews of electoral legislation (Albania, Armenia, Bulgaria, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine)</li> </ul>
Election Observation Development	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ODIHR Election Observation Handbooks on:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>observing voter registration;</li> <li>observing new voting technologies; and</li> <li>media analysis during election observation missions</li> </ul> </li> <li>Training for civil society representatives (Egypt) on the OSCE/ODIHR election observation methodology</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Uzbekistan, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Ukraine.

## RULE OF LAW

Programme	Region/Country	Included work on:
Rule of Law	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trial-monitoring information and knowledge management system and legal database, revised trial monitoring manual</li> <li>Trial monitoring (Belarus)</li> <li>War crimes (South-Eastern Europe)</li> <li>Judicial authorization of pre-trial detention (Kazakhstan)</li> <li>Follow-up on trial monitoring and criminal procedure reform (Armenia)</li> <li>Follow-up on the <i>Kyiv Recommendations on Judicial Independence in Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia</i> (Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Ukraine)</li> </ul>

## DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

Programme	Region/Country	Included work on:
Democratic Governance	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing the OSCE Parliamentary Strengthening Group</li> <li>Political party regulations and women's participation in political life (Tajikistan)</li> <li>OSCE principles and international best practices of monitoring political party finances (Serbia)</li> <li>Raising awareness of OSCE commitments on democratic governance</li> </ul>

## GENDER EQUALITY

Programmes	Region/Country	Included work on:
Increased Participation of Women in Politics	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting political stakeholders to apply measures to increase women's political participation (Albania, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova)</li> <li>Creating awareness of the wide variety of measures to promote women's political participation</li> <li>Strengthening national mechanisms for the promotion and protection of gender equality</li> <li>Survey of national human rights institutions' gender equality practices</li> </ul>
Human Rights, Women and Security	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion of the <i>Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit</i></li> <li>Toolkit-based training (Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia)</li> <li>Support to the Women Police Officers Association of Kyrgyzstan</li> <li>Training on the international framework to combat violence against women, including gender sensitivity training for the OSCE Border Management Staff College (Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Tajikistan)</li> <li>Review of draft national action plan on gender (Tajikistan)</li> <li>Advancement of women in the security sector institutions (Georgia)</li> </ul>

## MIGRATION/FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

Programme	Region/Country	Included work on:
Migration and Freedom of Movement	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing the accuracy of voter lists by linking them with population registers (Georgia)</li> </ul>

## LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

Programme/Fund	Region/Country	Included work on:
Legislation Review Fund	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expert reviews of legislation on the armed forces and alternative service, equal opportunities, gender equality, migration, judicial system and judicial independence, preventing and combating discrimination, anti-trafficking, financing political activities/parties, criminal procedure, preventing terrorism, freedom of assembly, national human rights institutions, freedom of religion and belief (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine)</li> <li>Supporting the OSCE/ODIHR Panel of Experts on Freedom of Assembly</li> <li>Establishing the OSCE/ODIHR Core Group of Experts on Political Parties</li> </ul>
Democratic Law-Making and Access to Law	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulation and the lawmaking process (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; South Caucasus and Eastern Europe)</li> <li>Comprehensive assessment of the legislative system to promote legislative efficiency and transparency (Serbia)</li> <li>Participatory approach to lawmaking (Kyrgyzstan)</li> <li>Providing greater access to law through an improved database, including a Russian-language interface (<a href="http://www.legislationline.org">www.legislationline.org</a>)</li> </ul>

