



Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

# Annual Report 2013



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# Overview by the ODIHR Director

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The 2013 OSCE Ministerial Council, in early December in Kyiv, was of particular importance to what the OSCE calls the “human dimension” of security. This approach stresses that strengthening democracy is vital to the security of our societies and of the OSCE area as a whole. This includes the areas of elections, democratic governance and rule of law, protecting fundamental human rights, promoting tolerance and non-discrimination, ensuring the protection and full participation of national minorities, including the Roma and Sinti and ensuring the freedom of the media.

From the OSCE’s very beginnings, participating States have made commitments in all of these areas, based on the understanding that failure to do so – and to follow through on those commitments once made – poses a real threat to the peace and security of their societies. As members of a regional security organization, they also recognized that threats of this type within borders can easily spill across them.

As fate would have it, the meeting in Kyiv took place against the backdrop of events that highlighted the grave importance of many of these issues.

Questions related to rule of law and democratic governance; of freedom of peaceful assembly and of the media; and of the rights of and protection for national minorities were just some of the human dimension concerns at the centre of much of the discussion at the event. As the Ministerial Council wrapped up, it seemed clear to most participants that these issues would continue to play a major role in the situation in Ukraine's capital, and in the country as a whole.

Against the backdrop of these concerns, OSCE participating States sent a positive message in Kyiv, working together to adopt decisions on improving the situation of Roma and Sinti in the OSCE area and on freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief.

The adoption of these decisions was important not only for the areas on which they focus, but also because these were the first decisions adopted by OSCE participating States in the human dimension in three years. With governments in some participating States sometimes implicitly – or even explicitly – undercutting the importance of the human dimension commitments they have made in the past, their willingness and ability to come together to adopt these in Kyiv was a welcome sign.

The need for continued efforts toward the improvement of the situation of Roma and Sinti, for example, and the importance of the work by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) in this area, were demonstrated again in 2013.

ODIHR issued its second status report on the Action Plan for Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti in the OSCE Area, and the status report formed the basis for discussion among representatives from civil society and from OSCE participating States at a Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting in Vienna in November. Released ten years after the adoption of the Action Plan, the report's findings contributed significantly to the Ministerial Council decision and, in particular, to its focus on Roma and Sinti women, youth and children.

This was already an area of focus for ODIHR's Contact Point on Roma and Sinti Issues in 2013, in the Roma Youth Initiative, an innovative programme to enhance the participation of Roma and Sinti youth in their communities. Other activities carried out by the Contact Point focused on working at the grassroots level to support efforts to keep Roma youth in school and to promote better performance in education, as well as to facilitate better access to health care.

The decision on freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief also touches directly on the work

done by ODIHR. In co-operation with the Ukrainian 2013 Chairmanship of the OSCE and the European Council of Religious leaders, the Office organized a roundtable meeting at which participants stressed the role of inter-religious dialogue in promoting freedom of religion or belief. They also highlighted the role inter-faith and inter-religious initiatives play in countering intolerance and discrimination.

Tolerance and non-discrimination were the focus of a high-level conference in Tirana in May, organized by the Ukrainian OSCE Chairmanship with the support of ODIHR, at which representatives from participating States and civil society reviewed and assessed progress in implementing OSCE commitments in this area.

Released in November, ODIHR's annual hate crimes report highlighted the continued need to improve the collection and recording of reliable data, such as on victim groups targeted and perpetrators, in order to support the efforts being made in many participating States to combat these crimes.

The Training against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme continued to help police in the OSCE area increase their knowledge and skills to recognize, understand and investigate hate crimes. Italy and Montenegro both signed agreements with ODIHR to implement the programme, bringing the number of participating States to have done so to six.

The Office also closely followed the security challenges faced by Jewish communities across the OSCE region, and co-organized with the Ukrainian OSCE Chairmanship an expert meeting in Berlin in June, which brought together 100 governmental and Jewish-community experts from 20 participating States to discuss challenges in ensuring the safety of Jewish communities and to exchange good practices.

As part of its established work in the areas of human rights and democratization, the Office also co-organized a Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting in Vienna in June on the Rule of Law in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. Participants identified best practices and explored current challenges and solutions with respect to effective national and international instruments to protect human rights and prevent their violation.

One such right – that of freedom of peaceful assembly – was the focus of ODIHR monitoring of assemblies in 2013 in three participating States: Greece, Montenegro and Portugal. This was part of the Office's second cycle of monitoring of such assemblies, which will continue into 2014. The results of ODIHR's monitoring will be presented in a report that will identify the main challenges and good practices



observed and will also provide recommendations to help countries meet their commitments in this area.

In August, following an invitation from the United States, an ODIHR delegation visited the Guantanamo Detention Facility at the United States Naval Base in Cuba and met with officials in Washington D.C., as well as with civil society representatives and defence counsel of some former and current detainees. The visit came as part of the Office's activities to assist participating States in meeting their commitments to respect human rights in the fight against terrorism.

Human Rights in Counter-Terrorism Investigations: A Practical Manual for Law Enforcement Officers, published in November, was another example of ODIHR's work in this vein. Produced jointly with the Strategic Police Matters Unit of the OSCE's Transnational Threats Department, the manual examines the potential impact on human rights in counter-terrorism activities, including information-gathering and intelligence; witness and crime-scene examination; the arrest, detention and questioning of terrorism suspects; and the integrity and accountability of investigations.

The year also saw a broad range of activities by ODIHR in the area of democratization.

In co-operation with Sweden's Folke Bernadotte Academy, the Office published the *Handbook on Monitoring Administrative Justice*, which was launched on the sidelines of the Annual OSCE Human Dimension Meeting, held at the end of September and beginning of October, in Warsaw. The handbook comprises both a compilation of fair trial standards and practical guidance on monitoring administrative proceeding for compliance with these standards.

As part of its activities to strengthen capacity for legal reform, over the year ODIHR reviewed 23 laws and draft laws from a number of participating States. The reviews, performed upon requests from the respective states, included legislation on judicial independence, prosecution reform, criminal procedures, freedom of association, gender equality, national human rights institutions and political party financing. Four of the reviews were prepared jointly with the Council of Europe's Venice Commission.

Continuing its activities to strengthen the work of representative parliaments, ODIHR published the *Background Study: Professional and Ethical Standards for Parliamentarians*, providing a comparative analysis of practical measures to promote ethical parliamentary behaviour.

The Office carried out 19 election-observation activities in 18 participating States in 2013, with the participation of more than 2,000 observers from 48

of those states and from two OSCE Partner for Co-operation countries. It produced 57 election-related reports, including final reports providing recommendations on how electoral processes can be improved in relation to OSCE commitments and other international standards for democratic elections.

ODIHR also carried out 12 visits to participating States to discuss the findings of election observation reports, to further explain the reasoning behind the findings and to offer expertise to assist in the implementation of recommendations made.

The Office's observation methodology continued to evolve in response to emerging trends in elections, with the publication of the *Handbook for the Observation of New Voting Technologies*, as the use of new information and communication technologies in elections has increased considerably in recent years. ODIHR also published the second edition of the *Guidelines for Reviewing a Legal Framework for Elections*, updating the first to take account of developments in international standards and practice.

On the request of the Ukrainian Chairperson-in-Office, ODIHR also issued the *Review of Electoral Legislation and Practice in OSCE participating States*, the first document of its kind to synthesize data contained in hundreds of reports produced by the Office in the course of its election observation activities.

As the heading suggests, the above is just a brief overview of ODIHR's activities in 2013, of which the following pages present a much more comprehensive account. I hope that this account will not just provide you with a complete picture of the Office's work, but also a stronger understanding of the nature and importance of OSCE commitments in the human dimension.

As was both recognized by participating States in the adoption of two new decisions at the Ministerial Council in Kyiv, and reinforced in the events that surrounded that meeting, the human dimension remains absolutely relevant to the OSCE's concept of regional security. ODIHR remains committed to its mandate and role in promoting that security, by supporting work by governments and civil society toward making it a reality.

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





A voter casts her ballot during the presidential election in Tajikistan on 6 November 2013. (OSCE/Thomas Rymer)

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# Elections

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*In the 1990 Copenhagen Document, the OSCE participating States declared “that the will of the people, freely and fairly expressed through periodic and genuine elections, is the basis of the authority and legitimacy of all government.” OSCE commitments also place elections in the broader context of genuine political pluralism; respect for fundamental rights and freedoms, such as the freedoms of assembly, association and expression; the rule of law and an independent judiciary; institutional checks and balances; an active civil society; and free media.*

*Election observation is recognized in the OSCE community as an important instrument in assisting participating States in conducting genuine and democratic elections. ODIHR has received a strong mandate from the OSCE participating States to observe elections, and this mandate has consistently been elaborated, detailed and broadened. ODIHR’s well-established and widely respected methodology for election observation has served as a solid basis for its activities. The Office continuously strives to further strengthen it by exploring new areas and developing handbooks on emerging electoral issues.*

*As mandated by the participating States, ODIHR carries out its activities impartially, objectively, professionally and transparently. It ensures as wide a geographical coverage as possible in its election activities and continues to diversify the composition of its observation and assessment teams. Having observed the 2013 presidential election in the OSCE’s newest participating State, Mongolia, ODIHR has now observed or assessed elections in 56 of the 57 participating States.*

*In its observation activities, ODIHR continues to encounter commendable practices and efforts by the participating States to uphold and further citizens’ election-related rights. However, alongside these positive trends, ODIHR also notes that a number of issues continue to pose challenges for some OSCE participating States that can negatively impact or infringe upon fundamental rights and freedoms. Observation activities have been key to determining and analysing these trends, with recommendations from observation efforts providing a solid basis for post-election engagement.*

*ODIHR’s observation efforts are supplemented by other activities to promote democratic elections and the implementation of OSCE commitments. The Office has been stepping up its efforts to engage with participating States in follow-up to its recommendations. Visits to present and discuss final election observation reports have become regular practice. ODIHR also continues to support legislative-review processes by providing opinions on election legislation or drafts and by contributing to expert discussions.*

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A man scans the voter list for his name outside a polling station in Elbasan during the Albanian presidential elections, 23 June 2013. (OSCE/Thomas Rymer)

## MAIN ISSUES

### Democratic Standards

As a community of states committed to the respect for human rights, democracy and the rule of law, the OSCE has emphasized democratic elections as a key pillar of long-term security and stability. All 57 participating States have committed to upholding several important principles of democratic elections: universality, equality, transparency, the secrecy of the vote, accountability, fairness and freedom. These principles are enshrined in the Copenhagen Document, which was agreed to by all participating States in 1990. In this and other OSCE documents, the participating States recognize that election observation is a useful and important undertaking that can promote transparency and accountability and enhance public confidence in the electoral process. Deploying observers supports democratic processes and can assist States in conducting genuinely democratic elections. Election observation, conducted independently and professionally on the basis of a comprehensive

long-term and needs-based methodology, continues to provide a solid basis for assessing the conformity of electoral processes with OSCE commitments and relevant international standards.

### Implementing Recommendations

As has been repeatedly underscored, election observation should not be regarded as an end in itself; improvements in election legislation and practice introduced by states on the basis of recommendations ensuing from election observation are the goals of these efforts. In the framework of its observation activities, ODIHR continues to observe a mixed picture regarding participating States' implementation of commitments for democratic elections.

Positive practices observed include:

- Improved legal frameworks that aspire to respect commitments in the letter of the law;
- Efforts of greater engagement and inclusive dialogue with political contestants and civil society in developing and introducing reform;





A woman marks her ballot during voting at the polling station in Erdenet for the 26 June 2013 presidential election in Mongolia. (OSCE/Agnieszka Rembowska)

- Greater awareness and attention to the issue of women's participation and representation; and
- Increasing awareness of the importance of regulating and ensuring oversight of campaign finance.

At the same time, several aspects continue to pose challenges in a number of the OSCE participating States. Some of the common shortcomings that require further attention include:

- Unequal application of legal regulations;
- Undue restrictions on suffrage rights;
- Inaccurate voter-registration systems, leading to non-universality or the inequality of voting rights, and possible malfeasance;
- Practices running contrary to the principle of separation between political parties and the State;
- Unequal access to the media and/or a lack of balanced media coverage of election contestants;
- Limitations on the rights of citizen and international observers;
- Lack of timely and effective legal remedy; and
- Dishonest counting and tabulation of votes.

In recognition of the importance of dialogue and engagement on the conclusions of election observation, OSCE participating States have decided by consensus to follow-up on ODIHR's election recommendations. Implementation of recommendations is, therefore, a commitment and responsibility of OSCE participating States. The political will to discuss and address recommendations remains a key and decisive factor in this process.

In this respect, ODIHR welcomes the proactive approach demonstrated in 2013 by a number of OSCE participating States in reviewing and implementing recommendations. It is encouraging that a number of states have held governmental or parliamentary discussions on the recommendations provided by ODIHR, or even established working groups tasked with the elaboration of amendments to legislation on the basis of ODIHR recommendations.

The practice of voluntary reporting by OSCE participating States before the OSCE Human Dimension Committee and at the Permanent Council is also a very useful mechanism that promotes further implementation of ODIHR recommendations and



Campaign posters ahead of Monaco's parliamentary elections on 10 February 2013. (OSCE/Tamara Otiashvili)

contributes to the transparency of the process. This helps build synergies and develop inter-institutional collaboration and common approaches to promoting implementation of recommendations. In 2013 two participating States — Norway and the United States — took the opportunity to report to the Human Dimension Committee.

In recognition of the role of other actors, both domestic and international, in promoting implementation of ODIHR's recommendations, ODIHR has also piloted the co-ordination of follow-up activities with international organizations that are signatories of the Declaration of Principles on International Election Observation. The Declaration was endorsed at the United Nations in 2005, and now counts more than 45 international organizations as endorsers. Such co-ordination took place ahead of visits to Georgia and Ukraine in 2013 and allowed for the development of a more cross-organizational approach on the electoral reforms being undertaken in the given countries.

### Review of Electoral Legislation and Practice in OSCE participating States

With a view to strengthening implementation of OSCE commitments, ODIHR published the *Review of Electoral Legislation and Practice in OSCE participating States*. Initiated by the 2013 Ukrainian OSCE Chairmanship, the review represented a synthesis of ODIHR election-related reports published from 2010 to 2012, examining states' legislation and practice in light of OSCE commitments and other international standards for democratic elections and good electoral practice.

From the review, certain positive elements with regard to compliance with OSCE commitments and other international standards were noted. However, shortcomings were noted in a wide range of participating States, particularly in respect of inclusive candidate rights and registration, the ability to campaign on the basis of equal treatment, effective complaints and appeals mechanisms, and credible procedures for voting, counting and tabulation. The review was presented to the OSCE participating



A polling-commission member stamps ballots at a polling station in Sofia during parliamentary elections in Bulgaria, 12 May 2013. (OSCE/Thomas Rymer)

States at an event in Vienna on 31 October and 1 November.

## ACTIVITIES

In addition to election observation, which is the most visible and widely known part of ODIHR's election mandate, ODIHR regularly conducts a number of other election-related activities. These activities are broadly aimed at assisting the participating States' efforts to improve election legislation and practice, and are mostly funded through voluntary extra-budgetary contributions. As in previous years, 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 election legislation;
- Development of election observation methodology;
- Training of observers; and
- Support for OSCE Partners for Co-operation.

## Election Observation

In 2013, ODIHR continued to deliver its mandate in line with a well-developed and globally recognized election observation methodology, which is based on a long-term and needs-based approach. Electoral processes are assessed for compliance with OSCE commitments and other international standards for democratic elections, good practice, as well as national legislation.

Observation activities are typically preceded with the deployment of needs assessment missions (NAMs), which are conducted to assess the pre-electoral environment and the preparations for the elections, and to determine whether an observation activity is needed and would bring added value. In 2013, ODIHR conducted 14 NAM visits throughout the OSCE area. If, based on the feedback received, the presence of international observers is deemed necessary, a NAM also recommends the nature and the scope of an ODIHR activity that would best respond to the identified needs. NAM visits are conducted several months before an election and involve

## ELECTION OBSERVATION ACTIVITIES IN 2013

| Country                                 | Election type                 | Election date      | Mission type |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 1 Czech Republic                        | Presidential election         | 11 & 12 January    | EAM          |
| 2 Monaco                                | Parliamentary elections       | 10 February        | EET          |
| 3 Armenia                               | Presidential election         | 18 February        | EOM          |
| 4 Malta                                 | Parliamentary elections       | 9 March            | EAM          |
| 5 Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | Local elections               | 24 March & 7 April | EOM          |
| 6 Montenegro                            | Presidential election         | 7 April            | LEOM         |
| 7 Georgia                               | Parliamentary by-elections    | 27 April           | EET          |
| 8 Iceland                               | Parliamentary elections       | 27 April           | EAM          |
| 9 Bulgaria                              | Early parliamentary elections | 12 May             | EOM          |
| 10 Albania                              | Parliamentary elections       | 23 June            | EOM          |
| 11 Mongolia                             | Presidential election         | 26 June            | EOM          |
| 12 Norway                               | Parliamentary elections       | 9 September        | EAM          |
| 13 Germany                              | Parliamentary elections       | 22 September       | EET          |
| 14 Austria                              | Parliamentary elections       | 29 September       | EET          |
| 15 Azerbaijan                           | Presidential election         | 9 October          | EOM          |
| 16 Georgia                              | Presidential election         | 27 October         | EOM          |
| 17 Tajikistan                           | Presidential                  | 6 November         | EOM          |
| 18 Turkmenistan                         | Parliamentary elections       | 15 December        | EAM          |
| 19 Ukraine                              | Parliamentary by-elections    | 15 December        | EET          |

preliminary assessment of the electoral framework and practice in a number of areas. NAMs consider the degree of compliance of the election legislation with OSCE commitments and follow-up to previous ODIHR reports and recommendations. They also analyse the degree of public confidence in the election administration and the conduct of elections, and assess the legal framework for guarantees of fundamental rights and freedoms. Consideration is also given to the media environment and the systems for the adjudication of complaints and appeals. Finally, NAMs look into the level of civil society engagement and its planned activities for the elections.

ODIHR conducted 19 election-related activities in 2013. The purpose of these activities was two-fold: to assess whether OSCE commitments, other international standards and national legislation were complied with and to offer recommendations for

improvements. Election observation is not aimed at criticizing or commending participating States, but is conducted in order to offer a balanced, objective and comprehensive picture of the processes observed. In a continued effort to fulfil its mandate in an impartial, professional and accountable manner, ODIHR published 57 reports, including NAM reports, interim reports, statements of preliminary findings and conclusions, and final reports. Maintaining efforts to ensure linguistic inclusiveness in its work, all election-related reports, with the exception of NAM reports, were posted on the ODIHR website together with translations into local languages.

Full-scale observation activities with the deployment of election observation missions (EOMs) were conducted in eight OSCE participating States. In addition to a core team of experts in various electoral fields, EOMs include long- and short-term observers





A voter casts her ballot at a polling station in Baku during the presidential election in Azerbaijan, 9 October 2013. (OSCE/Thomas Rymer)

and provide a comprehensive assessment of the entire electoral process, including on the voting, counting and tabulation of results on election day. A limited election observation Mission (LEOM) was deployed to one participating State. LEOMs follow electoral processes comprehensively, with a team of experts based in the capital and long-term observers deployed across the country, but do not include short-term election observers and, thus, do not conduct systematic observation of election-day proceedings.

