

# ODIHR Update

October 2016 No. 4



## Open exchange of views vital to protecting human rights, strengthening democratic institutions, central to HDIM success



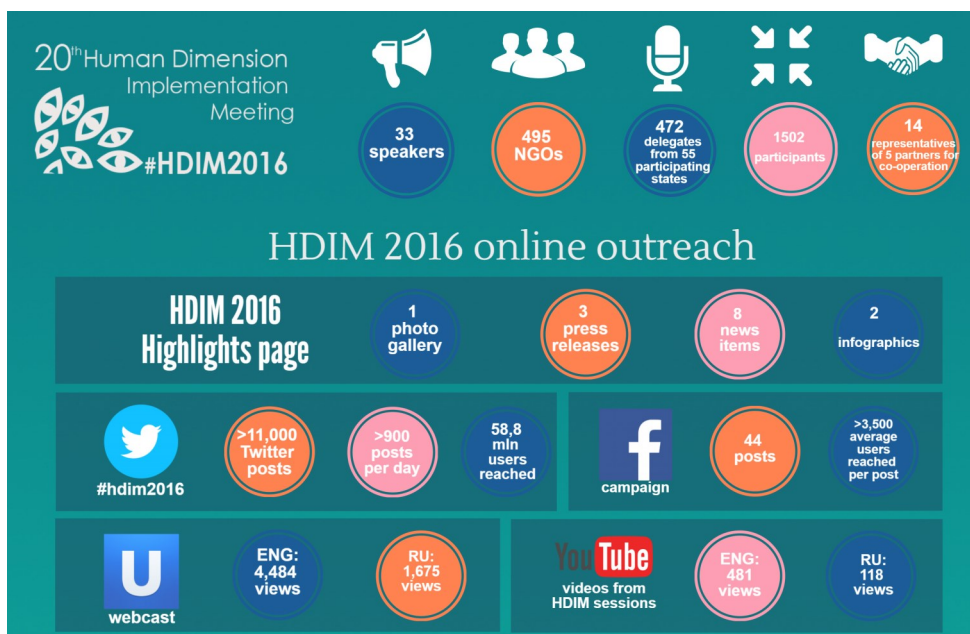
Ambassador Eberhard Pohl, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council (c), and Lamberto Zannier, OSCE Secretary General (s), listen as Michael Georg Link, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, addresses the closing session of the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw, 30 September 2016.

The free and open exchange of views and information is vital to helping governments protect and promote human rights, fundamental freedoms and tolerance and non-discrimination, as well as to improve and strengthen democratic practices and institutions, Gernot Erler, Germany's Special Representative for the 2016 OSCE Chairmanship, Lamberto Zannier, OSCE Secretary General, and Michael Georg Link, Director ODIHR, said at the closing of a two-week OSCE conference in Warsaw, the 20th human dimen-

sion implementation meeting on 30 September.

"The important role of civil society in assisting governments in promoting human dimension commitments, as well as in drawing attention to where action is needed, has been explicitly recognized by all OSCE participating States," Director Link said. "The great value of this annual meeting is to provide a platform for the exchange of information and views in this area, and unduly restricting the opportunity for civil society voices to be heard can only undermine the very purpose of the meeting."

### HDIM by the Numbers



# ODIHR Update

October 2016 No. 4



## Education, security and coalition-building at the heart of ODIHR project on addressing anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance



A panel discussion at the POLIN Museum in Warsaw focusing on education's role in countering anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance, 28 September 2016. The discussion was organized as a side event during the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM).

ODIHR unveiled a project focused on addressing the security needs of Jewish communities, fostering coalition building among different communities, and countering anti-Semitism through education, at an event in Warsaw on 28 September 2016.

The official launch of the Turning Words Into Action to Address Anti-Semitism project, which is financed by Germany, on the initiative of the German parliament, is being held at the POLIN Museum of the History

of Polish Jews, in Warsaw. The project will run from 2016 to the end of 2018.

“With a clear basis in the will of all OSCE participating States expressed over many years, this project sets out to help turn words into action by providing government officials, parliamentarians and civil society with the knowledge and skills they need to effectively address anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance,” said ODIHR Director Michael Georg Link.

Upcoming activities within the framework of the project include the creation of a toolkit to address policies and practical aspects to promote the security of Jewish communities in line with the international human rights framework, as well consultations with governments, education experts and community representatives on the best ways to produce education policy guidance and supporting materials for teachers.

### Latest recruitment notices at ODIHR

#### Chief, Rule of Law Unit

Location: Warsaw

Grade: P4

Closing date: 5 October 2016

[Full details](#) on OSCE website

#### Senior Election Adviser

Location: Warsaw

Grade: P4

Closing date: 27 October 2015

[Full details](#) on OSCE website

If you wish to unsubscribe, please send us a message at [PublicAffairs@odihhr.pl](mailto:PublicAffairs@odihhr.pl).