Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

Office of the Secretary General
External Co-operation Section

2019 OSCE ASIAN CONFERENCE

Tokyo, JAPAN,
2 – 3 September 2019

HOW TO ACHIEVE COMPREHENSIVE SECURITY IN THE DIGITAL ERA:
THE PERSPECTIVES OF THE OSCE AND ITS ASIAN PARTNERS

Consolidated Summary

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1 General information

1.1 Venue

The conference was held on the premises of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.

1.2 Participation[*)]

1.2.1 36 OSCE participating States took part in the conference.

1.2.2 All the Asian Partners for Co-operation (Afghanistan, Australia, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Thailand) were represented.

1.2.3 The OSCE Secretariat, the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat and the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek were represented.

1.2.4 One international organization was represented, as were several civil society and academic institutions. At the host country's invitation, the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States was represented by one delegate.

1.3 Timetable and organizational modalities

1.3.1 The conference began with the opening session at 9.45 a.m. on Monday, 2 September 2019, and ended at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, 3 September 2019. The conference was structured into three thematic sessions. The opening session was chaired by H.E. Ms. Toshiko Abe, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan. The closing session was moderated by Mr. Hideki Uyama, Deputy Director-General of the European Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. During the opening session, keynote speeches were delivered by H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia; H.E. Mr. Alessandro Azzoni, Permanent Representative of Italy to the OSCE and Chairperson of the Contact Group with the OSCE Asian Partners for Co-operation; and Ambassador Paul Bekkers, Director of the Office of the Secretary General, OSCE Secretariat.

1.3.2 A side event entitled "Enhancing security, building partnerships: Co-operation between OSCE Field Operations in Central Asia and Afghanistan on border management" was held on the margins of the conference. The side event was moderated by Ambassador Paul Bekkers, Director of the Office of the Secretary General, OSCE Secretariat.

1.3.3 Each session had a moderator and a rapporteur.

1.3.4 The working language was English.

1.3.5 Arrangements were made for press coverage.

1.3.6 The rules of procedure and working methods of the OSCE were applied, *mutatis mutandis*, to the conference.

[*)] See Section 4, "List of participants".

2   Agenda

Monday, 2 September 2019

9.00 a.m.   Registration of participants and welcome coffee

9.45–10.30 a.m.   **Opening remarks** *(open to the media)*

- **H.E. Ms. Toshiko ABE**, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan
- **H.E. Mr. Miroslav LAJČÁK**, OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia
- **H.E. Mr. Alessandro AZZONI**, Permanent Representative of Italy to the OSCE and Chairperson of the Contact Group with the OSCE Asian Partners for Co-operation
- **Amb. Paul BEKKERS**, Director of the Office of the Secretary General, OSCE Secretariat

Moderator: **Mr. Hideki UYAMA**, Deputy Director-General of the European Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Immediately followed by a group photograph with all the heads of delegation

10.30–11 a.m.   Coffee and tea break

11 a.m.–1 p.m.   **Session 1**: **Tackling ICT security risks in the digital era**

This session focused on:

- The impact of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in shaping international relations: Addressing current ICT security challenges
- Protection of critical infrastructure against cyber attacks
- The role of regional organizations in promoting stability in the use of ICTs among States

Moderator: **Ms. Marietta KÖNIG**, Senior External Co-operation Officer, External Co-operation Section, OSCE Secretariat

Speakers:

- Mr. Shinichi YOKOHAMA, Chief Information Security Officer, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation, Japan
- H.E. Mr. Károly DÁN, Permanent Representative of Hungary to the OSCE, Chair of the Informal Working Group established pursuant to OSCE Permanent Council Decision No. 1039
- Mr. Byung-ha CHUNG, Deputy Director-General of the International Organizations Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea

- Mr. Ernest CHERNUKHIN, Special Coordinator on the issues of the political use of the Information and Communication Technologies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Russian Federation
- Mr. Greg RALPH, Deputy Head of Mission, Australian Embassy to Japan

Discussion

Rapporteur: **Captain Matthias FRIESE**, Permanent Mission of Germany to the OSCE

1–2.30 p.m.   Lunch

2.30–3.30 p.m.   **Side event**
Enhancing security, building partnerships:
Co-operation between OSCE field operations in Central Asia and Afghanistan on border management

3.30–5.30 p.m.   **Session 2: The digital economy as a driver for promoting co-operation, security and growth**

This session focused on:

– Strengthening co-operation on addressing security aspects of the digital economy
– Widening access to digital technologies and enabling equal opportunities, in particular for women, youth and persons with disabilities
– The digital transformation and its contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Moderator: **Amb. Vuk ŽUGIĆ**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Speakers:

- **Prof. Kazuto SUZUKI**, Graduate School of Public Policy, Hokkaido University, Japan
- **Amb. Hinrich THÖLKEN**, Special Representative for International Digitalization Policy and Digital Transformation, Federal Foreign Office, Germany
- **Dr. Nadejda KOMENDANTOVA**, Research Scholar, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Vienna

Discussion

Rapporteur: **Mr. Philippe TREMBLAY**, Head of the External Co-operation Section, OSCE Secretariat

6.30 p.m.   Reception

Tuesday, 3 September 2019

9.30–11.30 a.m.   <u>**Session 3:**</u> **Risks to the safety of journalists in the digital era**

This session focused on:

–   Vulnerability of journalists to becoming targets of hacking or unlawful or arbitrary surveillance or interception of communications, undermining enjoyment of their right to freedom of expression and their right to be free from arbitrary or unlawful interference with privacy
–   Distinct risks faced by women journalists in relation to their work, including through digital technologies

<u>Moderator</u>: **Ms. Elena CHERNIAVSKA**, Senior Adviser, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

<u>Speakers</u>:

- Ms. Patchari RAKSAWONG KINSPERGER, Presenter, NHK World English News / Lecturer, Faculty of Journalism and Mass Communication, Thammasat University, Bangkok
- **H.E. Amb. Kevin DOWLING**, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the OSCE
- Ms. Barbara TRIONFI, Executive Director, International Press Institute, Vienna

Discussion

<u>Rapporteur</u>: **Mr. Philippe TREMBLAY**, Head of the External Co-operation Section, OSCE Secretariat

11.30 a.m.–12 noon Coffee and tea break

12 noon–1 p.m.   **Closing session** *(open to the media)*

– **Mr. Hideki UYAMA**, Deputy Director-General of the European Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan *(moderator)*
– **H.E. Amb. Alessandro AZZONI**, Permanent Representative of Italy to the OSCE and Chairperson of the Contact Group with the OSCE Asian Partners for Co-operation
– **Mr. Martin KONČAL**, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Slovakia to the OSCE, Slovak 2019 OSCE Chairmanship
– **Amb. Paul BEKKERS**, Director of the Office of the Secretary General, OSCE Secretariat

1 p.m.   End of conference

3 Reports by session rapporteurs

3.1 Summary of the opening session

Report by Ms. Marietta König, Senior External Co-operation Officer, External Co-operation Section, OSCE Secretariat