Five elections held in 2013 were followed by election assessment missions (EAMs), which are teams of experts that provide targeted assessments of issues identified by NAMs. Such missions are generally deployed in situations where the overall confidence in the integrity of elections and the way they are administered means that long- and short-term observers are deemed unnecessary. They can also be deployed to participating States where, despite a lack of trust or issues with the overall electoral framework, an EAM is considered to bring the most added value to the electoral process by looking into concrete areas or practices that would benefit

from review in light of international standards and good practice.

Aspects of another five electoral processes were followed by election expert teams (EETs). Small teams of experts deployed for short periods of time provided assessments of defined sets of issues, such as implementation of newly adopted amendments, campaign finance, the media framework, and complaints and appeals mechanisms.

In total, over 2,000 people from 48 participating States and two Partner for Co-operation countries took part in ODIHR election-related activities in 2013. This included observers deployed under the Fund for the Diversification of Election Observation Missions, which is aimed at supporting the participation of observers from participating States that do not regularly second observers. The continuous generous support of this project by OSCE participating States through voluntary extra-budgetary contributions is critical to ODIHR's ability to ensure geographic diversity on its election observation missions. Currently, the 18 states eligible for the fund are: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. In 2013, the fund enabled the deployment of 27 long-term and 72 short-term observers.

In continued implementation of an OSCE Ministerial Council Decision to improve ODIHR's work with various bodies active in election observation, the Office maintained close co-operation with parliamentary partners. For a number of elections, ODIHR joined efforts for the observation of election-day proceedings with delegations from the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (according to the 1997 Co-operation Agreement), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the European Parliament and the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. In response to requests, ODIHR provided briefings and input to election-related discussions and events organized by the respective institutions.

In addition, ODIHR demonstrated its high interest in collaboration with international partners within the framework of the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation. From 17 to 19 September, ODIHR hosted the 8th Implementation Declaration of Principles Meeting. The meeting opened with a high-level panel on the role of international election observation and recommendations in policy-making. Working sessions focused on the role of election observation in early warning and conflict resolution, and follow-up to recommendations. Discussions in sub-working groups were dedicated to the observation of the use of new voting technologies, campaign finance, the monitoring of gender issues in elections, and the interaction of international observers with citizen observer groups and academia. The meeting brought together more than 60 representatives of the Declaration of Principles signatory organizations.

### Key Findings of Election-Related Activities

Typically, an observed election is characterized both by positive features that promote fundamental rights and freedoms, and practices that challenge principles enshrined in international standards for democratic elections. In its reporting, ODIHR systematically identifies both positive practices and issues of concern. Shortcomings encountered in 2013 included:

**Undue restrictions of suffrage rights:** Concerns were expressed with regulation and practice

negatively affecting passive and active voting rights, the disenfranchisement of certain groups, and disproportionate restrictions with respect to residency, citizenship and language, as well as on persons convicted for a crime irrespective of the severity.

**Insufficient independence of the election administration:** The impartiality and independence of the election administration was a matter of concern in some states. In some cases, undue influence from the state or a lack of separation of the election administration from state institutions posed problems.

**Lack of level playing field:** Failure to provide for a level playing field among electoral contestants and the abuse of state resources in favour of incumbents were of concern in some states, particularly when such abuse amounted to intimidation of voters. Instances of vote buying and violent incidents during campaigns were also observed.

**Restrictive media environment:** An overly restrictive legal framework impacting on editorial freedom was observed in some states. Other problems noted related to non-compliance with equal treatment and access requirements, which were partly caused by shortcomings in the law and partly by deficient implementation. The lack of independent media-oversight bodies, weak mandates and poorly functioning institutions were raised as matter of concern in some states.

**Insufficient oversight of campaign finance:** The most common problems in law and practice related to a lack of reporting and disclosure, insufficiently mandated oversight bodies, and a lack of timely deadlines for monitoring and reporting on campaign finance.

**Lack of timely and effective legal redress:** Electoral dispute resolution mechanisms frequently complied only partially with OSCE commitments and other international standards. Weaknesses in legislation included the lack of possibility for affected stakeholders to file complaints related to all aspects of the electoral process, limited means of appeal, and overlapping jurisdictions among different institutions for electoral-dispute resolution.

**Shortcomings in counting and tabulation processes:** In some electoral processes, while voting procedures were respected, there was a tendency for the process to deteriorate during the counting and tabulation of votes, particularly with regard to



Ballots are sorted at a polling station in Erdenet for the 26 June 2013 presidential election in Mongolia. (OSCE/ Agnieszka Rembowska)

transparency. Indications of ballot-box stuffing and tampering with results protocols were observed.

### Follow-up to Observation Missions and their Recommendations

While participating States have repeatedly underscored the importance and value of election observation, with comprehensive reports and recommendations being its main output, states have also committed themselves to follow up promptly on ODIHR's assessments and recommendations, to maximize the utility of election observation.

Over the past several years, ODIHR has been intensifying its efforts to work with participating States to implement the recommendations contained in election mission final reports. Visits to present these reports and to discuss the opportunities for further collaboration in the period between elections has evolved into a regular practice. In 2013, 12 such visits took place, to Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Lithuania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Ukraine and the United States.

These visits allowed for discussion of the findings, further explanation of the reasoning behind the recommendations as rooted in international documents, and the offering of advice and possible solutions to address the recommendations. Such visits also frequently serve as the starting point for further engagement with participating States on specific issues or areas. For example, subsequent to the presentation of the final report on the 2012 parliamentary elections in Ukraine, ODIHR was invited to join a comprehensive election legislation review process and provided input to a number of working group sessions in 2013.

ODIHR's other follow-up activities include regular participation in roundtable meetings and seminars, and supporting states in various activities aimed at implementing recommendations.

### Reform of Election Legislation

ODIHR assisted a number of participating States by providing comments on and assessments of draft electoral legislation, election laws and amendments.

Following established practice, such comments and assessments were provided in legal opinions prepared jointly with the Council of Europe's Venice Commission. In 2013, ODIHR conducted four legal reviews for three OSCE participating States — one each for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Moldova, and two for Ukraine.

ODIHR also provided input to discussions on electoral legislation at roundtable meetings, working groups and meetings with authorities in several participating States, including in Belarus, Finland and Ukraine. Other specific aspects of the electoral process, such as new voting technologies, campaign finance, election-dispute resolution and alternative voting methods for disabled and elderly voters were discussed during visits to Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Norway, Poland and Serbia.

### Development of Election Observation Methodology

ODIHR fulfils the election-related part of its mandate on the basis of a long-established, comprehensive methodology that is designed to capture all aspects of an electoral process. In the light of evolving practice in the electoral field, ODIHR also follows and takes account of new developments in the conduct of observation activities. ODIHR's election observation methodology, therefore, continues to evolve in response to emerging needs. A number of handbooks have been developed in previous years as part of efforts to ensure that the methodology remains current and to offer election experts guidance on how various new and evolving areas should be assessed. ODIHR published two new handbooks in 2013 on specific elements of its election observation methodology.



A polling station official examines a voter's hand for invisible ink in Podgorica during the presidential election in Montenegro, 7 April 2013. The ink is applied to the index fingers of voters as a measure to ensure against multiple voting. (OSCE/Thomas Rymer)

The use of new information and communication technologies in elections has increased considerably in recent years. Several OSCE participating States have implemented or tested new voting technologies during their elections. In an effort to “further strengthen the observation methodology”<sup>1</sup> ODIHR published the *Handbook for the Observation of New Voting Technologies*.

The Office also published the second edition of the *Guidelines for Reviewing a Legal Framework for Elections*. The guidelines are aimed at both reviewers of electoral legislation and national authorities involved in drafting or amending election-related documents. The publication updates the first edition, published in 2001, and takes account of various developments in international standards and practice.

### Training of Observers

While the responsibility for ensuring adequate training of election observers seconded to ODIHR election

<sup>1</sup> Ministerial Council Decision 19/O6.





More than 800 people have completed ODIHR's e-learning course for short-term election observers. (OSCE/Agnieszka Rembowska)



ODIHR has translated a number of publications into Arabic to serve as a basis for the exchange of good practices and transfer of knowledge from the OSCE region to the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation. (OSCE/Bartłomiej Muracki)

observation missions rests primarily with the OSCE participating States, the Office continues to assist states in preparing future observers for observation assignments. Made possible by generous extra-budgetary contributions, the training is provided regularly by ODIHR to potential observers.

In 2013, ODIHR conducted two training courses in Belgrade for short-term observers and one in Bishkek for long-term observers. These courses were aimed at broadening the pool of observers from participating States that do not regularly second election observers and are eligible for the Fund for Diversification. Over the year, a total of 30 potential long-term and 67 short-term observers benefited from the training.

ODIHR also continued to support national efforts to train election observers, contributing to courses and training organized by the German Centre for International Peace Operations, the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, the Russian Diplomatic Academy, the Austrian Study Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Electoral Reform International Services and the Swedish International Development Agency.

To make training on election observation methodology more widely accessible, ODIHR continued to offer an e-learning course for short-term observers (launched in 2012) in English and Russian. More than 1,700 participants have actively benefited from the course, with more than 800 having completed it by the end of 2013. These include potential election observers, election management professionals, civil society representatives and academics from 117 countries, including from 49 OSCE participating States and 10 OSCE Partners for Co-operation.

### Support for OSCE Partners for Co-operation

ODIHR continues to provide election-related support to OSCE Partner for Co-operation countries. In October, the OSCE Permanent Council tasked ODIHR with sending an election support team to the 5 April 2014 presidential and provincial council elections in Afghanistan. As part of its preparations, ODIHR made a security assessment visit to Afghanistan in November 2013, jointly with the OSCE Secretariat.

The Office also continued its engagement with Tunisia. In May, ODIHR provided expertise to a workshop organized by Democracy Reporting International on election observation reporting. The event gathered some 20 senior representatives from citizen observer groups to share information on ODIHR's approach in drafting election observation reports and recommendations on the basis of international standards. In October, ODIHR experts presented international standards and good practice in campaign finance to representatives of the Tunisian Court of Auditors during their study visit to Warsaw. Tunisian officials and civil society representatives also took part in ODIHR's regular training courses for short- and long-term observers.



Participants discuss the development and implementation of gender-sensitive labour migration policies during a training session organized by ODIHR and the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Affairs, Warsaw, 8 July 2013. (OSCE/Shiv Sharma)

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# Democratization

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*ODIHR supports participating States in making their democratic institutions and processes more representative, transparent and accountable, in line with democratic standards and OSCE commitments. Accordingly, the Office's democratization activities are aimed at supporting democratic governance and lawmaking, as well as legal reform, facilitating the emergence of multiparty landscapes, strengthening the rule of law and parliamentary institutions, ensuring freedom of movement and migrant integration, and promoting gender equality and women's participation in political and public life.*

*Through its democratization work, ODIHR provides policy advice and capacity-building assistance to executive, legislative and judicial institutions, and supports the full participation of civil society in all public and decision-making processes. Recommendations emerging from ODIHR's election observation activities provide the basis for much of the Office's work in this area. In addition, ODIHR has published numerous guidelines and tools that provide an overview of good practices that can be applied across the entire range of democratization-related issues in the OSCE region.*

*ODIHR provides technical expertise in the sphere of democratization to various actors, either directly or with the support of OSCE field operations. The Office works in close partnership with state institutions and civil society organizations, recognizing the important role played by civil society in helping to ensure full respect for fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law. As true democracy requires the active participation of all members of society, ODIHR promotes the equal participation of women and men, migrants, youth and other groups in all democratic governance processes.*

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A participant practices her skills in trial advocacy during a mock war crimes trial organized as part of a training session to build the capacity of legal practitioners in Bosnia and Herzegovina working on war crimes justice, Sarajevo, 31 May 2013. (OSCE/Zoran Kanlić)

## MAIN ISSUES

### Rule of Law and Legal Reform

Justice systems in all OSCE participating States can benefit from assistance in meeting relevant international standards and OSCE commitments. ODIHR's rule of law activities include strengthening independent judiciaries, monitoring trials — including in administrative justice — and promoting access to justice, particularly the provision of effective and free legal assistance, as well as the effective functioning of criminal justice systems.

As part of its efforts to assist states in ensuring that their legislation is in line with international human rights standards and OSCE commitments, ODIHR, on request, reviews draft and existing legislation and makes recommendations on how to enhance compliance with OSCE commitments and key international human rights treaties and documents.

ODIHR also makes democratic lawmaking assessments in participating States with a view to ensuring

that their lawmaking processes meet OSCE commitments on transparency and inclusiveness.

### Democratic Governance

All OSCE participating States have committed themselves to ensuring inclusive, pluralistic and accountable democratic institutions that support the broad participation of all citizens, including women, minorities and youth. To help participating States meet these commitments, in 2013 ODIHR continued its innovative democratic governance programmes to strengthen parliaments, with a specific focus on assisting states in developing parliamentary codes of conduct, providing expertise on political party regulation, and supporting the development of multiparty political landscapes.

## Gender Equality and Women's Participation in Politics

Ensuring equal opportunities for women and men to participate in political and public processes is a cornerstone of any democratic society. OSCE participating States have committed themselves to promoting women's political participation as a means of achieving gender balance in political and public life, including at decision-making levels. In the OSCE region in 2013, women's representation in national parliaments — a key indicator for measuring advances in gender equality in political life — increased to 24.3 per cent.<sup>1</sup> Despite this increase, however, women continue to face legal and practical obstacles to participating in politics on an equal basis with men. Accordingly, ODIHR focused on three key areas to promote women's political participation: facilitating women's advancement within political parties; supporting women's participation in political and electoral processes; and enhancing gender equality as well as women's meaningful representation in parliaments.

## Migration and Freedom of Movement

The OSCE region hosts more than half of the world's migrant population, with OSCE participating States facing challenges of changing volumes of migratory flows, increasing demands on their labour forces and high unemployment rates. These are compounded by the varying requirements of different national legislation and policies in relation to migration. OSCE participating States need to develop and maintain their capacity to formulate national migration policies with a view to protecting migrant rights in line with OSCE commitments and international legal standards.

In addition, many OSCE participating States have waived visa requirements, leading to a higher volume of travel and foreign visits to their countries. Innovative approaches in handling an increased number of visitors at external borders and the facilitation of access to visas for citizens of OSCE participating States are required.

Increased internal migration creates challenges for OSCE participating States in providing access to state services and the ability to exercise civil rights for all citizens. In those OSCE participating States that use residency as a criteria for service delivery, residency

registration is used as a tool in planning and delivering such services. Citizens' enrolment in a residency registration system determines their ability to exercise their right to freedom of movement as well as many other civil and fundamental rights.

ODIHR provides support to OSCE participating States in promoting human contacts and protecting the right to freedom of movement by reforming population-registration systems as well as facilitating the exchange of good practices in the area of migration, with a focus on capacity building and the development of gender-sensitive labour migration and migrant integration policies 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 gender; and
- Migration and freedom of movement.

## RULE OF LAW AND LEGAL REFORM

ODIHR offers expert advice and legislative assistance to OSCE participating States in reforming their institutional and legislative frameworks to meet relevant international human rights standards and OSCE commitments. ODIHR also supports states' legislative reform efforts to draft and adopt legislation in line with key OSCE commitments on transparency and inclusiveness in the lawmaking process and facilitates the exchange of good practices.

ODIHR carries out this work through providing expert opinions on key legislation pertaining to the rule of law and other human dimension areas, conducting expert meetings, monitoring projects and assessments, and developing policy guidelines and recommendations. ODIHR also strives to ensure that reform debates in participating States are inclusive and participatory and, therefore, works in co-operation with government agencies, parliaments, judiciaries, political parties, legal communities, international organizations, academia and civil society.

## Independence of the Judiciary

Strengthening judicial independence continues to be a focus of ODIHR's rule of law assistance to participating States. Along with OSCE commitments

<sup>1</sup> ODIHR assessment based on information compiled by the Inter-Parliamentary Union <http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/world.htm> as of November 2013.



Kayum Yusupov, a defence attorney from Tajikistan, peruses materials distributed at the ODIHR Regional Expert Roundtable on Legal Aid in Criminal Proceedings in Central Asia, which aimed to support the development of efficient criminal legal aid mechanisms in the region, Bishkek, 15 May 2013. (OSCE/Vladislav Ushakov)

and international standards on the independence of judges, the *Kyiv Recommendations on Judicial Independence* form the basis for country-specific discussions with decision-makers, scholars and legal communities in the OSCE area. Building on conclusions from such discussions, ODIHR offers specialized technical assistance to participating States in relation to the independence and accountability of judges.

On 11 and 12 April in Yerevan, ODIHR co-organized a roundtable meeting on the implementation of Armenia's 2012-2016 strategic programme for legal and judicial reform with the OSCE Office in Yerevan and the Council of Europe. The event provided a platform for dialogue on planned judicial reforms and for the exchange of good practices related to the independence, accountability and professionalism of judges. Some 50 participants attended, including Armenia's Justice Minister, representatives from governmental and judicial authorities, civil society representatives and other stakeholders in judicial reform. The conclusions of the event contributed to the continuing reform debate, which ultimately led to the adoption of

a new law to strengthen judicial self-governance and the independence of individual judges.

ODIHR also presented the *Kyiv Recommendations* at a meeting of the EU Eastern Partnership Panel on Improved Functioning of the Judiciary on 17 June in Chisinau, highlighting their relevance for judicial reform in various participating States. The meeting was organized by the European Commission and brought together representatives from the governments and judiciaries of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, and EU and Council of Europe officials working to support judicial reform.

ODIHR supported a conference on the Ukrainian Justice System in the Context of European Standards, organized by the Centre for Political and Legal Reforms, a Ukrainian think tank, on 12 September in Kyiv. The conference brought together some 80 stakeholders in judicial reform in Ukraine to discuss initiatives to amend the constitution to strengthen judicial independence. ODIHR used this occasion to follow up on the conclusions of the conference on



Maripa Seydalieva from the Ministry of Justice of Kyrgyzstan (l) and Muhtar Bakhturdiyev, a defence attorney (r), listen as Gulniza Kozhomova of the Bar Association of Kyrgyzstan (c) speaks at an ODIHR-organized regional roundtable on effective models of legal aid provision in criminal proceedings, Bishkek, 15 May 2013. (OSCE/Vladislav Ushakov)

judicial reforms it had organized in December 2011 in Kyiv.

In December 2013, ODIHR prepared a legal opinion on draft amendments to Kazakhstan's Law on the Judicial System and Status of Judges, thereby continuing its legislative support for the country's judicial reform efforts.

### Trial Monitoring

ODIHR and OSCE field operations conduct trial monitoring in OSCE participating States to assess the functioning of judiciaries and their compliance with OSCE commitments in the area of rule of law and due process. OSCE trial-monitoring findings have contributed to judicial reform processes ongoing in many participating States.

In 2013, ODIHR promoted its trial-monitoring tools, *Trial Monitoring: A Reference Manual for Practitioners* and the *Legal Digest of International Fair Trial Rights*, through two training events on 19 and 20 February and on 25 and 26 November in Vilnius. Civil society

representatives from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Russia and Ukraine participated. ODIHR made efforts to ensure a fair gender balance among both beneficiaries and trainers, and the impact of trial monitoring on gender-based violence was included in the training curriculum.

At the request of the Georgian authorities, ODIHR began monitoring the trials of a number of high-ranking individuals from the former Georgian government charged under the Law of Georgia on Conflict of Interest and Corruption in the Public Service. The monitoring, which started on 20 February, follows ODIHR's established trial-monitoring methodology.

