15 April 2016

The OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, in co-operation with the Faculty of Criminal Justice, Criminology and Security Studies of the University of Sarajevo, and in partnership with the OSCE Presence in Albania, OSCE Mission in Kosovo, OSCE Mission to Montenegro, OSCE Mission to Serbia and OSCE Mission to Skopje, has the pleasure to announce a

CALL FOR PAPERS

on hate crimes to be presented at the conference *Hate Crimes in South-East Europe* to be held in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, on 8 November 2016.

The inherent negative effect of hate crimes is often underestimated. Hate crimes threaten not only the physical security of affected individuals, but also the basic fabric and cohesion of a community. Hate-motivated crimes have a particularly strong impact on victims and send a message of exclusion and intolerance to entire groups.

Hate crimes in South-East Europe have many common features and patterns, a fact that validates the regional focus of the conference. The conference will gather regional experts in the field of hate crimes with a view to exploring both legal and sociological aspects and enhancing discussion on good practices in addressing this challenge, with a particular focus on the role of the criminal justice system.

We call for proposals for papers on the following topics:

- Criminal justice response to hate crimes, with particular focus on: criminal elements of hate crimes and incitement to hatred; scope of protected characteristics; bias motivation as an aggravated form of crime or as an aggravating circumstance; the relation between hate crimes and incitement to hatred; the use of misdemeanour proceedings to tackle hate crimes and incitement to hatred; sentencing issues in hate crimes and incitement to hatred; challenges and good practices in investigating and gathering evidence on hate crimes.

- Sociological aspects of hate crimes, with particular focus on: criminology of hate crimes and incitement to hatred; victimology of hate crimes and incitement to hatred; relation between hate crimes, radicalization and violent extremism; prevention of hate crimes.
Priority will be given to papers addressing these issues from the perspective of at least one of the countries in South-East Europe. Papers with a comparative approach are encouraged.

Papers can be submitted in Albanian, Bosnian, Croatian, English, Macedonian, Montenegrin or Serbian.

Proposals for papers and papers will be reviewed by a board of reviewers. The submissions selected to be presented at the conference will be published as proceedings of the conference by the Faculty of Criminal Justice, Criminology and Security Studies of the University of Sarajevo in the original language, official languages of Bosnia and Herzegovina and/or English.

Costs of participation at the conference for the selected authors will be covered by the OSCE.

Timeline for submission of proposals and papers:

8 May 2016       Deadline for submission of proposals for papers (no longer than 300 words)
8 June 2016       Notification on selection of proposals for papers
15 August 2016    Deadline for submission of papers (5,000 to 10,000 words)
30 September 2016 Notification on selection of papers

For additional information and for submission of proposals for papers (together with your CV), please email us at: SEEHateCrimesConference-BA@osce.org.