

OSCE ANNUAL REPORT

'11



OSCE ANNUAL REPORT

*Annual Report on
OSCE Activities 2011*

'11

The Secretary General

*Organization for
Security and
Co-operation
in Europe*

Published by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)
Press and Public Information Section
Office of the Secretary General
OSCE Secretariat
Wallnerstrasse 6
A-1010 Vienna, Austria
www.osce.org

© OSCE 2012

All rights reserved. The contents of this publication may be freely used and copied for educational and other non-commercial purposes, provided that any such reproduction is accompanied by an acknowledgement of the OSCE as the source.

ISBN 978-92-9235-01708

Edited by Lisa Ernst

Design & Layout: Sebastian Traxl, Vienna

Front cover photo credits, clockwise from top left: OSCE, Dimitar Petarchev, OSCE/Mehdi Knani, OSCE/Mikhail Estafiev

Printed in Austria by Ueberreuter Print GmbH

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 INTRODUCTION	5	8 SECRETARIAT	85
Message from the Secretary General.....	6	Office of the Secretary General.....	88
Executive summary.....	8	Executive Management.....	88
2 REPORT OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP- IN-OFFICE	13	Press and Public Information Section.....	88
3 PERMANENT COUNCIL	29	Section for External Co-operation.....	91
4 FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION	32	Legal Services.....	92
5 OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY	35	Gender Section.....	93
6 FIELD OPERATIONS	39	Security Management.....	94
South-Eastern Europe		Strategic Police Matters Unit.....	94
Presence in Albania.....	40	Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings.....	96
Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina.....	42	Action against Terrorism Unit.....	97
Mission in Kosovo.....	45	Office of Internal Oversight.....	98
Mission to Montenegro.....	48	Conflict Prevention Centre.....	99
Mission to Serbia.....	50	Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities.....	103
Mission to Skopje.....	52	Department of Human Resources.....	105
Office in Zagreb.....	54	Department of Management and Finance.....	107
Eastern Europe		9 PARTNERSHIPS FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION	109
Mission to Moldova.....	56	Engagement with the Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation.....	110
Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine.....	58	Engagement with international, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions.....	114
South Caucasus		10 ANNEXES	121
Office in Baku.....	60	The OSCE at a glance.....	122
Office in Yerevan.....	62	OSCE organigram.....	123
Central Asia		OSCE unified budget 2011 by fund.....	124
Centre in Ashgabat.....	64	OSCE extra-budgetary support.....	125
Centre in Astana.....	66	Staff statistics.....	126
Centre in Bishkek.....	68	Contact information.....	127
Office in Tajikistan.....	70		
Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan.....	72		
Assistance with bilateral agreements			
Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners.....	74		
7 INSTITUTIONS	75		
Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights.....	76		
High Commissioner on National Minorities.....	79		
Representative on Freedom of the Media.....	82		

1

INTRODUCTION



MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

This is my first annual report as Secretary General, a post I assumed last July. During my first six months in office, I visited 23 OSCE participating States and partner countries, meeting with representatives of governments, international organizations, OSCE field operations, parliamentarians and the media.

2011 was, of course, a year of change far beyond the leadership of the OSCE. It started dramatically, with sweeping changes coming to many countries in the Middle East and North Africa, including our Partners for Co-operation Egypt and Tunisia. As people across the southern Mediterranean claimed their political rights, many OSCE participating States, including Lithuania, the 2011 Chairmanship, were celebrating 20 years of independence, looking back at their own democratic transformation processes. The events in North Africa served to remind us that change is a long and arduous process that cannot be taken for granted. They also reminded us of the role the OSCE can play in supporting democratic transitions, and throughout 2011, the Organization offered its support and expertise to its Mediterranean Partners.

Progress towards resolution of protracted conflicts remained a high priority for the Organization, requiring sustained efforts through the existing negotiating

formats. Official “5+2” talks on the Transdniestrian settlement process resumed in November after a hiatus of nearly six years. Unfortunately, developments in the Minsk Group and the Geneva International Discussions were not so encouraging.

Other developments also proved challenging. Trials of protesters following the 2010 presidential elections in Belarus raised alarm over the state of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the country, causing some participating States to launch the OSCE’s Moscow Mechanism. An ongoing financial crisis in the Eurozone, a political crisis in Albania, violence in northern Kosovo and disturbances in western Kazakhstan reminded us of the challenges that remain as we work toward the vision of a free, democratic, common and indivisible Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community.

The Organization must keep up with the pace of change and be prepared to address security challenges new and old, across the three dimensions, emanating from within our region and from our immediate neighbourhood.

With this in mind, I returned to the OSCE with fresh ideas on how to adapt the Organization to current realities, by enhancing the political role of the Secretary General, increasing the visibility of the OSCE, promoting



outreach to NGOs and the think tank community, and strengthening our ability to deal with conflicts and emerging transnational threats. I have made every effort to ensure that OSCE activities provide value for money in these hard economic times. I have also made it a priority to strengthen our existing partnerships with other international and regional organizations. I am pleased to report that many of these initiatives have been carried forward by the participating States.

The Lithuanian Chairmanship initiated a series of exchanges between delegations, NGOs and think tank representatives in the framework of the “V to V Dialogues.” These sessions explored concrete ways to follow up on the taskings of the *Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community*. At the same time, high-profile “Track II” projects, such as the Euro-Atlantic Security Initiative, sought to provide fresh inputs to our debate, and several participating States announced the launch of new academic initiatives.

At the Vilnius Ministerial Council meeting in December, foreign ministers welcomed my proposal to create a new department within the OSCE Secretariat to address transnational threats. The adoption of MC.DEC/9/11 will strengthen co-ordination and coherence in the Organization’s efforts to confront terrorism,

organized crime, drug trafficking and other cross-border security threats. This was just one of several cross-dimensional decisions that were part of the substantial package of results of the Ministerial Council, which set out our agenda for 2012.

We ended the year with a further achievement: after 15 years of an OSCE presence in Croatia, the participating States declared the Office in Zagreb’s mandate complete. This success story illustrates the long-term results of the efforts of our Organization in building trust, freedom and security across our region.

Looking back on these substantial achievements, I would like to express my appreciation for the efforts of the dedicated women and men who serve the OSCE, in the Secretariat, the Institutions, the field operations and the Parliamentary Assembly. I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of my distinguished predecessor, Marc Perrin de Brichambaut, whose dedicated work is also reflected in this report, and pledge my full support to the current and future Chairmanships.

Lamberto Zannier
OSCE Secretary General

OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier took up his duties on 1 July 2011. (OSCE/Susanna Löff)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2011, the OSCE was tasked with taking meaningful steps towards realizing the vision of a comprehensive, co-operative and indivisible security community “across the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian region, free of dividing lines, conflicts, spheres of influence and zones with different levels of security”, as set out in the Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community. Throughout the year, the participating States worked within the established OSCE frameworks to bridge differences and build trust, resulting in positive developments in the areas of protracted conflicts, media freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination, border monitoring and regional co-operation, transport, energy and cyber security.

Politico-military dimension

2011 ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE. Discussions, organized under the theme “Toward a Security Community: What Has to Be Done”, centred on transnational threats, the conflict cycle and confidence- and security-building measures. A special session on how the OSCE can strengthen its interaction with Partners for Co-operation preceded the conference. Other first-dimension events included a conference on “Combating Drug Trafficking and Enhancing Border Security and Management in the OSCE Area”; a seminar on “Applied Issues in International Land Boundary Delimitation/Demarcation Practices”; and a High-Level Military Doctrine Seminar. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Forum for Security Co-operation*, p. 33.)

21ST ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENT MEETING. The participating States focused on the Vienna Document 1999, discussing the present and future implementation of the OSCE’s main confidence- and security-building measure (CSBM). The meeting also provided an opportunity for participants to exchange experiences, make suggestions and assess the implementation of OSCE commitments on CSBMs. (See *Forum for Security Co-operation*, p. 33; *Conflict Prevention Centre*, p. 99.)

VIENNA DOCUMENT 2011. The reissued Vienna Document 2011 on Confidence- and Security-building Measures marks the first time the Document has been updated in 12 years and establishes a procedure for a regular update every five years. (See *Forum for Security Co-operation*, p. 33.)

MÉLANGE DISPOSAL. The OSCE, in co-operation with Ukraine’s Ministry of Defence, removed almost 4,000 tonnes of the highly toxic rocket fuel component *mélange* from western and central Ukraine in 2011. To date, approximately 7,000 tonnes have been disposed of since the launch of the project in 2009. The OSCE Centre in Astana also supported a project to eliminate

mélange by facilitating a visit by Russian technical experts to *mélange* storage sites in Kazakhstan in preparation for disposal at facilities in the Russian Federation. (See *Forum for Security Co-operation*, p. 33; *Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine*, p. 58; *Centre in Astana*, p. 66; *Executive Management*, p. 88; *Secretariat*, p. 86; *Legal Services*, p. 92; *Conflict Prevention Centre*, p. 99.)

IDENTIFYING AND SEEKING EARLY RESOLUTION OF ETHNIC TENSIONS. The High Commissioner on National Minorities continued to address ethnic tensions, examining conditions for minority communities in many participating States and advising them on national legislation related to minorities and inter-ethnic relations in general. The HCNM also assisted a number of countries in their bilateral dialogue on national minority issues and co-operated with international organizations on relevant issues, such as statelessness and the situation of Roma. (See *High Commissioner on National Minorities*, p. 79.)

BORDER MANAGEMENT STAFF COLLEGE. The OSCE Border Management Staff College (BMSC) is increasingly becoming a hub for border management and security training. Through courses for Afghan customs officers, an expert conference on regional security and a training event for Tajik and Afghan officers held in Lithuania, the BMSC strengthened its international outreach. Almost 300 officers and experts from 15 OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation, including Afghanistan and Mongolia, attended courses. (See *Office in Tajikistan*, p. 70; *Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*, p. 76; *Executive Management*, p. 88; *Legal Services*, p. 92; *Conflict Prevention Centre*, p. 99.)

Economic and environmental dimension

ENERGY, TRANSPORT AND TRANSBOUNDARY CO-OPERATION. The 19th Economic and Environmental Forum was dedicated to the promotion of sustainable energy and transport, while a Chairmanship workshop on “Economic and Environmental Activities as Confidence-building Measures” highlighted the potential of how these activities can help build trust, reduce

possible causes of tension and help strengthen security. A high-level conference on “Integrating Global Energy Markets – Providing Energy Security” provided a forum for discussions on trans-corporate energy trade and mechanisms for the stable transit and diversification of energy resources in the OSCE region and beyond. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities*, p. 103.)

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING. A new Economic and Environmental Dimension Implementation Meeting was introduced in 2011, aimed at assessing the implementation of second-dimension commitments and identifying priorities for future work. On 7 December, the Permanent Council adopted a decision to hold the meeting on an annual basis. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities*, p. 103.)

Human dimension

HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING. Some 1,000 governmental and civil society representatives from the 56 OSCE participating States reviewed progress in the implementation of OSCE commitments in the areas of human rights and democracy in Europe’s largest human rights conference. Democratic transition processes in the OSCE’s southern Mediterranean Partner countries and the human rights situation in Belarus featured prominently on the agenda. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*, p. 76.)

BUILDING TRUST AND CONFIDENCE. The Chairmanship organized three Supplementary Human Dimension Meetings in co-operation with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR): on national human rights institutions; on prevention of racism, xenophobia and hate crimes through educational and awareness-raising initiatives; and on promotion of pluralism in new media, also in co-operation with the Representative on Freedom of the Media. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*, p. 76.)

ELECTION MONITORING. In 2011, ODIHR carried out 18 election observation activities in 17 participating States, comprising eight election assessment and ten election observation missions. Expert teams were also deployed to follow local elections in two participating States. The Parliamentary Assembly led six election observation missions in 2011, working with other parliamentary assemblies and ODIHR. (See *OSCE Parliamentary Assembly*, p. 36; *Field operations*, p. 39; *Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*, p. 76.)

WOMEN’S RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY. In 2011, the human dimension agenda included the promotion of women’s rights and gender equality, women’s legal and economic empowerment, preventing domestic violence against women and highlighting the importance of women’s participation in peace and security. In addition, the Action Against Terrorism Unit, the Gender Section and ODIHR organized an “Expert Roundtable on Preventing Women Terrorist Radicalization”, and the Gender Section also organized conferences on “UNSCR 1325: Moving Beyond Theory to Maximize Security in the OSCE” and “Women’s Entrepreneurship in the OSCE Region: Trends and Good Practices”. (See *Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*, p. 76; *Gender Section*, p. 93; *Action against Terrorism Unit*, p. 97.)

Cross-dimensional activities

OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL. The foreign ministers of the 56 OSCE participating States and the 12 OSCE Partners for Co-operation met in Vilnius to address security challenges in all three dimensions, adopting a decision on early warning, early action, dialogue facilitation and mediation support, and post-conflict rehabilitation. The participating States also reached consensus on addressing transnational threats, combating trafficking in human beings, promoting equal opportunity for women in the economic sphere, strengthening transport dialogue, defining the role of the OSCE in facilitating UNSCR 1540, dealing with small arms, light weapons and conventional ammunition, enhancing engagement with the OSCE Partners for Co-operation and on issues relevant to the Forum for Security Co-operation. (See *Message from the Secretary General*, p. 6; *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Forum for Security Co-operation*, p. 32; *Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*, p. 76; *Representative on Freedom of the Media*, p. 82; *Executive Management*, p. 88; *Office of the Secretary General*, p. 88; *Conflict Prevention Centre*, p. 99; *Department of Management and Finance*, p. 107; *Partnerships for security and co-operation*, p. 109.)

V TO V DIALOGUES. As part of the follow-up process to the *Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community*, the Chairmanship initiated a series of informal discussions on Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security. The “V to V Dialogues” (Vancouver to Vladivostok via Vienna and Vilnius) included informal ambassadorial discussions in the style and spirit of the Corfu Process. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Conflict Prevention Centre*, p. 99.)

20TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY. The Parliamentary Assembly adopted the *Belgrade Declaration*, which addresses cyber-security, human trafficking, Internet freedom, human rights and other issues and calls for reforms to make the OSCE

more transparent, more inclusive of civil society and better able to respond in moments of crisis. (See *OSCE Parliamentary Assembly*, p. 36.)

COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS. The OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings worked throughout 2011 to raise the political profile of this issue and advocated to improve the implementation of OSCE anti-trafficking commitments in all participating States. These commitments affirm the primary responsibility of the participating States for addressing trafficking in human beings and task the OSCE Institutions, structures and field operations in clearly defined areas. Acknowledging their strong and unwavering determination to combat human trafficking in all its forms, the foreign ministers of the OSCE participating States agreed on a declaration on combating all forms of human trafficking at the Vilnius Ministerial Council. (See *Report of the Chairperson-in-Office*, p. 15; *Field operations*, p. 39; *Strategic Police Matters Unit*, p. 94; *Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings*, p. 96.)

CYBER SECURITY. Cyber threats to critical infrastructure, cybercrime and terrorist use of the Internet were on the agenda of a two-day OSCE conference on “A Comprehensive Approach to Cyber-Security: Exploring the Future OSCE Role.” (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Action against Terrorism Unit*, p. 97.)

OSCE ACADEMY. Now in its eighth year, the OSCE Academy brought together more than 100 students, officials and academics from all five Central Asian states, Afghanistan and the wider OSCE area in its MA course, research and dialogue initiatives, and training. (See *Centre in Bishkek*, p. 68.)

Protracted conflicts

5+2 NEGOTIATIONS. Tangible progress was made in the Transdniestrian settlement process, with the first renewed official negotiations taking place in Vilnius on 30 November. The two-day 5+2 meeting – officially, “The Permanent Conference on Political Issues in the Framework of the Negotiating Process for Transdniestrian Settlement” – brought together representatives of the sides, mediators and observers: Moldova, Transdniestria, the OSCE, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, the United States and the European Union. (See *Message from the Secretary General*, p. 6; *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Mission to Moldova*, p. 56; *Office of the Secretary General*, p. 88; *Partnerships for security and co-operation*, p. 109.)

GENEVA DISCUSSIONS. The OSCE co-chaired four rounds of the Geneva Discussions in 2011. The OSCE,

together with the United Nations and the European Union, co-chaired the talks involving participants from Georgia, the Russian Federation and the United States as well as Tskhinvali and Sukhumi. Throughout the year, the Chairmanship called upon participants to redouble their efforts with regard to issues such as non-use of force, international security arrangements, safe and dignified return of IDPs and refugees and humanitarian needs on the ground. A package of water-supply rehabilitation projects agreed upon in 2010 was implemented, and the release of 26 detainees on 30 December was an important step towards building trust and helping to ensure freedom of movement. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Office of the Secretary General*, p. 88; *Conflict Prevention Centre*, p. 99; *Partnerships for security and co-operation*, p. 109.)

THE CONFLICT DEALT WITH BY THE OSCE MINSK CONFERENCE. Throughout the year, the Chairmanship, the Co-Chairs and members of the Minsk Group and other participating States urged the parties to continue, in a greater spirit of compromise, to negotiate a peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, including non-use or threat of force, territorial integrity and the equal rights and self-determination of peoples. Incidents along the Line of Contact resulting in the loss of life increased tension in the area. On the margins of the Ministerial Council in Vilnius, the Heads of Delegation of the Minsk Group Co-Chair countries and the Foreign Ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan agreed on a Joint Statement, in which they agreed on the need to continue negotiations in the format of the OSCE Minsk Group. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Parliamentary Assembly*, p. 36; *Conflict Prevention Centre*, p. 99.)

Work with Partners

MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERS FOR CO-OPERATION. The Mediterranean Contact Group met five times in 2011, discussing a wide range of security issues and possible avenues for OSCE support for peaceful transitions in the southern Mediterranean. Briefings in all three dimensions included border security and management, non-proliferation, energy and environmental security, migration management and democratic reform and human rights. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Partnerships for security and co-operation*, p. 109.)

EVENTS IN THE SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN. Throughout the year, the Organization continued to express its readiness to support democratic transition processes and share its experience in promoting security, enhancing prosperity and building strong democratic institutions and vibrant civil societies. The Parliamentary Assembly deployed its first election observation mission to Tunisia. In addition, the OSCE

Secretary General and the UN Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs co-hosted a roundtable meeting on the margins of the Ministerial Council to promote closer co-ordination of responses to changes in the southern Mediterranean. (See *Message from the Secretary General*, p. 6; *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *OSCE Parliamentary Assembly*, p. 36; *Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*, p. 76; *Partnerships for security and co-operation*, p. 109.)

OSCE-MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE. Participants in the OSCE-Mediterranean Conference on “Democratic Transformation: Challenges and Opportunities in the Mediterranean Region” shared best practices and lessons learned. Key topics included: the role of police and the armed forces in democratic societies; promoting human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law; and good governance. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Partnerships for security and co-operation*, p. 109.)

ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY. An OSCE-Mediterranean Partner Countries’ Conference for Civil Society, entitled “Transparency and Pluralism in Electoral Good Practice, Political Participation, Justice and Legal Reform”, and an event on “Tolerance and Non-Discrimination in Democratic Transition” provided a forum for civil society representatives from the OSCE participating States and the Mediterranean Partner countries to exchange ideas and develop recommendations for consideration at the Vilnius Ministerial Council. Participants in the OSCE Civil Society Parallel Conference, organized as a side event to the Ministerial Council, reviewed the human rights situation in the OSCE region and drafted a set of policy recommendations, which were presented to the Chairmanship as input to the Ministerial Council. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*, p. 76; *Partnerships for security and co-operation*, p. 109.)