ODIHR's Annual Trial Monitoring Meeting on 7 and 8 October in Warsaw brought together 40 participants, including from OSCE field operations and national and international NGOs working on trial monitoring. Participants exchanged experience and discussed challenges related to different trial-monitoring methodologies based on their organizations' mandate and objectives. As a result and with a view to organizing a civil society platform in 2014, ODIHR





Armenia's Deputy Justice Minister Ruben Melikyan addresses participants of an OSCE/ODIHR-organized workshop on strengthening the rights of defendants in criminal cases, Yerevan, 19 March 2013. (Vahram Baghdasaryan)

supported the publication of *Court Monitoring Methodology*, a booklet describing the trial-monitoring methodology used by the Court Watch Foundation in Poland.

### Criminal Justice Reform

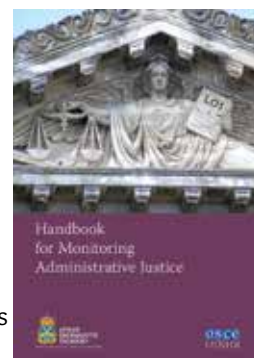
ODIHR continued to help participating States share expertise and good practices in improving criminal justice systems. The ODIHR Regional Expert Roundtable on Legal Aid in Criminal Proceedings in Central Asia, organized in co-operation with OSCE field operations, took place on 15 and 16 May in Bishkek. Policy-makers and lawmakers, legal practitioners, NGO representatives and academics from the region discussed existing legal aid systems and good practices in establishing efficient ones. ODIHR also organized a follow-up workshop on the recommendations of its 2008 trial-monitoring project in Armenia on 19 March in Yerevan. During the workshop experts discussed evidentiary rules and defence rights in light of the ongoing reform of the Armenian Code of Criminal Procedure.

Throughout the year, ODIHR also supported criminal justice reform in Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and Serbia by reviewing and commenting on legislation related to criminal procedure and prosecution.

### Administrative Justice

The OSCE applies a comprehensive approach to trial monitoring, covering criminal as well as civil and administrative proceedings. Administrative justice, in particular, is an increasingly important area of ODIHR's activities.

ODIHR finalized and launched the *Handbook on Monitoring Administrative Justice*, in co-operation with Sweden's Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA), on the margins of the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw. Valuable input was provided by experts from OSCE field operations,





Alice Thomas, Chief of ODIHR's Legislative Support Unit, addresses a workshop for preparing a roadmap to streamline and improve the lawmaking process in Serbia, Belgrade, 28 November 2013. (OSCE/Milan Obradovic)

the Council of Europe, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Swedish Foreign Ministry and academia. The handbook, which combines a compilation of fair-trial standards with practical guidance on monitoring administrative proceedings for compliance with these standards, serves as a reference tool to support monitoring activities and awareness-raising initiatives on fair-trial standards in administrative proceedings. As a direct follow-up to the launching of the handbook, FBA and ODIHR supported the OSCE Mission in Kosovo in the development of a pilot project on monitoring administrative justice. The project will be the first to utilize the *Handbook for Monitoring Administrative Justice*.

### Supporting the Adjudication of War Crimes

Under the War Crimes Justice Project – Phase II (WCJP – Phase II), ODIHR strengthened the capacities of justice systems through 10 training sessions and peer-to-peer meetings in seven locations throughout South-Eastern Europe, benefiting 212

practitioners (81 women and 131 men) working on war-crimes trials as judges, prosecutors, defence counsel and witness-support providers. The events focused on the exchange of good practice on modes of criminal liability for violations of international humanitarian and criminal law and trial advocacy skills specific to war crimes trials. WCJP – Phase II is a follow-up to Phase I, which was funded by the EU and implemented by ODIHR.

### Election Dispute Resolution

In follow-up to the recommendations of its election observation missions, ODIHR assists participating States in providing access to justice and effective legal remedies for election-related disputes, in accordance with OSCE commitments.

In Serbia, ODIHR brought together national stakeholders and international experts in election dispute resolution on 6 November in Belgrade, continuing a series of roundtable consultations to follow up on the recommendations of ODIHR election observation mission reports related to election dispute resolution.



Participants at a workshop on improving the lawmaking process in Serbia, Belgrade, 28 November 2013. (OSCE/Milan Obradovic)

The Belgrade meeting was jointly organized with the OSCE Mission to Serbia and the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI). The event gathered representatives of the Republic Electoral Commission, the Provincial Electoral Commission of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, Constitutional and Administrative Courts, members of the National Assembly and the Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, as well as representatives of political parties, civil society and academia. Following the meeting, ODIHR published a comprehensive report containing the key conclusions and recommendations to provide input to future reform efforts.

### Strengthening Capacity for Legislative Reform

Legislation can only be effective if it is drafted in a clear and concise manner; in addition, it should reflect the main parameters of international human rights instruments, including OSCE commitments. ODIHR supports both policymakers and drafters of legislation through its legislative assistance.

In particular, ODIHR supports legal reform in OSCE participating States by reviewing, upon request, individual pieces of draft and existing legislation to ensure clarity and coherence in laws, as well as compliance with OSCE commitments, international human rights standards and established good practice.

In 2013, ODIHR reviewed 23 laws and draft laws from a number of OSCE participating States and on various human rights topics. Issues addressed included judicial independence in Kazakhstan, prosecution reform and freedom of association in Kyrgyzstan, gender equality in Mongolia and Ukraine, combating discrimination in Georgia and Montenegro, domestic violence in Georgia and Ukraine, national human rights institutions in Montenegro, criminal procedure reform in Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and Serbia, and the use of totalitarian symbols by political parties and political party financing in Moldova. The review of Mongolia's Law on Gender Equality was ODIHR's first legal review in the OSCE's newest participating State.

For Tunisia, an OSCE Partner for Co-operation, ODIHR reviewed two draft laws on freedom of



peaceful assembly and combating terrorism, respectively, as well as the law relating to the Higher Committee for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

In its legislative assistance work, ODIHR continued to collaborate closely with other OSCE institutions and international organizations, including the European Commission for Democracy through Law of the Council of Europe (Venice Commission). Four of the above opinions on legislation — pertaining to freedom of association, freedom of expression, political parties and national human rights institutions — were prepared jointly with the Venice Commission.

On several occasions, the legislative-review process was followed by consultations organized with state authorities and civil society in the respective OSCE participating States or Mediterranean Partner for Co-operation, to present and discuss the recommendations made in the legal reviews. Consultations were held from 28 to 30 October in Kyiv, on 19 November in Bishkek and on 16 December in Tunis.

Moldova's Justice Ministry revised draft laws on the normative acts and on the disciplinary responsibility of judges to reflect key recommendations made by ODIHR in earlier legal opinions. In June, Moldova's Constitutional Court struck down a law prohibiting the use of "totalitarian symbols" by political parties, in keeping with an *amicus curiae* brief that had been prepared jointly by ODIHR and the Venice Commission at the court's request. In Georgia, following an ODIHR opinion on the draft Law on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination, the Justice Minister informed ODIHR that the vast majority of the opinion's recommendations had been reflected in the final version of the draft law submitted to the Parliament. In similar fashion, throughout 2013, the authorities of Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Serbia and other OSCE countries welcomed ODIHR's legislative assistance to ongoing legislative drafting processes.

### Improving Legislative Efficiency and Transparency

Democratic lawmaking requires that laws are prepared and adopted as the result of an open and transparent process, as stated in relevant OSCE commitments. For nearly a decade, ODIHR has, upon request, assessed the lawmaking systems of participating States to help them make legislative processes more inclusive, participatory, transparent and, thus, efficient. Assessment reports with recommendations for improvement are often followed by workshops on specific topics related to democratic lawmaking.

ODIHR's 2012 assessment of Serbia's Law Drafting and Legislative Process and four follow-up workshops in 2012 and 2013 resulted in the finalization of a regulatory reform roadmap in November in Belgrade, to be officially launched in February 2014. The 2013 workshops focused on monitoring and evaluation of legislation, and the consolidation and harmonization of legislation, and were held in Belgrade in April and June, respectively.

A preliminary assessment of the legislative procedure of Armenia, focusing on the legislative framework, was launched on 18 November in Yerevan. As a consequence, the Armenian Justice Ministry has asked to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the lawmaking process, including thematic consultations, in 2014 and 2015.

ODIHR organized a workshop with the Parliament of Georgia on public consultation and oversight over legislation as essential aspects of democratic lawmaking on 16 July in Tbilisi.

### Guidelines for Legislators

To assist participating States' legislators and other relevant stakeholders in their legal reform efforts, ODIHR has prepared legislative guidelines, which outline how to regulate specific and often complex human dimension issues. These guidelines offer advice and expertise based on universal and regional human rights instruments and OSCE commitments, as well as established state practice and general principles of law. Each set of guidelines is drafted by way of an extensive consultative process involving expert discussions and thematic roundtable discussions with key stakeholders from a wide array of OSCE participating States.

In this connection, ODIHR continued its co-operation with its Panel of Experts on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly, Core Group of Experts on Political Parties,





Members of the ODIHR Panel on Freedom of Assembly meet in Warsaw. Left to right: David Golderberger, Yevgeniy Zhovtis, Vardan Poghosyan, Muatar Khaidarova. (OSCE/Agnieszka Rembowska)

and Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief.

ODIHR, jointly with the Council of Europe’s Venice Commission and with the assistance of the expert groups, continued work on revising the *Guidelines for the Review of Legislation Pertaining to Religion or Belief* (2004), the *Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly* (2010, 2nd edition), and the *Guidelines on Political Party Regulation* (2010). In March, the Venice Commission also officially invited ODIHR to join the process of drafting *Joint Guidelines on Freedom of Association* to be finalized in 2014.

ODIHR organized annual meetings in Warsaw for the Panel of Experts on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and the Core Group of Experts on Political Parties to discuss relevant legislative developments in the OSCE region and incorporate their feedback in the processes of revising the relevant ODIHR-Venice Commission guidelines.

### Access to Law



To enhance access of legislators and other stakeholders in OSCE participating States to legislation on human dimension issues in the OSCE region, in 2002 ODIHR created the online legislative database **www.legislationline.org**. The database is one of the biggest on-line, free-of-charge platforms providing direct access to human rights legislation in the OSCE region. It contains more than 9,000 documents, in particular, national and international

## LEGAL REVIEWS IN 2013

| Participating State            | Title of Document   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| ARMENIA                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opinion on the Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia</li> </ul>   |
| GEORGIA                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opinion on the Draft Law on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination of Georgia</li> <li>Opinion on the Draft Amendments to the Legal Framework on Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence in Georgia</li> </ul>  |
| KAZAKHSTAN                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comments on the Draft Law on Amendments and Addenda to the Law on the Judicial System and Status of Judges of Kazakhstan</li> </ul>  |
| KYRGYZSTAN                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opinion on the Draft Law of the Kyrgyz Republic on Forensic Examination</li> <li>Opinion on Key Legal Acts regulating the Prosecution Service of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> <li>Joint OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Draft Law Amending the Laws on Non-Commercial Organizations and Other Legislative Acts of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> </ul>   |
| MOLDOVA                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission Amicus Curiae Brief for the Constitutional Court of Moldova on the Compatibility with European Standards of Law No 192 of 12 July 2012 on the Prohibition of the Use of Symbols of the Totalitarian Communist Regime and of the Promotion of Totalitarian Ideologies of the Republic of Moldova</li> <li>Joint OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on Draft Legislation of the Republic of Moldova Pertaining to Financing Political Parties and Election Campaigns</li> </ul> |
| MONGOLIA                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opinion on the Law of Mongolia on Promotion of Gender Equality</li> </ul>  |
| MONTENEGRO                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opinion on the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination of Montenegro</li> <li>Opinion on the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination of the Republic of Montenegro</li> <li>Opinion on the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro</li> </ul>  |
| SERBIA                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opinion on the Draft Law on Amendments and Additions to the Criminal Procedure Code of Serbia</li> </ul>   |
| UKRAINE                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opinion on the Draft Law on Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence of Ukraine</li> <li>Opinion on Draft Amendments to Ensure Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men in Political Appointments in Ukraine</li> </ul>  |
| OSCE Partners for Co-operation | Title of Document   |
| TUNISIA                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opinion on the Draft Organic Law on the Right to Peaceful Assembly of Tunisia</li> <li>Joint OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Law No. 2008-37 of 16 June 2008 relating to the Higher Committee for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of the Republic of Tunisia</li> <li>Opinion on the Draft Law of Tunisia Related to the Fight against Terrorism and Prevention of Money Laundering</li> </ul>   |

legislation pertaining to 19 human dimension topics in all OSCE participating States. The database also contains key international instruments and materials pertaining to the protection of human rights. In 2013, the database received more than 200,000 visits, an increase of 22 per cent on the previous year.

In 2013, almost all the thematic areas outlined on Legislationline were extensively revised and updated. Legal documents, including primary and secondary legislation, international standards and useful links to other resources for lawmakers, were collected in all official OSCE languages and are accessible through the website's English- and Russian-language interfaces.

## DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND GENDER

ODIHR worked closely with national parliaments, political parties, government bodies and independent human rights institutions over the course of 2013, and continued to support the full participation of civil society in governance processes. OSCE field operations remained key partners in the implementation of ODIHR's democratic governance and gender equality activities, while the Office itself sought to enhance its role as a "knowledge hub" of good practices in the OSCE region. In addition, ODIHR expanded its co-operation with international and regional actors with the aim of ensuring synergies in democratic governance and gender-equality initiatives. For example, ODIHR continued to act as the OSCE liaison to the Council of Europe on local governance in countries of South-Eastern Europe, and has expanded its network of partners working on youth participation and women's political participation.

### Increasing Women's Participation in Politics

ODIHR continued the implementation of its project on women in political parties, which builds the capacity of parties to adopt measures to promote women as party leaders, decision-makers and candidates for public office. ODIHR organized an evaluation training workshop on 11 and 12 February in Tirana focused on voluntary measures political parties can take to increase women's participation, where women politicians assessed the effect of previous project activities and presented recommendations to enhance project impact. From 22 to 25 November, ODIHR organized a regional workshop on women's political leadership in

Bishkek, bringing together 35 women politicians from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Participants developed political leadership skills and discussed opportunities and challenges associated with cross-party co-operation on gender equality.

Building on the achievements of the project in laying the groundwork for women to be better represented in political parties, ODIHR began implementation of a second project, on strengthening women's participation in political parties. This project targets political party leaderships, women leaders and gender advocates to help advance women's political participation and promote gender equality within political parties. ODIHR also started work on an assessment methodology to determine the level of gender equality in political party structures, procedures and processes, which it will apply during national workshops with party representatives in selected pilot countries in 2014.

ODIHR continued to promote its baseline study *Gender Equality in Elected Office: A Six-Step Action Plan* in OSCE participating States. The study includes strategies for governments and political stakeholders to support women's meaningful political participation. ODIHR presented the study at events in Georgia, Hungary, Poland, Turkey and Ukraine, as well as in OSCE Mediterranean Partner countries Jordan and Tunisia. For example, ODIHR experts took part in the Ninth Kyiv Dialogue on Gender Politics: Successes, Failures, Prospects on 5 and 6 March in Kyiv, where over 300 participants met to highlight the continuing challenges in increasing women's parliamentary representation in Ukraine. Similarly, in co-operation with the Central European University and the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, ODIHR organized the conference Women's Political Participation in the Upcoming Elections on 15 November in Budapest. The event, which gathered 150 participants, was held to encourage political parties to support women's candidacy ahead of parliamentary elections in Hungary in 2014.

In co-operation with the Polish School of Leaders, ODIHR trained Polish women politicians on voluntary measures political parties can take to increase women's political participation on 12 and 13 August, and supported a study tour to Poland for youth representatives from EU Eastern Partnership countries, enabling them to attend sessions of the OSCE's Human Dimension Implementation Meeting.

ODIHR also undertook to strengthen gender analysis as part of election observation activities and reporting in 2013, building on its existing election observation methodology. Election experts discussed gender mainstreaming in election observation during





Agnieszka Kozłowska-Rajewicz, Poland's Secretary of State and Prime Minister's Representative for Equal Treatment, addresses participants of a training course for Polish young women leaders on effective political leadership, Warsaw, 12 August 2013. (OSCE/Shiv Sharma)

a roundtable event on women's participation in politics and elections on 4 and 5 July in Warsaw, where participants identified key trends in women's political participation in elections and assessed how gender mainstreaming can enhance the quality of gender analysis in election observation reporting.

On the margins of human dimension events, ODIHR continued its tradition of organizing networking activities among women representatives of government and civil society. ODIHR organized women's power events in Warsaw during the Human Dimension Seminar in May and the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in autumn. The Office also organized an informal discussion on gender mainstreaming with election experts during the Eighth Annual Implementation Meeting of the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation group held in September in Warsaw.

### Strengthening National Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women

National mechanisms for the advancement of women play an important role in protecting women's rights and monitoring state compliance with national and international gender-equality obligations. Such mechanisms have been established across the OSCE region, yet have different mandates to protect women's rights and to promote public awareness and understanding of them.

In 2013, ODIHR continued to strengthen the capacity of national human rights institutions (NHRIs) to advance women's rights and gender equality, by sharing good practices and expertise across the OSCE region, as compiled in the *Handbook for National Human Rights Institutions on Women's Rights and Gender Equality*. This tool provides an overview of trends and recommendations to guide NHRIs in strengthening their institutional capacity and practical work on women's rights and gender equality.

Using this handbook, ODIHR conducted workshops for 50 NHRI officials in Mongolia, Serbia and Ukraine.

A consultation on women's rights and gender equality was held with the Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights on 25 June in Kyiv, in line with a co-operation agreement between the Commissioner and ODIHR, focusing on strategies to promote women's rights and gender equality within the NHRI and beyond. ODIHR contributed to the Conference on Gender Mainstreaming for the Serbian national human rights institution, the Office of the Protector of Citizens, organized by the OSCE Mission to Serbia on 12 September in Belgrade, discussing strategies for integrating a gender perspective into the NHRI's daily work on human rights protection. ODIHR also held a workshop on women's rights, gender equality and human rights monitoring for the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia on 14 and 15 October in Ulaanbaatar, examining ways to further improve the handling of complaints, the documenting of and reporting on human rights violations, and the monitoring of the implementation of gender equality legislation.

### Combating Violence against Women

Violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, remains one of the most widespread human rights violations in the OSCE region. While many participating States have adopted laws on domestic violence, their implementation remains weak because of persisting gender-based stereotypes and the tendency to view this violation as a private or family matter. Preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence requires not only the development of adequate legal frameworks but also policy measures to ensure their effective implementation.

Accordingly, in 2013 ODIHR continued to support OSCE participating States in adopting and strengthening laws aimed at preventing gender-based violence, protecting victims and punishing perpetrators. ODIHR assisted national authorities in strengthening domestic violence legislation in Georgia and Ukraine, and in enhancing gender-equality legislation in Mongolia and Ukraine, in line with OSCE commitments.

### Strengthening Parliaments

Representative parliaments, enabled to perform their duties effectively, are the key vehicle for the exercise of democratic governance. ODIHR's work on parliamentary strengthening is anchored in OSCE commitments and is aimed at enhancing the capacity of parliaments to fulfill their legislative,

representative and oversight functions in order to effectively contribute to sustainable democratic societies.

