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27 June 2006  
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Address by Ambassador Christian Strohal,  
Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic  
Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

616th Session of the Permanent Council  
Vienna, 29 June 2006



Mr Chairman,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Five months after my last report to the PC, let me start by thanking the Belgian Chairmanship, and in particular Ambassador de Crombrughe and his dedicated team for the support they have provided to the ODIHR.

Let me also use the opportunity presented by the presence of the High Commissioner to thank him and his office for the outstanding cooperation we enjoy and for the very useful and concrete support he has been giving the ODIHR.

I would like to provide you with an overview of the activities my Institution has been undertaking during the first half of this year, and give an indication of what we plan to do in the months ahead. As in the past, the ODIHR continues to implement its mandate, as the main institution of the OSCE in the human dimension, to assist participating States to implement their human dimension commitments.

## **MC 17**

Of course one of the activities currently occupying the ODIHR is the preparation for the report we were tasked in Ljubljana to produce for this year's Ministerial Council in Brussels. In this, I will continue to rely strongly on the continuous support from, and cooperation with, participating States, and in particular on Delegations here in Vienna. I am grateful for the numerous replies we have received from you on the Notes Verbales sent out in this context. As next step, I have sent out invitations to all Delegations of participating States to an informal briefing on the preparations for the report next week and look forward to an open and comprehensive exchange of views then. Further consultations shall follow subsequently.

I take this opportunity to remind participating States of our Note Verbale of last November, requesting information with regard to access of representatives of other participating States, international organizations as well as domestic partisan and non-partisan groups wishing to observe the electoral process. As it stands now, 18 participating States have thus far

provided relevant information to the ODIHR, and we would encourage all other participating States to provide the requested information.

In my intervention today, however, I will focus on providing you with information on our ongoing efforts to provide essential support to the participating States in implementing and monitoring their Human Dimension commitments.

## **Elections**

During the first half of this year, the ODIHR was called upon to observe and assess a large number of important **elections** and referenda. On these missions, in total, the ODIHR deployed some 2000 election observers and experts across the entire OSCE region.

Let me take this opportunity to thank participating States for the secondment of observers to these elections, often despite difficult budgetary situations. I welcome the initiatives of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation which have increasingly seconded observers to our EOMs recently, and I hope this will continue. Let me also thank those States who have contributed to the Diversification Fund (Belgium, Estonia, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Poland, Norway, United Kingdom, United States, and the European Commission), allowing states with difficult budgetary situations to participate in election observation; my thanks go especially to those which were once recipients like Estonia, Lithuania and Poland, and have now become donors. The diversity of States participating in our Election Observation Missions has been steadily growing and is an encouraging sign of belief and trust in the necessity of election observation.

Overall, those who have followed our activities for a longer period see how much has been done to broaden both the composition of these missions as well as the scope of their activities.

As I had indicated in my speech in January, we had budgeted for a busy electoral calendar this year. Thus far, we have deployed and completed Election Assessment Missions to the Parliamentary elections in Canada and Italy, and election observation missions to the Presidential elections in Belarus, the Parliamentary elections in Ukraine as well as a limited mission to the repeat elections in ten constituencies in Azerbaijan in May.

The final reports on these elections have all been published and the findings discussed here in the PC. In accordance with our mandate and in particular with the Istanbul Summit Decision and the Maastricht Ministerial Decision on follow-up to election observation missions, the ODIHR remains ready to assist in the implementation of OSCE election commitments based on the recommendations contained in these reports as well as in other reports we have produced in the past. Some governments, however, are much more ready to follow-up effectively on these recommendations than others.

Furthermore, we were able to field an observation mission to the historic referendum in Montenegro on 21 May. I take this opportunity to welcome Montenegro as 56<sup>th</sup> participating State. My Institution of course remains ready to continue to assist Montenegro in the implementation of its OSCE commitments, in the field of elections and in the rest of the Human Dimension.

We also have to be prepared to respond to unforeseen electoral events, resources permitting. Based on the information available to us, we continue to update our draft elections calendar, which can also be found on the ODIHR website, based also on additional information we receive from many Delegations.