ASIAN PARTNERS FOR CO-OPERATION. The Asian Contact Group met seven times in 2011, discussing security issues including transnational threats; border security and management; environmental security; good governance and combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism; human rights and democracy issues; non-proliferation and OSCE efforts to help stabilize Afghanistan. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Partnerships for security and co-operation*, p. 109.)

OSCE-MONGOLIA CONFERENCE. At the OSCE-Mongolia Conference, the 56 participating States and the six Asian Partners for Co-operation discussed how to strengthen synergies in addressing transnational

threats, advancing international economic co-operation, and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Office of the Secretary General*, p. 88; *Partnerships for security and co-operation*, p. 109.)

MONGOLIA. A Partner for Co-operation since 2004, Mongolia submitted its formal request to become a participating State on 28 October. At the Vilnius Ministerial Council, the incoming Irish Chairmanship was tasked with taking forward this request. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15.)

ENGAGEMENT WITH AFGHANISTAN. The Organization continued to advance OSCE engagement with Afghanistan by increasing the participation of Afghan counterparts in OSCE activities, including training in counter-narcotics, customs, land-mine disposal, travel document security, border management and anti-terrorism. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Centre in Bishkek*, p. 68; *Office in Tajikistan*, p. 70; *Secretariat*, p. 86; *Executive Management*, p. 88; *Legal Services*, p. 92; *Strategic Police Matters Unit*, p. 94; *Conflict Prevention Centre*, p. 99; *Partnerships for security and co-operation*, p. 109.)

Chairmanship activities

SAFETY OF JOURNALISTS AND MEDIA FREEDOM. A main priority of the Lithuanian Chairmanship in the human dimension was the protection of journalists and free media. A conference on the safety of journalists provided a forum for discussions on how to ensure secure and free working conditions for the media in the OSCE region. At the conclusion of the conference, the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media presented the *Vilnius Recommendations on Safety of Journalists*. Other events included a roundtable on the protection of journalists from violence, a Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on “Promotion of Pluralism in New Media” and the launch of the *OSCE Safety of Journalists Guidebook* at the Ministerial Council in Vilnius. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 15; *Representative on Freedom of the Media*, p. 82.)

TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION. Promoting tolerance and non-discrimination, particularly through education and awareness-raising, was a Chairmanship priority in 2011. In co-operation with ODIHR and the three Special Representatives of the Chairperson-in-Office, the Chairmanship organized a series of events – “Confronting Anti-Semitism in Public Discourse”, “Preventing and Responding to Hate Incidents and Crimes against Christians” and “Confronting Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims in Public Discourse” – to raise awareness and explore ways

to prevent and respond to discrimination. (*See Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, p. 15; Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, p. 76.*)

OSCE TALKS. The second annual OSCE Talks seminar, entitled “Building Bridges: Security Community and Partnerships for Change”, explored the role of the international community, civil society, women and the media in supporting democratic change and transition. A report based on the event was published and distributed to international think tanks. (*See Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, p. 15; Press and Public Information Section, p. 88; Gender Section, p. 93.*)

OTHER EVENTS. The Chairmanship, in co-operation with ODIHR, organized a seminar on the “Role of Political Parties in the Political Process” and an “Expert Conference on National Human Rights Institutions in the OSCE Area”. The Chairmanship also organized a “Special Thematic Event on Internally Displaced Persons and Refugees”, which focused on identifying protection gaps and exploring ways to find sustainable solutions for displaced populations in the OSCE area. (*See Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, p. 15; Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, p. 76; Partnerships for security and co-operation, p. 109.*)

Highlights

OSCE SECRETARY GENERAL. On 30 June, the Ministerial Council adopted a decision on the appointment of Ambassador Lamberto Zannier of Italy as Secretary General of the OSCE, effective 1 July. He succeeded Marc Perrin de Brichambaut of France, who had served as Secretary General since June 2005. (*See Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, p. 15.*)

OFFICE IN ZAGREB. On 15 December, the 56 OSCE participating States agreed that the Office in Zagreb had successfully fulfilled its mandate, and the Permanent Council adopted a decision to close the OSCE field presence in Croatia after 15 years of work in the host country. (*See Message from the Secretary General, p. 6; Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, p. 15; Office in Zagreb, p. 54.*)

2

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP- IN-OFFICE



OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Lithuanian Foreign Minister Audronius Ažubalis. (Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

In January 2011, the Lithuanian Chairmanship took up the challenge of taking forward the vision elaborated by the 56 OSCE participating States in the *Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community*, which set forth a vision of a free, democratic, common and indivisible Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community stretching from Vancouver to Vladivostok, rooted in agreed principles, shared commitments and common goals.

It was a major and ambitious task, but by concentrating our work in priority areas – protracted conflicts, media freedom, transnational threats, energy security and tolerance and non-discrimination – we were able to take meaningful steps towards realizing that vision.

We succeeded in getting the Transnistrian settlement process back on track, creating the Vilnius guidelines on the safety of journalists, enhancing our capacity to combat transnational threats and manage the conflict cycle, strengthening co-operation with our Partners for Co-operation and successfully fulfilling the mandate of our Office in Zagreb.

We also responded quickly and effectively to unforeseen political and security developments in our region, including the aftermath of the December 2010 presidential elections in Belarus, the political crisis in Albania, outbreaks of violence in northern Kosovo and the dramatic events of the Arab Spring.

Most importantly, at the Ministerial Council in Vilnius the OSCE participating States adopted concrete measures to ensure the full respect for and implementation of core OSCE principles and commitments across all dimensions of the OSCE's work. These measures will strengthen our Organization and lay the groundwork for further progress in the years ahead.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

Nonetheless, much work remains to be done. In many countries, people are still deprived of their basic human rights; journalists are still prevented from carrying out their work; and elections processes are still in need of improvement to ensure they are truly free and fair. This fact obliges us to maintain our resolve and to work together to bridge differences and make our shared space a genuine Security Community.

During the past year I travelled throughout the OSCE region. At literally scores of meetings and discussions one major point continued to stand out: It is the day-in and day-out work of the OSCE field presences, the representatives of its Institutions and Parliamentary Assembly and its Secretariat that weaves – and maintains – the fabric of our comprehensive security arrangement. I would like to thank all my colleagues throughout the OSCE, and I pledge our full support to future Chairmanships and to the work of this Organization.

*Audronius Ažubalis
2011 OSCE Chairperson*



osce

LITHUANIA 2011 LIETUVA

18th OSCE
Ministerial Council
Vilnius, 6 and 7 December 2011

2



REPORT OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE

In his opening address to the OSCE Permanent Council on 13 January 2011, the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and Lithuanian Foreign Minister Audronius Ažubalis reminded those in attendance that exactly 20 years earlier, on 13 January 1991, his own country had taken a stand on the side of freedom. With the support of the international community, Lithuania then took the first tentative steps towards returning to Europe.

The recent history of Lithuania as a young, independent republic prepared it well to guide the 56 OSCE participating States in fulfilling the commitment they had made only weeks earlier at the Astana Summit. Through the adoption of the *Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community* (SUM.DOC/1/10 Corr.1), they reaffirmed a common vision of a free, democratic, common and indivisible Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community based on shared values, agreed commitments and common goals. They also tasked the incoming Lithuanian and subsequent OSCE Chairmanships with organizing a follow-up process towards a concrete action plan. And as 2011 commenced, the Lithuanian Chairmanship charted a course of action that would lead to meaningful steps in all three dimensions and make good on that renewed promise.

Lithuania's 20-year journey from a newly independent nation to a fully fledged independent democratic state provided useful experience throughout 2011 as the Chairmanship focused on the five main priority areas of protracted conflicts; media freedom; transnational

threats, including those emanating from the territory of Afghanistan; energy security; and tolerance and non-discrimination. Unforeseen challenges, including the aftermath of the December 2010 presidential elections in Belarus, the political crisis in Albania, outbreaks of violence in northern Kosovo and the dramatic events of the Arab Spring, added to an already-full agenda. Still, the participating States, under Lithuania's stewardship, succeeded in strengthening the OSCE's sense of common purpose and in making tangible progress in working towards the fulfilment of promises made in Astana. They adopted decisions at the Ministerial Council that will ensure the Organization continues its journey towards a Europe that is whole, free and at peace with itself.

Reconfirm, recommit and commemorate

Within the overarching strategic objective of organizing the follow-up process set forth in the *Astana Commemorative Declaration*, the Lithuanian Chairmanship worked to encourage openness and transparency; to build trust and confidence; to reduce tensions throughout the OSCE area; to build concretely upon the basic commitments of Helsinki, Paris, Istanbul and re-confirmed in Astana; and to uphold human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law.

The Lithuanian Chairmanship, in the main, relied upon the existing OSCE structures and mechanisms to take this process forward. It also initiated the "V to V Dialogues", a series of informal meetings on

The OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Lithuanian Foreign Minister Audronius Ažubalis, formally closes the 18th OSCE Ministerial Council. Vilnius, 7 December 2011. (OSCE/Velimir Alic)

Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security that included informal ambassadorial discussions in the style and spirit of the Corfu Process. The V to V Dialogues (Vancouver to Vladivostok via Vienna and Vilnius) and other associated side events complemented official discussions within the OSCE structures and laid the groundwork for the discussion and adoption of decisions at the OSCE Ministerial Conference (Vilnius, 6–7 December).

V to V Dialogues

The participating States agreed at the Astana Summit that managing the conflict cycle – early warning,



Participants in the “V to V Dialogues” expert meeting on strengthening the mediation-support capacity of the OSCE.Vienna, 12 July 2011. (Lithuanian MFA/ Paulius Kalmantas)

The V to V Dialogues

Seven meetings within the V to V Dialogues framework were held in 2011, including:

- An informal ambassadorial meeting on “Advancing the ‘V to V’ Dialogue on the Conflict Cycle” (15 March);
- An expert meeting on “Enhancing the Early Warning and Analytical Capacity of the OSCE” (15 April);
- A Chairmanship workshop on “Post-Conflict Rehabilitation: Stabilisation, Reconstruction and Peace-building” (2–3 May);
- An informal ambassadorial meeting on “Challenges Posed by Natural and Man-made Disasters and the Co-ordinated Response of the International Community” (20 May);
- An expert meeting on “Strengthening the Mediation-Support Capacity within the OSCE” (12 July);
- An ambassadorial workshop on “Early Response to Crises and Emerging Conflicts” (20 September);
- The concluding seminar “Towards a Genuine Security Community” (14 December), aimed at evaluating the progress made by the OSCE in 2011 towards implementing the vision of a Security Community and identifying the challenges ahead.

conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation – is one of the OSCE’s top priorities. Although the Organization already has at its disposal a comprehensive toolbox of instruments, mechanisms and procedures for involvement in the various phases of a crisis or conflict situation, the participating States emphasized during the Corfu Process and in the lead up to the Astana Summit a need to improve, strengthen and co-ordinate the OSCE’s strategic capacity to act effectively across the entire conflict cycle. Crises and conflicts in the OSCE region over the past several years further underlined the urgency of that need. The V to V Dialogues provided a forum for taking stock of the debates since the beginning of the Corfu Process and for generating concrete, operational ‘deliverables’ in this area.

Through the active engagement of the participating States, a draft decision on enhancing the OSCE’s capacities with regard to the conflict cycle was prepared for consideration at the OSCE Ministerial Council. This decision put forward new ideas to strengthen the OSCE’s operational capabilities in early warning, early action, dialogue facilitation and mediation support and post-conflict rehabilitation. It also allocated new tasks to the Secretariat, including the Secretary General.

Protracted conflicts

The settlement of protracted conflicts was one of the Chairmanship’s highest priorities. Throughout 2011, OSCE representatives continued to work within the existing negotiation frameworks to make progress in this area. And by year’s end these efforts bore fruit, offering hope that small, meaningful steps in the right direction will eventually make the vision of a genuine Security Community stretching from Vancouver to Vladivostok a reality.

MOLDOVA. Tangible progress was made in the Transdniestrian settlement process, with the first renewed official negotiations taking place in Vilnius on 30 November–1 December. The two-day 5+2 meeting – officially, “The Permanent Conference on Political Issues in the Framework of the Negotiating Process for Transdniestrian Settlement” – brought together representatives of the sides, mediators and observers: Moldova, Transdniestria, the OSCE, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, the United States and the European Union. The talks, chaired by the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Protracted Conflicts, Ambassador Giedrius Čekuolis, were devoted to a discussion of the principles and procedures for the official negotiating process. The Chairperson-in-Office referred to the landmark meeting – the first official talks after a six-year hiatus – as “a stepping stone to achieving further tangible progress” and looked forward to continued progress under the incoming Irish Chairmanship.

On 9 September, in Bad Reichenhall, Germany, an informal meeting between Prime Minister Vlad Filat of Moldova and Transnistrian leader Igor Smirnov was held, with direct involvement of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Audronius Ažubalis, during which a set of regulations governing the operations of the Expert Working Groups on Confidence-Building Measures was adopted. The event was important in helping to pave the way for the subsequent agreement in Moscow to renew official negotiations.

On 7–9 July, the Lithuanian Chairmanship together with the Swedish ambassador initiated a visit by OSCE ambassadors to Chişinău and Tiraspol. Ambassadors from 19 permanent delegations to the OSCE discussed, *inter alia*, the conflict settlement process, fostering confidence-building measures between the sides and the protection of human rights with the political leadership from both banks of Dniestr/Nistru River. “By coming here together we wish to show our sincere support

to the sides to move forward in the negotiation process. We believe that it will be possible to restart official negotiations in the 5+2 format in September, but this will require flexibility and understanding on both sides,” said Ambassador Renatas Norkus of Lithuania, the Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council.

GENEVA DISCUSSIONS. Concerning the 2008 conflict in Georgia, the Geneva International Discussions, which are now in their third year, serve as a valuable contribution to security and stability in the region. Throughout the year, the Chairmanship promoted dialogue in this format and called upon all participants to redouble their efforts to address international security arrangement issues, in particular the necessity for a commitment from all sides on non-use of force, as well as the humanitarian needs of affected communities by putting forward a proposal for the follow-up process of recommendations from a 2008 report by the OSCE Office

Office of the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference

Throughout 2011, the Personal Representative, Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk, continued to support the Chairperson and OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs in their efforts to help negotiate a settlement to the Nagorno Karabakh conflict.

The Personal Representative and his team supported the Chairperson’s visit to the South Caucasus in March and seven visits by the Minsk Group Co-Chairs to the region in February, March, April, June, July, October and November.

Meeting regularly with representatives of the sides, including at the highest military and political levels, he was able to keep the Chairperson and Minsk Group Co-Chairs informed of relevant developments. He supported the Co-Chairs in a series of meetings with the foreign ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan and helped them prepare for a meeting of the presidents in March, hosted by the President of Russia, at which they agreed to complete the exchange of prisoners of war and to try to investigate possible incidents along the front lines, with the support of the Personal Representative. He also helped prepare for a meeting of the presidents in June, again hosted by the President of Russia.

With the support of the sides, the Personal Representative and his team conducted 23 monitoring exercises on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border and Line of Contact (LOC). During these exercises, he led the Minsk Group Co-Chairs across the LOC in April and June, and across the Armenian-Azerbaijani border in November, enabling them to demonstrate that these should not become permanent barriers to contact between neighbouring peoples. Representatives of the High-Level Planning Group were also able to take part in two monitoring exercises.

The Personal Representative also continued to co-operate throughout the year with representatives of international organizations. He took part in meetings of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the European Parliament and briefed representatives of the OSCE, the participating States, the European Union, and civil society organizations with an interest in resolution of the conflict.



The Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office and a field assistant on a monitoring mission in November 2011. (OSCE/William Pryor)



The Co-Chairs of the Geneva Discussions (from left): UN Representative Antti Turunen; EU Special Representative Philippe Lefort; and Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Protracted Conflicts Giedrius Čekuolis. Geneva, 4 October 2011. (OSCE/Frane Maroevic)

of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities on human rights in the conflict-affected areas. The Chairperson-in-Office also presented, with the support of Switzerland, an updated proposal regarding a Vienna-based support team in the OSCE Secretariat Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC). Thanks to an unprecedented number of regular meetings, tangible progress was made on the effective use of the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanisms (agreed within the Geneva Framework) in solving security issues on the ground.

A release of 26 detainees in Tbilisi and Tskhinvali on 30 December, the largest such swap in recent years, was an important step towards building trust and helping to ensure freedom of movement. “This is another example that shows that the meetings under the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism are an important tool for resolving issues on the ground,” said the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office.

During the Lithuanian Chairmanship the OSCE was actively involved in the process of addressing the humanitarian needs of the conflict-affected population via implementation of water-supply rehabilitation projects on both sides of the Administrative Boundary Line. On 17 June, the OSCE Special Representative, together with representatives from the European Union and the Ministry for Regional Development and Infrastructure in Georgia, launched the Nikosi water project, which was agreed upon within the Geneva Discussions and will supply the Nikosi and Saltvisi areas with irrigation water. At the end of 2011, the OSCE initiated talks with the interested parties on implementation of the new package of water projects. Throughout the year, the Chairmanship stressed that progress in the negotiation process can only be made if there is full engagement and political will from all sides.

THE CONFLICT DEALT WITH BY THE OSCE MINSK CONFERENCE. Throughout the year, the Chairmanship, together with the Co-Chairs and members of the Minsk Group and other participating States, urged the parties to continue, in a greater spirit of compromise, to negotiate

a peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, including non-use or threat of force, territorial integrity and the equal rights and self-determination of peoples.

The Co-Chairs visited the region seven times and held 14 separate meetings in various locations with Azerbaijani President Aliyev and Armenian President Sargsyan. The Co-Chairs also crossed the Line of Contact by foot four times, demonstrating that the Line is not a permanent barrier between peoples of the region and that military co-ordination in implementing the ceasefire is possible when all sides are willing. They continued to reiterate that there is no military solution and that political will by the sides is essential for them to make the difficult decisions required to move beyond the unacceptable status quo and achieve peace.

On the margins of the Vilnius Ministerial Council, the Heads of Delegation of the Minsk Group Co-Chair countries and the Foreign Ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan agreed on a Joint Statement. In the statement, the parties agreed on the need to continue the negotiating process in the format of the OSCE Minsk Group and to improve the climate for making progress towards a peaceful settlement. As one of the steps in this direction, they agreed that further efforts should be made to work on the details of the mechanism to investigate ceasefire violations. The Foreign Ministers

High-level Planning Group

The Group, in accordance with its mandate, supported the Chairperson-in-Office by making recommendations on developing a plan for the establishment, force structure requirements and operation of a multinational OSCE peacekeeping force for the area of conflict dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference. In order to maintain the required situation awareness of the possible area of operations, the Group participated in two monitoring missions on the Line of Contact carried out by the Personal Representative.

Representatives of the High-level Planning Group also liaised with international and regional organizations involved in peacekeeping activities in order to keep abreast of developments in operational planning for modern crisis management/peacekeeping operations.

The Head of the High-level Planning Group is appointed by the Chairperson-in-Office and instructed by Chairmanship directives. The Group comprises eight seconded officers and one contracted staff, but three of these positions have been vacant for several years, due to the lack of interest by participating States to second staff to these positions.

also informed the Co-Chair countries that their presidents are ready to meet again jointly in the near future to continue their direct dialogue on how to bring peace, stability and prosperity to their peoples.

