



1975 • HELSINKI FINAL ACT • 2015



## Helsinki Final Act

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In 1975 in Helsinki, world leaders got together to sign a unique document that would revolutionize the concept of comprehensive security. The Helsinki Final Act was a historic triumph of cooperation over conflict, bridging the gap between East and West and setting the stage for the end of the Cold War.

Forty years later, it remains the defining document that guides the work of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. This publication includes a historical timeline as well as spotlights on the different entities that make up the Organization in 2015.

# 1972

# 1973

# 1974

# 1975

**24 May, Helsinki**

Nixon and Brezhnev reach a compromise agreement to hold two separate sets of negotiations: the **CSCE** is to **deal with political issues** and the Mutual Balanced Force Reductions (**MBFR**) talks in Europe are to deal with **strategic military issues** (SALT I)

**22 November, Dipoli, Helsinki**

**Beginning of Multilateral Consultations** on holding a Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE)

**8 June, Dipoli**

**End of Multilateral Consultations** that produced the **"Final Recommendations of the Helsinki Consultations"**

**3 - 7 July, Helsinki**

**1st Stage of the CSCE** held at Ministerial level: 35 participating States adopt the **"Final Recommendations of the Helsinki Consultations"** (the 'Blue Book') by consensus, paving the way to the 'Helsinki process'

**18 September, Geneva**  
**Beginning of the 2nd Stage of the CSCE.**

The Conference follows the agenda and procedures prescribed by the 'Blue Book'

**October**

Global oil crisis

**30 October, Vienna**

Beginning of negotiations on **Mutual Balanced Force Reductions** (MBFR)

**May**

United States and Soviet Union sign **Strategic Arms Limitation Talks** (SALT I)

**Geneva**

**2nd Stage of the CSCE** continues. The Conference is divided into committees and working groups according to 3 dimensions (baskets): politico/military, economic and environmental, and humanitarian



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**30 June, Geneva**

**End of the 2nd Stage of the CSCE.** Draft Final Act is ready

**30 July - 1 August, Helsinki**

**3rd stage of the CSCE and 1st CSCE SUMMIT.** Heads of State or Government of 35 CSCE participating States\* adopt and sign the **Helsinki Final Act** including:

- Declaration on Principles Guiding Relations between Participating States and a Document on confidence-building measures and additional chapters on Co-operation in the fields of Economics, of Science and Technology and of the Environment, as well as on Co-operation in Humanitarian and Other Fields
- Questions relating to Security in the Mediterranean and provisions providing for a follow-up to the Conference

**February**

Nobel Prize winning writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn is expelled from the Soviet Union

**August**

Watergate scandal provokes U.S. President Richard Nixon's resignation

THE CONTENT OF THIS TIMELINE IS SELECTIVE AND DECISIONS TAKEN AT MAJOR EVENTS ARE NOT EXHAUSTIVE



# OSCE Chairmanship

## THE BEGINNING

The origin of the institution of the Chairmanship, and the post of the Chairperson-in-Office (CiO) lies with the Charter of Paris for a New Europe (1990). At the 1992 Helsinki Summit, the responsibilities of the CiO were defined as “the co-ordination of and consultation on current CSCE business.”

## MANDATE

The OSCE Chairmanship is held for one calendar year by the OSCE participating State designated as such by a decision of the Ministerial Council. The function of the Chairperson-in-Office is exercised by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of that State.

The Chairmanship co-ordinates the decision-making process and sets the priorities for the activities of the OSCE during its year in office. It is supported by the executive structures of the Organization. The CiO presides over Summits and the Ministerial Council. A member of the Chairmanship, generally the Permanent Representative, chairs the permanent Council. In order to provide work continuity and effectiveness over the years, the Chairmanship is assisted by the outgoing and incoming Chairmanships (the three form the OSCE Troika).

## ACTIVITIES

The activities of the Chairmanship include: chairing Summits, Ministerial Councils, the Permanent Council and subsidiary bodies; co-ordinating and consulting on current OSCE business; providing the Permanent Council with required drafts, reports and overviews; providing the Permanent Council with recommendations on specific issues; communicating views and decision of Summits, the Ministerial Council and the Permanent Council to the Secretariat, institutions and field operations; representing the OSCE externally, in consultation with participating States and with the assistance of the Secretary General; appointing personal representatives and heads of field operations.



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## FACTS IN 2015

**Chairing country:** Serbia

Chairman-in-Office: **Mr. Ivica Dačić**,  
First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign  
Affairs of the Republic of Serbia

## OTHER TROIKA MEMBERS

Mr. Didier Burkhalter, former CiO (2014) and Head of the  
Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland  
Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier, incoming CiO (2016) Federal  
Foreign Minister of Germany

# 1976

# 1977



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**15 June - 5 August, Belgrade**  
**Preparatory Meeting**  
 for the 1st CSCE Follow-up Meeting (Decisions on the proceedings and organizational modalities of the Belgrade Follow-up Meeting)

**4 October, Belgrade**  
**Beginning of the Belgrade Follow-Up Meeting** to the CSCE

Civil rights advocates and dissidents rally around the Helsinki Final Act and create groups, associations and NGOs to follow up the implementations of Helsinki Final Act commitments undertaken by their national governments (Charter 77 in Czechoslovakia, Helsinki Citizen Assemblies in the Soviet Union and the USA)

# 1978

# 1979

**9 March, Belgrade**  
**End of the Belgrade Follow-up Meeting**  
 (Concluding Document)

**20 June - 28 July, Bonn**  
 Preparatory Meeting for the CSCE Scientific Forum

**31 October - 11 December, Montreux**  
 1st Meeting of Experts on the **Peaceful Settlement of Disputes**  
 (Report)

**13 February - 26 March, Valetta**  
 Experts Meeting on **Economic, Scientific and Cultural Co-operation in the Mediterranean**  
 (Report)



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**June**  
 United States and Soviet Union sign the **SALT II**

**December**  
 Soviet Union invades Afghanistan



# OSCE Secretary General

## THE BEGINNING

The post of the Secretary General was created by the 1992 Helsinki Summit declaration, in the midst of the CSCE institutionalization process, with the goal of representing and assisting the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office in fulfilling his/her duties. The first Secretary General, Ambassador Wilhelm Höynck (Germany), was appointed in 1993.

## MANDATE

The Secretary General is appointed by the Ministerial Council for a term of three years, which may be extended for a second and final term of three years.

The Secretary General's work combines political and managerial tasks. S/he acts as the representative of the Chairperson-in-Office, supports him/her in all activities aimed at fulfilling the goals of the OSCE and participates in the meetings of the OSCE Troika. The Secretary General supports the process of political dialogue and negotiations among participating States. At the same time, the Secretary General is the Chief Administrative Officer of the OSCE and head of the OSCE Secretariat and ensures implementation of the decisions of the OSCE. S/he is responsible for presenting the Programme Outline and the Unified Budget Proposal to the Permanent Council and overseeing the management of OSCE field operations and institutions and co-ordinating their operational work.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Vienna

Secretary General: **Ambassador Lamberto Zannier**  
(Italy) since 2011

**Budget of the Office of the Secretary General:** €10,045,000  
(included in the overall Secretariat budget)



# 1980

# 1981

# 1982

# 1983

**18 February -  
3 March, Hamburg**  
CSCE Scientific Forum  
(Report)

**8 September -  
10 November, Madrid**  
Preparatory Meeting for  
the 2nd CSCE Follow-up  
Meeting (Decisions)

**11 November, Madrid**  
Beginning of the Madrid  
Follow-up Meeting

**Madrid Follow-up  
Meeting continues**  
(with interruptions)

**Madrid Follow-up  
Meeting continues**  
(with interruptions)



**9 September, Madrid**  
End of the Madrid  
Follow-up Meeting (Con-  
cluding Document)

**25 October -  
11 November, Helsinki**  
Preparatory Meeting  
for the Conference on  
Confidence- and Securi-  
ty-Building Measures and  
Disarmament in Europe

**January**  
Andrei Sakharov, a  
Russian scientist and  
human rights activist, is  
arrested in Moscow and  
exiled to Gorky

**March**  
United States announces  
its boycott of the 1980  
Summer Olympics in  
Moscow

**August**  
Lech Wałęsa leads the  
first of many strikes at  
the Lenin Shipyard in  
Gdansk, Poland

**September**  
After weeks of strikes,  
the nationwide indepen-  
dent trade union 'Soli-  
darność' is established  
in Poland

**December**  
Polish Prime Minister  
Wojciech Jaruzelski de-  
clares a state of martial  
law to prevent dismant-  
ling of the communist  
system by 'Solidarność'



# OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

## MILESTONES

**1990:** Office for Free Elections established

**1992:** Name changed to Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and mandate expanded

**1994:** Establishment of Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**1993:** Hosted the first OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw, Europe's largest annual human rights and democracy conference. The 2015 meeting was the 19th occurrence

**1996:** Published the first edition of the ODIHR Election Observation Handbook. It has been updated and expanded over the years, and is currently in its 6th edition

**2001:** Published the first edition of OSCE Human Dimension Commitments compilation. It has since been updated twice – in 2005 and 2011

**2008:** Issued the report "Human Rights in the War-Affected Areas Following the Conflict in Georgia"

**2014:** Published the Guidelines on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders

## THE BEGINNING

Following the fall of the Berlin Wall, the former socialist States parties to the CSCE organized their first free elections in decades. To help promote democratic elections and their observation, in 1990 the CSCE agreed on the creation of an Office for Free Elections (OFE). In 1992, it became clear that elections in line with OSCE commitments and other international standards are only a part of a democratic system, and the Office's mandate was broadened significantly, and its name changed to the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR). This reflects one dimension – the Human Dimension – of the OSCE's comprehensive approach to security, under which all OSCE participating States have agreed that lasting security cannot be achieved without respect for human rights and functioning democratic institutions.

## MANDATE

In addition to election observation, which remains one of the Office's core activities, in line with the Helsinki Document of 1992, ODIHR is mandated to assist OSCE participating States to "ensure full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, to abide by the rule of law, to promote principles of democracy and ... to build, strengthen and protect democratic institutions, as well as promote tolerance throughout society." The Office also plays an important role in enhancing dialogue among States, governments and civil society. It organizes the yearly OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, three supplementary meetings and a seminar, which review governments' progress and give NGOs a platform to freely voice their concerns.



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## ACTIVITIES

ODIHR provides support, assistance and expertise to participating States and civil society in five broad areas: elections, democratization, human rights, tolerance and non-discrimination, and Roma and Sinti issues. The Office observes elections, reviews legislation and advises governments on how to develop and sustain democratic institutions, and supports civil society in developing greater capacity to aid in the development of these institutions. It also conducts training programmes for government and law-enforcement officials and non-governmental organizations on how to uphold, promote and monitor human rights, and to counter intolerance and discrimination. Through its Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues, ODIHR advances the rights and participation in the political and economic life of their societies for Roma and Sinti individuals and communities.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Warsaw

**Director:** Michael Georg Link (Germany) since 2014

**Staff:** 85 international and 67 local personnel

**Budget:** €15,995,200

# 1984

**17 January, Stockholm**  
Beginning of the **Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe**



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**21 March - 30 April, Athens**  
Meeting of Experts on **Peaceful Settlement of Disputes**

**16 - 26 October, Venice**  
Seminar on **Economic, Scientific and Cultural Co-operation in the Mediterranean** (Report)

**21 November - 4 December, Budapest**  
Preparatory Meeting of the CSCE **Cultural Forum**

**May**  
Soviet Union announces that it will boycott the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles

# 1985

**7 May - 17 June, Ottawa**  
**Meeting of Experts on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms**

**30 July - 1 August, Helsinki**  
**10th Anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act** (Verbatim Records)

**23 April - 6 May, Ottawa**  
**Preparatory Meeting for the Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms Expert meeting**

**Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe continues**

**15 October - 25 November, Budapest**  
CSCE **Cultural Forum**

**March**  
Mikhail Gorbachev succeeds Konstantin Chernenko as leader of the Soviet Union



# OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

## MILESTONES

**1996:** Lisbon Summit decision to establish Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFOM)

**1997:** Adoption of Decision No. 193 of the Permanent Council establishing the Mandate of the RFOM

**1998:** Freimut Duve appointed Representative

**2004:** Miklós Harasti appointed Representative

**2010:** Dunja Mijatović appointed Representative

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**Since 1998:** Award-winning campaigns across the OSCE region to fight impunity from prosecution for those who commit crimes against journalists

**Since 1999:** Regular media conferences and two major conferences “Internet 2013 – Shaping policies to advance media freedom” and “Journalists’ Safety, Media Freedom and Pluralism in Times of Conflict” (2015) both of which resulted in recommendations on the issues to the participating States

**Since 1999:** Publications on media issues, including the “2013 Social Media Guidebook,” The Online Media Self-Regulation Guidebook,” “The Guide to the Digital Switchover,” “Commitments,” “Freedom of Expression on the Internet” and “Safety of Journalists Guidebook”

**Since 2001:** Legal analyses and recommendations on existing and proposed legislation related to free media and free expression issues such as defamation, digitalization, broadcasting, public service broadcasting and access to information for participating States provided by renowned experts across the OSCE region

**Since 2012:** Specialized courses (master classes) for government authorities, regulators, journalists and civil society representatives on such topics as self-regulation, access to information, the digital switchover and other broadcast-related issues

**2014:** Expert meetings to map out the legal and practical challenges with Open Journalism. Launching a project to address digital threats and abuse of female journalists online

**Since 2014:** Communiqués as specific statements of policies reflecting the position of the Representative on matters of cross-region concern

## THE BEGINNING

Recognizing the crucial importance of the free flow of information in reducing tensions and maintaining peace and stability, signatories of the Helsinki Final Act in 1975 resolved to act in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and, in particular, to co-operate in the field of information and improve access to information and the working conditions of journalists. The Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media was established in 1997 to ensure implementation of the OSCE’s media freedom principles and commitments.



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## MANDATE

The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media has an early warning function and provides rapid response to serious non-compliance with regard to free media and freedom of expression. The OSCE participating States consider freedom of expression a fundamental and internationally recognized human right and a basic component of a democratic society. Free media is essential to a free and open society and accountable governments. The Representative is mandated to observe media developments in the participating States and to advocate and promote full compliance with the Organization’s principles and commitments in respect of freedom of expression and free media.

## ACTIVITIES

The Representative observes media developments as part of an early warning function and helps participating States abide by their commitments to freedom of expression and free media. This includes efforts to ensure the safety of journalists; assist with the development of media pluralism; promote decriminalization of defamation; combat hate speech while preserving freedom of expression; provide expert opinions on media regulation and legislation; promote online media freedom; and assist with the relevant to the Mandate aspects of the process of switching from analogue to digital broadcasting. The Representative also holds annual regional media conferences.

## FACTS IN 2015

Representative: **Dunja Mijatović** (Bosnia and Herzegovina) since 2010

**Headquarters:** Vienna

**Staff:** 15, 12 International and 3 Local (not including Representative)

**Budget:** €1.482 million

# 1986

**2 - 15 April, Bern**

Preparatory Negotiations for the Meeting of Experts on Human Contact

**15 April - 27 May, Bern**  
Meeting of Experts on Human Contacts

**19 September, Stockholm**

End of the Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe (Stockholm CSBMs Document)



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**23 September - 7 October, Vienna**

Preparatory Meeting for the 3rd Follow-up Meeting

**4 November, Vienna**  
Beginning of the Vienna Follow-up Meeting

# 1987

# 1988

Vienna Follow-up Meeting continues

Stockholm Document enters into force with the first on-site inspections of military forces in the field

Vienna Follow-up Meeting continues

**26 April**

Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant accident

**October**

U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev meet in Reykjavik, Iceland, to continue discussions about scaling back their intermediate missile arsenals in Europe, but the talks end with no agreement

**December**

Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov returns to Moscow after almost seven years of internal exile

**December**

The Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty is signed in Washington, D.C. by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev

**October**

Thousands of Latvians demonstrate in the capital, Riga, for independence from the Soviet Union



# OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

## MILESTONES

**1992:** High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) established at the Helsinki Summit

**1993:** First High Commissioner Max van der Stoep (The Netherlands) takes office

**2000:** Second High Commissioner Rolf Ekéus (Sweden) takes office

**2001:** The Max van der Stoep Award, a biennial prize of €50,000, is established by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands to honour its eponym and highlight issues related to national minorities

**2007:** Third High Commissioner Knut Vollebæk (Norway) takes office

**2013:** Fourth and current High Commissioner Astrid Thors (Finland) takes office

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**1996:** First set of HCNM Recommendations published; currently, there are seven sets of Recommendations and Guidelines on a range of topics related to the activities and expertise of the HCNM

**2008:** Published “The Bolzano/Bozen Recommendations on National Minorities in Inter-State Relations”

**2009:** Began multi-partner process to establish the Bujanovac department of economics, a branch of the University of Novi Sad’s Faculty of Economics in Subotica. In 2015, the first students graduated and permanent premises were opened

**2010:** Issued Early Warning in relation to the inter-ethnic violence in Kyrgyzstan, where more than 400 people were killed, tens of thousands were temporarily displaced and thousands of households were destroyed

## THE BEGINNING

Ethnic conflict and tensions between majority and minority groups are critical sources of large-scale violence. This was evident in the early 1990s, when fighting raged in South-Eastern Europe, and violent clashes erupted in several parts of Central Asia and the Caucasus. The heads of State or Government, meeting at the 1992 Summit in Helsinki, responded to this challenge by creating an unprecedented instrument of conflict prevention, the High Commissioner on National Minorities. The High Commissioner works in complete confidentiality in a process of quiet diplomacy.

## MANDATE

The mandate of the HCNM is to provide early warning and, as appropriate, early action at the earliest possible stage in regard to tensions involving national minority issues which have not yet developed beyond an early warning stage, but, in the judgement of the High Commissioner, have the potential to develop into a conflict within the OSCE area.