The 2019 OSCE Asian Conference opened with remarks delivered by **H.E. Ms. Toshiko Abe**, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan; **H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák**, OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia; **H.E. Mr. Alessandro Azzoni**, Permanent Representative of Italy to the OSCE and Chairperson of the Contact Group with the OSCE Asian Partners for Co-operation; **Ambassador Paul Bekkers**, Director of the Office of the Secretary General, OSCE Secretariat; and **H.E. Mr. Sergiy Kyslytsya**, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

H.E. Ms. Toshiko Abe stated that for Japan – as the OSCE's first Asian Partner – it was a great honour and privilege to host the conference. She emphasized the importance that Japan attached to co-operation with the OSCE, noting how the Organization's comprehensive treatment of security was in line with Japan's vision of human security and its policy of "proactive contribution to peace based on the principle of international co-operation". The international community was facing fundamental challenges that threatened the free and open international order based on the rule of law, which if undermined would destabilize both Europe and Asia. If the rule of law were further undermined in East Asia, it could have a major negative impact on OSCE participating States. In response to those challenges it was necessary to support the rules-based international order comprehensively and to demonstrate unity. Maritime security was another integral part of the law-based order, since a free and open maritime domain remained indispensable for peace and stability in the world. Consequently, Japan had been promoting the rule of law at sea as a universal principle that must be upheld not only in the Indo-Pacific region but also worldwide.

Referring to the security situation on the Korean peninsula, H.E. Ms. Abe urged the international community to support the negotiations being conducted by the United States of America and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), which, in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolutions, were seeking to achieve complete, verifiable and irreversible dismantlement of all weapons of mass destruction. That dismantlement must also include putting a stop to illicit ship-to-ship transfers by the DPRK. Resolving the issue of abductions of Japanese citizens by the DPRK remained a top priority for Japan, and OSCE participating States should rally behind Japan in that endeavour.

Japan saw cyberspace as a new corridor uniting Asia with Europe, which had neither borders nor regional frameworks. Co-operation on cyberspace between the OSCE and its Asian Partners required a co-ordinated approach.

H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák opened his speech by reminiscing about the time he had served as Slovak Ambassador to Japan (1994–1998) and reflecting on how the country and the wider region had developed since then. When he first arrived in Japan, the Prime Minister's Office had just set up its first website and only 4 per cent of the world's population were connected to the Internet. Today, Europe and Asia were more closely linked than ever. The digital transformation had brought immense changes for the better, but also for the worse, and it was

imperative to examine how the new technologies were affecting the security and welfare of countries.

With regard to digital challenges, the OSCE was in a very good position to offer support to the international community because, ever since its foundation in 1975, technological development had been part of its comprehensive approach to security and stability. The OSCE had designed various confidence-building measures (CBMs) in the field of cyber/ICT security. The OSCE and its Asian Partners should explore ways of enhancing digital governance and promoting guidelines for the ethical and socially beneficial use of emerging technologies.

The platforms and frameworks offered by the OSCE, including the Asian and Mediterranean Partnerships, should be used more effectively. Slovakia as the incoming Chair of the Asian Contact Group saw the 25th anniversary of the Asian Partnership, to be celebrated in 2020, as an opportunity to work towards a more strategic partnership that could cope better with global challenges.

Most of those challenges were transnational. The digital domain by definition did not stop at national borders – or stay within the reach and mandate of one organization. Effective multilateralism was, therefore, the only appropriate answer. The 2019 OSCE Asian Conference would enable the participants to gain a better understanding of comprehensive security in the digital era and discuss joint responses to the above-mentioned challenges.

H.E. Mr. Alessandro Azzoni recalled the difficulty in reaching consensus on the organization of the conference, and thanked the Slovak OSCE Chairmanship for its efforts and participating States for the sense of responsibility they had shown vis-à-vis the OSCE and its Partners.

The digital security landscape had changed dramatically in recent years, and the increasing use of digital technologies posed challenges to the security and stability of societies and individuals.

Security in the OSCE area clearly also depended on security in the Asia-Pacific region. That link was becoming increasingly clear with the emergence of cross-dimensional and transnational threats that challenged traditional perceptions of security. Such threats could only be tackled effectively through genuine co-operation in all three dimensions of security. Thanks to its unique approach to security, the OSCE was a flexible and versatile tool that could support such efforts.

Italy wholeheartedly believed in the need to give fresh impetus to the OSCE's Asian and Mediterranean Partnerships. One relevant proposal was to change the speaking order at Ministerial Council meetings so as to give equal standing to the foreign ministers of the Partners for Co-operation.

The growing impact of information and communication technologies (ICTs) on relations in the politico-military sphere was undeniable, as was the digital transformation's far-reaching effects on the economic and environmental dimension. Recognition of that impact had led to the adoption of the Milan Ministerial Council Declaration on the Digital Economy as a Driver for Promoting Co-operation, Security and Growth (MC.DOC/2/18) in December 2018. Accordingly, the discussions at the 2019 OSCE Asian Conference would focus, *inter alia*, on the digital transformation's impact on national economies and on its implications for security and co-operation.

Ministerial Council Decision No. 3/18 (MC.DEC/3/18) on the safety of journalists, also adopted in Milan in December 2018, had been the result of strong engagement and consensus by all 57 OSCE participating States, and the Asian Conference was a unique opportunity to share the fruits of those efforts with the Asian Partners.

Ambassador Paul Bekkers noted how several bureaucratic obstacles had to be overcome in organizing the Asian Conference, and how that once again demonstrated the importance of dialogue and compromise in reaching common goals. He also expressed the hope that the efforts undertaken to conquer those hurdles could serve as stepping-stones to even deeper co-operation.

Rapid technological change, digitalization and innovation provided immense opportunities, but also posed challenges. In recent years, the OSCE had begun to explore those implications across the three dimensions of security: from cyber security CBMs, through the protection of critical infrastructure, to freedom of expression and privacy both offline and online.

The digital revolution was gathering pace, with far-reaching repercussions for how people worked, lived and interacted with one another. The technological change of the past two decades had widened inequalities and led to increased risks in terms of social stability and security. It was therefore essential to consider how the OSCE and its Partners could contribute to managing that critical phase in human development. Technological change also had implications for access to information and freedom of speech.

The 2018 Milan Ministerial Council decision on the safety of journalists had recognized the vulnerability of journalists to hacking or unlawful or arbitrary surveillance, which might also be carried out using new digital technologies. The OSCE participating States were committed to taking action to protect journalists against such threats.

In view of the 25th anniversary of the OSCE Asian Partnership to be celebrated in 2020, the conference was a unique opportunity to exchange best practices in tackling complex transborder threats and challenges, and in ensuring that technological advances were harnessed for the benefit of all.

H.E. Mr. Sergiy Kyslytsya observed that his presence at the conference testified to the importance that President Volodymyr Zelenskyi and the new Government of Ukraine attached to digital technologies and cyber security.