Many deplorable incidents occurred along the Line of Contact in 2011. These incidents resulted in the loss of life and contributed to increased tension in the region. The Chairmanship, alongside the Minsk Group Co-Chairs, called on the parties to take additional, immediate actions to reinforce the cease-fire agreement by agreeing on a mechanism, which was proposed in 2011, to conduct investigations of incidents along the Line of Contact, and by removing snipers and

establishing direct telecommunications between the field commanders.

The Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group are Ambassador Robert Bradtke of the United States, Ambassador Igor Popov of the Russian Federation, and Ambassador Jacques Faure of France, who succeeded Ambassador Bernard Fassier in December.

Responding to unforeseen events

BELARUS. Following the non-extension of the mandate of the OSCE Office in Minsk in December 2010, the Chairmanship initiated several rounds of consultations throughout the year with the Belarusian authorities on

Dayton Article IV Agreement

In his report to the Permanent Council on 8 September, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Brigadier General Costanzo Periotto emphasized that the Parties to Article IV, Annex 1B of the Dayton Peace Accords “continue to execute all the activities in an atmosphere of trust, friendship, transparency and co-operation.”

The four Parties to the accord – Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia – have worked together with the support of the international community since 1996 to re-establish peace and stability in South-Eastern Europe. The implementation and verification of the agreed arms control measures is a crucial part of this work. Eighteen inspection missions were carried out in 2011. In all, 660 inspection missions have been conducted since the signing of the Agreement in 1996, involving 1,208 international assistants and resulting in the impressive reduction of 9,525 heavy weapons.



One of 61 T-55 tanks that were destroyed in Montenegro. (Montenegrin Verification Centre)

This year, the number of international assistants that regularly attend field inspections was reduced by half because the experts at the Verification Centres of the Parties no longer require technical support from the international community. In addition, the inspection training course was completely re-organized, resulting in a saving of resources, an increase in quality of the lectures and, in line with the ownership process, greater involvement of the Verification Centres of the Parties. Both measures are positive steps forward in the ongoing ownership process.

The implementation of a comprehensive two-phase Action Plan for the transfer of responsibilities, which was elaborated in 2010, continued to move forward. The first phase, involving the gradual transfer of functions from the Office of the Personal Representative to the Parties, was concluded as planned by year's end. A final version of a detailed road map and time table for the execution of the second phase of the project will likely be adopted by the Parties, with implementation slated for the course of 2012. The second phase, comprising preparation of all necessary measures – legal, political, technical and organizational – for the transfer of full autonomy to the Parties, is planned to conclude by the end of 2014.

With the assumption of full ownership by the Parties, the role of the OSCE will shift from assistance to support. Consequently, the Office of the Personal Representative may be closed.

The ownership process, with the support of the OSCE community, the European Union, the Contact Group countries (Germany, France, Italy, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States) and the Parties themselves, continues to be implemented in full respect of agreed measures. This evolution in the direction of full autonomy should not be interpreted as the international community withdrawing its support. On the contrary, the international community will continue to remain engaged as the countries of the region progressively assume full responsibility of this process.

possible future OSCE activities in the country, while at the same time speaking out against violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms. On 6 April, 14 OSCE participating States invoked the Moscow Mechanism, and a rapporteur was appointed to investigate the implementation of the country's OSCE human rights commitments, although he was not granted a visa to visit the country. The results of the investigation were presented to the Permanent Council on 16 June. At the meeting, Lithuanian Ambassador Renatas Norkus, the Chairperson of the Permanent Council, said, "The Chairmanship is convinced of the need for dialogue and engagement with Belarus on the implementation of OSCE commitments."

ALBANIA. In late January, Lithuanian Deputy Foreign Minister Evaldas Ignatavičius visited Albania on behalf of the Chairperson-in-Office as part of efforts to prevent further escalation of the confrontation between pro-government and opposition forces in Tirana. In March, the Chairmanship also accompanied the OSCE Secretary General to Albania to further counsel calm in the period preceding local government elections on 8 May. In close co-ordination with the OSCE Presence in Albania and representatives of the European Union, the United States and other partners, the Chairmanship sought to help the Government and the opposition break a dangerous political gridlock and confirmed its readiness to offer support if requested and appropriate.

Kosovo. Repeated flare-ups of violence in northern Kosovo were cause for concern. The Chairperson-in-Office repeatedly appealed for calm and co-operation following the events of 25 July and subsequent developments, condemned violence and called for outstanding issues to be resolved in a calm and responsible manner through the European Union-led dialogue.

ARAB SPRING. There are many parallels to be drawn between the struggle for democracy in the southern Mediterranean and past struggles of many OSCE participating States, including Lithuania. Throughout the year, the Organization continued to express its readiness to support democratic transition processes and share its experience in promoting security, enhancing prosperity and building strong democratic institutions and vibrant civil societies.

Safety of journalists and media freedom

Throughout the year, the Chairmanship worked to promote the implementation of OSCE media commitments, call attention to the issue of safety of journalists and advance media freedom throughout the OSCE region.

A "Conference on the Safety of Journalists in the OSCE Region" (Vilnius, 7–8 June) provided a forum for

government representatives, legislators, law enforcement agencies and civil society, as well as journalists and media representatives, to discuss how to promote the safety of journalists and ensure secure and free working conditions for the media. The conference, hosted by the Chairmanship in co-operation with the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFOM), the OSCE Troika and Ukraine, also highlighted the role of governments in ensuring the safety of journalists, the contribution of civil society in raising awareness of the role played by the media in enabling public debate, and existing good practices in legislation, law enforcement and judicial instruments.

The conference was complemented by two side events: a roundtable on the protection of journalists from violence, presented by Dunja Mijatovič, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, and Thomas Hammarberg, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights; and a World Press Photo exhibit, organized by Lithuania's Foreign Ministry and the Dutch Embassy in Lithuania.

Media freedom was again in focus at a Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on "Promotion of Pluralism in New Media" (Vienna, 7–8 July), jointly hosted by the Chairmanship, ODIHR and RFOM. More than 200 participants from some 40 countries – including representatives of the OSCE participating States, Institutions and field operations as well as representatives of international governmental and non-governmental organizations, media and civil society – met to discuss the development of electronic media and efforts to keep new media, including digital broadcasting, social media and the Internet, pluralistic and free from unnecessary government restrictions.

Work with Partners for Co-operation

At the Astana Summit in 2010, the participating States acknowledged that the security of the OSCE area is inextricably linked to that of its neighbours. The events in 2011 in North Africa and Afghanistan underscored

The OSCE Safety of Journalists Guidebook

Further advancing their priority of free and safe media, the Chairperson-in-Office and the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media were proud to launch the *OSCE Safety of Journalists Guidebook* at the Ministerial Council in Vilnius. The publication sets out, in practical terms, what governmental authorities and civil society can and must do to create a climate conducive to fearless reporting and offers concrete guidelines to protect journalists and to ensure that those who use force or violence against them are brought to justice.



Vilnius Recommendations on Safety of Journalists

At the conclusion of the “Conference on the Safety of Journalists in the OSCE Region” (Vilnius, 7–8 June), the Chairmanship and the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media presented recommendations to ensure the protection of journalists, one of the Chairmanship’s main priorities.

The Chairmanship and the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media:

- Strongly encourage governments of OSCE participating States to treat violence against journalists as a direct attack on freedom of expression, and publicly refute any attempt to silence critical or differing voices in the society;
- Recommend that governments give their full political support to the strengthening of media freedom by promoting safe and unimpeded conditions for journalists to perform their professional duties;
- Encourage legislators to increase safe working conditions for journalists by creating legislation that fosters media freedoms, including guarantees of free access to information, protection of confidential sources, and decriminalising journalistic activities, including defamation and libel;
- Advocate that the authorities make it their priority to carry out swift and effective investigations, sending a message to society that perpetrators and masterminds of violence against journalists will be efficiently brought to justice;
- Urge that law enforcement agencies be given sufficient resources and expertise to carry out effective investigations in the particular field of the media and to develop practices that respect the legal rights of members of the media, including their unhindered access to information during public protests or in cases of civil and public unrest;
- Call for due weight to be given to the public interest in judicial procedures initiated against journalists as a result of their professional duties, and to ensure that such cases are handled without delay and in a transparent manner;
- Call upon law enforcement agencies and media to jointly establish good practices that can increase the safety of members of the media and to engage in joint training activities to promote these practices;
- Support the work of the OSCE field operations in their important role in assisting participating States in this regard and encourage field operations to undertake further projects aimed at capacity building and training for the media, including the promotion of dialogue between the media and law enforcement agencies.

“The true quality of a nation’s democracy can be measured by the security and safety of its journalists.”

Audronius Ažubalis

OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Lithuanian Foreign Minister Audronius Ažubalis, speaking to media representatives. Vienna, 24 February 2011. (OSCE/Jonathan Perfect)

the wisdom of those words, and the Chairmanship worked throughout the year to strengthen co-operation among the OSCE and its Partner countries, especially Afghanistan and its Partners in the southern Mediterranean.

The Mediterranean Contact Group met five times during 2011, discussing a wide range of security issues and possible avenues for OSCE support for peaceful transitions in the southern Mediterranean based on relevant OSCE decisions and requests by individual Mediterranean Partner countries. Experts from the OSCE and other international organizations addressed the Group, and representatives of Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia provided briefings of unfolding events and national reform programmes. The Contact Group meetings also provided an opportunity for briefings on OSCE activities in areas of particular relevance to the Mediterranean Partners in all three dimensions, including border security and management, non-proliferation, energy and environmental security, migration management, and democratic reform and human rights.

In light of the events of the Arab Spring, the agenda of the OSCE-Mediterranean Conference on “Democratic

Transformation: Challenges and Opportunities in the Mediterranean Region” (Budva, Montenegro, 10–11 October) was designed to maximize opportunities for the sharing of best practices and lessons learned by the participating States and the Mediterranean Partners. Key topics included: the role of police and the armed forces in democratic societies; promoting human rights, fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law; and good governance.

In its seven meetings in 2011, the Asian Contact Group discussed a wide range of security issues. The meetings also provided an opportunity for briefings on OSCE activities in areas of particular relevance to the Asian Partners in all three dimensions. Among the many topics covered were transnational threats; border security and management; environmental security; good governance and combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism; human rights and democracy issues; non-proliferation; and OSCE efforts to help stabilize Afghanistan.

Following the request of Afghanistan, the OSCE participating States expressed a strong interest in enhancing the scope of the OSCE’s engagement with

OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier receives the OSCE flag during a ceremony to mark the closure of the OSCE Office in Zagreb, 17 January 2012. (Office of the President of the Republic of Croatia/ Marija Kundek)



OSCE Office in Zagreb: “Croatia’s success is our success”

On 15 December, the OSCE participating States agreed that the Office in Zagreb had successfully fulfilled its mandate, and the Permanent Council adopted a decision to close its field presence in Croatia after 15 years of work in the host country.

“Today’s decision by the OSCE Permanent Council is exceptional – a decision is normally only required to extend the mandate of a field operation, and this agreement by the 56 participating States recognizes our common achievements,” said the Chairperson-in-Office.

The decision was in many ways a celebration of the mutual success of the OSCE and Croatia. “In the last 15 years the OSCE has provided support in democratization, protection of human and minority rights, refugee return, war crimes processing, media freedom and to civil society,” said Ažubalis. “Croatia has taken advantage of the OSCE presence for the benefit of its citizens and institutions.”

In April 1996, the OSCE opened its first field presence in the country, the Mission to Croatia, which at its peak had almost 800 staff members and was closed at the end of 2007 after successfully completing most of its mandate. The remaining tasks were taken on by the OSCE Office in Zagreb, which officially began work on 1 January 2008.

Since then, the Office in Zagreb worked in two priority areas, in particular reporting on the residual aspects of Housing Care Programme implementation and monitoring domestic war crimes proceedings. With OSCE support, the national Housing Care Programme provided homes to 4,915 former occupancy/tenancy rights holders, and the Croatian judicial system developed further the capacity to assume full responsibility for managing its caseload of domestic war crimes, including the review of judicial decisions and in absentia convictions. The OSCE also mentored three Croatian non-governmental organizations, which will continue to monitor and report on all war crimes trials and engage in advocacy activities.

Afghanistan. The 2011 Lithuanian Chairmanship organized several briefings to this end and circulated a Perception Paper on “Strengthening OSCE Engagement with Afghanistan” (CIO.GAL/221/11), which presented a second package of 32 Afghan-related projects. The goal of these efforts was to contribute to a greater cohesion in the international community’s efforts to stabilize Afghanistan, in line with the Istanbul and Bonn conclusions. The updated Ministerial Council decision on Strengthening OSCE Engagement with Afghanistan (MC.DEC/4/11), authorizing co-operation with Afghanistan across all three dimensions with a special focus on the Central Asian component, was successfully adopted in Vilnius.

Mongolia, a Partner for Co-operation since 2004, submitted its formal request to become a participating State on 28 October. The initiative was well-received and discussed at the Ministerial Council, resulting in a decision (MC.DEC/12/11), in which the incoming Irish Chairmanship was tasked to follow up on the request, with a view to adopting a decision on Mongolia becoming the OSCE’s 57th participating State.

The OSCE-Mongolia Conference (Ulaanbaatar, 23–24 May) provided an opportunity for strengthening synergies between the 56 participating States and the six Asian Partners for Co-operation in addressing transnational threats, such as illicit drug trafficking; advancing international economic co-operation, especially transport and energy security; and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms.

For more information on the OSCE Partners for Co-operation, see the chapter on Partnerships for security and co-operation, page 109.

Chairmanship work across the dimensions

In the POLITICO-MILITARY DIMENSION of security, work proceeded with a special emphasis on arms control, confidence- and security-building measures and transnational threats.

This year’s Annual Security Review Conference (Vienna, 29 June–1 July), under the theme “Toward a Security Community: What Has to Be Done”, provided a framework for enhancing security dialogue and reviewing security work undertaken by the OSCE and its 56 participating States. Discussions centred on transnational threats, the conflict cycle and confidence- and security-building measures.

The 2011 ASRC was preceded by a special session on how the OSCE can concretely strengthen its interaction with the Partners for Co-operation. It examined the status of the Organization’s co-operation with Partners as well as the potential for enhanced engagement – particularly with Afghanistan and with Partners in the southern Mediterranean – in responding to transnational threats, especially those related to fighting terrorism, border management and migration management.



Marc Perrin de Brichambaut (l) and Secretary General Lamberto Zannier, at the OSCE headquarters in Vienna. (OSCE/Sarah Crozier)

Appointing an OSCE Secretary General

A major challenge for the Lithuanian Chairmanship was to seek consensus on the appointment of a new Secretary General for the OSCE. The Chairmanship conducted the process in a spirit of fairness and transparency, in close consultation with all of the 56 participating States. On 30 June, the Ministerial Council adopted a decision (MC.DEC/2/11) on the appointment of Ambassador Lamberto Zannier of Italy as Secretary General of the OSCE, effective 1 July. He succeeded Marc Perrin de Brichambaut of France, who had served as Secretary General since June 2005.

At a two-day OSCE conference on “A Comprehensive Approach to Cyber-security: Exploring the Future OSCE Role” (Vienna, 9–10 May), participants focused on cyber threats to critical infrastructure, cybercrime and terrorist use of the Internet and elaborated on the desirability, nature and possible extent of politically binding norms of State behaviour in cyberspace. They also highlighted potential countermeasures, lessons learned and national best practices with regard to investigation and prosecution, taking into consideration the relevant fundamental human rights and civil liberty considerations.

Chairmanship events in the area of border management promoted co-operation and the sharing of best practices. A conference on “Combating Drug Trafficking and Enhancing Border Security and Management in the OSCE Area” (Vienna, 16–17 June) focused on identifying obstacles to effective counter-narcotic efforts; enhancing national and international law-enforcement co-operation; monitoring the manufacture, shipment, marketing

and distribution of precursor chemicals; combating corruption of relevant counter-narcotic agencies; and consolidating the efforts of international and regional organizations to combat the illicit drug supply. A seminar on “Applied Issues in International Land Boundary Delimitation/Demarcation Practices” (Vilnius, 31 May–1 June) brought together border officials, diplomats, scientists, cartographers, engineers and other experts for a non-political discussion of good practices in technical aspects of delimitation and demarcation of borders.

Appointments of Special and Personal Representatives of the Chairperson-in-Office

Ambassador Giedrius Čekuolis

Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Protracted Conflicts

Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk

Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on the conflict dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference

Major General Michele Torres

Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV of Annex 1B of the Dayton Peace Accords (*as of 11 September 2011, succeeding Brigadier General Costanzo Periotto*)

Lieutenant Colonel (retired) Helmut Napiontek

OSCE Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint-Commission on Military Pensioners

Senator Adil Akhmetov

Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims

Dr. Massimo Introvigne

Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, also Focusing on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians and Members of Other Religions

Rabbi Andrew Baker

Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism

Wendy Patten

Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Gender Issues

Kimmo Kiljunen

Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Election Observation Mechanisms

Brigadier General Artūras Leita

Head of the High-level Planning Group

In the ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION, the Chairmanship placed special emphasis on transport and energy and promoting transboundary environmental co-operation, particularly within the framework of the Environment and Security (ENVSEC) Initiative.

The 19th Economic and Environmental Forum process was dedicated to the promotion of sustainable energy and transport. The First Preparatory Meeting (Vienna, 7–8 February) focused on the development of sustainable energy, including new and renewable as well as traditional energy sources; good governance and transparency; energy efficiency; low-carbon energy technologies; and co-operation between energy producers, consumers and transit countries. The Second Preparatory Meeting (Druskininkai, Lithuania, 4–5 April) addressed the development of sustainable transport, including the integration of transport networks through the reduction of barriers and the simplification of border-crossing procedures, improvement of energy efficiency in transport areas and the role of clean technologies. These events culminated in the 19th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum (Prague, 14–16 September), which was attended by more than 300 policy-makers and experts from the OSCE participating States, Partners for Co-operation, international organizations, academia and non-governmental organizations.

A Chairmanship workshop on “Economic and Environmental Activities as Confidence-building Measures” (Vienna, 30 May) brought together practitioners, experts and representatives of international and non-governmental organizations and highlighted the potential of economic and environmental activities to build confidence and trust between different parties and States, to reduce possible causes of tension and to help strengthen national and regional security and stability.

International policy-makers and experts on energy diplomacy discussed energy markets and security at a high-level conference on “Integrating Global Energy Markets – Providing Energy Security” (Ashgabat, 3–4 November), organized by the Chairmanship in co-operation with the OSCE Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat and the Government of Turkmenistan.

In the HUMAN DIMENSION, work focused on building trust and confidence among participating States through the structured and substantive work of the Human Dimension Committee, emphasizing the implementation of OSCE human dimension commitments and identifying relevant areas in which an update of commitments is needed. Several regular and special events aimed at promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms and tolerance and non-discrimination were held.

The Economic and Environmental Dimension Implementation Meeting

A new Economic and Environmental Dimension Implementation Meeting (Vienna, 17–19 October) was introduced in 2011, aimed at assessing the implementation of economic and environmental commitments and identifying priorities for future work. The three-day meeting is a complement to the Economic and Environmental Forum process, the follow-up to the 2010 Astana Summit and preparations for the 2011 Ministerial Council. On 7 December, the Permanent Council adopted a decision to hold the Economic and Environmental Dimension Implementation Meeting on an annual basis (PC.DEC/1011).

