

# YOUTH AND SECURITY EDUCATION

Compilation of OSCE  
Commitments

*1st Edition*



# Youth and Security Education

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Compilation of OSCE Commitments

1<sup>st</sup> Edition

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## Foreword

I am pleased to present this compilation of OSCE commitments on Youth and Security, and on Education. Already in 1975, the Helsinki Final Act – the OSCE’s founding document – recognized the positive contributions young women and men can make towards comprehensive security. From the outset, the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), later transformed into the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), has been very much a “work in progress”, an ongoing process that has led to a significant expansion of its normative foundations. From 1975 onward, our Organization’s decision-making bodies adopted a significant number of documents referring to youth or the role of education in building peaceful societies, across all three dimensions.

Today, approximately 38 per cent of the population in the OSCE region is under the age of 30. Young women and men have a critical role to play in promoting and maintaining international peace and security. Contrary to common popular representations, most youth are not violent. Rather, they can – and do – act as forceful catalysts for positive and constructive change. Meaningfully integrating their perspectives into OSCE security debates and into all three dimensions of the OSCE’s work can help to strengthen the Organization’s ability to promote peace, stability and comprehensive security throughout the region.

In 2018, we saw remarkable developments in the Youth and Security agenda both within the OSCE region and beyond. The adoption of the OSCE Declaration on the Role of Youth in Contributing to Peace and Security Efforts (MC.DOC/3/18) on 7 December by the Ministerial Council in Milan came at a timely moment to guide our Organization’s joint efforts in the future. At the global level, the Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security, commissioned by UN Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015), paved the way for the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2419 (2018), which recognizes the role youth can play in conflict prevention and resolution, and calls for taking their views into account in security-related discussions and facilitating their equal and full participation at decision-making levels. As the world’s largest regional security arrangement, the OSCE aims to reinforce these promising developments.

Each of the commitments to strengthen OSCE efforts on Youth and Security included in this compilation was developed jointly and adopted unanimously by all participating States. They are the cornerstone of our engagement with and for youth, and form the basis of the Organization’s work in this field. By publishing and distributing this compilation, the OSCE Secretariat seeks to promote better knowledge and understanding of the OSCE commitments in the fields of Youth and Security, as well as on Education among governments, citizens and civil society in our region. We hope this publication will be a useful tool for young women and men, OSCE delegates, OSCE staff and experts – in short for all those involved in making the implementation of these commitments happen. I strongly hope that this publication will foster further progress in the implementation of these commitments by OSCE participating States, and that a fresh look at our commitments will help inspire further development of the Youth and Security agenda.

Ambassador Thomas Greminger  
OSCE Secretary General

## How to Use This Compilation

This compilation was developed in the framework of the extra-budgetary project “*Strengthening OSCE efforts on Youth and Security*”, which aims to define a coherent and unified approach to youth mainstreaming within the Executive Structures through a set of concrete and actionable recommendations.

The selection and chronological order of commitments in this publication was made on the basis of their use of the terms “youth”, “young”, and “education”. If a commitment makes explicit reference both to youth and to education, it is listed in the first chapter on youth.

The provisions contained in this compilation are extracted from documents that emerged from CSCE/OSCE summits, follow-up meetings, conferences, Ministerial and Permanent Council meetings since 1975. While these documents do not have the character of legally binding treaties under international law, they represent political commitments, adopted by consensus and politically binding on each participating State. In addition, the compilation includes relevant extracts from OSCE Parliamentary Assembly declarations and resolutions, which are adopted by majority vote and stimulate dialogue on important international issues.

While the goal of this publication is to present a comprehensive overview of the OSCE’s normative basis in the fields of youth and education, no attempt has been made to produce a complete inventory of every sentence that could possibly be conceived to have a youth-related aspect. It should be stressed that OSCE commitments should always be read and understood in the context of the comprehensive security concept, which encompasses politico-military issues, economic and environmental aspects, as well as the human dimension of security, including human rights and fundamental freedoms.

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# Youth and Security

## OSCE High-Level and Ministerial Commitments on Youth

Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, 1975

1 August 1975, Helsinki

### **Co-operation in the Field of Economics, of Science and Technology and of the Environment**

#### **Science and technology**

The participating States, (...)

Recommend further that more effective utilization be made of the possibilities and capabilities of existing international organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental, concerned with science and technology, for improving exchanges of information and experience, as well as for developing other forms of cooperation in fields of common interest, for example:

- in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, study of possibilities for expanding multilateral co-operation, taking into account models for projects and research used in various international organizations; and for sponsoring conferences, symposia, and study and working groups such as those which would **bring together younger scientists and technologists** with eminent specialists in their field;

#### **Environment:**

Considering that the success of any environmental policy presupposes that all population groups and social forces, aware of their responsibilities, help to protect and improve the environment, which necessitates continued and thorough **educative action**, particularly with regard to **youth**”

### **Questions relating to Security and Co-operation in the Mediterranean**

#### **1. Human contacts:**

##### **(f) Meetings among Young People:**

The participating States intend to further the development of contacts and exchanges among young people by encouraging:

- increased exchanges and contacts on a short or long term basis among young people working, training or undergoing education through bilateral or multilateral agreements or regular programmes in all cases where it is possible;

- study by their youth organizations of the question of possible agreements relating to frameworks of multilateral youth co-operation;

- agreements or regular programmes relating to the organization of exchanges of students, of international youth seminars, of courses of professional training and foreign language study;

- the further development of youth tourism and the provision to this end of appropriate facilities;



-the development, where possible, of exchanges, contacts and co-operation on a bilateral or multilateral basis between their organizations which represent wide circles of young people working, training or undergoing education;

- awareness among youth of the importance of developing mutual understanding and of strengthening friendly relations and confidence among peoples.

### **3. Co-operation and Exchanges in the Field of Culture**

#### Fields and Forms of Co-operation

The participating States (...) express their intention now to proceed to the implementation of the following:

To contribute, by appropriate means, to the development of contacts and co-operation in the various fields of culture, especially among creative artists and people engaged in cultural activities, in particular by making efforts to: (...)

- continue to encourage the organization of international meetings among creative artists, especially **young creative artists**, on current questions of artistic and literary creation which are of interest for joint study;

To encourage the search for new fields and forms of cultural co-operation, to these ends contributing to the conclusion among interested parties, where necessary, of appropriate agreements and arrangements, and in this context to promote: (...)

- such forms of cultural co-operation and the development of such joint projects as: international events in the fields of the plastic and graphic arts, cinema, theatre, ballet, music, folklore, etc.; book fairs and exhibitions, joint performances of operatic and dramatic works, as well as performances given by soloists, instrumental ensembles, 51 orchestras, choirs and other artistic groups, including those composed of amateurs, paying due attention to the organization of **international cultural youth events and the exchange of young artists**;

#### Co-operation and Exchanges in the Field of Education

##### (e) Teaching Methods

To promote the exchange of experience, on a bilateral or multilateral basis, in teaching methods at all levels of education, including those used in permanent and adult education, as well as the exchange of teaching materials, in particular by: (...)

- encouraging **exchanges of experience in the education of youth** and adults in international understanding, with particular reference to those major problems of mankind whose solution calls for a common approach and wider international co-operation;

*Concluding Document of the Vienna Meeting, 1989  
(Third Follow-up meeting to the Helsinki Conference)*

*15 January 1989, Vienna*

## **CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMICS, OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

### **Co-operation in other areas**

The participating States underline the economic importance of tourism and its contribution to the mutual understanding of peoples. They therefore favour the development of co-operation in this field and will facilitate normal contacts between tourists and the local population. To this end they will endeavour to improve the infrastructure for tourism, inter alia by diversifying accommodation and by **developing facilities for low-budget and youth tourism**, including small-scale private accommodation.

The participating States recognize the importance of **facilitating the integration of young people into professional life**. They will therefore continue their efforts to ensure the necessary conditions for the education and **vocational training of young people** and to promote **youth employment opportunities in various sectors of the economy**. They will continue their efforts to create conditions for developing the level of scientific and cultural knowledge of their citizens, especially young people, and for facilitating their access to achievements in the areas of natural and social sciences, as well as culture.

## **CO-OPERATION IN HUMANITARIAN AND OTHER FIELDS**

### **Human Contacts**

They will encourage the further development of **direct contacts between young people**, as well as between governmental and non-governmental **youth and student organizations and institutions**; the conclusion between such organizations and institutions of bilateral and multilateral arrangements and programmes; and the holding on a bilateral and multilateral basis of educational, cultural and other events and activities by and for young people.

They will make further efforts to **facilitate travel and tourism by young people**, inter alia by recommending to those of their railway authorities which are members of the International Union of Railways (UIC) that they expand the Inter-Rail system to cover all their European networks and by recommending to those of their railway authorities which are not members of the UIC that they consider establishing similar facilities.

### **Co-operation and exchanges in the field of culture**

They will encourage co-operation between and **joint artistic endeavours** of persons from different participating States who are engaged in cultural activities; as appropriate, facilitate specific initiatives to this end by such persons, institutions and organizations and encourage the **participation of young people in such initiatives**. In this context they will encourage meetings and symposia, exhibitions, festivals and tours by ensembles or companies, and research and training programmes in which persons from the other participating States may also freely take part and make their contribution.

## **Copenhagen Meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimension of the CSCE, 1990**

*29 June 1990, Copenhagen*

The participating States agree to encourage the creation, within their countries, of conditions for the training of students and trainees from other participating States, including persons taking vocational and technical courses. They also agree to **promote travel by young people** from their countries **for the purpose of obtaining education in other participating States** and to that end to encourage the conclusion, where appropriate, of bilateral and multilateral agreements between their relevant governmental institutions, organizations and educational establishments.

## **Charter of Paris for a New Europe, 1990**

*(Summit of Heads of State or Government)*

*19-21 November 1990, Paris*

### **Guidelines for the future**

Proceeding from our firm commitment to the full implementation of all CSCE principles and provisions, we now resolve to give a new impetus to a balanced and comprehensive development of our co-operation in order to address the needs and aspirations of our peoples.

### **Culture**

We resolve to make special efforts in our national policies to **promote better understanding, in particular among young people, through cultural exchanges**, co-operation in all fields of education and, more specifically, through teaching and training in the languages of other participating States. We intend to consider first results of this action at the Helsinki Follow-up Meeting in 1992.

*Decision No. 3/03 Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area  
2 December 2003, Maastricht  
MC.DEC/3/03*

Recommended action by participating States: (...)

51. Develop policies and programmes, including vocational training, to **improve the marketable skills and employability** of Roma and Sinti people, **particularly young people and women**. (...)

54. At the request of participating States, the ODIHR-CPRSI and the OCEEA will support development of the employability and entrepreneurial skills of Roma and Sinti people through the establishment of training and retraining programmes in participating States. **Successful practices**, particularly relating to the development of entrepreneurial skills and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) (e.g., the **Youth Entrepreneurship Seminars programme**) could be adapted to the needs of Roma and Sinti people. The OCEEA could also facilitate economic and social insertion by acting as a catalyst for support by partner organizations and financial institutions of micro-credit programmes, in the form of small loans for the establishment of small-scale businesses. (...)

Recommended action by OSCE institutions and structures:

65. The ODIHR-CPRSI and, where appropriate, other OSCE institutions and structures, including OSCE field operations, will **assist participating States in launching educational initiatives to help Roma and Sinti people make full use of regular health services**. They will, inter alia, collect, produce and disseminate relevant information on good practices.

#### V. Improving access to education

**Education is a prerequisite to the participation** of Roma and Sinti people in the political, social and economic life of their respective countries on a footing of equality with others. Strong immediate measures in this field, particularly those that foster school attendance and combat illiteracy, should be assigned the highest priority both by decision-makers and by Roma and Sinti communities. **Educational policies should aim to integrate Roma and Sinti people into mainstream education** by providing full and equal access at all levels, while remaining sensitive to cultural differences.

Recommended action by participating States:

67. Ensure that national legislation includes adequate **provisions banning racial segregation and discrimination in education** and provides effective remedies for violations of such legislation.

68. **Consult Roma and Sinti representatives when designing educational policies** affecting them.

69. **Actively promote equal opportunities in the field of education** for Roma and Sinti children, particularly by providing them with language-related or other assistance.

70. **Take special measures to enhance the quality and effectiveness of education** for Roma and Sinti children. Encourage increased representation of Roma and Sinti people among school teachers.

71. **Include Roma history and culture in educational texts**, with particular consideration given to the experience of Roma and Sinti people during the Holocaust. (...)

74. **Allocate financial resources for the transfer of the Roma children to mainstream education and for the development of school support programmes to ease the transition to mainstream education.**

75. **Facilitate Roma children's access to mainstream education** by taking measures such as: (...) (b) **Training of educators regarding multicultural education** and ways of dealing with ethnically mixed classes;

79. Promote regular school attendance by Roma and Sinti children, inter alia, through the involvement of family and social mediators, the promotion of awareness by Roma and Sinti parents and elders of their responsibility to facilitate children's school attendance and, in particular, **equal access to education for girls.**

80. Pay special attention to providing Roma and Sinti girls with **equal opportunities for educational and social inclusion** and develop programmes to counter their particularly high drop-out rate. (...)

84. **Evaluate periodically the effectiveness of educational policies.**

Recommended action by OSCE institutions and structures:

85. **The HCNM will encourage participating States to comply with their commitments to provide free and equal access to public education to all members of society**, and will encourage them to take steps to improve the situation of Roma and Sinti people in this respect.

86. **The HCNM will continue to provide guidance on educational models, curriculum content and the teaching of, or in, the mother tongue, including the Romani language.** (...)

## VI. Enhancing participation in public and political life

Roma and Sinti people face special challenges in their efforts to participate in the public — and particularly the political — life of their respective countries. **Low levels of education** and, in certain cases, discrimination against them contribute substantially to the under-representation of Roma and Sinti people at all levels of government. Roma and Sinti people have an equal right to participate in public affairs. This includes the rights to vote, stand for election, participate in public affairs and form political parties without discrimination. Efforts made in recent years to foster Roma political participation should be encouraged, particularly those originating from the Roma groups themselves.

Recommended action by OSCE institutions and structures: (...)

101. The ODIHR and, where appropriate, other OSCE institutions and structures, including OSCE field operations, will develop and implement **voter education and voter registration programmes**.

*Decision No. 4/03 Tolerance and Non-Discrimination*

*2 December 2003, Maastricht*

*MC.DEC/4/03*

The Ministerial Council,

10. Ensures the advancement of the implementation of the OSCE commitments on national minorities, and **recognizes the importance of the recommendations of the High Commissioner on National Minorities on education**, public participation, and language, including on its use in broadcast media, and the relevant recommendations of the Representative on Freedom of the Media in this regard; (...)

14. Decides that the OSCE in addressing the issues contained in this document will increase its **efforts towards the younger generation** in order to **build up their understanding of the need for tolerance. Human rights education merits particular attention;**

*Decision No. 12/04 Tolerance and Non-Discrimination*

*7 December 2004, Sofia*

*MC.DEC/12/04*

The Ministerial Council (...)

3. Further decides to intensify efforts for the implementation of these three decisions, which include commitments in the fields of, inter alia, **education**, media, legislation, law enforcement, migration and religious freedom; (...)

Decides,

1. The participating States commit to: (...)

**Promote, as appropriate, educational programmes for combating anti-Semitism;**

**Promote remembrance of and, as appropriate, education about the tragedy of the Holocaust, and the importance of respect for all ethnic and religious groups; (...)**

Encourage development of informal exchanges among experts in appropriate fora on **best practices and experiences in law enforcement and education;**

8. **Participating States should encourage the establishment of programmes to educate children and youth** about expression motivated by racist, xenophobic, anti-Semitic or other related bias they may encounter on the Internet. Also, as appropriate, participating States and Internet service providers should take steps to increase parental awareness of widely available filtering software that enables parents to exercise greater supervision and control over their children's use of the Internet. Materials on successful educational programmes and filtering software should be widely disseminated as part of the exchange of best practices;

Final Document of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Ljubljana, 2005

*Decision No. 10/05 Tolerance and Non-Discrimination: Promoting Mutual Respect and Understanding*

*6 December 2005, Ljubljana*

*MC.DEC/10/05*

The Ministerial Council, (...)

5. Decides that the participating States while implementing their commitments to promote tolerance and non-discrimination will focus their activities in such fields as, inter alia, legislation, law enforcement, **education**, media, data collection, migration and integration, religious freedom, inter-cultural and inter-faith dialogue, and commit to:

5.3 **Encourage public and private educational programmes that promote tolerance and non-discrimination**, and raise public awareness of the existence and the unacceptability of intolerance and discrimination, and in this regard, to consider drawing on ODIHR expertise and assistance in order to develop methods and curricula for **tolerance education** in general, including: (...)