Ukraine greatly valued its fruitful bilateral dialogue with Japan on security in cyberspace and other areas, and hoped to intensify that co-operation. Thanks to their great intellectual, scientific and technical potential, the Asian Partners in general were making a significant contribution to joint efforts on cyber security.

Co-operation on protecting critical infrastructure against malicious ICT activities and on identifying ways of countering threats in cyberspace was crucial for national, regional and global security, and Ukraine set great store by promoting such co-operation with key international organizations and other States.

Ukraine was ready to support the OSCE's efforts to advance cyber security further – efforts that should be firmly grounded in established OSCE commitments – and also the Organization's efforts to intensify co-operation in that field with the Asian Partners.

Participants of the 2019 OSCE Asian Conference, Tokyo, 2 September 2019 (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan)

3.2   Session 1: Tackling ICT security risks in the digital era

Report by Captain Matthias Friese, Permanent Mission of Germany to the OSCE

The first session of the 2019 OSCE Asian Conference was opened by its moderator, **Ms. Marietta König**, Senior External Co-operation Officer at the OSCE Secretariat, who reiterated the merits of looking at how well-established methods of multilateral diplomacy could help build confidence and enhance transparency, thereby reducing the risks of conflict stemming from the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs). The 16 practical confidence-building measures (CBMs) in the field of cyber security adopted by the OSCE participating States through Permanent Council Decisions Nos. 1106 and 1202 were a core pillar of international "cyber diplomacy". Participating States had reaffirmed the OSCE's role in fostering regional stability in cyberspace during the Chairmanship OSCE-wide Cyber/ICT Security Conference held in Bratislava in June. Ms. König further emphasized that regional organizations could help States with the implementation of recommendations made by the UN Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security. Moreover, regional organizations were developing their own innovative solutions to some of the most pressing problems in international cyber security. The increasing demand for co-operation and co-ordination between different regional organizations had become evident during the second Interregional Conference on Cyber/ICT security, organized by the Republic of Korea in May, in which several participating States and Partners for Co-operation had taken part.

The first speaker, **Mr. Shinichi Yokohama**, Chief Information Security Officer of the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation, Japan's largest and the world's fourth-largest telecommunications company, drew attention to the heightened global cyber security risks, especially those faced by critical infrastructure facilities. Spending on information security was currently far too low, while the losses caused by cybercrime were increasing significantly. Society was undergoing rapid digitalization, yet cyber security remained at an embryonic stage. Major innovative solutions had to be found through joint cross-regional activities involving governments and the ICT sector. Governments should create a common platform for co-operation and information-sharing, and harmonize their legislation, regulations and law enforcement procedures. As far as civil society was concerned, Mr. Yokohama suggested creating an association of "white-hat hackers without borders" on the model of Médecins sans Frontières.

The second speaker, **H.E. Mr. Károly Dán**, Chair of the Informal Working Group established pursuant to OSCE Permanent Council Decision No. 1039, also mentioned the 16 CBMs in the field of cyber security adopted under the OSCE's auspices, which were aimed at enhancing inter-State transparency, predictability and stability, and at reducing the risks of misperception, escalation and conflict that might stem from the use of ICTs. Thirteen participating States were currently developing proposals for the practical implementation of several cyber security CBMs. H.E. Mr. Dán suggested that the dialogue on cyber security, including dialogue with the Asian Partners, should be further intensified, and also recalled the second Interregional Conference on Cyber/ICT Security, held in Seoul in May 2019.

The third speaker, **Mr. Byung-ha Chung**, Deputy Director-General of the International Organizations Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea, argued that strong international collaboration was essential in a highly interconnected world that was facing unprecedented risks and challenges in the form of cyber-attacks. Cyber security-related CBMs

could help reduce the risk of conflict by increasing transparency and contribute to an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful cyberspace. The OSCE's extensive experience and know-how in that area could benefit Asian countries. The Republic of Korea was committed to enhancing its co-operation with the OSCE and other partners on making cyberspace more secure.

The fourth speaker, **Mr. Ernest Chernukhin**, Special Coordinator of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on the Issues of the Political Use of the Information and Communication Technologies, focused on discussions at the UN level. The digital era was the new reality, and the number of instances of malicious use of ICTs was growing every day. The Russian Federation advocated tackling cyber threats under UN auspices, with the active involvement of all members of the international community. Referring to the OSCE's experience in designing and implementing cyber security CBMs, Mr. Chernukhin suggested focusing on ways of enabling that experience to feed into the work of the UN Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security.

The fifth speaker, **Mr. Greg Ralph**, Deputy Head of Mission, Australian Embassy to Japan, saw a distinct role for regional organizations in the field of cyber security, especially in negotiating and co-ordinating unified approaches and monitoring their implementation. The OSCE's work on cyber security-related CBMs was a sterling example of what could be achieved by a regional organization. Stability in cyberspace relied on the application of existing international law, which needed to be complemented by responsible behaviour on the part of States and supported by CBMs and capacity-building.

A representative of **Thailand** emphasized that strong and united international efforts, especially through regional organizations, were key to countering cybercrime and other challenges to cyber security. In his view, the OSCE and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) should co-ordinate their efforts to promote sustainable cyber security, including their capacity-building efforts.

A representative of **Albania**, which would hold the OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office in 2020, argued that building a better and more efficient OSCE was a joint task. Emerging challenges and new opportunities could only be tackled properly by reinvigorating the OSCE's engagement with its Partners for Co-operation. In areas such as cyber security, digitalization and innovation there was much that the OSCE could learn from the Asian Partners.

A representative of **Switzerland** stressed that the OSCE's CBMs in cyber/ICT security had enabled tangible progress to be made on reducing the risks stemming from the use of ICTs. Switzerland would continue to support the CBM process within the framework of the Informal Working Group established pursuant to OSCE Permanent Council Decision No. 1039.

A representative of the **United States** referred to existing international frameworks and initiatives on cyber security and called for joint efforts to implement the CBMs in that field adopted under the OSCE's auspices. Participating States engaging in significant disruptive, destructive or otherwise destabilizing cyberspace activities should face the consequences of their actions. Similarly, 5G communications networks should not be allowed to become a conduit for the transmission of personal data or commercial intellectual property to authoritarian governments.

A representative of **Bulgaria** stressed that security in the OSCE area was inextricably linked to security in Asia and the Pacific, and noted that there were various opportunities for deeper co-operation. Threats in the digital era were "asymmetric" by nature and, with just small efforts and investment, could cause tremendous unpredictable damage. The Asian Contact Group facilitated in-depth international dialogue on digitalization without duplicating any existing bilateral or multilateral formats for co-operation. It was important to develop a balanced approach, which included maintaining freedom of expression on the Internet and, more generally, in cyberspace. Additionally, it was essential to reduce the risk of misperception, tension or conflict stemming from the use of ICTs.