The Chairmanship organized three Supplementary Human Dimension Meetings in co-operation with the OSCE Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR). The first meeting, on national human rights institutions (NHRIs) (Vienna, 14–15 April) centred on the role of ombudsperson offices, commissions and other NHRIs in promoting and protecting human rights; interaction between NHRIs and governments and civil society; and the challenges NHRIs face in exercising their mandates effectively and efficiently. The second Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on the promotion of pluralism in new media (Vienna, 7–8 July) was organized in co-operation with the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media. It focused on opportunities and challenges faced by new media in the promotion of pluralism, the regulatory aspects of the digital switchover and Internet regulation in the OSCE area. The third meeting, on the prevention of racism, xenophobia and hate crimes through educational and awareness-raising initiatives (Vienna, 10–11 November), reviewed the implementation of OSCE commitments, examined contemporary forms of racist and xenophobic intolerance and hate crimes, and provided an opportunity to review good practices of the participating States, international organizations and civil society actors.

Other regular human dimension events organized in co-operation with ODIHR included a seminar on the role of political parties in the political process (Warsaw, 18–20 May) and an expert conference on national human rights institutions in the OSCE area (Vilnius, 13–14 July).

In 2011, the human dimension agenda also included the promotion of women's rights and gender equality, women's legal and economic empowerment, preventing domestic violence against women and highlighting the importance of women's participation in peace and security. Visits by the Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on Gender Issues in the OSCE

region (Moldova, Kyrgyzstan, Belgium) and her participation in a number of important events throughout the year substantially contributed to gender mainstreaming in the OSCE.

Democratic transition processes in the OSCE's Mediterranean Partner states and the human rights situation in Belarus featured prominently at the 2011 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (Warsaw, 26 September–7 October). Some 1,000 government representatives and civil society activists from the OSCE's 56 participating States gathered in Warsaw for the two-week conference to review progress in the implementation of OSCE commitments in the areas of human rights and democracy. The annual OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting is Europe's largest human rights conference.

Ministerial Council

On 6–7 December, the Lithuanian Chairmanship welcomed to Vilnius the foreign ministers of the 56 participating States and the 12 OSCE Partners for Co-operation for debate and decision-making that would define and establish a course for the OSCE's future. In his opening remarks, the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Lithuanian Foreign Minister Audronius Azubalis encouraged those present to act decisively to keep the promises made in Astana.

"The world is facing many pressing challenges, from the ongoing financial crisis to the events in the Middle East and North Africa," he said. "It is important that at such times of crisis we keep our focus on the goal of establishing a Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community as set out by our leaders a year ago at the OSCE Summit in Astana. This meeting is an opportunity to make progress on challenges old and new."

Having laid the groundwork for discussions throughout the year using the existing OSCE structures

OSCE Talks

The second annual OSCE Talks seminar, on "Building Bridges: Security Community and Partnerships for Change" (Vilnius, 5 April), was held at the Institute of International Relations and Political Science at Vilnius University. The event brought together students, academics and experts and aimed to encourage the active interest and participation of young people in discussions on the primary security challenges we face. The seminar looked at how the different threads of diplomacy – formal and informal – can build stronger partnerships and networks to promote change and build a more secure community. A report based on the seminar was published in June and distributed to international think tanks.



The opening session of the 2011 OSCE Ministerial Council, Vilnius, 6 December 2011. (OSCEPA/Neil Simon)

Vilnius Ministerial Council Decisions and Declarations

- | | | | |
|-------------|--|---------------------|--|
| MC.DEC/ | OSCE Consecutive Chairmanships in 2014 and 2015, Subject to a Silence Procedure Expiring on Friday 10 February 2012, at 12 noon CET | MC.DEC/7/11 | Issues Relevant to the Forum for Security Co-operation |
| MC.DEC/1/11 | Reappointment of Ambassador Janez Lenarčič as Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights | MC.DEC/8/11 | Proper Role of the OSCE in Facilitation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 |
| MC.DEC/2/11 | Appointment of the OSCE Secretary General | MC.DEC/9/11 | Strengthening Co-ordination and Coherence in the OSCE's Efforts to Address Transnational Threats |
| MC.DEC/3/11 | Elements of the Conflict Cycle, Related to Enhancing the OSCE's Capabilities in Early Warning, Early Action, Dialogue Facilitation and Mediation Support, and Post-Conflict Rehabilitation | MC.DEC/10/11 | Promoting Equal Opportunity for Women in the Economic Sphere |
| MC.DEC/4/11 | Strengthening OSCE Engagement with Afghanistan | MC.DEC/11/11 | Strengthening Transport Dialogue in the OSCE |
| MC.DEC/5/11 | Partners for Co-operation | MC.DEC/12/11 | Application of Mongolia to Become a Participating State |
| MC.DEC/6/11 | Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition | MC.DEC/13/11 | Time and Place of the Next Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council |
| | | MC.DOC/1/11/ | Ministerial Declaration on |
| | | Corr.1 ¹ | Combating All Forms of Human Trafficking |

(The OSCE 2011 Ministerial Council Decisions are available at: www.osce.org/event/mc_2011.)

Side events to the Vilnius Ministerial Council

- Ahead of the Ministerial Council, the Chairmanship and ODIHR jointly organized the OSCE-Mediterranean Partner Countries' Conference for Civil Society, entitled "Transparency and Pluralism in Electoral Good Practice, Political Participation, Justice and Legal Reform" (Vilnius, 4–5 December) and a side event on "Tolerance and Non-Discrimination in Democratic Transition" (Vilnius, 5 December). Both occasions provided a forum for more than 80 civil society representatives from the OSCE participating States and the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation to network, exchange ideas on electoral good practice, political participation, and justice and legal reform, and develop recommendations for consideration at the Ministerial Council.
- At a "Civil Society Parallel Conference" (Vilnius, 4–5 December), civil society representatives from throughout the OSCE area reviewed the human rights situation in the region, including challenges to media freedom and the freedom of citizens to meet and organize, and threats to democratic processes and the rule of law. A set of policy recommendations based on this review was presented to the Chairmanship as input to the Ministerial Council and distributed to the 56 participating States. Follow-up to these recommendations was discussed during the final meeting of the OSCE Human Dimension Committee on 13 December.

and mechanisms and other forums, such as the Informal Ambassadorial Retreat (Baden, Austria, 23–24 June), the V to V Dialogues and active engagement with civil society and OSCE Partners, the participating States faced an ambitious agenda in which they would address security challenges in all three dimensions. Maintaining their resolve through intense dialogue and rigorous debate, they engaged constructively in this challenging process. And as hoped, the foreign ministers did live up to the promise of Astana, adopting decisions on enhancing OSCE capabilities in early warning, early action, dialogue facilitation and mediation support, and post-conflict rehabilitation. Consensus was also reached on addressing transnational threats, promoting equal opportunity for women in the economic sphere, strengthening the transport dialogue, defining the role of the OSCE in facilitating UN Security Council Resolution 1540, dealing with small arms and light weapons and conventional ammunition, enhancing engagement and interaction with OSCE Partners for Co-operation, and on issues relevant to the Forum for Security Co-operation. They also agreed on a declaration on combating all forms of human trafficking.

"Over the past days Vilnius has been home to a vital debate on the security challenges that we face in our 56 States and in neighbouring regions," Ažubalis said in his closing address. "I am not only referring to the decisions we as foreign ministers have taken, but also to the civil society activists who have travelled from as near as neighbouring Belarus and as far as North Africa, to meet with government officials and each other, to provide their views and recommendations for taking the work of the OSCE forward."

Strengthening the legal framework

As part of its follow-up to the taskings set forth in the *Astana Commemorative Declaration*, the Chairmanship organized two informal working groups

on strengthening the legal framework of the OSCE (Vienna, 13 May and 23 September). Discussions surrounding this issue, first raised in 1993, have become more regular since the development in 2007 of a Draft Convention on Legal Personality, Legal Capacity and Privileges and Immunities for the OSCE, the adoption of which hinges on the unresolved question of whether the OSCE needs a constituent document.

To prepare for the working group discussions, the Chairmanship issued two non-papers, one of which,

Ministerial Council: On the margins

OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier and UN Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs B. Lynn Pascoe hosted a roundtable meeting of international and regional organizations to promote closer co-ordination of responses to changes in the southern Mediterranean (Vilnius, 6 December). The meeting brought together representatives of the League of Arab States and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation with counterparts from the European Union, NATO, the Council of Europe, the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, as well as the OSCE and the UN.

"The OSCE has accumulated a wealth of experience in supporting the development of democracy in its own participating States. Some of the areas where we have developed tools and expertise, such as elections, media freedom, democratic policing and good governance, to name a few, could be particularly relevant to transition processes across the southern Mediterranean," Zannier said.

“Principles for a Discussion on a Constituent Document for the OSCE” (CiO.GAL/169/11), was developed in consultation with legal experts.

In its report to the Ministerial Council (MC.GAL/11/11 Corr.1), the Chairmanship evaluated that “the continuing interest of the participating States to contribute to the discussions, and the efforts of Chairmanships, as well as the continuous practical input from legal experts, demonstrate that endowing the OSCE with a separate legal status should remain a priority for the participating States. This even more the case, as otherwise the OSCE could face serious risks, not only in its operational efficiency and effectiveness, but also in the area of security for its personnel. To avoid these problems, it should be endowed with legal personality as soon as possible.”

Looking forward

Having taken a pragmatic, constructive and even-handed approach as its point of departure, the Lithuanian Chairmanship guided the OSCE further along the path towards a genuine Security Community stretching from Vancouver to Vladivostok. Through co-operation and

Thematic event on internally displaced persons and refugees

A special thematic event on internally displaced persons and refugees (Vienna, 27 May), in co-operation with UNHCR, ODIHR and the Swiss Chairmanship of the OSCE Human Dimension Committee, focused on identifying protection gaps and exploring ways to find sustainable solutions for displaced populations in the OSCE area.

hard work, the participating States worked to bridge differences and build trust, spurring positive developments in the areas of protracted conflicts, transnational threats, media freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination, border monitoring and regional co-operation, transport, energy and cyber security.

These meaningful steps helped build momentum for further progress under the stewardship of the incoming Irish Chairmanship and future OSCE Chairmanships, and Lithuania stands ready in full support of these efforts.

Promoting tolerance and non-discrimination

In 2011, the Lithuanian Chairmanship assigned high priority to promoting tolerance and non-discrimination, particularly through education and awareness-raising. Personal Representatives of the Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Anti-Semitism, on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims, and on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination against Christians and Members of Other Religions carried out visits throughout the OSCE area. They jointly visited France, Italy, the Holy See, Ukraine and Switzerland, and Rabbi Andrew Baker visited the Netherlands. These visits resulted in reports and a set of recommendations to the host governments on how to advance tolerance and non-discrimination in their respective countries.

The Chairmanship, in co-operation with ODIHR and the three Personal Representatives of the Chairperson-in-Office on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination, organized a series of three high-level meetings to promote tolerance and non-discrimination through awareness-raising and education:

- “Confronting Anti-Semitism in Public Discourse” (Prague, 23–24 March) called attention to the manifestations of anti-Semitism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance in public and highlighted ways to promote tolerance. Academics and representatives of Jewish communities, media and public institutions of the OSCE participating States attended the conference, which was hosted by the Czech Republic.
- “Preventing and Responding to Hate Incidents and Crimes against Christians” (Rome, 12 September) aimed at raising awareness of hate-motivated crimes and incidents targeting Christians and their property across the OSCE region and was hosted by the Republic of Italy. Participants also shared good practices and developed a set of recommendations on how to prevent and respond to such crimes and incidents, with a special focus on attacks on places of worship.
- “Confronting Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims in Public Discourse” (Vienna, 28 October) explored the role of the media and political leaders in promoting non-discrimination, discussed the impact of anti-Muslim public discourse on communities and society in general and offered recommendations for preventing and responding to anti-Muslim statements. Some 150 high-level representatives of OSCE participating States, OSCE Institutions, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, research institutions and the media participated in the event.

3

**PERMANENT
COUNCIL**

PERMANENT COUNCIL

Convening weekly at the Hofburg in Vienna, the Permanent Council is the OSCE's regular body for political consultation and decision-making and responsible for the day-to-day business of the Organization. In 2011, Lithuanian Ambassador Renatas Norkus presided over the Permanent Council, which met 51 times and welcomed 25 guest speakers, including two Heads of State.

On 13 January, Chairperson-in-Office Audronius Ažubalis addressed the first Permanent Council under the Lithuanian Chairmanship and set the course for the coming year. He declared the Chairmanship's intention to continue the good work of previous Chairmanships and work within the existing frameworks of the Organization to address specific priorities, including: protracted conflicts, transnational threats, energy security, tolerance and fundamental freedoms.

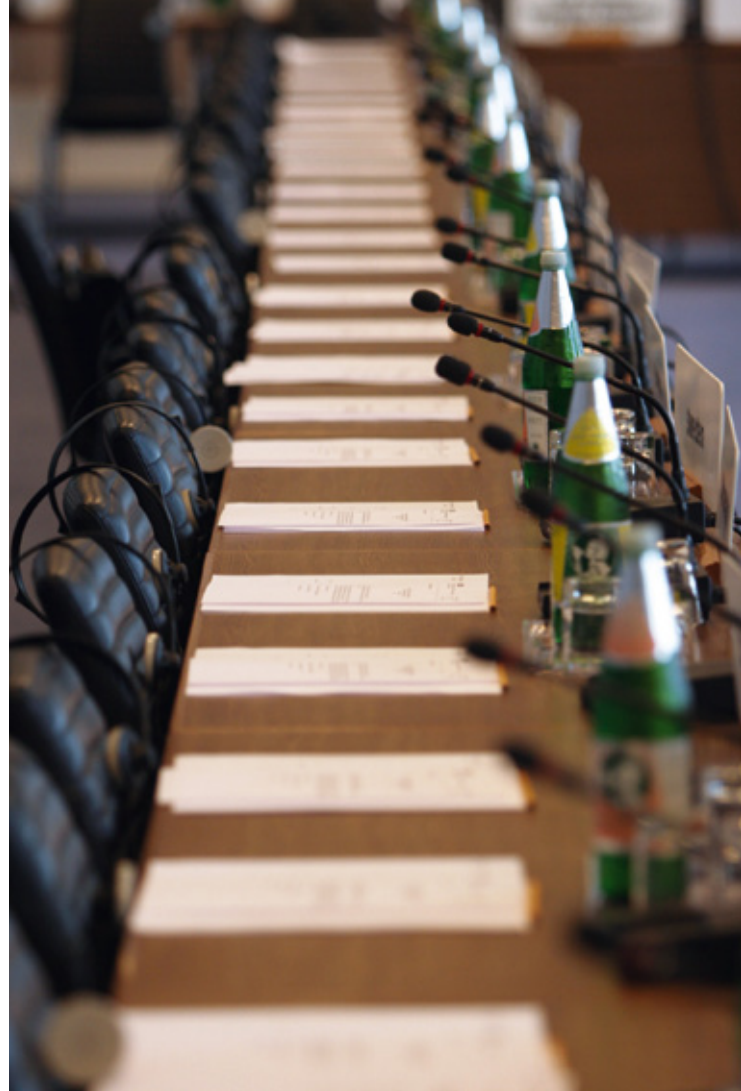
Under the stewardship of the Chairmanship, the three committees – in the politico-military, economic and human dimensions – turned words into action. Their work, incorporating the input of the Special and Personal Representatives of the Chairperson-in-Office, the heads of Institutions, the Parliamentary Assembly, field operations and other working groups, helped to inform the debates, conclusions and decisions adopted by the Permanent Council in 2011. Ultimately,

Permanent Council Committee Chairmen Appointments

Ambassador Heiner Horsten, Chair of the Security Committee

Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk, Chair of the Economic and Environmental Committee

Ambassador Thomas Greminger, Chair of the Human Dimension Committee



their efforts also informed the discussions, deliberations and decisions at the Vilnius Ministerial Council in December.

With an ambitious agenda covering all three dimensions, the Permanent Council adopted 45 decisions, including:

- recommending the reappointment of Janez Lenarčič as Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights;
- recommending the appointment of Lamberto Zannier as OSCE Secretary General;
- strengthening the effectiveness of the economic and environmental dimension;
- closing the OSCE Office in Zagreb following the successful fulfilment of its mandate; and
- approving the Unified Budget on time for the third consecutive year.

In addition to regular meetings, there were four joint meetings of the Permanent Council and the Forum for Security Co-operation in 2011 (1 July, 13 July, 7 September and 13 December), focusing on the security dialogue with respect to transnational threats, UNSCR 1540 on weapons of mass destruction and co-operation between the OSCE and the United Nations and peace-keeping operations.

Guest speakers at the Permanent Council in 2011

- 13 January:** (Special PC) Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Lithuania
Audronius Ažubalis
- 10 February:** Special Representative of the European Union for the South Caucasus **Peter Semneby**
- 17 February:** United States Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism **Hannah Rosenthal**, and the United States Special Representative to Muslim Communities **Farah Pandith**
- 3 March:** Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia **Edward Nalbandyan**
- 31 March:** Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan **Hamrokhon Zarifi**
- 13 April:** (Special PC) President of the Republic of Lithuania
Dalia Grybauskaitė
- 14 April:** Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council **Hido Bišćević**
- 5 May:** Executive Director of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) **Çınar Aldemir**
- 9 June:** (Special PC) President of Kyrgyzstan **Roza Otunbayeva**
- 9 June:** (Special PC) Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Mongolia
Gombojav Zandanshatar
- 10 June:** Director General of the Council of the Baltic Sea States **Jan Lundin**
- 22 June:** (Special PC) Tánaiste (Deputy Prime Minister) and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland
Eamon Gilmore
- 1 July:** Secretary of the United States Department of Homeland Security
Janet Napolitano
- 4 July:** (Special PC) Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia and Chairperson of the South-East European Cooperation Process, the Central European Initiative and the Adriatic and Ionian Initiative **Vuk Jeremić**
- 14 July:** Secretary General of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation
Leonidas Chrysanthopoulos
- 22 July:** Co-Chairs of the Geneva Discussions: **Giedrius Čekuolis**, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, **Antti Turunen** of the United Nations and **Pierre Morel** of the European Union
- 7 September:** (Joint Meeting with the Forum for Security Co-operation) Director General of the United Nations Office at Geneva **Kassym-Jomart Tokayev**
- 8 September:** Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV of Annex 1B of the Dayton Peace Accords **Brigadier General Costanzo Periotto**
- 14 October:** (Special PC) Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Albania **Edmond Haxhinasto**
- 24 November:** Secretary of State for Foreign and Political Affairs, Telecommunications and Transport of San Marino **Antonella Mularoni**
- 1 December:** Head of the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) **Udo Burkholder**
- 15 December:** Secretary General of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States **Halil Akıncı**

4

FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION

FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION

In 2011, the Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) was held by Iceland, Italy and Kazakhstan. The three Chairmanships worked in close co-operation to ensure continuity, balance and efficiency in the implementation of the Forum's annual work programme. The FSC continued to focus on core politico-military issues, such as arms control and confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs), small arms and light weapons (SALW), stockpiles of conventional ammunition (SCA), the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security and the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 (2004).

In line with the priorities identified in the *Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community*, the Forum engaged in intensive discussions to update, revitalize and modernize CSBMs. By 30 November, these discussions resulted in the adoption of a decision to reissue the Vienna Document (FSC.DEC/14/11), which sets out key OSCE CSBMs. The reissued Vienna Document 2011 on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures (FSC.DOC/1/11) marks the first time the Document has been updated in 12 years and establishes a procedure for a regular update every five years.