**Education on and remembrance of the Holocaust**, as well as other genocides, recognized as such in accordance with the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, and crimes against humanity;

**Education on anti-Semitism** in order to ensure a systematic approach to education, including curricula related to contemporary forms of anti-Semitism in participating States;

5.4 Consider developing, in close co-operation with civil society, concrete measures which do not endanger freedom of information and expression, in order to counter xenophobic stereotypes, intolerance and discrimination in the media and to **encourage programmes to educate children and youth about prejudice or bias they may encounter in the media or on the Internet**; (...)

*Decision No. 14/05 Women in Conflict Prevention, Crisis Management and Post-Conflict Rehabilitation*

*6 December 2005, Ljubljana*

*MC.DEC/14/05*

The Ministerial Council, (...)

6. **Calling on participating States and OSCE structures, as appropriate, to support and encourage training and educational programmes focusing on women and girls**, as well as projects aimed at women's participation in building sustainable peace; to empower women's organizations; to support women's peace initiatives through the media and workshops on human rights and gender equality; and to raise awareness among women concerning the importance of their involvement in political processes, (...).



*Decision No. 13/06 Combating Intolerance and Discrimination and Promoting Mutual Respect and Understanding*

*5 December 2006, Brussels*

*MC.DEC/13/06*

The Ministerial Council,

(...)

Reaffirming its determination to implement the existing OSCE commitments in the fields of tolerance and non-discrimination and noting the contribution of the 2006 tolerance-related implementation focused thematic meetings on Inter-Cultural, Inter-Religious and Inter-Ethnic Understanding (Almaty), **on Education to Promote Mutual Respect and Understanding** and to Teach about the Holocaust (Dubrovnik) and on Hate Crimes Data Collection (Vienna),

5. Calls upon the participating States to address the root causes of intolerance and discrimination by encouraging the development of **comprehensive domestic education policies** and strategies as well as through increased awareness-raising measures that: (...)

— **Promote remembrance and education about the tragedy of the Holocaust**, as well as other genocides, recognized as such in accordance with the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, and crimes against humanity;

6. **Acknowledges the important contribution youth can make to the fight against intolerance and discrimination** and encourages the continuation and further development of good practice activities such as **human rights education at an early age** throughout the OSCE region and to **organize an OSCE youth event in 2007** taking into account the experience and expertise of other relevant international and regional organizations in this field in order to avoid duplication;

Final Document of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Madrid, 2007

*Decision No. 10/07 Tolerance and Non-Discrimination: Promoting Mutual Respect and Understanding*

*30 November 2007, Madrid*

*MC.DEC/10/07*

The Ministerial Council, (...)

Recognizing the importance of freedom of religion or belief and education on tolerance and non-discrimination as a means to promote mutual respect and understanding and in this regard taking note of the presentation of the “Toledo Guiding Principles on Teaching about Religions and Beliefs in Public Schools”, (...)

**Acknowledging the important role youth can play in fostering mutual respect and understanding between cultures and religions** contributing to the promotion of democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms, and in this regard **taking note of the Youth Forum held in Madrid on 5 and 6 November 2007**, (...)

Acknowledging the specificity of different forms of intolerance, while at the same time recognizing the importance of taking a **comprehensive approach and addressing cross-cutting issues** in such fields as, inter alia, legislation, law enforcement, data collection and monitoring of hate crimes, **education**, media and constructive public discourse and the promotion of inter-cultural dialogue, in order to effectively combat all forms of discrimination, (...)

**3. Encourages the promotion of educational programmes in the participating States in order to raise awareness among youth of the value of mutual respect and understanding;** (...)

5. Calls on participating States to increase their efforts, in co-operation with civil society to counter the incitement to imminent violence and hate crimes, including through the Internet, within the framework of their national legislation, while respecting freedom of expression, and underlines at the same time that the opportunities offered by the Internet for the promotion of democracy, human rights and **tolerance education should be fully exploited;** (...).

*Decision No. 4/13 Enhancing OSCE Efforts to Implement the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area, with a Particular Focus on Roma and Sinti Women, Youth and Children*

*6 December 2013, Kyiv*

*MC.DEC/4/13*

The Ministerial Council, (...)

Recognizing that **education is key to opening up greater opportunities** for equal participation in the social, political, economic and cultural life for Roma and Sinti, including Roma and Sinti women, **youth and children**, in particular girls, to exercise their rights and to promote their full inclusion,

Considering that Roma and Sinti **youth and children** will in the future be the main stakeholders in promoting inclusion for Roma and Sinti people and communities, as well as promoting their full participation in the social, civic, political, economic and cultural life of the societies in which they live, (...)

2. Prevent further marginalization and exclusion of Roma and Sinti and address the rise of discrimination and violent manifestations of intolerance against Roma and Sinti, including against Roma and Sinti migrants, by: (...)

2.12 Taking measures to **ensure the security, well-being and health** of Roma and Sinti women, **youth and children**, including by addressing domestic violence, early marriages and trafficking in human beings, including, where necessary, by providing access to rehabilitative support; (...)

2.7 Enhancing the participation of Roma and Sinti in the elaboration, implementation and evaluation of the policies that affect them, including by fostering Roma and Sinti political participation and by **supporting voter education among Roma and Sinti**; (...)

2.9 Addressing the root causes of discrimination and intolerance against Roma and Sinti, including through **enhanced comprehensive educational and awareness raising efforts to tackle prejudice** and promote mutual respect and understanding;

3. Focus their efforts and the **necessary resources on education** as an important factor for improving the situation of Roma and Sinti and promoting their greater social and economic integration by means that could include:

3.1 Taking active measures to **ensure equal access to and participation for Roma and Sinti youth and children in education at all levels** in State-provided education, including at the early education, primary and secondary school levels;

3.2 Addressing the high dropout rate for Roma and Sinti secondary school students, and paying due attention to the specific problems faced by Roma and Sinti girls in that regard, while **taking active measures to encourage participation of Roma and Sinti youth in higher levels of education**;

3.3 Promoting greater access and taking appropriate measures to **facilitate enrolment for Roma and Sinti students in tertiary education**, including through scholarship programmes;

3.4 Promoting development of Roma and Sinti integration programmes at the national and local levels, **including education programmes and supplementary study courses, inter alia on Roma and Sinti culture and history**;

3.5 Renewing efforts to **eliminate segregation of Roma and Sinti in education at all levels**;

4. Take active measures to support the empowerment of Roma and Sinti women, including by:

4.1 Stepping up their efforts to ensure that Roma and Sinti women can enjoy and exercise their human rights and increasing efforts to **combat discrimination against them at all levels, including, where necessary, in the areas of education**, employment, health care and housing, and engaging in partnership with Roma and Sinti civil society organizations and Roma and Sinti people to this end; (...)

4.4 Targeting specific measures, where appropriate, aimed at **promoting equal access to and participation in education for Roma and Sinti girls at all levels**;

5. Encourage the relevant OSCE executive structures to enhance their activities meant to **build the capacities of Roma and Sinti women and youth organizations**, with a view to **promoting empowerment, education and non-discrimination among Roma and Sinti women and youth**, and to encourage the participation of Roma and Sinti women on an equal footing with men in all areas of their interest;

*Declaration on Youth*

*5 December 2014, Basel*

*MC.DOC/3/14*

**We, the members of the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, recall the OSCE commitments relating to youth and children, which are enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act and other relevant OSCE decisions, and take note of the efforts of other international organizations in this regard, in particular the United Nations.**

**We acknowledge that youth and children require particular attention and that their needs, concerns and interests should be addressed in a comprehensive manner.**

**We acknowledge the potential of young people to contribute to economic, political and social development, and that they can support participating States in the implementation of commitments in all three dimensions of the OSCE.**

**We take note of the Swiss Chairmanship's initiative related to youth in the OSCE.**

*Declaration on Enhancing Efforts to Combat Anti-Semitism*

*5 December 2014, Basel*

*MC.DOC/8/14*

We call upon the participating States to: (...)

Promote educational programmes for combating anti-Semitism and **provide young people with opportunities for human rights education** including on the subject of anti-Semitism; (...)

Facilitate the exchange of best practices among participating States on **educational initiatives** and other measures to raise awareness of anti-Semitism and overcome challenges to Holocaust education; (...).

*Decision No. 5/14 Prevention of Corruption*

*5 December 2014, Basel*

*MC.DOC/5/14*

The Ministerial Council, (...)

Encourages the participating States to: (...)

Contribute to strengthening awareness-raising measures with respect to corruption throughout all sectors of society, by providing training and **educational programmes** in the area of corruption prevention and integrity, with **special attention being given to youth**, and recognizing the role played in this regard by an engaged and well-informed civil society and an independent, free and pluralistic media;

*Declaration on Youth and Security*

*4 December 2015, Belgrade*

*MC.DOC/5/15*

We, the members of the Ministerial Council of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, recall the OSCE commitments relating to youth, built upon relevant provisions of the Helsinki Final Act.

We take note of the efforts of the current and previous OSCE Chairmanships and stress the importance of promoting the implementation of the OSCE commitments on youth, particularly in the area of education and the role young people can play to support participating States in implementing OSCE commitments in all three dimensions of the OSCE.

We recognize that youth and children require particular attention and that their needs, concerns and interests should be addressed in a comprehensive manner.

*Declaration on the OSCE Activities in Support of Global Efforts in Tackling the World Drug Problem*

*4 December 2015, Belgrade*

*MC.DOC/2/15*

We, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the participating States of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, (...)

Call upon participating States:

1. To contribute to the preparation for UNGASS 2016 being led by the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs, by supporting the following recommendations drawn up in accordance with the OSCE drug-related mandate: (...)

To facilitate co-operation, when appropriate, among public health, **education sectors** and law enforcement on a comprehensive approach to tackling drugs demand and supply reduction by **raising awareness, especially among children and young people** of the threat of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances with a view to reducing drug-related crime and promoting healthy living;

*Ministerial Declaration on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism*  
*4 December 2015, Belgrade*  
*MC.DOC/4/15*

Expressing particular concern that **youth, including children, are being radicalized** to terrorism and recruited as foreign terrorist fighters, and recognizing the **importance of working with youth to prevent and counter radicalization of youth to terrorism**, (...)

Stressing the **important roles** that **youth**, families, women, victims of terrorism, religious, cultural and education leaders, civil society, as well as the media, **can play to counter the violent extremist narrative** that can incite terrorist acts, and to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, in particular by fostering mutual respect and understanding, reconciliation and peaceful coexistence among cultures, and by promoting and protecting human rights, fundamental freedoms, democratic principles and the rule of law,

Recognizing the efforts of the 2014–2015 Swiss and Serbian consecutive Chairmanships of the OSCE, as well as previous Chairmanships, in **fostering the link between youth** and comprehensive security throughout the OSCE area, and in that regard taking note of the Serbian Chairmanship's conference on "**Working with youth for youth: protection against radicalization**", and the **Ukrainian Chairmanship's OSCE Youth Summit**,

Call upon the participating States: (...)

14. To **engage and empower youth, in preventing and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism**, inter alia, by:

(a) **Creating an enabling environment and opportunities for youth to participate and engage voluntarily and freely in public life** and in the promotion of human rights, fundamental freedoms, democratic principles, the rule of law, tolerance, non-discrimination, dialogue, mutual respect and understanding, and to facilitate their access to social services;

(b) **Supporting youth**, which are willing to contribute to such efforts, through **education in schools and higher education institutions**;

(c) **Supporting youth-led and youth-focused awareness-raising initiatives**, including through the Internet and social media, to prevent and counter their radicalization to terrorism, and to promote respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms, tolerance and non-discrimination;

(d) **Promoting programmes to facilitate youth access to employment**;

16. To invite the OSCE Partners for Co-operation to actively engage with us to strengthen our dialogue and co-operation in preventing and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism, respecting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms in this context, preventing and countering manifestations of intolerance and discrimination, including on the basis of religion or belief, xenophobia, violence, as well as promoting interfaith, interreligious and intercultural dialogue, **taking note of the Amman Youth Declaration on Youth, Peace, and Security dated 22 August**

**2015**, and to encourage the Partners for Co-operation to continue to make the best use of the OSCE principles, norms and commitments, as well as its relevant tools;

18. To continue their **support to participating States, upon request, in preventing and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism**, following a multi-dimensional approach, **including in relation to youth**, as appropriate;

19. To facilitate the exchange of practical experiences and good practices, and, upon request, provide assistance as appropriate, inter alia: (...)

(h) To **strengthen the role of civil society**, women, **youth** and religious leaders in preventing and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism; (...)

(k) To **encourage educational initiatives** and other measures to promote tolerance and non-discrimination, non-violence, and to raise public awareness of, and counter xenophobic stereotypes, intolerance and discrimination, as part of efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism;

#### **Final Document of the Twenty-Third Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Hamburg, 2016**

##### ***Declaration on Strengthening OSCE Efforts to Prevent and Counter Terrorism***

***9 December 2016, Hamburg***

***MC.DOC/1/16***

10. We stress the importance of co-operation among OSCE participating States, including by involving where appropriate, civil society, to prevent and counter terrorism. We also underscore the **important role that civil society, in particular youth**, families, women, victims of terrorism, religious, cultural and **education leaders**, as well as the media and the private sector can play in preventing VERLT, inter alia by countering terrorist and violent extremism messaging and offering alternatives to these narratives, including on the Internet, social and other media. We encourage political leaders and public figures including from civil society and religious leaders to speak out strongly and promptly against violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism.

11. We take positive note of the continued implementation of the “OSCE United in Countering Violent Extremism (**#United CVE**) campaign” and we recall that the UN General Assembly took note of the **Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism** presented by the Secretary-General of the United Nations suggesting that States consider its relevant recommendations when developing, where appropriate, and as applicable in their domestic context, national and regional plans of action for preventing violent extremism conducive to terrorism.



## Twenty-Fourth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Vienna, 2017

### Decision No. 8/17 Promoting Economic Participation in the OSCE Area

8 December 2017, Vienna

MC.DEC/8/17

The Ministerial Council,

[...]

Reaffirming the commitments related to aspects of economic participation contained in the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension adopted at the Maastricht Meeting of the Ministerial Council in 2003, the Ministerial Council Decision on promoting equal opportunity for women in the economic sphere adopted in Vilnius in 2011, the Ministerial Council Declaration on Strengthening Good Governance and Combating Corruption, Money-Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism adopted in Dublin in 2012, the Ministerial Council Decision on the prevention of corruption adopted in Basel in 2014, the **Ministerial Council Declaration on Youth adopted in Basel in 2014** and the Ministerial Council Decision on strengthening good governance and promoting connectivity adopted in Hamburg in 2016,

Highlighting that promoting economic participation implies job creation, **better access to education, vocational training and the labour market**, as well as improvement of conditions for employment and entrepreneurship, [...]

**Acknowledging the potential of young people to contribute to economic, political and social development, and recognizing the importance of facilitating the integration of young people into professional life, thereby promoting economic participation, [...]**

1. Calls upon participating States to: [...]

– Continue their efforts to improve social conditions, provide adequate and effective safety nets, **promote education and vocational training**, strengthen health-care services and increase employment opportunities;

– Promote good governance and strengthen the legal and institutional frameworks conducive to a positive investment climate and the development of businesses, including small and medium-sized enterprises, thereby promoting social inclusion and economic participation;

– Further strengthen the co-operation of labour market institutions, including local employment services and training institutions, trade unions and employers' organizations as social partners, business community, **higher education institutions** and other relevant stakeholders to improve labour market transparency, access and conditions for employment and entrepreneurship;

– **Continue their efforts to promote economic participation of and employment opportunities for young people by, *inter alia*, ensuring the necessary conditions for the education and vocational training of youth, and through programmes facilitating youth access to the labour market; [...]**

## Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Milan, 2018

### *Decision No. 4/18 Preventing and Combating Violence against Women*

*8 December 2018, Milan*

*MC.DEC/4/18*

The Ministerial Council, [...]

**Considering that adolescence is an important phase in the social development of a person, and recognizing that this phase is often affected by persistent inequalities, negative attitudes, behaviours, and gender stereotypes that can put girls and young women at heightened risk of discrimination and violence, [...]**

Calls on the participating States to: [...]