3.3 Session 2: The digital economy as a driver for promoting co-operation, security and growth

Report by Mr. Philippe Tremblay, Head of the External Co-operation Section, OSCE Secretariat

At the start of the session, the moderator, **Ambassador Vuk Žugić**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, referred to the Ministerial Council Decision No. 5/18 (MC.DEC/5/18) on human capital development in the digital era, adopted in Milan in December 2018, emphasizing how digital transformation could bring new prosperity but also gave rise to potential threats. Digital technologies could be used for distance learning, cutting travel costs. In that respect, his Office was making online training available to a wider audience, including online courses on good governance, migration governance and the protection of energy infrastructure.

The first speaker, **Prof. Kazuto Suzuki**, Hokkaido University, observed that the digital economy created opportunities for co-operation but also increased security risks. The digital economy had the potential to change not just economics but also politics, enabling societies to be increasingly efficient and have greater access to information. Furthermore, the digital economy enabled less developed countries to access markets and participate in the global supply chain. However, there was also a growing potential for the disruption of societies, particularly through cyber-attacks on critical infrastructure. It was becoming increasingly harder to identify those responsible for such attacks and to protect the infrastructure underpinning national economies.

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) provided guidance on monitoring financial transactions in e-commerce, but stricter regulations were required to prevent digital technologies from being used to facilitate money laundering and trafficking in illicit goods, such as narcotics and weapons of mass destruction.

The second speaker, **Ambassador Hinrich Thölken**, Special Representative for International Digitalization Policy and Digital Transformation at Germany's Federal Foreign Office, emphasized the digital economy's transformative power. Governments should adapt to new technologies while fostering an internal culture of innovation. The digitalization strategy of the German Foreign Office recognized a growing digital divide in the world, with technological developments taking place at varying paces in different countries and regions. The digital divide ran straight through the OSCE area and was having a negative impact on global innovation. The rise of technological "superpower companies" was beginning to undermine the sovereign rights of nation States. China was currently on a political level the most ambitious country in the field of artificial intelligence (AI). An example is a Chinese start-up specializing in recognition software worth 7 billion US dollars whose biggest client was the Chinese Government. A country that succeeded in dominating the field of AI would effectively be able exercise substantial international influence, leading to a race for strategic advantage between countries. German Foreign Office for its part was developing an AI-based tool called Preview, designed to act as an early warning mechanism. By simultaneously extracting information from publicly available sources, Preview would help Germany to anticipate critical trends. When deciding whether to export high technology to other countries it was important to take political considerations into account, since terrorists and organized criminal groups would also be seeking to use AI for their purposes. The OSCE could play an important role in analysing the effects of digital transformation on cooperation and security, particularly with regard to AI.

The third speaker, **Ms. Nadejda Komendantova**, PhD, Research Scholar at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, argued that digital technology was directly linked to Sustainable Development Goal 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure. The benefits of digital transformation included increased efficiency and flexibility in administrative procedures. However, most ICT platforms designed to encourage civic engagement had not managed to attract a critical mass of users, which resulted in a lack of long-term engagement. Furthermore, the governance of critical energy infrastructure was too fragmented (in Europe alone there were more than 500 transmission system operators), which led to a lack of transparency and increased the risk of misgovernance.

A representative of **Thailand** explained his country's efforts to ensure the inclusiveness and accessibility of telecommunications via high-speed Internet, which now reached 75 per cent of households. Thailand encouraged start-ups as the new "economic engine" and viewed private-public partnerships as catalysts for digital transformation. Thailand supported the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025.

A representative of the **Russian Federation** indicated that the use of digital technologies was a key element in integrating communities. In that respect, the projected "Greater Eurasian Partnership" would contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Russian Federation intended to continue working with the international community in order to promote a unifying agenda and maximize the benefits of increased connectivity.

A representative of the **Slovak OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office** indicated that digital governance was likely to be the subject of a proposed draft Ministerial Council decision, which would emphasize such aspects as the safer use of ICTs and increased co-operation on research and development. It was particularly important to increase the resilience of critical infrastructure.

A representative of the **United States** stressed the importance of exploring further the role of the digital economy in illicit financing, which was a major cause of corruption across the world. The FATF was not yet doing enough in that area, and there is a role for the OSCE to fill that gap by promoting commitments on fighting corruption.

A representative of **Bulgaria** underlined the need to develop a more resilient cyberspace. A digital agenda for the Western Balkans would ensure that all people in the region could benefit from the digital transformation. Promoting the role of technology in the education of children was of paramount importance.

Responding to the interventions from the floor, **Prof. Suzuki** stated that the next challenge would be to tackle the use of cryptocurrencies for nefarious purposes, since such currencies were not subject to the jurisdiction of any sovereign State and did not have the backing of any central bank. To that end, it would be important to establish an institution similar to FATF but for digital transactions.

According to **Ambassador Thölken**, the multilateral trade system was declining as the digital transformation progressed. In November, Germany would be hosting the 14th annual meeting of the Internet Governance Forum, which was a key platform for discussing how the Internet should be regulated in a multi-stakeholder environment. It was important to study further how the digital transformation would affect multilateralism and how AI could support trade

negotiations by proposing compromise language. The negative aspects of digital platforms – namely, the increase in disinformation and "deep fakes" – had to be tackled, and the OSCE could play a leading role in such efforts.

Furthermore, protecting the rights of citizens (also by protecting their personal data) was a sensitive and important issue that must be discussed at every international forum. With its comprehensive approach to security, the OSCE was well placed to initiate such discussions and to facilitate capacity building activities with a view to addressing the various security implications of digital transformation and by that contribute to a sustainable digital transformation.

3.4   Session 3: Risks to the safety of journalists in the digital era

Report by Mr. Philippe Tremblay, Head of the External Co-operation Section, OSCE Secretariat

The moderator, **Ms. Elena Cherniavska**, Senior Adviser at the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, opened the discussion by referring to the ground-breaking Ministerial Council decision on the safety of journalists adopted in Milan in December 2018. That decision comprehensively addressed the risks faced by journalists when performing their work, including the distinct risks faced by female journalists. As most threats and attacks against journalists were never fully investigated or resolved, the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFOM) had brought together 100 media professionals and media rights advocates in April 2019 to discuss the problem of impunity for such crimes. A documentary on the online harassment of female journalists had been produced jointly with the International Press Institute. Moreover, a new format of expert meeting, the Central Asia Judicial Dialogue, had been introduced by the RFOM Office to discuss ways of safeguarding freedom of expression online while tackling illegal content. Increased surveillance and the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) were key issues to be considered over the following years. Participating States should protect freedom of expression (also on social media) and must be careful not to undermine fundamental human rights.

The first speaker, **Ms. Patchari Raksawong Kinsperger**, a news presenter for NHK World English News and a lecturer at the Faculty of Journalism and Mass Communication, Thammasat University, Bangkok, stressed the importance of allowing female journalists to work freely and safely. That was an important part of any pluralistic democracy. Any threats directed at female journalists were attacks on freedom of expression and freedom of the media as such. Journalists needed to be able to speak the truth and report it transparently, but they also had to be held accountable for their reporting. Social media had opened up new venues, markets and audiences, but they had also created more risks. Online harassment led to self-censorship and silenced female voices in the media. It was therefore imperative to support female journalists by providing training and resources for dealing with cyber security threats and by increasing the representation of women in the media. In that respect, the OSCE was a pioneer because it monitored developments in the media in order to give early warning of any threats. Moreover, the efforts of the OSCE to ensure that journalists do not have to fear any retribution due to their work were highlighted.