As one of the most important events of 2011, a High-Level Military Doctrine Seminar (Vienna, 24–25 May), brought together more than 200 senior military officials from the participating States and the Partners for Co-operation to examine developments in military technology and military doctrines and their implications for security in the OSCE area. The event itself, organized every five years in accordance with the Vienna Document, served as a useful CSBM.



The 21st Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (AIAM) (Vienna, 1–2 March) focused on the Vienna Document 1999 and again provided an opportunity for participating States to discuss the present and future implementation of agreed CSBMs. The meeting also allowed experts to exchange experiences, make suggestions and assess the implementation of the OSCE commitments on CSBMs.

The OSCE documents on small arms and light weapons and on stockpiles of conventional ammunition remained high on the FSC's agenda. The Forum adopted an important decision on the destruction of surplus, expired and obsolete ammunition as the preferred method of disposal (FSC.DEC/3/11). It also focused on the implementation of the OSCE Plan of Action on SALW, adopted in 2010. To that end, the FSC held a special meeting on SALW with the participation of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute to discuss the implementation of commitments on export and brokering controls of SALW. Furthermore, a representative of the FSC Chairmanship delivered an OSCE statement on marking, tracing and record-keeping at the UN Open-ended Meeting of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the Programme of Action on SALW (New York, 9–13 May).

Destruction, stockpile management and security of SALW and SCA remained one of the most dynamic areas of the FSC's work. During the year, projects in Albania, Moldova and Ukraine were completed. The OSCE also continued the implementation of two joint assistance programmes with the UN Development Programme (in Montenegro and in Belarus) and launched another joint project in Georgia. In addition, the Forum received four

Colonel Louis de Courtivron, Military Adviser in the French Delegation to the OSCE, and United States Army Colonel Diane Vanderport, Conventional Arms Control Policy Officer, Office of the Secretary of Defense, served as rapporteurs during the High-Level Military Doctrine Seminar in Vienna on 24 May 2011. (OSCE/Susanna Löf)



4

new requests for assistance on SALW and SCA from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Cyprus and Moldova. The Forum also continued the implementation of projects on the destruction of surpluses and/or ensuring secure and safe storage of SALW and SCA in Albania, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Montenegro and Ukraine.

The FSC continued its discussion on the implementation of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, a landmark document in security sector governance. Building upon the work accomplished in previous years, the Forum developed a *Reference Guide on the Questionnaire on the Code of Conduct* and offered it for use by interested participating States as an important element to facilitate implementation of the Code. In October, the FSC decided to regularize a focused discussion on the implementation of the Code of Conduct by devoting an annual special one-day meeting. The first annual discussion will be held on 12 July 2012 in Vienna.

Work also continued on supporting the implementation of UNSCR 1540 on nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. The OSCE held a workshop to identify the proper role of the OSCE in facilitation of UNSCR 1540 (Vienna, 27–29 January), which identified a broad range of areas in which the OSCE can be instrumental, including assisting participating States in drafting national action plans and fine-tuning relevant legislation, organizing awareness-raising activities and offering customized training courses. A joint FSC-Permanent Council (PC) meeting on non-proliferation (Vienna, 13 July) highlighted national progress on implementation of UNSCR 1540 and established a

further role for the OSCE in the implementation of the resolution as well as in support of the initiative to update the OSCE Principles Governing Non-Proliferation of 1994. Consensus was reached on establishing a directory of national and OSCE points of contact on UNSCR 1540. This directory will serve as a complementary and voluntary tool to enhance co-operation and co-ordination among participating States on issues related to the national implementation of UNSCR 1540. In order to further enhance co-ordination of non-proliferation efforts, a Memorandum of Understanding between the OSCE and the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs was signed in October 2011.

All three FSC Chairmanships in 2011 continued to work on strengthening co-operation between the FSC and the PC as part of the OSCE's concept of comprehensive and indivisible security. Four joint FSC-PC meetings were held (1 July, 13 July, 7 September and 13 December) to address cross-dimensional issues.

Finally, the FSC provided substantial input to the 18th OSCE Ministerial Council (Vilnius, 6–7 December). All three decisions put forward by the Chairmanship were adopted: the Decision on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (MC.DEC/6/11), the Decision on Issues Relevant to the FSC (MC.DEC/7/11) and the Decision on the Proper Role of the OSCE in Facilitation of UNSCR 1540 (MC.DEC/8/11). These decisions identify the priorities of work and set forth clear tasks for the Forum in 2012. Although no consensus could be reached on the general political declaration, the FSC was able to agree on the text relating to its work in the draft declaration.

5

**OSCE
PARLIAMETARY
ASSEMBLY**

OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Secretary General: **R. Spencer Oliver, re-elected in 2010**

Budget: **€ 2,856,000**

www.oscepa.org

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (PA) expanded its role in the fields of conflict prevention and democratic governance through parliamentary diplomacy, election observation and large-scale conferences. With major meetings in Serbia, Croatia and Austria, as well as smaller gatherings around the OSCE region, more than 200 parliamentarians debated and voted on issues ranging from energy and economics to political change in the southern Mediterranean and OSCE reform. As a vital forum for inter-parliamentary dialogue, the Assembly focused attention on the protracted conflicts in Moldova and between Armenia and Azerbaijan, lending parliamentary support to ongoing OSCE efforts to find solutions to these conflicts. Through numerous visits by PA President Petros Efthymiou and other elected leaders, the Assembly demonstrated a sustained commitment to democracy in Kyrgyzstan one year after the country changed its government and constitution.

International Secretariat

The OSCE PA International Secretariat in Copenhagen moved to a new location, also provided by the Danish Parliament, in February. On top of having a multi-lingual, multinational staff in Copenhagen and Vienna that is highly regarded throughout the OSCE, for the 19th consecutive year the Assembly operated within its annual budget, built its reserves and received an excellent appraisal from outside, independent, professional auditors.

Parliamentary leadership: the Presidency

President Efthymiou of Greece dedicated much of 2011 to protracted conflicts. Through visits to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Moldova, he added parliamentary support to the OSCE's ongoing work towards peace, with the view that when governments reach a settlement, parliaments can help build public support for the agreement.

In July he appointed President-emeritus João Soares of Portugal as Special Representative on the South Caucasus. In October he held a groundbreaking event at the Assembly's Fall Meetings, during which the three co-chairs of the Minsk Group gave a formal presentation about their work on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. In an open discussion with parliamentarians from Armenia and Azerbaijan, Members learned more about the vital role the OSCE plays in conflict resolution.

President Efthymiou was also among the first in the OSCE family to call for a more active role supporting democratic change in North Africa, announcing in February the Assembly's support for the region's "peaceful evolution towards democracy". He also decided the Assembly should deploy its first election observation mission to Tunisia.

In addresses to major universities and academic institutions in China, Spain and the United States, the President proactively worked to raise the profile of the OSCE before influential audiences worldwide. In travels to 16 participating States, he held meetings at the highest levels, and in July, the Assembly re-elected President Efthymiou to a second one-year term.

Parliamentary support: Kyrgyzstan

As a follow-up to dramatic events and high-level visits to Kyrgyzstan in 2010, Members voted at the 2011 Annual Session for increased parliamentary dialogue in Central Asia, particularly through the OSCE Centre in Bishkek.

Three times in 2011 parliamentarians visited Bishkek and Osh. These delegations, from Croatia, Greece, Holland, Sweden and Ukraine, working with Kyrgyz parliamentarians and the OSCE office, lent support to parliamentary democracy in the country.

These meetings, together with Kyrgyzstani parliamentarians' active participation at OSCE PA conferences this year, have been a symbol of OSCE partnerships at their best with constant sharing of knowledge and experiences. The Kyrgyzstani delegation is the only multiparty delegation from Central Asia in the PA.

The OSCE PA's Special Representative for Central Asia, Kimmo Kiljunen (Finland), conducted regular visits to Kyrgyzstan in the first half of the year, primarily in his capacity as the head of the independent Kyrgyzstan Inquiry Commission into the June 2010 events. The Assembly offered political support to the Commission and its report issued in May 2011.

Parliamentary partnerships

A partnership between the PA, the OSCE Office in Yerevan, and the Armenian parliament resulted in Armenian parliamentary staff interning in the



Dutch Parliament; a similar arrangement led to two Azerbaijani officials serving month-long internships in the PA Vienna office.

Parliamentary dialogue

20TH ANNUAL SESSION, BELGRADE, 6–10 JULY. Hosted by the Serbian Parliament, the PA Annual Session adopted the *Belgrade Declaration*, addressing cyber security, human trafficking, hunger, Internet freedom, nuclear safety, human rights and organ trafficking and calling for reforms to make the OSCE more transparent, more inclusive of civil society and better able to respond in moments of crisis.

FALL MEETINGS, DUBROVNIK, 7–10 OCTOBER. Hosted by the Croatian Parliament, the 10th annual Fall Meetings included a conference on regional development in South-Eastern Europe, a Mediterranean Forum and a special presentation from the Minsk Group Co-chairs on the OSCE role in conflict resolution. Participants included the president of Croatia, the heads of all OSCE field operations in the region, top business leaders from South-Eastern Europe and representatives from Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation Algeria, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia.

WINTER MEETING, VIENNA, 24–25 FEBRUARY. The Winter Meeting included committee meetings and special debates on the situation in the southern Mediterranean and immigration, integration and multi-ethnic dialogue in the OSCE. PA Special Representative on Mediterranean Affairs Alcee Hastings (United States) called for the OSCE to help countries in transition to democracy, and PA Special Representative on Migration

Kathleen Ferrier (The Netherlands) spoke of the urgent need for countries to enact policies to humanely handle refugee flows from regions in crisis.

Election observation

The Assembly led six election observation missions in 2011, working with other parliamentary assemblies and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights in missions to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tunisia and Turkey. In accordance with practice established by a Co-operation Agreement from 1997, and upon the recommendation of the President, the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office appointed the following parliamentarians to lead these missions:

- Tonino Picula (Croatia), presidential election in Kazakhstan, April
- Roberto Battelli (Slovenia), parliamentary elections in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, June
- Walburga Habsburg Douglas (Sweden), presidential election in Kyrgyzstan, October
- Petros Efthymiou (Greece), parliamentary elections in Russia, December

President Efthymiou also appointed Pia Christmas-Moeller (Denmark) and Riccardo Migliori (Italy) to lead election observation missions to Turkey and Tunisia, respectively.

Oversight and accountability

The Assembly advanced the causes of transparency and accountability at the OSCE through passage of new

measures contained in the *Belgrade Declaration*. The Declaration called for:

- Permanent Council meetings to be made open to the public and press on an ad hoc basis;
- twice-monthly human rights meetings, including representatives from civil society and the public;
- modification of the consensus rule for personnel, budget and administrative matters;
- use of the consensus-minus-one rule for “clear, gross and uncorrected violations of OSCE commitments”.

In the field

In October, for the first time ever, all seven heads of OSCE field presences in South-Eastern Europe made a joint appearance before the Parliamentary Assembly. The panel, assembled at the Assembly’s Fall Meetings in Croatia, provided an overview of progress made in the region, including on topics ranging from refugee returns to combating corruption.

In support of this vital field work, and in addition to visits of President Efthymiou, PA Ad Hoc Committee Members and Special Representatives visited Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Montenegro and Serbia. Working closely with OSCE field presences in these countries, the parliamentary delegations have brought added attention to essential projects and initiatives. The Assembly has consistently supported OSCE field activity as the backbone of the Organization’s work, and PA leaders continued to speak out in 2011 on the need to re-establish OSCE field presences in Belarus and Georgia.

The PA’s work in Moldova in support of the OSCE office and its efforts to further dialogue between Tiraspol and Chişinău showcased how parliamentary engagement can complement and strengthen ongoing work of field staff.

With the Working Group on Belarus denied access to Belarus throughout 2011, parliamentarians went to the media to voice concerns about the jailing of opposition politicians following the 2010 presidential election and other violations of OSCE commitments. The PA also gave opposition figures and Belarusian civil society a platform to speak to international parliamentarians and engaged directly with Belarusian parliamentarians on issues ranging from human rights to nuclear energy.

Interaction with organizations and institutions

Upon President Efthymiou’s initiative to increase co-operation between the Assembly and OSCE structures in Vienna, Matteo Mecacci (Italy), Chair of the Assembly’s Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions Committee, met with the Permanent Council’s Human Dimension Committee to discuss mutual goals in November.

The PA continued its regular co-operation – primarily on election observation – with the European Parliament, the NATO PA, PACE and other international parliamentary organizations, as well as the Nordic Council.

New media

The Assembly has received more than 30,100 views of photos from conferences, diplomatic visits and election observation missions through the photo-sharing site Flickr.

A PA YouTube channel, launched in February, has attracted more than 1,400 hits for speeches, debates and short, topical, web-exclusive videos produced on parliamentary initiatives on hunger and migration.

Speeches and media appearances of elected officials and these new media tools strengthened OSCE visibility and credibility in 2011 and increased the transparency of PA activities.

6

FIELD OPERATIONS

SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

PRESENCE IN ALBANIA

Head of Presence: **Ambassador Eugen Wollfarth**

Budget: **€ 3,161,800**

www.osce.org/albania

The Presence in Albania supported the strengthening of Albania's public institutions, focusing on judicial, legislative and electoral reform, parliamentary capacity-building, anti-trafficking, police training, destruction of surplus arms, good governance and property reform. It worked to advance media independence and to strengthen gender and civil society structures. A highlight of 2011 was the provision of capacity-building and administrative support to the Central Election Commission and State Police in preparation for local government elections in May.

“Thanks to the probation officer, I can now live my life out of prison. I have a job, life is much better and I am a better person.”

20-year-old Albanian man who was convicted of theft and became eligible for probation after serving part of his prison sentence

Politico-military dimension activities

STRENGTHENING THE POLICE. The Presence organized training for the State Police on internal investigation and covert policing techniques and the role of police in elections and assisted in preparing new police instructors for deployment to Afghanistan. It produced publications on standard operating procedures regarding election policing for detention centre staff, supported public awareness campaigns on road safety and community policing and launched a needs assessment mission in relation to strategic crowd management. The Presence also facilitated the donation of public order vehicles and donated covert surveillance equipment to be used in combating organized crime. It supported border and migration police in facilitating joint border co-operation meetings, capacity training and the development of cross-border agreements. In addition, the Presence assisted in the relocation of solar generator systems and provided IT and office equipment at various border crossing points.

DESTRUCTION OF SURPLUS ARMS. The Presence assisted the Ministry of Defence in its efforts to safely dispose of hazardous waste chemicals by conducting an assessment of potential waste disposal solutions.

Economic and environmental dimension activities

SUPPORTING DECENTRALIZATION. Support was provided to nine local government units to initiate a joint economic and social development plan for the Vjosa Valley in the Permet region of southern Albania. The Presence also co-funded a capacity-building event for newly elected mayors.

SUPPORTING ANTI-CORRUPTION EFFORTS. The Presence assisted the High Inspectorate for the Declaration and Audit of Assets in delivering ethics and conflict-of-interest training to local officials and in ensuring greater transparency in the verification of State officials' asset declarations.

SUPPORTING PROPERTY REFORM. The Presence helped strengthen the capacity of the Immovable Property Registration Office to provide certainty of ownership for immovable properties in priority coastal areas. It also supported the Property Restitution and Compensation Agency's efforts to improve the management of claims and data.

FIGHTING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS. The Presence provided training to regional anti-trafficking committees in the prevention of human trafficking and the referral of persons vulnerable to trafficking. In the area of migrants' rights, the Presence supported a visit by students from the public law faculty to the State Centre for Irregular Migrants.

PROMOTING BETTER ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT. The Presence helped the Government improve compliance with international planning standards on public consultation and information and access to justice. In co-operation with the Aarhus Information Network, it organized public awareness workshops to promote the National Waste Strategy and formulated local waste management plans.

Human dimension activities

ELECTORAL REFORM. The Presence supported the Central Election Commission (CEC) in strengthening its capacity to administer local government elections in May. Assistance focused on enhancing training programmes through developing a sustainable training methodology. The Presence also facilitated the printing of working documents and loaned necessary IT equipment to election commissions. The Presence assisted in



efforts to increase voter awareness by publishing leaflets and supporting the broadcast of television spots produced by the CEC.

JUSTICE REFORM. The Presence continued to assist judicial institutions in strengthening fair trial standards in civil proceedings. In terms of legislative support, the Presence was a key participant in a working group established by the Justice Ministry to review the Criminal Procedure Code. The Presence submitted written comments on a variety of draft laws, including the law on electronic monitoring of persons whose liberty has been restricted and the law on advocates. The Presence supported the Civil Service Commission in protecting civil servants' rights through offering training on the legal framework to independent State institutions. In co-operation with the Probation Service, the Presence organized probation training for social workers and a roundtable aimed at improving co-operation between civil society and the Probation Service.

HUMAN RIGHTS. The Presence assisted the Office of the Commissioner for the Protection from Discrimination in creating a website in minority languages and distributing public information materials. It also supported the Commissioner by organizing a public event on discrimination in schools and publishing a brochure with students' artwork on this issue. The Presence assisted local government units in organizing child protection seminars for teachers, psychologists, doctors and police and supported the organization of the Sixth International Human Rights Film Festival in Albania.

PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT. The Presence supported the modernization of the Assembly's management structures and human resource practices. It assisted the Assembly in developing a training strategy and organizing training seminars. The Presence also helped strengthen media and public access to the Assembly by increasing the working space for media and creating a committee room for joint committee meetings and

public hearings. The Presence supported the participation of Assembly actors in regional activities, including visits to the Austrian and Hungarian parliaments and a meeting of parliamentary public relations staff co-organized by regional OSCE missions. The Presence also facilitated the participation of Assembly actors in an OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) conference on national human rights.

SUPPORTING THE MEDIA. The Presence provided technical assistance to the national authorities in drafting a law to regulate broadcast media. The Presence also supported the Office of the Prime Minister by reviewing the Government's strategy for the switchover to digital broadcasting.

ADVANCING GENDER EQUALITY. The Presence organized a national conference to enhance women's participation in government, bringing together senior political leaders, and organized training of women candidates for participation in local government elections. The Presence also delivered advocacy training for the National Platform for Women, a Presence-initiated network of 1,500 women from different political parties and civil society. The Presence provided networking opportunities for women through regional forums and television programmes. The Presence also provided training on gender mainstreaming to strengthen the link between the Government and the National Council of Equal Opportunities.

PROMOTING CIVIL SOCIETY. The Presence organized training on strengthening dialogue with stakeholders for the National Council of People with Disabilities and assisted in an initiative to encourage young people with disabilities to take a more active role in public decision-making. The Presence also supported the Ministry of Education and Science in developing the national civic education curriculum.