**2012:** Published “The Ljubljana Guidelines on Integration of Diverse Societies”

**2012:** Intensified activities in Ukraine, including Crimea, in an effort to address rising tensions and alerted the international community to the deteriorating situation; in 2014, deployed a Human Rights Assessment Mission together with ODIHR

**2014:** HCNM started to assist the authorities in Moldova to develop an integration strategy

**2015:** HCNM has been working intensively through quiet diplomacy to support the authorities in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to lower tensions and avoid violence, including by encouraging inter-ethnic dialogue, political dialogue and integration policies



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## ACTIVITIES

The HCNM gets involved in a situation if, in his/her judgement, there are tensions involving national minorities which could develop into a conflict. Much of the day-to-day work is in identifying and addressing causes of ethnic tensions and conflicts. The High Commissioner addresses the short-term triggers of inter-ethnic tension or conflict and long-term structural concerns. If a participating State is not meeting its political commitments or international norms, the High Commissioner will assist by providing analysis and recommendations. Based on the institution’s unique experience, the HCNM publishes thematic Recommendations and Guidelines that give advice on common challenges and best practice. The High Commissioner also provides structural support through small collaborative projects that aim to achieve sustainability through increasing local ownership.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** The Hague

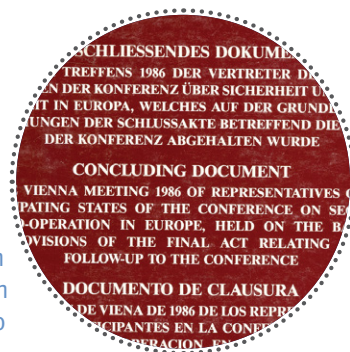
**High Commissioner:** Astrid Thors (Finland)

**Staff:** 18 international and 12 local personnel

**Budget:** €3,407,600

**19 January, Vienna**  
**End of the Vienna Follow-up Meeting**  
 (Concluding Document), provisions for:

- Human dimension defined
- Vienna Mechanism [on exchange of information on questions relating to the human dimension]



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**9 March, Vienna**  
 Beginning of the Vienna  
 meeting of the **Confe-  
 rence on Confidence-  
 and Security-Building  
 Measures and Disarma-  
 ment in Europe**

**30 May - 23 June,  
 Paris**  
 1st Meeting of the **Con-  
 ference on the Human  
 Dimension**

**16 October -  
 3 November,  
 Sofia, Vienna**  
**Meeting on the Pro-  
 tection of the Environ-  
 ment (Report)**

Warsaw Pact dismantled

**2 February, Vienna**  
 End of negotiations -  
 Mutual and Balanced  
 Force Reductions (MBFR)

**February**  
 Soviet Union pulls its  
 troops out of Afghanistan

**9 March, Vienna**  
 Beginning of the nego-  
 tiations on the Treaty  
 on Conventional Armed  
 Forces in Europe (CFE)  
 including 23 members  
 of NATO and the Warsaw  
 Pact

**October**  
 After 18 years in power,  
 the Communist leader  
 of East Germany, Erich  
 Honecker, steps down

**November**  
 Entire leadership of  
 the Communist Party in  
 Czechoslovakia resigns to  
 make way for democratic  
 changes

**9 November**  
 Fall of the Berlin Wall



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**December**  
 Deposed Romanian  
 President and Commu-  
 nist party leader Nicolae  
 Ceaușescu, and his wife  
 Elena are executed



# OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

## MILESTONES

**1990:** Call for creation of CSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Charter of Paris for a New Europe

**1991:** Parliamentary Assembly (PA) established

**1992:** First formal session of the Parliamentary Assembly

**1993:** First election observation mission of the Parliamentary Assembly (to the Russian Federation)

**1993:** International Secretariat set up in Copenhagen

**2003:** Vienna Liaison Office opened

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**1993-ongoing:** Organized more than 140 election observation missions that have deployed some 5,000 parliamentarians

**1995-ongoing:** Employed some 250 young professionals from across the OSCE area in the OSCE PA Research Fellowship Programme

**1995:** Initiated campaign to establish the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, endorsed by the OSCE Lisbon Summit the following year; also began pushing for the creation of the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

**2000-ongoing:** Launched News from Copenhagen, a one-page newsletter providing up-to-date information from the OSCE PA International Secretariat

**2005:** Published “The Future of the OSCE,” a report urging OSCE reform based on the conclusions of a colloquium held jointly by the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the Swiss Institute for World Affairs in Washington, D.C.

**2014-2015:** Organized the Helsinki +40 Project, a series of seminars geared towards reaffirming the Organization’s institutional and conceptual framework in the spirit of the Helsinki Final Act; published Final Report based on seminars’ conclusions

**Ongoing:** Leads efforts for OSCE reform and initiates debates on the OSCE in national parliaments; has operated within approved budget and with positive audits from outside independent auditors for more than 20 years

## THE BEGINNING

In 1990, CSCE participating States agreed on the creation of a Parliamentary Assembly, made up of members of the OSCE national parliaments, to give parliamentarians a voice in the Organization and enhance its democratic legitimacy. The PA is the longest standing continuous OSCE structure.

## MANDATE

The mandate of the Parliamentary Assembly includes the following responsibilities: to assess the implementation of the objectives of the OSCE; to discuss subjects addressed in Ministerial Councils and Summits; to develop and promote mechanisms for the prevention and resolution of conflicts; to support the strengthening and consolidation of democratic institutions in the OSCE participating States; and to contribute to the development of the OSCE’s institutional structures and foster relations and co-operation between them.



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## ACTIVITIES

The PA activities are channelled into the three OSCE dimensions through three General Committees. The committees work on the preparation of a Final Declaration, adopted yearly at the Annual Session, which guides the Organization’s priorities and future activities. The PA provides political leadership to OSCE election observation, engages in parliamentary diplomacy and has been actively involved in the Helsinki +40 process, organizing a series of seminars examining the past, present and future of the Organization in partnership with prominent think tanks.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Copenhagen

**President:** **Ilkka Kanerva** (Finland) since 2014

**Secretary General:** **R. Spencer Oliver** (United States) since 1992

**Staff:** 14 international and 5 local personnel, based in Copenhagen and Vienna, plus a rotating team of research fellows

**Budget:** EUR 3,030,000

# 1990

Vienna meeting of the Conference on **Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe** continues

**16 January - 5 February, Vienna**  
1st Seminar on Military Doctrine

**19 March - 11 April, Bonn**  
Conference on **Economic Co-operation** (Document)

**5 - 29 June, Copenhagen**  
2nd Meeting of the Conference on the **Human Dimension** (Copenhagen Document)

**7 February**  
Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party agrees to give up its monopoly on power

**13 February**  
Agreement is reached on a two-stage plan to reunite Germany

**11 March**  
Lithuania becomes first state to declare independence from the Soviet Union

**15 March**  
Mikhail Gorbachev is elected as the first President of the Soviet Union

**20 May**  
First post-communist presidential and parliamentary elections are held in Romania

**1 June**  
U.S. President George H. W. Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev sign a treaty to end chemical weapons production and start destroying their stockpiles

**1 July**  
West and East Germany merge their currencies and economies

**24 September - 19 October, Palma de Mallorca**  
Meeting on the **Mediterranean** (Report)

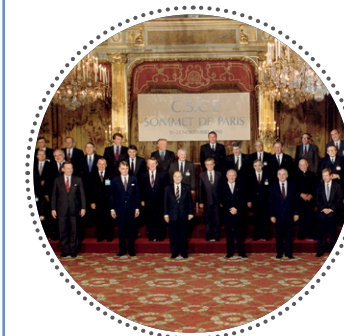
**1 - 2 October, New York**  
Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs

**17 November, Vienna**  
Negotiations on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures result in the adoption of the **1990 Vienna Document**; Risk Reduction Mechanisms:

- Mechanism for Consultation and Cooperation as regards Unusual Military Activities
- Mechanism for Co-operation as regards Hazardous Incidents of a Military Nature
- Voluntary Hosting of Visits to Dispel Concern about Military Activities

**19 - 21 November, Paris**  
**2nd CSCE SUMMIT.**  
35 CSCE participating States sign the **Charter of Paris for a New Europe** including a declaration on:

- "A new era of democracy, peace and unity" marking the end of the cold War
- Institutionalization process of the CSCE



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**3 December, Vienna**  
1st Meeting of the **Consultative Committee of the Conflict Prevention Centre**

**19 November, Paris**  
Adoption of the **Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE)** by 22 CSCE participating States on the margins of the CSCE Summit in Paris

**24 November, Vienna**  
1st meeting of the **Joint Consultative Group** on the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE)

**9 December**  
Slobodan Milošević becomes President of Serbia



# OSCE Permanent Council

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Establishment of the Council of Senior Officials Vienna Group

**1993:** Institutionalization of the Council of Senior Officials Vienna Group as the Permanent Committee

**1994:** Permanent Committee is renamed the Permanent Council

**1999:** Establishment of a Preparatory Committee, under the Permanent Council's direction

**2001:** Establishment of the Economic and Environmental Sub-Committee

**2006:** Establishment of a three-committee structure representing the three OSCE security dimensions: Security, Economic and Environmental, and Human Dimension

## THE BEGINNING

The need for a permanent body for consultations on day-to-day operational matters arose when the CSCE became involved in conflict prevention and crisis managements in the 1990s. Taking advantage of the permanent presence in Vienna of State representatives involved in arms negotiations, the Foreign Ministers decided at their Council meeting in December 1992 to form a Vienna Group of the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO). The CSO had been meeting in Prague as the CSCE's regular consultative body since 1990 and exercising decision-making authority since January 1992. The Vienna Group of the CSO was institutionalized as the "Permanent Committee" by the Ministers at their 1993 Council meeting in Rome. As time went on, the Permanent Committee increasingly took over the functions of the CSO, to which it was responsible. When the CSCE was renamed the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe in 1994, the Permanent Committee was renamed the Permanent Council.

## MANDATE

The Permanent Council is the principal decision-making body for the day-to-day operational work of the OSCE between meetings of the Ministerial Council. The Permanent Council convenes weekly in Vienna to discuss developments in the OSCE area and to make appropriate decisions.

## DELEGATIONS

The Permanent Council is formed by the delegates of the 57 participating States. The OSCE's 11 partner States may attend as observers. A delegation to the Permanent Council consists of a team of diplomats of the participating State led by a permanent representative.



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## Negotiating process

In the Plenary Meetings of the Permanent Council, the delegations participate in dialogue related to all three dimensions of security - the human, the politico-military and the economic-environmental. Each delegation has an equal right to raise an issue for discussion.

## Decision-making process

OSCE decisions are taken by consensus. This means that there is no voting on issues, the Chairman rather seeks approval from all delegations. In the case of one or more delegations opposing a decision, the issue goes back into negotiation. If all delegates agree, the decision becomes politically binding for all participating States.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Vienna

Chaired by: **Ambassador Vuk Žugić** (Serbia)

# 1991

**14 - 18 January, Vienna**  
Recommendations of the **Ad Hoc Group of Experts** on administrative, financial and personnel arrangements for the CSCE institutional structures

**15 January - 8 February, Valletta**  
3rd Meeting of **Experts on the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes** (Report)

**28 January, Vienna**  
1st Meeting of the **Committee of Senior Officials** adopts a set of provisions to assure the entry into operation of the:

- **CSCE Secretariat** in Prague
- **Conflict Prevention Centre** in Vienna
- **Office for Free Elections** in Warsaw

**March, Warsaw, Prague, Vienna**  
Appointments of the Directors of the:

- **Office for Free Elections:** Luchino Cortese (Italy)
- **CSCE Secretariat:** Nils Eliasson (Sweden)
- **Conflict Prevention Centre:** Bent Rosenthal (Denmark)

**2 - 3 April, Madrid**  
**Final Resolution** concerning the establishment of the **CSCE Parliamentary Assembly** is adopted (Madrid Document)

**22 - 24 May, Prague**  
2nd Meeting of the **Committee of Senior Officials** adopts staff rules and common financial procedures

**28 May - 7 June, Cracow**  
**Symposium on Cultural Heritage** (Document)

**17 - 20 June, Berlin**  
3rd Meeting of the **Committee of Senior Officials** adopts separate budgets for each institution

**19 - 20 June, Berlin**  
1st **CSCE Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs**. Summary of Conclusions\* adopted:

- A politico military Emergency Mechanism
- Statement on the situation in Yugoslavia

**1 - 19 July, Geneva**  
**Expert Meeting on National Minorities** (Report)

**3 - 4 July, Prague**  
1st **Emergency Meeting** of the Committee of Senior Officials to consult on co-operation in the situation in Yugoslavia (followed by 4 additional emergency meetings, all in 1991)

**10 September, Moscow**  
1st **Additional CSCE Ministerial Meeting** convened in parallel to the 3rd Human Dimension Conference (Journal\*)

**10 September - 4 October, Moscow**  
3rd Meeting on the **Conference on the Human Dimension** (Moscow Document):

- Moscow Mechanism complementing and strengthening the 1989 Vienna Mechanism

**8 - 18 October, Vienna**  
**CSCE Seminar on Military Doctrine**

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**22 - 24 October, Prague**  
4th Meeting of the **Committee of Senior Officials** decides to dispatch a CSCE Human Rights Rapporteur Mission to Yugoslavia

**4 - 15 November, Oslo**  
Seminar of **Experts on Democratic Institutions** (Report)

**15 February**  
Visegrád Agreement, establishing regional co-operation to move toward free-market systems and advance co-operation with one another, is signed by the leaders of Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland

Throughout the year, post-Soviet states declare their independence

From 1991 to 1992, Republics within the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia declare their independence (Slovenia, Croatia, Macedonia, Bosnia-Herzegovina)

**31 March**  
Albania holds first multi-party elections

**12 June**  
Boris Yeltsin is elected President of Russia

**1 July**  
Warsaw Pact is officially dissolved

**18 August**  
Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev is put under house arrest while vacationing in Crimea. The attempted coup fails in less than 72 hours

**27 November**  
United Nations Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 721, opening the way for the establishment of peacekeeping operations in Yugoslavia

**8 December**  
Leaders of Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine sign an agreement ending the Soviet Union and establishing the Commonwealth of Independent States

**25 December**  
Mikhail Gorbachev resigns as President of the Soviet Union

**31 December**  
Soviet Union officially ceases to exist



# OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Forum for Security Co-operation established

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2001 onwards:** Since the start of the exchange of information on small arms destruction, OSCE participating States destroyed over 15 million small arms and light weapons

**2003-2014:** OSCE participating States supported 21 small arms and conventional ammunition projects by contributing EUR 23 million, including the largest project in the OSCE history on the disposal of 16,000 tonnes of rocket fuel component in Ukraine

**Since 2010:** 14 participating States have adopted National Implementation Action Plans on UNSCR 1540 (2004)

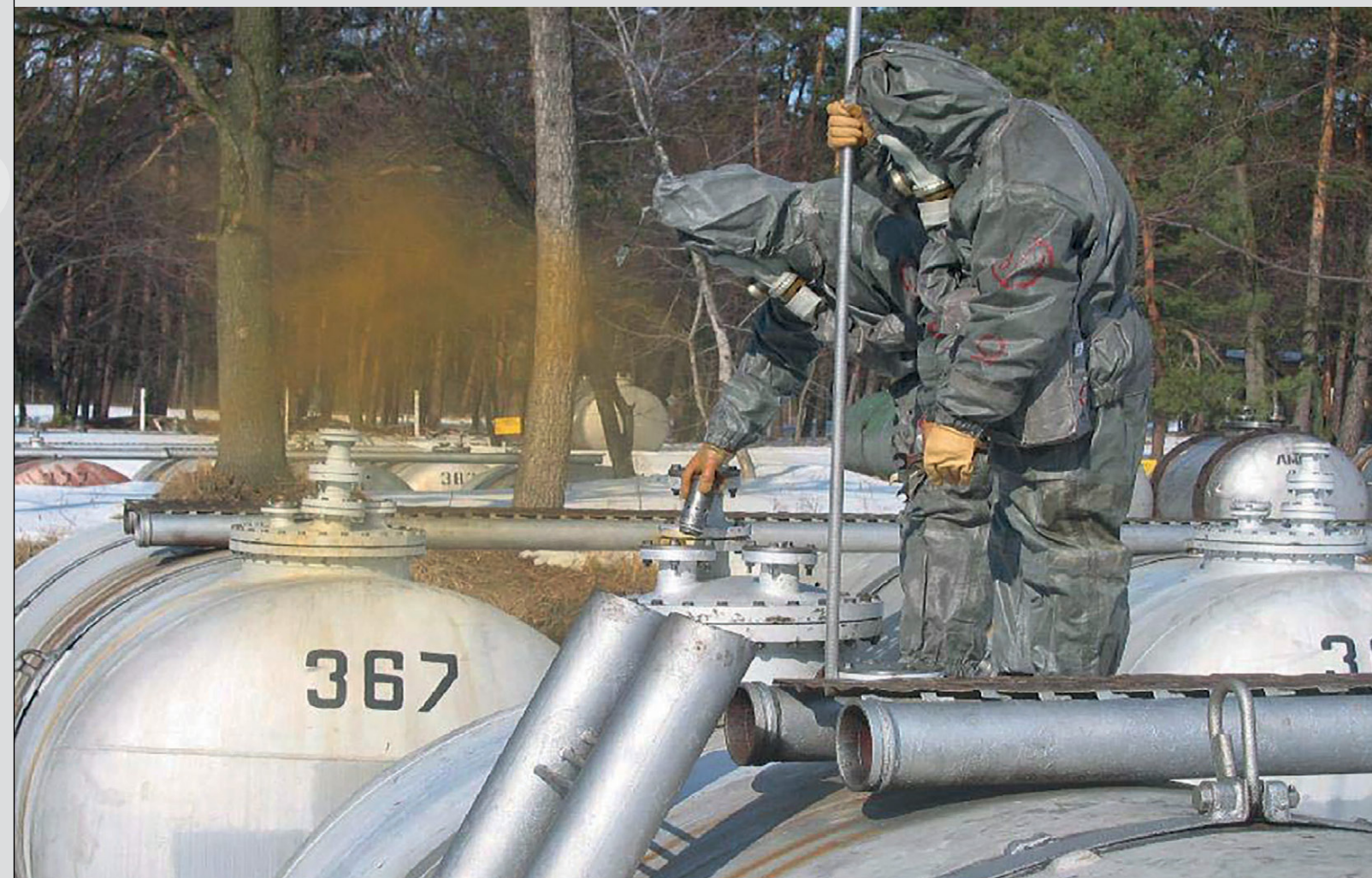
**2010-2015:** 619 inspections and 433 evaluation visits were conducted by OSCE participating States under the Vienna Document on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures promoting military transparency, predictability and stability

## THE BEGINNING

At the 1992 Helsinki Summit of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, the participating States approved the creation of a Forum for Security and Co-operation.