The second speaker, **H.E. Mr. Kevin Dowling**, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the OSCE, observed that the Ministerial Council decision on the safety of journalists adopted in Milan had been an important initiative by the Italian OSCE Chairmanship. Ireland shared the view that a comprehensive approach to security must involve a safe civil society. Basic human rights were equally applicable online and offline and Ireland applauded the RFOM Office for introducing video tools that highlighted the unacceptable level of threats faced by journalists. It was essential that journalists should be able to do their job without being subject to violence or intimidation. The judiciary and police forces had an important role to play in preventing hate speech and tackling impunity in that area. Policing of the Internet must, however, be informed by respect for individual privacy and freedom of speech.

Banning something did not mean that it would not happen. The Internet made it impossible to suppress the spreading of falsehoods altogether. Many solutions were being tested, but none of them was perfect.

The third speaker, **Ms. Barbara Trionfi**, Executive Director of the International Press Institute, explained the Institute's role in promoting freedom of the press and the independence of journalism, including ways of responding to online attacks against journalists and dealing with surveillance by State and private actors. The use of encryption was a professional necessity for journalists, as it allowed them to maintain the anonymity of confidential sources. Such privacy made it possible for freedom of expression to be exercised. There had been attempts in the OSCE area to criminalize the use of encryption and attempts to give police "backdoor" access to encrypted communications.

Specific journalists had been targeted, including those covering topics such as migration, minority rights, the far right and gender. In all cases, female journalists had been targeted in a more vicious manner that had no bearing on their professional activity but was, instead, related to their sex.

Ms. Trionfi asked where the line should be drawn between law and ethics. Any restriction of freedom of expression must be defined by law, pursue a legitimate aim and be necessary in a democratic society. The main characteristic of illegal content, such as hate speech, was the element of incitement to violence. At the same time, in her view, freedom of expression should include the right to shock, disturb and even (because of people's different perceptions) to offend. She called for an open discussion about sensitive topics, which was more beneficial to society than having those topics hidden away in the dark places of the Internet.

A representative of **Italy** emphasized the consensus reached by participating States on adopting the Ministerial Council decision on the safety of journalists in December 2018. Italy continued to support the common goal of ensuring safe working conditions for journalists. It was unacceptable for female journalists to be subject to attacks, including attacks because of their sex. Italy had established a co-ordination centre to respond to attempts to intimidate journalists, which would assist with the implementation of the Ministerial Council decision.

A representative of the **Russian Federation** called the Ministerial Council decision on the safety of journalists most timely, adding that both participating States and the Partners for Co-operation recognized the importance of safe working conditions for journalists, who should not be attacked for exercising their profession. Direct threats to journalists should be condemned, particularly in the digital era. Any restrictions on journalists' work were dangerous; the blocking of websites and social media sites was not a good approach to take. It was much more important to introduce policies against censorship and suppression of political dissent, and to undertake international efforts to regulate the use of AI and ensure that such technologies were compatible with freedom of the media. The Russian Federation was itself currently developing a national strategy on AI.

A representative of **Japan** shared concerns about threats to the safety of journalists and emphasized that his country had co-sponsored a UN Human Rights Council resolution on the safety of journalists.

A representative of the **United States** stressed the importance of the Ministerial Council decision on the safety of journalists adopted in Milan. Female journalists in particular faced risks in the conduct of their work, and such intimidation normalized sexism and the abuse of women. Some 64 per cent of female journalists worldwide had been victims of cyber stalking, threats or physical attacks. The United States applauded the RFOM Office's work in

monitoring participating States' implementation of the above-mentioned Ministerial Council decision. Journalists were essential agents of freedom of speech and democracy and the OSCE Asian Partnership could benefit from further interaction, which contribute to the advancing of press freedom.

A representative of **Switzerland** deplored the fact that two journalists had been murdered in Europe in 2019. There had been an increase in online censorship in Asia. The Ministerial Council decision on the safety of journalists adopted in December 2018 had been a milestone in efforts to uphold freedom of the media, and had been recognized as such at the Global Conference for Media Freedom organized in London in July. It was likely that there would be a new UN General Assembly resolution on the topic.

A representative of **Bulgaria** expressed support for the work of the RFOM Office, adding that the Bulgarian Government had allocated funds for a project undertaken by the Office on the impact of AI on freedom of expression.

A representative of the **Republic of Korea** observed that online media presented both opportunities and challenges. His country welcomed international efforts to improve the safety of journalists, including the efforts undertaken by the OSCE, the UN Human Rights Council and the General Assembly. The RFOM Office's publication of a guidebook on the safety of journalists was very helpful.

A representative of the **United Kingdom** referred to the Global Conference for Media Freedom that his country had organized together with Canada in July. That conference had resulted in a pledge to work together to protect media freedom, which 26 States had signed so far. A national action plan was currently being developed by the United Kingdom, which was, moreover, also conducting activities to defend media freedom in the Middle East and North Africa. Although the United Kingdom continued to support strong encryption, there was a risk that encryption could thwart the work of law enforcement agencies. It was important to strike the right balance in that area.

The moderator, **Ms. Cherniavska**, closed the session by highlighting the need for a global approach and concerted efforts in protecting female journalists, which included both media freedom and the empowerment of civil society. The online ecosystem was a reflection of society's problems offline, but female journalists should be able to feel safe if regulatory frameworks were implemented properly. It was encouraging that most participating States and Asian Partners for Co-operation were interested in contributing to specific measures for the protection of female journalists.

3.5 Summary of the closing session

Report by Mr. Philippe Tremblay, Head of the External Co-operation Section, OSCE Secretariat

The 2019 OSCE Asian Conference ended with closing remarks delivered by **Mr. Hideki Uyama**, Deputy Director-General of the European Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan; **H.E. Mr. Alessandro Azzoni**, Permanent Representative of Italy to the OSCE and Chairperson of the Contact Group with the OSCE Asian Partners for Co-operation; **Mr. Martin Končal** of the Slovak OSCE Chairmanship; and **Ambassador Paul Bekkers**, Director of the Office of the Secretary General, OSCE Secretariat.

Mr. Hideki Uyama, Deputy Director-General of the European Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, emphasized how the security environment of Asia was inseparable from European security. There is a need to tackle common challenges together on the basis of the rule of law. The use of ICTs was of particular importance to Japan in the run-up to the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Drawing inspiration partly from the OSCE Ministerial Council decisions and declarations adopted in Milan in December 2018, Japan had launched the "Osaka Track" at the G20 summit in June. Japan intended to promote further discussions among international policymakers on the digital economy, emerging technologies and the safety of journalists in the digital era.

