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ODIHR e-newsletter

OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

Nov/Dec 2006

Project news: Human rights training in Central Asia



The ODIHR is strengthening the capacity of regional NGOs in Tajikistan and Armenia to monitor human rights in their communities.

[More about the project](#)

Election observation missions

[Needs assessment mission report ahead of local elections in Albania](#)

Latest reports

- [Belgium: expert visit on new voting technologies](#)
- [Preliminary statement on Tajik presidential election](#)

- **ODIHR delivers report on reform to Ministerial Council**

The ODIHR has submitted a report on its activities to the annual Ministerial Council, as a part of the OSCE's ongoing debate on reform.



At last year's Ministerial Council, the ODIHR was tasked to report on the implementation of existing OSCE commitments on human rights and democracy, possible supplementary commitments, and ways to strengthen and further its election observation and improve the effectiveness of its assistance to the 56 participating States.

A Russian version of the report will be available in the new year.

[Download the report](#)

- **Law enforcement training of trainers on combating hate crime**

A training session for police trainers in the OSCE region who deal with hate crime will be held on 11-13 December in Paris. Participants will receive specialized training on how to develop and deliver hate-crime training within their national police curricula.

- **Reducing the demand for trafficked persons**

The ODIHR is looking at the ways in which demand for cheap goods and services is linked to the trade in human beings. Demand was one of the topics at the session on anti-trafficking at this year's Human Dimension Implementation Meeting.

[More](#)

- **Tolerance Implementation Meeting on Addressing the Hate Crime Data Deficit**

A Tolerance Implementation Meeting on Addressing the Hate Crime Data Deficit was held in Vienna on 9-10 November. It was preceded by an NGO preparatory meeting.

- [Press statement on US congressional elections](#)
- [Preliminary statement on parliamentary elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)
- [Overview of the special day on trafficking: 2006 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting](#)
- [Recommendations from the NGO preparatory meeting](#)
- [Roundtable on military unions and associations](#)

As part of the ODIHR's programme on human rights and the armed forces, a roundtable on military unions and associations was held in Bucharest on 30-31 October. It discussed how the rights of military personnel to the freedom of association and assembly can be respected while at the same time meeting the needs and legitimate concerns of the military.

Forty-eight participants from across the OSCE region attended, including representatives from ministries of defence and foreign affairs, armed forces, parliament, military trade unions and associations and NGOs.

The conference was hosted by the Romanian Ministry of Defence and jointly organized by the ODIHR, the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces and the European Organisation of Military Associations.

[Meeting report](#)

Quick links

- [ODIHR homepage](#)
- [Elections homepage](#)
- [Legislationline](#)
- [Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Information System](#)
- [New publications](#)
 - Common Responsibility: Commitments and Implementation ([English](#))
 - Law Enforcement Officer Programme factsheet ([Polish](#) and [Serbian](#))
 - Education on the Holocaust and on Anti-Semitism in the OSCE Region ([Russian](#))
- [New Adviser on Roma and Sinti Issues](#)

Andrzej Mirga (Poland) is the new head of the ODIHR's Contact Point on Roma and Sinti Issues. He has been a lecturer at the Pedagogical Academy and the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, and has worked with many Roma organizations and bodies, including as chair of the Committee of Experts on Roma and Travellers of the Council of Europe.

e-newsletter@odihr.pl
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