Across the OSCE region, representative institutions are not fully representative of and accountable to the electorate particularly in light of the continuing under-representation of women in elected office and the unethical behaviour of some parliamentarians. In response to these challenges, ODIHR intensified its outreach on promoting parliamentary ethics initiatives by publishing the *Background Study: Professional and Ethical Standards for Parliamentarians* in 2013. The study is available in Arabic, English, Georgian and Russian. The study provides a comparative analysis of the practical measures OSCE participating States can take to promote ethical parliamentary behaviour.

ODIHR presented the study to members of parliament and their parliamentary staff, civil society representatives and expert and academic communities in six OSCE countries — Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Estonia, Georgia, Poland and Ukraine.

As part of its continued engagement in promoting cross-border dialogue on parliamentary ethical standards and norms, ODIHR organized a study tour to Warsaw for 25 parliamentarians and experts from OSCE participating States in South-Eastern Europe on 5 and 6 March.

Following a request from the Parliament of Estonia, ODIHR participated in a seminar on parliamentary ethics and codes of conduct in May in Tallinn, which gathered 15 MPs to discuss measures necessary to introduce and enforce ethical standards for parliamentarians. Likewise, in co-operation with the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, ODIHR experts participated in a conference on codes of ethics and parliamentary accountability, held in Sarajevo in June. The conference gathered 20 experts, MPs and civil society representatives to exchange views on registering financial interests and striking a balance between private life and public accountability for parliamentarians.

Following similar activities held in 2012, ODIHR and the Georgian Parliament, in co-operation with Transparency International Georgia, organized a conference on parliamentary ethics on 15 July, resulting

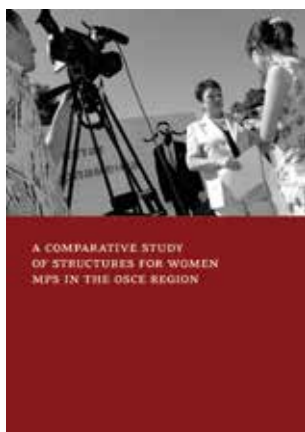


in the Parliament's agreement to review the existing code of ethics for parliamentarians and set up a working group to elaborate a new code. In Ukraine, the Parliamentary Committee on the Fight against Corruption and Organized Crime and ODIHR held a roundtable meeting on professional and ethical standards for parliamentarians on 11 December in Kyiv. The event resulted in specific recommendations, including the establishment of a policy discussion group on parliamentary ethics and the organization of an international conference on parliamentary ethics in order to present a roadmap for Ukraine's parliament.

ODIHR, together with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, organized a side event for OSCE participating States on enhancing public trust in parliaments on 30 September, during the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting. The event highlighted the work of the OSCE in the field of parliamentary support and discussed parliaments' role in overseeing ethical standards and enhancing gender equality in elected office.

A key component of ODIHR's parliamentary strengthening work is to promote gender equality in all parliamentary processes. To this end, on 19 and 20 July, ODIHR, in co-operation with the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, conducted training for representatives of different committees of Montenegro's parliament on gender equality concepts as well as thematic issues such as women's political participation, domestic violence and women in security.

In early 2013 ODIHR published *A Comparative Study of Structures for Women MPs*. The study surveys parliamentary structures



established to promote women's meaningful participation in politics in the OSCE region and highlights the importance of cross-party co-operation on gender equality. ODIHR presented the study to parliamentarians in Finland, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland and the OSCE Mediterranean Partner Tunisia. ODIHR

also presented the study and outlined good practices from OSCE countries in the establishment of women parliamentary structures during a study visit to Finland on women's parliamentary networks, organized by the OSCE Mission to Serbia, together with the

Finnish Embassy in Belgrade, the Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence, and the Delegation of the European Union to Serbia. The visit, from 14 to 17 May in Helsinki, provided a delegation of 25 women parliamentarians from Serbia with the opportunity to learn about good practices in running parliamentary structures for women and promoting gender equality in parliamentary work.

### Ensuring Pluralistic Political Party Systems

Political parties perform critical functions in democratic societies, bridging executive and legislative branches of government and providing avenues for citizen participation in policy making. ODIHR continued its support to OSCE participating States to establish well-functioning regulatory frameworks that create environments in which political parties can most effectively perform their democratic functions. These principles are rooted in OSCE commitments and outlined in the 2010 *Guidelines on Political Party Regulation*, jointly developed by ODIHR and the Council of Europe's Venice Commission.

Based on these guidelines, in 2013 ODIHR continued to support institutions, political parties, OSCE field operations and civil society in participating States in developing ways to sustain and advance political pluralism. Building on previous co-operation on the role of democratic opposition in parliaments, ODIHR participated in a conference on enhancing Kazakhstan's political party system, co-organized by the OSCE Centre in Astana, the Public Foundation for Parliamentary Development and the United States Agency for International Development on 6 June in Astana. On the regional level, ODIHR gathered 50 experts from 24 OSCE participating States to discuss different measures that political stakeholders can take to make political parties more transparent, inclusive, accountable and democratic at a seminar on 10 and 11 July in Warsaw.

Political-party financing in the OSCE region continued to be prioritized by ODIHR in 2013. ODIHR co-operated with state institutions, OSCE field operations, civil society organizations and experts in Georgia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Poland, Sweden and the OSCE Mediterranean Partner Tunisia to support efforts in reforming party financing regulations. For example, ODIHR continued a dialogue that began in 2012 on political party registration, party financing and gender equality with the Georgian Parliament and ODIHR's long-standing partners the International Foundation for Electoral





Participants examine how to integrate a gender-sensitive approach in the development and implementation of labour migration policies during a training session organized by ODIHR and the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Affairs, Warsaw, 8 July 2013. (OSCE/Shiv Sharma)

Systems and the Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy, by convening a roundtable meeting on political party funding and women's participation in political life on 12 and 13 March in Tbilisi. Furthermore, ODIHR and International IDEA held a seminar on 6 November in Stockholm to discuss the Swedish model for party and candidate financing.

## **MIGRATION AND FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT**

The right to freedom of movement is a precondition for equality, and enables the free choice of place of residence inside a country, and is often a prerequisite for the exercise of many other fundamental rights, such as the rights to education, to work and to family life. Equally, freer cross-border travel and increased human contacts are essential confidence-building measures between OSCE participating States, particularly in the social, cultural and economic spheres.

ODIHR supports OSCE participating States in developing policies that protect the right to freedom of movement and the facilitation of freer cross-border travel. In 2013, ODIHR conducted research on the situation of cross-border mobility in the OSCE region and the impact of visa regimes on OSCE participating States, to be published in the ODIHR *Baseline Study on Cross-Border Mobility in the OSCE Region* in 2014.

ODIHR supports OSCE participating States' national institutions in the development of effective national migration-management systems, with a focus on gender-sensitive labour migration policies and migrant integration in line with OSCE commitments.

### **Migrant Integration**

Following a request by the Armenian authorities, ODIHR, in co-operation with the Migration Policy Group, conducted an assessment of migrant integration measures, according to the internationally recognized Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX) methodology. The resulting findings and

recommendations were published and discussed during a roundtable meeting with key national authorities on 24 October in Yerevan, leading to consideration by the Armenian authorities of adapting national legislation accordingly.

ODIHR supported OSCE participating States in raising awareness and promoting the exchange of good practices on migrant integration in the OSCE region. The Office conducted training courses for members of government authorities and civil society on best practices in migrant integration in line with OSCE commitments, at the request of participating States and OSCE field operations. More than 135 participants attended training events in Shymkent, Astana, Riga, Belgrade and Yerevan.

### Gender-Mainstreaming Migration Policies

In a majority of OSCE participating States, more than half of the total migrant population is made up of female migrants of working age.<sup>2</sup> Current migration trends in the OSCE region and projections for the future show a need for human-rights based and gender-sensitive migration policies that take into account the specific needs of both male and female migrants.

In 2013, ODIHR, in co-operation with the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, organized regional training events on gender-sensitive labour migration policies in Warsaw and Almaty, gathering 44 participants from national authorities, civil society actors and OSCE field operations from 11 OSCE participating States (Albania, Armenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Kazakhstan, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan).

### Population Registration

In many OSCE participating States, citizens, resident non-citizens and foreign visitors are required to register their place of permanent or temporary residence with a relevant authority, affecting their right to freedom of movement and choice of residence. Where registration procedures and criteria are complex and onerous, they can become a deterrent and an obstacle to taking up legal residence within a state. Using its *Guidelines on Population Registration* as a primary tool, ODIHR assists political decision-makers, practitioners and relevant authorities in reforming

population-registration systems to protect the right to freedom of movement.

As the freedom to travel across borders for OSCE participating State citizens is linked to obtaining secure travel documents, ODIHR and the OSCE's Transnational Threats Department organized an expert roundtable meeting on the link between travel-document security and population-registration/civil-registration documents and processes, on 26 and 27 November in Warsaw. The event explored the incidence of genuine documents obtained using fake identities, resulting in recommendations on measures to enhance international efforts to link travel-document issuing systems to civil-registry systems as part of robust national identity management and travel document issuance.

### Voter and Population Registration

In many OSCE participating States that practice population registration, the voter register is compiled from the population register or is based on personal information stored in various registers maintained by the state authorities. In such cases, the quality of population registers directly affects the exercise of universal and equal suffrage. In follow-up to ODIHR election observation mission recommendations, ODIHR provides policy advice and expertise to OSCE participating States to ensure synergies and effective linkages between voter registers and population-registration systems.

Following a request by the State Election Commission of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, ODIHR conducted an assessment of the sharing of personal information from public registers in the process of updating the voter register. The assessment findings and recommendations were discussed at a roundtable meeting on 17 December in Skopje. Based on the recommendations, the Commission will develop measures to ensure better co-ordination with other state authorities in collecting and updating voter-list data.

<sup>2</sup> ODIHR estimate based on data from the following publication: International Migration 2013, Wallchart, United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2013).



## SUPPORT FOR OSCE PARTNERS FOR CO-OPERATION

ODIHR further enhanced its co-operation with the OSCE Partners for Co-operation, in line with its mandate and an OSCE Ministerial Council decision. Within this framework, ODIHR implemented a programme to increase understanding of the OSCE Human Dimension in the Mediterranean Partner countries, providing support in the fields of elections, legislative assistance, parliamentary strengthening, women's political participation, gender equality and human rights.

ODIHR provided legislative assistance in the fields of political parties, freedom of assembly, national human rights institutions and anti-terrorism. ODIHR legal opinions examined compliance of legislation with OSCE commitments and other international human rights standards, and included recommendations on how to enhance such compliance. The opinions were followed up with consultative meetings with key government authorities, including the Ministry of Human Rights and Transitional Justice and the National Constituent Assembly of Tunisia.

Another important component of ODIHR's support to Mediterranean Partners consists of promoting the political participation of women and youth, and enhancing gender equality within political institutions, including political parties and parliaments. To this end, ODIHR contributed expertise at a number of events on women and youth participation in politics,

organized by government bodies, international organizations, and civil society. On 29 May in Tunis, ODIHR presented its work on enhancing women's representation in parliaments to 35 representatives of the Tunisian National Constituent Assembly, followed by consultations with the Ministry of Human Rights and Transitional Justice on protecting and promoting women's rights and gender equality. The Office also supported capacity-building initiatives to develop the skills of women candidates and youth leaders, in co-operation with the Tunisian School of Politics, the Center of Arab Women for Training and Research, UN agencies and other international organizations.

ODIHR also fostered the exchange of knowledge and experience between civil society and government representatives from the Mediterranean Partner for Co-operation States and representatives from the OSCE region, through mandated ODIHR activities, including the annual Human Dimension Implementation Meeting. Participants from the Mediterranean Partner countries also took part in ODIHR training activities, including in courses on short-term and long-term election observation and expert workshops on election observation reporting and political parties.

Over the year, ODIHR implemented a total of 28 activities, involving 481 civil society and government representatives from Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation.







Nicholas Long, formerly with the Independent Police Complaints Commission for England and Wales, outlined independent investigations of police shortcomings when addressing gender-based violence at the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, Warsaw, 24 September 2013. (OSCE/Piotr Markowski)

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# Human Rights

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*OSCE participating States have undertaken extensive commitments to ensure effective mechanisms for the protection of human rights. Yet, in 2013 there remained serious gaps in a number of states in meeting their obligations to respect, protect and fulfil human rights.*

*Human rights defenders continue to be the targets of attacks, threats and intimidation in certain states, in some cases accompanied by undue legal restrictions and legal harassment hindering their activities. Whistleblowers disclosing information on human rights violations were not afforded protection and risked prosecution. Fundamental freedoms like that of peaceful assembly continued to be limited in many countries by undue legal restrictions and excessive use of police force. Limited external oversight resulted in gaps in human rights protection for those serving in the security sectors of many states.*

*A worrying trend of increasingly invasive state surveillance emerged, while challenges persisted in ensuring full human rights protection in the fight against terrorism. Efforts to ensure accountability for violations committed by state actors in the fight against terrorism remained insufficient.*

*ODIHR assists participating States in the implementation of their human dimension commitments through its monitoring efforts, capacity-building activities and development of practical tools and resources.*

*ODIHR's human rights programmes have addressed key issues and developments in participating States, reacting to requests and providing tailored assistance to best fit the expressed needs. In doing this, ODIHR has engaged extensively with governmental authorities, national human rights institutions and civil society alike.*

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Antoine Madelin of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) addresses participants of a meeting on the effective protection of human rights defenders, Warsaw, 11 June 2013. (OSCE/Shiv Sharma)

## MAIN ISSUES

### Death Penalty

OSCE participating States have committed themselves to make information regarding the use of the death penalty publicly available and to keep the question of its abolition under consideration. Belarus and the United States are the only countries in the OSCE area that continue to impose the death penalty.

### Freedom of Peaceful Assembly

In a number of participating States, authorities have demonstrated good practice in facilitating public assemblies, including in challenging circumstances that posed significant security concerns, such as those involving violent counter-demonstrators.

In other cases, however, states have imposed undue restrictions on assemblies, including blanket

bans. Some have also sought to introduce overly restrictive legislation, including amendments that would impose disproportionate penalties on organizers failing to comply with procedural requirements for assemblies. There continued to be reports of inappropriate police action, including dispersals of peaceful assemblies and excessive or unnecessary use of force. Spontaneous assemblies and those without identifiable organizers have posed regulatory challenges for some participating States, which continued to invoke failure to provide notification as a ground to restrict an assembly.

### Human Rights Defenders

OSCE participating States have reiterated that civil society and free media play an important role in helping ensure full respect for human rights, and the right of individuals to know and act upon their rights has been part of the OSCE concept of security since its

beginnings in 1975. Contrary to this, human rights defenders continued to be targeted in several participating States for their legitimate activities, suffering from physical attacks and threats, a lack of effective protection, and a lack of recourse to justice, as well as being stigmatized for their activities. Arbitrary inspections and judicial harassment remained two of the most common tactics to silence human rights NGOs. Moreover, human rights defenders were subjected to state surveillance and other interferences with their right to privacy, as well as undue restrictions to their freedom of movement. In some participating States laws that govern the operation of NGOs imposed burdensome administrative requirements and obstacles to the receipt of foreign funding.

### Human Rights in the Fight against Terrorism

OSCE participating States have repeatedly acknowledged that genuine security can only be achieved where counter-terrorism measures are effective, proportionate and respectful of human rights and the rule of law. Yet, these commitments to protect human rights while countering terrorism often go unfulfilled. Terrorist threats have been invoked to justify the imposition of undue restrictions on human rights, including on the expression of dissenting views and on the work of civil society organizations. Some OSCE participating States have continued to adopt vague anti-terrorism legislation, to rely on discriminatory anti-terrorism measures, and to engage in mass surveillance in violation of international human rights standards. Torture and other ill-treatment, arbitrary detentions and a lack of respect of fair trial standards remained issues of concern in the anti-terrorism context.

### National Human Rights Institutions

Independent national human rights institutions (NHRIs) play an important role in monitoring and promoting the protection and defence of human rights. OSCE participating States have committed themselves to facilitating the establishment and strengthening of independent national institutions in the area of human rights and the rule of law. The establishment in 2013 of a Secretariat in Brussels for the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions, formerly known as the European Group of NHRIs, was an important development in this respect. Forty-one NHRIs are now part of the network, which supports the establishment, capacity

development and accreditation of NHRIs in the European region.

### Security Sector and Human Rights

OSCE participating States have committed themselves to establishing accountable, effective, transparent and democratically controlled security forces. Key enabling factors include respect for human rights and gender principles, as reflected in the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, and other OSCE commitments. However, problems persisted in the security sector, such as gender-based discrimination, mistreatment and bullying of personnel, irregularities in conscription and disproportionate restrictions on military associations. Insufficient or non-existent independent oversight mechanisms and limited access for civil society compounded these problems.

### Trafficking in Human Beings

In many OSCE participating States efforts to combat trafficking in human beings remain on the agenda, although progress has been slowed by a lack of resources. In some cases, gaps in meeting states' obligations to combat trafficking have been partly addressed through efforts by NGOs and international organizations. Lack of human rights-compliant legal provisions, difficulties in the effective implementation of existing provisions and insufficient budgetary resources were among the main challenges faced by participating States in 2013. The lack of a victim-centered approach to the fight against trafficking often prevents trafficked persons from having access to justice and results in other human rights violations.

### Torture and Other Ill-treatment

OSCE participating States have committed themselves to prohibiting and taking measures to prevent torture and other ill-treatment. Nevertheless, torture and other forms of ill-treatment remain pervasive in the OSCE area. Weak institutional mechanisms for the prevention and punishment of torture and other ill-treatment, inadequate training of law enforcement officers, poor detention conditions and the lack of robust accountability and oversight mechanisms continue to be significant challenges. In 2013 three OSCE participating States — Italy, Norway and Portugal — became parties to the UN Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.



This instrument provides for the establishment of a national preventive mechanism for the prevention of torture.

## ACTIVITIES

### Human Rights Monitoring and Response

In May, ODIHR started its second cycle of monitoring of public assemblies in OSCE participating States. Monitoring was conducted in three participating States: Greece, Montenegro and Portugal. The second cycle will continue into 2014, to be followed by the release of a report identifying the main challenges as well as good practices observed, and providing recommendations for the participating States to promote full compliance with relevant OSCE human dimension commitments.

In July, ODIHR hosted an expert roundtable meeting to discuss existing legislative approaches and practices affecting the work and funding of NGOs in a number of OSCE participating States. The event, which featured a panel of experts including policy-makers and civil society representatives from three OSCE participating States, provided a forum for constructive debate and open discussion, as well as for the formulation of recommendations on strengthening the implementation of human dimension commitments in this area.

ODIHR continued to monitor the status of the death penalty in the OSCE area and published *The Death Penalty in the OSCE Area: Background Paper 2013*. The publication is compiled annually to facilitate the exchange of information among participating States on the use of capital punishment.

### Human Rights Education and Capacity Building

In September, ODIHR presented two new sets of guidelines on human rights education: *Guidelines on human rights education for health workers* and *Guidelines on human rights education for human rights activists*. The documents aim to promote human rights education for the two target groups, who play an important role in promoting and ensuring respect for human rights. ODIHR presented its *Guidelines on human rights education for health workers* at the International Conference on Human Rights Education and Training for Civil and Public Service in December in Dublin.

The Office continued to provide support to national human rights institutions. In November, ODIHR hosted the first strategic planning meeting of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions. Participants agreed a strategic plan, which will inform the future action of the network at the regional level. ODIHR also delivered capacity-building activities for the Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, focusing on women's rights and gender equality (June), and for the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia, focusing on women's rights, gender equality and human rights monitoring (October).