## HUMAN RIGHTS

Programmes	Region/Country	Included work on:
Human Rights and Anti-Terrorism	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting <i>Countering Terrorism and Protecting Human Rights: A Manual</i> (English and Russian versions)</li> <li>Training for law enforcement officials (Kosovo)</li> <li>Training on human rights and counter-terrorism for the OSCE Border Management Staff College (Afghanistan, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Norway, Tajikistan, United States)</li> <li>Integrating human rights into curricula of national police academies (Tajikistan)</li> </ul>
Human Rights Education and Training	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting <i>Human Rights Education in the School Systems of Europe, Central Asia and North America: A Compendium of Good Practice</i> (Russian version)</li> <li>Needs assessment on human rights education in schools and universities (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan)</li> <li>Translation and publication of the OSCE human dimension commitments into Uzbek</li> </ul>
Support to Human Rights Defenders and National Human Rights Institutions	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring the situation of individual human rights defenders</li> <li>Improving the capacity of human rights defenders (South Caucasus)</li> <li>Training on human rights monitoring (Kyrgyzstan)</li> <li>Support to civil society in monitoring assemblies (Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Serbia) and in policing them (Armenia)</li> <li>Direct monitoring of assemblies (Italy, Moldova, Poland, Slovakia, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom)</li> <li>Publication of <i>Handbook on Monitoring Freedom of Peaceful Assembly</i> (English and Russian versions)</li> <li>Strengthening the capacity of national human rights institutions to protect and promote women's rights and gender equality</li> <li>Launch of AssociatiOnline, a web-based interactive guide to freedom of association</li> </ul>
Human Rights and Armed Forces	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting the <i>Handbook on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Armed Forces Personnel</i></li> <li>Translation of the <i>Handbook on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Armed Forces Personnel</i> into Azeri</li> <li>Promoting human rights in the army (<i>Armenia</i>)</li> </ul>
Anti-Torture	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Translating <i>The Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture: Implementation Manual</i> into Russian</li> <li>Improving understanding of the role of national human rights institutions in prevention of torture (Central Asia)</li> </ul>

## Human Rights (cont.)

Programmes	Region/Country	Included work on:
Anti-Trafficking	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting human rights-compliant approaches to combating trafficking</li> <li>• Legal assistance to victims of trafficking and vulnerable groups, including to obtain access to justice</li> <li>• Empowering marginalized and vulnerable groups to claim their rights; increasing the rights awareness of migrants at border crossings (Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan)</li> <li>• Monitoring cases of migrant workers through criminal or civil proceedings</li> <li>• Outreach to trafficked and vulnerable persons in immigration detention (Poland); to marginalized communities: peer education (Albania); to migrants and migrant workers (Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Poland, Serbia)</li> <li>• Establishing a network of (<i>pro bono</i>) lawyers for sustainable assistance to enhance trafficked persons' access to justice and remedies</li> <li>• Human rights protection in the return of trafficked persons; promoting human rights safeguards in the return of trafficked persons; support for fact-finding missions for lawyers and psychologists; drafting a guide on safe return</li> <li>• Active membership in European Action for Compensation for Trafficked Persons (COMP.ACT)</li> <li>• Training modules from <i>Compensation for Trafficked and Exploited Persons in the OSCE Region</i></li> </ul>

## TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

Programmes	Region/Country	Included work on:
Educational and Public Awareness-Raising Activities to Promote Tolerance, Respect and Mutual Understanding and Remembrance of the Holocaust	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seminars for teachers (Ukraine)</li> <li>• New country versions of the teaching materials on anti-Semitism (Latvia, Hungary)</li> <li>• Guidelines for educators on countering intolerance and discrimination against Muslims, with the Council of Europe and UNESCO</li> <li>• Support to OSCE Chairmanship conferences (on confronting anti-Semitism in public discourse; on preventing and responding to hate crime against Christians; on combating intolerance and discrimination against Muslims in public discourse)</li> </ul>
Combating Hate Crime	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidelines for prosecutors on responding to hate crimes</li> <li>• Training of government officials, police, judges, prosecutors and civil society (Germany, Poland)</li> <li>• Web-based news platform on hate-motivated incidents reported by the media, <a href="http://www.icare.to/hate-crime-news.php">www.icare.to/hate-crime-news.php</a></li> <li>• Roundtable on prevention of racism, xenophobia and hate crimes against people of African descent</li> <li>• Promoting <i>Preventing and Responding to Hate Crime: A Resource Guide for NGOs in the OSCE Region</i> (French and German versions)</li> </ul>
Freedom of Religion or Belief	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advice on legislation and practices affecting freedom of religion or belief (Armenia)</li> <li>• Publication of second edition of the <i>Guidelines for Review of Legislation Pertaining to Religion or Belief</i></li> <li>• Capacity-building for state officials, emphasizing freedom of association for religious or belief groups and registration provisions</li> </ul>