7. Encourage all relevant actors, including those involved in the political process, to contribute to preventing and combating all forms of violence against women, including those engaged in professional activities with public exposure and/or in the interest of society, by, *inter alia*, raising the issue in public debates, and developing awareness-raising initiatives and other appropriate measures, **also considering the chilling impact of such violence on young women;**

### *Decision No. 5/18 Human Capital Development in the Digital Era*

*8 December 2018, Milan*

*MC.DEC/5/18*

The Ministerial Council,

**Recalling the commitments related to human capital development contained in the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension adopted at the Maastricht Meeting of the Ministerial Council in 2003, Ministerial Council Decision No. 10/11 on promoting equal opportunity for women in the economic sphere adopted in Vilnius in 2011, the Ministerial Council Declaration on Youth adopted in Basel in 2014, Ministerial Council Decision No. 4/16 on strengthening good governance and promoting connectivity adopted in Hamburg in 2016, and Ministerial Council Decision No. 8/17 on economic participation adopted in Vienna in 2017, [...]**

Aware that changes in the labour markets caused by digital transformation have the potential to widen social and economic disparities, and that there is a **need for a stronger focus on the development of human capital, particularly for women, youth and persons with disabilities, especially in labour-intensive, low-skilled economic sectors, [...]**

**3. Calls upon participating States to promote access to quality education, training, upskilling and reskilling opportunities in order to enhance employability – promoting non-discriminatory access for women, youth and persons with disabilities and with special attention to those working in labour-intensive industries;**

*Declaration on the Digital Economy as a Driver for Promoting Co-Operation, Security and Growth*  
*8 December 2018, Milan*  
*MC.DOC/2/18*

10. To **address the digital divides and promote inclusive economic participation**, more attention should be given to **widening access to digital technologies and the development of skills and reskilling required in the digital economy to enable equal opportunities**, in particular for women, **youth** and persons with disabilities.

*Declaration on the Role of Youth in Contributing to Peace and Security Efforts*  
*8 December 2018, Milan*  
*MC.DOC/3/18*

1. We, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the participating States of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, acknowledge that youth are an important part of society and the role that they can play in supporting participating States in the implementation of commitments in all three dimensions.

2. We recall the OSCE commitments relating to youth, built upon relevant provisions of the Helsinki Final Act, the 2014 Basel Ministerial Council Declaration on Youth, the 2015 Belgrade Ministerial Council Declaration on Youth and Security.

3. We take note of United Nations Security Council resolutions 2250 (2015) and 2419 (2018), on youth in the maintenance of international peace and security.

4. We take note of the efforts of the current and previous OSCE Chairmanships and the work carried out by participating States to advance the youth, peace and security agenda, such as the OSCE conference on “Working with Youth and for Youth: Strengthening Security and Co-operation Online”, held in Málaga, Spain, on 25 and 26 May 2017.

5. We recognize the role youth can play in contributing to a culture of peace, dialogue, justice and peaceful coexistence, trust and reconciliation.

6. We invite the Partners for Co-operation to voluntarily join us in affirming this declaration.

*8 December 2018, Milan*  
*MC.DOC/3/18*  
*Attachment*

*Interpretative Statement under Paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe*

By the delegation of Norway (also on behalf of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Sweden):

“Mr. Chairperson,

On the adoption of the Declaration on the Role of Youth in Contributing to Peace and Security Efforts, I would like to make the following interpretative statement on behalf of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and Norway.

The Declaration, though being short and weaker than we would have preferred, takes note of inter alia United Nations Security Council resolution 2250, which calls on all relevant actors to consider instituting mechanisms to promote a culture of peace, tolerance, intercultural and interreligious dialogue.

We acknowledge youth's role in peace and security and underline the importance of the participation of women and the incorporation of gender perspectives in peace efforts.

The resolution outlines a long range of areas where youth can have such a role.

We encourage coming Chairmanships to explore ways to include youth in the work on security in line with this UN resolution.

Norway requests that this statement be attached to the Declaration, and reflected in the journal of the day.

Thank you."

*Declaration on Security and Co-operation in the Mediterranean*

*8 December 2018, Milan*

*MC.DOC/4/18*

9. We underscore the continuing relevance of the respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms as an integral part of the OSCE comprehensive concept of security. **We also draw attention to the important and positive role played by youth in enhancing security and stability in the OSCE area and in the Mediterranean region and encourage OSCE initiatives aimed at promoting youth participation and youth engagement, which foster dialogue and co-operation among Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation and OSCE participating States.**

## CSCE/OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Declarations on Youth

### Final Paris Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2001

10 July 2001, Paris

#### *Resolution on South-East Europe*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, (...)

48. Proposes establishing programmes aimed at preventing violence and furthering women's rights and birth control, **promoting sex education in schools**, providing information, emphasizing the responsibilities of both women and men and facilitating family planning; (...).

### Final Berlin Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2002

10 July 2002, Berlin

#### *Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, (...)

89. Invites States to **incorporate in formal education**, from childhood, programmes of education in respect for diversity and differences making for tolerance and a shared life;

90. Urges schools and other community bodies to **promote education of young people** in the importance of cross cultural dialogue and opposing racism and any other forms of intolerance, and promotion of respect for diversity; (...)

### Final Rotterdam Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2003

9 July 2003, Rotterdam

#### *Combating Anti-Semitism in the 21st Century*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, (...)

12. Encourages **educational efforts throughout the OSCE region to counter anti-Semitic stereotypes and attitudes among younger people**, to increase Holocaust awareness programs, and to identify necessary resources to accomplish these goals; (...)

16. Urges those participating States that have not already done so to join the Task Force for **International Co-operation on Holocaust Education**, Remembrance and Research, and to implement the provisions of the Declaration of the Stockholm International Forum on the Holocaust.(...)

## Final Edinburg Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2004

9 July 2004, Edinburgh

### *Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

62. Taking into account that in the aftermath of events like 9/11, certain constitutional rights such as freedom of religion and **freedom of education** have given rise to different interpretations as to their specific context, (...)

68. Recalling the references made to the ancient tradition of the Olympic Truce (ekecheiria) in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in the Resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (A/RES/58/6) on 3 November 2003, calling for a truce during the Games to encourage a peaceful environment ensuring the safe passage and participation of athletes and others in the Games and thereby **mobilizing the world's youth to the cause of peace, (...)**

72. Recommends to the OSCE participating States that they **support educational programmes for national minorities**, also in their own language, and that they include education on different religions and cultures in their national curriculum to promote tolerance as well as intercultural understanding and mutual respect; (...)

## Final Washington Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2005

5 July 2005, Washington D.C

### *Terrorism by Suicide Bombers*

4. Noting that – while the Muslim community, on the whole, has always tended to reject all forms of violence and fanaticism – **a growing number of people, often very young**, are being induced to rethink the prescriptions of the Koran in the light of the mysticism of suicidal terrorism which, by that token, is alien to the Koran and to Islam, (...)

### *The OSCE Mediterranean Dimension*

18. Calls upon the OSCE participating states and the Mediterranean Partners to **use education as a vehicle to create tolerance** in the next generation; (...)

*Strengthening of Counteraction of Trafficking in Persons in OSCE participating States*

24. Strongly urges the OSCE and the participating States to take immediate steps to promote the aggressive **prosecution of those responsible for the trafficking of infants, children and youth**, to prevent such crimes against children and to protect victims, including through implementation of the recommendations contained in the Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings: Addressing the Special Needs of Child Victims of Trafficking for Protection and Assistance by: (...)

d. **establishing educational outreach programmes** aimed at particularly vulnerable populations of children and youth, including those residing in state institutions; (...)

28. Recognizes the need to arrive at a better understanding of what constitutes demand and how to combat it, decides to strengthen efforts to counter the demands for victims of trafficking in persons, and encourages the OSCE participating States to consider adopting legislative or other measures, such as **educational, social or cultural measures**, to discourage and reduce the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, and that thus promote trafficking; (...)

*Combating Anti-Semitism, Racism, Xenophobia and other Forms of Intolerance, including Against Muslims and Roma*

17. Agrees that the transatlantic slave trade was a crime against humanity and urges participating states to **develop educational tools**, programmes, and activities to teach current and future generations about its significance; (...)

20. Reminds participating States of the role these histories and other events have played in the institutionalization of practices that limit members of minority groups from having equal access to and participation in state-sponsored institutions, resulting in gross disparities in health, wealth, **education**, housing, political participation, and access to legal redress through the courts: (...)

31. Urges participating States to implement the commitments following the original 2003 Vienna Conferences on Anti-Semitism and on Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination and subsequent conferences, that include calls to:

d. **promote national guidelines on educational work** to promote tolerance and combat anti-Semitism, including Holocaust education; (...)

38. Urges implementation of the Resolution on Roma Education unanimously adopted at the OSCE PA 2002 Berlin Annual Session to “eradicate practices that segregate Roma in schooling” and **provide equal access to education** that includes intercultural education; (...)

47. Encourages an increased focus by participating States on the greater role teenagers and young adults can play in combating anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance and urges participating States to collect data and report on hate crimes committed by persons under the age of 24 and to **promote tolerance initiatives through education**, workforce training, **youth organizations**, sports clubs, and other organized activities;

**Final Astana Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2008**

*3 July 2008, Astana*

*A Mediterranean Free Trade Area*

17. Recommends the creation of a Mediterranean Agricultural Marketing Board whose objective would be to **create jobs in the agriculture sector for young people** in the region; (...)

*Strengthening Efforts to Combat all Forms of Trafficking in Human Beings and Addressing the Special Needs of Child Victims*

23. Strongly urges the OSCE and the participating States to take immediate steps to promote the aggressive **prosecution of those responsible for the trafficking of infants, children and youths**, prevention of such crimes against children and protection of victims, including through implementation of the recommendations contained in the Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings: Addressing the Special Needs of Child Victims of Trafficking for Protection and Assistance, inter alia;

25. Urges the participating States to **establish educational outreach programmes aimed at particularly vulnerable populations of children and youths**, including those residing in state institutions;



**Final Vilnius Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2009**

*3 July 2009, Vilnius*

*Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

48. Recognising that the current economic crisis disproportionately affects the most vulnerable members of society, including immigrants, forced settlers and refugees, persons belonging to minorities, women and **young people**, (...)

*Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions*

81. Affirms the importance of **equitable access to education for all children and young people to facilitate their quick entry into the labour market**; (...)

*Mediterranean Free Trade*

13. Also reiterates its recommendation contained in the 2008 Astana Declaration that a Mediterranean Agricultural Marketing Board be established with the aim of **creating jobs in the agriculture sector for young people** in the region; (...)

*Divided Europe Reunited: Promoting Human Rights and Civil Liberties in the OSCE Region in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

13. Urges the participating States: (...)

- a. to develop and improve **educational tools**, programmes and activities, most notably for **younger generations**, on totalitarian history, human dignity, human rights and fundamental freedoms, pluralism, democracy and tolerance;

**Final Oslo Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2010**

*10 July 2010, Oslo*

*Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and the Environment*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

23. Alarmed at the scale of drug trafficking at national and transnational levels, its versatile and violent nature, its high share in criminal profits and their subsequent investment and the fact that this constitutes a major threat to the international political system, the global economic environment and civil societies, and particularly to the **younger generation**, (...)

### *Fighting Terrorism, the Production and Trafficking of Narcotics and Illegal Emigration in Afghanistan*

2. **Reaffirming the importance of education** for the reconstruction of Afghanistan,

3. Noting that the deterioration of security in Afghanistan has led and is still leading a considerable number of Afghan citizens to leave the country, prevents many **young people** from attending school, limits economic opportunities, and undermines human rights and the rule of law, in addition to fostering corruption, (...)

6. Urges the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to take action in order to reduce the emigration of its own citizens to foreign countries and to ensure to all its **young citizens** an adequate education to meet the requirements of reconstruction and economic and social development, as well as to promote the rule of law and good governance and respect for human rights; (...)

### *Cyber Crime*

2. Recognizing the benefits and convenience for human society and social development of advances in communication and information technologies, including the Internet and social networking sites, which facilitate financial transactions, inter-personal and intercultural communications and understanding, and that these benefits and conveniences should be enjoyed by all, including children, **young adults and women**, without fear of harassment, exploitation, fraud or other forms of criminality, (...)

### *Women's Rights and Reproductive Health*

5. Deeply concerned that the high rates of preventable maternal mortality in the OSCE area are related to the presence of gender inequalities which include; violence, including sexual violence, against women and girls, lack of access to contraceptives, unsafe abortions or lack of access to abortion, **lack of education** and economic opportunities, lack of participation in decision-making, multiple forms of discrimination, and unequal health services and facilities for women and girls in particular;

14. Urges participating States to recognize and implement the evidence-based recommendations made by WHO, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Bank, to reduce preventable infant and maternal mortality and HIV/AIDS and increase women's right and access to health including increased access to comprehensive reproductive and sexual health information and services for women and **young people**, family planning, reproductive health supplies, prenatal care to help women carry to term, food and nutrition, medication to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS, safe delivery by skilled birth attendants, post-natal care, breastfeeding information, treatment of sexually transmitted infections including HIV, management of complications of abortion, and equipping and training health service providers to ensure access to safe abortions; (...)

## Final Belgrade Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2011

10 July 2011, Belgrade

### *Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and the Environment*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,  
(...)

23. Recognizing that the consequences of the economic crisis have had a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable members of society, including women, **young people**, people belonging to national minorities and migrants, (...)

### *Promoting Policies in Favour of the Roma Population*

21. Requires that **education be given priority** in breaking the inter-generational exclusion gap: (...)

(b) Special attention must go to the transition between **primary and secondary education**;

22. Asks that the Roma have more prominence: (...)

(d) Priority should be given to women, children and **young people**; (...)

### *Witness Protection Programmes – A Challenge to Justice and Reconciliation*

22. Calls on the competent national authorities to establish, within the framework of witness assistance programmes, partnerships with the non-governmental organizations having recognized experience vis-à-vis vulnerable populations called on to testify, **particularly young people** and children; (...)

## Final Istanbul Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2013

3 July 2013, Istanbul

### *Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions*

103. Welcoming the Ukrainian Chairmanship's pledge in connection with Helsinki +40 to continue promoting media freedom, reinforcing co-operation with civil society, **promoting youth education** on human rights issues and combating trafficking in human beings,

122. Stresses the utmost relevance of the UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training as a valuable tool for OSCE field activities at all stages of the Conflict Cycle, and calls upon participating States to enhance efforts in this domain, in accordance with the relevant OSCE guidelines, inter alia, through **appropriate human rights education policies** that will guarantee citizens' rights to information and knowledge and their effective participation in democratic societies;

129. Invites all participating States to **take action regarding education** and raising awareness of the issue of human trafficking and to co-operate fully with the OSCE Special

Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and relevant OSCE structures and Institutions, including Field Operations;

130. Invites all participating States to develop and implement a national action plan to help combat human trafficking through the co-ordination of policies and actions by Government and Non-Government bodies and **through education** and raising awareness of the issue of human trafficking; (...)

*Strengthening the Role of Education in Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Other Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination*

10. Recalling the various commitments of the international community to counter intolerance and discrimination that **stress the role of education**, including, in the OSCE, those deriving from the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, the 1990 Copenhagen Document, the 1991 Moscow Document, the 2003 Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in the 21st Century and the 2005 Ljubljana Ministerial Council Decision No. 11/5,

11. Recognizing the **essential role of education**, particularly when targeted at youth, in promoting and enhancing democratic values, tolerance, mutual respect and understanding, inclusion, intercultural harmony, and universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as in countering the rise of extremist political parties, movements and groups,

12. Calls upon the OSCE participating States to intensify their efforts in the **field of education**, in order to promote understanding and raise awareness of the causes, consequences and evils of intolerance and discrimination;

13. Encourages the OSCE participating States to **develop cultural and educational programmes** aimed at countering intolerance and discrimination in order to foster mutual understanding among all cultures and civilizations;

14. Urges participating States to develop, with reference to ODIHR's relevant materials and tools, **national guidelines on educational work** to promote tolerance and foster inclusion, and emphasizes within this framework the importance of equal access to education (and the value of intercultural education);

15. Stresses the central role that education must play in States' integration policies, and the **importance of equal education** and employment opportunities in efforts to combat discrimination and safeguard social cohesion and stability, particularly so, in the light of the economic recession and cuts in public spending, inter alia, in this field;

16. Calls upon participating States to increase efforts to counter racism, xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination, also **through education**, inter alia, by reviewing, as appropriate, educational curricula and textbooks in order to ensure that they are free from prejudice and negative stereotypes and by introducing or further elaborating sections on tolerance and non-discrimination;

17. Invites the OSCE participating States to consider **developing educational activities** in schools, including extracurricular ones, to raise awareness against intolerance and discrimination;

18. Recommends that the OSCE participating States **encourage educational authorities** and the private sector, as appropriate, to develop educational materials, including textbooks and dictionaries, aimed at combating those phenomena;

19. Reiterates its request for increased support for ODIHR's Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department's Racism and Xenophobia programme, inter alia, with a view to increasing the number of available **educational materials** and training programs for educators;

22. Encourages the media, whose effect on the **development of attitudes of youth** can be significant, to avoid negative stereotyping and to refrain from spreading prejudices;

23. Emphasizes that parliamentarians can serve as **role models to youth**, reaffirms parliamentarians' responsibility to publicly denounce intolerance and discrimination and to raise awareness of the value of diversity, and calls attention to the important role of politicians and political parties in promoting mutual respect and understanding. (...)