H.E. Mr. Alessandro Azzoni, Permanent Representative of Italy to the OSCE and Chairperson of the Contact Group with the OSCE Asian Partners for Co-operation, praised the unique opportunity provided by the Asian Conference for dialogue between participating States and the Asian Partners for Co-operation on key topics such as ICT security, the digital economy and the safety of journalists. The conference was an invaluable platform for tackling common problems, and the Asian Partners were clearly interested in further collaboration. At the same time it was important that ongoing dialogues actively reflected the three dimensions of the OSCE's comprehensive security.

Speaking on behalf of the 2019 Slovak OSCE Chairmanship, **Mr. Martin Končal** reiterated the need for multilateral co-operation on cyber security and the safety of journalists. The protection of critical infrastructure was also very important, and the Chairperson-in-Office had been focusing on the impact of the "Fourth Industrial Revolution". The discussions that had taken place during the OSCE Asian Conference would feed into the Chairmanship's preparations for the forthcoming Ministerial Council meeting in Bratislava; in particular, it was likely that a draft decision on new technologies would be submitted for consideration by the participating States. Noting that 2020 would be the 25th anniversary of the OSCE's Asian Partnership, Mr. Končal indicated that Slovakia, which would then hold the Chairmanship of the Asian Contact Group, aimed to work towards a more strategic partnership.

Ambassador Paul Bekkers, Director of the Office of the Secretary General, OSCE Secretariat, highlighted the importance of partnerships in ensuring that cross-dimensional topics such as ICT security, economic development, freedom of the media and the safety of journalists occupied a prominent place on the OSCE's agenda, which benefited both participating States and the Asian Partners for Co-operation.

3.6   Side event: Enhancing security, building partnerships: Co-operation between OSCE field operations in Central Asia and Afghanistan on border management

Report by Ms. Marietta König, Senior External Co-operation Officer, OSCE Secretariat

Ambassador Paul Bekkers, Director of the Office of the Secretary General, OSCE Secretariat moderated the side event. The panellists were **Ambassador Natalya Drozd**, Head of the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat; **Ambassador Valeriu Chiveri**, Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe; **Mr. Bayramguly Bayramov**, Chief of Department, General Staff of the State Border Service of Turkmenistan; and **Mr. Mohammad Atef Malikzada**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan.

Introducing the topic of the side event, **Ambassador Paul Bekkers** pointed out how the fact that the OSCE area bordered with the Partner for Co-operation Afghanistan resulted in an increased willingness on the part of the Central Asian participating States to co-operate with their southern neighbour on a wide range of issues, including border management. Since 2009, the OSCE had supported the professionalization of border guards and mid- and senior-level border officials in Afghanistan, mainly through extra-budgetary contributions. Over the past decade, 528 Afghan border security officials had been trained at the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe (including the OSCE Border Management Staff College) and the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat. From the very beginning, Japan had been a major donor to OSCE border management projects in Central Asia, which were grounded in the concept of partnership – i.e., bringing Afghan officials together with their Tajik and Turkmen counterparts to strengthen security along their countries' shared borders, build confidence and contribute to economic co-operation in the region.

Ambassador Valeriu Chiveri outlined the main programmes with an Afghan component that had been implemented at the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe and the Border Management Staff College. Since 2008, the OSCE had directly trained more than 3,000 border officials in Tajikistan, of whom almost 500 were from Afghanistan. An additional 500 Afghans had been trained indirectly through courses run with partners. Under the project "Patrol Field Capacity Building of the Tajik Border Troops through Promotion of Regional Co-operation" and its predecessor, the "Patrol, Programming and Leadership" project, the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe had provided frontline troops with the theoretical and practical skills required to identify and deal with cross-border crime. The training covered the planning and conduct of patrols, surveillance techniques, map reading, summer and winter survival skills, first aid and risk assessment. Thanks to the joint courses, the new project enabled the Tajik and Afghan border troops to develop similar tactical approaches and gain a better understanding of each other. Modules on States' obligations in relation to international human rights, including the rights of refugees, were integrated into the training. Significant efforts were invested to help the participants understand how to include gender considerations in their work. Over the past two years, the focus had shifted to ensuring that the capacities built were sustainable. The majority of the courses were now conducted by members of the Tajik and Afghan border services, specifically by OSCE-trained instructors. Since 2018, training facilities had been moved to locations along the border, i.e., the places where the participants would be using the skills they had acquired.

Additionally, 641 officials from 45 countries had completed core courses at the Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe. The College was contributing to effective border security by increasing the professional competencies of staff and promoting co-operation

among border security and border management agencies, relevant international organizations and officials in the OSCE area and the Partners for Co-operation. One important asset of the College lay in its multinational student body. The two courses it offered – the one-month Staff Course and the twelve-month Postgraduate Diploma in Border Security and Management – analysed border security trends, focused on the importance of management and leadership, and explored ways of deepening international co-operation. By serving as a platform for building professional networks and exchanging ideas, the Colleague aims at helping Tajikistan and Afghanistan to find the crucial balance between protecting the border against real and very acute threats for both, while unlocking the border as a place to facilitate trade and long term economic prosperity.

Ambassador Natalya Drozd presented the extra-budgetary project "Strengthening Border Service Capacities in Turkmenistan" being conducted at the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat. The project was sponsored mainly by Japan and included a joint Turkmen-Afghan component; it sought to strengthen regional co-operation on regional border security and management in line with the OSCE's comprehensive approach to security. Over the past two years, the project had significantly expanded its range of training activities. By offering specialized training on border patrolling and on mountain and maritime operations, first aid and dog handling courses, round-table discussions on gender mainstreaming and joint Turkmen-Afghan regional workshops, the project contributed significantly to the development of constructive and mutually beneficial co-operation between the border agencies of Afghanistan and Turkmenistan. Under the project, the Centre had conducted five joint and three regional workshops for the State Border Service of Turkmenistan and the Border Police/Ministry of Defence of Afghanistan on combating illicit trafficking in cultural property, fighting cross-border crimes, counter-terrorism, combating money laundering, risk management, inter-agency co-ordination and gender mainstreaming.

Complementing the presentation by Ambassador Drozd, **Mr. Bayramguly Bayramov** emphasized the positive impact that the extra-budgetary project "Strengthening Border Service Capacities in Turkmenistan" had had on institutional capacities and the operational capability of the State Border Service of Turkmenistan in the field of border security and management. The project had helped established a pool of certified national experts in specialist areas such as mountain and maritime operations, first aid and dog training. The OSCE Centre in Ashgabat had donated eight Malinois service dogs to the State Border Service of Turkmenistan, together with dog training equipment. Moreover, under the same project, the Centre had actively supported the Border Management Institute of Turkmenistan in its efforts to implement the "Concept for the development of a digital education system in Turkmenistan", adopted by the Government in 2017. Mr. Baryamov singled out the project's regional component, noting how the Centre had conducted five joint and three regional workshops for the State Border Service of Turkmenistan and the Border Police/Ministry of Defence of Afghanistan on the topics mentioned by Ambassador Drozd. Those workshops had contributed to the strengthening of relations between the Turkmen and Afghan border agencies and the enhancement of cross-border co-operation between the two neighbouring countries, which enjoyed deep historical and cultural ties.