## ROMA AND SINTI ISSUES

Programme	Region/Country	Included work on:
Assistance to Improve the Situation of Roma and Sinti	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocacy following anti-Roma demonstrations (Bulgaria, Czech Republic)</li> <li>• Translation of <i>Police and Roma and Sinti: Good Practices in Building Trust and Understanding</i> (Slovak version)</li> <li>• Support to Roma peer educators (Albania)</li> <li>• Promoting discussion in traditional Roma communities on equal access to education for Roma girls (Romania)</li> </ul>

## OSCE MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERS

Programme	Region/Country	Included work on:
Human Rights Education and Capacity-building Programme	Mediterranean Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on election observation methodology (Egyptians, Moroccans, Tunisians)</li> <li>• Training on election observation and human rights (Egyptians)</li> <li>• Training for short-term election observers (Egyptians, Tunisians)</li> </ul>
Programme on Increasing Understanding of the OSCE Human Dimension	OSCE and Mediterranean Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “OSCE-Mediterranean Partner Countries’ Civil Society Conference”, ahead of the 2011 Vilnius Ministerial Council, on electoral good practice, political participation and justice and legal reform</li> <li>• Translation of relevant OSCE documents into Arabic (e.g., <i>Guidelines on Political Party Regulation, Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly, Election Observation Handbook</i>)</li> </ul>

# Legislative Reviews

## ELECTIONS

In 2011, ODIHR published 12 opinions on election legislation, conducted jointly with the Council of Europe's Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission).

COUNTRY	TITLE OF DOCUMENT	DATE OF ISSUE
SERBIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Altering and Amending the Law on Election of Members of Parliament</li> </ul>	31 March
ARMENIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft Joint Opinion on the new Draft Electoral Code of Armenia</li> </ul>	2 May
MONTENEGRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and Members of Parliament</li> </ul>	18 May
MONTENEGRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and Members of Parliament</li> </ul>	17 June
BULGARIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Opinion on the Election Code of Bulgaria</li> </ul>	21 June
KYRGYZSTAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Presidential and Parliamentary Elections, the Draft Law on Elections to Local Governments and the Draft Law on the formation of Election Commissions of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> </ul>	23 June
UKRAINE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preliminary Draft Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Election of People's Deputies of Ukraine</li> </ul>	12 September
FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Opinion on the Revised Electoral Code of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</li> </ul>	17 October
ARMENIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Final Opinion on the Electoral Code of Armenia adopted on 26 May 2011</li> </ul>	17 October
UKRAINE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Election of People's Deputies of Ukraine</li> </ul>	17 October
GEORGIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Opinion on the Draft Election Code of Georgia</li> </ul>	19 December
ALBANIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Opinion on the Electoral Law and the Electoral Practice of Albania</li> </ul>	19 December

## LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

### Legal Reviews 2011

Participating State	TITLE OF DOCUMENT
ARMENIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note on Modifications to Armenian Criminal Legislation Related to Acts of Contempt of Court</li> <li>Note on the Application of Sanctions and Enforcement Measures towards Members of the Armed Forces in Armenia</li> <li>Note on the Concept Paper on the Reform of Criminal Procedure Legislation in Armenia</li> <li>Opinion on draft amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia</li> <li>Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Draft Law on Assemblies of Armenia</li> <li>Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Law on making amendments and supplements to the Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations and on the Laws on amending the Criminal Code, the Administrative Offences Code and the Law on Charity</li> </ul>
BOSNIA and HERZGOVINA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on The Act on Public Assembly of The Sarajevo Canton (Bosnia and Herzegovina)</li> </ul>

KAZAKHSTAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on Article 99 of the Criminal Execution Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan</li> <li>• Opinion on the Draft Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Access to Public Information</li> </ul>
KYRGYZSTAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Draft Law on Peaceful Assemblies of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> </ul>
MOLDOVA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opinion on draft Amendments to the Moldovan Criminal Code Related to Hate Crimes</li> <li>• Opinion on the proposed exclusion of the heading regarding ethnic identity from civil status documents in Moldova</li> <li>• Opinion on the Draft Law on Preventing and Combating Discrimination of the Republic of Moldova</li> </ul>
MONTENEGRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on the draft amendments to the Law on the Prohibition of Discrimination in Montenegro</li> <li>• Comments on the draft Law on the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro</li> </ul>
SERBIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Draft Law of Serbia on Financing of Political Parties</li> <li>• Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Public Assembly Act of the Republic of Serbia</li> </ul>
TURKMENISTAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on the Law of Turkmenistan on Public Associations</li> <li>• ODIHR Advisory Panel on Freedom of Religion and Belief Comments on the Law of Turkmenistan on Religious Freedom and Religious Organizations</li> <li>• Comments on the Law of Turkmenistan on Combating Trafficking in Persons</li> </ul>
UKRAINE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Law of Ukraine on Peaceful Assemblies</li> </ul>

# Selected 2011 Conferences and Meetings

Name	Location	Date	No. of Participants
<b>HUMAN DIMENSION EVENTS</b>			
Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on National Human Rights Institutions	Vienna	14–15 April	188
Human Dimension Seminar on the Role of Political Parties in the Political Process	Warsaw	18–20 May	235
Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on the Promotion of Pluralism in New Media	Vienna	7–8 July	181
Human Dimension Implementation Meeting	Warsaw	26 September–7 October	1082
Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on the Prevention of Racism, Xenophobia and Hate Crimes through Educational and Awareness-Raising Initiatives	Vienna	10–11 November	159
<b>DEMOCRATIZATION</b>			
“First International Conference of Parliamentary Legislative/ Legal Affairs Committees”	Belgrade	17–18 February	50
Conference on judicial independence	Astana	25 February	120
Conference “Review of ODIHR Trial Monitoring Report Recommendations: One Year Later”	Yerevan	10 March	60
Trial monitoring advisory board meeting	Tirana	4 April	20
Roundtable on judicial independence in Kyrgyzstan	Bishkek	20 April	35
Expert meeting on administrative justice	Stockholm	12–13 May	30
Regional training programme on gender and labour migration	Vienna	May 17–18	23
Roundtable/consultation meeting “Regulatory Migration Mechanisms – International Standards and National Legislation”	Astana	19 May	48
Roundtable on “Regulatory Migration Mechanisms - International Standards and Domestic Legislation”	Astana	May 19	50
Roundtable on the Kyrgyz Draft Law on Freedom of Assembly	Bishkek	2 June	45
Annual meeting of the ODIHR’s Panel of Experts on Freedom of Assembly	Warsaw	6–7 June	13
Roundtable on judicial independence in Armenia	Yerevan	28 June	35
Conference on “Political Party Funding and Women’s Participation in Political Life”	Tbilisi	29–30 June	100
Roundtable on integration of migrants in Ukraine	Kyiv	July 13	40
Seminar “Synergies between Voter and Population Registration”	Warsaw	31 August – 1 September	60
Conference on the OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission <i>Guidelines on Political Party Regulation</i>	Istanbul	5 September	40
Presentation of OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission <i>Guidelines on Population Registration</i>	Prishtinë/ Priština	7 September	30