**Final Baku Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2014**  
*2 July 2014, Baku*

*Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment*

79. Stresses the urgent need for modest recovery to be reflected in **curbing unemployment, particularly among young people**, by means of dynamic and comprehensive job-generating policies, which should aim at further developing infrastructure and investments in pro-growth sectors, encouraging entrepreneurs, knowledge and innovation, boosting domestic demand and providing adequate training to facilitate the **transition from education** to the labour market; (...)

81. Urges participating States to **encourage young people** to pursue careers in agriculture, for example by facilitating transnational courses in agricultural science; (...)

*The OSCE at 40 Years – A Region of Trust and Mutually Beneficial Co-Existence*

12. Convinced that this can only be achieved through **equal educational opportunities** for all, fair competition, sound ideas, boldness, and faith in the values upon which our Organization is based and which continue to be the bedrock and safeguard of our common future, (...)

18. (a) Concerned by unemployment, especially among **young persons**, which has reached such dramatic levels in many of our countries,

18. (b) Remaining firm in our commitment not to fail these people, above all those in the **younger generations** whose access to education, qualified vocational training and good jobs will determine the futures of our countries, (...)

25. Recognizes that a **good education** from kindergarten through schooling to vocational training and academic qualification is the key to equal opportunity for every individual to make the most of their life; (...)

#### *Comprehensive Immigration Reform*

13. Taking into account the fact that women immigrants face much more serious and multiple types of discrimination than men in a myriad of ways, immigration regulations in the OSCE area should take account of the social protection and inclusion of socially vulnerable people, e.g. women, children and **young people**, (...)

22. Encourages the participating States to promote assistance and to offer fair **educational opportunities** to the children of immigrants in their territory; (...)

24. Further asks the participating States to establish opportunities for raising awareness about immigration supporting activities that contribute to improving the health and **education of immigrants**; (...)

#### *Prevention and Prosecution of Child Sex Trafficking*

5. Recognizing that children in institutions/orphanages, children in alternative care, **runaway youth**, unaccompanied and separated children, children with disabilities, children belonging to national minorities, children without any citizenship, children without birth registration, child asylum-seekers, refugees and IDPs, and children left behind by migrating parents are especially vulnerable to being trafficked and require special care and protection,

**Final Helsinki Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2015**

*9 July 2015, Helsinki*

***A Comprehensive Legislative Reform on Foreign Terrorist Fighters from the OSCE Area***

25. Calls for innovative and pragmatic co-operation with internet companies against extremist propaganda on the Web in the OSCE area, and calls on participating States to encourage and **promote educational** and preventive co-operation with the media to counter terrorist propaganda, notably by training journalists specialized in religion; (...)

27. Calls for more attention to be devoted to possible reintegration programmes for recruits – provided they have clean criminal records and have not participated in any banned and/or illegal terrorist organizations abroad – when they return to their countries of origin, including through closer co-operation between States and international and regional NGOs active in countering violent terrorism and extremism, and, as part of wider reintegration and rehabilitation efforts, the provision of employment, **education**, healthcare and other services for returning jihadists who have not committed any crimes;

28. Encourages exploring new channels to **prevent youth radicalization**, especially in national prison systems; (...)

**Final Tbilisi Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2016**

*5 July 2016, Tbilisi*

*Enhanced Co-Operation and Confidence-Building Measures in the Baltic Sea Region*

21. Invites the participating States to provide greater support for and to **foster youth encounters and youth exchange** in the Baltic Sea region, as a region of enhanced co-operation;

22. Encourages the participating States to support cross-border partnerships between municipalities and regions, **educational institutions** and civil-society organisations in the Baltic Sea area; (...)

*Law Enforcement Co-Ordination to Prevent Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking by Known Sex Offenders*

9. Recognizing that impoverished children, unaccompanied children, children in institutions/orphanages, children in alternative care, **runaway youth**, children with disabilities, minority children, stateless children, children without birth registration, refugees and IDPs, and children left behind by migrating parents are especially vulnerable to being sexually exploited and require special care and protection, (...)

16. Urges all participating States to prevent sexual exploitation of children in tourist destinations **through education** and awareness raising in the destination communities; (...)

*The Rights of Refugees*

11. Recommends that Governments take measures to protect the families of refugees, and in particular: (...)

b. to ensure the protection of refugee children, including unaccompanied minors and **young girls**.



*Political Affairs and Security*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, (...)

33. Encourages participating States and Mediterranean Partner States to **build upon the 2016 OSCE Mediterranean Conference “Youth North and South of the Mediterranean: Facing Security Challenges and Enhancing Opportunities”** by pursuing initiatives that **incorporate youth** and civil society into counter-violent extremism programmes and focus on addressing the needs and **aspirations of young people** in the Mediterranean region; (...)

*Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment*

77. Expressing concern about the **amendments to education legislation** in Hungary, affecting Central European University, which risk undermining academic freedom, inhibiting research and development, and impeding scientific advancement, (...)

83. Recognizes that the **empowerment of women and girls through education** and universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights is central to sustainable development and environmental protection, urges OSCE participating States to implement financial, economic, environmental, and social policies that promote gender equality in each of these areas of work, and calls on OSCE participating States to increase learning opportunities and skills development for women and girls, related to the green economy; (...)

91. Stresses that government responses to arrivals of refugees and migrants must respect each individual’s right to live in dignity and security, taking into account the special needs of women and girls, and **promoting education** and economic empowerment for women; (...)

*Preventing Child Sexual Exploitation Online through Advances in Technology*

13. Distressed that, similar to many other studies, a 2016 study in the Journal of Interpersonal Violence (Stanley et al.) of 4,564 **young people** aged 14 to 17 in five participating States found in boys a statistically significant correlation between viewing online pornography and committing sexual coercion and abuse. (...)

*Implementing OSCE Commitments: The Role of Parliaments*

**CHAPTER II ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

81. Stresses the **central role of education in States' efforts to address global warming** by promoting environmental literacy, innovation, responsibility, ownership and solidarity among citizens to the benefit of ecological integrity, economic growth and social cohesion;

88. Urges OSCE participating States and their parliaments to **encourage gender-inclusive dialogue on the second dimension and advance women's participation** by implementing economic, environmental, social, and **educational policies** and reforms;

**CHAPTER III DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS**

108. Alarmed by the increasing threat that drug trafficking poses to societies, **particularly youth, (...)**

110. Noting with regret that in some OSCE participating States Roma children, children with disabilities, migrant and refugee children and economically disadvantaged children are deprived of **access to mainstream education, (...)**

112. Convinced that children and **youth must be considered as a strategic long-term priority for OSCE advocacy activities in order to ensure continued awareness of, as well as respect for, the Helsinki Final Act and OSCE commitments, (...)**

145. Stresses the urgent need for States to **enhance efforts against drug trafficking, with greater emphasis on prevention and awareness-raising among youth** of the extensive and multiple threats which drugs entail, and stresses at the same time the urgent need for States to adopt appropriate legislation and adequate policies to ensure the effective protection of victims of drug addiction, as a vulnerable societal group, and to respect their fundamental human rights pertaining to life and bodily integrity, access to information, assistance, treatment and rehabilitation; (...)

147. Calls on governments of OSCE participating States to **ensure an inclusive approach to education** to ensure that vulnerable and disadvantaged children are not deprived of access to quality mainstream education;

148. Calls upon OSCE participating States to **integrate education about human rights into primary and secondary school curricula**, based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, under the oversight of national Parliaments, in the interests of long-term understanding and implementation of human rights commitments by OSCE participating States; (...)

154. Calls on OSCE participating States to take further necessary measures to prevent linguistic discrimination in multinational countries and, in particular, underscores the need

to respect the right of national minorities to have access to **education in their native language**;

*Resolution on Preventing and Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism*

25. **Underscoring the importance of involving** civil society, in particular families, **youth**, women, victims of terrorism, and religious, cultural and educational leaders, as well as the media and the private sector, including information technology companies (ICT), **in preventing terrorism and VERLT**,

26. Recognizing the need to foster an environment that is not conducive to terrorism and, in this context, stressing the importance of counter-narratives which should aim not only to rebut terrorist messages but also to amplify positive narratives, to provide alternatives and address issues of concern to audiences who are targeted by terrorist narratives, and emphasizing the value of public–private partnerships in countering terrorist narratives, along with the need to involve a wide range of actors, including families, **youth**, women and religious, cultural and educational leaders, (...)

28. Recognizing that **efforts to prevent terrorism and VERLT can benefit from increasing youth participation** and sense of their belonging to societies, including by the creation of an enabling environment and **opportunities for youth to participate and engage voluntarily and freely in public life and in the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms, democratic principles and the rule of law, tolerance and non-discrimination, and dialogue and mutual respect**, and that such efforts can also benefit from the facilitation of youth access to social services and employment and from support being given to youth-led and youth-focused awareness-raising initiatives, including through the Internet and social media,

29. Underscoring the important role of education in building relevant skills, such as critical thinking, media literacy, and sense of responsibility, in order to **enable youth to reject and better challenge terrorist narratives**, and in this context, underscoring the need to **enhance the exchange of information, lessons learned and good practices on how to effectively engage with youth** in preventing terrorism and VERLT,

*Resolution on a Shared Priority: Fostering Peace and Security through Enabling Young People to Reach their Full Potential*

1. Recognizing that 50 per cent of the world's population is under 30 years of age and that **38 per cent of the OSCE's population is likewise aged under 30 years,**
2. Acknowledging that despite there being **varying definitions of youth** and the age of legal majority among OSCE participating States, youth involves a critical transition between childhood and adulthood,
3. Asserting that **young people are the backbone of society:** they provide leadership to children through their actions, motivate and inspire adults, support and sustain a country's economy and social services, and are the future leaders who will change society's outlook and remedy the shortcomings of previous leaders; therefore, **young people are integral to building sustainable peace, preventing conflict, countering extremism and solving the world's challenges,**
4. Recalling the Helsinki Final Act and other relevant OSCE decisions aimed at asserting, protecting and promoting citizens' rights as well as the **Supplement to the United Nations World Programme of Action for Youth**, the **United Nations 2030 Agenda** for Sustainable Development and the **United Nations Resolutions on Policies and Programmes involving Youth,**
5. Stressing the need to acknowledge the different roles that young people play in working for and achieving sustainable peace, freedom and security, which include being victims, bystanders or perpetrators of discrimination, hate speech, violence, sexual exploitation, radicalization and terrorism, as well as being protagonists in the promotion of equity, inclusion, diversity, tolerance and peace; consequently, to proactively involve youth and address their well-being in community, regional, national and international efforts aimed at achieving sustainable peace, freedom, security and human personal and social development,
6. **Acknowledging that the needs, concerns and interests of young people must be addressed in a comprehensive manner to engage young people in all spheres of life and of the community, so that young people will be involved, supported, and empowered to develop into resilient, independent, healthy adults with a civic commitment,**
7. Further emphasizing that lack of economic and environmental sustainability, political instability and armed conflict **decrease young people's psychological, social and physical dignity and well-being,** since they adversely **affect young people's access to housing, education and healthcare** while placing them at increased risk of being trafficked, taken as hostages and forced to become soldiers, and of falling victim to sexual violence and exploitation,
8. Noting with concern the **soaring youth unemployment** in the Middle East and North African region and its multiplier effect on existing security challenges, and stressing the

need to provide greater support to countries in the region in their efforts to transition towards sustainable growth, which will benefit economic development and job creation,

9. Mindful of the fact that a proportion of young people need to be further motivated and empowered to access and complete education and training programmes, seek and hold adequately remunerated employment, and actively, positively and successfully participate in the civic, economic, social and political development of their communities by exercising their leadership qualities and engaging with all democratic processes, including voting and contesting elections,

10. Concerned at bias, intolerance, discrimination and the violence associated therewith, often directed towards young people, particularly those who are marginalized or vulnerable, which has permeated into places that should provide safe and healthy environments for young people, such as families, neighbourhoods, schools, youth clubs, sports organizations, and online forums,

11. Concerned at the high proportion of young people, particularly those belonging to minorities, who are at risk of poverty, insecurity and social exclusion, which negatively impact their well-being, health, equality and ability to exercise their right to start a family, and encourage engagement in criminal activity,

12. Concerned at the lack of education on human rights and the shortage of comprehensive, integrated and evidence-based educational and support policies, programmes or strategies for overcoming such challenges and that many projects aimed at young people lack sustainable resources, which hinder their long-term strategic implementation,

13. Inspired and encouraged by the dedication and impact of young people who work towards social inclusion and cohesion, peace and security, and by increased opportunities provided to youth by globalization, transport, technology and innovation,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

14. Reaffirms the Supplement to the World Programme of Action for Youth and calls upon OSCE participating States to continue implementing it as a unified set of guiding principles for policies and programmes involving young people at the national, regional and international levels;

15. Calls upon OSCE participating States to give high priority to young people and their agendas;

16. Encourages OSCE participating States to undertake research on youth-specific issues to measure progress towards the implementation and monitoring of the United Nations World Programme of Action for Youth;

17. Urges the establishment of a forum of young parliamentarians, which takes a leading role in conflict resolution and diplomacy and, in so doing, strengthens democracies and fosters peace, security and mutual trust between OSCE participating States;

18. Underlines the importance of offering young people educational, training, career guidance, housing, family support and health and wellbeing programmes, which will enable them to reduce their risk of poverty and social exclusion, reach their potential, fulfil their personal development goals and have good lifestyle prospects;

19. Urges OSCE participating States to continually develop, evaluate and improve youth strategies and services in order to ensure that all young people have access to environments in which they can enjoy safety, friendship and appreciation, as well as access to comprehensive services which meet their short- and long-term needs;

20. Encourages the enhancement of international co-operation on matters relating to young people, including political dialogue as well as capacity-building and sharing of best practice among youth professionals and youth leaders, both of which are carried out with a view to ensuring the implementation of international agreements on youth and supporting young people to transition from minors into responsible adults who reach full employment and social integration and who promote and lead crisis reduction, conflict resolution and peace-building efforts;

21. Encourages OSCE participating States to continue to develop programmes aimed at supporting young people who are experiencing or have experienced economic depression, environmental crisis or armed conflict, with a view to helping them overcome trauma, regain access to education, healthcare and other services, enhance their talents and support them to engage in meaningful and fulfilling activity;

22. Urges OSCE participating States to identify, reassess, safeguard, monitor and enhance all their youth policies, education and outreach efforts, and participatory decision-making initiatives to continually develop innovative strategies which sensitize young people on matters relating to human rights and democratization, including such initiatives as giving young people a voice through listening to, engaging with and empowering young people and youth organizations, and reducing the voting age, so that OSCE participating States will enable young people to participate in the art and science of politics, cherish, protect and promote their own rights as well as the rights of others and actively contribute to the development and implementation of all agendas, policies and laws while upholding democratic principles and public standards;

23. Urges OSCE participating States to continue to develop strategies to encourage the provision of affordable career guidance, academic and vocational training aimed at nurturing young people's key competences, including e-literacy and linguistic communication, as well as their skills in leadership, critical thinking, mediation, negotiation, diplomacy, conflict resolution and minimizing employment skills mismatches;

24. Urges OSCE participating States to continue to develop evidence-based policies and programmes aimed at eliminating young people's involvement in crime, developing age-appropriate judicial systems, rehabilitation services and reintegration programmes which include continuing education and vocational training;

25. Urges OSCE participating States to address unemployment, underemployment, vulnerable employment, informal employment and those not in education, employment or training (NEETs) by working with civil society and the private sector to support school-to-work transitions and to develop and implement targeted and integrated youth employment policies which promote inclusive, sustainable and innovative job creation, thus improving the chances of **integrating young people into labour markets, self-employment, entrepreneurship and participation in co-operatives and other forms of social, economic or financial enterprises;**

26. Urges OSCE participating States to engage in advocacy, thought leadership and outreach initiatives to instil in young people a sense of belonging, ownership and civic pride, with a view to encouraging them to bring about positive change in their communities, as well as at regional, national or international levels;

27. Encourages OSCE participating States to allocate or continue to allocate long-term, sustainable resources to youth-led organizations and networks, formal and informal youth groups, and individual youth initiatives, such as through the setting up of a national youth agency;

28. Urges OSCE participating States to sustain youth-led international platforms with the objective of ensuring that OSCE participating States are committed to a future that guarantees human dignity, freedom, justice, embraces true solidarity and invests in everlasting peace and security.