Left: The OSCE Presence provided 35 computers to Albania's Central Election Commission ahead of the 8 May local government elections. Tirana, 30 March 2011. (OSCE/Joana Karapataqi)

Right: Brochures on protection from discrimination, funded by the OSCE Presence in Albania. 25 November 2011. (OSCE/Joana Karapataqi)



SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

MISSION TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Fletcher M. Burton** from 29 August, succeeding Ambassador Gary Robbins

Budget: €14,864,300

www.oscebih.org

Sustainability and local ownership are the key objectives the Mission seeks to achieve in the long-term through its programmatic work. Increasing the Parliament's effectiveness and efficiency as well as democratic control of the defence and security sector, building regional networks, and increasing public participation in parliamentary affairs all remained high on the Mission's agenda. The Mission worked to improve the transparency, accountability and efficiency of municipalities, especially in politically divided communities. National human rights protection mechanisms were supported to strengthen responses to instances of discrimination, especially in the country's schools. The Mission continued its assistance to the effective processing of war crimes and implementation of key justice sector reform strategies. Co-operation with the authorities and community-based organizations continued to foster greater inclusion and respect for diversity in the education system.

“The OSCE helped us establish ourselves as real partners in the eyes of the local authorities and connect with them in order to overcome any outstanding issues.”

Milana Mikulić, President of Srebrenica Youth Council

6

Politico-military dimension activities

INCREASED CAPACITY. Working closely with the Mission and other partners, security officials continued developing good institutional practices in 2011, while identifying opportunities for further improvement. This year, the Mission supported preparations for the establishment of a Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) in Bosnia and Herzegovina to prevent and deal with cases of cybercrime, which included a cyber-security seminar and a study trip to CERTs in Estonia and the United Kingdom. Several trainings were also organized in partnership with the Inter-ministerial Working Group for Implementation of Security Policy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including two focusing on counter-terrorism. The Mission also worked to support the Monitoring Body for Implementation of Bosnia and Herzegovina's Strategy for Preventing and Combating Terrorism.

COMPLIANCE WITH COMMITMENTS. Bosnia and Herzegovina's authorities and the Mission worked to improve fulfilment of the State's politico-military commitments by encouraging cross-agency collaboration

and increased understanding of these obligations. The 4th Review Conference for Compliance with OSCE/UN Security Commitments was organized by the Mission this year, during which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs web portal dedicated to increasing the country's capacities for compliance was launched and recommendations were agreed for establishing an Inter-ministerial Work Group for monitoring compliance. The Mission also organized a seminar with the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina (AF BiH) Verification Centre on implementation of confidence- and security-building measures, through which it was assessed that the AF BiH is capable of realizing its commitments in a professional and technically proficient manner.

ARMS CONTROL. Together with its strategic local and international partners, the Mission continued to assist domestic authorities in overcoming challenges hampering the process of destruction of surplus munitions. This year, the Mission received an official request for assistance in refurbishing weapons and ammunition storage sites. Through its logistical and administrative support to the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV of Annex 1B of the Dayton Peace Accords, the Mission further supported the implementation of the Sub-Regional Arms Control regime.

PARLIAMENTARY OVERSIGHT. The State Parliament and the Mission continued to work toward enhancing the capabilities of the two joint parliamentary committees charged with overseeing defence, security



and intelligence institutions and the office of the Parliamentary Military Commissioner, which focuses on protection of human rights in the AF BiH. These activities included two induction seminars for the new composition of each of these two Joint Committees, a seminar on protection of secret data, two seminars for promotion of the work of the Parliamentary Military Commissioner and study trips both within Bosnia and Herzegovina and abroad to Serbia, the Czech Republic, Poland and Turkey.

Economic and environmental dimension activities

GREEN MISSION CAMPAIGN. Within its Green Mission Campaign, the Mission administered and supported local projects prepared jointly by municipal employees, school and community activists in Bosanski Petrovac, Janja, Mostar and Bugojno. Through the campaign, the Mission seeks to engage youth and local activists around common environmental goals, associating itself with global Earth Day Network efforts.

GOOD GOVERNANCE IN EDUCATION. In partnership with domestic authorities, the Mission implemented the Good Governance in Education Project in five cantons and in Republika Srpska and provided financial management training to more than 100 trainers, who will subsequently train 800 school board members, as well as 300 school directors. The Mission also organized training for all education inspectors and facilitated the establishment of domestic associations of school directors, as part of efforts to promote the exchange of ideas and best practices and reduce fragmentation and politicization in the education sector.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING. After a comprehensive monitoring process, the Mission supported national authorities in the process of drafting amendments to related entity

legislation and strengthened the capacity of local counterparts to address the issue of human trafficking.

Human dimension activities

ACCOUNTABILITY FOR WAR CRIMES. The Mission issued the report *Delivering Justice in Bosnia and Herzegovina: An Overview of War Crimes Processing from 2005–2010*, a comprehensive overview of the challenges Bosnia and Herzegovina's judiciary is facing towards ending the impunity gap. The Mission further monitored and supported the implementation of the National Strategy for War Crimes Processing of Bosnia and Herzegovina, organizing outreach roundtables to improve communication between affected communities and judicial institutions.

SUPPORTING JUSTICE SECTOR REFORM. The Mission supported the Government's efforts to establish a torture prevention mechanism and provided technical support and expertise to the criminal justice legislative reform body within the Ministry of Justice. In light of the EU-brokered "structured dialogue", the Mission published its Assessment of Civil Procedure Codes in Bosnia and Herzegovina, with an aim of assisting in the process of adopting uniform legislative amendments.

COMBATING HATE CRIMES. With an aim of increasing the capacity of non-governmental organizations to prevent and combat hate-related incidents, the Mission trained a wide range of NGOs and raised awareness with local authorities and communities in forums throughout the country.

GENDER EQUALITY AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE. The Mission co-organized a regional conference on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and conducted four workshops, three trainings and two conferences involving 173 participants (141 women and 32 men) on gender

Left: The OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, in partnership with the local community of Janja, joined "A Billion Acts of Green" campaign and planted trees on Earth Day. Bijeljina Municipality, 21 April 2011. (OSCE/Danica Pelemiš-Subotić)

Right: The Mission delivered project management training to the municipality of Bužim on 8–9 February 2011. (OSCE/Edita Čehajić)



equality in partnership with municipal gender equality commissions, the Republika Srpska Gender Centre and local NGOs. Institutional responses to domestic violence were monitored and support offered to initiatives aiming to improve co-operation among responsible agencies.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION. Following the adoption of the Law on the Prohibition of Discrimination, the Mission provided capacity-building training for key institutions in charge of the law's implementation, as well as specialized training for 130 pro bono legal assistance providers and civil society groups.

OMBUDSPERSON REFORM. The Mission continued building the capacity of the Ombudsperson of Bosnia and Herzegovina and advocating for legislative amendments necessary to complete the institutional reform.

SOCIAL PROTECTION. The Mission published a report on social protection with a number of recommendations for reduction of inequalities among beneficiaries and provided 20 workshops aimed at enhancing capacities of domestic social protection institutions.

SUSTAINABLE RETURN. The Mission provided ongoing technical assistance to domestic authorities on the Revised Strategy for Implementation of Annex VII as well as the Regional Housing Programme, known as the "3x4 process". Co-ordinated advocacy with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees led to the closure of five collective centres.

ROMA FOCUS. The Mission continued to advocate for the implementation of the Roma Action Plans on Education, Employment and Housing.

PROMOTING DIVERSITY AND OBJECTIVITY IN SCHOOLS. The Mission supported the organization of various activities aimed at gathering students from across the country to address their common concerns. In promoting the strengthening of key educational competences – emphasizing intercultural skills and modern approaches to learning and teaching – production and application of over 600 multimedia class preparations took place after the Mission supported training for teachers. As a part of the History for the Future project, the Committee for the Reform of History Teaching in Bosnia and Herzegovina was established and trained; it is now analyzing history curricula at the primary-school level.

IMPROVING LOCAL GOVERNANCE. Through the Local First Initiative, the Mission supported 14 municipalities in strengthening strategic planning, budgeting and accountability practices. The Mission supported an additional 22 municipal legislative bodies in strengthening

management practices, civic involvement in decision-making processes and oversight over executives. It also provided targeted assistance to 27 municipalities to improve communication with citizens. The Mission supported the establishment of seven formal inter-municipal learning networks and five partnerships focusing on strategic planning, finances, human resources management and urban planning.

ENHANCING THE CIVIL SERVICE SYSTEM. The Mission led activities to strengthen common principles within the civil service system and helped establish a forum of directors of the civil service bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republika Srpska and Brčko District in order to improve inter-entity and state-wide co-operation in this field.

FOSTERING CIVIC ACTIVISM. By providing assistance to approximately 3,000 individuals, 80 NGOs and 240 local community structures, the Mission continued to support the engagement of underrepresented groups in local affairs. Furthermore, the Mission supported the establishment of 20 networks and umbrella organizations, including eight community-based watchdog coalitions focusing on citizens' ability to hold authorities accountable through collective action. The Mission also promoted greater awareness of decision-making mechanisms through the introduction of Citizens' Academy courses in seven municipalities.

PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT AND MONITORING. The Mission provided orientation seminars for selected committees of the national Parliamentary Assembly, assisted legislators in developing a new strategic plan, communication strategy and internal legislative databases, and supported the development of a new parliamentary website. The Mission further supported the participation of members of State-level parliament and staff members in different regional co-operation activities. The Mission also conducted feasibility studies with entity parliaments and began the strategic planning process with the Republika Srpska National Assembly.

SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

MISSION IN KOSOVO

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Werner Almhofer**

Budget: **€ 22,606,300**

www.osce.org/kosovo

The Mission in Kosovo contributed to the advancement of human and community rights at both central and local levels; rule of law and democratization processes, including local governance reform; institutions oversight; media development and higher education. Furthermore, the Mission positively affected development of a sustainable, transparent and accountable police and public safety sector in Kosovo as an integral component of a multi-ethnic and democratic society.*

**All references to Kosovo institutions/leaders refer to the Provisional Institutions of Self Government*

Politico-military dimension activities

ORGANIZED CRIME. As part of efforts to prevent and combat organized crime and terrorism, the Mission conducted a series of advanced and specialized training courses and assisted respective institutions in the implementation and further improvement of relevant strategies and action plans. This included a practical, real-time exercise on controlled drug delivery designed to enhance the ability of Kosovo police, customs officers and prosecutors to fight drug trafficking and to improve regional co-operation in combating organized crime. It was the first such exercise in Kosovo, involving law enforcement agencies from Albania, Bulgaria, Germany, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Slovenia and Turkey. A few weeks after the exercise, police from Kosovo and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in a joint action arrested 17 suspects and seized 50 kg of heroin.

The Mission also conducted a seminar on organized environmental crime for Kosovo police, prosecution and the judiciary, tackling the issues of industrial pollution, hazardous waste disposal and illegal logging, and supported the Kosovo police in the development of a strategy and action plan to combat these criminal activities.

As a part of police reform, the Mission supported implementation of the intelligence-led policing concept in both the operational and strategic contexts.

COMMUNITY POLICING. To improve community safety and further police-public partnership, the Mission conducted training courses for more than 60 newly appointed regional community policing co-ordinators, focusing on conflict resolution, information handling and negotiation. Work to facilitate the establishment of new and further support the development of existing Local Public Safety Committees (LPSCs) in ethnically mixed and non-Albanian areas continued to be the Mission's focus throughout the year.

“The Kosovo police need to work on building experience and professional capacity, but establishing trust is equally important. The controlled delivery exercise helped us to further strengthen co-operation with all regional partners.”

Bahri Shala, Chief of the Kosovo Police investigation section for drug trafficking

PUBLIC OUTREACH. In co-operation with the Kosovo police and the Kosovo Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Mission developed and conducted several campaigns to promote public safety, raising awareness about traffic safety, the role and importance of LPSCs and the tasking of the Police Inspectorate of Kosovo as an independent police oversight body.

POLICE EDUCATION. The Mission supported the drafting of the 2011–2014 strategic development plan for the Kosovo Academy for Public Safety and assisted the Academy in its efforts to gain accreditation as a higher education institution for public safety in line with the Bologna Process.

Human dimension activities

RULE OF LAW. In an effort to promote human rights and improve performance of the judiciary, the Mission monitored courts and issued regular reports highlighting human rights concerns to relevant stakeholders, including judges and prosecutors. The implementation of recommendations from these reports was discussed at 21 roundtable meetings. In December 2011, the Mission organized a first annual Judicial Conference in co-operation with the Kosovo Supreme Court, the Kosovo Judicial Council and the Kosovo Judicial Institute. It focused on

A participant in a six-month vocational course in welding organized by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo demonstrates his skills. Gjurkovc/Đurkovce, 29 December 2011. (OSCE/Edon Muhaxeri)



reforms in justice administration and invited all Kosovo judges to provide input into the process.

The Mission also continued monitoring and advising the Kosovo police to help it develop as an accountable and human rights-compliant police service. This included police training (in co-operation with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights) on understanding and combating hate crimes and on protecting human rights while countering terrorism. The Mission also assisted non-governmental institutions and the Ombudsperson Institution in establishing a local detention-monitoring mechanism.

As human rights protection stems from the legal framework and its proper implementation, in 2011 the Mission commented on draft legislation related to legal aid, legislative initiatives, asylum and health, amongst others. The Mission also organized training for civil servants on international human rights and rule of law standards. To help ease public access to the legislation, the Mission supported publication of subsidiary legislation and legislative acts, including on the Internet.

GENDER EQUALITY AND ANTI-TRAFFICKING. To support Kosovo authorities in implementing the legal and policy framework on gender equality, the Mission implemented training and awareness-raising activities for civil society and Kosovo institutions on gender equality, women's rights and domestic violence and compiled a catalogue of remedies and resources for domestic violence victims.

To help assist victims of trafficking and domestic violence, the Mission supported re-establishment of an anti-trafficking and domestic violence helpline, trained specialized helpline operators and produced public service announcements. In addition, the Mission trained approximately 300 anti-trafficking service providers Kosovo-wide on the use of the Standard Operating Procedures for Victims of Trafficking.

COMMUNITY RIGHTS. The Mission monitored and advocated for community rights, especially in the areas of return and repatriation, participation in public life, security and freedom of movement, use of languages and access to essential services. The Mission also supported inter-community dialogue through village meetings, youth camps and information campaigns. It further focused on return and reintegration by publishing a follow-up report on the topic, organizing awareness-raising activities and signing a technical agreement with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to increase co-operation and information-sharing. Other reports were published on integration of the Kosovo Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities; the Kosovo Croat community; and the condition and maintenance of Serbian Orthodox graveyards, together with a photo catalogue.

PROPERTY RIGHTS. To help displaced persons and vulnerable groups exercise their rights to property and adequate housing, the Mission assisted local institutions in sharing best practices on the implementation of legal frameworks. The Mission continued to monitor the protection and promotion of religious and cultural heritage sites and organized public discussions throughout Kosovo to increase respect for cultural diversity. The Mission also organized several workshops to assist municipalities in addressing the issues of informal settlements, illegal construction and social housing.

ELECTIONS. The Mission provided technical assistance to electoral institutions in finalizing the extraordinary Assembly elections held in December 2010. Since April, it facilitated a Working Group that provided technical recommendations to parliamentary groups tasked with electoral reform. The Mission also supported local

Behxhet Shala (r), Executive Director of the Council for Defense of Human Rights and Freedoms, speaks at the signing of a co-operation agreement between his organization, the Ombudsperson Institution, and the Kosovo Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims, supported by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo. Pristina, 10 May 2011. (OSCE/ Hasan Sopa)



decision-making processes through the provision of technical advice and guidance based on international electoral standards.

LOCAL GOVERNANCE. To support the implementation of local governance reform and to help engage civil society and municipal residents in decision-making, the Mission facilitated dialogue between central and local institutions on municipal budget development, finances and transfer of competencies and supported the establishment and work of consultative committees and youth action councils.

In co-operation with the Association of Kosovo Municipalities and the European Commission Liaison Office in Kosovo, the Mission fostered a peer-to-peer best practice exchange in service delivery and management performance between municipalities. The Mission also provided technical support to the Kosovo Ministry of Local Government Administration to further improve its oversight of municipal compliance with the regulatory framework.

HIGHER EDUCATION. The Mission continued to support teacher education and training in non-Albanian languages through the Teachers' Centre at the University of Prizren. It trained university-based staff in providing professional development training to primary school teachers. With regard to the Bologna Process, the Mission supported the University in Mitrovicë/Mitrovica and its campus in Gračanica/Graçanicë to establish a Career Centre, an International Student Mobility Office and a Language and Cultural Centre.

MEDIA. The Mission supported the public broadcaster in improving its non-Albanian programming by helping produce weekly magazines through co-operation with local media outlets. Furthermore, the Mission liaised

with the European Broadcasting Union in advising the Assembly of Kosovo Committee for Media and the Radio Television of Kosovo in their review of the Law on Public Broadcasting and assisted the Independent Media Commission in fully implementing the regulation on protection of children and minors. To raise awareness of the importance of free media and speech, the Mission, in co-operation with the OSCE Mission to Serbia, organized two regional investigative journalism conferences and supported a series of televised debates and workshops across Kosovo marking World Press Freedom Day.

ASSEMBLY SUPPORT. To help the Assembly of Kosovo (AoK) improve its oversight and legislative capacities, the Mission helped revise the Assembly Rules of Procedure. The Mission continued to provide legal expertise to non-Albanian parliamentary groups and to assist their outreach to constituencies. It also facilitated the establishment of the AoK Women and Youth Caucuses and encouraged their co-operation with municipal assemblies and civil society.

INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS. The Mission offered technical support and advice to the Ombudsperson Institution and facilitated outreach activities to residents and officials throughout Kosovo. The Mission continued to build capacities of the Independent Oversight Board for Civil Service of Kosovo by assisting in the drafting of its internal regulations, promoting learning from best practices and engaging in outreach activities with courts, municipal officials and civil servants.

SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

MISSION TO MONTENEGRO

Head of Mission: Ambassador Šarūnas Adomavičius

Budget: € 2,338,100

www.osce.org/montenegro

Strengthening the capacity and effectiveness of Montenegro's institutions in furthering the country's reform agenda was the focus of activities in 2011. Assistance to the host country continued on key areas of legislation, notably on the Law on Elections – which was adopted after four years of debate – implementation of the new Criminal Procedure Code and harmonizing the Law on Free Access to Information. The third phase of the Court Monitoring Project commenced, while successful implementation of the Community Policing Project was realized. Support was given to strengthening regional co-operation, particularly on transnational crime. A visit of the Chairperson-in-Office in March focused attention on the plight of displaced persons, amongst several other challenges.

“The OSCE project in electronic media had a manifold impact: we strengthened the capacity of the monitoring sector of the Agency, we established great co-operation with the French regulatory body, and we created a database for monitoring.”

Abaz Beli Đafić, Director, Agency for Electronic Media

Politico-military dimension activities

POLITICO-MILITARY AFFAIRS PROGRAMME. The Montenegro Demilitarization Programme (MONDEM), a joint project of the Government, the OSCE and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), facilitated the destruction of 150 tonnes of unstable munitions in 2011. On 20 May the Taras Ammunition Depot was inaugurated following a €1.23 million infrastructure upgrade under MONDEM's stockpile management and security component. To further accountability and public participation in defence reform, the Mission continued supporting regular media briefings by the Defence Ministry. Its seminar on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security advanced co-operation of all stakeholders for democratic control of armed and security forces.

ORGANIZED CRIME. Support to the Police Directorate's Organized Crime Department included specialized training for controllers and handlers of informants, undercover narcotics officers and members of prosecutors offices on the sexual abuse of children on the Internet.

BORDER POLICING. Activities to support the implementation of bilateral co-operation agreements, joint patrols and exchange of information by Montenegro with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia continued.

Training courses in drugs profiling and identifying forged documents were offered to border police and customs officers working at border crossings.