## MANDATE

The Forum for Security Co-operation aims to tackle politico-military security risks ranging from traditional security threats between and within states, to addressing some transnational threats such as the trafficking of weapons, including weapons of mass destruction.



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## ACTIVITIES

By promoting military transparency and dialogue, the Forum works to increase military security and stability in Europe and covers some of the most fundamental politico-military agreements of the OSCE participating States. It helps implement landmark confidence and security-building measures to regulate the exchange of military information and mutual verification between states, as well as the Code of Conduct, a key document ensuring the democratic control of security forces. The Forum also develops norms and provides practical assistance to address the proliferation of illicit small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition; deals with non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; and oversees the regular contact, co-operation, and sharing of military information among the participating States.

## FACTS IN 2015

Chairmanship rotates every four months: Mongolia, Montenegro and Norway chaired the Forum in 2015

### 8 - 10 January, Prague

5th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials decides to alter the scale of distribution and adopts a common approach to the eventual participation of new States in the CSCE

### 27 - 30 January, Prague

6th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials agrees on a draft letter of accession to the CSCE

### 30 - 31 January, Prague

**2nd CSCE Council of Ministers.** Summary of Conclusions\* adopted, including:

- Prague Document on Further Development of CSCE Institutions and Structures
- Declaration on Non-Proliferation and Arms Transfers

### 27 - 28 February, Prague

7th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials adopts a text on the interim report on the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh and decides to send a follow-up mission to Yugoslavia

### 4 March, Vienna

Negotiations on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures result in adoption of the **Vienna Document 1992** that broadens the scope of information exchange and verification and brings in new communication measures and mechanisms

### 10 - 20 March, Helsinki

Preparatory Meeting of the 4th Follow-up Meeting (Decisions)

### 13 - 14 March, Helsinki

8th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials adopts recommendations to create a conference to deal with the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh and decides to hold an additional Meeting of the Council of Ministers

### 19 & 23 - 24 March, Helsinki

9th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials recommends several countries be admitted at the Council

### 24 March, Helsinki

**2nd Additional CSCE Council of Ministers.** Summary of Conclusions\* adopted, including:

- Establishment of a Conference on Nagorno-Karabakh under the auspices of the CSCE (to take place in Minsk)

### 24 March, Helsinki

Beginning of the **Helsinki Follow-up Meeting**

### 29 April - 1 May, Helsinki

10th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials adopts a declaration on Bosnia and Herzegovina and a text on a Monitoring Mission to Nagorno-Karabakh\*

### 6 - 12 May, Prague

**2nd Emergency Meeting** of the Committee of Senior Officials to consult on co-operation and consultation in relation to the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

### 17 - 21 May, Valletta

**Mediterranean Seminar** (Report)

### 18 - 21 May, Helsinki

11th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials adopts a text on the "Situation in the Left-Bank Dniestrian Areas of the Republic of Moldova"

### 8 - 11 June, Helsinki

12th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials adopts a set of decisions related to the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

### 29 June, 3 & 6 - 8 July, Helsinki

13th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials decides to dispatch a Fact-Finding Mission to the Georgian-Ossetian region and agrees to suspend the **former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia** using 'consensus minus one'

### 3 - 5 July, Budapest

1st Annual Session of the **CSCE Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

### 8 July, Helsinki

End of the **Helsinki Follow-up Meeting**

### 9 July, Helsinki

14th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials runs in conjunction with the Summit to discuss current issues

### 9 - 10 July, Helsinki

**3rd CSCE Summit.** 52 CSCE participating States\* adopt a final document: **The Challenges of Change:**

- High Commissioner on National Minorities established and specific mandate laid out
- Forum for Security Co-operation and the Economic Forum established with task to follow up on the Vienna Document
- Provisions made for conflict prevention and crisis management, including fact-finding and rapporteur missions and CSCE peacekeeping
- Office for Free Elections becomes Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, with extended mandate

### 13 - 14 August, Prague

15th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials leads to establishment of a CSCE mission in Kosovo, Sandžak and Vojvodina\*

### 16 - 18 September, Prague

16th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials decides on a **Mission to Skopje** and a Sanctions Assistance Mission to assist with sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as well as modalities for a **CSCE Mission to Moldova**

### 22 September, Vienna

1st Meeting of the Special Committee of the **Forum for Security and Co-operation**

### 30 September - 5 October, Croatia

**Rapporteur Mission on War Crimes** under the Moscow Human Dimension Mechanism deployed

### 12 - 23 October, Geneva

Meeting of Experts on the **Peaceful Settlement of Disputes** (Report)

### 5 - 7 November, Prague

17th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials reaches a decision on the mandate of a **Personal Representative of the CSCE Chairman-in-Office for Georgia** and agrees on the modalities for **CSCE Missions of long duration to Kosovo, Sandžak and Vojvodina** and a **CSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje**

### 9 - 11 November, Vienna

2nd Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting

### 16 - 20 November, Warsaw

1st **Human Dimension Seminar** on Tolerance

### 13 December, Stockholm

18th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials reaches a decision on the mandate of a **Personal Representative of the CSCE Chairman-in-Office for Estonia** and agrees on the modalities for a **CSCE Mission to Georgia**

### 14 - 15 December, Stockholm

**3rd CSCE Council of Ministers.** Summary of Conclusions adopted, including:

- Shaping of a New Europe – the Role of the CSCE
- Decision on the mandate and appointment of a CSCE **Secretary General**
- Appointment of the 1st **High Commissioner on National Minorities**, Max van der Stoep (Netherlands)
- Decision on Peaceful Settlement of Disputes (Annex: Convention on conciliation and arbitration within the CSCE)

### 24 March, Helsinki

Signing of the **Treaty on Open Skies** that sets the framework for a regime of observation flights over the territory of CSCE participating States

### 5 April

Siege of Sarajevo begins

### 1 May

An opposition rally in Dushanbe, Tajikistan marks the beginning of increasingly violent confrontations between government and opposition supporters, spiralling into a civil war which will last until 1997

### 5 July, Helsinki

Extraordinary **Conference** of the States Parties to the **Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe**

### 10 July, Helsinki

Signing of the **Concluding Act of the Negotiation on Personnel Strength of Conventional Armed Forces in Europe** (CFE-1A)

### 20 July

Václav Havel resigns as President of Czechoslovakia



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### 3 November

Bill Clinton elected President of the United States

### 25 November

Federal Assembly of Czechoslovakia votes to split the country into the Czech Republic and Slovakia, with effect from 1 January 1993



# OSCE Partners for Security and Co-operation

## MILESTONES

1975: Adoption of the Helsinki Final Act, including a chapter on “Questions relating to security and co-operation in the Mediterranean”

1992: The participating States declare the CSCE to be a regional arrangement in the sense of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations

1994: Establishment of the Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation

1995: The introduction of the term “Partners for Co-operation” cements the relationship with Japan and the Republic of Korea, and paves the way for other Asian countries to join

1999: Adoption of the Platform for Co-operative Security on the OSCE’s interaction with other international, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions in the OSCE area

2003: Establishment of the Contact Group with the Asian Partners for Co-operation

2003: Adoption of the Maastricht OSCE Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in the 21st Century

2004: Establishment of the OSCE-Council of Europe Coordination Group to discuss co-operation in priority areas

2007: Establishment of the Partnership Fund to support practical co-operation activities with the Mediterranean and Asian Partners for Co-operation

## THE BEGINNING

The relationship between the OSCE and its Partners for Co-operation dates back to the Helsinki Final Act which recognized that “the process of improving security should not be confined to Europe but should extend to other parts of the world”. This is why non-participating states were invited to attend meetings of the CSCE process. In the 1990s, the CSCE/OSCE formalized its Partnership both with Mediterranean and Asian states, which currently include Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia, and Afghanistan, Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea, and Thailand.

Similarly, contacts between the CSCE and other organizations had already been established in the early stages of the Helsinki Process. The adoption of the Platform for Co-operative Security in 1999 significantly broadened the OSCE’s external co-operation and helped establish a large network of interaction with other organizations.

## MANDATE

The interlinkage between European security and the broader context of world security has been underscored in a number of OSCE documents. As a result, the OSCE Secretariat has been tasked with developing the relationship with the Partners for Co-operation and other organizations. With this, it has an advisory and support role for the OSCE Chairmanship, the Secretary General, and the Chairmanships of the Mediterranean and Asian Contact Groups.



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## ACTIVITIES

The OSCE provides a forum for regular dialogue in which the participating States and Partners share their views and experiences in areas across the three dimensions of security. This political dialogue then translates into practical co-operation and joint projects in the politico-military, economic and environmental, and human dimensions.

The OSCE Secretariat also works with other international and regional organizations in crafting co-ordinated responses to common security challenges, and maintaining frameworks for information exchange.

# 1993

**13 - 18 January, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)**  
"CSCE mission to inspect alleged places of detention in the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro"

**18 January, Vienna**  
1st Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials **Vienna Group\***

**3 - 4 February, Prague**  
19th Committee of Senior Officials adopts the terms of reference for the CSCE **Mission to Estonia**, acknowledges the report of the "CSCE mission to inspect alleged places of detention in the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro" (Federal Republic of Yugoslavia), and adopts a text on the establishment of the CSCE **Mission to Moldova**

**5 February, Tallinn**  
Deployment of the CSCE **Mission to Estonia** with offices in Jõhvi and Norva

**16 - 18 March, Prague**  
20th Committee of Senior Officials and 1st **Economic Forum** (Economic Forums will take place annually from this point on)

**25 April, Chisinau**  
Deployment of the **Mission to Moldova**

**26 - 28 April, Prague**  
21st Committee of Senior Officials adopts the attached text on CSCE preventive diplomacy and peacekeeping instruments and agrees that the CSCE Rapporteur Mission under the Moscow Mechanism on the Human Dimension of the CSCE to Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia need not be pursued further

**26 & 28 - 29 April, Prague**  
3rd **Emergency Meeting** of the Committee of Senior Officials on reported aggressions of Armenia against Azerbaijan

**17 - 21 May, Valletta**  
**Mediterranean Seminar** (Chairman's summary)

**15 June, Vienna**  
Appointment of the 1st CSCE/OSCE **Secretary General**, Ambassador Wilhelm Höynck (Germany)



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**29 June - 1 July, Prague**  
22nd Committee of Senior Officials adopts a text on problems related to the laws on local elections and relations between Russia and Estonia with regard to citizenship issues

**6 - 9 July, Helsinki**  
2nd Annual Session of the CSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

**21 - 25 September, Prague**  
23rd Committee of Senior Officials decides to establish a CSCE **Mission to Latvia**

**27 September - 15 October, Warsaw**  
1st Human Dimension Implementation Meeting

**27 September - 1 October, Montreal**  
Seminar on Sustainable Development of Boreal and Temperate Forests (Report)

**7 October, Vienna**  
31st meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials Vienna Group drafts the terms of reference for the CSCE **Mission to Latvia**

**8 November, Vienna**  
Last Meeting of the **Consultative Committee of the Conflict Prevention Centre**

**25 November, Vienna**  
Last Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials **Vienna Group** (re-named to **Permanent Committee**)

**25 November, Rome**  
49th meeting of the Special Committee of the **Forum for Security Co-operation** adopts the 1st series of the **Programme for Immediate Action:**

- Stabilizing Measures for Localized Crisis Situations
- Principles Governing Conventional Arms Transfers
- Programme of Military Contacts and Co-operation
- Defence Planning

**27 November - 1 December, Rome**  
24th Committee of Senior Officials decides to relocate the CSCE Secretariat to Vienna and leave an office in Prague, the Secretary General is to initiate the establishment of a single organizational structure

**30 November - 1 December, Rome**  
4th **CSCE Council of Ministers**. Summary of Conclusions adopted, including:

- Declaration on the CSCE and the New Europe – Our Security is Indivisible
- Appointment of Audrey Glover (United Kingdom) as the 2nd **Director of Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights**
- Decision on CSCE's **Legal Capacity and Privileges and Immunities**
- Decision to establish a CSCE **Mission to Tajikistan**
- Decision to move the CSCE Secretariat to Vienna. It will include departments for conference services, administration and budget, Chairman-in-Office support and encompass the Conflict Prevention Centre

**9 December, Vienna**  
1st meeting of the **Permanent Committee**

**3 January**  
In Moscow, outgoing U.S. President George H. W. Bush and Russian President Boris Yeltsin sign the second Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START II)

**26 January**  
Václav Havel elected President of the Czech Republic

**26 February**  
In New York City, a bomb at the World Trade Center kills six and injures over a thousand

**1 November**  
Maastricht Treaty takes effect, formally establishing the European Union



OSCE

## The Office of the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on the Conflict dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference

### MILESTONES

**1992:** Armenia and Azerbaijan join the CSCE; the CSCE takes up a mediating role for finding a settlement to the conflict

**1994:** Ceasefire agreement signed

**1995:** The Minsk Conference and the Minsk Group is established; appointment of Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office (CiO) on the conflict

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2014

Continued to support the CiO and Co-chairs of the Minsk Group from France, Russian and the United States in facilitating dialogue between the sides

Supported the Co-chairs in organizing meetings between the Presidents, as well as meetings with the foreign ministers

Supported the Co-chairs in their crossings of the Line of Contact and Armenian-Azerbaijani border

Reported on developments of relevance to the settlement process, through meetings, informally and through bimonthly activity reports, which were circulated by the CiO to all participating States

Conducted monitoring exercises, including 17 on the line of contact and 7 on the border; submitted monitoring exercises reports

Met the authorities in Baku and Yerevan and the so-called authorities in Nagorno-Karabakh on a regular basis, and assisted in the organization of visits to the region by the CiO and by the Co-chairs

Maintained contact with other organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and with media as relevant

Visited the front lines twice a month, with the support and assistance of the relevant authorities

Local commanders made direct contact using OSCE radio equipment

Sides continued to acknowledge the role of OSCE monitoring exercises in helping minimize the risk of escalation. When escalation occurred, the Personal Representative was able work effectively with senior officials to help reduce tensions

### THE BEGINNING

The active phase of the military conflict ended on 5 May 1994, when the sides signed a ceasefire. In 1995, the CiO appointed a Personal Representative.

### MANDATE

The Personal Representative of the CiO is mandated to represent the OSCE Chairman-in-Office in issues related to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, assist the CiO in achieving an agreement on the cessation of the armed conflict and in creating conditions for the deployment of an OSCE peace-keeping operation, in order to facilitate a lasting comprehensive political settlement of the conflict in all its aspects; report on all aspects of his activities to the CiO of the OSCE, report through the CiO to the Co-Chairmanship of the OSCE Minsk Conference and, as appropriate, to the Minsk Group, and receive instructions from the CiO; assist the Co-Chairmanship at its request; assist the High-Level Planning Group in planning an OSCE peace-keeping operation in accordance with the Budapest Summit Decisions; assist the parties in implementing and developing confidence-building, humanitarian and other measures facilitating the peace process, in particular by encouraging direct contacts; and co-operate, as appropriate, with representatives of the United Nations and other international organizations operating in the area of conflict.



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### ACTIVITIES

Confidence-building measures to facilitate the peace process form an important part of the Personal Representative's work, as there is no official contact between the sides outside the formal negotiations format. The Personal Representative has helped with the return of prisoners of war and promoted direct contacts between the sides, including a visit of Azerbaijani journalists to Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh. The Personal Representative and team conduct regular monitoring on both sides of the Line of Contact and on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan, on several occasions being instrumental by intervening to reduce tension and stabilize the situation when cease-fires were violated and the situation intensified along the front lines.

### FACTS IN 2015

Personal Representative: Ambassador **Andrzej Kasprzyk** (Poland) since 1996

**Headquarters:** Tbilisi

**Total staff:** 17 (of which 6 international staff)

Total budget for 2015: EUR 1.2m



# 1994

**19 February, Dushanbe**  
Deployment of the **OSCE Mission to Tajikistan**

**2 - 4 March, Prague**  
25th Committee of Senior Officials acknowledges progress made by Latvia and the Russian Federation towards an agreement on the military installation in Skundra and adopts a text on promotion of free media

**15 - 17 March, Prague**  
26th Committee of Senior Officials (and 2nd Economic Forum)

**13 - 15 June, Prague**  
27th Committee of Senior Officials adopts a text on developments in the Republic of Crimea (Ukraine) and reminds all participating States concerned by the implementation of the withdrawal of foreign troops from the territories of the Baltic States to fulfil their commitments

**30 June, Vienna**  
Appointment of a Representative to the **Joint Committee on the Skrunda Radar Station**

**4 - 8 July, Vienna**  
3rd Annual Session of the CSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

**9 - 14 August, Crimea, Ukraine**  
A **preliminary Mission to Ukraine** leaves to support the work of experts reporting on the situation in Crimea

**25 August, Vienna**  
Permanent Committee drafts the Terms of Reference for the CSCE **Mission to Ukraine**

**14 - 16 September, Prague**  
28th Committee of Senior Officials adopts the preliminary organizational framework and other modalities for the CSCE Budapest Summit

**10 October, Budapest**  
Beginning of the **Budapest Review Conference**

**18 - 19 November, Prague**  
29th and last Committee of Senior Officials (this body will be renamed to Senior Council at upcoming Summit)

**28 November, Budapest**  
43rd and **last meeting of the Permanent Committee**

**28 - 30 November & 1 December, Budapest**  
4th and last **Emergency Meeting** of the Committee Senior Officials on the situation in Bihać in Bosnia and Herzegovina

**1 December, Warsaw**  
Re-appointment of Audrey Glover (United Kingdom) as **Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights**

**3 December, Budapest**  
91st Plenary Meeting of the Special Committee of the Forum for Security Co-operation adopts the 2nd series of the **Programme for Immediate Action**:  
• Global exchange of military information  
• Principles governing non-proliferation  
• Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security

**5 - 6 December, Budapest**  
**4th CSCE Summit.**  
51 CSCE participating States\* adopt the document **"Towards a Genuine Partnership in a New Era"** and a Declaration on Baltic Issues, as well as agree to:  
• Develop the capabilities of the CSCE in conflict prevention and crisis management  
• Rename CSCE to OSCE



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**15 December, Vienna**  
1st Meeting of the **Permanent Council**

**14 January**  
U.S. President Bill Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin sign the Kremlin accords

**5 February**  
A mortar shell kills 68 and wounds about 200 in a Sarajevo marketplace

**6 March**  
Referendum in Moldova results in the electorate voting against possible reunification with Romania

**30 April, Riga**  
Agreement on the Legal Status of the **Skrunda Radar Station** signed between Latvia and Russia

**12 May**  
Armenia and Azerbaijan, the parties to the conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, agree to observe an informal ceasefire

**6 - 8 June**  
Ceasefire negotiations for the Yugoslav War begin in Geneva. The participants agree to stop hostilities for one month, but fighting breaks out again after only a few days



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**11 December**  
First Chechen war begins

# OSCE Secretariat

## MILESTONES

**1990:** Established by the Charter of Paris

**1993:** Rome Ministerial Council decision to move Secretariat from Prague to Vienna

**1994:** CSCE becomes the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

## THE BEGINNING

In 1994, the CSCE became the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. The organizational structure of the Secretariat was expanded and its premises were moved from Prague to Vienna.

