

OSCE HIGHLIGHTS

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Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe

Heads of State to meet at OSCE Summit in Astana

The OSCE Summit in Astana on 1 and 2 December is hosted by the President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev. Read more >>



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OSCE BACKGROUND

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Heads of State to meet at OSCE Summit in Astana

The OSCE Summit in Astana on 1 and 2 December is hosted by the President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev. The Summit agenda includes the reaffirmation of OSCE commitments, the recommitment of OSCE participating States to an inclusive Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community, and the redoubling of collective efforts to address challenges to human rights and to combat new transnational threats.

The OSCE Summit will be held in Astana's Palace of Independence. It will be preceded by the final segment of a three-part Review Conference, to be held from 26 to 28 November in the Palace of Peace and Accord (Pyramid) in Astana with representatives of non-governmental organizations and representatives of the 56 OSCE participating States (see below).

OSCE Summit 2010 website in all six official OSCE languages:
<http://summit2010.osce.org/>

Contact: press-summit2010 AT osce.org

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OSCE Review Conference

The final part of the Review Conference taking place ahead of the OSCE Summit will be held from 26 to 28 November in Astana.

The 1992 Helsinki Document and the 1994 Budapest Document mandate the OSCE with holding review conferences before meetings of OSCE Heads of

EVENTS CALENDAR

BELGRADE, 25-27 November Journalists investigating corruption and organized crime Belgrade/Pristina

The seminar will provide a forum for journalists to share their experiences in investigating organized crime, and explore the role of relevant institutions and free access to information.
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ASTANA, 26-28 November Review Conference

The third and final part of the Review Conference ahead of the OSCE Summit is taking place in Astana and will include forward-looking discussions on freedom of media, intolerance against migrants and combating trafficking in human beings, with a particular focus on trafficking in children, as well as the closing session of the Review Conference. Contact: press AT osce.org

CHISINAU, 29 November Observation of early parliamentary elections in Moldova

The international observers will present their preliminary findings and conclusions from the 28 November elections. Contact: press AT osce.org

ASTANA, 1-2 December OSCE Summit

OSCE Heads of State and Government will meet in Astana. Contact: press AT osce.org

SARAJEVO, 8-10 December Public-Private Expert Workshop for South Eastern Europe on suppressing terrorist financing and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism

This sub-regional workshop on public-private partnerships in countering terrorism will be held in co-operation with the BiH Ministry of Security, the Charity Commission for England and Wales and the United States. The

State and Government. According to the Helsinki Document, review conferences will "review the entire range of activities within the CSCE [now OSCE], including a thorough implementation debate, and consider further steps to strengthen the CSCE process".

The Astana segment and the Warsaw part of the 2010 Review Conference, which was held from 30 September to 8 October, focus on commitments related to the human dimension of the OSCE work, namely the set of norms and activities concerning human rights, the rule of law and democracy that comprise one of the three pillars of the OSCE's comprehensive security concept. The human dimension sessions of the Review Conference are being held this year in place of the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, Europe's largest annual human rights conference.

The Vienna segment addressed the other two pillars, the political-military and the economic and environmental dimensions, as well as OSCE structures and activities.

The Astana Review Conference will include forward-looking discussions that began in Warsaw on freedom of media, intolerance against migrants and combating trafficking in human beings, with a particular focus on trafficking in children, as well as the closing session of the Review Conference. Representatives of non-governmental organizations will be able to attend and contribute to the working sessions.

For more on the Review Conference:

Warsaw: http://www.osce.org/conferences/revcon_1_2010.html

Vienna: http://www.osce.org/conferences/revcon_2_2010.html

Astana: http://www.osce.org/conferences/revcon_3_2010.html

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OSCE States agree to adapt police support for Kyrgyzstan

The OSCE will provide support to Kyrgyzstan's Interior Ministry over a period of one year under the new Kyrgyzstan Community Security Initiative project following a decision by the 56 OSCE participating States to adapt the Organization's support to Kyrgyzstan's police taking into account changed circumstances in the country.

The Permanent Council decision, which came following extensive consultations between OSCE police experts and the government of Kyrgyzstan, provides for a longer-term approach to police reform in Kyrgyzstan. The decision adapts the implementation of police support outlined in a Permanent Council decision from 22 July.

The first project activities will be initiated and implemented in the coming weeks in close co-operation with the concerned national and local authorities. Up to 31 international staff, supported by 27 locally recruited staff, will work across Kyrgyzstan. Advice and support will be provided to the Interior Ministry's territorial units to uphold the rule of law, and work on matters related to respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as the protection of potentially vulnerable persons, including women. The project is aligned with the OSCE Centre in Bishkek's ongoing police reform programme.

Contact: [press AT osce.org](#)

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OSCE, EU help strengthen election processes in Ukraine

A conference to assess the results of a two-year project by the OSCE Project Co-ordinator and the EU to assist Ukraine in the improvement of its election legislation, including the drafting of an Election Code, and to discuss ways for further improving election processes in the country will be held in Kyiv on 15 December.