#### *Resolution on Response to Demographic Challenges in the OSCE Area*

19. Encourages policies that support women, particularly in rural areas and especially mothers, in order to reduce their invisibility in the labour market, foster their **employability, training and education**, the recognition of their role in the family, the defence of their rights, the possibility of making motherhood compatible with a professional activity and the **return to work of young mothers** by facilitating the care of young children throughout the day;

20. Encourages the application of measures aimed at **retaining young people in the countryside** by ensuring handovers from one generation to another, entrepreneurship, self-employment, the social inclusion of immigrants, rural development and the search for new opportunities such as the so-called green economy; (...)

26. Underlines the importance of support for those territories with less dynamic demographic trends through public and private investment in energy, transport, **education**, small and medium-sized companies and research in order to drive their social and economic development; (...)

28. Emphasizes the need to **boost education and training and encourage the employability of young people**, especially that of women; (...)

32. Calls for **development co-operation policies on educational matters** to bring about an **improvement in the qualification of young people in less developed countries** and a more balanced demographic transition.

*Resolution on Promotion of the Digital Economy in the Interests of Economic Growth in the OSCE Area*

18. Calls for the organization of productive and mutually beneficial **co-operation in the educational sphere for the training and retraining of the specialists** needed in the digital economy;

*Resolution on Implementing Trafficking-Free Communities*

8. Concerned that traffickers target and groom school-age children for human trafficking, and that **young people are often too willing to take risks “for a better life”**,

9. Encouraged that Serbia, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and other participating States have worked with NGOs such as A21, the Frederick Douglass Foundation, Love 146, and others to **educate thousands of children about human trafficking risks, (...)**

*Resolution on Counteracting Propaganda for Hatred and War in the OSCE Area*

20. Recommends that OSCE participating States promote **media literacy programmes, including for children and youth; (...)**



# Education

## OSCE High-Level and Ministerial Commitments on Education

Concluding Document of the Madrid Meeting, 1983  
(Second Follow-up meeting to the Helsinki Conference)

9 September 1983, Madrid

### **CO-OPERATION IN HUMANITARIAN AND OTHER FIELDS**

The participating States, Recalling the introductory sections of the Chapter on Cooperation in Humanitarian and other Fields of the Final Act including those concerning the development of mutual understanding between them and detente and those concerning progress in cultural and **educational exchanges**, broader dissemination of information, contacts between people and the solution of humanitarian problems, Resolving to pursue and expand co-operation in these fields and to achieve a fuller utilization of the possibilities offered by the Final Act, Agree now to implement the following: (...)

#### Human contacts

The participating States will encourage contacts and exchanges among young people and foster the **broadening of co-operation among their youth organizations**. They will favour the holding among **young people and youth organizations of educational, cultural and other comparable events and activities**. They will also favour the study of problems relating to the younger generation. The participating States will further the development of individual or collective **youth tourism**, when necessary on the basis of arrangements, inter alia by encouraging the granting of suitable facilities by the transport authorities and tourist organizations of the participating States or such facilities as those offered by the railway authorities participating in the "Inter-Rail" system.

#### Co-operation and Exchanges in the Field of Education

The participating States (...) will encourage a more regular exchange of information about scientific **training programmes, courses and seminars for young scientists** and facilitate a wider **participation in these activities of young scientists** from different participating States. They will call upon the appropriate national and international organizations and institutions to give support, where appropriate, to the realization of these training activities.

**Moscow Meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimension of the CSCE, 1991**

**3 October 1991, Moscow**

(...) (20) For the promotion of the independence of the judiciary, the participating States will

(20.1) recognize the important function national and international associations of judges and lawyers can perform in strengthening respect for the independence of their members and **in providing education and training on the role of the judiciary and the legal profession in society;** (...)

(40) The participating States recognize that full and true equality between men and women is a fundamental aspect of a just and democratic society based on the rule of law. They recognize that the full development of society and the welfare of all its members require equal opportunity for full and equal participation of men and women. In this context they: (...)

(40.6) will encourage their competent authorities responsible for education programmes to design effective **human rights related curricula and courses for students at all levels,** particularly students of law, administration and social sciences as well as those attending military, police and public service schools; (...)

(40.12) **develop educational policies,** consistent with their constitutional systems, **to support the participation of women in all areas of study and work,** including non-traditional areas, and encourage and promote a greater understanding of issues relating to equality between men and women; (...)

(42) The participating States

(42.1) affirm that **human rights education is fundamental** and that it is therefore essential that their citizens are educated on human rights and fundamental freedoms and the commitment to respect such rights and freedoms in domestic legislation and international instruments to which they may be parties;

(42.2) **recognize that effective human rights education contributes to combating intolerance, religious, racial and ethnic prejudice and hatred, including against Roma, xenophobia and anti-semitism;**

(42.3) will encourage their competent **authorities responsible for education programmes to design effective human rights related curricula and courses for students at all levels, particularly students of law, administration and social sciences** as well as those attending military, police and public service schools; (...)

(42.5) will encourage **organizations and educational establishments to co-operate in drawing up and exchanging human rights programmes** at the national as well as the international level;

(42.6) **will seek to ensure that activities undertaken with a view to promoting human rights education** in the broader sense take into account experience, programmes and forms of co-operation within existing international governmental and non-governmental bodies, such as the United Nations and the Council of Europe.

**Prague Document on Further Development of CSCE Institutions and Structures, 1992**  
*30-31 January 1992, Prague*

**III Human dimension**

10. Under the general guidance of the CSO, the Office should, inter alia: (...)

Facilitate co-operation in **training and education in disciplines relevant to democratic institutions;**

**Decisions of the Rome Council Meeting, 1993**  
*30 November – 1 December 1993, Rome*

**IV. THE HUMAN DIMENSION**

1. The Ministers reiterated that human dimension issues are fundamental to the comprehensive security concept of the CSCE. They noted that adherence to human dimension commitments remains to be consolidated in large parts of the CSCE area, and expressed particular concern that civilians continue to be the victims of atrocities in ongoing conflicts in the CSCE area. Concerned by the root causes of tension stemming from historical prejudices, **the Ministers called for efforts, inter alia, through education, to promote tolerance and consciousness of belonging to a system of common values.** The Ministers stressed that implementation of human dimension commitments must be a focus of attention in the CSCE's conflict prevention efforts.

## Declaration on the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Termination of World War II

6. Remembering the World War II tragedy, and aware of today's violence and conflicts, both among and within States, we: (...)

Resolutely declare that the participating States will intensify efforts in order to bring to an end all existing conflicts, and to spare future generations from the scourge of new wars in any form, including through **education in lessons drawn from the history of wars**. (...)

## VIII THE HUMAN DIMENSION

### Prevention of torture

20. (...) They also commit themselves to include in their **educational and training programmes** for law enforcement and police forces **specific provisions with a view to eradicating torture**. (...)

### Tolerance and non-discrimination

The participating States condemn manifestations of intolerance, and especially of aggressive nationalism, racism, chauvinism, xenophobia and anti-semitism, and will continue to promote effective measures aimed at their eradication. They request the ODIHR to continue to pay special attention to these phenomena, collecting information on their various manifestations in participating States. They will seek to strengthen or adopt appropriate legislation to this end and take the necessary measures to ensure that existing legislation is effectively implemented, in a way that would deter manifestations of these phenomena. **They also stress that action to combat these phenomena should be seen as an integral part of integration policy and education**. (...)

### Freedom of movement/Human contacts/Cultural heritage

39. The participating States will further encourage and facilitate human contacts, **cultural and educational exchanges and co-operate in accordance with CSCE provisions**. They will continue to implement their commitments in the cultural field, as laid down in the Document of the Cracow Symposium on the Cultural Heritage of the CSCE Participating States and other relevant CSCE documents. They will encourage public and private efforts aimed at the preservation of the cultural heritage in their States.

## IX THE ECONOMIC DIMENSION

(...) 17. The participating States encourage co-operation in the **adaptation of education and training systems**, so that they may better serve the needs of societies undergoing reform. Some areas requiring specific attention are the identification of present and future skill needs, retraining of the unemployed to facilitate their integration into the labour market, continued vocational training, and the integration of all sectors of society into these programmes. Training in modern management practices is also an essential element of economic reform.

**Istanbul Summit Declaration, 1999**  
*18 November 1999, Istanbul*

30. We reaffirm our commitment to ensure that laws and policies fully respect the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, in particular in relation to issues affecting cultural identity. Specifically, **we emphasize the requirement that laws and policies regarding the educational, linguistic and participatory rights of persons belonging to national minorities** conform to applicable international standards and conventions. We also support the adoption and full implementation of comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation to promote full equality of opportunities for all. We commend the essential work of the High Commissioner on National Minorities. We reaffirm that we will increase our efforts to implement the recommendations of the High Commissioner on National Minorities.

**OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons, 2000**  
*27-28 November 2000, Vienna*  
*FSC.DOC/1/00/Rev.1*

**Section V: Early Warning, Conflict Prevention, Crisis Management and Post-Conflict Rehabilitation<sup>1</sup>**

(C) Procedures for assessments and recommendations

5. The participating States will consider sponsoring, on a national level, **public education and awareness programmes highlighting the negative aspects of small arms**. They will also consider providing within available financial and technical resources appropriate incentives to encourage the voluntary surrender of illegally held small arms. Participating States will consider providing support for all appropriate post-conflict programmes related to DD and R, such as those on the disposal and destruction of surrendered or seized small arms and ammunition.

**Final Document of the Ninth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, Bucharest, 2001**

*Decision No. 5 by the Ministerial Council*  
*3-4 December 2001, Bucharest*  
*(MC(9).DEC/5)*

The Ministerial Council, (...)

Calls on participating States to **promote tolerance and non-discrimination** also through **awareness raising campaigns and education**; (...)

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<sup>1</sup> Note: This document was adopted at the 308th Plenary Meeting of the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation on 24 November 2000 (see FSC.JOUR/314); it was reissued pursuant to FSC Decision No. 3/12 on the reissuing of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons adopted at the 686th Plenary Meeting of the Forum for Security Co-operation on 20 June 2012 (see FSC.JOUR/692). FSC.DOC/1/00/Rev.1 20 June 2012 Original: ENGLISH

*Statement by the Ministerial Council*

*7 December 2002, Porto*

*MC.DOC/1/02*

3. We reiterate our support for the efforts of the countries of the region to build multiethnic societies based on the strengthening of democratic institutions and the rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. We encourage concerned countries in the region to adopt and implement legislation on national minorities consistent with their international commitments and with the recommendations of the OSCE/High Commissioner on National Minorities. **We believe that the development of an effective, non-discriminatory educational system is an essential tool for reconciliation**, and welcome an enhanced role of the OSCE in this area in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

*Declaration on Trafficking in Human Beings*

*7 December 2002, Porto*

*MC.DOC/1/02*

We will strive for adequate measures to prevent trafficking in human beings in our countries, taking the form, inter alia, of target-oriented awareness raising campaigns and **education in countries of origin and transit, directed in particular towards youth and other vulnerable groups**, and will seek to develop appropriate campaigns in countries of destination, to organize training for relevant officials and government employees in the areas of law enforcement, border control, criminal justice and social services, and to recommend full co-operation with NGOs in this field. (...)

*Decision No. 6 Tolerance and Non-Discrimination*

*7 December 2002, Porto*

*MC(10).DEC/6*

The Ministerial Council, (...)

4. Commits to take appropriate measures, in conformity with respective constitutional systems, at national, regional and local levels to **promote tolerance and non-discrimination** as well as to counter prejudices and misrepresentation, **particularly in the field of education**, culture and information; (...).

Final Document of the Twelfth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Sofia, 2004

*Decision No. 14/04 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality  
7 December 2004, Sofia*

*MC.DEC/14/04*

The Ministerial Council,

(...)

(b) Ensuring non-discriminatory legal and policy frameworks (...)

The ODIHR will assist in the development and implementation of specific programmes and activities to promote women's rights, to increase the role of women at all levels of decision-making, and to promote equality between women and men throughout the OSCE area, particularly through **education in gender awareness**; (...)

(f) Promoting equal opportunity for women in the economic sphere (...)

The **OCEEA and, as appropriate, missions should promote** the development of women's entrepreneurial and other work-related skills by supporting **training, retraining and special education facilities**, and promoting the education and training of women and men in non-traditional subjects and jobs; (...)

OSCE structures will assist participating States in ensuring **that girls and boys**, as well as women and men, **have equal opportunities to receive education and training**.



Final Document of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Ljubljana, 2005

*Decision No. 11/05 Promotion of Human Rights Education and Training in the OSCE Area  
6 December 2005, Ljubljana*

*MC.DEC/11/05*

The Ministerial Council,

Reaffirming the **commitments of the participating States in the field of human rights education and training**, in particular the commitments deriving from the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, the 1990 Copenhagen Document, the 1991 Moscow Document, the 1999 Charter for European Security, the 2003 OSCE Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in the Twenty-First Century and all other relevant OSCE agreed documents and decisions,

Recognizing that the **promotion of human rights through education and training** in the whole OSCE area could be viewed in the context of the OSCE's comprehensive concept of security and is vital for the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as for the promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination,

Acknowledging the added value of multifaceted co-operation, including consultation, co-operation and co-ordination with relevant international and regional organizations, as well as the **benefits that countries can derive from** each other's experiences and capabilities in the field of **human rights education and training**,

Taking into account the efforts of other international organizations, including the UN's World Programme for Human Rights Education, the **Council of Europe's Programme on Education for Democratic Citizenship as well as its youth programme All Different, All Equal**, and the EU's European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights, as well as programmes undertaken at the national level,

Recognizing the **contribution of the ODIHR and other OSCE structures**, institutions and field operations, **in promoting human rights education and training**, in co-operation with participating States,

Dedicated to **further strengthening the efforts by the OSCE to promote human rights education and training programmes in the OSCE area**, as well as to **extend the Organization's support to participating States** upon their request in carrying out their respective national programmes **in the field of human rights education**,

Invites participating States with the involvement of civil society **to further enhance systematic human rights education and training programmes** designed to promote respect for the inherent dignity of all human beings, and to make human rights a reality for each person in every community and in society at large;

Decides to enhance the OSCE's efforts in **co-operation with other international organizations and non-governmental organizations in taking necessary measures aimed at promoting human rights education and training**, with special emphasis on the young people in the OSCE area;

**Tasks the ODIHR**, drawing on the relevant expertise and experience acquired by the OSCE structures, institutions and field operations, as well as the OSCE participating States:

**To produce a compendium of best practices for participating States on enhancing the promotion of human rights education and training**, including the promotion of tolerance, mutual respect and understanding, and non-discrimination in the OSCE area.

*Decision No. 15/05 Preventing and Combating Violence against Women*

*6 December 2005, Ljubljana*

*MC.DEC/10/05*

The Ministerial Council, (...)

6. Calls upon participating States to take measures to strengthen the economic independence of women, including ensuring non-discriminatory employment policies and practices, **providing equal access to education and training**, equal remuneration for equal work, **increased work and educational opportunities**, equal access to and control over economic resources with a view to reducing women's vulnerability to all forms of violence, including domestic violence and trafficking in human beings;

*Decision No. 16/05 Ensuring the Highest Standards of Conduct and Accountability of Persons*

*Serving on International Forces and Missions*

*6 December 2005, Ljubljana*

*MC.DEC/16/05*

The Ministerial Council,

(...)

Welcoming the efforts of the United Nations as well as other international organizations to develop and enforce "zero-tolerance" policies to prevent trafficking in human beings by both forces and other staff, which, combined with **education and training**, are required, (...).