Launch roundtable for the final draft of the “Country Report on Political Party Regulations and Women’s Participation in Political Life”	Dushanbe	19–21 September	75
OSCE legal reform roundtable	Warsaw	29 September	33
ODIHR/Migration Policy Group HDIM side event on the political participation of migrants in the OSCE region	Warsaw	3 October	30
International conference “Better Regulation in Eastern Europe”	Georgia	20–21 October	60
Conference on freedom of peaceful assembly in Ukraine	Kyiv	3–4 November	75
Training seminar for the Council for the Selection of Judges of the Kyrgyz Republic	Bishkek	3–4 November	30
Senate conference on judicial independence in Kazakhstan	Astana	11 November	80
Expert meeting on rule of law and administrative justice	Vilnius	10–11 November	30
Second roundtable on judicial independence in Moldova	Chisinau	14 November	26
Annual trial-monitoring meeting	Sarajevo	17–19 November	50
Conference on “Increasing Women’s Participation in Public Life”	Sarajevo	22 November	40
Roundtable on increasing the accuracy of voter lists	Tbilisi	22 November	60
International conference on conduct/ethics for MPs	Belgrade	24–25 November	75
Roundtable/training on women’s political participation	Yerevan	2–4 December	25/35
“OSCE - Mediterranean Partner Countries’ Civil Society Conference”	Vilnius	4–5 December	100
Conference on judicial independence in Ukraine	Kyiv	20–21 December	50

## HUMAN RIGHTS

Presentation of <i>The Compendium of Good Practice in Human Rights Education in the School Systems of Europe, Central Asia and North America</i>	Ashgabat	7–28 January	20
Training on human rights monitoring for civil society representatives	Bishkek	1–3 February	24
Training course for law enforcement officers on “Countering Terrorism, Protecting Human Rights”	Prishtinë/ Priština	14–15 February	20
Training sessions for border guards on gender, human rights and border security at the OSCE Border Management Staff College (BMSC)	Dushanbe	15–16 March	29
Workshop for national human rights institutions on the promotion of women’s rights and gender equality	Prague	28–29 March	25
Roundtable on OSCE-supported monitoring projects on freedom of peaceful assembly	Chisinau	13 May	18
Training on freedom of peaceful assembly and the policing of assemblies for Armenian police officials	Yerevan	17 May	18
Roundtable on “Problems and Perspectives of Reforms Related to Human Rights and Civic Education in Schools and Universities in the Kyrgyz Republic: International Experience”	Bishkek	26–27 May	60

Roundtable discussion on the advancement of women in the security sector of Georgia	Tbilisi	9–10 June	20
Training of border guards based on the <i>Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit</i> at the OSCE Border Management Staff College (BMSC)	Dushanbe	14 June	30
Training for border guards on human rights and border security at the OSCE Border Management Staff College (BMSC)	Dushanbe	17 June	25
Conference for national human rights institutions	Vilnius	13–14 July	95
Training for law-enforcement officers on “Countering Terrorism, Protecting Human Rights”	Sarajevo	14–16 September	24
Training for law-enforcement officers based on the <i>Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit</i>	Podgorica	19–20 September	50
Regional workshop on “National Human Rights Institutions in Compliance with the Paris Principles and Their Role in Torture Prevention in Central Asia”	Dushanbe	12–13 October	50
Pilot training course for law-enforcement officers on “Human Rights and the Investigation of Terrorist Crimes”	Prishtinë/ Priština	31 October-1 November	23
Pilot training course for law-enforcement officers on “Human Rights and the Investigation of Terrorist Crimes”	Skopje	3–4 November	22
Three training sessions for local government officials based on the <i>Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit</i>	Zaječar, Niš and Kraljevo	10–15 November	50
Training on assembly monitoring for civil society representatives (organized jointly with the OSCE Mission to Serbia)	Belgrade	1–2 December	17
Training of Ministry of Defense staff based on the <i>Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit</i>	Chisinau	8–9 December	25
Expert roundtable on “Preventing Women Terrorist Radicalization” (organized jointly with the OSCE Secretariat Transnational Threats Department and the OSCE Secretariat Gender Section)	Vienna	12 December	70
Roundtable on the <i>Handbook on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Armed Forces Personnel</i>	Baku	13 December	40
<b>TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION</b>			
Hate crime training for the OSCE Mission in Kosovo	Prishtinë/ Priština	24–25 January	26
Anti-discrimination training for the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Sarajevo	3–4 March	22
Consultation meeting on <i>Prosecuting Hate Crime: A Practical Guide</i>	Vienna	7–8 March	10
“High-Level Meeting on Confronting Anti-Semitism in Public Discourse”	Prague	23–24 March	164
Hate crime training for OSCE field operations staff, UNHCR and IOM	Warsaw	28–30 March	28
Annual meeting of the Advisory Council on Freedom of Religion or Belief	Warsaw	9–10 April	15
Hate crime training for Muslim NGOs in France	Paris	29–30 April	19
Meeting on hate crime reporting with Muslim NGOs in Germany	Berlin	6 May	10