Mr. Mohammad Atef Malikzada emphasized the positive impact of OSCE capacity-building activities on the work of Afghan border patrols. The training provided by the Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe and the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat had helped to improve border surveillance, facilitating the interception of drug traffickers and leading to increased seizures of narcotics; it had also enhanced efforts to combat terrorist groups along

the country's borders with Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. The training covered, *inter alia*, leadership skills in the conduct of border patrols, the identification of forged identity documents at customs and crossing points, and the development of standardized customs clearance. Additionally, the management of the Afghan border police had been sensitized to the need to increase the number of female staff and to implement measures aimed at lowering the rate of sexual harassment at border crossing points. Those measures were particularly relevant, given that women made up 50 per cent of the people crossing the country's borders. Mr. Malikzada suggested that future OSCE training activities should continue to focus on border security and management, as well as on combating terrorism, drug trafficking and money laundering, but that the curriculum should be expanded to cover aspects of good governance, including elections, education, human rights, the rule of law and the use of new technologies. The fact that the one-year Postgraduate Diploma in Border Security and Management at the Border Management Staff College was now fully accredited would encourage even more Afghan border and custom officers to apply.

A representative of **Japan** reiterated his country's strong support for OSCE border management projects with an integrated Afghan component that helped to build the capacities of Afghan border and custom officials. In addition to the above-mentioned projects in Ashgabat and Dushanbe, Japan was also supporting an OSCE project implemented by the Russian Federal Border Guard Service in the Domodedovo/Moscow region that provided Afghan police officers with counter-narcotics training. He encouraged OSCE participating States to consider strengthening their engagement with Afghanistan.

A representative of the **United States** observed that all of the above-mentioned projects had been financed through extra-budgetary funds thanks to the support of some participating States and Partners for Co-operation, including Japan. She called for additional contributions to ensure the financial stability of relevant programmes and projects at the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat and the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe, including the Border Management Staff College.

Ambassador Bekkers brought the side event to a conclusion by emphasizing the strong interest of beneficiaries in Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Afghanistan in further joint capacity-building activities. He encouraged participating States to strengthen their support for border management projects in line with the OSCE's agreed commitment to increased engagement with Afghanistan.

4   List of participants

ORGANIZATION	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	POSITION	SUB DEPARTMENT
OSCE Participating States				
ALBANIA	Igli	HASANI	Ambassador	Permanent Mission of Albania to the International Organisation in Vienna
GERMANY	Hinrich	THOELKEN	Ambassador, Special Representative for International Digitalisation Policy and Digital Transformation	International Digitalization Policy and Digital Transformation
GERMANY	Matthias	FRIESE	Politico-military Adviser	Staff
GERMANY	Karsten	KIESEWETTER	Defense Attaché	Military Attaché Staff
GERMANY	Marie-Theres	STRAUSS	First Secretary, German Embassy	Political
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Alex T.	JOHNSON	Chief of Staff	Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Janice	HELWIG	Representative of The Helsinki Commission to USOSCE	USOSCE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Paul	MASSARO	Policy Advisor	U.S. Helsinki Commission
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Kyle	PARKER	Senior Senate Staff Representative	U.S. Helsinki Commission
AUSTRIA	Mario	VIELGRADER	Minister	Embassy
BELGIUM	Elisa	CASTALDO	Deputy Head of Mission	Embassy of Belgium
BELGIUM	Brent	VAN TASSEL	First Secretary	Embassy of Belgium
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	Sinisa	BERJAN	Ambassador to Japan	
BULGARIA	Assia	DAVIDOVA	Director	Security Policy Directorate
BULGARIA	Marieta	ARABADJIEVA	Counsellor	Embassy of The Republic of Bulgaria in Japan

ORGANIZATION	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	POSITION	SUB DEPARTMENT
CROATIA	Ivana	STANKOVIC	Second Secretary	-
DENMARK	Martin	MIKKELSEN	Deputy Head of Mission & Minister Counsellor	Royal Danish Embassy, Japan
SPAIN	Antonio	CASADO	Political Counsellor	Embassy of Spain in Tokyo
FINLAND/EU	Miia	LAHTI	Minister-Counsellor	Embassy of Finland
FINLAND/EU	Stefan	KRAMER	First Counsellor	EU Delegation to Japan
FINLAND/EU	Lee	WOOLGAR	Senior Policy Officer	EU Delegation to Japan
FRANCE	Fabien	PATRY	Counsellor	French Permanent Representation to OSCE
UNITED KINGDOM	Matthew	PHILLIPS	Political Counsellor	British Embassy Tokyo
UNITED KINGDOM	Keir	STORRAR	Second Secretary	Political Section
GREECE	Constantin	CAKIOUSSIS	Ambassador	Embassy of Greece
GREECE	Georgios	PARTHENIOU	First Counsellor	Embassy of Greece
HUNGARY	Karoly	DAN	Ambassador	-
HUNGARY	Hortenzia	HOSSZÚ	Counsellor	Science And Technology Affairs
IRELAND	Kevin	DOWLING	Ambassador/Head of Mission	Permanent Mission of Ireland to the OSCE
ITALY	Alessandro	AZZONI	Ambassador/Permanent Representative	Permanent Delegation of Italy to the OSCE
ITALY	Giorgio	STARACE	Ambassador	Embassy of Italy In Japan
ITALY	Nicolo'	TASSONI ESTENSE	Minister Counsellor	Embassy of Italy In Japan
ITALY	Matteo	PIANCA	First Secretary	Permanent Delegation of Italy to the OSCE
ITALY	Antonio	NORFO	First Secretary	Embassy of Italy In Japan
ITALY	Tommaso	D'ERCOLE	First Secretary	Embassy of Italy In Japan

ORGANIZATION	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	POSITION	SUB DEPARTMENT
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KAZAKHSTAN	Azamat	KALIASKAROV	Head of Division	Cyber Security
KAZAKHSTAN	Maulen	AKAN	Specialist	National Security Committee
LATVIA	Harijs	BATRAGS	Third Secretary	Political Department
LUXEMBOURG	Christian	MULLER	Chargé d'affaires a.i.	Embassy of Luxembourg
MONGOLIA	Battungalag	GANKHUURAI	Ambassador / Permanent Representative	Permanent Mission of Mongolia to the OSCE
MONGOLIA	Batjargal	DAMBADARJAA	Ambassador	-
NORWAY	Inga M.W.	NYHAMAR	Ambassador	Royal Norwegian Embassy in Tokyo
NORWAY	Tom	KNAPPSKOG	Minister Counselor	Royal Norwegian Embassy in Tokyo
NORWAY	Øyvind Fossum	VANGBERG	First Secretary	Royal Norwegian Embassy in Tokyo
NETHERLANDS	Marjolein	JEGERINGS	Second Secretary	Political Affairs
POLAND	Jaroslaw	TYSZKIEWICZ	Embassy in Tokyo	
PORTUGAL	Monica	MOUTINHO	Counsellor	Embassy of Portugal
ROMANIA	Tatiana	IOSIPER	Ambassador of Romania to Japan	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	Ernest	CHERNUKHIN	Special Coordinator of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Political Use of ICTs	International Information Technologies
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	Irina	TIAZHLOVA	Aide to Special Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for International Cooperation on Information Security	
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	Aleksei	BOGDANOV	Deputy Defense Attache	Embassy of The Russian Federation In Japan
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	Polina	CHIZHOVA	Attache	Foreign Policy Division