Currently, an EOM is deployed on the ground in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to observe the Parliamentary elections next Wednesday. The Needs Assessment Report and two interim reports have already been issued and give some information on how the campaign has developed until now.

As I mentioned, we look forward to working with participating States, especially between elections, to implement the recommendations contained in our reports. After all, election observation is not an aim in itself, and all our attempts to improve election observation should not distract from States' commitment to improve elections in our region.

In this context, we will continue to work with authorities and civil society to further implement OSCE commitments, including through legislative support. Last year, we were able to work with and provide legal expertise to more than a dozen participating States. In the first months of this year, we have issued additional legal opinions, together with the Council of Europe's Venice Commission, among others on election-related legislation in

Armenia, Croatia, Moldova, Ukraine the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.

A final remark on election-related activities: the ODIHR has continued to assist OSCE Missions to follow electoral developments, especially through the deployment of Election Expert Support Missions in instances when an election mission is not established. So far this year, such expert support missions have been fielded to by-elections in three constituencies in Kyrgyzstan and local elections in three constituencies in southern Serbia.

## **Human Rights**

As in previous years, one of the core activities of the ODIHR in 2006 is its role in the preparation and organization of **human dimension events** throughout the year. The first such meeting was held on Human Rights Defenders and Institutions which highlighted the difficult situation many human rights advocates, in particular NGOs, face in a number of participating States. The open and frank discussions allowed very concrete recommendations to emerge from this meeting, as the final report documents, and the ODIHR is currently examining how to best offer human rights defenders an opportunity for a more systematic input into the work of our Institution, perhaps through the nomination of a focal point. In this context, I welcome Ambassador de Crombrughe's declaration at the SHDM of his intention to put the role of the NGO community in the spotlight and considering more structured and direct information exchanges between NGOs and participating States here in the Hofburg.

We will also continue our projects to enhance the professional capacity of civil society to monitor and report on the situation of human rights, and let me mention one area in particular in this regard where civil society involvement has proven crucial in a number of participating States, and that is in monitoring places of detention.

An important aspect of our human rights work is assisting States in ensuring that international obligations on human rights and the rule of law are respected when **combating terrorism**. In this regard, we have launched a sequence of expert consultation meetings aimed at developing a practical ODIHR manual on human rights and countering terrorism. I continue to stress that the right to a fair trial and the prohibition of torture cannot be modulated by necessities to fight terrorists. We will continue to provide

States with assistance and legal and practical advice in this regard, including by providing legal advice and training to public officials where requested.

On 21 April, we published a report on the trials we were able to observe in connection with the events which occurred last year in Andijan along with the response we received from the authorities of Uzbekistan. The ODIHR remains ready to engage constructively with Uzbekistan on the recommendations contained in the report.

The ODIHR has continued to focus on the **human rights of victims of trafficking** throughout the OSCE region. A series of assessments on national referral mechanisms in countries of destination have brought to light common difficulties encountered in protecting the rights of those trafficked for sexual or labour exploitation. Through roundtable discussions, training workshops, meetings, including at HDIM events, we seek to raise awareness of the gaps in identification and assistance to trafficked persons and the measures needed to secure protection of trafficked persons' rights. These include the rights to unconditional assistance, non-refoulement and legal remedies. In all its activities it continues to support the establishment of national referral mechanisms and work closely together with the Anti-Trafficking structure in Vienna and with OSCE field operations. We will continue to support projects monitoring the rights of trafficked persons in judicial proceedings and offering legal assistance and to review trafficked persons' access to rights in countries of origin, including prevention of re-trafficking.

Regarding our programme on human rights of **armed forces personnel**, let me thank those 25 participating States which have replied to the questionnaire we circulated at the end of last year and encourage other States to do likewise. Your contributions are of great importance to the success of a handbook which is currently being prepared and which we hope will encourage higher common standards related to the human rights and fundamental freedoms of armed forces personnel. We have planned a series of events to contribute to this project and to help us collect and share experiences, legislation and 'best practices. The first will be organized jointly with the German Ministry of Defense in Berlin in September. In addition, we are continuing our support for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 on women, peace and security. Most recently a regional roundtable for South-East Europe was held in Sarajevo in March.