ODIHR worked to strengthen the capacity of the police in OSCE participating States to facilitate assemblies in line with human rights standards. In co-operation with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU) of the OSCE Transnational Threats Department (TNTD), ODIHR began the development of a human rights training guide to the policing of assemblies, which will consist of a handbook and a training manual. The tool, intended for law enforcement officials in command positions and police trainers, will outline key principles and practical steps for the facilitation of assemblies in line with human rights standards.

The policing of assemblies was also the main focus of a roundtable meeting in Vienna in July, organized jointly with TNTD/SPMU. The event brought together police officers from Croatia, Italy, Moldova, Mongolia, Poland, Serbia, Spain, Ukraine, the United Kingdom





Students of the Teachers College at Columbia University attend a discussion on human rights education led by members of ODIHR's Human Rights Department, New York, 28 January 2013. (OSCE)

and the United States, as well as civil society representatives from some of these participating States. Participants discussed the findings and recommendations of ODIHR's report *Monitoring of Freedom of Peaceful Assembly in Selected OSCE Participating States (May 2011 – June 2012)* and their use in everyday police work. The event provided an opportunity to exchange views on human rights-compliant police practices in facilitating assemblies.

To assist participating States in addressing protection gaps and challenges faced by human rights defenders, ODIHR began the development of its *Guidelines for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders*, forthcoming in 2014. ODIHR held a series of consultation meetings with human rights defenders from across the OSCE region and other relevant actors, to identify areas of concern and good practices. A first meeting of stakeholders in June brought together representatives from international NGOs, as well as from inter-governmental organizations and human rights mechanisms working towards the protection of human rights defenders. The consultations

in September and October, in turn, brought together a diverse group of human rights defenders.

Throughout the year, ODIHR continued to promote awareness on standards, jurisprudence and practices related to freedom of association through its online resource *AssociatiOnline* (<http://associationline.org>). *AssociatiOnline* was promoted at a number of events as a specialized database on freedom of association and also serves as a capacity-building tool and a platform for sharing relevant information among wider audiences.

### Human Rights and Anti-Terrorism

ODIHR has continued to monitor the human rights situation of detainees held at the United States Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Following an invitation from the United States, an ODIHR delegation visited the Guantanamo Detention Facility and met with United States officials in Washington, D.C. and at Guantanamo Bay in August to gather information on proceedings before the military commission



Pavel Chacuk, Human Rights Adviser at ODIHR, gives a presentation on ODIHR Guidelines on Human Rights Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, 24 January 2013. (OSCE)

involving Guantanamo detainees. The delegation also met with civil society representatives and the defence counsel of some former and current detainees. The visit was part of ODIHR's activities to assist OSCE participating States in meeting their commitments to respect human rights in the fight against terrorism by safeguarding the rule of law, individual liberties and the right to equal justice under the law. Following a broader assessment of the human rights situation of the detainees in Guantanamo, ODIHR plans to produce a public report with its findings and recommendations in 2014.



Jointly with the OSCE TNTD/SPMU, ODIHR launched in November the publication *Human Rights in Counter-Terrorism Investigations: A Practical Manual for Law Enforcement Officers*. The tool adopts an operational

approach to explore the different phases of counter-terrorism investigations and their potential impact on human rights. It covers issues such as information-gathering and intelligence; witnesses and crime scene examination; the arrest, detention and questioning of terrorism suspects; and the integrity and accountability of investigations. It complements ODIHR's publication *Countering Terrorism, Protecting Human Rights*, which focuses on the international human rights standards and OSCE commitments applicable in the anti-terrorism context.

In 2013 ODIHR and the OSCE TNTD Action against Terrorism Unit (ATU) published two reports, on *Women and Terrorist Radicalization* (available in Albanian, Arabic, Bosnian, English, Russian and Serbian) and on *Youth Engagement to Counter Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism* (available in English and Russian). The reports present the key findings and recommendations from a series of expert meetings on these issues held in 2011 and 2012.

In April, ODIHR and the OSCE Border Management Staff College conducted a week-long training





Snježana Bokulić, Head of ODIHR's Human Rights Department, presents a new OSCE manual for law-enforcement officers on human rights in counter-terrorism investigations, Vienna, 29 November 2013. (OSCE/Micky Kroell)

course in Dushanbe on the protection of human rights when securing borders from terrorism. The course was offered to 26 border and customs officials from 12 OSCE participating States and two Partners for Co-operation.

In December, ODIHR organized an expert meeting in Warsaw with representatives of civil society organizations and the OSCE Secretariat to discuss the impact of counter-terrorism financing measures on freedom of association throughout the OSCE region.

In 2013 ODIHR and the OSCE TNTD/ATU worked towards the development of a *Guidebook on Preventing Terrorism and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism (VERLT): a Community Policing Approach*, which will be published in early 2014. The Guidebook was reviewed by counter-terrorism, police and human rights experts during a peer-review meeting in March. The publication will provide guidance to policymakers and senior police officials on the use of a community-policing approach to preventing terrorism and countering VERLT.

Upon the request of the Tunisian Ministry of Human Rights and Transitional Justice, ODIHR produced in December a legal review of Tunisia's draft law related to the fight against terrorism and prevention of money laundering. The review, which is part of a wider project to assist the OSCE's Mediterranean Partners, offers recommendations to ensure the compliance of the draft law with international human rights standards.

### Human Rights, Gender and Security

ODIHR continued to promote a human rights and gender perspective within the security sector. Activities focused on improving the human rights knowledge and skills of security sector personnel and on promoting public oversight of the security sector.

ODIHR's work to promote the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security and related OSCE commitments on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security continued. ODIHR launched a series of human rights





Participants at the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting browse OSCE publications during a break. (OSCE/Piotr Markowski)

events for the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation in Vienna. The first event, on 19 April, addressed the economic and social rights of women who serve in the armed forces. The second event, on 14 October, focused on the role of ombuds institutions in protecting the rights of armed forces personnel.

In July, ODIHR organized an event entitled “Orientation on Oversight, Human Rights and Gender in the Armed Forces” with the Georgian Parliamentary Defence Committee and Ministry of Defence. The event was part of wider efforts to increase the accountability, transparency and openness of the security sector in Georgia. Also in July, ODIHR trained 20 parliamentarians in Montenegro on regional standards for combating violence against women and the importance of a responsive security sector in addressing the needs of women experiencing violence in the family.

ODIHR organized and hosted a meeting for civil society on human rights monitoring in the armed forces on 4 and 5 March in Warsaw. Mistreatment and bullying, limitations on military associations,

a lack of human rights training and insufficient oversight were reported as major concerns. A key recommendation from the meeting was to increase access by civil society to the security sector and formalize its oversight role in human rights protection. Participants were also trained by ODIHR on the basis of its *Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit*.

In November, ODIHR, together with the European Organisation of Military Associations (EUROMIL), organized a meeting in Madrid on the role of military associations. Despite some progress, most participants agreed that military personnel were still restricted in their ability to form and join associations in a number of participating States.

ODIHR implemented three short-term projects with local NGO partners in Armenia, Moldova and Tajikistan, respectively, during the year. The projects in Armenia and Moldova saw more than 800 potential and new conscripts trained on how to assert their rights, seek assistance and report violations. In Tajikistan, 368 physicians involved in conscription

commissions were trained on their legal and ethical responsibilities towards soldiers.

### Human Rights and Anti-Trafficking

ODIHR continued to focus on promoting effective national referral mechanisms to protect the rights of trafficked persons, enhancing access of victims of trafficking to justice, and strengthening partnerships among national and international stakeholders.

ODIHR continued the implementation of a three-year project on human rights protection for trafficked persons and vulnerable groups in Central Asia, begun in 2012. Two assessments of national referral mechanisms and access by trafficked persons to compensation were carried out in 2013 in Kyrgyzstan (February to April) and Kazakhstan (May to August), respectively. The purpose of the assessments was to identify the current stage of development of national referral mechanisms in the two participating States, assess opportunities for victims of trafficking to claim compensation, and develop recommendations for all stakeholders to achieve further progress.

A regional roundtable meeting on building national referral mechanisms was organized in Istanbul in May. ODIHR brought together representatives of state agencies responsible for law enforcement, the administration of justice and social welfare, and NGOs from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, as well as experts from Belgium, Moldova and the Netherlands.

Throughout 2013 ODIHR continued to promote improved access to justice for victims of trafficking, including their access to compensation. ODIHR organized a regional seminar in October for Central Asian lawyers specialized in combating trafficking. Lawyers and legal practitioners from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, as well as Azerbaijan and Ukraine, developed recommendations for states, civil society and private actors on improving access to legal assistance and on remedies for trafficked persons. In December, ODIHR and the Council of Europe Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) organized a regional seminar for 25 lawyers from nine participating States (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia). Participants discussed topics including pro-bono legal assistance to victims, legal aid during the identification stage, investigation and court proceedings, and compensation for victims.





Participants meet at the Opening Plenary of the HDIM in Warsaw, September 2013. (OSCE/Piotr Markowski)

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# Tolerance and Non-discrimination

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*OSCE participating States have committed themselves to take action against manifestations of racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance, including against Muslims, Christians and followers of other religions. These commitments recognize that intolerance, discrimination and bias-motivated incidents harm the fabric of society and have the potential to sow the seeds of wider violence and conflict. Despite actions taken by participating States to address manifestations of intolerance, violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms continue to take place in the OSCE region. ODIHR continues to work with participating States and a wide network of non-governmental bodies to support their efforts in building cohesive societies in which diversity and pluralism contribute to the respect of human rights and democratic development.*

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Bülent Şenay (r) and Nazila Ghanea, new members of the OSCE/ODIHR Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion, discuss the Panel's role in providing assistance to OSCE participating States in meeting their commitments on this fundamental freedom, Warsaw, 18 June 2013. (OSCE/Shiv Sharma)

## MAIN ISSUES

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

ODIHR's annual report *Hate Crimes in the OSCE Region: Incidents and Responses* once again highlighted reports of assault, theft, damage to property and murder motivated by racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and bias against Roma and Sinti, Muslims, Christians and members of other religions. The report also shows that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and persons with disabilities are victims of hate crime. While some improvements were evident, the main challenges to assessing the scope



and prevalence of hate crime continue to be under-reporting by victims and the lack of consistent and comparable data collected and reported by states.

### Freedom of Religion or Belief

In the OSCE region, religious or belief communities experience problems in fully realizing their rights. Problems include limitations of the right to manifest one's religion or belief. In particular, the use of mandatory registration systems, as well as significant practical and legal obstacles to acquiring legal personality, continue to negatively affect the rights of a wide range of religious or belief communities. Extensive discussions continue to take place on how to protect and promote freedom of religion or belief in relationship to other rights, in particular with regards to the use and display of symbols, and practices such as circumcision and ritual slaughter.

## Challenging Biases and Prejudices through Education

Education plays a critical role in preventing and addressing stereotypes, which are often at the root of bias-motivated incidents. Participating States have committed to establishing comprehensive educational policies to address intolerance and promote mutual respect and understanding. Of particular importance are awareness-raising initiatives for educators and policymakers about the significance of education in countering biases. Effective methodologies and practical tools that challenge existing practices and describe positive aspects of diverse societies are necessary to successfully combat prejudice and intolerance. Such initiatives are especially necessary when such stereotypes are being used by some to scapegoat ethnic or racial groups in times of economic crisis.

### ACTIVITIES

In accordance with its mandate, ODIHR assists participating States and civil society in improving responses to hate crime, in protecting and promoting freedom of religion or belief, and in promoting mutual respect and understanding. ODIHR's programmes and awareness-raising initiatives to fight hate crime are comprehensive and inclusive. They aim to help law-enforcement agencies, government officials and civil society to effectively respond to hate crimes. ODIHR also focuses on the monitoring, collecting and dissemination of information on hate crimes and good practices, while its educational programmes aim to raise awareness and promote mutual respect and understanding.

In 2013, activities were conducted in the following fields:

- Collecting and disseminating information about hate crime;
- Raising awareness of hate crime;
- 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 there are comprehensive and longstanding commitments to collect and disseminate hate crime data, the lack of reliable information on the number of hate crimes recorded by the police and prosecuted in the courts remains a significant challenge. Information submitted to ODIHR over the cumulative period of 2008 to 2012 indicated that 51 participating States collect some data on hate crimes. However, only 27 participating States submitted data on hate crimes committed in their jurisdictions for the 2013 edition of ODIHR's annual report *Hate Crimes in the OSCE Region: Incidents and Responses*. The report highlighted that a lack of reliable and detailed information hampers effective policy formulation. The report listed a number of recommendations, emphasizing the need to identify, record, investigate and prosecute hate crimes and to strengthen collaboration with civil society to complement efforts by authorities to respond to hate crimes.

ODIHR continued to develop the web version of its annual hate crime report. The website aims to provide easy access to the data and information on hate crime that ODIHR has received since 2009. In 2013, ODIHR consulted extensively on its draft practical guide on effective hate crime data collection and monitoring mechanisms. The guide aims to assist participating States in improving data collection and in overcoming the gap caused by the absence of reliable information on hate crime.

On the occasion of International Tolerance Day, ODIHR organized the fifth meeting of the National Points of Contact on Combatting Hate Crime on 14 and 15 November in Warsaw. The National Points of Contact are nominated officials, who submit information on hate crime and responses to ODIHR, including the number of hate crimes recorded by the police, prosecution services and the courts, updates on relevant legislation and policies designed to combat and prevent such crimes. During the meeting, participants shared information about the practice and experience of their countries. They also commented on a draft version of ODIHR's hate crime reporting website, which will be launched in 2014.

ODIHR continues to work with other intergovernmental agencies to monitor hate crime incidents and responses. In 2013, ODIHR organized its fifth training event on hate crime monitoring and reporting methods for eight OSCE field operations and representatives from the International Organization



Albania's Prime Minister, Sali Berisha, speaks at the opening session of the 2013 High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination in Tirana, Albania, 21 May 2013. (USOSCE/Colin Peters)

for Migration and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

### Awareness raising

In order to support the implementation of relevant commitments, ODIHR made presentations on tolerance and non-discrimination in Brussels, Paris, Oslo, Trakai (Lithuania), Warsaw, Vienna and Yerevan. These presentations are designed to raise the awareness of authorities, criminal-justice officials and non-governmental organizations and to inspire them to use a comprehensive approach in dealing with hate crimes. Participants also learned about various methods to respond to hate crimes, ODIHR's programmes and how they can make use of ODIHR's tools.

In collaboration with the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, ODIHR organized a roundtable discussion on combating racism and xenophobia against asylum-seekers and refugees in Europe on 19 November in Strasbourg.

A high-level conference on tolerance and non-discrimination, including human rights youth education on tolerance and non-discrimination, took place in Tirana on 21 and 22 May 2013. The conference provided an opportunity to review and assess progress achieved in implementing commitments on tolerance and non-discrimination. More than 200 representatives from participating States, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and OSCE institutions and field operations attended. Much of the conference was devoted to exchanging information on initiatives to address intolerance and discrimination. A robust hate crime and anti-discrimination framework was mentioned as a prerequisite for effective action by criminal-justice systems and governments. Many conference participants expressed the view that comprehensive and integrative educational initiatives are the only sustainable strategy for eradicating the root causes of intolerance and discrimination. The OSCE's experience in mainstreaming human rights education in conflict prevention and resolution was a particular point of emphasis.





Adil Akhmetov, the OSCE Chairperson's Personal Representative on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims, speaking at meeting on discrimination against Muslims in Strasbourg, 5 July 2013. (OSCE/David Betzinger)

### Reviewing Legislation

ODIHR reviews legislation on combating discrimination and hate crime upon the request of participating States. ODIHR also provides legal opinions on legislation on freedom of religion or belief. The legal reviews help decision-makers ensure that laws are in line with OSCE commitments and other international standards. They identify areas in which legislation may need to be improved and contain constructive comments on how legislation could be brought in line with international standards. ODIHR's approach in preparing such legal reviews is outlined in its publication *Hate Crime Laws – A Practical Guide*. This document is available in Bosnian, English, French, German, Romanian and Russian.

ODIHR also carries out reviews on legislation pertaining to freedom of religion or belief. In 2013, ODIHR held a roundtable meeting in Ashgabat to present and discuss ODIHR's 2010 comments on Turkmenistan's Law on Religious Freedom and Religious Organizations.

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

ODIHR continued to work closely with law-enforcement agencies to support their efforts to address hate crimes.

In May, ODIHR conducted a training seminar for 16 prosecutors, upon an invitation from the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Following a request from the Office of the Prosecutor General of Moldova, ODIHR conducted training on hate crimes for 40 police officers and prosecutors from various regions of the country. The training explored community experiences with intolerance, outlined the importance of prosecuting hate crimes and analysed the international and national legal framework on hate crimes. ODIHR finalized the *Practical Guide for Prosecutors on Hate Crimes*, to be published in 2014, which is being developed in association with the International Association of Prosecutors.

As law-enforcement agencies are crucial to delivering effective responses to hate crimes, ODIHR continued its Training against Hate Crime for Law





Tanja Tripović, the Police Academy of Montenegro's Acting Director, and Ambassador Janez Lenarčič, the Director of ODIHR, signed an agreement to implement ODIHR's "Training Against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement" programme, Danilovgrad, 29 August 2013. (Police Academy of Montenegro/Nikola Rovcanin)

Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme. The objective of TAHCLE is to increase the knowledge and skills of police to recognize, understand and investigate hate crimes. The programme also addresses how to work effectively with victims, build trust with affected communities and improve collaboration with law-enforcement agencies.

Following the presentation of the TAHCLE programme at the annual meeting of the Association of European Police Colleges (AEPC) in November 2012, ODIHR conducted a training seminar on hate crime for 16 representatives of AEPC police college members from 11 countries. ODIHR and AEPC will continue their collaboration in 2014.

Following a needs-assessment visit to Italy, ODIHR signed a memorandum of understanding with the Observatory for Security Against Discrimination Acts (OSCAD) to implement TAHCLE. ODIHR also started work with Italy's TAHCLE national-implementation working group to customize the curriculum to the needs of the Italian police. In Montenegro, ODIHR signed a memorandum of understanding, customized

the standard curriculum to the needs of Montenegrin police, and conducted a train-the-trainers session for 16 participants. These included trainers from Montenegro's police academy and police officers from various police units. As part of TAHCLE implementation in Ukraine, ODIHR facilitated two meetings of the national implementation working group, in September in Kyiv and in November in Warsaw. Participants discussed curriculum customization and programme implementation.

Two other participating States have expressed interest in implementing TAHCLE in 2014.

### Supporting Civil Society

ODIHR co-operates closely with civil society organizations, in line with OSCE Ministerial Council Decisions. ODIHR also supports the participation civil society representatives in OSCE meetings to present their findings and discuss them with representatives from participating States. To strengthen their capacity and increase awareness,

ODIHR delivers training workshops on how civil society can identify, monitor and respond to bias-motivated incidents and work together with the relevant authorities.

In 2013, ODIHR provided training on responding to hate crimes to more than 130 civil society representatives. Activists from Bulgaria, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Ukraine increased their knowledge and skills on the topic and were also able to establish contacts with other organizations and exchange experiences. ODIHR also conducted a regional workshop for people with disabilities and policymakers in Oslo. More than 20 participants from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden were introduced to the concept of hate crime against people with disabilities and to monitoring and reporting mechanisms. A particular focus was collaboration between civil society organizations, government officials and national human rights institutions.