Consultation meeting on the TAHCLE programme	Vienna	13 May	20
Consultation meeting on <i>Guidelines for Educators on Countering Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims</i>	Vienna	16 May	95
Training on freedom of religion or belief for the State Committee for Religious Affairs of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan	Istanbul	14–15 June	20
Workshop on hate crime for government officials in Bulgaria	Sofia	27–30 June	60
“High-Level Meeting on Preventing and Responding to Hate Incidents and Crimes against Christians”	Rome	12 September	190
Workshop on hate crime for government officials in Bulgaria	Sofia	13 September	25
“High-Level Meeting on Countering Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims in Public Discourse”	Vienna	28 October	150
Training on preventing and responding to hate crimes for Greek NGOs	Athens	8–9 November	22
Roundtable on the contemporary forms of racism and xenophobia affecting people of African descent in the OSCE region	Vienna	10 November	23
Consultation meeting on <i>Prosecuting Hate Crime: A Practical Guide</i>	Vienna	17 November	7
Training of trainers for Kosovo Police on responding to and investigating hate crimes	Prishtinë/ Priština	12–16 December	40
<b>CONTACT POINT FOR ROMA AND SINTI ISSUES</b>			
Roundtable on the development of the new Action Plan of the Republic of Moldova to support the inclusion of Roma (2011-2015)	Chisinau	7–8 April	80
Launch of the Romanian language version of <i>Police and Roma and Sinti: Good Practices in Building Trust and Understanding</i>	Bucharest	8 July	50
Seminar on “The Roma and Sinti Genocide: Memory, Identity and Present-day Racism.”	Krakow	1 August	120
Workshop for NGOs on reporting and monitoring hate crimes against Roma and Sinti	Warsaw	13–15 April	25
Workshop for NGOs on reporting and monitoring hate crimes against Roma and Sinti	Rome	13–15 July	16
Consultation meeting “The Role of Roma Organizations in Supporting Implementation of Integration Policies, and for Combating Racism and Discrimination Against Roma and Sinti”	Warsaw	4 October	35

# 2011 Publications

OSCE Human Dimension Commitments: Thematic Compilation	English/Russian
OSCE Human Dimension Commitments: Chronological Compilation	English/Russian
OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission Guidelines on Political Party Regulation	English/Russian
2010 ODIHR Annual Report	English/Russian
OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly [2nd edition]	Russian
Handbook on Monitoring Freedom of Assembly	English/Russian
2011 Background Paper on the Death Penalty	English
Guidelines for Educators on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims	English
2010 Hate Crimes Report	English



# Election Reports and Statements Released in 2011

## **Parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan, 7 November 2010**

1. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

## **Early parliamentary elections in Moldova, 28 November 2010**

2. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

## **Presidential election in Belarus, 19 December 2010**

- OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

## **Early parliamentary elections in Ireland, 25 February 2011**

3. Needs Assessment Mission Report

## **Parliamentary elections in Estonia, 6 March 2011**

4. Needs Assessment Mission Report
5. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Final Report

## **Early parliamentary elections in Andorra, 3 April 2011**

6. Needs Assessment Mission Report

## **Early presidential election in Kazakhstan, 3 April 2011**

7. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 1
8. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 2
9. Preliminary Statement by the International Election Observation Mission
10. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

## **Local elections in Albania, 8 May 2011**

11. Needs Assessment Mission Report
12. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 1
13. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 2
14. Preliminary Statement by the International Election Observation Mission
15. Election Observation Mission post-election Interim Report
16. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

## **Local elections in Finland, 8 May 2011**

17. Needs Assessment Mission Report
18. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Final Report

## **Parliamentary elections in Cyprus, 22 May 2011**

19. Needs Assessment Mission Report
20. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Final Report

## **Local elections in Moldova, 5 June 2011**

21. Needs Assessment Mission Report
22. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 1
23. Preliminary Statement by the International Election Observation Mission
24. Preliminary Statement after runoff elections, 19 June 2011
25. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