The special days of this year's **HDIM** will cover tolerance and non-discrimination, trafficking in human beings, and access to law and justice. I am glad that you were able to agree on the agenda for the meeting. The ODIHR hopes that this year we will again be able to attract strong participation to this important event, which represents not only the main point of overall interface with civil society for our Organization, but also gives a forward-looking dimension to the systematic implementation review which is at the heart of the HDIM.

We will also continue to conduct **trainings** on human dimension issues for field mission staff in Warsaw. The training has received very positive feedback from the more than 100 participants who take part each year, both local and international staff from almost all missions. We are currently examining the possibility of extending this to include Human Dimension officers from participating States' Delegations.

In May, this year's **Human Dimension Seminar** was held on *Upholding the Rule of Law and Due Process in Criminal Justice Systems* – a highly topical issue, which has been declared a priority by the Belgian Chairmanship. Although a large number of experts and legal professionals were among the almost 200 participants, I note with disappointment that 22 participating States chose not to be represented at the meeting.

The Seminar highlighted the importance of criminal justice systems to ensuring human security in the OSCE area. Treatment of individuals by criminal justice institutions – including the police and other law enforcement agencies – is in many ways a litmus test of the extent to which States embrace our human dimension commitments.

The Seminar participants repeatedly emphasized the inter-dependence of all parts of a criminal justice system and the importance of ensuring proper functioning of all institutions: from the police, the judiciary, prosecutors and defence lawyers through to the prisons. Many good recommendations transpired and I would invite everyone to read and disseminate the Seminar Consolidated Summary which is being distributed this week.

Let me highlight only a few recommendations. Participating States were urged to strengthen transparency of court proceedings by introducing reliable full court reporting and publication of court decisions. States were called on to ensure recruitment to the police force from all social and ethnic

backgrounds and from both genders, to represent a cross-section of the population. States which have not yet done so were recommended to ensure that the prosecution does not have supervisory powers over the judiciary, as this works to the detriment of establishing and maintaining an independent judiciary. States were strongly encouraged to take legislative and other measures to ensure equality of arms between the prosecution and defense in practice.

Seminar discussions clearly showed that all participating States benefit from an open and frank exchange about their criminal justice institutions and legislative framework, and particularly from sharing their experience of reforming them. My Office will continue to facilitate such exchange of experience between our countries and render assistance, wherever we can, in criminal justice reform.

### **Technical assistance and democratization**

My Office has been active in providing assistance in a number of substantive areas:

**In legislative processes**, in addition to reviews mentioned already in the field of electoral reforms, we have provided legal advice on draft legislation pertaining to ‘charitable activities’ in Kazakhstan, and regulating non-governmental activities in Tajikistan. Good practices relating to the latter have been presented at a joint OSCE-UN roundtable in Dushanbe on 19 June, another opportunity to reiterate the importance of implementation of legislation.

With regard to the **Freedom of Assembly**, the ODIHR is currently consolidating guidelines in the light of the variety of experiences across the OSCE region; we do this with the active help of a number of experts in this field. The guidelines are intended as a working tool for both legislators and law enforcement agencies. In order to develop such guidelines in an inclusive and transparent manner, the ODIHR has linked the technical drafting process with a series of public events gathering practitioners, legislators, lawyers, police officers, judges, academics, and NGO representatives. One such roundtable was held in Tbilisi in May, another is actually taking place today in Belgrade. The process will continue until the end of the year, with further panels taking place in Almaty in September and



in Warsaw in October. We will be able to give you an update on this process in the course of the HDIM in October.