As part of its project to increase the capacity of people of African descent to combat hate crimes, racism and xenophobia, ODIHR awarded five grants for small-scale projects to civil society organizations from Austria, Hungary, Poland and Sweden. The projects aim to raise awareness about the intolerance and discrimination faced by people of African descent. In November, ODIHR organized a study visit to Washington, D.C. for 17 civil society representatives. During the visit, the participants met with representatives of the White House and State Department and a wide variety of civil rights activists.

### Responding to Anti-Semitism

ODIHR closely followed the security challenges faced by Jewish communities across the OSCE region. An expert meeting, co-organized by the Ukrainian Chairmanship of the OSCE, brought together more than 100 governmental and Jewish community experts from more than 20 participating States to discuss obstacles to the safety of Jewish communities and to exchange good practices. The meeting, which took place on 13 and 14 June in Berlin, was opened by the German Federal Minister of the Interior and the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism. Participants recommended that governments and Jewish communities co-operate closely through dialogue, sharing information and other confidence-building measures.

ODIHR also focused on raising awareness about anti-Semitism, especially through educational activities. Teaching materials on contemporary and

historical manifestations of anti-Semitism have been developed in 15 participating States. In May, ODIHR gathered 18 experts who have promoted these teaching materials to exchange experiences, discuss challenges and share effective educational approaches. The participants discussed, among other topics, how to motivate teachers to address the issue of anti-Semitism. Experts from Austria and Denmark, Hungary and Sweden presented recent developments related to the use of the teaching materials.

ODIHR also continued its co-operation with the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance to assist participating States in promoting Holocaust remembrance and education.

### Responding to Intolerance against Muslims

ODIHR, the Council of Europe and UNESCO co-organized a roundtable on the promotion of the *Guidelines for Educators on Countering Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims* on 5 July in Strasbourg. The event, which was the third in a series, focused on challenging anti-Muslim prejudice and promoting mutual respect in multicultural societies through education. Government representatives and educational experts from 13 participating States attended. Participants concluded that educators need additional tools to address intolerance against Muslims.

ODIHR delivered two training workshops for Muslim community leaders and civil society representatives dealing with intolerance against Muslims. Twenty-two civil society representatives from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden attended the training on 3 and 4 May in Copenhagen. A training session for Muslim community leaders from 20 participating States took place from 9 to 11 November in Warsaw. During these workshops, participants underlined the need to enhance relationships between Muslim communities and law-enforcement agencies.

### Raising Awareness about Intolerance against Christians

ODIHR took part in a conference in Rome in November organized by the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Racism and Xenophobia, also focusing on Intolerance against Christians and Members of other Religions. The 60 participants highlighted that the lack of information from participating States and civil society remains an obstacle



Rabbi Andrew Baker, the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism, speaking at an expert conference on the security needs of Jewish communities in the OSCE region, Berlin, 13 June 2013. (OSCE/Thomas Rymer)

to understanding full extent of the problem faced by Christian communities.

### Promoting Freedom of Religion or Belief

ODIHR convened a roundtable meeting on inter-religious dialogue in promoting freedom of religion or belief jointly with the Ukrainian Chairmanship of the OSCE and the European Council of Religious Leaders. During the meeting, participants stressed that religious leaders play an important role in advocating for the freedom of religion or belief. The positive role of inter-faith and inter-religious initiatives to counter manifestations of intolerance and discrimination was also highlighted.

To ensure that the forthcoming *Guidelines on Recognition of Religious or Belief Communities* cover pertinent issues and include examples of good practices, ODIHR consulted 85 experts at four roundtable meetings in Astana, Kyiv, Warsaw and Brussels, respectively. This document, developed in collaboration with the Council of Europe's Venice Commission, updates the 2004 *Guidelines for Review of Legislation pertaining to Religion or Belief*.

On 18 June, ODIHR organized the first meeting of the overhauled 12-member Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief. During the meeting,

participants were acquainted with the work of ODIHR in this area and also provided their feedback on the draft *Guidelines on Recognition of Religious or Belief Communities*.

At the invitation of the Uzbekistan authorities, ODIHR delivered a training course on Freedom of Religion or Belief for the personnel of the Committee for Religious Affairs on 10 April. On 24 May, ODIHR and a member of the ODIHR Advisory Panel on Freedom of Religion or Belief held a roundtable meeting in Ashgabat to discuss ODIHR's 2010 comments on Turkmenistan's Law on Religious Freedom and Religious Organizations. Twenty participants attended the event, including representatives of the Parliamentary Council on Religious Affairs, the Ministry of Justice and the Prosecution Service. The event was organized in partnership with the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat.

As part of its efforts to raise awareness about OSCE commitments and international standards pertaining to freedom of religion or belief, ODIHR developed a training manual for government officials and civil-society representatives. ODIHR piloted the manual at a training event for OSCE field operations on 20 and 21 February in Warsaw. Staff from 11 field operations attended.







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Beneficiaries of the Best Practices for Roma Integration (BPRI) project speak during a visit to monitor the outcomes of a small-grants project in a primary school in Tivat, Montenegro, July 2013. (OSCE/Tomislav Georgiev)

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# Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues

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*Roma and Sinti communities continue to suffer widespread discrimination in the OSCE area, affecting all aspects of their lives. ODIHR works through its Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues to support the rights of Roma, further their integration and combat discrimination. Its work is grounded in several key documents: the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area; Ministerial Council Decision No. 6/08 on Enhancing OSCE Efforts to Implement the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti Within the OSCE Area; and Ministerial Council Decision No. 8/09 on Enhancing OSCE Efforts to Ensure Roma and Sinti Sustainable Integration.*

*These commitments were further strengthened at the end of 2013 at the OSCE Ministerial Council in Kyiv with the adoption of Decision No. 4/2013 on Enhancing OSCE Efforts to Implement the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma within the OSCE Area, with a particular focus on Roma and Sinti Women, Youth and Children.*

*In 2013, ODIHR issued its second status report on the implementation of the OSCE Roma and Sinti Action Plan. The report marked ten years since the adoption of the Action Plan and pointed to new positive developments, such as the surge in funding for Roma integration and new national strategies established across the OSCE area, while highlighting persisting problems and challenges exacerbated by the global economic crisis, rising anti-Roma rhetoric, and extremism and violence targeting Roma and Sinti.*

*As part of its focus of work in this area with young people, ODIHR kick-started the innovative Roma Youth Initiative, a programme designed to enhance the participation of Roma and Sinti youth in their communities. Activities implemented in Italy, the Czech Republic, Romania and Spain focused on grassroots engagement to keep Roma children and youth from leaving school, improve performance in education and facilitate access to healthcare.*

*The Office also co-sponsored a Roma youth initiative to commemorate the Nazi Roma and Sinti genocide in order to raise awareness about the suffering of Roma and Sinti and combat current forms of racism and discrimination against them.*

*ODIHR supported governments in policy implementation in relation to Roma and Sinti, continuing earlier co-operation with the Moldovan government, among others. Co-operation with other international organizations, civil society and academia continued throughout the year.*

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Livia Járóka, the sole Roma Member of the European Parliament and the Vice-chair of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality, speaking at an OSCE meeting on human rights, Vienna, 7 November 2013. (OSCE/Micky Kroell)

## ACTIVITIES

Based on the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area and subsequent Ministerial Council Decisions, ODIHR's activities focused on:

- Launching the 2013 second *Status Report on the implementation of the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti Within the OSCE Area*;
- Supporting the empowerment of Roma and Sinti representatives, particularly Roma and Sinti women and Roma youth;
- Raising awareness about the Roma and Sinti genocide;
- Assisting governments in policy implementation relating to Roma and Sinti; and
- Increased co-operation with intergovernmental and international organizations.

## The 2013 Status Report on the Implementation of the Action Plan

In 2013, ODIHR published its second *Status Report on the Implementation of the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti Within the OSCE Area*. The report assessed the policies and actions of OSCE participating States since 2008 while providing a general overview on the situation of Roma and Sinti in the OSCE area. The report findings are based on 41 responses to an ODIHR questionnaire. Among the major findings, the report underlines the increase in funding of and the availability of policy frameworks for Roma and Sinti inclusion across the OSCE area. At the same time, it highlights persisting







Andrzej Mirga, ODIHR's Senior Adviser on Roma and Sinti Issues, speaks at a side event on human rights challenges faced by Roma and Sinti in the OSCE region, organized by ODIHR and the European Roma Rights Centre at the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, Warsaw, 23 September 2013. (OSCE/Idaver Memedov)

challenges in all areas of the Action Plan, sometimes exacerbated by the global economic crisis, and concerning trends of increased racism, anti-Roma rhetoric, extremism and violence targeting Roma and Sinti. The Status Report was launched at the third Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) on 7 and 8 November in Vienna, which was dedicated to Roma and Sinti issues and marked 10 years since the adoption of the OSCE Action Plan.

The SHDM emphasized the challenges to implementing policy commitments regarding Roma and Sinti at the local level, where concrete measures in education, employment, housing and health are still needed to reverse negative trends, including evictions and continued segregation in education. Focusing particularly on Roma and Sinti women and youth, the event brought together more than 200 participants, including 128 delegates from 44 OSCE participating States, and representatives from 54 non-governmental organizations. Civil society actors stressed the need for increased participation of Roma and Sinti in the political, social and economic spheres, and especially of Roma and Sinti women and youth, who can

play a crucial role for change in their communities. Their recommendations fed into MC Decision No. 4/13 on Enhancing OSCE Efforts to Implement the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma Within the OSCE Area, with a particular focus on Roma and Sinti Women, Youth and Children, adopted by the Ministerial Council in Kyiv on 6 December.

ODIHR invited more than 40 Roma and Sinti representatives for a civil society consultation meeting immediately prior to the SHDM to discuss the findings of the Status Report and ways forward to enhance policy implementation and address current trends and challenges. An issue particularly highlighted by the civil society representatives was negative public discourse targeting Roma and Sinti.

### **Empowering Roma and Sinti representatives, particularly youth**

In 2013 ODIHR designated Roma and Sinti youth development as a priority, launching the Roma Youth Initiative. The project provided opportunities for Roma organizations to step up their activities at





Ambassador Janez Lenarčič (r), the ODIHR Director, talking with a resident during a visit to the Roma settlement at Brnješ/Bërnjesh to inspect the new waste-water collector built there with the aid of a grant from the Best Practices for Roma Integration project, 5 September 2013. (OSCE/Tomislav Georgiev)

the grassroots level, supported capacity building of Roma youth organizations, and encouraged volunteer activities and grassroots engagement in Roma communities. The initiative responded to the need to encourage Roma youth groups, whether at universities or high schools, to take on greater roles as agents for change in Roma communities, as well as in the shaping of education and youth policies.

Four project proposals were selected on merit under the Roma Youth Initiative to promote grassroots engagement to reduce school drop-out rates, improve performance in education or to enable access to health, education and social services. The selected projects were: “Slovo 21: Mum, dad, I want to go to school” in the Czech Republic; “Popica Onlus: Pretend your rights” in Italy; “KAMIRA – National Roma women’s federation: Roma women building the present” in Spain; and “Gypsy Eye - Heart to heart: the club of disadvantaged children who want to learn” in Romania.

### Raising Awareness about the Roma and Sinti Genocide

Building on previous successful initiatives to promote awareness on the Roma and Sinti genocide among youth, ODIHR continued its support for the International Roma Youth Network ternYpe for the Roma Genocide Remembrance Initiative “Dik I Na Bistar” (Look and don’t forget). The initiative brought together more than 430 young Roma and non-Roma from 18 countries for the 2 August commemoration of the Roma genocide in the former Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. The event aimed to strengthen the awareness of young people and youth organizations on the continued discrimination and patterns of racism against Roma and Sinti, hate speech and extremism. It informed young people with different backgrounds about the Roma genocide during World War II. Holocaust education was used as a tool to make young people understand the mechanisms of exclusion, racism, anti-Semitism and racism and discrimination against Roma and Sinti.

### Assisting governments in policy implementation relating to Roma and Sinti

As follow-up to ODIHR's assistance to the Moldovan authorities in 2011 and 2012 in developing and implementing the country's Roma Action Plan, ODIHR supported the Moldovan Bureau for Interethnic Relations in implementing key activities of the Action Plan. Following a needs assessment and consultation visit conducted by ODIHR, a seminar to help build the capacity of the Moldovan Inter-ministerial working Group for Roma was organized by the Bureau for Interethnic Relations, under the auspices of the Prime Minister's Office and with ODIHR support. The seminar provided comprehensive training on developing and applying monitoring and data-collection instruments, planning and evaluation, and building co-operation with civil society and the Roma community. In addition, ODIHR launched the *Police and Roma and Sinti* manual, together with the General Police Inspectorate and Roma National Center of Moldova, implementing one key activity of the Action Plan. The launch event was followed by a training seminar for more than 20 police officers serving in Roma-populated areas.

ODIHR also supported the study *Roma, Sinti, Boshia and Lyuli in Central Asia and Transcaucasia*, authored by two experts from the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies and Ethnographic Museum at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

Marking International Roma Day on 8 April, ODIHR, in co-operation with the FXB Center for Health and Human Rights and the Mahindra Humanities Center and the Center for European Studies at Harvard University, held the conference "Realizing

Roma Rights: Addressing Violence, Discrimination and Segregation in Europe". The conference brought together international experts from government, civil society and academia.

### Increased co-operation with intergovernmental and international organizations

In 2013, ODIHR continued to strengthen ties with other international organizations.

The Office met with the European Commission's General Justice Directorate in Brussels, focusing on topics such as school segregation and special schools education in the context of the implementation of the EU's Racial Equality Directive, anti-Roma rhetoric and extremism, and opportunities under the 2013 Year of European Citizenship.

ODIHR was also involved in the 8th Roma Platform, organized on 27 June in Brussels by the European Commission, and participated at the 4th International Roma Women's Conference "Acting Now for an Equal Future", organized in Helsinki. ODIHR also contributed expertise to an expert meeting on policing in Roma communities organized by the Geneva-based Center for Democratic Control of Armed Forces/Police Cooperation Convention Secretariat.

ODIHR continued to co-operate closely with other OSCE structures. Representatives from the Office met representatives from the Office of the OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities in The Hague to discuss the 2013 Status Report, the Zagreb Declaration the Sarajevo Process and the situation in Czech Republic, as well as police and Roma issues.



Speakers at the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Implementation of the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti, Vienna, 7 and 8 September 2013. (USOSCE/Colin Peters)



Extra-curricular activities are organized for Roma and Egyptian children in Berane, Montenegro, as part of a project supported by the BRPI small grants programme, 19 July 2013. (OSCE/Tomislav Georgiev)

## EMPOWERING ROMA COMMUNITIES

A Roma youth network, Roma participation on municipal community boards, action plans to address the needs of local communities, and a compilation of region-wide good practices to combat discrimination — these are just some of the achievements of the Best Practices for Roma Integration project (BPRI) in the Western Balkans in 2013.

BPRI aims to improve the quality of life and access to rights of Roma communities in the region through increasing participation in political and public life and decision-making, improving housing conditions and combating discrimination.

In 2013, more than 10,000 Roma in 20 selected municipalities across the region benefited directly from BPRI's small grants programme. Through grants of up to 5,000 euro, the BPRI programme supported local municipalities and local Roma NGOs and — equally importantly — encouraged co-operation between them to ensure that Roma are directly involved in all actions that affect their communities.

In Lezha, Albania, for instance, while grants paid for some modest infrastructure improvements, a more significant benefit was the creation of a community board that included both municipal representatives and representatives of Roma NGOs. Co-operation with Roma communities at all stages of implementation has raised awareness of their needs and improved the quality of municipal services.

Along with such infrastructure improvements, other projects supported by the scheme included help for a local Roma radio station and support for the integration of Roma pupils in schools.

BPRI shared the methodology of the small grant scheme with the Albania, which is planning a similar small grants scheme to improve the living conditions and housing of its Roma communities.

One of BPRI's goals is to ensure greater participation of Roma communities in policymaking and decision-making processes, especially at the local



level. BPRI supported the creation of 12 local Roma action plans designed to address needs of Roma communities, ten of which have already been adopted. Efforts were made to ensure that Roma participated actively in all phases of the development of the local action plans, together with representatives of different municipal services.

Local Roma integration strategies and plans will only be successful if they reflect the genuine needs of the communities. To help achieve this, BPRI carried out several research activities on ensuring accurate data and quality analyses are used when planning action for greater Roma integration. BPRI supported six policy-practice studies on gaps in existing legislation that may affect Roma.

To help Roma rights activists fight discrimination against Roma communities and to promote increased participation in local decision-making, BPRI collected good practices from across the Western Balkans and published them in its “Regional Report on Anti-Discrimination and Participation of Roma in Local Decision-making”.

BPRI organized a series of events across the Western Balkans to raise awareness about Roma culture, traditions and rights to celebrate International Romani Day on 8 April. Campaigns to combat discrimination and events in schools were some of the other BPRI activities of this type carried out in 2013.

### Supporting a new generation of Roma rights advocates

Some 25 young Roma from across the Western Balkans took part in a trainee programme designed to

support and encourage Roma youth to participate in policymaking and advocacy in the region. BPRI’s ten-month-long Young Roma Professionals programme also includes training on specific skills to help the trainees’ future employment prospects.

The young professionals first spent up to five months in OSCE field operations throughout the region, before spending the second half of their traineeship working for governmental institutions or non-governmental organizations.

After completing their traineeships, the young professionals took the initiative of establishing a regional network in order to continue with joint activities, projects and other forms of exchange of experience. The newly formed association “Restart” will focus on education and employment, healthcare, cultural identity, gender issues and the implementation of the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015.

Such outcomes point to the success of the BPRI project in empowering Roma to advocate for their own rights beyond the lifetime of the project. In addition to the young Roma professionals, more than 1,300 Roma are involved in the project’s wider activities, gaining skills and experience that will help them continue working on issues affecting Roma integration in the Western Balkans in the future.

BPRI is a regional project funded by the European Union, supported by OSCE participating States and implemented by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR).



