

Project 'PRR': Human Rights-compliant Prosecution, Rehabilitation and Reintegration (PRR) of Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) and associated women and children in the OSCE Area

Budget: EUR 1.7 (OSCE ExB #1102668)

Countries/Region: South-Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Mediterranean PfC

Partners: Field Operations, ODIHR, NGOs, UN / EU-agencies, national experts

OSCE Gender Marker: 2

March 2024 ●————● December 2026

Project objective

Strengthen the capacity of OSCE beneficiaries to provide for an effective and age/gender-sensitive rehabilitation and reintegration of men, women and children returning from conflict zones, and ensure human rights-compliant prosecutions of suspected criminals.

Expected results

Phase I – Review existing good practices developed across the OSCE in expert working groups and assess related needs among OSCE beneficiaries that could built on experience gathered e.g. in:

- Central Asia: Good practices in managing large numbers of returnees repatriated in close cooperation with ICRC, UNICEF and other partners, including civil society actors.
- South-Eastern Europe: Experience in involving Social Workers in the preparation of families and communities in anticipation of returns, and building teams of key stakeholders at the local level.
- EU/Western countries: Risk assessments and routine prosecution of male and female returnees using battlefield/electronic evidence, as well as the cumulative charging of terrorist and core intl. crimes.

Phase II – Assist local working groups in reviewing laws/policies and developing recommendations for potential alignments, as well as in tailoring existing training material to their needs.

Phase III – Implement training on PRR modules (including assessment/prosecution, preparation of receiving communities, rehabilitation/reintegration) using a training-of-trainers approach.

OSCE added value

The OSCE's structure, particularly its Field Operations in Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe and the expertise and partnerships with other international/regional organizations enable the OSCE to reach across its area of responsibility into all levels of society, to help building sustainable responses to the challenges posed by returning FTFs and their families.

In line with

- EU Security Union Strategy
- EU Counter-Terrorism Agenda: Anticipate, Prevent, Protect, Respond
- UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy
- UN Security Council Resolution 2396 (2017)
- UN Sustainable Development Goals 5 and 16

Why it matters

Rehabilitation and reintegration of those who have been involved in and/or exposed to terrorism and VERLT for an extended period of time is seen as a necessary step in addressing related negative effects long term. Integration is essential not only to prevent future acts of violence but also to build overall community-level resilience. For those suspected of crimes, the project will advance human rights-compliant investigation and prosecution practices, building on resources and tools on preventing and countering terrorism developed by TNTD/ATU, ODIHR, OSCE Field Operations and international/national partners.