The ODIHR also continues playing its part in the implementation of the **OSCE Action Plan on Gender Equality** by conducting a number of targeted activities in OSCE participating States:

We encourage the creation of women's NGO networks and have provided training on advocating gender equality principles and increased **participation of women** in decision-making processes. In this context, the ODIHR has conducted roundtables in Kyrgyzstan on women's role in society in local media with national and local journalists and media outlets. In Georgia, we supported a conference on *Increased Participation of Women in Democratic Processes* last week to mark five years of the establishment of the Women's NGO Coalition. This is a true success story and shows how NGOs can be empowered to promote gender equality and increased participation of women in democratic processes. I am grateful to the authorities of Georgia and the CiO's Special Envoy, Senator Chevalier, for highlighting this issue at the conference. We have also continued our work in advising the law-enforcement agencies of Azerbaijan in combating domestic violence.

Furthermore, we have circulated the ODIHR's report on how the planning and programming of all our activities now include an enhanced element of gender mainstreaming, following the guidance provided by participating States in the **Action Plan on the Promotion of Gender Equality**.

In response to the demands from the participating States the ODIHR is continuing to provide assistance and support in the field of **migration** in line with the Ljubljana Ministerial Council Decision No 2. In March this year, the ODIHR, together with the Federal Migration Service of the Russian Federation and the IOM, organized a workshop in Moscow on *international experience in conducting regularization programmes for irregular migrants*, which brought together 50 experts, academics and practitioners from a number of OSCE participating States. We are also engaged in supporting the authorities of Kazakhstan in obtaining qualitative and quantitative data on irregular migration in Kazakhstan – a key element in developing future migration policies. In addition, in co-operation with the OSCE Presence in Albania, the ODIHR is assisting the authorities of Albania in the modernization of the civil registration system.

On **democratic governance**, the ODIHR launched a project on increasing the capacity and resources in the field of policy analysis and effective policy-making targeting students, journalists and politicians in Kyrgyzstan. In Georgia, the ODIHR launched the second phase of our multiparty democracy programme with all six main political parties.

It is also in this context that we look forward to the November SHDM which will cover “***Democratization: Strengthening Democracy Through Effective Representation***” and will focus on three main areas: the empowerment of legislatures in order to make their work more effective, the transparency and inclusiveness of the legislative process as a whole, with a special emphasis on public access, and intra-party democracy.

Many parliaments throughout the OSCE region are facing challenges such as limited human capacity and insufficient support structures, which prevent them from functioning fully as pillars of democratic governance. The OSCE, especially through its field operations in South East Europe, has accumulated significant experience in working with and through parliaments. Our Organization’s extensive work with participating States on legislative review, has led to an increased attention to the process by which laws are drafted. Now is the right moment for taking stock of what remains to be done so that legislatures, executives and parties interact effectively to ensure that our democracies are effectively representative and participatory.

### **Tolerance and non-discrimination**

Through our tolerance and non-discrimination programme, we continue to raise awareness and develop practical measures to counter prejudice, anti-Semitism, intolerance and discrimination, to provide expertise and to share best practices in the field. In this regard, we have been circulating a **Preliminary Report on hate-motivated incidents**, in order to provide a more comprehensive picture of challenges and trends, as well as of responses, as they emerge so far from our numerous activities. I take this opportunity to remind you once more of an informal briefing this afternoon at which we will be presenting this report and where we can discuss further steps towards its finalization for this year’s HDIM. I have circulated an invitation already earlier this week.

The ODIHR's TND programme has been focusing particularly on consolidating and strengthening its focus on combating hate-motivated crimes and incidents, promoting freedom of religion or belief and enhancing inter-cultural understanding.

During the first half of 2006, our work in this area has been focused on providing **technical assistance** and developing tools to provide support OSCE states and civil society. A particular focus has been placed on the areas of education, civil society capacity building and inter-cultural and inter-faith dialogue.

Concerning **education**, the ODIHR has initiated a programme to support states in strengthening their teaching tools, national curriculum and teacher training resources to include a greater focus on diversity education. A comprehensive collection of diversity education materials is also being compiled.

In order to assist States in promoting **remembrance** of the Holocaust and educational programmes to combat anti-Semitism, the ODIHR has developed technical assistance programmes. Practical guidelines for educators on how to commemorate Holocaust memorial days have been developed as a result of a co-operation between the Yad Vashem and experts from 12 countries. I would like to call on States to translate these guidelines and to ensure their wide circulation.