Final Document of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Brussels, 2006

*Decision No. 14/06 Enhancing Efforts to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, including for Labour Exploitation, through a Comprehensive and Proactive Approach*

*5 December 2006, Brussels*

*MC.DEC/14/06*

The Ministerial Council,

4. Urges the participating States, in co-operation with international organizations and NGOs when appropriate, to seek to diminish the risk for repatriated victims to be re-trafficked, particularly by addressing factors that make persons more vulnerable to trafficking in human beings such as poverty, discrimination, **lack of access to education and economic opportunities**, sexual abuse, and domestic violence and by conducting risk assessments to ensure that return of victims is done with due regard for their safety;

*Decision No. 15/06 Combating Sexual Exploitation of Children*

*5 December 2006, Brussels*

*MC.DEC/15/06*

The Ministerial Council,

Underlining the need to address the broad range of factors that make children vulnerable to sexual exploitation, including economic disparities, **lack of access to education**, and discrimination, including gender-related discrimination, as well as the need to counter demand for child pornography and sex tourism and to prevent the actions of perpetrators, (...)

11. Recommends that the participating States establish training programmes concerning sexual exploitation of children for personnel, including those working in the areas of justice, policing, tourism, transport, social work, health care, civil society, religious organizations, and **education**;

Final Document of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Madrid, 2007

*Decision No. 4/07 OSCE Engagement with Afghanistan*

*30 November 2007, Madrid*

*MC.DEC/4/07/Corr.1\**

The Ministerial Council (...)

4. Tasks the Secretary General with providing support for intensifying the involvement of Afghan counterparts in OSCE activities, such as those related to the fields of border security and management, policing and the fight against drug trafficking, and those at the **educational and training facilities in Central Asia and in the rest of the OSCE area**, and with developing specific projects and programmes for Afghan counterparts in the OSCE area, as necessary and without unnecessary duplication of existing efforts, including those of international actors such as the UN Office on Drugs and Crime; (...)

*Decision No. 5/07 Public-Private Partnerships in Countering Terrorism*

*30 November 2007, Madrid*

*MC.DEC/5/07*

The Ministerial Council, (...)

**Recognizing the role of media and educational institutions in encouraging pluralistic debate** with a view to promoting ethnic, religious, linguistic and cultural diversity and countering violent extremism and radicalization leading to terrorism, and in this regard welcoming the work of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of Media and the ODIHR in these fields, (...)

Acknowledging the usefulness of joint counter-terrorist efforts by government bodies and the private sector (civil society and the business community) in the form of voluntary co-operation, based upon the principles of partnership and mutual trust, in order to provide better security and clear benefits to all parties. In this regard, efforts should particularly take due account of:

Promoting **public awareness and outreach through the media and educational institutions**, while respecting cultural and religious diversity, (...).

Final Document of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Helsinki, 2008

*Decision No. 6/08 Enhancing OSCE Efforts to Implement the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area*

*5 December 2008, Helsinki*

*MC.DEC/6/08*

The Ministerial Council, (...)

1. Urges the participating States to provide for **equal access to education** and to **promote early education** for **Roma and Sinti** children, as an instrument for preventing social exclusion and marginalization and for effecting a long-term improvement in the situation of Roma and Sinti. In this context, underlines that **educational policies should aim to integrate Roma and Sinti people into mainstream education**;
2. Calls upon the ODIHR, within existing resources, to assist participating States upon their request in promoting access of Roma and Sinti children to early education. In this regard, urges participating States when appropriate to undertake awareness raising initiatives, also including Roma and Sinti communities, on the benefits of early education; (...)
5. Calls for appropriate national authorities relevant to the situation of Roma and Sinti, such as those relating to minorities, access to health services, **education**, housing, anti-discrimination work, police and media, to enhance their efforts to **ensure the implementation of OSCE commitments** within national legislation on equality and non-discrimination. In this context, special attention should be paid to the situation of Roma women and girls; (...)

*Decision No. 7/08 Further Strengthening the Rule of Law in the OSCE Area*

*5 December 2008, Helsinki*

*MC.DEC/7/08*

The Ministerial Council, (...)

4. Encourages participating States, with the assistance, where appropriate, of relevant OSCE executive structures in accordance with their mandates and within existing resources, to continue and to enhance their efforts to share information and best practices and to strengthen the rule of law, inter alia in the following areas: (...)

**Education on the rule of law** as well as interaction and **exchange opportunities for legal professionals, academics and law students** from different participating States in the OSCE region;

**Final Document of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Athens, 2009**

***Decision No. 8/09 Enhancing OSCE Efforts to Ensure Roma and Sinti Sustainable Integration***

***2 December 2009, Athens***

***MC.DEC/8/09***

Acknowledging that 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 was a significant step towards ensuring **equal access to education** and highlighting the importance of the benefits of **early education**, (...)

Taking note of the 2009 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting and its working session on the specifically selected topic on Roma and Sinti **early education**, (...)

7. Encourages participating States to **address early education for Roma and Sinti** in a comprehensive manner, with special attention to ensuring equal access to education and integrating Roma and Sinti into mainstream education;

8. Tasks the ODIHR, in consultation with the participating States and in close co-operation with other relevant OSCE institutions, within their mandates, to develop and implement relevant projects on the issue of Roma and **Sinti early education**, such as projects on teacher training and on overcoming low school attendance;

***Decision No. 9/09 Combating Hate Crimes***

***2 December 2009, Athens***

***MC.DEC/9/09***

The Ministerial Council (...)  
calls on participating States to:

8. Conduct **awareness raising and education efforts**, particularly with law enforcement authorities, directed towards communities and civil society groups that assist victims of hate crimes;

**Final Document of the Eighteenth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Vilnius, 2011**

***Decision No. 10/11 Promoting Equal Opportunity for Women in the Economic Sphere***

***7 December 2011, Vilnius***

***MC.DEC/10/11***

The Ministerial Council (...)

Calls on the participating States to: (...)

6. Promote the sharing of domestic work, and parental and caregiver responsibilities, by expanding paternity leave; promoting non-discriminatory employment policies and practices and **equal access to education and training**; taking measures to facilitate combining employment with family responsibilities; and seeking to ensure that any structural adjustment policies and programmes do not have an adversely discriminatory effect on women;

***Ministerial Declaration on Combating All Forms of Human Trafficking***

***7 December 2011, Vilnius***

13. We acknowledge that child protection systems need to be strengthened in order effectively to help prevent, identify, and respond to child trafficking in all its forms to provide appropriate assistance and protection in the best interest of the child to child victims of trafficking or those at risk of being trafficked, including through **appropriate services and measures for the physical and psychological well-being as well as for their education**, rehabilitation and reintegration.

**Twenty-Fourth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Vienna, 2017**

***Decision No. 6/17 Strengthening Efforts to Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings***

***8 December 2017, Vienna***

***MC.DEC/6/17***

The Ministerial Council, (...)

Calls on participating States to: (...)

**6. Strengthen education and awareness-raising efforts, including human rights education, and develop and implement empowerment programmes** which take into account the **particular needs of women, men, girls and boys**, in order to **enhance the capacity to recognize, prevent and fight human trafficking within communities;** (...)

***Decision No. 7/17 Strengthening Efforts to Combat All Forms of Child Trafficking, including for Sexual Exploitation, as well as Other Forms of Sexual Exploitation of Children***

***8 December 2017, Vienna***

***MC.DEC/7/17***

The Ministerial Council, (...)

Underlining that information and communications technologies (ICTs) can play a positive educational, developmental, and awareness-raising role for children, but can also be misused to facilitate access to children for exploitation or for advertisement of children for sexual exploitation, and that social media platforms can be misused to groom children who may be subjected to sexual exploitation as well as all forms of child trafficking, (...)

4. Calls on OSCE participating States to **prevent all forms of child trafficking and sexual exploitation of children**, including in tourist destinations, **through education** and awareness-raising, and to work with the private sector and civil society to raise awareness among the tourism industry, as well as business travellers and tourists, to help eliminate demand that fuels child trafficking and sexual exploitation of children;



Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Milan, 2018

*Decision No. 4/18 Preventing and Combating Violence against Women*

*8 December 2018, Milan*

*MC.DEC/4/18*

The Ministerial Council, [...]

**Recognizing that sexual harassment in public and private spaces, in particular in the workplace and in educational institutions, has a damaging impact on women and girls' full enjoyment of human rights and equal opportunities, thus impairing their ability to remain and/or advance in the workplace and in educational institutions, [...]**

Calls on the participating States to: [...]

3. Adopt measures, as appropriate, **to encourage education on gender equality, human rights and non-violent behaviour thus contributing to the prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls**, which can include: harmful practices, sexual violence, domestic violence, as well as sexual harassment; [...]

9. **Take measures to combat sexual harassment in public and private spaces, including in the workplace and in educational institutions**, and encourage public and private employers to apply such measures;

10. **Take measures to provide equal access to quality education for all girls**; and strengthen the economic empowerment and economic independence of women, including by ensuring non-discriminatory employment policies and practices, **providing equal access to education and training**, equal remuneration for equal work, and equal access to and control over economic resources; [...]

Tasks the relevant OSCE executive structures, in accordance with their mandates, to: [...]

15. Support participating States, upon their request, in **developing and reviewing legislation, policies, and measures to combat sexual harassment in private and public spaces**, including in the workplace and **educational institutions**;

*Decision No. 5/18 Human Capital Development in the Digital Era  
8 December 2018, Milan  
MC.DEC/5/18*

The Ministerial Council, [...]

2. **Encourages participating States to promote lifelong learning, starting from early education and continuing throughout working life**, as a key pillar for managing this transition; [...]

4. Encourages the participating States, as appropriate, to **promote education, vocational training and retraining, in particular for women and girls, and especially in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, as a key measure to reduce digital divides** and to advance the empowerment of women by promoting opportunities, including in the economy; [...]

8. Encourages the participating States to **promote efforts against corruption in the education and training sectors, as well as open, equal and corruption-free access to education, digital skills and training opportunities**; [...]

10. Encourages participating States to increase co-operation on human capital development, including with relevant international organizations, in areas such as **facilitating and widening access to educational, research and training institutions**, with particular attention to fostering digital skills;

*Declaration on the Digital Economy as a Driver for Promoting Co-Operation, Security and Growth  
8 December 2018, Milan  
MC.DOC/2/18*

8. In order to maximise the benefits and mitigate the security risks associated with digital transformation, we are committed to strengthening our co-operation including on:

– **Bridging the digital divides, including through collaboration between higher education institutions;**

## OSCE Permanent Council Decisions on Education

### Permanent Council Decision No. 557, 2003

*(PC.DEC/557 - 24 July 2003)*

#### OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings

The Permanent Council, (...)

1. The Action Plan intends to provide participating States with a comprehensive toolkit to help them implement their commitments to combating THB. It aims to provide participating States with a follow-up mechanism, which will also promote co-ordination between individual participating States, both within the OSCE structures and with other international organizations. The Action Plan adopts a multidimensional approach to combating trafficking in human beings. It addresses the problem comprehensively, covering protection of victims, the prevention of THB and the prosecution of those who facilitate or commit the crime. It provides recommendations as to how participating States and relevant OSCE institutions, bodies and field operations may best deal with political, economic, legal, law enforcement, **educational and other aspects of the problem.** (...)

Recommended action at the national level

3. Economic and social policies aimed at addressing root causes of THB

3.1 In countries of origin:

**Improving children's access to educational and vocational opportunities** and increasing the level of school attendance, in particular by girls and minority groups;

3.3 Whether in countries of origin or countries of destination:

Developing programmes that offer livelihood options and include **basic education**, literacy, communication and other skills, and reduce barriers to entrepreneurship;

**Encouraging gender sensitization and education** on equal and respectful relationships between the sexes, thus preventing violence against women;

Adopting or strengthening legislative, **educational**, social, cultural or other measures, and, where applicable, penal legislation, including through bilateral and multilateral co-operation, to discourage the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, and that leads to trafficking. (...)

#### **Protection and assistance**

10. Protection of children

10.1 Ensuring that the special needs of children and the best interests of the child are fully taken into account when deciding upon appropriate housing, education and care. In appropriate cases, if there is no direct threat to the safety of the child, providing the children with access to **the state educational system.** (...)

ADDENDUM TO THE OSCE ACTION PLAN TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS:  
ADDRESSING THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF CHILD VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING FOR PROTECTION AND  
ASSISTANCE

8. Providing in appropriate cases presumed child trafficking victims who are not nationals or residents of the country in which they are identified with appropriate status entitling them to stay, at least temporarily, in the country and be eligible to receive immediate assistance which should include safe shelter, medical and psychological care, legal assistance, social services and **education**;

## ACTION PLAN ON IMPROVING THE SITUATION OF ROMA AND SINTI WITHIN THE OSCE AREA

The Permanent Council, (...)

### Combating racism and discrimination

Legislation and law enforcement

8. Adopt and implement effective anti-discrimination legislation to combat racial and ethnic discrimination in all fields, including, inter alia, access to housing, citizenship and residence, **education**, employment, health and social services. Involve Roma and Sinti representatives in the design, implementation and evaluation processes. (...)

Unemployment and economic problems

50. Reassess the impact of subsidized employment programmes, paying particular attention to their **educational components**, to ensure that these will aim to increase the competitiveness of Roma and Sinti people on the labour market. (...)

Health care

65. The ODIHR-CPRSI and, where appropriate, other OSCE institutions and structures, including OSCE field operations, will assist participating States in **launching educational initiatives** to help Roma and Sinti people make full use of regular health services. They will, inter alia, collect, produce and disseminate relevant information on good practices. (...)

### Improving access to education

**Education is a prerequisite to the participation of Roma and Sinti people** in the political, social and economic life of their respective countries on a footing of equality with others. Strong immediate measures in this field, particularly those that foster school attendance and combat illiteracy, should be assigned the highest priority both by decision makers and by Roma and Sinti communities. Educational policies should aim to integrate Roma and Sinti people into mainstream education by providing full and equal access at all levels, while remaining sensitive to cultural differences.

67. Ensure that national legislation includes adequate provisions banning racial segregation and discrimination in **education** and provides effective remedies for violations of such legislation.

68. Consult Roma and Sinti representatives when designing **educational policies** affecting them.

69. Actively promote equal opportunities in the field of **education for Roma and Sinti children**, particularly by providing them with language-related or other assistance.

70. Take special measures to enhance the quality and **effectiveness of education** for Roma and Sinti children. Encourage increased representation of Roma and Sinti people among school teachers.

71. Include Roma history and culture in **educational texts**, with particular consideration given to the experience of Roma and Sinti people during the Holocaust.

74. Allocate financial resources for the transfer of the Roma children to mainstream education and for the development of school support programmes to ease the transition to **mainstream education**.

75. Facilitate Roma children's **access to mainstream education** by taking measures such as:

(b) Training of educators regarding **multicultural education** and ways of dealing with ethnically mixed classes;

79. Promote regular school attendance by Roma and Sinti children, inter alia, through the involvement of family and social mediators, the promotion of awareness by Roma and Sinti parents and elders of their responsibility to facilitate children's school attendance and, in particular, **equal access to education for girls**.

80. Pay special attention to providing Roma and Sinti girls with equal opportunities for **educational and social inclusion** and develop programmes to counter their particularly high drop-out rate.

84. Evaluate periodically the effectiveness of educational policies.

85. The HCNM will encourage participating States to comply with their commitments to provide **free and equal access to public education** to all members of society, and will encourage them to take steps to improve the situation of Roma and Sinti people in this respect.

86. The HCNM will continue to **provide guidance on educational models**, curriculum content and the teaching of, or in, the mother tongue, including the Romani language. (...)

### **Enhancing participation in public and political life**

Roma and Sinti people face special challenges in their efforts to participate in the public — and particularly the political — life of their respective countries. Low **levels of education** and, in certain cases, discrimination against them contribute substantially to the under representation of Roma and Sinti people at all levels of government. Roma and Sinti people have an equal right to participate in public affairs. This includes the rights to vote, stand for election, participate in public affairs and form political parties without discrimination. Efforts made in recent years to foster Roma political participation should be encouraged, particularly those originating from the Roma groups themselves.

101. The ODIHR and, where appropriate, other OSCE institutions and structures, including OSCE field operations, will develop and **implement voter education** and voter registration programmes.

## CSCE/OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Declarations on Education

### Final Helsinki Declaration of the CSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 1993

*9 July 1993, Helsinki*

#### B. MINORITIES ISSUES

The CSCE Parliamentary Assembly, (...)

36. Expresses its determination to assist in the full implementation of relevant CSCE commitments in this area, including, inter alia, those relating to persons belonging to national minorities, women, **human rights education**, and promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination; (...)

### Final Vienna Declaration of the CSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 1994

*8 July 1994, Vienna*

#### SELF-DETERMINATION

The CSCE Parliamentary Assembly, (...)