## MANDATE

The OSCE Secretariat, under the direction of the Secretary General, provides operational support to the Organization and assists the Chairmanship in its activities by offering expertise and providing analysis. The Secretariat provides support to the permanent negotiating and decision-making bodies in Vienna, as well as to field operations and institutions.

## ACTIVITIES

Thanks to its specialized departments, the Secretariat assists participating States in addressing security challenges in all three dimensions throughout the OSCE area.

The Conflict Prevention Centre is the Organization's key instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation and assists the OSCE field operations to carry out their respective mandates.

The Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities strengthens security and stability by promoting international co-operation on economic and environmental issues.

The Transnational Threats department addresses terrorism, organized crime, cyber threats, and the illicit trafficking in narcotics, tackling multidimensional and cross-country threats to security.

The Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings helps participating States develop and implement effective policies to fight human trafficking.



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The Gender Section gives support to all OSCE structures, field operations and participating States to ensure that a gender perspective is integrated into all activities.

Besides providing operational support to field missions, all Secretariat entities promote research and organize events to disseminate information on security issues.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Vienna

Led by: Secretary General,

**Ambassador Lamberto Zannier** (Italy) since 2011

**Staff:** 168 international and 181 local personnel

**Budget:** EUR 34,805,400



# 1995

## 16 March, Vienna

Permanent Council decision to establish an OSCE **Liaison Office in Central Asia** in Tashkent, Uzbekistan

## 30 - 31 March, Prague

1st Senior Council participants stress the importance of viewing OSCE as a co-operative undertaking with all its tools and mechanisms (Chairman's Summary)

## 11 April, Vienna

Permanent Council decision to establish the OSCE **Assistance Group to Chechnya**

## 25 April, Grozny

OSCE **Assistance Group to Chechnya** takes up its operations

## 7 - 9 June, Prague

2nd Senior Council (and 3rd Economic Forum) (Chairman's Summary)

## 4 - 8 July, Ottawa

4th Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

## 17 - 18 July, Moscow

Seminar on the **Security Model**, which eventually resulted in the Istanbul Charter for European Security

## 25 July, Tashkent

Memorandum of Understanding for the OSCE **Liaison Office in Central Asia** in Tashkent signed

## 1 August

20th Anniversary of the **Helsinki Final Act**

## 10 August, Vienna

Appointment of a **Personal Representative** on the **Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference**

## 18 - 19 September, Vienna

Seminar on the **Security Model**, which eventually resulted in the Istanbul Charter for European Security in 1999

## 26 - 28 September, Cairo

**Mediterranean Seminar** on the OSCE Experience in the Field of **Confidence-Building** (Consolidated Summary)

## 6 - 10 October, Croatia

**Fact-Finding Mission of the OSCE to Croatia** (Report)

## 12 October, Vienna

Permanent Council decision\*

## 26 - 27 October, Prague

3rd Senior Council (Chairman's Summary)

## 3 December, Budapest

Forum for Security Co-operation decision on Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security

## 7 and 8 December - Budapest

**5th OSCE Ministerial Council**. Summary of Conclusions adopted, including:

- Decision on OSCE Action for Peace, Democracy and Stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Decision on a Security Model for the 21st Century
- Decision on the OSCE Minsk Process
- Reappointment of Max van der Stoep (Netherlands), as the **High Commissioner on National Minorities**

## 14 December

General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (also known as the **Dayton Peace Accords**) is formally signed in Paris, giving the OSCE the mandate to draw up and implement an agreement on confidence and security-building measures, a sub-regional arms control agreement, and a regional arms control agreement applicable 'in and around the former Yugoslavia'

## 1 January

Austria, Finland and Sweden enter the European Union. The World Trade Organization is established, replacing the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

## 21 March, Paris

Signing of the 'Pact on Stability in Europe' aiming for an area of lasting good-neighbourliness and cooperation in Europe

## 7 May

Jacques Chirac is elected President of France

## 11 July

Srebrenica massacre



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## 4 August

Operation Storm against Serbian forces in Krajina

## 28 August

Mortar bomb kills 37 civilians on a Sarajevo market square. NATO launches Operation Deliberate Force

## 1 - 21 November, Dayton

Negotiations on General Framework [Dayton] Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina

## 16 November

International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) charges Radovan Karadžić and Ratko Mladić with genocide

# OSCE Prague Office

## MILESTONES

**1990:** Established by Paris Charter for a New Europe

**1991:** Opens in Prague

**1994:** Secretariat moves to Vienna

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**1991-1996:** Accessing and cataloging hardcopy archive collections donated by executive secretariats of CSCE events and MFAs of participating States

**1993 to today:** Prague Office joins efforts with Vienna Secretariat to help organize the annual Economic and Environmental Forum, which takes place at the Černín Palace, home of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**1994:** Disseminating CSCE/OSCE publications (this service is ongoing)

**1998:** Opening of the archives to Researchers-in-Residence programme; 258 registered researchers in 2015

**2000:** Digitization and description of 87 000 microfiches and paper documents from the CSCE era and early 1990s

**2003:** Release of a CD containing CSCE/OSCE documents from 1973 to 2002

**2004:** Launch of the “Historical Document Collections” on-line

**2005:** Consolidating archival records from closed down missions and other field operations in a remote depository

**2010 -2013:** Oral History Project and release of the book “CSCE Testimonies: Causes and Testimonies of the Helsinki Final Act (1972-1989)”

## BACKGROUND

The institutionalization of the CSCE, agreed during the 1990 Paris Summit, required a Secretariat to support the Conference with administrative and organizational activities. Following an invitation from former Czech President Václav Havel, Prague was selected as the first location of the new Secretariat.

From 1991 to 1994, the Prague-based Secretariat was at the forefront of the CSCE institutionalization process, monitoring the first deployment of CSCE field operations, managing and sometimes servicing meetings of key decision making bodies such as the Committee of Senior Officials, Councils of Ministers and the Summits (Helsinki 1992 and Budapest 1994).

In 1994, the CSCE changed its status and became the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the Secretariat moved to Vienna. The Prague Office kept two of its initial functions: it remained the CSCE/OSCE historical archives repository and continued to disseminate public information. The Prague Office is part of the Office of the Secretary General.



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## ACTIVITIES

With the aim to preserve, share and strengthen the CSCE/OSCE's institutional memory, the Prague Office compiles, digitizes and describes substantial paper collections. It also posts recent documents from Vienna based negotiating and decision-making bodies on the public website. The Office manages the Researcher-in-Residence Programme which supports representatives of the academic and research community working on CSCE/OSCE-related matters. In 2010, the Office initiated a CSCE/OSCE Oral History Project to produce a series of publications based on interviews with prominent officials and public figures involved in the Helsinki process and all three subsequent CSCE follow-up meetings (1972-1989). In co-operation with the OSCE Secretariat, the Prague Office also provides administrative and logistical support to annual meetings of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum – the key event of the OSCE's work in the economic and environmental dimension of security.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Location:** Prague

Led by: **Jan Plešinger** (Czech Republic) since 2015

**Staff:** 8 local personnel, including Mr. Plešinger

**Budget:** EUR 388,300 (included in the overall budget of the Office of the Secretary General)



# 1996



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**2 - 4 June, Tel Aviv**  
**Mediterranean Seminar** on the OSCE as a Platform for Dialogue and the Fostering of **Norms of Behaviour** (Consolidated Summary)

**15 June, Vienna**  
Appointment of the 2nd OSCE **Secretary General**, Ambassador Giancarlo Aragona (Italy)

**5 - 9 July, Stockholm**  
5th Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

**25 April, Vienna**  
Permanent Council decision\*

**27 May, Moscow**  
**OSCE Assistance Group to Chechnya**, Chechen and Russian leadership sign a ceasefire agreement

**21 - 22 March, Prague**  
2nd and last **Senior Council**

**18 April, Vienna**  
Permanent Council decision to establish an OSCE **Mission to Croatia**

**14 September**  
OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina organizes presidential and parliamentary elections in the country. It will organize all subsequent polls until the general elections of 11 November 2000

**19 September**  
Chairman-in-Office appoints former Spanish Prime Minister Felipe González as his **Personal Representative for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia**

**4 - 22 November, Vienna, Lisbon**  
**Review Meeting** covers:  
• Human Dimension  
• Security Model  
• Economic Dimension

**2 - 3 December, Lisbon**  
**5th OSCE Summit**. 55 OSCE participating States adopt the **Lisbon Document**:  
• Declaration on a Common and Comprehensive Security Model for Europe for the 21st century  
• A Framework for Arms Control  
• Development of the Agenda of the Forum for Security Co-operation

**29 February**  
Siege of Sarajevo is lifted

**15 - 31 May, Vienna**  
1st Conference to review the **Operation of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces** in Europe and the **Concluding Act** of the Negotiation on Personnel

**10 June**  
Peace talks begin in Northern Ireland without Sinn Féin

**27 September**  
In Afghanistan, the Taliban capture Kabul



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**5 November**  
Bill Clinton wins his second term as U.S. President

**1 December, Vienna**  
Document adopted by the States parties to the **Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE)** on the scope and parameters of the process commissioned in CFE-A1



# OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Established by Stockholm Convention

**1995:** Convened for the first time in Geneva

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2015:** Organization of an international colloquium on conciliation in Vienna

## THE BEGINNING

In 1992 in Stockholm, the CSCE Council of Ministers adopted the “Convention on Conciliation and Arbitration”, which established the Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. The Court, which is not a permanent body but a roster of conciliators and arbitrators, binds only States party to the Convention and was convened for the first time on 29 May 1995 in Geneva.

## MANDATE

The Court’s mandate is to settle, by means of conciliation or arbitration, the disputes between States submitted to it. This may include conflicts in respect of territorial integrity, maritime delimitation, or environmental and economic issues. The Court is a non-permanent body and creates conciliation commissions and arbitral tribunals on an ad hoc basis.

## ACTIVITIES

The main mechanism offered by the Convention is conciliation, which aims at proposing terms of settlement to the States parties to a dispute. This mechanism can be activated unilaterally by any State party to the Convention for a dispute between it and one or more other States parties. At the conclusion of the proceedings, the conciliation commission presents a report and recommendations to the parties. The parties then have thirty days to decide whether they accept those or not. If there is no agreement within that period, and if the parties have agreed to submit to arbitration, an ad hoc arbitral tribunal may be set up whose ruling will be legally binding on the parties. Arbitral proceedings may also be initiated by agreement between States parties concerned.



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## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Geneva

**President of the Court:**

**Professor Christian Tomuschat** (Germany)

**Budget:** EUR 59,000

# 1997

## 1 January, Vienna

Re-appointment of a **Personal Representative** on the **Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference**

## 8 - 14 March, Albania

Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office, Dr. Franz Vranitzky, travels to **Albania**

## 27 March, Vienna

Permanent Council decision on the establishment of an **OSCE Presence in Albania**

## 3 April, Tirana

The **OSCE Presence in Albania** starts its work

## 22 April, Georgia

**OSCE Mission to Georgia** opens a **branch office in Tskhinvali**

## 26 April, Warsaw

Appointment of the 3rd **Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights**, Gérard Stoudmann (Switzerland)

## 20 June, Vienna

Permanent Council decision transforms the **Knin** and **Vukovar** Regional Offices into **Co-ordination Centres** and establishes two more in **Sisak** and **Daruvar**, with a Zagreb area office co-located with the **Mission to Croatia** Headquarters

## 3 July, Vienna

Meeting of the Security Model Committee with representatives of the WEU, NATO, the CIS and the Council of Europe

## 5 - 8 July, Warsaw

6th Annual Session of the **OSCE Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

## 3 - 5 September, Cairo

**Mediterranean Seminar** on the Security Model for the 21st Century: Implications for the Mediterranean Basin (Consolidated Summary)

## 18 September

Permanent Council establishes the **OSCE Advisory and Monitoring Group in Belarus**

## 18 - 19 December, Copenhagen

6th **Ministerial Council**.

A set of decisions are adopted *inter alia* on:

- Appointment of the 1st **OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media**, Freimut Duve (Germany)
- Process of regional stabilization in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Dayton Peace Accords)
- Human Dimension and Roma and Sinti issue

## 23 January

Madeleine Albright becomes the first female U.S. Secretary of State

## 4 February

After initially contesting the results, Serbian President Slobodan Milošević recognizes opposition victories in the November 1996 elections

## 2 May

Tony Blair is appointed Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

## 12 May

Russian-Chechen Peace Treaty signed



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## 27 June, Dushanbe

Signing of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan

## 8 July

NATO invites the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland to join the alliance in 1999

## 27 October

Stock markets around the world crash because of fears about a global economic crisis

## 3 December, Ottawa

Representatives from 121 countries sign a treaty prohibiting the manufacture and deployment of anti-personnel landmines





# OSCE Presence in Albania

## MILESTONES

**1991:** Accession of Albania to CSCE

**1997:** OSCE Presence in Albania established

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**1999:** Assisted in the establishment of the Ombudsman institution

**2002:** Established regional cross-border police co-operation mechanism/process between Albania and the neighbouring countries

**2008-2015:** Destroyed large quantities of stockpile conventional ammunition, and 450 tonnes of hazardous chemicals

**2008 & 2013:** Established cross party women parliamentary structure; supported 50% gender quota

**2010:** Launched project on parliamentary outreach

**2012:** Implemented the Vjosa Valley project, considered a model of horizontal co-operation at local level

**2014:** Improved trial efficiency through a pilot project in several courts

## THE BEGINNING

Established in 1997 in response to the breakdown of social order when large financing pyramid schemes collapsed and many Albanians lost their life savings.

## MANDATE

The Presence's mandate is to assist Albania in developing effective democratic institutions and to promote the rule of law and human rights in the country. It does this by supporting a variety of legal and administrative reform initiatives; activities aimed at fighting corruption and trafficking; and programmes to develop the country's media, support civil society, and train police and customs officials.

## ACTIVITIES

The activities of the OSCE Presence in Albania range from arms control and the fight against trafficking to electoral assistance; anti-corruption initiatives; parliamentary support and judicial reform and fair trial development; gender mainstreaming and environmental projects; human rights protection; youth empowerment and media reform; and the capacity-building of law enforcement officials.



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## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Tirana

**Led by:** Ambassador **Florian Raunig** (Austria) since 2013

**Staff:** 20 international and 63 local personnel

**Budget:** EUR 2,918,500

# 1998

Discussions on the Security Model continue within the Permanent Council

## 11 March, Vienna

The Permanent Council temporarily enhances the monitoring capabilities of the **OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje** (to permit adequate observation of the borders with Kosovo and the rest of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia)

## 4 June, Vienna

The Permanent Council **increases the number of border monitors between Albania and the Kosovo** section of its frontier with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

## 7 - 10 July, Copenhagen

7th Annual Session of the **OSCE Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

## 23 July, Vienna

Permanent Council decision establishes the **OSCE Centre in Almaty, Kazakhstan**

## 23 July, Vienna

Permanent Council decision establishes the **OSCE Centre in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan**

## 23 July, Vienna

Permanent Council decision establishes the **OSCE Centre in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan**

## 7 August

Near-simultaneous bomb explosions at the U.S. embassies in Tanzania and Kenya kill 224 people and injure over 4,500

## 30 September, Vienna

Together with the European Union, the OSCE creates and leads a **'Friends of Albania'** Group, bringing together countries and international organizations active in providing Albania with financial support, technical assistance and other forms of aid

## 15 October, Vienna

Permanent Council decision in the framework of the United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 1199, states OSCE readiness to deploy verification activities related to compliance of all parties in Kosovo

## 15 October, Croatia

**OSCE Mission to Croatia** takes over monitoring work of the local police in the Croatian Danube region from the UN. OSCE activities in the field of police monitoring and training start

## 16 October, Belgrade

Agreement on the **OSCE Kosovo Verification Missions** signed by the Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE and the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

## 19-20 October, Valletta

**Mediterranean Seminar** on the Human Dimension of Security, Promoting Democracy and the Rule of Law (Consolidated Summary)

## 25 October, Vienna

Permanent Council establishes the **OSCE Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM)**



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## 2 - 3 December, Oslo

**7th Ministerial Council** yields a **Ministerial Declaration and a Statement on Kosovo**, as well as a set of decisions on:

- Further **operational strengthening** of the OSCE
- **Central Asia**
- Common and Comprehensive **Security Model for Europe for the 21st century**

## 2 January

Russia begins to circulate new roubles to stem inflation and promote confidence

## 23 September

UN Security Council adopts Resolution 1199, calling for the withdrawal of the Serbian security forces from Kosovo and a ceasefire between the warring parties



# OSCE Centre in Ashgabat

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Accession of Turkmenistan to CSCE

**1999:** Centre in Ashgabat established

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2000:** Centre organized its first event on the regional level – a workshop on the Aarhus Convention

**2008:** Centre facilitated organization of high-level OSCE event in Ashgabat - the second preparatory conference for the 16th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum

**2010:** Centre facilitated conduct of first international high-level conference on energy security organized by the Government of Turkmenistan and the OSCE

**2012:** Centre facilitated organization of Central Asia Media Conference, held for the first time in Turkmenistan

## THE BEGINNING

The Centre in Ashgabat was established in 1999 to intensify OSCE activities in Turkmenistan. Centres with similar mandates were established in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan at the same time. These Centres continued the work begun by the Central Asia Liaison Office in Tashkent, which had been making efforts to link the Central Asian countries, including Turkmenistan, more closely to the OSCE since 1995.