## **Parliamentary elections in Turkey, 12 June 2011**

26. Needs Assessment Mission Report
27. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Final Report

**Early parliamentary elections in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 5 June 2011**

- 28. Needs Assessment Mission Report
- 29. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 1
- 30. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 2
- 31. Preliminary Statement by the International Election Observation Mission
- 32. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

**Parliamentary elections in Denmark, 15 September 2011**

- 33. Needs Assessment Mission Report

**Early parliamentary elections in Latvia, 17 September 2011**

- 34. Limited Election Observation Mission Interim Report
- 35. Preliminary Statement by the Limited Election Observation Mission
- 36. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

**Presidential and municipal elections in Bulgaria, 23 October 2011**

- 37. Needs Assessment Mission Report
- 38. Limited Election Observation Mission Interim Report
- 39. Preliminary Statement by the Limited Election Observation Mission
- 40. Second Round, 30 October 2011, Preliminary Statement

**Federal elections in Switzerland, 23 October 2011**

- 41. Needs Assessment Mission Report

**Presidential election in Kyrgyzstan, 30 October 2011**

- 42. Needs Assessment Mission Report
- 43. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 1
- 44. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 2
- 45. Preliminary Statement by the International Election Observation Mission

**Parliamentary elections in Poland, 9 October 2011**

- 46. Needs Assessment Mission Report

**State Duma elections in the Russian Federation, 4 December 2011**

- 47. Pre-election Assessment Report
- 48. Election Observation Mission Interim Report
- 49. Preliminary Statement by the International Election Observation Mission

**Parliamentary elections in Croatia, 4 December 2011**

- 50. Needs Assessment Mission Report
- 51. Limited Election Observation Mission Interim Report
- 52. Preliminary Statement by the Limited Election Observation Mission

**Early elections of the National Assembly in Slovenia, 4 December 2011**

- 53. Needs Assessment Mission Report

**Early parliamentary elections in Spain, 20 November 2011**

- 54. Needs Assessment Mission Report

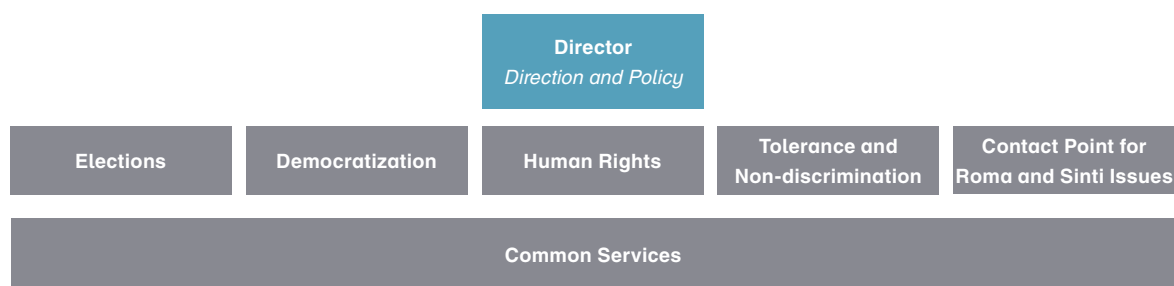
**Presidential election in Finland, 22 January 2012**

- 55. Needs Assessment Mission Report

**Early parliamentary elections in Kazakhstan, 15 January 2012**

- 56. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 1

# ODIHR Structure and Budget



ODIHR Programmes: 2011 Unified Budget (all figures in euros)	
Direction and Policy	1,267,500
Fund Administration Unit	2,045,100
Common Operational Costs	900,100
Human Dimension Meetings	661,800
Democratisation	1,435,400
Human Rights	1,157,200
Elections	6,524,600
Tolerance and Non-discrimination	1,261,500
Roma and Sinti Issues	551,100
<b>TOTAL ODIHR Unified Budget</b>	<b>15,804,300</b>