The ODIHR has also worked closely with the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam and education experts from 7 countries on the development of country-specific teaching materials on anti-Semitism. The material is now being tested in schools and will be ready for the next school-year.

In May, the ODIHR organized a roundtable meeting on representations of Muslims in **public discourse** together with Ambassador Orhun, Personal Representative of the CiO on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims. The meeting discussed ways to tackle negative and stereotypical portrayals of Muslim communities, and to develop media strategies among Muslim communities to increase the representation of mainstream Muslim opinion.

The ODIHR is also supporting NGOs to initiate monitoring activity and to establish complaints bureaus on hate motivated violence and hate speech on the internet.

Finally, let me mention some of our efforts to enhance the active participation in, and **contribution of civil society to OSCE events**. Let me draw your attention to the preparatory NGO meeting for the Tolerance Implementation Meeting held in Almaty on June 11. As we were able to already brief your working group on human protection, this gave civil society representatives the opportunity to draft recommendations and to present them at the opening of the meeting. I would like to use this opportunity to once again express our appreciation to the host government of Kazakhstan for enabling this interaction with civil society. At the HDIM we will have a further opportunity to follow up. One of the sessions of the HDIM will include a forward-looking session on the role of youth in building inter-cultural and inter-faith partnerships as a means of conflict prevention.

We also continue to provide **legislative assistance** to States in their efforts to develop and strengthen legislation pertaining to freedom of religion or belief. Tomorrow I will be flying to Zagreb to attend the graduation ceremony of police officers from Croatia taking part in our training for law enforcement officers in identifying and combating hate crimes.

### **Roma and Sinti**

The ODIHR's Contact Point on Roma and Sinti Issues continues to put the implementation of the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti at the core of its activities. This includes maintaining contact with authorities and NGOs and providing targeted assistance projects as well as raising awareness. Our activities focus primarily on supporting States in the legalization of informal settlements, overcoming obstacles to registration, improving police practices, awareness raising on trafficking issues as well as political participation of Roma. A recent conference held in May in Bucharest on harmonization of national policies underlined that ownership is also required on the side of the communities themselves and that current political developments in South-East Europe may provide Roma stakeholders an opportunity to engage more actively in political processes.

The ODIHR will also continue to mainstream Roma and Sinti concerns through all its programmes. This includes analyzing the participation of Roma and Sinti in electoral processes, encouraging their participation as observers as well as activities on voter registration, the empowerment of Roma women and combating intolerance and discrimination of Roma and Sinti. In addition, the ODIHR will again make use of other OSCE events to mainstream these concerns into the activities of the wider organization.

Excellencies,

Dear Colleagues,

We use this occasion to also distribute to you a list of publications, reports, legal reviews and other documents we have issued since my last appearance at the PC in January and which give further indications that the ODIHR has not been idle.

I have attempted to give you an overview of our ongoing activities which illustrate that the work of the OSCE in the field of the human dimension is far from done; indeed that demand for our support from participating States by far exceeds our capacity to supply assistance. In all our discussions on how to improve the work we are doing, we should not be distracted from addressing the real threats to human security which persist throughout our region. I will not accept the argument that the OSCE is doing too much on the Human Dimension; on the contrary, I believe there is ample evidence that we are not doing enough.

Of course only a tiny fraction of human dimension activities in the OSCE region can be undertaken by the ODIHR itself. It is first and foremost States themselves which are responsible for the fulfillment of OSCE commitments. Although our resolve to assist participating States meet these commitments remains undiminished, it is only the political will of States which will ultimately advance human rights and democracy. We will try to reflect on those issues also in our report to the Ministerial Council later this year.

I look forward to seeing many of you next week when we will have an opportunity to discuss preparations for the report in depth. I also hope to be able to welcome many participants at this year's Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw in October.

Thank you for your attention.