## MANDATE

The Centre has a broad, open-ended mandate to “promote the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of Turkmenistan within the OSCE framework with special emphasis on the regional context, in all OSCE dimensions, including the economic, environmental, human and political aspects of security and stability.” The Centre liaises with other OSCE, international and local bodies and with participating States in the region. It helps organize OSCE regional events.



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## ACTIVITIES

The Centre works in all three dimensions of security, including arms control; border management; the fight against terrorism; trafficking in human beings, arms and drugs; economic and environmental topics; human rights, good governance, and rule of law issues; elections; and media freedom.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Ashgabat

Led by: **Ambassador Ivo Petrov** (Bulgaria) since 2012

**Staff:** 6 international and 19 national personnel

**Budget:** EUR 1,570,800

1999

Discussions on the Security Model continue within the Permanent Council

**January, Kazakhstan**  
OSCE Centre in Almaty starts its work

**February, Kosovo**  
Kosovo Verification Mission reaches a strength of approximately 1,500 international staff

**20 March, Vienna**  
Chairman-in-Office, Knut Vollebæk, addresses the Permanent Council and states that the Kosovo Verification Mission should cease its activities and evacuate

**Kosovo Verification Mission** Headquarters temporarily based in Skopje

**May – December, Vienna**

Participation of the Partners for Co-operation in the working groups of the Security Model Committee

**1 June**

Permanent Council establishes the OSCE **Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine** (transformed from former OSCE Mission to Ukraine)

**8 June**

Task Force in Albania to assist UNHCR with the refugee crisis and to conduct human rights investigations; further Task Force in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia performing similar functions. **Kosovo Verification Mission** later dissolved and the **Task Force for Kosovo** created in its place by Permanent Council decision

**10 June, Cologne**

**Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe** created at the initiative of the European Union

**15 June, Vienna**

Appointment of the 3rd OSCE **Secretary General**, Ambassador Ján Kubiš (Slovakia)

**1 July**

Permanent Council establishes the OSCE **Mission in Kosovo**. On the same day, it places the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe under the auspices of the OSCE

**6 - 10 July, St Petersburg**

8th Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

**22 July, Vienna**

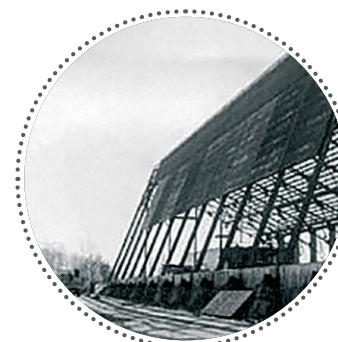
Permanent Council establishes the OSCE **Office in Yerevan**

**16 November**

OSCE adopts the Vienna Document on Confidence and Security Building Measures, expanding the Vienna Documents agreed in 1990, 1992 and 1994

**16 November**

Permanent Council establishes the OSCE **Office in Baku**



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**6 - 7 December, Amman**  
**Mediterranean Seminar**

on the Implementation of Human Dimension Commitments (Consolidated Summary)

**15 December, Vienna**

Permanent Council decision **expands the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Georgia** to include a Border Monitoring Operation (BMO)

**18 - 19 November, Istanbul**

**6th OSCE Summit.**

55 OSCE participating States adopt the **Istanbul Document** including:

- Charter for European Security
- Call for a political settlement in Chechnya
- Platform for Co-operation Security

**22 December**

Mandate of the OSCE **Mission to Georgia** is expanded to include monitoring of the border with the Chechen Republic of the Russian Federation

**1 January**

11 European Union countries adopt the euro as their new currency, with the first banknotes and coins to come into circulation in January 2002

**24 March**

NATO launches air strikes against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

**27 May**

International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia indicts Slobodan Milošević and four others for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Kosovo<sup>i</sup>

**9 June**

Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and NATO sign a peace treaty, ending the Kosovo crisis

**29 - 30 July**

At an international summit meeting in Sarajevo, the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe is founded

**19 August**

In Belgrade, tens of thousands of Serbians rally to demand the resignation of President Milošević

**12 October**

According to the UN, a woman in Sarajevo gives birth to the six billionth person on the planet

**27 October**

Gunmen open fire in the Armenian parliament, killing Prime Minister Vazgan Sarkisian, Parliament Chairman Karen Demirchian and six other members of parliament

**19 November, Istanbul**

- Agreement on Adaptation of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (also known as the Adapted CFE Treaty)
- Signing of the Final Act of the Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe

**31 December**

Boris Yeltsin resigns as President of Russia; Prime Minister Vladimir Putin is appointed Acting President

<sup>i</sup>All references to Kosovo, whether to its territory, institutions or population, in this text should be understood in full compliance with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244



# OSCE Programme Office in Astana

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Accession of Kazakhstan to CSCE

**1998:** Centre in Almaty established

**2007:** Renamed Centre in Astana

**2015:** Becomes OSCE Programme Office in Astana

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2006:** Chu-Talas River Basin Commission set up with OSCE Centre support as a critical contribution to improved co-operation between Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan in jointly managing water infrastructure and resource allocation in a transboundary context

**2009:** Centre re-launched the Central Asian Youth Network (CAYN) bringing together students from all countries in the region, Afghanistan and Mongolia to enhance young people's understanding of contemporary security threats and the OSCE's role in addressing them. Organized annually in Almaty, CAYN is now in its seventh consecutive year running

**2009:** Centre-supported legislation on gender equality, the "Law on State Guarantees of Equal Rights and Equal Opportunities for Men and Women" and the "Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence", passed the Parliament of Kazakhstan

**2013:** Centre facilitated the safe removal and shipment of 410 tons of a toxic rocket fuel component (mélange) from Kazakhstan's territory

**2014:** National Preventative Mechanism (NPM) Co-ordination Council established, following the adoption by parliament of a Centre-facilitated "Law on the NPM" related to the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment the year earlier

**2015:** Marking six years since the Office launched its support for Aarhus Centres, the network has grown to 15 centres all across the country promoting access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters at local levels

## THE BEGINNING

To support Kazakhstan in implementing OSCE and international commitments, the OSCE established the Centre in Almaty in 1998. The Centre was moved to Astana in June 2007.

## MANDATE

According to its mandate, the Office is entrusted with supporting Kazakhstan in implementing OSCE principles and commitments in all three dimensions and in the regional context. The Office maintains contacts with central and local authorities, universities, research institutes, representatives of civil society and non-governmental organizations. It helps arrange



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OSCE regional events, including regional seminars and OSCE delegation visits. The Office provides assistance to the Government of Kazakhstan by building the capacity of national stakeholders and by facilitating the information exchange between OSCE institutions and relevant state agencies on OSCE activities. It also contributes to raising awareness of the OSCE's values, principles and field activities among government and non-governmental institutions.

## ACTIVITIES

The OSCE Programme Office in Astana works on security issues, including arms control; border management; the fight against violent extremism and radicalization leading to terrorism; trafficking in human beings, arms and drugs; economic and environmental topics; human rights and rule of law issues; and media freedom.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Astana

Led by: **Ambassador Natalia Zarudna** (Ukraine) since 2011

**Staff:** 6 international and 22 local personnel

**Budget:** EUR 2,148,700

# 2000

**10 February, Vienna**  
Permanent Council decision establishes a new field office in the city of **Osh**, southern Kyrgyzstan to be assisted by the OSCE **Centre in Bishkek**

**16 March, Vienna**  
Permanent Council adopts a **Regional Strategy for South-Eastern Europe**, reinforcing the Organization's existing support for the Stability Pact.

**6 - 10 July, Bucharest**  
9th Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

**11 August**  
Proposal by the OSCE Mission to Croatia that the **Police Monitoring Group in the Danube region** of Croatia should be **downsized** and phased out. It decides that the Police Monitoring Group will cease operations as a distinct unit within the OSCE Mission to Croatia by 31 October 2000

**28 October**  
Under the supervision of the OSCE, Kosovo holds its first democratic municipal government elections

**30 - 31 October, Portoroz**  
**Mediterranean Seminar** on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures: The OSCE Experience and its Relevance for the Mediterranean Region (Consolidated Summary)

**November, Vienna**  
Permanent Council decision\*

**24 November, Vienna**  
Forum for Security Co-operation adopts OSCE **Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons**

**27 - 28 November, Vienna**  
**8th Ministerial Council** re- appoints the High Commissioner on National Minorities and Representative on Freedom of the Media, and adopts the Vienna Declaration on the **Role of the OSCE in South-Eastern Europe** and a set of decisions on

- OSCE's efforts to **combat trafficking in human beings**
- The scale for **large OSCE Missions**
- **Police-related activities**

**11 - 12 December, Tokyo**  
First OSCE **Japan Conference** (Consolidated Summary)

**14 December, Vienna**  
Taking into account the expanded presence of the OSCE in Central Asia, the Permanent Council formulates a new mandate for the OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia and renames it to: **OSCE Centre in Tashkent**

**6 February**  
Tarja Halonen is elected first female president of Finland

**26 March**  
Vladimir Putin is elected President of Russia

**12 August**  
Russian submarine Kursk sinks in the Barents Sea, resulting in the deaths of all 118 men on board

**6 September**  
In New York, the United Nations Millennium Summit begins with more than 180 world leaders present

**4 October**  
President Slobodan Milošević leaves office after widespread demonstrations throughout Serbia

**7 November**  
Republican challenger George W. Bush defeats Democrat Vice-President Al Gore in the U.S. presidential election, but the final outcome is not known for over a month because of disputed votes in Florida



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# OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Baku

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Accession of Azerbaijan to CSCE

**1999:** Office in Baku established

**2014:** Office in Baku becomes Project Co-ordinator in Baku

**2015:** Discontinuation of the Project Co-ordinator in Baku

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2008:** The Office in Baku supported the establishment of the first Legal Resource Centre in Azerbaijan. In the following years Legal Resource Centres were rolled out nation-wide

**2009:** The establishment of Community Advisory Groups mandated nationwide by presidential decree. The Office started its Community Policing project activities in 2006

**2009:** The Office in Baku launched a comprehensive Trial Monitoring Programme to assess compliance with applicable national legislation and international fair trial standards

**2010:** The Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence was adopted. The Office in Baku contributed to its development

## THE BEGINNING

The Office in Baku was established in 1999 and was transformed into the Project Co-ordinator in Baku in 2014.

## MANDATE

The mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Baku included the following elements: supporting co-operation between the Government of Azerbaijan and the OSCE and its institutions aimed at implementing OSCE principles and commitments; planning and implementing projects between the relevant authorities of Azerbaijan and the OSCE and its institutions covering all three dimensions of the OSCE's comprehensive security concept and taking into account the needs and priorities of the Government of Azerbaijan; maintaining contacts with governmental and non-governmental bodies, local authorities, universities, research institutions and NGOs; performing other tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairperson-in-Office or other OSCE institutions and agreed upon between the Government of Azerbaijan and the OSCE.



## ACTIVITIES

The main activities were in combating terrorism, combatting human trafficking, and promoting gender equality, good governance, and tolerance and non-discrimination.

# 2001

## 11 January, Vienna

Permanent Council decision establishes the **OSCE Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia**. OSCE Missions of Long Duration in Kosovo, Sandžak and Vojvodina formally closed, renaming of Mission to Serbia (Formerly Mission To Serbia and Montenegro)

## 19 - 21 March, Seoul

**OSCE-Korea Conference** on Applicability of OSCE Confidence- and Security- Building- Measures in Northeast Asia (Consolidated Summary)

## 15 June, Grozny

The international staff of the **Assistance Monitoring Group to Chechnya** returns, after two and a half years of evacuation

## 1 July, The Hague

Appointment of the 2nd **High Commissioner on National Minorities**, Rolf Ekéus (Sweden)

## 6 - 10 July, Paris

10th Annual Session of the **OSCE Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)



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## 30 - 31 October, Dubrovnik

**Mediterranean Seminar** on the Implementation of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Dimension Commitments: The OSCE Experience and its Relevance for the Mediterranean Region (Consolidated Summary)

## 15 November, Vienna

Permanent Council decision to establish an Office in Podgorica as a part of the Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

## 3 - 4 December, Bucharest

**9th Ministerial Council yields a Ministerial Declaration and the Bucharest Plan of Action for Combating Terrorism** as well as a set of decisions on:

- Role of the OSCE as a forum for political dialogue
- Concluding document of the negotiations of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina

## 4 December, Vienna

Reappointment of Ján Kubiš as **Secretary General**

## 13 - 14 December, Bishkek

300 representatives of OSCE participating States and the UN meet to discuss **measures to counter terrorism in Central Asia**

## 13 December, Vienna

Permanent Council decision expands the **Border Monitoring Operation to the border between Georgia and the Ingush Republic of the Russian Federation**

## 21 December, Vienna

Permanent Council decides to extend mandate of **Assistance Group** to Chechnya by another year to 31 December 2002

## 31 December

Mandates of the OSCE Missions to Estonia and to Latvia expire

## 20 January

George W. Bush succeeds Bill Clinton as U.S. President after beating Al Gore in the disputed 2000 election

## 1 April

Slobodan Milošević surrenders to police special forces and is transported to The Hague to be tried on charges of war crimes before the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia

## 7 June

Tony Blair's Labour Party is elected for a second term in the UK general election

## 11 September

Around 3,000 people are killed in terrorist attacks in the United States. Extremists hijack several civilian planes and fly them into the World Trade Centre in New York and the Pentagon building in Washington. Another plane crashes in rural Pennsylvania

## 7 October

A coalition of states, led by the United States, attack Afghanistan to drive out the extremist al-Qaida network

## 12 November

Taliban forces abandon the Afghan capital, Kabul, ahead of advancing Northern Alliance troops, who take the city two days later

## 2 December

U.S. firm Enron collapses, at the time the largest bankruptcy in history

## 22 December

Hamid Karzai is sworn in as head of the interim government in Afghanistan



# OSCE Centre in Bishkek

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Accession of Kyrgyzstan to CSCE

**1998:** Centre in Bishkek established

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2000:** OSCE established a Field Office in Osh

**2001:** Over 300 participants from over 60 states and international organizations gathered in Bishkek for an OSCE-supported major international conference on the prevention and countering of terrorism

**2002:** Establishment of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek, a unique post-graduate institution designed to serve young intellectuals from the whole of Central Asia, with Masters programmes in Economic Governance and in Politics and Security

**2004:** OSCE supported opening of first Aarhus Centre in Kyrgyzstan, in Osh

**2009:** Centre and Kyrgyz government started a six-year cooperative effort to provide training for Customs officials of Afghanistan

**2011:** At the direction of the Permanent Council, the Centre in Bishkek established the Community Security Initiative project in 12 small and large communities across the south of Kyrgyzstan. The project assists local police in their efforts to create more secure communities by promoting ethnic inclusion

**2015:** Centre supported the creation of a Regulatory Reform Council, chaired by the Kyrgyz Prime Minister. This 'first of its kind in Central Asia' good governance model is promoting economic security by rationalizing and revamping over 3,000 national laws and regulations

## THE BEGINNING

The OSCE Centre in Bishkek was established in 1998 to encourage the further integration of Kyrgyzstan into the OSCE community.

## MANDATE

The Centre is entrusted with promoting the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments in all three dimensions within the OSCE approach to comprehensive and co-operative security. The Centre maintains contacts with central and local authorities, universities, research and policy institutes, representatives of civil society and non-governmental organizations. It helps arrange OSCE regional events, including regional seminars and OSCE delegation visits. The Centre also assists the government by facilitating information exchange between OSCE institutions and relevant state agencies.



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## ACTIVITIES

The Centre seeks to have a lasting effect within five strategic priority areas: strengthening of relations between communities; fostering good governance and combating corruption; fighting against terrorism; promoting human rights protection and the rule of law; and furthering gender equality. Through the Osh field office and a field officer in Batken, the Centre extends its programmatic work throughout Kyrgyzstan, actively pursuing an array of activities involving the promotion of OSCE commitments with government, international and civil society interlocutors.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Bishkek

Led by: Ambassador **Sergey Kapinos**  
(Russian Federation) since 2012

**Staff:** 26 international and 97 local personnel

**Budget:** EUR 6,909,600

20 - 21 June, Bangkok  
OSCE-Thailand  
Conference on the  
Human Dimension of  
Security (Consolidated  
Summary)

6 - 11 July, Berlin  
11th Annual Session of  
the OSCE Parliamentary  
Assembly (Declaration)

4 - 5 November, Rhodes  
Mediterranean Seminar  
on the Media and New  
Technologies: Implica-  
tions for Governments,  
International Organiza-  
tions and Civil Society  
(Consolidated Summary)

6 - 7 December, Porto  
10th Ministerial Council  
yields a Porto  
Ministerial Declaration  
and a set of decisions  
including:  
• Porto Declaration on  
Trafficking in Human  
Beings  
• OSCE Charter on Pre-  
venting and Combating  
Terrorism  
• Holding Annual  
Security Review Confe-  
rences

19 December  
Permanent Council de-  
cides to further expand  
the Border Monitoring  
Operation to the border  
between Georgia and  
the Dagestan Republic  
of the Russian Federa-  
tion

30 December  
Permanent Council de-  
cides to close the OSCE  
Advisory and Monitoring  
Group and open an OSCE  
Office in Minsk

1 January  
Treaty on Open Skies,  
signed in 1992, officially  
enters into force

1 January  
Introduction of euro  
banknotes and coins in  
Germany, France, Italy,  
Spain, Greece, Austria,  
Belgium, Finland,  
Ireland, Luxembourg,  
Netherlands and Portugal

16 January  
UN Security Council  
unanimously establishes  
an arms embargo and the  
freezing of assets of Osa-  
ma bin Laden, al-Qaida,  
and the Taliban

12 February  
Trial of former Yugos-  
lav President Slobodan  
Milošević begins at the  
ICTY in The Hague



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25 November  
U.S. President George W.  
Bush signs the Homeland  
Security Act, esta-  
blishing the Department  
of Homeland Security in  
the largest U.S. gover-  
nment reorganization  
since the creation of the  
Department of Defense  
in 1947



# OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Accession of Bosnia and Herzegovina to OSCE

**1995:** OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina established

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2002:** Elections operations transferred to Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities

**2003:** Conferred the responsibility of the Ombudsman institution to Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities

**2003:** Adoption of the Law on the Protection of Rights of National Minorities with support provided by the Mission

**2005:** Property Law Implementation Process accomplished with the support of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina and other international organizations

**2006:** Establishment of a unified Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as a result of defence reform in which the Mission was a key partner

**2006:** Adoption of the first Bosnia and Herzegovina Security Policy and subsequent establishment of the official security policy training system of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the Mission's support

**2009:** Adoption of the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination with support provided by the Mission and continued training of the judiciary, civil society and government officials

**2014:** Transfer of ownership of the Sub-Regional Arms Control Agreement (Article IV of the Dayton Peace Agreement) to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia

**2014:** Five temporary premises opened in areas most affected by devastating floods to offer targeted help to local authorities

## THE BEGINNING

The General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, negotiated in Dayton, Ohio, United States and signed in Paris, France in late 1995 to end nearly four years of war, shapes the work of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Dayton established the Mission as one of the bodies responsible for helping to secure lasting peace in BiH and to build a stable and democratic state, with an initial focus on elections.