Representatives of the Central Election Commission, governmental bodies, political parties and international and non-governmental organizations, as well as members of the Parliament and election experts, are invited to participate in the event.

workshop will bring together public and private sector experts to discuss ways to improve public private co-operation to block channels of terrorist financing and to counter violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism. Contact: [Mehdi.Knani AT osce.org](#)

VIENNA, 9 December Combating Trafficking in Human Beings Annual Report

The OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, will present a report from her first year in office to the Permanent Council. The report, *Combating Trafficking as Modern-Day Slavery: A Matter of Rights, Freedoms and Security*, focuses on progress, policies and actions relating to anti-trafficking work in the OSCE region between January and November 2010, as well as current challenges and strategies. Contact: [Caraigh.McGregor AT osce.org](#)

TASHKENT, 9-10 December Effective strategies for countering incitement and violent extremism

This sub-regional seminar is organized by the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the OSCE Action against Terrorism Unit. The seminar aims to review national experiences, reflect upon international standards and good practices, and formulate concrete recommendations for operational response models. Contact: [Laszlo.Szucs AT osce.org](#)

VIENNA, 9-10 December Meeting on freedom of religion and conscience

Organized by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, this Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting will focus on freedom of religion and conscience. Contact: [Jens.Eschenbaecher AT odhr.pl](#)

VIENNA, 14 December IOM-OSCE training modules on labour migration management manual

The Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities and International Organization for Migration will present newly-

The project on "Assistance in Further Strengthening of Election Processes in Ukraine", implemented by the OSCE and funded by the European Union and the Canadian International Development Agency, will also organize a conference on 29 November to look at options for introducing a training system for election commission members in Ukraine and best international practices in this field.

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OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje supports anti-discrimination and equality

The OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje is supporting anti-discrimination and equality mechanisms in the country and raising public awareness through a series of conferences, training courses and public campaigns.

The Mission has supported four high-level conferences on establishing an effective institutional framework in the form of a Commission for Protection from Discrimination. The conferences have focused on the composition of the commission, structure, financial independence, institutional interplay and administrative-technical support, with the final event scheduled for 7 December. The Mission also supported the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy in drafting a comprehensive Law on Promotion and Protection from Discrimination which was enacted in April 2010.

Fifteen Open Day events financed by the Mission to increase public awareness of non-discrimination and equal treatment and available protection mechanisms are being held until 15 December. The campaign also promotes the role of the gender advocate, the only specialized mechanism already in place.

The OSCE Mission is helping to build the capacity of the Ombudsman's office with thematic training courses, and is promoting the office through "Ombudsman open contact" television programmes and a theatre play on anti-discrimination, *Same in a different way*, with 14 performances taking place throughout the country in November and December.

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OSCE workshop in Yerevan to focus on comprehensive cyber security

The OSCE recognizes that the growing dependence on information technology and the interconnection of critical infrastructure have made a secure cyberspace vital to the functioning of a modern state. At the same time, advances in the IT sector have also presented terrorists and other criminals with new opportunities and attack vectors.

The OSCE Action against Terrorism Unit (ATU) is organizing a national expert workshop on combating terrorist use of the Internet and comprehensively enhancing cyber security in Yerevan on 8 and 9 December. It is the third national training workshop organized by the ATU that addresses cyber-security in a comprehensive manner.

The workshop is designed to raise awareness of concrete steps to deal with terrorist use of the Internet and strengthen cyber security in a comprehensive way. It will review the impact – including the economic impact – of potential attacks and highlight potential countermeasures, pertinent legal frameworks, lessons learned and relevant best practices, including the development of public-private partnerships.

Perpetrators of cyber crimes share common methods, even if their goals and motivations differ. They learn from each other and frequently work together. Consequently the workshop sessions focus on an array of different attackers and targets related to terrorist use of the Internet, cyber crime and other threats, including those to critical infrastructures.

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produced IOM-OSCE training modules on *Labour Migration Management - Trainer's Manual*, which complements the OSCE-IOM-ILO *Handbook on Establishing Effective Labour Migration Policies*. Contact: Amaya.Sotes AT osce.org

MINSK, 20 December Observation of parliamentary elections in Belarus

The international observers will present their preliminary findings and conclusions from the 19 December elections. Contact: press AT osce.org

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OSCE Office in Minsk promotes OSCE values, economic and environmental aspects of security

The OSCE Office in Minsk is working with the Belarusian State University's Faculty of Law to promote understanding of OSCE values and commitments in the field of economic and environmental security.

A seminar on 6 December will bring together experts, faculty and students to discuss how the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Trans-boundary Context, also known as the Espoo Convention, can serve as a framework for regional co-operation. The Convention requires parties to carry out environmental impact assessments and obliges parties to notify and consult each other on projects that are likely to have an adverse environmental impact across borders.

The OSCE promotes a comprehensive approach to security, and trans-border co-operation to mitigate environmental risks is an integral part of the OSCE's work.

The OSCE Office in Minsk has held a number of events with the Belarusian State University, including conferences on the impact of the global economic crisis, the future of European security and on energy challenges and Eurasian security.

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OSCE Mission in Kosovo promotes rights of marginalized groups

Persons with disabilities, women and young people continue to be marginalized in terms of access to education, employment and participation in decision-making processes.

In order to increase the knowledge and understanding of public authorities both at the central and local level about the human rights of marginalized groups, the OSCE Mission in Kosovo is organizing a series of workshops to provide expert training on the topic.

The workshops, which will be held Kosovo-wide until 6 December, aim to raise awareness of the rights of marginalized groups and the importance of non-discrimination and social inclusion, in particular in relation to persons with disabilities, women and children. Staff of municipal human rights units, public officials and civil society representatives are taking part.

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