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RUSSIAN FEDERATION	Dmitry	SHAKURA	First Secretary	Embassy of The Russian Federation In Japan
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	Vladimir	ZHEGLOV	Deputy Permanent Representative	-
HOLY SEE	Veceslav	TUMIR	Counsellor	Apostolic Nunciature in Japan
HOLY SEE	Takaaki	YASUOKA	Consultor	Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, Vatican
SERBIA	Nenad	GLISIC	Ambassador	Embassy in Tokyo
SERBIA	Ivana	Golubovic - Duboka	Deputy Chief of Mission	Embassy in Tokyo
SLOVAKIA	Miroslav	LAJČÁK	OSCE Chairperson-in-Office/ Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia	Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia
SLOVAKIA	Andrej	DROBA	Ambassador/Director of the Cabinet of the Minister	Cabinet of the Minister
SLOVAKIA	Marián	JAKUBÓCY	Ambassador/ Director-General	Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia
SLOVAKIA	Veronika	PRISTAŠOVÁ	Director	Asia And The Pacific Department
SLOVAKIA	Katharina	KANDT	Senior Adviser	2019 OSCE Chairmanship
SLOVAKIA	Martin	KONCAL	Minister - Counsellor	Permanent Mission of Slovakia
SLOVAKIA	Erik	LENHART	DHM	Political
SLOVAKIA	Juraj	PETRUSKA	Counsellor	Economic And Commercial
SLOVENIA	Mirjam	CUK MOISHI	Embassy of Slovenia in Japan	

ORGANIZATION	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	POSITION	SUB DEPARTMENT
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SWITZERLAND	Michelle	KLÄGER	Academic trainee	Embassy of Switzerland to Japan
SWITZERLAND	Markus	REUBI	Minister-Deputy Head of Mission	Embassy of Switzerland to Japan
CZECH REPUBLIC	Milan	SLANEC	Deputy Head Of Mission	Political Section
TURKMENISTAN	Bayramguly	BAYRAMOV	Chief of Department	General Staff
TURKEY	Ahmet	TEKIN	Counsellor	Administrative
UKRAINE	Sergiy	KYSLYTSYA	Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs	
UKRAINE	Yevhenii	TSYMBALIUK	Ambassador, Permanent Representative	Delegation to the OSCE
UKRAINE	Ihor	KHARCHENKO	Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary	Embassy of Ukraine to Japan
UKRAINE	Roman	YAKOVENKO	First Secretary	Embassy of Ukraine to Japan
PARTNERS FOR CO-OPERTION				
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JAPAN	Hideki	UYAMA	Ambassador, Deputy Director-General	European Affairs Bureau
JAPAN	Daiki	GOTO	Official Of The Ministry Of Foreign Affairs	European Policy Division
JAPAN	Hikaru	ITO	Assistant Director	European Policy Division
JAPAN	Ryo	ITO	Official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	European Policy Division
JAPAN	Mitsuhiko	IYOTA	Deputy Director	European Policy Division
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JAPAN	Karin	MATSUZAKI	Official Of The Ministry of Foreign Affairs	European Policy Division

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JAPAN	Michiko	SUEYOSHI	Official of The Ministry of Foreign Affairs	European Policy Division
JAPAN	Ippei	TADA	Deputy Director	European Policy Division
JAPAN	Seiichiro	TAGUCHI	Director	European Policy Division
JAPAN	Ryosuke	TAKAHASHI	Official of The Ministry of Foreign Affairs	European Policy Division
JAPAN	Tomoyo	TAKAMARU	Official of The Ministry of Foreign Affairs	European Policy Division
JAPAN	Kazuyuki	TAKEUCHI	Minister	The delegation of Japan to the OSCE
JAPAN	Kotaro	HASHIMOTO	Official of Central and South Eastern Europe Division	
JAPAN	Fukiko	TSUKADA	Deputy Director of Central and South Eastern Europe Division	
JAPAN	Daisuke	YAMASHITA	Deputy Director	European Policy Division
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	Byung-Ha	CHUNG	Deputy Director-General	International Security Division
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	Hyun Goo	LEE	Second Secretary	International Security Division
THAILAND	Bansarn	BUNNAG	Ambassador, Royal Thai Embassy, Tokyo	None
THAILAND	Ekapol	POOLPIPAT	Deputy Director-General	Department of European Affairs, MFA
THAILAND	Cherdchai	CHAIVAIVID	Minister, Royal Thai Embassy, Tokyo	Royal Thai Embassy Tokyo
THAILAND	Sirichada	THONGTAN	Minister Counsellor European Union Division	MFA

ORGANIZATION	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	POSITION	SUB DEPARTMENT
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THAILAND	Patchari	RAKSAWONG KINSPERGER	NHK News Presenter, Radio Host and Lecturer at Thammasat University, Bangkok	Bachelor of Arts Program in Journalism and Mass Media Studies
THAILAND	Eri	IMAMURA	Embassy Staff	Royal Thai Embassy
International Organizations				
ICRC	Mamiko	TOMITA	Program Officer	ICRC Delegation In Japan
ACADEMIA, EXPERTS				
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Hokkaido University	Kazuto	SUZUKI	Professor	
IIASA	Nadejda	KOMEN-DANTOVA	Researcher	
International Press Institute	Barbara	TRIONFI	Executive Director	
Kagawa University	Takako	UETA	Ambassador Professor Dr.	
Osaka University	Shu	UCHIDA	Guest Researcher	Osaka, Japan
GUESTS OF THE HOST COUNTRY				
Cooperation Council of Turkic-Speaking States	Ersin	AYDOĞAN	Project Director	Turkic Council
OSCE				
OSCE Secretariat	Paul	BEKKERS	Director	
OSCE Secretariat	Vuk	ZUGIC	Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities	
OSCE Secretariat	Philippe	TREMBLAY	Head of the External Co-operation Section	

ORGANIZATION	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	POSITION	SUB DEPARTMENT
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OSCE Secretariat	Marietta	KOENIG	External Co-operation Officer	
OSCE Secretariat	Aldona	SZYMANSKI	Senior External Co-operation Assistant	
OSCE FOM	Olena	CHERNIAVSKA	Senior Adviser	
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OSCE Centre in Ashgabat	Merdan	GOCHKAROV	National Project Officer	
OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe	Valeriu	CHIVERI	Ambassador, Head of Office	
OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe	Sean	MCGREEVY	Advisor	