## MANDATE

The Mission's principal aim is to assist BiH on its path to regional, political, economic and social integration. Our activities seek to foster systems of education, governance, and justice that uphold human rights, the rule of law, and security for all citizens.

## ACTIVITIES

The Mission includes a network of nine field offices and has six policy and programmatic elements: education; human rights; rule of law; gender equality; democratic governance; and security co-operation.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Sarajevo

Led by: Ambassador **Jonathan Moore** (United States) since 2014

**Staff:** 40 international and 278.5 local personnel

**Budget:** EUR 11,450,300



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# 2003

**13 February, Vienna**  
Permanent Council decision renames OSCE Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to OSCE **Mission to Serbia and Montenegro**

**1 February, Warsaw**  
Appointment of the 4th **Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights**, Christian Strohal (Austria)

**10 February, Minsk**  
OSCE **Office in Minsk** starts its work

**March, Kazakhstan**  
OSCE Centre in Almaty opens a **liaison office in Astana**

**21 March, Grozny**  
Administrative closure of the OSCE Assistance Group to Chechnya

**19 - 20 June, Vienna**  
OSCE Conference on anti-Semitism

**5 - 9 July, Rotterdam**  
12th Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

**4 - 5 September, Vienna**  
OSCE Conference on ways to fight racism, xenophobia and discrimination

**22 - 23 September, Seoul**  
OSCE and the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security co-organize Workshop on the **Applicability of OSCE Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in Northeast Asia Revisited** (Consolidated Summary)

**20 - 21 October, Aqaba**  
**Mediterranean Seminar** on the Comprehensive Approach to Security (Consolidated Summary)

**19 November, Vienna**  
Adoption of the Forum for Security Co-operation Decision on OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition

**27 November, Vienna**  
Permanent Council Decision on Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area

**1 - 2 December, Maastricht**  
**11th Ministerial Council** yields a **Ministerial Declaration** and a set of decisions including:  
• OSCE Strategy Document for the **Economic and Environmental Dimension**  
• OSCE Strategy to Address **Threats to Security and Stability**  
• Statement on **South-Eastern Europe** as a Region for Co-operation



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**12 March**  
Serbian Prime Minister Zoran Đinđić is assassinated in Belgrade

**19 March**  
International coalition led by the United States attacks Iraq

**11 August**  
NATO takes over command of the peacekeeping force in Afghanistan, marking its first major operation outside Europe in its 54-year history

**10 September**  
Swedish Foreign Minister Anna Lindh is stabbed in a Stockholm department store and dies the next day

**23 November**  
Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze resigns following the 'Rose Revolution,' marked by weeks of mass protests by the population over fraudulent elections



# OSCE Mission in Kosovo

## MILESTONES

**1999:** Mission established

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**1999:** Established Kosovo Police School and trained thousands of new officers

**2000-2007:** Organized five rounds of democratic elections in Kosovo and developed local election administration capacities

**2010:** Launched “Community Profiles” describing in detail the situation of all communities in Kosovo; assisted the government in establishing municipal offices for communities and returns and other community-protection mechanisms

**2012:** Together with Mission to Serbia, launched the “Follow Us” dialogue process bringing together prominent women from Prishtinë/Priština and Belgrade (formerly called the “Budva Process”)

**2012-2014:** Facilitated a series of election processes Kosovo-wide and in northern Kosovo that provided access to democratic voting rights and defused tensions

## THE BEGINNING

The Mission was established in 1999 and is one of the largest field operations of the OSCE.

## MANDATE

The Mission’s core mandate is to take the lead role in all matters related to institution and democracy-building, as well as human rights, in Kosovo.

## ACTIVITIES

The Mission carries out activities in the following three main areas: human and community rights monitoring and promotion, support to democratic institutions and good governance, and public safety and security. It works with central and municipal institutions in developing a democratic and multi-ethnic society where the rights of all communities are protected. In implementing its mandate, the Mission engages in a number of activities including promoting gender equality and civic participation; training of judicial personnel, the Kosovo Police and public administrators and providing electoral support.



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## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Prishtinë/Priština

Led by: Ambassador **Jean-Claude Schlumberger** (France) since 2012

**Staff:** 151 international and 416 local personnel. Field presences include five regional centres and offices—Gjilan/Gnjilane, Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, Pejë/Pec, Prishtinë/Priština, and Prizren – as well as more than 30 field teams covering all municipalities throughout Kosovo.

**Budget:** EUR 18,886,600

10 March

Appointment of the 2nd **Representative on Freedom of Media**, Miklós Haraszti (Hungary)

15 - 16 March, Tokyo

**OSCE-Japan Conference** on the Search for Effective Conflict Prevention in the New Security Circumstances - European Security Mechanisms and Security in Asia (Consolidated Summary)

28 - 29 April, Berlin

OSCE holds a 2nd **Conference on anti-Semitism**

13 May, Vienna

OSCE Chairman-in-Office appoints a **Special Representative on Trafficking in Human Beings**

26 February

President of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Boris Trajkovski, is killed in a plane crash near Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina

11 March

Simultaneous explosions of bombs planted by extremists kill 190 people on rush hour trains in Madrid

14 March

Vladimir Putin wins a second term as Russian president

17 March

Violence breaks out over two days in Kosovo. Nineteen people are killed, 139 Serbian homes are burned, schools and businesses are vandalized, and over 30 orthodox monasteries and churches are burned and destroyed

1 May

European Union expands from 15 to 25 member states, taking in Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia as new members

1 July, Vienna

Extension of the appointment of Rolf Ekéus, as **High Commissioner on National Minorities**

5 - 9 July, Edinburgh

13th Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

7 September

**OSCE and Afghanistan** sign a Memorandum of Understanding on the deployment of an **OSCE Election Support Team** to assist the electoral authorities with the holding of the presidential election on 9 October

13 - 14 September, Brussels

2nd OSCE Conference on **Tolerance and the Fight against Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination**

Mid-September, Afghanistan

A Team of 50 OSCE election experts is deployed to Afghanistan

1 September

Chechen rebels take more than 1,000 people hostage, mostly children, in a school in Beslan, Northern Ossetia. They demand the release of Chechen rebels imprisoned in neighbouring Ingushetia and the independence of Chechnya from Russia

3 September

Russian forces end the siege in Beslan. At least 335 people (including at least 32 of some 40 hostage-takers) are killed and at least 700 people are injured

18 - 19 November, Sharm El-Sheikh

**Mediterranean Seminar** on Addressing Threats to Security in the 21st Century (Consolidated Summary)

25 November, Ukraine

**Secretary General travels to Ukraine** to hold consultations to help find a solution to the political crisis that followed the presidential election in the country.

2 December, Vienna

Permanent Council decision on OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality

6 - 7 December, Sofia

**12th Ministerial Council** yields statements on: 60th anniversary of the end of World War II, Preventing and Combating Terrorism, the **Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict**, Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretariat of the OSCE and the Secretariat of the UN and decisions on:  
• OSCE **border security and management** concept  
• Use of the **Internet for terrorist purposes**

23 December

Chairman-in-Office appoints **three Personal Representative to promote tolerance and non-discrimination**

26 December

Viktor Yushchenko wins the re-run of the second round of the Ukrainian presidential election

21 November

Following international criticism of the conduct of the second round of the presidential election in Ukraine, protest rallies begin in Kyiv. Twelve days later, the Supreme Court annuls the result and a new poll is scheduled



# OSCE Mission to Moldova

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Accession of Moldova to CSCE

**1993:** Mission to Moldova established

**1999:** Mandate expanded

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2001-2004:** During this period, the Mission assisted and monitored the destruction and removal from Moldova, by the Russian Federation, of 456 pieces of military equipment, including tanks and heavy guns, as well as 242 other pieces of equipment. The Mission also assisted and monitored the removal of 22,000 tons of ammunition from the Cobasna depot in the Transdnistrian region

**2006:** The Mission initiated regular Technical Co-ordination Meetings between civil society, Moldovan government agencies and international organizations to better co-ordinate their activities on gender equality, domestic violence and human trafficking. This led to the creation of a Permanent Secretariat within the state anti-trafficking agency of Moldova to co-ordinate the work of all state agencies on the issue, and has also improved reporting standards

**2007-present:** The Mission has provided free legal aid to residents of the left bank of the Dniester/Nistru River, and since 2011 has improved the capacity of local lawyers and civil society representatives to provide legal consultations on a variety of human rights issues, with over 500 individuals consulted annually

**2011:** After the Transdnistrian settlement talks were broken off in 2006, the Mission led efforts to ensure that 5+2 meetings continued on an informal basis, resulting in official negotiations being resumed in September 2011. The Mission continues to facilitate and mediate talks between the sides, including through 5+2 negotiations and meetings of the Chief Negotiators and working groups

**2013:** Following an agreement between the authorities in Chişinău and Tiraspol, the Mission facilitated and monitored the removal of more than 150 sources of ionizing radiation from the left bank of the Dniester/Nistru River

## THE BEGINNING

In early 1992, the conflict between the Transdnistrian region of Moldova and the central government escalated. A ceasefire was agreed in July 1992 and the parties committed themselves to negotiating a settlement to the conflict. In 1993, the CSCE established the Mission to Moldova to support efforts to find a peaceful solution to this conflict.

## MANDATE

The Mission's main objective is to help to achieve a lasting, comprehensive political settlement of the Transdnistrian conflict while respecting Moldova's territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty; and to reach an understanding on Transdnistria's special status. The Mission also provides advice and expertise on human and minority rights and democratization. In 1999, the original mandate was expanded to ensure the transparent removal and destruction of Russian ammunition and armaments, and to co-ordinate financial and technical assistance to this end.



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## ACTIVITIES

The Mission's top priority is the settlement of the Transdnistrian conflict and to this end the Mission facilitates meetings between the two sides and is a mediator in the multilateral settlement process. The Mission's technical assistance activities include: monitoring the security situation, arms control, confidence building, strengthening respect for human rights and the rule of law and developing a free environment for the media.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Chişinău

**Field offices:** Tiraspol, Bender

Led by: Ambassador **Michael Scanlan**  
(United States) since 2014

**Staff:** 13 international and 39 local personnel

**Budget:** EUR 2,200,000

**17 February, Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia**  
**OSCE Panel of Eminent Persons**, appointed to review the organization's effectiveness and make recommendations on its future, holds its first meeting

**25 - 26 April, Seoul**  
**OSCE-Korea Conference** on New Security Threats and a New Security Paradigm (Consolidated Summary)

**15 June, Vienna**  
Appointment of the 4th OSCE **Secretary General**, Ambassador Marc Perrin de Brichambaut (France)

**27 June, Vienna**  
**Panel of Eminent Persons** presents its **final report** to the OSCE Chairmanship



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**1 - 5 July, Washington, D.C.**  
14th Annual Session of OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

**1 August**  
**30th Anniversary** of the **Helsinki Final Act**

**8 - 9 September, Rabat**  
**Seminar** on the Role of the OSCE and the **Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation** on Migration and Integration Policies (Consolidated Summary)

**5 - 6 December, Ljubljana**  
**13th Ministerial Council** yields statements on **Georgia** and on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE **Minsk Group** and decisions on:

- Migration
- Transnational organized crime
- Co-operation in criminal matters to counter terrorism
- Human rights and the rule of law in criminal justice systems

**20 January**  
George W. Bush is inaugurated in Washington, D.C. for his second term as President of the United States

**23 January**  
Viktor Yushchenko is sworn in as the third President of Ukraine

**24 March**  
'Tulip Revolution' in Kyrgyzstan reaches its climax with the overthrow of President Askar Akayev. The crowd calling for his removal storms Government House and riots occur throughout the capital

**2 April**  
Pope John Paul II dies. Millions flock to Rome to pay their last respects to the Pontiff

**7 July**  
Four explosions in the London underground and on a bus kill more than 50 people and injure over 200. The attacks are claimed by Islamic extremists

**18 September**  
Some 68 million Afghans cast their votes in the first legislative elections for over three decades

**22 November**  
Christian-Democrat Angela Merkel becomes Germany's first woman chancellor



# OSCE Mission to Montenegro

## MILESTONES

**2001:** OSCE Office in Podgorica established as part of the OSCE Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

**2003:** Re-named to OSCE Mission to Serbia and Montenegro

**2006:** Accession of Montenegro to OSCE; Mission to Montenegro established

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2004-2011:** Initiated, organized and implemented country-wide “Community Policing Project” (establishing community police in each municipality) as part of the Mission’s assistance in police reform

**2006:** Provision of extensive support to the authorities in the adoption of the Montenegrin Constitution

**From 2007:** Facilitates joint Government-UNDP-OSCE Montenegro Demilitarisation Programme (MONDEM)

## THE BEGINNING

The Mission to Montenegro came into being shortly after the Republic of Montenegro became independent and was admitted to the OSCE as its 56th participating State.

## MANDATE

The Mission is mandated to assist Montenegro with implementing OSCE principles and commitments and promoting the country’s co-operation on politico-military, economic and environmental issues, and on human aspects of security and stability.

## ACTIVITIES

The Mission assists the country with reform processes to further democratic transition and in support of its strategic goals of European and Euro-Atlantic integration. This includes such activities as legislative reform; institution-building; the fight against corruption and organized crime; reform of the judiciary; police and prison system reform; strengthening human and minority rights; building media professionalism; establishing independent public broadcasting; and promoting economic development and environmental protection.



© Department for Public Relations and Protocol of Montenegrin Parliament

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Podgorica

Led by: Ambassador **Janina Hřebíčková** (Czech Republic) since 2013

**Staff:** 10 international and 31 local personnel

**Budget:** EUR 2,146,200



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**16 - 17 June, Bangkok**  
OSCE-**Thailand Conference** on Sharing of Experiences in Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and Opportunities for Co-operation (Consolidated Summary)

**22 June, Vienna**  
Adoption of a Ministerial Decision on a new accession\* by silence procedure

**29 June, Vienna**  
Permanent Council decisions:  
• Establish the OSCE **Mission to Montenegro**  
• Provide a new mandate to the OSCE **Mission to Serbia**

**31 June, Tashkent**  
Mandate of the OSCE **Centre in Tashkent** expires

**1 July, Uzbekistan**  
OSCE Centre in Tashkent is officially renamed to OSCE **Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan**

**3 - 7 July, Brussels**  
15th Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

**6 - 7 November, Sharm El-Sheikh**  
**Mediterranean Seminar** on the OSCE Mediterranean Partnership: From Recommendation to Implementation

**4 - 5 December, Brussels**  
**14th Ministerial Council** yields statements on Nagorno-Karabakh, on the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and on Criminal Justice Systems, as well as on Supporting and Promoting the International Legal Framework against Terrorism. It adopts the **Rules of Procedure** and decisions on:  
• Future of **transport and security energy dialogues**  
• **Legal status and privileges and immunities**

**11 March**  
Former Yugoslav president Slobodan Milošević dies in prison

**16 March**  
The United Nations Human Rights Council is established by UN General Assembly

**21 May**  
Montenegro referendum on separation from Serbia

**19 September**  
Thai army announces the removal of Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra from power

**9 October**  
North Korea claims to have conducted its first-ever nuclear test



# OSCE Mission to Serbia

## MILESTONES

**2001:** Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia established

**2003:** Name changed to Mission to Serbia and Montenegro

**2006:** Name changed to Mission to Serbia

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2001-2006:** Transformation of RTV and RTS into national broadcasting services

**2003-2007:** Mission support for the establishment of independent democratic institutions

**2007:** Establishment of the Basic Police Training Centre in Sremska Kamenica

**2010:** First elections for the National Minority Councils

## THE BEGINNING

In response to the invitation by the Government of the then Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the OSCE Permanent Council established a Mission in the country on 11 January 2001. With the dissolution of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro in 2006, the Mission was renamed the Mission to Serbia, but it continues to operate on the basis of the 2001 mandate.

## MANDATE

The Mission is mandated to assist the authorities and civil society with developments in the areas of the rule of law and human rights, law enforcement, democratization, and media development, including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities.

## ACTIVITIES

To promote democratization, tolerance, the rule of law, and adherence to OSCE standards and commitments, the Mission assists and advises on the implementation of legislation in these areas; monitors the functioning of democratic institutions and processes; provides assistances in the restructuring and training of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary; assists on media issues; and advises and provides support to efforts aimed at securing durable solutions for displaced persons in Serbia and in the region.