POLICE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT. Attention focused on developing police training and trainer evaluation programmes. Expert courses included sessions on domestic violence response for 50 middle-level police managers and on critical incidents and crowd control for officers of the Special Police Unit.

COMMUNITY-ORIENTED POLICING. The Community Policing Project for uniform and border police was successfully implemented, with 20 border officers completing a two-week community policing course and 146 officers participating in refresher training. The Mission also facilitated two conferences on lessons learned in implementation of the Community Policing Project.

Economic and environmental dimension activities

ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY. The Mission supported the Ministry of Environment and the Environmental Protection Agency in the training of 300 national and local officers, awareness raising and events promoting public participation and good governance in the environmental sector.

Human dimension activities

PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT. In addition to supporting the development of the Parliament's Research Centre, the Mission conducted nine outreach activities aimed at strengthening the oversight role of Parliamentary committees and produced an analysis of the implementation of Montenegro's Gender Equality Law.

GOOD GOVERNANCE. In addition to providing training to Municipal Ethics Commissions on implementing the newly adopted Code of Ethics, the Mission produced and



presented rules of procedure for municipal assemblies and four models of co-operation between non-governmental organizations and municipalities. It also promoted best practices at the local level in co-operation with the Union of Municipalities.

CIVIC PARTICIPATION. Together with a local NGO and stakeholders, the Mission developed a Youth Action Plan in Cetinje to address the needs of youth and provided assistance in establishing a municipal youth office.

CIVIL SOCIETY. The Mission supported drafting of a new non-governmental organization law, which was adopted by the Parliament, as well as the drafting of secondary legislation necessary for the law's implementation.

ROMA. Assistance centred on a multi-ethnic journalism school for primary level students in Ulcinj and producing an analysis of the Roma Decade benchmarks, with a focus on Roma women.

GENDER EQUALITY. The Mission worked to implement gender action plans aimed at assisting unemployed women in rural areas and offered training to political party representatives on increasing women's political representation.

DURABLE SOLUTIONS FOR DISPLACED PERSONS. A joint OSCE-UN High Commissioner for Refugees information campaign and survey among displaced persons throughout Montenegro was implemented as part of efforts under the Sarajevo Process to resolve the status of the displaced population.

REFORM OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL JUSTICE. Attention focused on improving the capacity of courts and the State Prosecutor's Office, drafting and promoting the Law on Legal Aid, transforming the judicial system and facilitating implementation of the Criminal and Civil Procedure codes. The year also saw completion of the second and initiation of the third phase of the Court Monitoring Project, including preparing its annual report.

STRENGTHENING HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS. The Mission provided an in-depth analysis of procedures, personnel and management of the Constitutional Court as part of efforts to strengthen the court's administrative capacities. It also provided legislative support in co-operation with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights for the new Ombudsman Law. Further assistance enabled the Court to prepare its mandates as the national mechanism for prevention of torture and as the institution against discrimination.

FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION AND ORGANIZED CRIME. To strengthen regional co-operation in fighting crime, the Mission supported a conference of ministers of justice and interior from South-Eastern Europe and the drafting of the *Budva Declaration* to improve joint policies in fighting transnational organized crime. A systemic analysis of risk areas in cadastre, urban planning and tax collection and support of the implementation of the Government's curricula for training judges, prosecutors, police and civil servants in financial investigations, ethics and integrity, was also undertaken.

MEDIA LEGISLATION. The Mission supported the Government's work to harmonize the Law on Free Access to Information with the laws on Classified Information and Protection of Personal Data by providing guidance and international expertise, resulting in the strengthening of all three laws.

MEDIA DEVELOPMENT. With the European Broadcast Union, the Mission supported the public service broadcaster in drafting a restructuring strategy. It also worked with the French regulatory body Conseil Supérieur de l'Audiovisuel (CSA) to build the capacity of the Agency for Electronic Media to scrutinize programmatic content. Two highlights were support for a survey on media freedom in Montenegro conducted by a local non-governmental organization and for the Ombudsman Institution in developing procedures for communicating with media.

Left: A trader at Konik refugee camp, on the outskirts of Podgorica, 5 July 2011. (OSCE/Frane Maroevic)

Right: A press conference at the signing of a memorandum of understanding for the development of a Youth Action Plan for Cetinje Municipality, 21 February 2011. (OSCE/Milos Prelevic)

SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

MISSION TO SERBIA

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Dimitrios Kypreos**

Budget: **€7,484,400**

www.osce.org/serbia

In line with its mandate, the Mission supported reforms in Serbia, particularly in the areas of democratic institutions, human and minority rights and rule of law. The Mission, notably through the good offices of the Head of Mission, also focused on multi-ethnic regions of southern and south-western Serbia. The establishment of a multilingual Faculty of Economics in Bujanovac, the first of its kind, was a result of these efforts. In south-western Serbia, the Mission led efforts by the international community to encourage dialogue among local political leaders and to promote discussion, particularly among young people, on the future prospects of the region.

“With the support of the OSCE Mission to Serbia, the Serbian Parliament established the Education Service, an effective tool to efficiently communicate with civil society organizations, students, youth and citizens in general. This will help us increase openness and transparency and build trust, an essential component of functioning democracies.”

Biljana Milosavljevic, Head of the Education Centre of the National Assembly

6

Politico-military dimension activities

POLICE REFORM. To promote better citizen outreach, the Mission provided communications training to community policing focal points throughout Serbia. The Mission also provided expertise, advice and training to support implementation of the Ministry of Interior's Strategic Development Plan for 2011–2016.

POLICE EDUCATION. The Mission completed its direct assistance in the area of basic police training. It continued to support the development of regular training for Ministry of Interior staff through the introduction of an e-learning system for trainers and managers.

ORGANIZED CRIME. In support of the National Action Plan on Combating Organized Crime, the Mission offered specialized training to police officers in illicit drug trafficking, cybercrime, covert surveillance and asset forfeiture. It also advised extensively on the latest techniques to investigate financial crimes. In addition, it engaged experts to develop a professional ethical standards handbook for police.

SECURITY SECTOR REFORM. The Mission worked with six Serbian civil society organizations to implement projects related to security policy development and implementation and oversight of security sector institutions. The Mission also helped produce an NGO-led research study on oversight of the security services in Serbia.

Environmental dimension activities

STRENGTHENING ENFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION. The Mission offered broad assistance to the Ministry of Environment, Mining and Spatial Planning in developing the Strategy for Implementing the Aarhus Convention in Serbia, which was adopted by the Government. In co-operation with the Ministry of Justice, the Mission supported the development of a national study of environmental court cases.

Human dimension activities

PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT. As a result of the Mission's continued support, the National Assembly established a separate unit within its Parliamentary Support Service to implement its public access and outreach activities. The newly formed Parliamentary Education Centre serves as an essential communication channel with civil society organizations, universities, young people and the general public.

HUMAN RIGHTS. The Mission supported a comprehensive analysis of the challenges facing human rights defenders, as well as the relevant redress mechanisms. It also supported the development and publication of expert recommendations for improving access to justice for victims of violent crime, with special emphasis on improving the right to compensation.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES. The Mission continued with efforts to build the capacity of the Office of the Commissioner for Protection of Equality. It also launched a programme with the Ministry of Justice to develop training curricula on



Left: Volunteers distribute information on International Anti-Drug Day, organized by local citizens through the Municipal Safety Council of Valjevo, 26 June 2011. (OSCE/Milan Obradovic)

Centre: A participant at the 10th Belgrade Open international parliamentary debate tournament, jointly organized by the Open Communication Universities Debating Network and the OSCE Mission to Serbia. Belgrade, 7 March 2011. (OSCE/Milan Obradovic)

Right: Sasa Jankovic, Serbian Ombudsman, meets with the Youth Advisory Council, which was created with the support of the OSCE Mission to Serbia. Belgrade, 8 April 2011. (OSCE/Milan Obradovic)

anti-discrimination and gender equality legislation for members of the judiciary.

ECONOMIC TRANSPARENCY. The Mission provided expert advice to the Anti-Corruption Agency in its drafting of integrity plan examples for 14 high-risk areas of government, including the judiciary, police and health sectors.

JUDICIAL REFORM. The Mission helped judges' and prosecutors' self-governing councils define ground rules for the review of controversial 2009 decisions not to re-elect certain judges and prosecutors. The review process is currently being monitored by the Mission.

LEGAL REFORMS. The Mission assisted Serbian authorities in finalizing a new Criminal Procedure Code, which introduces prosecution-led investigations, a major reform that should improve efforts to combat serious crime. As part of its efforts to implement the new code, the Mission conducted specialized training for police, prosecutors and judges dealing with organized crime and war crimes cases.

PRISON REFORM. The Mission supported the establishment of two oversight bodies for places of detention: the National Preventive Mechanism and the Parliamentary Commission for Oversight of Enforcement of Criminal Sanctions.

WAR CRIMES. The Mission trained more than 50 journalists and six editors-in-chief from Serbian print and electronic media to report on war crimes trials before the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and domestic courts. The Mission also established a fully functional witness/victim support unit within the War Crimes Department of the Belgrade High Court.

FREE LEGAL AID. The Mission supported the establishment of legal clinics in two more law faculties and is helping the Ministry of Justice draft legislation on free legal aid.

HATE CRIMES. The Mission trained staff from more than 25 civil society organizations in identifying, reporting on and monitoring hate crimes. It worked in co-operation with civil society organizations and ministries to foster communication on hate crimes.

NATIONAL MINORITIES. The Mission supported the development of a comprehensive manual on the competencies of National Minority Councils and provided training to Councils on effectively representing their communities in the areas of education, official use of language, culture and media.

ADVANCEMENT OF ROMA. The Mission supported Serbia in meeting its commitments under the National Strategy for the Improvement of the Position of Roma and the Decade of Roma Inclusion. It also provided technical support to the Roma National Council in the promotion of Roma participation in the 2011 census and further strengthened the Roma Women Network and the Roma Health Mediator's scheme.

CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION. The Mission supported citizen activism in the decision-making process through the "Take Action!" campaign. A Mission-supported short film on citizen interventions was presented throughout Serbia, with public discussions on citizen engagement. The campaign website received more than 40,000 visitors from the country and the region.

HUMAN RIGHTS. The Mission trained police staff on international human rights standards, notably the prohibition of ill-treatment. It also worked on improving custodial standards for pre-trial detention.

MEDIA AND JUDICIARY. The Mission organized training workshops for the media and judiciary on the implementation of Article 10 of the European Court of Human Rights and media legislation.

FREEDOM OF MEDIA. The Mission supported the establishment of the Press Council, Serbia's first self-regulatory body for print media. Through public campaigns and assistance to journalists, media outlets and professional associations, the Mission highlighted the right to free speech, condemning violence and threats against journalists and media outlets.

ENHANCING MEDIA SKILLS. More than 200 media professionals benefited from Mission-supported training programmes aimed at improving their skills in reporting on politics, corruption, elections, war crimes, trafficking in human beings, diversity and the environment.

SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

MISSION TO SKOPJE

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Ralf Breth** from 16 May,
succeeding Ambassador Jose Luis Herrero Ansola

Budget: €7,018,200
www.osce.org/skopje

In the year of the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Ohrid Framework Agreement (OFA), the Mission continued to proactively support domestic reform and stabilization processes. Along with the other Security Principals – the European Union, the United States Embassy and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Representative in Skopje – the Mission supported the Government in addressing the challenges posed by early parliamentary elections and a population census. With special focus on developments in the fields of inter-community relations and overall security, the Mission's monitoring and early-warning function remained a priority.

“I became more aware that as future teachers we can make a difference in each child's development. Now I feel more confident teaching in a multi-cultural classroom.”

Angela, a student from the Kliment Ohridski Pedagogy Faculty in Skopje who participated in pre-service teacher training

Politico-military dimension activities

MONITORING. The Mission's monitoring activities continued, with special attention on inter-ethnic issues and security. With its unique field presence, the Mission proved its added value on the occasion of early parliamentary elections and during the population census. The Mission served its early-warning function by providing the OSCE and the international community in Skopje with first-hand information regarding field developments on both occasions. Focusing on the north-western part of the country in particular, the Mission continued daily contacts with local authorities, schools, religious communities and non-governmental organizations to identify issues of concern.

POLICE DEVELOPMENT. The Mission continued to support the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MoIA) in further developing a democratically based, accountable and community-oriented police service. In an effort to strengthen a merit-based career system, the Mission organized workshops on human resources management for top and middle management staff at the MoIA. The Mission also maintained its proactive participation in an inter-agency Working Group for the effective implementation of the Law on Internal Affairs and its by-laws. The existing community policing mechanisms were consolidated, and the nationwide Citizens Advisory Groups (CAGs) and Local Prevention Councils (LPCs) played an important role in fostering co-operation between the police, local governance structures and citizens. The

Mission continued to facilitate specialized training for the MoIA, including training on management skills, organized crime and anti-terrorism investigations, in line with international human rights standards.

Human dimension activities

POLITICAL SYSTEM. The Mission maintained its leading role in reviewing the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement (OFA), in close co-ordination with the other Security Principals. Capitalizing on the specialized expertise available through the Programme Co-ordination Unit for Inter-ethnic Relations (PCU), the Mission intensified its efforts to identify and address inter-communal trends, particularly in the main areas of the OFA: education, decentralization, equitable representation, the use of languages and non-discrimination. As such, the Mission further enhanced its pro-active support to the Government and its Secretariat for the Implementation of the OFA (SIOFA) with the aim of strengthening political commitment towards full implementation of the Agreement's core provisions. It also provided assistance to the political involvement of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM), who is working to stimulate integrated education reforms through the Government's Strategy for Integrated Education. Likewise, taking note of recent developments in the field of media, the Mission liaised with the Government, the local Association of Journalists and the OSCE's Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media to promote improved co-ordination and information-sharing among these parties.

EDUCATION. The Mission intensified its efforts towards further co-ordinating and strengthening the joint endeavour of the Government, the Mission and the HCNM to reverse separation trends in education through the progressive implementation of the Government Strategy towards Integrated Education, as adopted in 2010. The Mission also implemented tailor-made projects in line with the strategy, particularly



Left: A police officer demonstrates how to measure speed using radar, as part of the OSCE-supported Child-Police Officer for a Day project in Kumanovo, 2 November 2011. (OSCE/ Jure Rejec)



Right: Khemi Hajredini, Municipality Education Officer at Struga Municipality, introduces a new education legislation website at Ibrahim Temo High School in Struga, 18 November 2011. (OSCE/Florim Ismaili)

through specific support to the improvement of the pre-service teacher training system. The Mission continued supporting the Ministry of Education and Science (MoES) in enhancing its own fundraising capacity for the implementation of reform measures. With the aim of enhancing transparency in education legislation, an online education legislation database was established in co-operation with the MoES.

EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION AND DECENTRALIZATION. To further promote and consolidate the OFA principle of equitable representation within the public administration, the Mission delivered induction training to 210 newly recruited and ethnically mixed civil servants. The Mission also developed a report assessing progress made since 2005 in addressing key aspects of the decentralization process, based on the perceptions of municipal leadership and administration.

ELECTORAL REFORM. The Mission continued assisting the host country in implementing the recommendations of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) throughout the electoral cycle. Thanks to this ongoing co-operation, the Mission was able to provide State authorities and electoral bodies with prompt, tailor-made support during early parliamentary elections in June 2011. The Mission also planned a revised strategy for the Governmental Working Groups to address concerns raised by ODIHR immediately following the elections. Post-election, the Mission continued its collaboration with the election administration, focusing on the audit of the voters' list, amendments to the Electoral Code and out-of-country voting.

JUDICIAL REFORM. The Mission continued to support criminal justice reform, providing training on the main innovations of the new Law on Criminal Procedure, which will enter into force in November 2012. The Mission paid particular attention to best practices in evaluation, appointment and dismissal of judges and prosecutors. It also monitored the legislative process, offering the Government substantive and qualitative comments regarding legislation that affects the judiciary. The Mission continued to promote equal access to justice by supporting the Government in the first

year of implementation of the Law of Free Legal Aid. In addition to the four cases deferred to the country by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, which after the Authentic Interpretation of Amnesty Law in August 2011 were closed, the Mission continued to monitor trial proceedings in mandate-related areas.

LEGISLATIVE REFORM. To foster an inclusive, transparent and effective legislative process, the Mission continued supporting the national administration in improving the drafting and implementation of laws through tailor-made training on law-making. The Mission supported the Government's anti-trafficking efforts, with a special focus on strengthening the role of the National Anti-trafficking Rapporteur. To support effective implementation of the Law on Promotion and Protection from Discrimination adopted in 2010, the Mission helped the Commission for the Protection from Discrimination strengthen its capacities, trained legal practitioners in the area of non-discrimination and supported the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (MLSP) in drafting the National Strategy for Equal Opportunities and Non-discrimination. The Mission also supported the MLSP in reforming the Law on Equal Opportunities. Capacity-building activities for the Agency for Realization of Minority Rights continued. The Mission also continued advocating for the establishment of an External Oversight Mechanism for law-enforcement officers.

ROMA INCLUSION. As the country assumed the two-year presidency of the Decade of Roma Inclusion, the Mission advised and assisted the Government in developing a strategic plan for its presidency. Promotion of the first country-specific *Status Report on the Implementation of the Action Plan for Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area*, issued in 2010, continued in co-operation with the MLSP. Through an inter-departmental approach, the Mission provided Roma non-governmental organizations with capacity-building activities, spanning from non-discrimination to access to justice. To enhance the capacity of the Roma Information Centres, the Mission assisted the MLSP in drafting the Roma Information Centres' Strategy for 2011–2013 and provided training on provisions of basic legal aid on social and health insurance.



SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

OFFICE IN ZAGREB

Head of Office: **Ambassador Enrique Horcajada Schwartz**

Budget: **€ 1,418,500**

www.osce.org/zagreb

In keeping with its mandate, the OSCE Office in Zagreb continued to support national authorities in the implementation of the Croatian Housing Care Programme and monitor and report on progress in processing of war crimes. In 2011, the Government purchased the remaining housing units necessary to meet the last of three benchmarks agreed with the OSCE in 2006, bringing the total quantity of housing units purchased for former occupancy/tenancy rights holders to 4,915.

The year 2011 also saw the adoption of a considerable number of OSCE-proposed legislative amendments to improve efficiency and impartiality in the investigation and prosecution of war crimes. The sustainability and effectiveness of the Croatian judicial system in dealing with domestic war crimes trials was also further established, to the extent that the future role of the OSCE will focus on strengthening local ownership of war crimes proceedings.

In light of the above, the OSCE Permanent Council agreed that the overall mandate of the OSCE Office in Zagreb had been fulfilled and took the formal decision to close the Office (PC.DEC/1026). Accordingly, on 31 December 2011, after 15 years of co-operation and assistance to various Croatian governments by the former OSCE Mission to Croatia and the OSCE Office in Zagreb, the OSCE finalized the presence of a permanent field operation in Croatia. A happy ending that represents a success for both the Organization and Croatia.

Human dimension activities

WAR CRIMES ACCOUNTABILITY. In 2011 the Office continued its comprehensive monitoring of domestic war crimes proceedings and investigations, with more than 140 cases involving more than 630 individuals in 16 courts. The Office also maintained its regular Zagreb-based and field-level contacts with relevant judicial authorities in order to continue following the ongoing implementation of the new action plans adopted by the Chief State Attorney and the Police Directorate in 2011. These plans were designed by Croatia to prioritize war crime cases at national and regional levels and to establish special joint prosecution-police teams for the investigation of particularly sensitive cases.