## **OSCE/ODIHR PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS JANUARY - JUNE 2006**

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### ***PUBLICATIONS***

#### **Criminal-Justice Systems in the OSCE Area**

**Date: 4 May 2006. English**

**A leaflet outlining reform challenges and ODIHR activities.**

#### **ODIHR Annual Report 2005**

**Date: 28 April 2006. English, Russian**

**The ODIHR's annual report provides an overview of the Office's primary activities in the areas of elections, democratization, human rights, tolerance and non-discrimination, and Roma and Sinti issues.**

#### **Education on the Holocaust and on Anti-Semitism: An Overview and Analysis of Educational Approaches**

**Date: 13 April 2006. English.**

**An overview of current teaching on the Holocaust and on Anti-Semitism in the OSCE participating States, with recommendations.**

### ***TRANSLATIONS***

#### **Election Observation - A decade of monitoring elections: the people and the practice**

**First published in 2005. Russian, French, Dutch**

#### **OSCE Human Dimension Commitments, thematic and chronological compilations**

**First published in 2005. Russian.**

#### **Factsheet of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights**

**First published in 2005. Albanian, Armenian, Azerbaijani, Belarusian, Danish, French, Georgian, German, Italian, Polish, Russian, Serbian, Ukrainian.**

#### **Election Observation Handbook: Fifth edition**

**First published in 2005. Albanian, French, Georgian, Russian, Serbian, Ukrainian**

#### **National Referral Mechanisms - Joining Efforts to Protect the Rights of Trafficked Persons: A Practical Handbook**

First published in 2004. Albanian, Turkish, Uzbek, Serbian.

## ***DOCUMENTS***

### **2006 Parliamentary Elections in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Interim Report 2**

Date: 26 June 2006. English.

The second interim report by the ODIHR's election observation mission, covering the period 10-21 June 2006.

### **Final report on the 13 May 2006 partial repeat parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan**

Date: 23 June. English.

Annex to the final report on the 2005 parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan

### **Final report on the 26 March 2006 parliamentary elections in Ukraine**

Date: 23 June 2006. English

OSCE election observation mission final report

### **2006 Parliamentary Elections in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Interim Report 1**

Date: 13 June 2006. English, Albanian, Macedonian.

The first interim report by the ODIHR's election observation mission, covering the period 30 May-9 June 2006.

### **Assessment Mission Report on the 9-10 April 2006 Parliamentary Elections in Italy**

Date: 9 June 2006. English.

A report by the ODIHR's election assessment mission on the parliamentary elections in Italy, 9-10 April 2006

### **Final report on the 19 March 2006 presidential election in Belarus**

Date: 7 June 2006. English, Russian, Belarusian.

Final report

### **Solidarity with Victims of Terrorism**

Date: 30 May 2006. English.

Background paper presented at a workshop on 9-10 March in Onati, Spain.

### **Technical Workshop on Solidarity with Victims of Terrorism**

Date: 30 May 2006. English.

Final report from a workshop held on 9-10 March in Onati, Spain.

### **ODIHR contribution for the Annual Evaluation Report on Gender Issues in the OSCE**

Date: 26 May 2006. English.

A report on of ODIHR's implementation of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality.

**ODIHR e-newsletter May/June**

Date: 26 May 2006. English, Russian.

May/June 2006 issue of the ODIHR e-newsletter.

**Statement of preliminary findings and conclusions on the referendum in the Republic of Montenegro (Serbia and Montenegro), 21 May 2006**

Date: 22 May 2006. English, Serbian.

A preliminary report on the referendum on the future state-status of the Republic of Montenegro

**Draft Joint Opinion on Draft Amendments to the Electoral Code of the Republic of Armenia**

Date: 19 May 2006. English.

Draft joint opinion of the ODIHR and the European Commission for Democracy through Law.

**Needs Assessment Mission report ahead of parliamentary elections in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**

Date: 19 May 2006. English.

A needs assessment mission report compiled by the ODIHR ahead of parliamentary elections in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, scheduled for 5 July 2006.

**OSCE/ODIHR at 15 years: successes and the future**

Date: 17 May 2006. English.

Introductory remarks by Amb. Christian Strohal at a hearing at the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Washington DC, 17 May 2006.

**2006 Referendum in the Republic of Montenegro: Interim Report 2**

Date: 11 May 2006. English.