13. Noting the special **role of women in promoting education programmes** for peace, implementing values of tolerance, humanity and justice which are fundamental to peaceful coexistence within the CSCE area; (...)

### Final Ottawa Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 1995

*8 July 1995, Ottawa*

#### COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, (...)

33. Appeals to Western countries to provide **targeted and coordinated financial, educational and technical assistance** as a support for efforts of the reforming countries, in particular in the area of training, to undertake economic reform; and considers that in this case, the size and the speed of the assistance should be commensurate with a process of real democratisation of society (particularly in the field of democratic elections) and the unhampered realisation of the human dimension; (...)

**Final Stockholm Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 1996**

*9 July 1996, Stockholm*

*Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

**88. Stresses the importance of education and training of refugees, exiles and migrants** in the language, values, constitution, history, social and professional circumstances of their new state of residence, including special courses for persons with vocational training in order to teach them the vocabulary and local practices in carrying out their profession; (...)

90. Calls on the governments to organize and promote campaigns for tolerance and against xenophobia, racism, chauvinism and aggressive nationalism and to encourage the local authorities, NGOs and the media to organize and **support such campaigns and education;**

**Final Copenhagen Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 1998**

*10 July 1998, Copenhagen*

*Resolution on an Economic Charter for the OSCE*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

10. Recognizing the **importance of education** and training for economic development and prosperity, as well as for the personal development of the individual, there is a need to strengthen employment-related training and the process of lifelong learning among employees. Convinced that international exchange in the process of training and employment will strengthen understanding, confidence and co-operation in Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly calls upon the governments of the participating States to assess possibilities of intensifying relevant programmes;



**Final St. Petersburg Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 1999**

*10 July 1999, St. Petersburg*

*Improvement of the Human Rights Situation in Newly Independent States*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, (...)

70. Taking note of the fact that cultural policies and **education** are important tools in building pluralistic and tolerant societies, and that **education is essential** in the protection and respect of the rights and identities of persons belonging to national minorities and in their integration into society; (...)

92. Urges the OSCE participating States to acknowledge linguistic diversity and therefore to encourage the publication and distribution of written and electronic media in the languages of the different ethnic and cultural communities and to **encourage the provision of education** at primary, secondary and higher level in the languages of national minorities; (...)

102. Suggests that OSCE participating States **undertake greater efforts to promote education** and information programs, since it is essential that citizens know of their human rights and their States' commitments;

**Final Bucharest Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2000**  
*10 July 2000, Bucharest*

*Good Governance: Regional Co-Operation, Strengthening Democratic Institutions, Promoting Transparency, Enforcing the Rule of Law and Combating Corruption*

CHAPTER II - ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Rule of law, cooperation and sustainable development

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

60. Calls upon the OSCE to emphasize that the legitimate State is the foundation for equitable and inclusive social development available to all members of society, particularly women and persons belonging to minorities, guaranteeing the principle of equality before the law and equal **access to resources and basic services such as education**, health care and social insurance; (...)

CHAPTER III - DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS

Democratic process

105. Recommends also that governments plan and execute effective education and information campaigns against corruption; (...)

Public officials

115. Recommends the establishment of regional instruments to support and foster regional co-operation to tackle corruption, including measures such as a corruption watch, and conferences and seminars to exchange information **for use as educational examples** for future anti-corruption initiatives; (...)

*Resolution on Southeastern Europe*

6. Noting that the OSCE and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) have jointly reported that a lack of security, freedom of movement, language policy, access to health care and **access to education**, social welfare services and public utilities are devastating the minority communities of Kosovo;

**Final Berlin Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2002**

*10 July 2002, Berlin*

***Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Especially Woman and Children***

18. Commending the global television campaign launched by the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention (ODCCP) to **increase education and awareness about trafficking**,(...)

***Roma Education***

2. Recognizing that in many countries **Roma face significant barriers to education** – including racially segregated schools or classes, exclusion from enrolment, and channelling Roma into "special schools" regardless of their abilities – which contribute to their under-education;

3. Further recognizing that **the under-education of Roma** contributes to a downward spiral of other problems, including low employment, poor housing and high infant mortality; and

4. Understanding that **increased access to education** will increase the ability of Roma to ensure that their civil rights are protected and to participate fully in political processes. (...)

10. Recognizes the **urgent need to develop effective educational programmes** addressing problems of individuals belonging to Roma and other groups traditionally identified as Gypsies and to create conditions for them to have equal opportunities to participate fully in the life of their respective societies; (...)

12. Calls for voluntary **pre-school preparatory educational programmes** for Romani and other children who could be at risk;

13. Urges the participating States to ensure that **Roma are included in adult education** and re-training programmes to assist with the challenges of the transition from command-to-market economies;

14. Supports efforts to increase the number of Roma educators and increase the involvement of Romani parents in their **children's education**; (...)

16. Underscores the importance, in the field of **education**, of conducting national censuses in a manner that fosters confidence among Roma and other minorities.

**Final Rotterdam Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2003**  
*9 July 2003, Rotterdam*

*Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, [...]

60. Urges the participating States to promote the growth of entrepreneurship and SMEs, particularly those owned and operated by women and minorities by establishing non burdensome licensing and taxation regimes, developing programmes that assist SMEs in gaining access to finance, and **supporting education and training programmes**, business incubators and the development of local, national and regional business associations, following the recommendations of the Berne Final Declaration 2003 on the promotion of SMEs. (...)

*The Parliamentary Follow-Up of OSCE Activities at the National Level*

13. Recommends that national parliaments take active part in OSCE election observation operations and consider new forms of activities of **democracy education** in the context of elections observation for instance by inviting observers from newly democratized OSCE countries to follow elections in other OSCE countries.

## Final Edinburg Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2004

9 July 2004, Edinburgh

### *Combating Trafficking in Human Beings*

18. Insists that participating States take into account the special needs of children and address their best interest concerning care, appropriate housing, **education** and possible repatriation, to ensure the child's safety, protection, rehabilitation and reintegration in all circumstances; (...)

### *Fulfilling OSCE Commitments Regarding the Fight against Racism, Anti-Semitism and Xenophobia*

13. Calls upon governments to create mechanisms to **help ensure education** and training for educators, military forces, and law enforcement and judicial officers concerning racism, anti-Semitism and the Holocaust, xenophobia and intolerance, as well as to initiate efforts to join the Task Force for International Co-operation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research; (...)

### *Torture*

15. **Ensure that education and information regarding the prohibition against torture**, or other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, are fully included in the training of law enforcement personnel, civilian or military, medical personnel, public officials and other persons who may be involved in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any detained individual; [Copenhagen Human Dimension Conference June 1990] (...)

### *National Minorities*

5. Confirming the necessity that the laws and political directives concerning the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, **in the field of education**, language and participation in elections meet international standards and conventions, (...)

14. Calls upon national parliaments and governments of Latvia and Estonia to approve comprehensive legislation prohibiting discrimination based on race, colour, language, religion, sex, national origin and other grounds **in the fields of education**, employment and social welfare, as well as excluding decision-making directed towards assimilation of national minorities; (...)

### *Economic Co-Operation in the OSCE Mediterranean Dimension*

14. Encourages the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation to respect the **equal rights of women in education** and employment, and to further encourage the development of small businesses, particularly those owned by women and minorities;

## Final Washington Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2005

5 July 2005, Washington D.C

### *Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, (...)

64. Calls urgently on member states to impede the use of the mass media and especially **educational textbooks** for the dissemination of nationalist and religious hatred and superiority vis-à-vis other nations; (...)

78. Further recommends that this protection and the promotion of ethnic identity be incorporated in a dialogue process, as the only way of avoiding the calls for the dividing up of territories and calls on participating states to take particular account of these requirements for protection when **organizing the way education is provided** on their territory; (...)

80. Takes into account, in that regard, the **fundamental nature of the right to education**, together with ethnic and cultural diversity, and the need to allow, within the framework of the education system of each state, the coexistence of social, cultural and educational establishments using different languages of instruction; (...)

### *Combating Anti-Semitism*

2. Referring to the commitments made by the participating states emerging from the OSCE conferences in Vienna (June 2003), Berlin (April 2004) and Brussels (September 2004) regarding legal, political and **educational efforts to fight anti-Semitism**, ensuring “that Jews in the OSCE region can live their lives free of discrimination, harassment and violence”, (...)

10. Recommends that ODIHR publicize its data on anti-Semitic crimes and hate crimes on a regular basis, highlight best practices, as well as initiate programs with a particular focus in the areas of police, law enforcement, and **education**; (...)

15. Calls on the OSCE participating states to **develop educational material** and teacher training methods to counter contemporary forms of anti-Semitism, as well as update programs on Holocaust education; (...)

### *The Fight Against Corruption*

24. Recommends that the General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology, and Environment collaborate with other parliamentary associations and the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption in developing a **programme of peer support, education** and anti-corruption initiatives, including the preparation of a document describing the role of parliamentarians in the fight against corruption.

## Final Brussels Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2006

7 July 2006, Brussels

### *Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

95. Calls upon the OSCE participating States to take legislative and **educational measure** to eradicate these undignified practices, which violate human rights. (...)

105. Reaffirms its determination to encourage every advance in **minority education**, with special reference to cases where programmes for the equal integration of minorities are closely linked to naturalization procedures. (...)

107. Also deploring the fact that this religious intolerance may, in certain cases, be found in **education** and the press, (...)

### *Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption*

7. Recognizing that GOPAC is actively pursuing its objective of improving the effectiveness of parliaments as institutions of oversight and accountability through peer support, **education** and leadership for results and engaging parliamentarians worldwide, (...)

14. Calls for better synergy between parliamentarians and the OSCE in their joint efforts against corruption, through closer collaboration between OSCE's field missions and GOPAC's national chapters in delivering peer support and **education programmes**, as well as promoting anti-corruption initiatives based on the OSCE's Best Practices in Combating Corruption and GOPAC's Controlling Corruption: A Parliamentarian's Handbook. (...)

### *Combating Anti-Semitism and other Forms of Intolerance*

12. Urges its participating States to appoint ombudspersons or special commissioners to present and **promote national guidelines on educational work** to promote tolerance and combat anti-Semitism, including Holocaust education;

## Final Kyiv Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2007

9 July 2007, Kyiv

### *Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

148. Points to the need to strengthen integration tools, thus avoiding ghettos and granting migrants not only civil but also social rights, **including the rights to health, education and a decent livelihood**. (...)

## Final Astana Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2008

3 July 2008, Astana

### *Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

64. Trusts that this increased transparency would contribute to:

b. **improved education**, especially in history, (...)

### *Afghanistan*

39. Urges greater international effort to reduce significantly the high maternal mortality rate in Afghanistan by improving the essential care provided by skilled birth attendants, nurses, midwives or doctors during pregnancy and childbirth, including emergency services; by ensuring care for mothers and newborns; by reducing the distance and time a woman must travel to get skilled emergency medical care; and **by measures to improve education** and empowerment of women regarding maternal health; (...)

### *Urging Adoption of the Paris Club Commitment regarding Vulture Funds*

3. Reiterating its firm support for ensuring that debt cancellation continues to provide impoverished countries with the opportunity to start afresh and to devote resources saved as a result of debt relief to essential health, **education**, and other spending that promotes development and alleviates poverty, (...)

### *Recognizing the Economic, Cultural, Political and Social Contributions of Migrants*

7. Considering that remittances from migrants significantly exceed international development aid and contribute to the economic empowerment of many countries of origin and recognizing that migrant women remit more of their income for family needs such as food, clothing, housing, **education**, and health,

10. Encourages participating States to promote policies which harness the potential of migrant communities by improving their economic, **educational**, civic, and social integration, as well as improving their workforce development skills and providing them with citizenship classes, and recognizing the contributions migrants provide to host countries' economies; (...)

### *Combating Anti-Semitism, especially its Manifestations in the Media and in Academia*

3. Referring to the commitments made by the participating States in the previous OSCE conferences in Vienna (2003), Berlin (2004), Brussels (2004) and Cordoba (2005) **regarding legal, political and educational efforts** to fight anti-Semitism,

14. Urges governments to create and employ curricula that go beyond **Holocaust education** in dealing with Jewish life, history and culture; (...)



### *Energy Co-Operation*

11. Recommends that an OSCE conference be held, bringing together participating States and civil society stakeholders to assess progress and challenges on the path to an energy transformation and to compile best practices on the **provision of information and education** about renewable energies, energy efficiency and energy saving.

### *Anti-Semitism*

1. Reaffirming the commitments made by the participating States at previous OSCE conferences in Vienna (2003), Berlin (2004), Brussels (2004) and Cordoba (2005) regarding legal, political and **educational efforts** to fight anti-Semitism, (...)

8. Endorses the declaration of the London Conference on Combating Anti-Semitism, and reaffirms in particular:

a. concern for the dramatic increase in recorded anti-Semitic hate crimes and attacks targeting Jewish persons and property, and Jewish religious, **educational and communal institutions** and the incidents of government-backed anti-Semitism in general, and state-backed genocidal anti-Semitism, in particular; (...)

g. the **importance of education**, awareness and training throughout the judicial and school systems in countering anti-Semitism; (...)

h. the importance of engagement with civil society institutions and leading NGOs to create partnerships that bring about change locally, domestically and globally, and support efforts that encourage **Holocaust education**, inter-religious dialogue and cultural exchange;

9. Applauds the extensive work of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights to combat manifestations of anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance, including: the publication of an Annual Hate Crimes Report that monitors manifestations of anti-Semitism; development of Holocaust Remembrance and Hate Crimes Legislation guidelines and other **educational materials to combat anti-Semitism**; and training of government and civil society members to monitor, report on and prevent manifestations of anti-Semitism.

## Final Oslo Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2010

10 July 2010, Oslo

### *Supporting the Peace Process in the Middle East*

3. Acknowledging that it is essential to resolve this conflict and to establish a viable, comprehensive and lasting peace in order to make progress in terms of economic, **educational**, technological and environmental development in the entire region, (...)

### *The Fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals*

3. Stressing the importance of its materialization in the form of 8 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), with 21 measurable targets that, for the first time, spelt out the connection between poverty and hunger, healthcare, **education**, gender equality and environmental sustainability and global partnership, and acknowledged that achieving progress in these fields is a shared responsibility, (...)

### *Migration as a Continuing Challenge for the OSCE*

14. Asks participating States to **guarantee the right to education** of migrants and in particular of asylum seekers as set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; (...)

### *Combating Demand for Human Trafficking and Electronic Forms of Exploitation*

13. Urges OSCE participating States to co-operate with the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in order to **launch public education** campaigns on the culpability of the buyer in the cycle of human trafficking;

**Final Belgrade Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2011**

*10 July 2011, Belgrade*

***Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and the Environment***

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,(...)

***Gender, Migration and Economic Independence***

9. Acknowledging that gainful economic opportunities, economic empowerment, **migration education** and training are legitimate avenues and solutions by which women and girls can reduce their impoverishment, achieve economic independence, improve their living conditions and realize their full economic potential,

10. Noting the variation in the prominence and success of women entrepreneurs across countries of the OSCE region and that women entrepreneurs are more likely to face challenges relating to discrimination regarding access to and control over such economic and financial resources as loans, credit, financing, property and inheritance rights, as well as barriers pertaining to social norms and traditional values, the undervaluing of women's potential and abilities, **inadequate business skills and education** and inadequate access to markets,

11. Acknowledging that the experiences and disadvantages of female migrants, labourers and entrepreneurs are different from those of men, due to their status, the nature of the employment sectors in which they are typically represented, their **educational requirements**, the limited legal channels for female migrant workers, and exclusion from the protection of sound labour legislation, (...)

13. Recognizing the various types of female migrants, such as permanent and temporary, labour and family class, low skill and high skill, refugees and asylum seekers, documented and undocumented, **young** and old, each presenting its own opportunities and challenges requiring equally diverse policy responses, (...)

21. Encourages OSCE participating States to build liaisons and strong relations with non-governmental labour and business sectors to promote training opportunities, **education**, employment and pay equity for women in the labour market by way of various programmes, policies, legislative and financial/tax incentives; encourages mentoring relationships and co-operation at the national and regional levels among women's organizations relating to labour, migration and entrepreneurship, including trade unions, non-governmental organizations and business associations which focus on training and counselling, exchanging good practices regarding women's entrepreneurship, developing associations and networks of women entrepreneurs, identifying priorities for economic reforms and policies that support women's economic independence and prosperity, enhancing employment opportunities, and support and protection of female migrant workers and entrepreneurs;

22. Calls upon participating States to adopt legislation that creates an enabling environment to provide equality of economic and employment opportunity for men and women; **ensures equal access for women and girls to education**, training and equal wages; promotes gender

balance in senior positions of responsibility and management; and improves working conditions and provides equal access to benefits including child care;

23. Calls upon participating States to adopt policies that facilitate economic opportunities and independence for women, including promoting the growth of female entrepreneurship, establishing non-burdensome licensing and taxation regimes, and developing gender-sensitive programmes that facilitate access to finance, **education and training** and the development of local, national and regional business associations;

24. Calls upon participating States to adopt programmes and strategies that implement women's rights regarding equality of economic and employment opportunity, **education**, training and wages; (...)