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## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Belgrade

Field office in Bujanovac and Training Facility Centre in Novi Pazar

Led by: Ambassador **Peter Burkhard** (Switzerland) since 2012

**Staff:** 25 international and 103 local personnel

**Budget:** EUR 6,429,000

# 2007



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**7 March**

Extension of the appointment of Miklós Haraszti as **Representative on Freedom of Media**

**6 May**

Nicolas Sarkozy wins French presidential election

**12 - 13 June, Ulaanbaatar**

OSCE-Mongolia Conference on Strengthening the Co-operative Security between the OSCE and the Asian Partners for Co-operation

**19 June, Vienna**

Permanent Council decision ends the mandate of the Centre in Dushanbe and establishes the OSCE **Office in Tajikistan** with a new mandate and 5 field offices in Khujand, Kurgan-Tyube, Garm, Kulyab and Shaartuz

**July, Kazakhstan**

OSCE **Centre in Almaty** is moved to Astana (a liaison office in Almaty is maintained)

**4 July, The Hague**

Appointment of the 3rd **High Commissioner on National Minorities**, Knut Vollebæk (Norway)

**5 - 9 July, Kyiv**

16th Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

**12 June, Vienna**

Conventional Armed Forces in Europe: Extraordinary Conference

**29 - 30 November, Madrid**

**15th Ministerial Council** yields the **Madrid Declaration on Environment and Security** and adopts a set of decisions on:

- OSCE engagement with Afghanistan
- Water management
- Public-private partnerships in countering terrorism

**18 - 19 December, Tel Aviv**

**Mediterranean Seminar** on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination and Promoting Mutual Respect and Understanding

**31 December, Croatia**

The mandate of the Mission to Croatia expires – it is replaced by a downsized OSCE **Office in Zagreb**

**23 January**

Ban Ki-moon of South Korea becomes the new United Nations Secretary-General



# OSCE Mission to Skopje

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje established

**1995:** Accession of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to OSCE

**2001:** OSCE guarantor of Ohrid Framework Agreement (OFA), enhancement of Mission monitoring mandate

**2010:** Change of the Mission's name to Mission to Skopje

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2004-2013:** The Mission supported the professional development of the Ombudsman Institution and its growth into a stable and independent national mechanism for protection of the rights of all citizens in the country. Through institution building and review of the legal framework, from 2007 the Mission worked on improved national equality infrastructure in the areas of non-discrimination, minority rights, and hate speech and hate crimes

**2004-present:** The Mission assisted in the preparation of the local self-governance units to assume their new decentralized competencies and adhere to the relevant legal provisions, and publication of the Decentralization Assessment Report 2006-2011. As of 2015, all but one local self-government units are in the second phase of the fiscal decentralization process. In 2013, the Mission facilitated the introduction of the common assessment framework in 13 national institutions

**2009-present:** Over 200 applications by approximately 400 schools for support of joint inter-ethnic activities have been processed within a grant-award system funded under a Mission's Extra Budgetary project. The Mission trained nearly 590 future teachers on better teaching in a multi-ethnic environment

**2014:** The Mission completed a series of intensive training for 220 legal practitioners and 516 police officers on the new criminal procedure law. It allowed for expert trial monitoring of 75 cases, and public monitoring of 102 trial sessions

**2012-2014:** The Mission supported the implementation of the Law on Internal Affairs by strengthening the relevant Ministry's human resources and professional development systems, and contributed to increased positive response from the citizens in the Mission's 2014 "Police-citizens Public Perception Survey." It also supported the establishment of Common Contact Centres between the host country and Serbian, Albanian and Kosovo police structures to increase police cross-border co-operation and reinforce the regional response to trans-national threats and organised crime

## THE BEGINNING

The Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje, renamed into the OSCE Mission to Skopje in 2010, is the longest-serving field mission of the OSCE. It was established in 1992 to help prevent the spread of tension and conflicts in the former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.



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## MANDATE

A key priority for the Mission is monitoring and supporting the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement that put an end to the 2001 armed conflict in the country. The Agreement's aim is to guarantee the participation of all ethnic communities in political, social and cultural life. It focuses on decentralization, non-discrimination, language and education rights, as well as equitable representation of all citizens. The Mission also closely monitors field developments in order to promote long-lasting stability and to advance inter-ethnic relations. Further, the Mission's mandate covers police and legislative reforms, rule of law and different areas of good governance.

## ACTIVITIES

The Mission conducts regular monitoring visits to local communities and maintains continuous dialogue with political representatives, civil society members, religious leaders and law enforcement officials. It works with the authorities to implement the government's Strategy towards Integrated Education and builds the capacity of state officials on international democratic standards and principles. It also helps with electoral reforms, promotes minority rights and equality policies, trains police officers, and assists with the judicial reform process.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Skopje

**Led by:** Ambassador **Nina Suomalainen** (Finland) since 2015

**Staff:** 42 international and 106 local personnel

**Budget:** EUR 6,257,200



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**29 June - 3 July, Astana**  
17th Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

**1 July, Vienna**  
Reappointment of Marc Perrin de Brichambaut as **Secretary General**

**1 July, Warsaw**  
Appointment of the 5th Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, Janez Lenarčič (Slovenia)

**18 August, Vienna**  
Permanent Council decision to increase the number of military monitoring officers in the OSCE **Mission to Georgia** by up to 100

**27 - 28 October, Amman**  
**Mediterranean Conference** on the OSCE Approach to Regional Security - A Model for the Mediterranean

**9 - 10 November, Kabul**  
**OSCE-Afghanistan Conference** on Strengthening Co-operation Between the OSCE and its Asian Partners for Co-operation to Address Challenges to Security

**4 - 5 December, Helsinki**  
**16th Ministerial Council** yields a **Ministerial Declaration** on the Minsk Group and a set of decisions on:  
• Strengthening the legal framework of the OSCE  
• Maritime and Inland Waterways Co-operation

**31 December**  
Mandate of the **Mission to Georgia** expires

**17 February**  
Kosovo declares independence

**7 May**  
Dmitri Medvedev sworn in as Russian President

**August**  
Escalation of tensions in Georgia lead to war

**4 November**  
Barack Obama elected as U.S. President





# OSCE Observer Mission at the Russian Checkpoints Gukovo and Donetsk

## MILESTONES

**July 2014:** Decision to deploy the Observer Mission

**October 2014:** Extension of Observer Mission mandate

**November 2014:** Extension of Observer Mission mandate with six additional observers

**December 2014:** Extension of Observer Mission mandate

**March 2015:** Extension of Observer Mission mandate

June 2015: Extension of Observer Mission mandate

September 2015: Extension of Observer Mission mandate

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Mission issued spot reports on regular basis

Mission issued weekly reports

Number of people observed crossing at the two Border Crossing Points (BCPs) since July 2014: 2,700,000+

Number of man-hours spent at the two BCPs since July 2014: 35,000+

Number of kilometres driven: 200,000+

## THE BEGINNING

Developments in Ukraine since November 2013 have resulted in a situation where peace and stability in the country are threatened by armed conflict in its Eastern regions. The OSCE Observer Mission at the Russian Checkpoints Gukovo and Donetsk was deployed in July 2014. This Mission is part of a wide range of OSCE efforts to find a solution to the conflict.

## THE MANDATE

Operating under the principles of impartiality and transparency, the observers report on the situation at the checkpoints of Donetsk and Gukovo, as well as on the movements across the border.

## ACTIVITIES

Since the creation of the Mission, the observers have been working 24/7 to ensure proper monitoring of the activities and movements at the two aforementioned BCPs. They issue weekly reports to inform the OSCE participating States and the public on their observations, as well as spot reports when needed, thus providing prompt, reliable and precise information based on facts observed on the ground.



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## FACTS IN 2015

**Location:** Russian-Ukrainian Border Crossing Points of Donetsk and Gukovo

**Headquarters:** Kamensk-Shakhtinsky, Rostov oblast  
Chief Observer: **Simon Eugster** (Switzerland) since 2015

**Staff:** 19 international civilian observers, rotating round the clock in two teams of two observers

# 2009

**12 February, Vienna**  
Permanent Council  
adopts a new **mandate**  
for monitors in Georgia

**27 May, Dushanbe**  
Inauguration of the OSCE  
**Border Management**  
**Staff College** in  
Dushanbe, Tajikistan

**June, Georgia**  
Military Monitoring  
Officers continue to ope-  
rate in the areas adjacent  
to **South Ossetia** until  
30 June 2009

**10 - 11 June, Tokyo**  
**OSCE-Japan Conference**  
on Sharing Knowledge  
and Experiences Between  
the OSCE Participating  
States and Asian Part-  
ners for Co-operation —  
Co-operation to Address  
Common Challenges

**27 - 28 June, Corfu**  
**Informal Ministerial**  
**Meeting** aims to take  
forward dialogue on  
wider European security

**29 June - 3 July, Vilnius**  
18th Annual Session of  
the OSCE **Parliamentary**  
**Assembly** (Declaration)

**20 August**  
Incumbent Hamid Karzai  
wins Afghanistan presi-  
dential election

**1 - 2 December, Athens**  
**17th Ministerial Council**  
yields the **Ministeri-  
al Declaration on the**  
**Corfu Process** and on  
**Non-Proliferation** and  
adopts a series of deci-  
sions on:  
• Efforts to address  
transnational threats  
• Migration management  
• Women’s participation  
in political and public  
life  
• Combating hate crimes

**19 November**  
Belgian Prime Minister  
Herman Van Rompuy  
appointed as the first  
president of the Euro-  
pean Union

**1 December**  
Entry into force of the  
Treaty of Lisbon

**14 - 15 December, Cairo**  
**Mediterranean Confe-  
rence** on Mediterranean  
Partners and the OSCE:  
Co-operation Toward  
Enhanced Security and  
Stability



# OSCE Office in Tajikistan

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Accession of Tajikistan to CSCE

**1993:** Mission to Tajikistan established

**2002:** Renamed Centre in Dushanbe

**2008:** Renamed Office in Tajikistan

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**1996-2002:** Through its field offices in Khatlon, the Mission supported the documentation and reintegration of almost 300,000 refugees returning from the civil war

**2003:** The Centre began assisting in the identification, mapping, clearance and release of mine-affected areas in Tajikistan. To date, 43 million m<sup>2</sup> of land has been released and through OSCE-supported operations, 4.4 million m<sup>2</sup> of land demined, unearthing 21,525 mines and other pieces of unexploded ordnance. Since 2009 all OSCE-supported demining operations have been implemented using only national capacities

**2005:** The Centre and Tajikistan's Ministry of Defence began the destruction and stockpiling of weapons. Over the next four years 34,000 surplus firearms were destroyed and 70 storage facilities throughout the country were built or upgraded to safely and securely house small arms and light weapons stockpiles

**2008:** Supporting the implementation of Ministerial Council Decision 4/2007 on "OSCE Engagement with

Afghanistan", the Office launched initiatives in all three Dimensions to enhance co-operation between Tajikistan and Afghanistan. These included support to cross-border markets, river management co-operation and joint training for border management officials. To date, 850 Afghan Border Police have undergone training by the Office

**2011:** With Office support, the new Law on Environmental Protection was drafted and adopted, aligning Tajikistan's environmental legal provisions with the Aarhus, Bonn, Ramsar and Stockholm Conventions as well as opening the way to increased international co-operation on environmental issues

**2012:** In co-operation facilitated by the Office, Government and civil society groups worked together to draft amendments to the Criminal Code criminalizing torture which were subsequently adopted

**2013:** The Law on the Prevention of Violence in the Family developed with Office support was adopted. Since then, 117 protection orders have been issued to safeguard some of the most vulnerable people in society

## THE BEGINNING

The Centre in Dushanbe was established as the Mission to Tajikistan in response to the civil war that raged in Tajikistan from May 1992. Together with the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT), the Mission assisted in the process of national reconciliation and acted as a guarantor of the Tajik Peace Agreement of June 1997.

## MANDATE

The OSCE Office in Tajikistan promotes the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments. With a special emphasis on the regional context, it assists Tajikistan in tackling problems and threats to security, supports conflict prevention and crisis management measures. As such, it works in areas such as border management, police reform, counter-terrorism and small arms and light weapons stockpiling and storage. The Office also supports the country in developing free trade, good governance, environmental protection and water and energy security. The Office supports the development of the rule of law and democratic political institutions and processes, including the respect for human rights.



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## ACTIVITIES

As one of the largest OSCE field operations, the Office is involved in a wide range of activities, ranging from arms control, counter-terrorism and border management projects to supporting cross-border markets and free economic zones, human rights, media development, and legal reform initiatives. Cross-border co-operation forms an important part of the Office's work, particularly with Afghanistan.

An important vehicle for the Office's cross-border co-operation since 2009 has been the Border Management Staff College. Located in Dushanbe, the College is the first and only international centre for professional enhancement of mid- to senior-level border security and management officials from across the OSCE area. Since its inception, the College has organized 106 educational events for 2228 officials from 39 OSCE participating States and eight Partners for Co-operation. 274 women attended the courses, contributing to an increasing inclusion of women in border security and management.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Dushanbe

Led by: Ambassador **Markus Müller** (Switzerland) since 2013

**Staff:** 28 international and 132 local personnel

**Budget:** EUR 7,338,200

**11 March**

Appointment of the 3rd **Representative on Freedom of the Media**, Dunja Mijatović (Bosnia and Herzegovina)



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**18 - 19 May, Seoul**

OSCE-Republic of Korea **Conference** on the OSCE and Asian Partners for Co-operation's Vision of a Comprehensive Approach to Security Issues

**6 - 10 July, Oslo**

19th Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

**20 August, Vienna**

Extension of the appointment of Knut Vollebæk, as **High Commissioner on National Minorities**

**30 September - 8 October, Warsaw**

1st part of the Review Conference devoted to the 3rd dimension (humanitarian issues)

**14 - 15 October, Malta**

**Mediterranean Conference** on The Dialogue on the Future of European Security – A Mediterranean Perspective

**18 - 26 October, Vienna**

2nd part of the Review Conference devoted to the 1st and 2nd dimensions (politico-military and economic and environmental issues), and to OSCE's legal framework, lessons learned from field activities, etc.



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**26 - 28 November, Astana**

3rd part of the Review Conference ahead of the OSCE Summit in Astana

**November, Kyrgyzstan**

Establishment of the Community Security Initiative

**1 - 2 December, Astana**

56 participating States\* adopt the "**Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community**", reaffirming their commitments to OSCE principles together with 12 Partners for Co-operation and other international and regional organizations

**16 December, Vienna**

Permanent Council decision renames Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje to OSCE **Mission to Skopje**

**31 December**

Mandate of the OSCE **Office in Minsk** expires

**29 March**

Two suicide bombers hit the Moscow Metro system at the peak of the morning rush hour, killing 40 people

**10 April**

Polish President Lech Kaczyński and key government leaders killed in plane crash in Russia

**Spring, Kyrgyzstan**

Unrest in the southern provinces of Osh and Jalal-Abad and government dissolved

**7 December**

Arrest of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange

**17 December**

Street vendor Tarek al-Tayeb Mohamed Bouazizi sets himself on fire, sparking anti-government protests in Tunis that trigger the "Arab spring"

**19 December**

Re-election of Alexander Lukashenko as President of Belarus



# OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Accession of Ukraine to CSCE

**1994:** Establishment of the Mission to Ukraine

**1999:** Establishment of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2004-2015:** Over 500 opinions on compliance of draft laws with international standards provided to Parliament's committees; 3,000 judges trained on application of European legal instruments in court trials; 1,000 civil servants trained to better deliver administrative services and legal aid; 2011 human rights awareness campaign reached out to more than 250,000 people

**2004-2014:** Thousands of retiring military servicemen assisted in adapting to new social life; 8,700 servicemen were trained and 70% of them found a job after retiring from the Armed Forces

**2006-2015:** More than 600 visits of civil society monitoring groups to detention facilities supported throughout Ukraine as part of developing national torture prevention mechanism

**2008-2011:** "E-Village" pilot project delivers internet connections to 334 local level councils of Dnipropetrovsk region

**2009-2014:** Electronic State Voter Register created and launched to ensure smooth administration of electoral process by the country's Central Election Commission, ahead of 2010 Presidential Elections, over 90,000 election commissioners participated in classroom trainings; launch of an online training system for commissioners "VyborKom" ([www.vyborkom.org/](http://www.vyborkom.org/))

**2011-2015:** More than 14,500 state officials and civil society activists trained to assist victims of trafficking in human beings; campaigns to inform of risks of trafficking as part of preventive efforts reached out to more than 5,900,000 people; 41,600 Ukrainians benefited from direct assistance in this sphere; More than 75,000 Ukrainians were targeted by information campaigns to promote gender equality, urge zero-tolerance to violence at home; in 2015 over 4,000 officers of newly established police in Kyiv, Odesa, Kharkiv and Lviv were trained to handle cases of domestic violence and trafficking in human beings

**2009 – 2013:** To enhance environmental education, more than 4,500 educators were trained on sustainable development issues; more than 10,000 schools (about 50%) received Green Pack multi-media training materials to use as teaching aids in the learning process

**2014:** Launch of awareness raising campaign to minimize risks of civilian casualties from unexploded munitions; two public service announcements made available for broadcasters to alert people; 48,000 school supplies featuring mine risk education messages distributed to several hostilities-affected areas of Donetsk and Lugansk regions and to IDPs communities

## THE BEGINNING

The Project Co-ordinator was preceded by the Mission to Ukraine, established in 1994, to work on conflict prevention in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. In 1999, the OSCE and the Government of Ukraine agreed to establish a new form of co-operation.



© OSCE Project Co-ordinator  
in Ukraine

## MANDATE

The Project Co-ordinator is tasked with planning, implementation and monitoring of projects involving the OSCE, its institutions and the relevant Ukrainian authorities. These projects, which are approved by Ukraine's Foreign Ministry, may cover all aspects of OSCE activities and can involve Ukrainian governmental and non-governmental organizations.