A report by the ODIHR covering the period 21 April - 5 May 2006.

**Final Report of the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Human Rights Defenders and National Human Rights Institutions**

Date: 29 April 2006. English.

The final report by the ODIHR on the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting, held in Vienna on 30-31 March 2006.

**2006 Referendum in the Republic of Montenegro: Interim Report 1**

Date: 25 April 2006. English.

A report by the ODIHR covering the period 28 March-20 April 2006.

**Women's Rights and Early Warning - Development of Indicators**

Date: 25 April 2006. English.

A report from a consultative meeting held in Vienna, 8 December 2005.

**Report from the OSCE/ODIHR Trial Monitoring in Uzbekistan, September-October 2005**



Date: 24 April 2006. English, Russian.  
Report from the OSCE/ODIHR trial monitoring in Uzbekistan, September-October 2005. Published with comments from the Uzbek authorities.

**Final report on the 23 January 2006 parliamentary elections in Canada**

Date: 12 April 2006. English.  
Election assessment mission report.

**Awareness Raising for Roma Activists on the Issue of Trafficking in Human Beings in South-Eastern Europe**

Date: 11 April 2006. English, Serbian.  
A position paper prepared jointly by the ODIHR's Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues and Anti-Trafficking Programme.

**Draft Joint Opinion on the Election Code of Georgia**

Date: 10 April 2006. English.  
A joint opinion drafted by the ODIHR and the Council of Europe's Venice Commission.

**2005 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting: Consolidated Summary**

Date: 6 April 2006. English.  
A compilation of documents from the HDIM held in Warsaw, 19-30 September 2005.

**Statement of preliminary findings and conclusions on the parliamentary elections in Ukraine, 26 March 2006**

Date: 27 March 2006. English, Ukrainian.  
A preliminary report on the parliamentary elections in Ukraine, 26 March 2006.

**Media monitoring charts (television) for the 26 March 2006 parliamentary elections in Ukraine**

Date: 27 March 2006. English.  
Charts analysing the media coverage given to candidates.

**Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on the State Election Commission of Croatia**

Date: 23 March 2006. English.  
A review prepared by the ODIHR and the Venice Commission.

**Joint opinion on the draft electoral code of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**

Date: 21 March 2006. English.  
A joint ODIHR/Venice Commission document.

**Joint opinion on the electoral code of Moldova**

Date: 20 March 2006. English.  
A joint ODIHR/Venice Commission commentary on the election code as amended on 22 July, 4 and 17 November 2005.

**Statement of preliminary findings and conclusions on the presidential election in Belarus, 19 March 2006**

Date: 20 March 2006. English, Russian, Belarusian.

A preliminary report on the presidential election in Belarus 2006

**Joint recommendations on the laws on parliamentary, presidential and local elections, and electoral administration in the Republic of Serbia**

Date: 18 March 2006. English.

Joint recommendations by the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR.

**2006 parliamentary elections in Ukraine: Interim report 3**

Date: 17 March 2006. English, Ukrainian.

Report covering the period 2-13 March 2006.

**Needs Assessment Mission report ahead of the 21 May referendum in Serbia and Montenegro**

Date: 14 March 2006. English.

A needs assessment mission report compiled by the ODIHR ahead of the referendum on the future state-status of the Republic of Montenegro, scheduled for 21 May 2006.

**2006 presidential election in Belarus: Interim report 2**

Date: 10 March 2006. English, Russian, Belarusian.

Report covering the period 25 February - 7 March 2006.

**2006 parliamentary elections in Ukraine: Interim report 2**

Date: 6 March 2006. English, Ukrainian.

Report covering the period 14 February - 1 March 2006.

**Needs Assessment Mission report ahead of parliamentary elections in Italy**

Date: 3 March 2006. English.

A needs assessment mission report compiled by the ODIHR ahead of parliamentary elections in Italy, scheduled for 9-10 April 2006.

**2006 presidential election in Belarus: Interim report 1**

Date: 1 March 2006. English, Russian, Belarusian.

Report covering the period 8-24 February 2006.