26. Encourages participating States to exchange best practice concerning gender, migration and the economic independence of women in order to develop more effective policies in business support, **education and labour regulation**, and to identify priority areas for further capacity-building. (...)

#### *Promoting Policies in Favour of the Roma Population*

21. Requires that **education be given priority** in breaking the inter-generational exclusion gap: (...)

(b) Special attention must go to the transition between **primary and secondary education**;

22. Asks that the Roma have more prominence: (...)

(d) Priority should be given to women, children and **young people**; (...)

#### *The Overall Approach of the OSCE to Promoting Cybersecurity*

9. Emphasizing the importance of taking account of the different way the Internet is used depending on the gender, age and **education level** of its users, exposing women, men, girls and boys in different ways to cybercrime and terrorist activities on the Internet, (...)

#### *Strengthening Efforts to Combat Racism and Xenophobia and Foster Inclusion*

9. Requests increased support for the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights Tolerance and Non-discrimination Department's Racism and Xenophobia programme, including outreach to vulnerable communities, training, **educational materials**, and capacity building for government institutions, equality bodies, parliaments, the private sector, and civil society; (...)

#### *Promoting Policies on Equality Between Women and Men of the Roma Population*

8. Encourages the participating States to **offer equality of educational opportunity** to the sons and daughters of the Roma.

17. Asks the participating States to establish opportunities for raising the awareness of Roma women with **respect to education** for health through prevention, supporting activities that contribute to improving the health of women.

## Final Monaco Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2012

10 July 2012, Monaco

### *Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and the Environment*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

31. Concerned by the negative effects of the austerity policies implemented across the OSCE region, in particular **cuts targeting healthcare and education** budgets, and observing growing evidence of a stagnant growth scenario,

38. Recalling the benefits of promoting women's economic autonomy for the prosperity of their families and countries, which is achieved by way of **facilitating access to education**, training, child care, credit and financing, and legal services, as well as by initiating and implementing legislation and programmes related to pay equity and employment, particularly in non-traditional sectors,

42. Noting that training policies have a major role to play within the global framework of realizing green growth and achieving economic recovery, and aware that the economic crisis has triggered changes in the global demand for skills, whereby knowledge-based industries **require increasing levels of education**,

56. Encourages governments of OSCE participating States to carefully analyse the long-term effects of austerity-driven budget cuts, in particular with regard to healthcare and **education budgets**;

63. Underlines that **education** and training policies are essential to combat unemployment, positively adapt the workforce of participating States, and retain a competitive edge in tomorrow's economy; (...)

### *Gender and Minorities in the OSCE Region*

7. Mindful that in the OSCE region women who belong to minorities are less likely to participate fully in the economic, social, cultural and political lives of their countries, **are less likely to have access to education** and employment, housing, health care services, judicial protection or electoral office at a level equal with men belonging to their group, and with non-minority women and men, and are more vulnerable than men to subsequent poverty, exploitation, trafficking, slavery, domestic and societal violence, and the lack of legal protection as migrant workers,

10. Recalling the 1948 United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in particular article 26, which states that "Everyone has the **right to education**", and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, in particular article 10, which states that "States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in order to ensure to them equal rights with men in the field of education",

11. Calls upon the participating States to continue to increase their efforts to safeguard and promote equal opportunities for women belonging to national minorities, particularly

regarding **access to education**, shelter, health services, and employment, and offer sensitivity training where women and minorities are concerned;

17. Encourages participating States to recognize the importance of education, especially for women, since **education is the most important tool** to enable them to make a living independently, and notes that education is a key factor for women belonging to the Roma or Sinti populations or any other minority group. (...)

#### *Enhancing Cross-Border Co-Operation Policies in Post-Conflict Scenarios*

4. Fully aware of its already comprehensive range of activities in post-conflict periods, such as the restoration of institutionality, judicial and electoral reforms, human rights empowerment, handling of inter-ethnic conflicts, **educational reforms**, protection of the rights of national minorities and economic recovery, (...)

#### *Sharing Expertise in Reclaiming Water Resources in Order to Strengthen Global Food Security*

15. Invites participating States of the OSCE to share their comparative advantages in the fields of water treatment and water reclamation by engaging partners through practical projects, **educational seminars**, and the transfer of technology complemented by training to ensure competency in the management of such technology in locations to be determined based on strategic placement or convenience; (...)

#### *Assistance for Children in the Aftermath of Crisis Situations*

5. Underlining that **educational activities** in emergency and crisis situations can provide children with a sense of the normality and security needed for them to grow and flourish,

6. Stressing that the transition from humanitarian assistance towards reconstruction and sustainable development is **guaranteed by education** together with health care and the provision of nourishment and water, (...)

#### *Addressing Racism and Xenophobia Affecting People of African Descent in the OSCE Region*

3. Whereas the presence of African descendants in the OSCE region can be traced to voluntary and forced migration associated with the geographical proximity of Europe to Africa and the Middle East, including the transatlantic slave trade, the colonization of Africa and the Caribbean, African and African-American military deployments, the movement of refugees and asylum seekers, and **educational** and other professional exchanges,

6. Whereas on 10 November 2011, the OSCE/ODIHR Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department held the OSCE's first "Roundtable on the contemporary forms of racism and xenophobia affecting People of African Descent in the OSCE region" in conjunction with the 10-11 November 2011 Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting "Prevention of Racism, Xenophobia, and Hate Crimes Through **Educational** and Awareness-raising Initiatives",

14. Supports the introduction of measures within participating States to counter stereotypical images by increasing efforts to include accurate portrayals of African descendants in **educational curricula** including textbooks, history and heritage institutions, in the media, and remembering victims of colonialism and slavery; (...)

## Final Istanbul Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2013

3 July 2013, Istanbul

### *Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and the Environment*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

81. Emphasizes the importance of seeking new paths to economic growth particularly by taking meaningful measures to combat corruption, improve governance, increase co-ordination of fiscal policies, and **strengthen education** and training in the widest possible range of areas, and promote social cohesion while safeguarding the social, economic and cultural rights of the most vulnerable members of society;

84. Recalls the benefits of promoting women's economic autonomy for the prosperity of their families and countries, which is achieved by facilitating **access to education**, training, childcare, credit and financing and legal services, as well as by initiating and implementing legislation and programmes related to pay equity and employment, particularly in non-traditional sectors; (...)

### *The Role of Local and Regional Authorities in Post-Conflict Rehabilitation Scenarios*

5. Fully aware of the OSCE's already comprehensive range of activities in post-conflict periods, such as the restoration of institutionality, judicial and electoral reforms, human rights empowerment, handling of inter-ethnic conflicts, **educational reforms**, protection of the rights of national minorities and economic recovery, (...)

### *Gender Aspects of Labour Migration*

7. Expressing concern that female migrant workers may face additional difficulties and discrimination at all stages of the migration process due to limited access to certain types and sectors of employment, **educational requirements** and existing stereotypes, (...)

### *Ensuring that Children Have the Right to be Protected from Economic Exploitation*

2. Recalling that the Convention on the Rights of the Child (New York, 1989) recognizes the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's **education**, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development,

5. Taking into account that the use of child labour is primarily dictated by economic factors and that its elimination is linked to sustainable economic growth, which results in social progress, including poverty eradication and **universal education**,

6. Convinced, however, that the employment of children in work that adversely affects their health and morals and prevents them from **receiving a full education** seriously undermines the economic viability of society and the long-term prospects of its development,

12. Calls upon the participating States to consider the eradication of the economic exploitation of children as an essential aspect of policy and to that end to take comprehensive and co-ordinated action in the following key areas: public awareness-raising, legislative and executive measures, **education**, and support for children and their families;

14. Stresses the importance, in efforts to eradicate the economic exploitation of children, of ensuring free and **compulsory education** for both boys and girls, as well as – in many States – reforming school curricula to allow for local factors and conditions;

16. Reiterates its call for participating States to take appropriate measures to interact on eradicating the economic exploitation of children through greater international co-operation and/or assistance, including support for social and economic development, poverty alleviation programmes and **universal education**; (...)



## Final Baku Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2014

2 July 2014, Baku

### *Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions*

111. Deeply concerned that, 10 years after the Berlin Declaration, which set out concrete measures to combat anti-Semitism, attacks targeting Jews and their property as well as Jewish religious, **educational** and communal institutions continue, (...)

117. Calls on the participating States to participate robustly in the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the Berlin Declaration with a focus on improving implementation of OSCE commitments to combat anti-Semitism, including the collection and reporting of data on hate crimes and the **promotion of education** about the tragedy of the Holocaust; (...)

### *The OSCE's Further Engagement with Afghanistan*

21. Calls upon the relevant OSCE executive structures, in accordance with their mandates, to develop concrete proposals in the fulfilment of the OSCE's declared support for the implementation of the "counter-narcotics", "counter-terrorism" and "**education**" Confidence-Building Measures within the framework of the Istanbul Process; (...)

### *Protection and Promotion of Socio-Economic Rights in the OSCE Region*

9. Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which formulated development goals directed at eradicating poverty and hunger, improving health, reducing maternal and child mortality, achieving gender equality, **ensuring basic education for all**, protecting the environment, providing access to drinking water and sanitation, and promoting partnerships, (...)

15. Calls on the participating States to take specific measures to improve social conditions, including through targeted support for socially vulnerable groups in society, through the prevention of social isolation, and through broader access to basic social services, such as medical care, **education**, pensions and employment opportunities, and rehabilitation programmes; (...)

### *The Situation of Refugees in the OSCE Area*

12. Mindful of the need to constantly monitor and combat all types of discrimination of which refugees are or may be victims, and to ensure their access on equal terms with nationals of the host country to work, health, **education** and social protection, (...)

18. Urges OSCE participating States to adopt specific legislation with regard to family reunification measures, particularly with regard to the spouse, or similar, and minor children, to allow a stable and complete integration with **access to education**, vocational training, employment, health and social security; (...)

21. Encourages the adoption of necessary measures to secure conditions for the survival and social integration of refugees, specifically regarding access to employment, housing, health, **education** and social assistance;

22. Reaffirms the obligation to respect the principle of non-refoulement and urges the development of legislation and the promotion of **education** and training programmes for border officials to prevent abuse; (...)

## Final Helsinki Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2015

9 July 2015, Helsinki

### *The Co-Operative Phase in Post-Conflict Borders: New Tools and New Actors for a Broader View of the Conflict Cycle*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,  
(...)

4. Fully aware of the OSCE's already comprehensive range of activities in post-conflict periods, such as the restoration of institutionality, judicial and electoral reforms, human rights empowerment, handling of inter-ethnic conflicts, **educational reforms**, protection of the rights of national minorities and economic recovery, (...)

17. Proposes to incorporate the tasks of post-conflict co-operation with the relevant state authorities and in close co-ordination with these, to other relevant actors on both sides of the border, and among those, to women and their specific organizations, to local and regional authorities, **to educational, academic or university centers**, and their intellectual assets, to local religious leaders (both in border dividing communities with the same religion as in those dividing also from that point of view); to local and regional media; to civil society organized in the so-called third sector (foundations, associations, etc.) and to private companies (whose activity in post-conflict areas is a clear sign of normalization); (...)

19. Proposes the adoption of a scheme of two-level talks, together with the usual high-level talk scheme (bilateral with international mediation) about matters of substance (territorial integrity, sovereignty, border control, verification, stabilization, etc.), which would boost a new system of contacts of proximity to manage bilaterally the practical problems and daily difficulties created by the situation in the daily lives of people and communities, directly affected by a post-conflict border (checkpoints at de facto borders, access to health and **education services**, water availability or traditional farming land, difficulties in family or interpersonal communications, barriers to sharing public services, etc.); (...)

### *Environmental Challenges and Economic Opportunities in the High North*

14. Supports relevant capacity-building, particularly **through education** and training, to ensure that local communities will continue to benefit from economic development; (...)

### *Missing Persons in Connection with Armed Conflicts*

20. Calls upon OSCE participating States, which have been/are parties to an armed conflict, to address the issue of missing persons from a humanitarian perspective and in consistence with international norms, standards and customs: (...)

(vi) To ensure information sharing, networking, exchange of experience and best practices and other means of substantial co-operation and co-ordination with state institutions, commissions on missing persons, competent regional and international organizations and mechanisms, particularly the ICMP and the RCRC and with other actors and civil society, towards promoting highly reliable investigations, forensic operations and reliable data, in

strict compliance with human rights principles and norms, as well as common guidelines, standards and policies, capacity building, **education** and training; (...)

*Calling for Urgent Solutions to the Tragedy of Deaths in the Mediterranean*

20. Calls for States to fulfil their obligation to secure immediate access to the same health care and **education services** to children on the move as those offered to other children within the jurisdiction of the transit or host State, as this would strengthen their psycho-physical and psycho-sexual development and ensure their social integration and unqualified right to enjoy their upbringing; (...)

*Women and Girls Made Vulnerable by Armed Conflict, Crisis or Minority Status*

8. Calls on participating States to enhance **educational and vocational training** and economic opportunities for women and girls, especially those affected by armed conflict or crisis and those from minority groups, as a means to reduce their vulnerability to violence, including sexual violence, exploitation and abuse; (...)

12. Calls on countries in the OSCE region to make every effort to create a society free from violence, corruption and xenophobia and to create conditions and opportunities in which every member of society can gain access to quality healthcare, **education**, justice and personal security. (...)

**Final Tbilisi Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2016**

*5 July 2016, Tbilisi*

*Political Affairs and Security*

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly,

69. Urges participating States to encourage and **promote educational and preventive co-operation** with the media in the OSCE area in order to counter extremist propaganda, specifically by training independent journalists; (...)

88. Calls on all OSCE participating States to put in place programmes to promote training, education and economic empowerment for women, which are crucial for economic development; (...)

*A Call for OSCE Action to Address Violence and Discrimination*

8. Recommends that the participating States support OSCE initiatives, including but not limited to: (...)

(b) Sustaining the new ODIHR “Turning words into action to address anti-Semitism” project focused on addressing the security needs of Jewish communities, **countering anti-Semitism through education** and fostering civil society coalition building; (...)

(i) Building the capacity of Equality, **Education**, and Cultural Ministries and other relevant bodies to prevent and respond to prejudice and discrimination in the public and private sector, including schools. (...)

## Final Minsk Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2017

9 July 2017, Minsk

### *Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment*

77. Expressing concern about the **amendments to education legislation** in Hungary, affecting Central European University, which risk undermining academic freedom, inhibiting research and development, and impeding scientific advancement, (...)

83. Recognizes that the empowerment of women and girls through **education** and universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights is central to sustainable development and environmental protection, urges OSCE participating States to implement financial, economic, environmental, and social policies that promote gender equality in each of these areas of work, and calls on OSCE participating States to increase learning opportunities and skills development for women and girls, related to the green economy; (...)

91. Stresses that government responses to arrivals of refugees and migrants must respect each individual's right to live in dignity and security, taking into account the special needs of women and girls, and **promoting education** and economic empowerment for women; (...)

### *Ensuring a Coherent, Shared and Responsible Governance of Migration and Refugee Flows*

5. Deeply concerned by the **lack of access to education** of entire generations of children due to conflict and the long-term negative implications for the rebuilding of their countries and their integration into their host societies, (...)

34. Calls upon OSCE participating States to significantly increase their support to improve conditions for Syrian and other refugees in border countries (Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon), including in particular access to shelter, basic needs, **education**, health care and, where possible, the labour market; (...)

### *Promoting Gender Inclusive and Responsive Mediation*

17. Urges participating States to address the barriers to women's involvement in mediation processes, including sexism, **lack of education** and childcare and inadequate access to funding; (...)

## Final Berlin Declaration of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2018

11 July 2018, Berlin

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### *Resolution on Promotion of the Digital Economy in the Interests of Economic Growth in the OSCE Area*

18. Calls for the organization of productive and mutually beneficial **co-operation in the educational sphere for the training and retraining of the specialists** needed in the digital economy;