## ACTIVITIES

The Co-ordinator works on projects that cover a wide array of activities, such as national dialogue; legal and law enforcement reform; human rights education; the fight against organized crime, terrorism, cybercrime and human trafficking; arms control and military reform; environmental protection and border security; media freedom and civil society development; elections; good governance and gender equality.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Kyiv

Led by: Ambassador **Vaidotas Verba** (Lithuania) since 2014

**Staff:** 3 international and 41 local personnel

**Budget:** EUR 2,993,000



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**23 - 24 May, Ulaanbaatar**  
**OSCE-Mongolia Conference** on Strengthening the Co-operative Security between OSCE and the Asian Partners of Co-operation

**30 June**  
Appointment of Ambassador Lamberto Zannier (Italy) as **Secretary General** of the OSCE.

**1 July, Warsaw**  
Reappointment of Janez Lenarčič as **Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights** for another 3 years

**6 - 11 July, Belgrade**  
20th Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

**10 - 11 October, Budva**  
**Mediterranean Conference** on Democratic Transformation: Challenges and Opportunities in the Mediterranean Region

**6 - 7 December, Vilnius**  
**18th Ministerial Council** yields the **Ministerial Declaration** on Combating All Forms of Human Trafficking. It adopts decisions on:

- Elements of the **conflict cycle** and related OSCE's Capabilities
- Enhancing engagement with OSCE **Partners for co-operation**
- Promoting **equal opportunity for women** in the economic sphere
- OSCE's role in facilitation of **UN Security Council Resolution 1540**
- Transport dialogue
- Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition

**24 January**  
Terrorist bombing at Moscow airport, more than 30 died

**11 March**  
An earthquake measuring 9.0 in magnitude strikes Japan, triggering a tsunami that kills thousands people and an accident at the Fukushima nuclear power plant

**2 May**  
Osama bin Laden killed

**26 May**  
Serbian authorities arrest former Bosnian Serb Army commander Ratko Mladić, wanted for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

**22 July**  
Anders Behring Breivik carries out two sequential lone wolf terrorist attacks in Norway



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**23 October**  
7.2 magnitude earthquake strikes Turkey, hundreds dead

**11 November**  
Greece Prime Minister resigns over debt crisis



# OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

## MILESTONES

**2014:** Decision to deploy Special Monitoring Mission (SMM)

**2015:** Extension of Special Monitoring Mission deployment

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**18 July 2014:** A small team from the SMM arrived with experts at the crash site 24 hours after MH17 was downed. The SMM continued to facilitate access for experts from Malaysia, Australia and the Netherlands over the next weeks and months – helping to repatriate human remains, personal belongings and debris

**23 November 2014:** SMM facilitated a temporary ceasefire between Ukraine, “LPR” rebels and Cossacks in Trokhizbenka to enable delivery of humanitarian aid and the restoration of gas and electricity delivery

**February 2015:** Following agreement on the Minsk package, the SMM arranged rapid redeployment of monitors to eastern Ukraine; two-thirds of all monitors now work in the East

**April 2015:** A ceasefire in Shyrokyne, arranged by the SMM, held continuously for 59 hours. The SMM managed to access the village six days in a row

**June/July 2015:** SMM-facilitated daily local ceasefires north of “DPR”-controlled Horlivka – which allowed demining and repair work to damaged water pipes in the area and benefitted potentially 2.5 million affected people on both sides of the contact line

**18 September 2015:** Report on Access to Water in Conflict affected Areas of Donetsk and Luhansk Regions concluded that civilians in eastern Ukraine will be at risk in winter due to widespread damage to water infrastructure

**25 September 2015:** SMM received award for service to Australia in facilitating access to MH17 crash site

## THE BEGINNING

The OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM) was deployed in March 2014, following a request to the OSCE by Ukraine’s government and a consensus decision by all 57 OSCE participating States.

## MANDATE

The monitors are mandated to contribute to reducing tensions and to help foster peace, stability and security. The Mission engages with authorities at all levels, as well as civil society, ethnic and religious groups and local communities to facilitate dialogue on the ground. The Mission gathers



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information and reports on the security situation, establishes and reports facts in response to specific incidents, including those concerning alleged violations of fundamental OSCE principles. The Mission’s original six-month mandate was first extended in July 2014 until March 2015, and then again until March 2016.

## ACTIVITIES

The SMM gathers information and reports on the security situation, especially on specific incidents on the ground. The ultimate goal of the SMM is to help Ukraine to reduce tensions, facilitate dialogue between all the sides, and foster peace, stability and security. The SMM also helps to monitor and support the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Location:** Country-wide offices in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Donetsk, Dnepropetrovsk, Chernivtsi, Luhansk and Kyiv

**Chief Monitor:** Ambassador **Ertuğrul Apakan** (Turkey) since 2014

**Staff:** Approximately 700 international, of which 630 unarmed monitors, and 280 local staff (as of November 2015)

**Budget:** EUR 88,700,000

# 2012

10 January, Vienna

Creation of the **Trans-national threats** (TNT) Department within the Secretariat

5 - 9 July, Monaco

21st Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

30 - 31 October, Rome

**Mediterranean Conference** on the Economic Co-operation with Mediterranean Partners in the Democratic Transition Processes and Political Reforms

6 - 7 December, Dublin

**19th Ministerial Council\*** yields the Ministerial Statement on the Negotiations regarding the Transnistrian Settlement Process in the “5+2” Format and adopts a declaration on:

- Strengthening Good Governance and Combating Corruption, Money-Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism
- Decisions on the OSCE Helsinki +40 process

4 March

Vladimir Putin elected as President of the Russian Federation

6 November

Barack Obama re-elected for a second term as U.S. President



# OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Accession of Uzbekistan to CSCE

**1995:** Central Asia Liaison Office established

**2000:** Renamed Centre in Tashkent

**2006:** Renamed Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2009:** Supported improvement of Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Terrorism Financing legislation

**2009:** Facilitated regional dialogue through organized roundtable discussion in Support of the Development of Regional Transport Programme

**2010:** First organization of Forum of the Ombudsperson Institutions from the Central Asian countries and other OSCE participating States in Uzbekistan

**2012:** Supported development of legislation on renewable energy

**2014:** Organized International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Regional Seminar on Machine Readable Travel Documents and Traveller Identification Management in Tashkent

**2014:** Trained more than 600 young women all around the country on establishment of business and self-employment skills

**2014:** Co-organized the first nation-wide conference on the improvement of the organizational and legal mechanisms of combatting human trafficking in Uzbekistan after six years of intensive training on Trafficking in Human Beings related topics for more than 640 national professionals

## THE BEGINNING

The Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan was preceded by the Liaison Office in Central Asia, established in 1995 to link the Central Asian countries more closely to the OSCE. After 1998, when the OSCE opened Centres in Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, the focus of the Office shifted to Uzbekistan.

## MANDATE

The Project Co-ordinator is mandated to assist Uzbekistan in its efforts to ensure security and stability, including the fight against terrorism, violent extremism, drug trafficking, and other threats; to support the country's socio-economic and civil society development; help protect the country's environment; and to assist the government in the implementation of its commitments taken within the OSCE framework. The Co-ordinator's activities are carried out on the basis of jointly developed programmes and projects with Uzbekistan authorities.

## ACTIVITIES

The Co-ordinator carries out projects affecting common safety, including fighting against terrorism, combating drug trafficking, good governance, environmental security, economic development, human trafficking, democratization, rule of law, and freedom of mass media through conducting training courses; organizing seminars, conferences and study visits; and giving advice on improving the performance of state authorities, government agencies and civil society organizations.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Tashkent

**Led by:** Ambassador **György Szabó** (Hungary) since 2012

**Staff:** 2 international and 22 local personnel

**Budget:** EUR 1,994,900



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# 2013

6 March, Vienna

Extension of the appointment of Dunja Mijatović as **Representative on Freedom of Media**

18 - 19 March, Adelaide

**OSCE-Australia Conference** on Improving the Security of Women and Girls

29 June - 3 July, Istanbul

22nd Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

17 July

Astrid Thors (Finland) appointed as 4th OSCE **High Commissioner on National Minorities**



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28 - 29 October, Monaco

**Mediterranean Conference** on Enhancing the Role of Women in Public, Political and Economic Life

5 - 6 December, Kyiv

**20th Ministerial Council** yields a set of decisions on:

- **Freedom of Thought, Conscience, Religion or Belief**

- Action Plan to improve the **situation of Roma and Sinti** in particular women, youth and children

- **Environmental footprint** of energy-related activities

- Energy networks from **natural and man-made disasters**

- Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

December, Kazakhstan

OSCE **Liaison office** in Almaty is relocated to **Astana**

28 February

Pope Benedict XVI resigns



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8 April

Margaret Thatcher dies at 87



# OSCE Office in Yerevan

## MILESTONES

**1992:** Accession of Armenia to CSCE

**1999:** Decision to establish Office in Yerevan

**2000:** Start of Office activities

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**2002:** First Aarhus Centre (Public Environmental Information Centre) established in Yerevan, to promote implementation of the Aarhus Convention

**2004:** Support for the establishment and operation of Human Rights Defender's Office (Ombudsman)

**2006:** Opened local presence in Kapan, Syunik province, dealing with economic and environmental issues

**2007:** Completion of Mélange project – 872 tons of rocket fuel component stocks eliminated, converted to a safe mineral for spraying on 1,243 hectares of land (financed by Canada, Finland, Germany and the USA)

**2012:** Implemented EU-funded project "Support to two electoral cycles" (1.7 million Euros) for the Parliamentary election in 2012 and the Presidential election in 2013

**2012-2013:** Helped to establish six regional offices throughout Armenia, within the "Support to Elections" project

## THE BEGINNING

In 1999, the Permanent Council of the OSCE welcomed the willingness of the Government of Armenia to intensify OSCE activities in the country.

## MANDATE

The mandate of the Office is to promote the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of Armenia within the OSCE framework, in all OSCE dimensions, including the human, political, economic and environmental aspects of security and stability; facilitate contacts, co-ordinate activities and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office and other OSCE institutions as well as co-operation with international organizations and institutions; establish and maintain contacts with local authorities, universities, research institutions and NGOs and assist in arranging events with OSCE participation; and perform other tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairman-in-Office or other OSCE institutions and agreed on between Armenia and the OSCE.



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## ACTIVITIES

The Office helps Armenia develop its democratic institutions and strengthen civil society. This includes activities covering such diverse areas as legislative reform; combating corruption and trafficking; environmental activities; raising awareness for human rights; media freedom; gender equality; police assistance; and the reform of the armed forces.

## FACTS IN 2015

**Headquarters:** Yerevan

Led by: Ambassador **Andrey Sorokin** (Russian Federation) since 2012

**Staff:** 7 international and 43 local personnel

**Budget:** 2,954,400

**21 March**

Permanent Council decision to deploy **Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine**



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**25 May**

Trilateral Contact Group on Ukraine is established with representatives from Russia, Ukraine, and the OSCE

**28 June - 2 July, Baku**

23rd Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)

**1 July, Vienna**

Reappointment of Ambassador Lamberto Zannier as **Secretary General**

**1 July, Vienna**

Appointment of the 6th **Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights**, Michael Georg Link (Germany)

**24 July, Vienna**

Permanent Council decision to deploy **Observer Mission at the Russian checkpoints Gukovo and Donetsk**

**17 July**

Flight MH17 shot down over Ukraine killing all 298 people on board

**February**

Crisis in and around Ukraine

**25 May**

Petro Poroshenko elected president of Ukraine

**4 - 5 December, Basel**

**21st Ministerial Council** yields a Ministerial Statement on the Negotiations on the **Transdnestrian Settlement Process** in the "5+2" Format and a set of Ministerial declarations on:

- 20 years of the Code of Conduct
- Further steps in the **Helsinki+40** process

- **Partners for Co-operation**
- **Youth**

- **Transfer of ownership** to the parties to the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control of the **General Framework Agreement** for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina

- OSCE role in countering the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters in the context of UN Security Council Resolutions 2170 and 2178

- OSCE role in countering kidnapping and hostage-taking committed by terrorists groups in the context of UN Security Council Resolution 2133

Decisions on :

- Combating **violence against women**
- Combating the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition
- Addendum on the Action Plan on the Promotion of Gender Equality

**5 September**

Signature of the Minsk Protocol on ceasefire and launch of political process to resolve the crisis in and around Ukraine

**19 September**

Signature of the Minsk Memorandum outlining implementation of ceasefire commitments of Minsk Protocol

**27 - 28 October, Neum**

**Mediterranean Conference** on Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons and Fight against Terrorism in the Mediterranean Region



**1 January, Kazakhstan**  
OSCE Centre in Astana is transformed into the OSCE **Programme Office in Astana**

**4 July**  
Discontinuation of the OSCE **Project Co-ordinator in Baku**

**5 - 9 July, Helsinki**  
24th Annual Session of the OSCE **Parliamentary Assembly** (Declaration)



**1 August**  
40th Anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act

**3 - 4 December, Belgrade**  
22nd Ministerial Council

In 2015, the number of people fleeing the ongoing conflict in Syria surges to over 4,000,000 according to UNHCR

**7 January**  
Terrorists kill 11 people in an attack on the Charlie Hebdo office in Paris

**12 February**  
Agreement on the Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Protocol and Memorandum on the crisis in and around Ukraine



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**10 October**  
Two bombs explode outside Ankara Central railway station killing over 100 people and injuring over 400

**31 October**  
Russian commercial airplane downed by bomb explosion, killing all 224 people on board

**13 November**  
In Paris, co-ordinated terrorist attacks at six locations across the city kill 130 people (as of 20 November 2015)

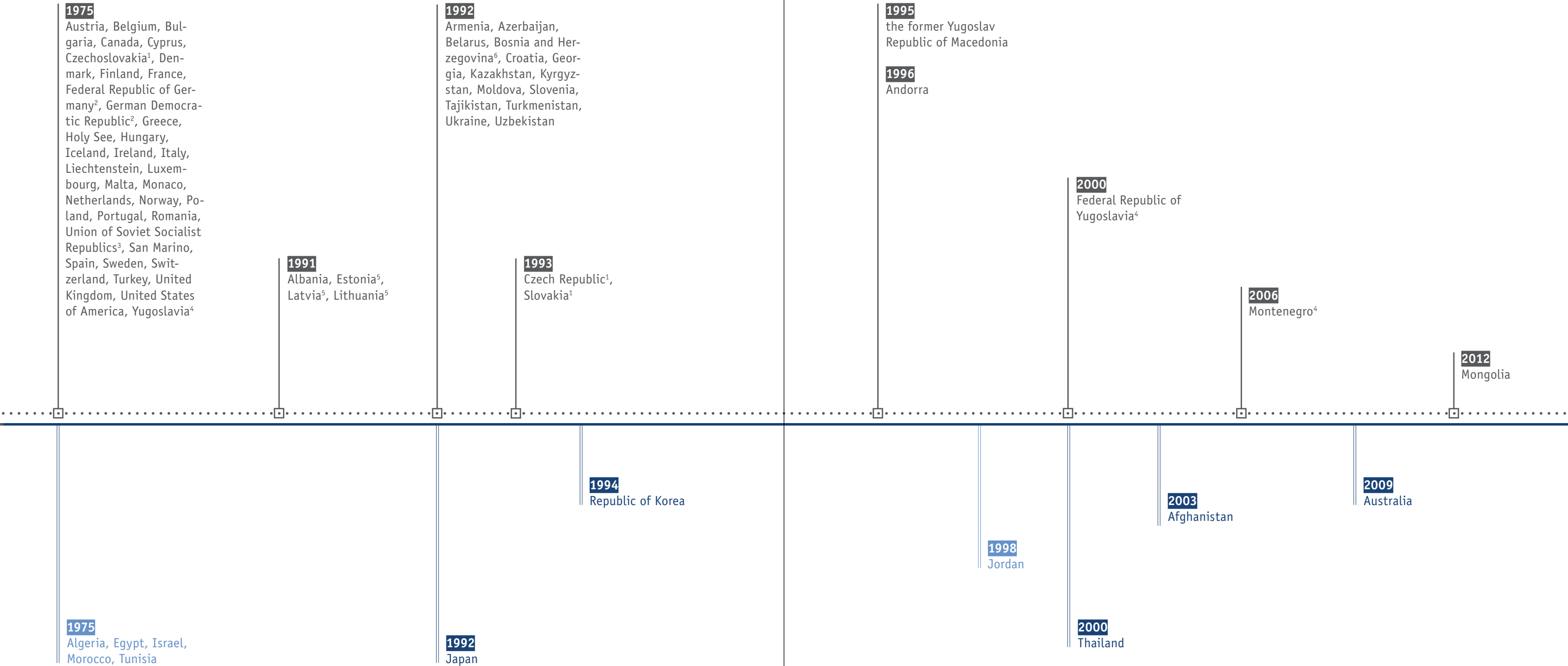


ACCESSION TO THE CSCE/OSCE AND PARTNERS

OSCE participating States

Partners for Co-operation

Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation





<sup>1</sup> Czechoslovakia was an original participating State of the CSCE in 1975. The Stockholm Council Meeting, on 15 December 1992, agreed that the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic would be welcomed as two new participating States from 1 January 1993, i.e. following their proclamation of independence.

<sup>2</sup> The Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic, reunified on 3 October 1990, were both original participating States of the CSCE in 1975.

<sup>3</sup> Participation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in the CSCE process was continued by the Russian Federation (cf. 5-CSO/Journal No. 1 and CSCE Communication No. 10 dated 7 January 1992).

<sup>4</sup> Yugoslavia was suspended in July 1992 under the rarely-used ‘consensus minus one’ procedure. It was admitted in November 2000 as the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, consisting of two republics, Serbia and Montenegro. After further evolution, Montenegro held a referendum on separation in May 2006 and while Serbia retained the OSCE seat, Montenegro applied and was admitted as the 56th participating State on 22 June 2006.

<sup>5</sup> Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were admitted as participating States at an additional meeting at ministerial level, prior to the opening of the third CSCE Meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimension, which took place in Moscow from 10 September to 4 October 1991.

<sup>6</sup> Bosnia and Herzegovina was admitted as a participating State of the CSCE in accordance with a statement by the Chairman at the 10th Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) Meeting, on 30 April 1992. The 13th CSO Meeting, on 2 July 1992, agreed that the welcoming of Bosnia and Herzegovina at the Helsinki Summit by the President of the host country would be recognized as the formal confirmation of its admission.



Published by the Organization for  
Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)  
Wallnerstrasse 6  
1010 Vienna  
Austria

**www.osce.org**

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Edited by **Lisa Berthelot**  
Design and Layout: **Viktoriia Wanker**  
Printed in Austria by **Stanzell Druck**