The Romani radio station Avazo in Prizren uses equipment purchased with the help of a BPRI small grant, 12 September 2013. (OSCE/Tomislav Georgiev)





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# Annexes

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# Programmes and Projects

(Funded by extrabudgetary contributions)

## ELECTIONS

| Programmes/Projects/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 from eligible participating States* as long-term and short-term election observers within OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Missions or Assessment Missions in Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Mongolia, Montenegro and Tajikistan</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>Moodle-enabled e-learning module for short-term election observers</li> </ul>  |
| ODIHR Election Support Team to Afghanistan                                | Afghanistan    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Security assessment for deployment of ODIHR Election Support Team for 2014 presidential and provincial council elections</li> </ul>  |
| Election Observation Development  | OSCE Region    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publication of ODIHR handbook on observing new voting technologies Continued work on handbook on observing campaign finance</li> <li>Publication of revised <i>Guidelines for Reviewing a Legal Framework for Elections</i></li> <li>Pilot projects on the use of digital pens to streamline STO information collection</li> </ul> |
| Review of Electoral Legislation and Practice of OSCE Participating States | OSCE Region    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expert review of electoral legislation and practice</li> <li>Publishing and presenting the report at a dedicated event</li> </ul>  |
| Translation of OSCE/ODIHR Election Literature into Dari/Pashtu            | Afghanistan    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Circulating the Dari and Pashtu translations of the <i>OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Handbook (6<sup>th</sup> Edition)</i></li> </ul>  |

\*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/Projects/Fund | Region/Country | Included work on:  |
|-------------------------|----------------|--|
| Rule of Law             | OSCE Region    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trial monitoring project in Georgia</li> <li>Finalization and launch of the <i>OSCE/ODIHR Handbook on Monitoring Administrative Justice</i> in co-operation with the Folke Bernadotte Academy</li> <li>Translation into Russian and French and wider distribution of <i>Legal Digest of International Fair Trial Rights and Trial Monitoring: A Reference Manual for Practitioners</i> (revised edition)</li> <li>War crimes Justice Project - Phase II training and peer-to-peer meetings (South-Eastern Europe)</li> <li><i>Fourth Expert Forum on Criminal Justice for Central Asia Report</i> (publication in Russian)</li> </ul> |

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Strengthening Democratic Processes and Institutions in Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia | Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Expert Roundtable on Legal Aid in Criminal Proceedings in Central Asia</li> <li>Roundtable on the Implementation of the 2012-2016 Strategic Programme for Legal and Judicial Reforms in the Republic of Armenia</li> <li>Trial Monitoring: A Reference Manual for Practitioners (publication of Russian-language version)</li> <li>Trial monitoring training for civil society (Eastern Europe, South Caucasus)</li> </ul> |
|--|---|--|

## DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

| Programme/Projects/Fund | Region/Country | Included work on:   |
|-------------------------|----------------|---|
| Democratic Governance   | OSCE Region    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting OSCE commitments on democratic governance and the <i>Guidelines on Political Party Regulation</i></li> <li>Political party expert seminar in Warsaw for OSCE participating States and civil society</li> <li>Roundtable in Georgia on political party funding and women's participation in political life</li> <li>Promotion of women's parliamentary structures in the OSCE region</li> <li>Promotion of the base-line study <i>Gender Equality in Elected Office: A Six-Step Action Plan in OSCE participating States</i> and research on women's political participation at the local government level</li> <li>Roundtables and workshops on establishing or implementing codes and standards of ethics for parliamentarians (Georgia, Sweden)</li> </ul> |

## GENDER EQUALITY

| Programmes/Projects/Fund                     | Region/Country | Included work on:   |
|--|----------------|---|
| Increased Participation of Women in Politics | OSCE Region    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthening parliamentary structures for women MPs, including field research in the South-Eastern Europe</li> <li>Supporting political stakeholders to apply measures to increase women's participation in political parties (Albania, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan)</li> <li>Finalization of the <i>Handbook on Measures to Promote Women's Participation in Political Parties</i></li> <li>Publication of the <i>OSCE/ODIHR Comparative Study of Structures for Women MPs in the OSCE Region</i> including workshops (Kyrgyzstan)</li> <li>Strengthening national mechanisms (particularly national human rights institutions) for the promotion and protection of gender equality (Mongolia, Serbia, Ukraine)</li> <li>Promoting the <i>OSCE/ODIHR Handbook for National Human Rights Institutions on Women's Rights and Gender Equality</i></li> </ul> |



## LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

| Programme/Projects/Fund  | Region/Country                                  | Included work on:   |
|--|---|---|
| Legislation Review Fund  | OSCE Region                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expert reviews of legislation on elections, referendums, political party financing, election campaign financing, freedom of assembly, counter-terrorism, freedom of conscience, religious organizations, judges' disciplinary liability (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, South-Eastern Europe) and consultative meetings on ODIHR legal opinions (Kyrgyzstan, South-Eastern Europe)</li> <li><i>Legislative Guidelines on the Freedom of Association</i></li> <li>Support and maintenance of co-operation with the OSCE/ODIHR Panel of Experts on Freedom of Assembly and Core Group of Experts on Political Parties</li> <li>Providing greater access to laws through ODIHR's database, including its Russian-language interface (<a href="http://www.legislationline.org">www.legislationline.org</a>)</li> </ul> |
| Strengthening Democratic Processes and Institutions in Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia | Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expert reviews of legislation on gender equality and domestic violence (Ukraine)</li> <li>Facilitating consultative meetings on ODIHR legal opinions on freedom of religion and belief and gender equality (Turkmenistan, Ukraine)</li> <li>Workshop on "Public Consultation and Oversight over Legislation as Essential Aspects of Democratic Law-Making" (Georgia)</li> <li>Preliminary assessment of the law-making system of Kyrgyzstan</li> <li>Providing greater access to laws through ODIHR's database, including its Russian-language interface (<a href="http://www.legislationline.org">www.legislationline.org</a>)</li> </ul>   |

## HUMAN RIGHTS

| Programmes/Projects/Fund        | Region/Country | Included work on:   |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---|
| Human Rights Monitoring         | OSCE Region    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Desk research and analysis of freedom of peaceful assembly, protection of human rights defenders and freedom of association</li> <li>Assembly monitoring (Greece, Montenegro, Portugal, Spain)</li> <li>Monitoring the use of the death penalty</li> </ul>   |
| Human Rights and Anti-Terrorism | OSCE Region    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion of <i>Countering Terrorism and Protecting Human Rights: A Manual</i> and development of an operational training curriculum for counter-terrorism officers</li> <li>Development of the <i>Guidebook on preventing terrorism and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism (VERLT)</i>, with the Action against Terrorism Unit of the OSCE Secretariat's Transnational Threats Department</li> <li>Publication of the <i>Youth Engagement to Counter VERLT</i> report in Russian</li> </ul> |

|  |             |   |
|--|-------------|---|
| Human Rights Education and Capacity Building | OSCE Region | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of <i>OSCE/ODIHR Guidelines on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders</i></li> <li>• Improving and promoting <i>AssociatiOnline</i>, ODIHR's online database on freedom of association</li> </ul>  |
| Anti-Trafficking                             | OSCE Region | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion of human rights protection, including access to justice, for trafficked persons and vulnerable groups through national assessments and expert roundtables (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan)</li> </ul>   |
| Human Rights, Gender and Security            | OSCE Region | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of guidance notes on <i>Integrating Gender into Security Sector Oversight</i> in co-operation with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces</li> <li>• Awareness raising on combating domestic violence (Moldova)</li> <li>• Participating in a campaign <i>16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence</i> (Kyrgyzstan)</li> <li>• Capacity-building for civil society on monitoring the human rights of armed forces personnel, including through country specific projects (Armenia, Moldova and Tajikistan)</li> <li>• Advancing debates on human rights protection in the armed forces at the Forum for Security Co-operation</li> <li>• Promoting human rights and gender considerations in parliamentary oversight of the armed forces (Georgia)</li> </ul> |

## TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

| Programmes/Projects/Fund   | 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>• Expert meeting on implementation of the ODIHR/Anne Frank House teaching materials on anti-Semitism</li> <li>• Conference on addressing the security needs of Jewish communities in the OSCE region</li> <li>• Roundtable event on promoting the <i>Guidelines for Educators on Countering Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims: Addressing Islamophobia through Education</i> to teachers, ministries of education, educational agencies and international organizations</li> </ul> |
| Combating Hate Crime   | OSCE Region    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Needs assessment visits on implementation of Training of Trainers against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) (Albania, Italy, Montenegro)</li> <li>• TAHCLE in Montenegro</li> <li>• Study tour on preventing and responding to hate crimes for people of African descent</li> <li>• Implementation of small-scale projects to build the capacity of civil society dealing with people of African descent</li> <li>• Training prosecutors in Bosnia and Herzegovina</li> </ul>           |

|                               |             |  |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Freedom of Religion or Belief | OSCE Region | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on freedom of religion or belief for Uzbek State Committee on Religious Affairs</li> <li>• Consultative meetings of government officials and civil society on the draft <i>ODIHR Guidelines on Recognition of Religious and Belief Communities</i> (Kazakhstan and Ukraine)</li> </ul> |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--|

## ROMA AND SINTI ISSUES

| Programme/Projects/Fund   | Region/Country       | Included work on:  |
|---|----------------------|--|
| Assisting Participating States to Effectively Implement the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area | OSCE Region          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity building of Roma youth organisations through the Roma Youth Initiative to encourage voluntarism and grassroots engagement in Roma communities (Czech Republic, Italy, Romania and Spain)</li> <li>• Increased awareness among Roma youth on how to exercise their civic and social rights</li> <li>• Facilitate networking and debate on Roma youth issues and lessons learned from grassroots level engagement</li> <li>• Participation of Roma youth at the third SHDM and presentation of their work in a side event</li> </ul> |
| Best Practices for Roma Integration   | South-Eastern Europe | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening Roma involvement in decision-making, public or political life, national/regional co-ordination and other cross-border initiatives</li> <li>• Good practices in multi-sector municipal collaboration</li> <li>• Supporting governments in policy-making and drafting legislation for legalization of informal settlements/social housing</li> <li>• Assistance to promote anti-discriminatory policies and practice</li> <li>• Increasing public awareness about the right of Roma to be included</li> </ul>                   |

## OSCE MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERS

| Programme/Projects/Fund   | Region/Country                  | Included work on:  |
|---|---------------------------------|--|
| Programme on Increasing Understanding of the OSCE Human Dimension | OSCE and Mediterranean Partners | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-printing and dissemination of versions in Arabic of existing core ODIHR tools</li> <li>• Contributing expertise on international human rights standards, promoting women's participation in political parties and political party regulation to national and regional events held by other organizations</li> <li>• Facilitating participation of government officials and civil society in OSCE human dimension events</li> <li>• Facilitating a study tour on political party and campaign financing (Tunisia and Poland)</li> <li>• Reviewing legislation related to the human dimension, including conduct of consultative meetings (Tunisia)</li> </ul> |

# Legislative Reviews in 2013

In 2013, ODIHR published 25 legal reviews or opinions, many of them conducted jointly with the Council of Europe's Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission).

## ELECTIONS

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint Opinion on the Electoral Code</li> </ul>   |
| Moldova                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint Opinion on Draft Legislation of the Republic pertaining to Financing Political Parties and Election Campaigns</li> </ul>   |
| Ukraine                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint Opinion on the Draft Amendments to the Laws on Election of People's Deputies and on the Central Election Commission and on the Draft Law on Repeat Elections</li> <li>• Joint Opinion on Draft Amendments to Legislation on the Election of People's Deputies</li> </ul> |

## LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Armenia    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opinion on the Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia</li> </ul>   |
| Azerbaijan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on the Law on Freedom of Assembly and Relevant Amendments to the Administrative Offences Code and the Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan</li> </ul>  |
| Georgia    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opinion on the Draft Law on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination of Georgia</li> <li>• Opinion on the Draft Amendments to the Legal Framework on Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence in Georgia</li> </ul>  |
| Kazakhstan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on the Draft Law of Kazakhstan on the Parliamentary Opposition</li> <li>• Comments on the Draft Law on Amendments and Addenda to the Law on the Judicial System and Status of Judges of Kazakhstan</li> </ul>   |
| Kyrgyzstan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opinion on the Draft Law of the Kyrgyz Republic on Forensic Examination</li> <li>• Opinion on Key Legal Acts regulating the Prosecution Service of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> <li>• Joint OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Draft Law Amending the Laws on Non-Commercial Organisations and Other Legislative Acts of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> </ul>   |
| Moldova    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission Amicus Curiae Brief for the Constitutional Court of Moldova on the Compatibility with European Standards of Law No 192 of 12 July 2012 on the Prohibition of the Use of Symbols of the Totalitarian Communist Regime and of the Promotion of Totalitarian Ideologies of the Republic of Moldova</li> <li>• Joint OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on Draft Legislation of the Republic of Moldova Pertaining to Financing Political Parties and Election Campaigns</li> </ul> |
| Mongolia   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opinion on the Law of Mongolia on Promotion of Gender Equality</li> </ul>  |
| Montenegro | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opinion on the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination of Montenegro</li> <li>• Opinion on the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination of the Republic of Montenegro</li> <li>• Opinion on the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro</li> </ul>  |
| Serbia     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opinion on the Draft Law on Amendments and Additions to the Criminal Procedure Code of Serbia</li> </ul>   |



## LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT (CONT.)

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|         |   |
|---------|---|
| Tunisia | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Opinion on the Draft Organic Law on the Right to Peaceful Assembly of Tunisia</li><li>• Joint OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Law No. 2008-37 of 16 June 2008 relating to the Higher Committee for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of the Republic of Tunisia</li><li>• Opinion on the Draft Law of Tunisia Related to the Fight against Terrorism and Prevention of Money Laundering</li></ul> |
| Ukraine | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Opinion on the Draft Law on Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence of Ukraine</li><li>• Opinion on Draft Amendments to Ensure Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men in Political Appointments in Ukraine</li></ul>   |

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# Selected 2013 Conferences and Meetings

## HUMAN DIMENSION EVENTS

| Name  | Location | Date                        | Number of Participants |
|---|----------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| SHDM on “Freedom of Movement and Human Contacts”  | Vienna   | 25-26 April                 | 130                    |
| Human Dimension Seminar on the Media Freedom Legal Framework  | Warsaw   | 13-15 May                   | 135                    |
| Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on the Rule of Law in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights                | Vienna   | 11-12 July                  | 135                    |
| Human Dimension Implementation Meeting  | Warsaw   | 23 September<br>– 4 October | 1134                   |
| Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Implementation of the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti | Vienna   | 7-8 November                | 213                    |

## DEMOCRATIZATION

| Name  | Location               | Date           | Number of Participants |
|---|------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Presentation of <i>Background Study: Professional and Ethical Standards for Parliamentarians</i>  | Vienna                 | 25 January     | 60                     |
| Launch of ODIHR report on the legislative process in Serbia   | Belgrade               | 7 February     | 20                     |
| Women Leadership Training   | Tirana                 | 11-12 February | 40                     |
| Capacity building event for legal professionals on trial monitoring methodologies (for lawyers from Russia, Ukraine and Belarus)  | Vilnius                | 19-20 February | 24                     |
| Study Visit to Warsaw for MPs from SEE on Parliamentary Ethics  | Warsaw                 | 5-6 March      | 20                     |
| Roundtable on “Political Party Funding and Women’s Participation in Political Life”   | Tbilisi                | 12-13 March    | 80                     |
| Expert workshop on evidentiary rules and evidentiary defence rights   | Yerevan                | 19 March       | 22                     |
| WCJP II training for defence counsel on international law and trial skills  | Peć/Pejë               | 28 March       | 30                     |
| WCJP II training for defence counsel on international law and trial skills  | Priština/<br>Prishtinë | 29 March       | 21                     |
| Meeting on implementation of the 2012-2016 Strategic Programme for Legal and Judicial Reforms in the Republic of Armenia, with the OSCE Office in Yerevan and the Council of Europe | Yerevan                | 11-12 April    | 50                     |
| Increasing Women’s Participation in Political Parties Training  | Bishkek                | 17-19 April    | 40                     |
| Increasing Women and Youth Participation in Political Parties Training  | Dushanbe               | 22-23 April    | 35                     |
| Workshop on monitoring of implementation and evaluation of legislation (ex-post evaluation)   | Belgrade               | 22-23 April    | 32                     |

|   |          |               |    |
|---|----------|---------------|----|
| Women's power lunch: "Reflecting or Distorting Reality? The Impact of the Media on Women's Political Participation"   | Warsaw   | 14 May        | 30 |
| Contribution to the Study Visit to Finland on Women's Parliamentary Networks, with the OSCE Mission to Serbia, the Finnish Embassy in Belgrade, the Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence and the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia | Helsinki | 14-17 May     | 25 |
| Training event on best practices in integration of migrants in line with OSCE commitments   | Shymkent | 15 May        | 35 |
| Regional expert roundtable on legal aid in criminal proceedings in Central Asia   | Bishkek  | 15-16 May     | 35 |
| Seminar on parliamentary ethics and codes of conduct  | Tallinn  | 15-16 May     | 20 |
| Roundtable on ODIHR Comments on the Law on Religious Organizations of Turkmenistan  | Ashgabat | 24 May        | 20 |
| Consultation on the <i>Comparative Study on Parliamentary Structures for Women MPs, National Constituent Assembly</i>   | Tunis    | 29 May        | 35 |
| Training on gender equality and women's political participation for the Ministry of Human Rights and Transitional Justice of Tunisia  | Tunis    | 29 May        | 25 |
| WCJP II Joint trial skills training for judges, prosecutors, and defence counsel  | Sarajevo | 29-31 May     | 23 |
| Political party training, with the Tunisian School of Politics  | Hammamet | 31 May-1 June | 35 |
| Training for women candidates, with the Tunisian School of Politics and CAWTAR  | Tunis    | 2-3 June      | 25 |
| Conference on the role of the opposition in Kazakhstan, with the OSCE Centre in Astana  | Astana   | 5-6 June      | 40 |
| Training event on best practices in integration of migrants in line with OSCE commitments   | Riga     | 6-7 June      | 31 |
| Workshop on consolidation and harmonization of legislation  | Belgrade | 17-18 June    | 30 |
| Contribution to Regional Workshop "Equal and Empowered: Women's equal participation in politics", with UNDP   | Chisinau | 18 June       | 25 |
| Conference on "Codes of Ethics – Towards Effective Parliamentary Accountability"  | Sarajevo | 18-20 June    | 20 |
| WCJP II - Regional peer-to-peer event for witness support providers   | Skopje   | 21 June       | 28 |
| Consultation on Women's Rights and Gender Equality with the Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights  | Kyiv     | 25 June       | 15 |
| Annual meeting of the ODIHR Panel of Experts on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly  | Warsaw   | 26-27 June    | 20 |
| Follow-up training for women candidates, with the Tunisian School of Politics and CAWTAR  | Tunis    | 27 June       | 25 |
| Political Party Training with Tunisian School of Politics   | Hammamet | 28-30 June    | 35 |
| Roundtable on women's participation in politics and elections   | Warsaw   | 4-5 July      | 25 |
| ODIHR political party seminar   | Warsaw   | 10-11 July    | 55 |

|   |                        |               |    |
|---|------------------------|---------------|----|
| Annual meeting of the ODIHR Core Group of Experts on Political Parties  | Warsaw                 | 11 July       | 20 |
| Conference on <i>codes and standards of ethics for parliamentarians</i>   | Tbilisi                | 15 July       | 40 |
| Workshop on public consultation and oversight over legislation as essential aspects of democratic law-making                                    | Tbilisi                | 16 July       | 45 |
| Training on gender equality in Parliament, in co-operation with the OSCE Mission to Montenegro  | Bar                    | 19-20 July    | 30 |
| Political leadership training for Polish women leaders, in co-operation with the Polish School of Leaders                                       | Warsaw                 | 12-13 August  | 30 |
| Conference on Gender Mainstreaming for the Office of the Protector of Citizens, with the OSCE Mission to Serbia                                 | Belgrade               | 12 September  | 20 |
| Women's power breakfast: "Is Election Observation Ready for Gender Mainstreaming?"  | Warsaw                 | 19 September  | 30 |
| HDIM women's power breakfast: "Money and Politics: How does women's access to resources influence their political success?"                     | Warsaw                 | 24 September  | 40 |
| HDIM side event: "Enhancing Public Trust in Parliaments: The Role of Gender Equality and Parliamentary Ethics"                                  | Warsaw                 | 30 September  | 30 |
| HDIM side event: launch of ODIHR's <i>Handbook for Monitoring Administrative Justice</i> , jointly with the Folke Bernadotte Academy            | Warsaw                 | 2 October     | 40 |
| ODIHR/OCEEA regional training on gender-sensitive labour migration policies   | Almaty                 | 7-8 October   | 25 |
| Annual trial monitoring meeting with OSCE field operations and civil society  | Warsaw                 | 7-8 October   | 40 |
| Training on best practices in integration of migrants in line with OSCE commitments   | Astana                 | 10-11 October | 22 |
| Workshop on women's rights, gender equality and human rights monitoring for the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia                    | Ulaanbaatar            | 14-15 October | 25 |
| WCJP II - Training for defence counsel on international law and trial skills  | Prizren/<br>Prizren    | 17 October    | 30 |
| Training on best practices in integration of migrants in line with OSCE commitments   | Belgrade               | 17-18 October | 23 |
| WCJP II - Training for defence counsel on international law and trial skills  | Priština/<br>Prishtinë | 18 October    | 23 |
| Conference on "Political Parties – Key Factor in the Political Development of Democratic Societies"   | Bucharest              | 18-19 October | 50 |
| Roundtable on Migration Integration Policy Index (MIPEX) Assessment for Armenia, with the OSCE Office in Yerevan and the Migration Policy Group | Yerevan                | 23 October    | 25 |
| Training on best practices in integration of migrants in line with OSCE commitments, with the OSCE Office in Yerevan                            | Yerevan                | 24-25 October | 22 |
| Presentation of the ODIHR Opinion on Draft Law on Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence of Ukraine (various bilateral meetings)            | Kyiv                   | 28-30 October | 30 |