**Final report on the presidential election in Kazakhstan, 4 December 2005**

Date: 21 February 2006. English, Kazakh, Russian.

Final report of the OSCE/ODIHR election observation mission.

**2006 parliamentary elections in Ukraine: Interim Report 1**

Date: 21 February 2006. English, Ukrainian.

Report covering the period 23 January - 13 February 2006.

**OSCE/ODIHR Expert Meeting on Election Observation**

Date: 14 February 2006. English.

Report from a meeting on election observation hosted by the Russian Central Election Commission in Moscow, 22-23 November 2005.

**OSCE Commitments on Human Rights Defenders**

Date: 10 February 2006. English, Russian.

A compilation of OSCE commitments.

**Final report on the parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan, 6 November 2005**

Date: 1 February 2006. English, Azerbaijani.

Final report of the OSCE/ODIHR election observation mission.

**Draft OSCE/ODIHR Guidelines on Drafting Laws Pertaining to Freedom of Assembly**

Date: 31 January 2006. English, Russian.

A work-in-progress document.

**Needs assessment mission report ahead of the presidential election in Belarus, 19 March 2006**

Date: 31 January 2006. English, Russian.

A report prepared by the ODIHR ahead of the presidential election in Belarus.

**Address by Ambassador Christian Strohal to the Permanent Council**

Date: 26 January 2006. English.

Speech given by the ODIHR Director in Vienna.

**Preparing Holocaust Memorial Days: Suggestions for Educators**

Date: 25 January 2006. English, Croatian, Dutch, French, Italian, Russian.

Guidelines developed by the OSCE and Yad Vashem for commemorating the Holocaust in schools.

**Joint opinion on the draft law on the state register of voters of Ukraine**

Date: 20 January 2006. English.

A joint ODIHR-Venice Commission legislative review.

**Opinion on the law on elections of people's deputies of Ukraine**

Date: 20 January 2006. English.

A joint ODIHR-Venice Commission legislative review.

**Needs assessment mission report ahead of parliamentary elections in Ukraine, 26 March 2006**

Date: 12 January 2006. English.

A report prepared by the ODIHR ahead of the parliamentary elections in Ukraine on 26 March 2006



## Checklist of Responses to ODIHR Questionnaire on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Armed Forces Personnel

**Total Number of participating States that responded (excludes those w/o armed forces): 25**

STATE	DATE OF RESPONSE (dd/mm/yr)
Albania	
Andorra	N/A
Armenia	
Austria	18/05/06
Azerbaijan	20/04/06
Belarus	10/06/06
Belgium	14/06/06
Bosnia and Herzegovina	
Bulgaria	03/02/06
Canada	
Croatia	
Cyprus	
Czech Republic	30/01/06
Denmark	04/05/06
Estonia	03/04/06
Finland	19/04/06
France	16/06/06
Georgia	
Germany	

<b>Greece</b>	
<b>Holy See</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	
<b>Iceland</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	
<b>Italy</b>	
<b>Kazakhstan</b>	
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>	
<b>Latvia</b>	<b>20/01/06</b>
<b>Liechtenstein</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>30/01/06</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	<b>15/03/06</b>
<b>Malta</b>	<b>10/03/06</b>
<b>Moldova</b>	
<b>Monaco</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	
<b>Norway</b>	<b>24/04/06</b>
<b>Poland</b>	<b>13/04/06</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	
<b>Romania</b>	
<b>Russian Federation</b>	
<b>San Marino</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Serbia and Montenegro</b>	<b>16/01/06</b>
<b>Slovak Republic</b>	<b>13/04/06</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	
<b>Spain</b>	<b>09/05/06</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	<b>04/04/06</b>
<b>Switzerland</b>	<b>21/02/06</b>

<b>Tajikistan</b>	<b>18/01/06</b>
<b>The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</b>	
<b>Turkey</b>	<b>26/04/06</b>
<b>Turkmenistan</b>	
<b>Ukraine</b>	<b>10/04/06</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	
<b>United States</b>	<b>05/06/06</b>
<b>Uzbekistan</b>	

Latest Update: 27 June 2006