|  |           |                  |     |
|--|-----------|------------------|-----|
| Seminar on political party and campaign financing  | Stockholm | 5-6 November     | 25  |
| Roundtable on implementation of ODIHR's recommendations related to election disputes resolution  | Belgrade  | 6 November       | 35  |
| Conference on "Women's Political Participation in the upcoming Elections", with Central European University and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung   | Budapest  | 15 November      | 150 |
| Consultative Meeting on the OSCE/ODIHR Opinion on the Draft Law on the Fight against Terrorism and the Prevention of Money Laundering of Tunisia, with the Ministry of Human Rights and Transitional Justice | Tunis     | 16 December      | 30  |
| WCJP II - Regional peer-to-peer meeting for judges   | Sarajevo  | 15 November      | 16  |
| Roundtable on assessing the legislative process in Armenia   | Yerevan   | 18 November      | 20  |
| Expert workshop on the ODIHR Opinion on key legal acts regulating the prosecution service in the Kyrgyz Republic   | Bishkek   | 19 November      | 30  |
| Roundtable event on the modernization of the system of migration management, with the OSCE Centre in Astana  | Astana    | 20 November      | 20  |
| Regional Workshop on Women's Political Leadership  | Bishkek   | 22-25 November   | 35  |
| Capacity-building event for legal professionals on trial monitoring methodologies (for NGOs in the South Caucasus)   | Vilnius   | 25-26 November   | 24  |
| Roundtable on addressing the link between travel document security and population registration/civil registration documents and processes  | Warsaw    | 26 - 27 November | 20  |
| WCJP II - Trial skills workshop for judges, prosecutors and defence counsel  | Belgrade  | 26-27 November   | 19  |
| Final consolidating workshop on "Preparing a Regulatory Reform Roadmap on Law Drafting and Legislative Process in the Republic of Serbia"  | Belgrade  | 27 November      | 31  |
| Roundtable on <i>Codes and Standards of Ethics for Parliamentarians</i>  | Kyiv      | 11 December      | 15  |
| WCJP II - International humanitarian and criminal law training for judges and prosecutors  | Podgorica | 16 December      | 19  |
| Consultative meeting on the OSCE/ODIHR Opinion on the Draft Law on the Fight against Terrorism and the Prevention of Money Laundering of Tunisia, Ministry of Human Rights and Transitional Justice          | Tunis     | 16 December      | 30  |
| Roundtable on "Sharing Personal Information From the Public Registers in the Process Of Updating the Voter Register"   | Skopje    | 17 December      | 20  |

## HUMAN RIGHTS

| Name  | Location                  | Date                | Number of Participants |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| ODIHR-OSCE Secretariat TNTD Peer-Review meeting on the <i>Guidebook on Preventing Terrorism and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism: a Community-Policing Approach</i> | Warsaw                    | 6-7 March           | 17                     |
| Expert meeting on human rights monitoring in the armed forces   | Warsaw                    | 4-5 March           | 24                     |
| Training on human rights in counter-terrorism and border security, with the OSCE Border Management Staff College  | Dushanbe                  | 15-19 April         | 26                     |
| Forum for Security Co-operation Human Rights Series: "Armed Forces and Women's Access to Combat Positions"  | Vienna                    | 19 April            | 60                     |
| Regional roundtable on "Building National Referral Mechanisms: Gaps Analysis and Good Practices"  | Istanbul                  | 21-22 May           | 34                     |
| Development of <i>Guidelines on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders: Initial Meeting of Stakeholders</i>   | Warsaw                    | 10-11 June          | 28                     |
| Roundtable on "Policing Assemblies in Compliance with OSCE Commitments: Exchange of Lessons Learned"  | Vienna                    | 1-2 July            | 32                     |
| Orientation on oversight, human rights and gender in the armed forces   | Tbilisi                   | 6-7 July            | 36                     |
| Expert roundtable on regulation of operations of internationally affiliated NGOs and NGO access to foreign funding  | Vienna                    | July                | 30                     |
| Consultation with civil society on <i>ODIHR Guidelines on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders</i>  | Warsaw, Kyiv and Istanbul | September – October | 131                    |
| Training in human rights and gender monitoring for the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia   | Ulaanbataar               | 14-15 October       | 20                     |
| Forum for Security Co-operation Human Rights Series: "The Role of Ombuds Institutions in Protecting Human Rights of Armed Forces Personnel"   | Vienna                    | 14 October          | 60                     |
| Information exchange for civil society on promoting human rights in the armed forces  | Istanbul                  | 23 October          | 17                     |
| Strategy meeting of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions  | Budapest                  | 13-15 November      | 58                     |
| Launch of <i>Manual on Human Rights in Counter-Terrorism Investigations</i>   | Vienna                    | 29 November         | 51                     |
| Expert meeting on the protection of freedom of association while countering terrorism financing   | Warsaw                    | 9-10 November       | 23                     |
| ODIHR-OSCE Secretariat TNTD Peer-Review meeting on the <i>Guidebook on Preventing Terrorism and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism: a Community-Policing Approach</i> | Warsaw                    | 6-7 March           | 17                     |
| Expert meeting on human rights monitoring in the armed forces   | Warsaw                    | 4-5 March           | 24                     |
| Training on human rights in counter-terrorism and border security, with the OSCE Border Management Staff College  | Dushanbe                  | 15-19 April         | 26                     |
| Forum for Security Co-operation Human Rights Series: "Armed Forces and Women's Access to Combat Positions"  | Vienna                    | 19 April            | 60                     |

|   |                           |                     |     |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------|-----|
| Regional roundtable on “Building National Referral Mechanisms: Gaps Analysis and Good Practices”  | Istanbul                  | 21-22 May           | 34  |
| Development of <i>Guidelines on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders: Initial Meeting of Stakeholders</i>                               | Warsaw                    | 10-11 June          | 28  |
| Roundtable on “Policing Assemblies in Compliance with OSCE Commitments: Exchange of Lessons Learned”  | Vienna                    | 1-2 July            | 32  |
| Orientation on oversight, human rights and gender in the armed forces   | Tbilisi                   | 6-7 July            | 36  |
| Expert roundtable on regulation of operations of internationally affiliated NGOs and NGO access to foreign funding                          | Vienna                    | July                | 30  |
| Consultation with civil society on <i>ODIHR Guidelines on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders</i>                                      | Warsaw, Kyiv and Istanbul | September – October | 131 |
| Training in human rights and gender monitoring for the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia   | Ulaanbataar               | 14-15 October       | 20  |
| Forum for Security Co-operation Human Rights Series: “The Role of Ombuds Institutions in Protecting Human Rights of Armed Forces Personnel” | Vienna                    | 14 October          | 60  |
| Information exchange for civil society on promoting human rights in the armed forces  | Istanbul                  | 23 October          | 17  |
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| Launch of <i>Manual on Human Rights in Counter-Terrorism Investigations</i>   | Vienna                    | 29 November         | 51  |
| Expert meeting on the protection of freedom of association while countering terrorism financing   | Warsaw                    | 9-10 November       | 23  |
| Roundtable on “Policing Assemblies in Compliance with OSCE Commitments: Exchange of Lessons Learned”  | Vienna                    | 1-2 July            | 32  |

## ELECTIONS

| Name   | Location | Date                    | Number of Participants |
|--|----------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 8th Annual Declaration of Principles Implementation Meeting                                      | Warsaw   | 17-19 September         | 70                     |
| Presentation of <i>Review of Electoral Legislation and Practice in OSCE Participating States</i> | Vienna   | 31 October – 1 November | 110                    |
| National roundtable on election observation reporting with DRI                                   | Tunis    | 16-17 May               | 20                     |

## TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

| Name  | Location               | Date            | Number of Participants |
|---|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Training on freedom of religion or belief for OSCE field operations   | Warsaw                 | 20-21 February  | 13                     |
| Training of Trainers against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) for representatives of police colleges belonging to the Association of European Police Colleges (AEPC) | Saint-Cyr-Au-Mont-d'Or | 10-12 April     | 16                     |
| Training on freedom of religion or belief for Uzbek State Committee on Religious Affairs  | Tashkent               | 10 April        | 15                     |
| Training on preventing and responding to hate crimes for civil society organizations dealing with intolerance against Muslims in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden        | Copenhagen             | 3-4 May         | 25                     |
| Expert meeting on teaching materials to combat anti-Semitism  | Warsaw                 | 7-8 May         | 18                     |
| High-level conference on tolerance and non-discrimination including human rights, youth education on tolerance and non-discrimination                                       | Tirana                 | 21-23 May       | 92                     |
| Training on preventing and responding to hate crimes for civil society organizations in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia   | Veles                  | 26-27 May       | 22                     |
| Regional seminar on hate crimes against people with disabilities for national human rights institutions and criminal justice officials                                      | Oslo                   | 4 June          | 30                     |
| Conference on addressing the security needs of Jewish communities in the OSCE region: challenges and good practices   | Berlin                 | 13-14 June      | 102                    |
| Hate crime training for OSCE field operations staff, UNHCR and IOM  | Warsaw                 | 6-8 August      | 17                     |
| Roundtable meeting to promote the <i>Guidelines for educators on countering intolerance and discrimination against Muslims</i>  | Strasbourg             | 5 July          | 58                     |
| Consultative meeting of government officials and civil society on the draft ODIHR <i>Guidelines on Recognition of Religious and Belief communities</i>                      | Kyiv                   | 3 September     | 24                     |
| Training on preventing and responding to hate crimes for civil society organizations in Bulgaria  | Sofia                  | 12-13 September | 21                     |
| Consultative meeting of experts on the draft ODIHR <i>Guidelines on Recognition of Religious and Belief communities</i>   | Warsaw                 | 26 September    | 15                     |
| Consultative meeting of government officials and civil society on the draft ODIHR <i>Guidelines on Recognition of Religious and Belief communities</i>                      | Astana                 | 10 October      | 22                     |
| Training on preventing and responding to hate crimes for civil society organizations in Montenegro  | Przno                  | 23-24 October   | 18                     |
| Consultative meeting of government officials and civil society on the draft ODIHR <i>Guidelines on Recognition of Religious and Belief communities</i>                      | Brussels               | 24 October      | 24                     |
| Training of trainers for imams and community leaders on combating hate crimes against Muslims   | Warsaw                 | 9-11 November   | 22                     |
| Training on preventing and responding to hate crimes for civil society organizations in Ukraine   | Kyiv                   | 13-14 November  | 26                     |



|  |             |                |    |
|--|-------------|----------------|----|
| Annual meeting of National Points of Contact on Combating Hate Crimes              | Warsaw      | 14-15 November | 57 |
| Training of Trainers against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) in Montenegro | Danilovgrad | 27-29 November | 16 |

## CONTACT POINT FOR ROMA AND SINTI ISSUES

| Name   | Location | Date           | Number of Participants |
|--|----------|----------------|------------------------|
| Meeting of Roma focal points in OSCE field operations  | Belgrade | 18-20 February | 15                     |
| “Realizing Roma Rights: Addressing Violence, Discrimination and Segregation in Europe” at Harvard University   | Boston   | 8 April        | 40                     |
| Consultation meeting with Roma civil society and scholars on the realization of the 2013 Status Report   | Warsaw   | 23 May         | 20                     |
| Consultation session with civil society organizations on the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the 2003 OSCE Action Plan   | Vienna   | 6 November     | 45                     |
| Launch of the manual <i>Police and Roma and Sinti: Good practices in Building Trust and Understanding</i> with the General Police Inspectorate and the Roma National Center of Moldova | Chisinau | 29 November    | 45                     |

## 2013 Publications

| Title  | Language                 |
|--|--------------------------|
| 2012 ODIHR Annual Report   | English/Russian          |
| Background Study: Professional and Ethical Standards for Parliamentarians  | English/Russian/Georgian |
| Handbook for the Observation of Voter Registration   | Russian                  |
| Handbook for the Observation of New Voting Technologies  | English/Russian          |
| Best Practices for Roma Integration: Regional Report on Anti-discrimination and Participation of Roma in Local Decision-Making | English                  |
| Handbook for Monitoring Administrative Justice   | English/Russian          |
| Guidelines for Reviewing a Legal Framework for Elections (Second Edition)  | English                  |
| Implementation of the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti Within the OSCE Area, Status Report 2013        | English                  |
| The Death Penalty in the OSCE Area: Background Paper 2013  | English/Russian          |
| Guidelines on Human Rights Education for Health Workers  | English/Russian          |
| Guidelines on Human Rights Education for Human Rights Activists  | English/Russian          |
| Human Rights in Counter-Terrorism Investigations: A Practical Manual for Law Enforcement Officers                              | English                  |
| Hate Crimes in the OSCE Region: Incidents and Responses - Annual Report for 2012   | English                  |
| Best Practices for Roma Integration: Small Grants Programme: Summary of the Implementation of Selected Projects                | English                  |

Additionally, ODIHR translated six of its publications into Arabic for dissemination in Mediterranean Partner for Co-operation countries and created nine new programme-specific factsheets.

# Election Reports and Statements Released in 2013

## **Parliamentary Elections in Lithuania, 14 October 2012**

1. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Final Report

## **Parliamentary Elections in Ukraine, 28 October 2012**

2. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

## **General elections in the USA, 6 November 2012**

3. OSCE/ODIHR Limited Election Observation Mission Final Report

## **Parliamentary Elections in Romania, 9 December 2012**

4. OSCE/ODIHR Election Expert Team Final Report

## **Presidential Election in the Czech Republic, 11 & 12 January 2013**

5. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Final Report

## **Presidential Election in Cyprus, 17 February 2013**

6. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Report

## **Parliamentary elections in Italy, 24-25 February 2013**

7. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Report

## **Presidential election in Armenia, 18 February 2013**

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

## **Parliamentary elections in Malta, 9 March 2013**

13. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Report
14. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Final Report

## **Municipal elections in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 24 March, 7 April 2013**

15. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Report
16. Election Observation Mission Interim Report
17. Preliminary Statement by the Election Observation Mission
18. Preliminary Statement after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round
19. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

## **Presidential Election in Montenegro, 7 & 21 April 2013**

20. Limited Election Observation Mission Interim Report
21. Preliminary Statement by the International Election Observation Mission
22. OSCE/ODIHR Limited Election Observation Mission Final Report

## **Presidential Election in Mongolia, 2013**

23. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Report
24. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 1
25. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 2
26. Election Observation Mission Preliminary Statement
27. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

**Early Parliamentary Elections in Bulgaria, 12 May 2013**

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

**Parliamentary Elections in Albania, 23 June 2013**

32. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Report
33. Election Observation Mission Interim Report
34. Preliminary Statement by the International Election Observation Mission
35. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

**Parliamentary Elections in Iceland, 27 April 2013**

36. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Report
37. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Final Report

**By-Elections in Georgia, 27 April 2013**

38. OSCE/ODIHR Election Expert Team Final Report

**Parliamentary Elections in the Principality of Monaco, 10 February 2013**

39. OSCE/ODIHR Election Expert Team Final Report

**Parliamentary Elections in Austria, 29 September 2013**

40. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Mission Report
41. OSCE/ODIHR Election Expert Team Final Report

**Parliamentary Elections in Norway, 9 September 2013**

42. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Mission Report
43. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Final Report

**Parliamentary Elections in Germany, 22 September 2013**

44. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Mission Report
45. OSCE/ODIHR Election Expert Team Final Report

**Presidential election in Azerbaijan, 9 October 2013**

46. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Mission Report
47. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 1
48. Election Observation Mission Interim Report 2
49. Preliminary Statement by the International Election Observation Mission
50. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

**Presidential election in Georgia, 27 October 2013**

51. Election Observation Mission Interim Report
52. Preliminary Statement by the International Election Observation Mission

**Presidential election in Tajikistan, November 2013**

53. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Mission Report
54. Election Observation Mission Interim Report
55. Preliminary Statement by the International Election Observation Mission

**Parliamentary elections in Turkmenistan, 15 December 2013**

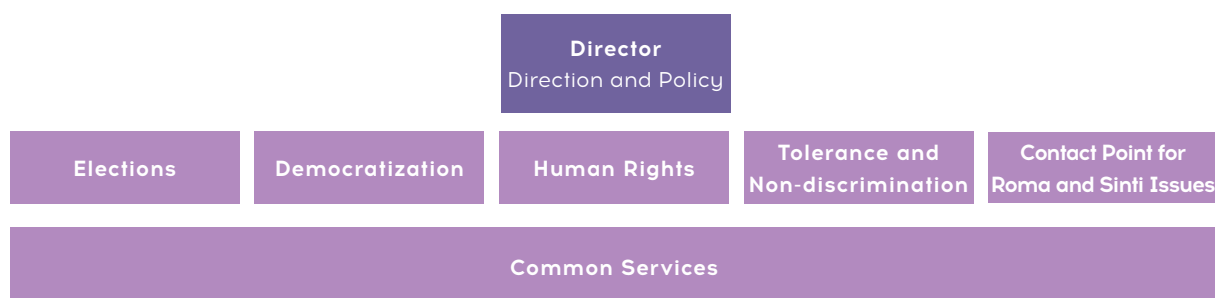
56. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Mission Report

**Early Parliamentary elections in Luxembourg, 20 October 2013**

57. OSCE/ODIHR Needs Assessment Mission Report



# ODIHR Structure and Budget



| ODIHR Programmes: 2013 Unified Budget<br>(all figures in euros) |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Direction and Policy  | 1,264,800         |
| Fund Administration Unit  | 2,018,200         |
| Common Operational Costs  | 834,500           |
| Human Dimension Meetings  | 658,800           |
| Democratization   | 1,468,200         |
| Human Rights  | 1,180,300         |
| Elections   | 6,544,200         |
| Tolerance and Non-discrimination                                | 1,295,300         |
| Roma and Sinti Issues   | 540,900           |
| <b>TOTAL ODIHR Unified Budget</b>                               | <b>15,805,200</b> |
| Augmentation Budget   | 234,100           |
| <b>Total Fund Resources</b>                                     | <b>16,039,300</b> |