The review of in absentia convictions, initiated two years ago, continued. Defendants are no longer required to return to Croatia to apply for the renewal of their previous in absentia proceedings, a welcome change that has facilitated progress in this area. Thus far, 20 per cent of the convictions from the early 1990s have been recognized as defective and set aside. In parallel, the review of judicial decisions from the 1990s and the closure of unsubstantiated cases that do not meet current standards also continued, resulting in a 19 per cent decrease in the number of indicted persons and persons under investigation, as well as a 9 per cent decrease in relation to crimes committed by unidentified perpetrators.

CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS. The three Croatian NGOs mentored by the OSCE Office – Documenta, Civil Committee for

Human Rights and the Centre for Peace Osijek – are currently monitoring all war crimes trials. The quality of their monitoring, advocacy and reporting activities improved in 2011 as the Office continued to transfer know-how and build legal and analytical skills through regular joint discussions.

In addition, the Office, together with the Liaison Office of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the Delegation of the European Union and some Zagreb-based embassies, participated in a steering board that coached NGO directors on outreach, management and advocacy activities. In 2011, the three NGOs produced two comprehensive semi-annual reports with legal analyses of every case monitored, which were distributed to the international community. They also issued more than 40 public statements and held a number of press conferences. In addition, they organized roundtable discussions, which were attended by victims of war crimes, associations representing both victims and missing persons, human rights activists, media representatives, as well as the highest governmental and judicial authorities in Croatia.

ACCESS TO HOUSING. In 2011, the Office verified in the field more than 1,450 handovers of dwellings to former occupancy/tenancy rights (OTR) holders who applied for the provision of housing care. By the end of June 2011, the Government had purchased all the remaining housing units required to meet the last of the three benchmarks agreed upon with the OSCE in 2006. The total number of housing units provided to former OTR holders within these three benchmarks is 4,915 (45 units

The OSCE flag is lowered in the Croatian capital, marking the formal closure of the OSCE Office in Zagreb, 17 January 2012. (Office of the President of the Republic of Croatia/ Marija Kundek)



more than the agreed number). In addition, the Croatian Housing Care Programme also provided approximately 3,500 housing units prior to 2007.

In 2011, the Government also extended, for a second time, the deadline for former OTR holders to apply for the provision of housing care. An information campaign

co-ordinated with Serbia was organized prior to the reopening of this deadline. The Government is committed to continuing the Housing Care Programme beyond the three benchmarks and anticipates that the Programme will be finalized by the end of 2014.

The long road home

Snjezana and Mico Popovic, ethnic Serbs from Karlovac County, left Croatia for Belgrade in 1992. When the elderly couple returned in 1997, they found their flat in Karlovac occupied and moved into their small, half-destroyed weekend house some 30 km away. After almost 10 years they were finally able to return to Karlovac. The former OSCE Field Office in Karlovac was deeply involved in this case. In co-operation with the Regional Office for Displaced Persons, Returnees and Refugees (RODPR) in Karlovac, the OSCE succeeded in helping them return to a small flat in town. The following is an excerpt from an interview in February 2007.

OSCE: First of all, congratulations! How do you like the new flat in Karlovac?

Popovic: We cannot believe that we are back in the town! The flat, though smaller than our previous one, is beautiful. We like that it is on the first floor, even though it doesn't have central heating. Fortunately, we can store wood in the cellar.

OSCE: And it is not far away from the centre ...

Popovic: Yes, it is also convenient for us, as we regularly visit a doctor downtown.

OSCE: We also like the nice furniture.

Popovic: Some of it is ours, but most of it we received from good people around as well as from our former neighbours.

OSCE: We wish you all the best in your new home – enjoy it every day!

Popovic: Thanks, indeed! We know that without the help of RODPR and OSCE we would never have received accommodation in Karlovac. Thank you so much – especially you, the OSCE people!

EASTERN EUROPE

MISSION TO MOLDOVA

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Philip Remler**

Budget: € 2,020,600

www.osce.org/moldova

In 2011 the Mission in Moldova, in close co-operation with the Chairmanship, was instrumental in ending a five-year hiatus in official negotiations between the parties in the “5+2” format (including Moldova and Transnistria, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, the OSCE, the European Union and the United States). The resumption was possible after the OSCE mediated informal meetings between the prime minister of Moldova and the Transnistrian leader on 9 September in Bad Reichenhall, Germany, and on 22 November in Bender. As a result of these contacts, a decision to resume official negotiations was taken on 22 September in Moscow. The first renewed official meeting took place in the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius on 30 November-1 December.

“The Summer School made us part of something thrilling and exciting. We had great counsellors who provided everything we needed. We were given lessons that will be helpful in our lives, and we made new friends throughout the country and from the other side of the Dniestr River.”

Cristina Neagu, participant in the OSCE-sponsored Summer School of Leadership

Politico-military dimension activities

POLITICAL SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS AND CONFIDENCE-BUILDING. The Mission helped organize and participated in four informal 5+2 meetings and in the renewed 5+2 negotiations (officially, the “Permanent Conference on Political Issues in the Negotiating Process for Transnistrian Settlement”) on 31 November-1 December.

In support of confidence-building measures related to the 5+2 negotiations, the Mission held joint events in the academic, cultural and environmental spheres and, with the sponsorship of the Chairperson-in-Office and the German Government, held a high-level conference on wider confidence-building measures. This conference saw the first direct contact in several years between the senior education representatives of the sides.

FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT. Some progress was made in discussions on the resumption of rail freight traffic through Transnistria and the restoration of fixed-line telecommunications. The mechanism agreed in 2006 to allow Moldovan farmers access to their land on the Transnistrian-controlled side was prolonged.

JOINT CONTROL COMMISSION. The Joint Control Commission, established to oversee the 1992 ceasefire agreement, met regularly throughout the year. Mission representatives attended all sessions and chaired a subgroup on non-peacekeeping posts in the security zone. Mission members regularly patrolled the security zone and inspected all reported incidents.

Human dimension activities

ELECTORAL REFORM. Taking advantage of a non-election year, the Mission supported initiatives to simplify and harmonize electoral legislation and procedures. Through expert reviews, working groups and public roundtables, the Mission and its partners co-ordinated the formulation of draft regulations addressing persistent problems of election coverage by the media and political campaigning nationwide. The Mission supported the drafting of legislation to improve election processes in Gagauzia (an autonomous territorial unit within the Republic of Moldova).

MONITORING AND PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS. The Mission conducted activities on both sides of the Dniestr/Nistru River. In Transnistria, the Mission continued its individual human rights and legal assistance and educational human rights activities through its partners, culminating in a three-day Human Rights Summer School for young people and civil society. The Summer School focused on human rights standards, engagement and advocacy with international organizations and was visited by 20 OSCE Ambassadors during their July trip to the Republic of Moldova. On the right bank, the Mission supported comprehensive training activities, public discussions and a legislative review to improve the work of local commissions that monitor places of detention. As a result of the project, more



Far left: Preparations for the annual Neptune Day river festival at the OSCE-sponsored Summer School of Leadership in Molovata Noua on 14 July 2011. (OSCE/Kenneth Pickles)

Top: Farmers in Doibani-2, a village on the left bank of the Dniestr/Nistru River, prepare to work their fields in June 2011. (OSCE/Jelle Marseille)



Bottom: Air bomb disposal operations take place in deep pits at a purpose-built demolition site at the Bulboaca Training Area, Anenii Noi district, July 2011. (OSCE/Maurice Dunand)

local commissions – a vital mechanism of civilian control in detention facilities – were established and began regular detention monitoring.

COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY. The Mission supported counselling services for victims of human trafficking and domestic violence and organized training seminars for 200 judges, prosecutors, police and lawyers on combating domestic violence and trafficking in human beings, including the sexual exploitation of children on the Internet. The Mission also supported performances in rural areas of *Casa M.*, a play based on real stories of victims of domestic violence in Moldova, and the 16-Day Campaign Against Gender Violence, which reached out to more than 3,000 people and included a workshop for 30 young men and boys on engaging male youth and community leaders. To promote gender equality, the Mission trained 160 women ahead of local elections. Forty-nine women, or over 30 per cent, were elected as either mayors or local councillors. For the first time in Moldova, the Mission, in co-operation with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, trained 30 officers of the Ministry of Defence on implementing United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on increasing the participation of women in the security sector, including in conflict prevention and resolution.

SUPPORTING JUSTICE REFORM AND STRENGTHENING THE RULE OF LAW. The Mission contributed to the development of a comprehensive Justice Reform Strategy for 2011–2015 by providing the General Prosecutor's Office with technical assistance and expertise to assess the current status of reform and to outline priorities for further reform. Several different activities on a variety of aspects of streamlining legislation and training were performed with representatives of the judiciary.

PROMOTING FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA. The Mission held a high-level conference on re-organizing the public broadcaster, which provided a platform for sharing of expertise and discussions of public-broadcasting reform.

The Mission commissioned an analysis of Moldova's new draft Broadcasting Code that, together with legal reviews provided by the Council of Europe and the European Broadcasting Union, was publicly discussed on 25–26 October in Chişinău. A working group was established, with a view of consolidating the outcomes for submission to Parliament.

The Mission monitored the media situation on both banks of the Dniestr/Nistru River, including Internet and broadcast media and the Audiovisual Co-ordination Council and Supervisory Board of the public broadcaster. It also monitored lawsuits against Moldovan media outlets and journalists.

EASTERN EUROPE

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UKRAINE

Project Co-ordinator: **Ambassador Lubomir Kopaj**

Budget: **€ 2,372,300**

www.osce.org/ukraine

The Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine worked with the country's authorities to assist domestic reform efforts aimed at institution-building, strengthening human rights, rule of law and democratic freedoms, combating trafficking in human beings, promoting economic development and environmental protection, including elimination of explosive remnants of war.

Politico-military dimension activities

AIDING SOCIAL ADAPTATION OF DISCHARGED MILITARY PERSONNEL. In co-operation with the Ministry of Defence, the Project Co-ordinator organized retraining and employment assistance for 985 discharged military officers and their family members, 74 per cent of whom subsequently found employment. More than 1,000 active military officials were trained in social rights and guarantees for discharged military personnel.

CAPACITY-BUILDING OF UKRAINIAN BORDER GUARDS. The Project Co-ordinator assisted the State Border Guard Service in providing IT equipment to 23 risk analysis field units, which will improve their technical capacity to carry out border security risk and criminal analyses.

MÉLANGE DISPOSAL. The Project Co-ordinator supported the OSCE Secretariat's efforts to assist Ukraine with the safe disposal of its stockpiles of the toxic rocket fuel component *mélange*. In 2011, in co-operation with the Ministry of Defence, the OSCE removed almost 4,000 tonnes of this hazardous substance from western and central Ukraine.

CLEANING UP UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE. To help the Ministry of Emergencies safely remove explosive remnants of war, the Project Co-ordinator facilitated the provision of 111 sets of personal protective gear and 13 modern metal detectors capable of detecting explosives at depths of 100 metres underwater and 6 metres underground.

Economic and environmental dimension activities

SUPPORTING LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. Continuing past positive experience, the Project Co-ordinator helped local governments in Dnipropetrovsk and Odessa regions improve the quality of selected administrative services using ICT-based solutions, contributing to better accountability and

transparency of authorities in providing services to the general public as well as to investors and entrepreneurs.

PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. The "Green Pack" system of multimedia educational materials for primary and secondary students was distributed to more than 7,000 schools in 2011. First developed by the Project Co-ordinator in 2009, these tools promote sustainable development and raise awareness of environmental issues among young people in Ukraine.

The Project Co-ordinator also assisted in creating favourable conditions for the use of solar energy in the city of Sevastopol, Crimea, by providing know-how on new renewable energy technologies to the local business community and the general public.

PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. The Project Co-ordinator supported the activities of the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities in the Moldovan-Ukrainian joint management of the Dniester/Nistru River Basin by raising public awareness and by improving the legal framework, co-operation on water and health issues, information exchange, fish conservation and preparedness for flooding and climate change. It also conducted a train-the-trainers workshop on the prevention of transboundary environmental crime and published a manual for trainers on these issues for Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine.

Human dimension activities

STRENGTHENING OF ELECTORAL PROCESSES. The Project Co-ordinator supported nationwide public discussion of election law reform by organizing 30 public discussions, 31 expert surveys and 16 thematic focus groups throughout Ukraine. It also facilitated the development of a website to serve as a platform for open discussion: <http://electioninfo.org.ua>. The Project Co-ordinator also assisted in strengthening the capacity of the Central Election Commission of Ukraine to train election officials.



CIVIL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. In partnership with the Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the Project Co-ordinator contributed to the further development of sustainable civil society by assisting in improving the legal and institutional framework related to development of the non-governmental sector.

MEDIA DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. In co-operation with the country's Journalism Ethics Commission, the Project Co-ordinator assisted in strengthening professional journalism standards in Ukraine. It also worked with broadcasters, regulatory and media experts to identify and address challenges the Ukrainian broadcast market may face in the digital switchover process.

LEGISLATIVE AND JUDICIAL SUPPORT. In co-operation with the Ukrainian Parliament, the Project Co-ordinator reviewed and submitted recommendations on 71 bills and supported capacity-building of lawmakers and judges aimed at aligning the country's legislation with international standards and OSCE commitments.

COMBATING CORRUPTION. The Project Co-ordinator assisted in the implementation of national anti-corruption legislation by training 100 judges and civil servants. It also supported implementation of the National Methodology for Diagnosing Corruption in State institutions, recommending legal and policy framework improvements.

IMPROVING HUMAN RIGHTS REMEDIES. The Project Co-ordinator extended its support to the development of national judicial standards for compensation for human rights violations as well as to the establishment of an efficient and speedy redress system for cases of mass torts. Recommendations and legislative proposals were developed and discussed with judges, civil servants, legal professionals and academics.

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW REFORM. The Project Co-ordinator helped improve citizen-State relations,

focusing on raising public awareness of human rights protection mechanisms and strengthening the capacity of public servants to provide quality legal aid to citizens. It provided training to more than 200 Justice Ministry officials and raised awareness of human rights amongst more than 500 representatives of civil society, youth groups and children. Approximately 150 administrative court judges were trained on drafting quality and consistent decisions to better protect human rights.

LEGAL EDUCATION. Working with academics, judges and legal practitioners, the Project Co-ordinator continued supporting the reform of legal education in Ukraine, developing a policy paper on new approaches and tools for teaching core legal courses in line with current professional requirements.

COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING. The Project Co-ordinator assisted in the development of a Law on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, which was adopted in September 2011. In the framework of the development of a State-led National Referral Mechanism (NRM), the Project Co-ordinator trained more than 1,250 social service workers, educators, health-care specialists and law enforcement officers. As a result of the NRM pilot programme in Chernivtsi and Donetsk, the number of trafficking victims assisted by State institutions increased to 49 in these two regions in 2011, compared with four persons in the entire country in 2010. Given the success of the pilot programme, the NRM model will be implemented throughout the country in 2012.

The Project Co-ordinator also worked with law enforcement officials towards better prevention and prosecution of cybercrime, with a particular focus on trafficking in children.

COMBATING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. The Project Co-ordinator trained more than 100 social service practitioners on assisting victims of domestic violence. It also assisted in finalizing an anti-domestic violence training course for police and opened two interactive training rooms in police educational institutions.

Left: Publications on combating domestic violence, developed and published by the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, 22 April 2011. (OSCE/Oksana Polyuga)

Right: Pyrotechnic specialists from Ukraine's Emergency Situations Ministry at a ceremony for the donation of personal protective equipment by the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine. Kyiv, 18 March 2011. (OSCE/Oksana Polyuga)



SOUTH CAUCASUS OFFICE IN BAKU

Head of Office: **Ambassador Koray Targay** from 15 August,
succeeding Ambassador Bilge Cankorel

Budget: € 2,825,900

www.osce.org/baku

The OSCE Office in Baku continued to support Azerbaijan's government agencies and civil society in the implementation of OSCE commitments in all three dimensions, including security, governance, economic and justice sector reforms.

“Since the project launch in 2009, more than 3,360 clients have received a broad range of free legal services. These centres inspire ordinary people in the provinces to use legal tools to seek justice in all matters of their daily lives.”

Rena Safaraliyeva, Director of Transparency International Azerbaijan, the Office's implementing partner for legal resource centres in Sheki and Ganja

Politico-military dimension activities

POLICE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME. The Office supported the implementation of community policing principles and supported training of trainers to increase police officers' theoretical knowledge and practical skills. The Office also organized the second annual International Community Policing Conference to promote the sharing of good practices.

CYBER SECURITY. The Office promoted a comprehensive approach to cyber security and organized the second national expert conference on fighting cybercrime, with the participation of government agencies, civil society and the business sector.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS OF ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL. The Office produced an Azerbaijani-language version of the *Handbook on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Armed Forces Personnel*, originally published in 2008 by the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. Subsequently, the Office co-hosted a public book launch event with the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, also in cooperation with the Ombudsman of Azerbaijan, government agencies and civil society.

COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS. The Office joined the EU-funded regional Consortium in the

South Caucasus, focusing on the prevention and prosecution of trafficking and forced labour, and raised awareness and built capacity through workshops to assist frontline officers in the identification and protection of victims. The Office also organized a training course on online investigative journalism for professional investigative reporters; facilitated an exchange visit to Italy for representatives of the relevant State agencies and civil society organizations to study anti-trafficking measures and victim protection; and conducted a needs assessment on investigation and prosecution of human trafficking and forced labour.

Economic and environmental dimension activities

ECONOMIC GOOD GOVERNANCE. The Office intensified its co-operation with the Financial Monitoring Service under the Central Bank of Azerbaijan on anti-money-laundering and combating the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT). It co-organized the first regional conference for financial intelligence units from 20 countries, trained bank staff and judges, and facilitated co-operation with EU countries on the GO/AML software system for AML/CFT reporting. The Office also supported a training programme for 90 civil society representatives on the implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in Azerbaijan.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP. The Office's two Legal Advice Centres for small and medium enterprises provided free legal advice on tax, labour and corporate law as well as on civil and administrative procedures to more than 700 entrepreneurs and conducted training sessions and roundtable discussions on business regulations. The Office also supported public hearings on new draft laws on agricultural co-operatives and competition legislation.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION. The Office continued its Civic Action for Security and Environment (CASE) programme, awarding grants to four new civil society projects on sustainable pasture management, hazardous medical waste management,



energy efficiency and renewable energy in small farms. The Office also supported the newly created River Basin Council for the Ganykh River, by launching a new manual for public participation in water management decisions.

ENERGY POLICY DIALOGUE. The Office organized a national workshop on oil spill compensation and liability regimes in Baku as part of efforts to raise awareness of the international legal framework for oil spill preparedness and response. It also organized a visit for Azerbaijani officials to Norway to study oil spill emergency facilities. The Office continued its co-operation with the Renewable Energy Agency of Azerbaijan with a review of a new draft Law on the Development of Renewable Energy Sources.

Human dimension activities

Rule of law

COMPLIANCE WITH FAIR TRIAL STANDARDS. With the Ministry of Justice and other key stakeholders, the Office continued monitoring court proceedings of primarily criminal court cases, as well as some civil and administrative cases, upon the establishment of Administrative-Economic Courts in early 2011. The Office also completed its 2010 trial monitoring report, which highlights trends and offers recommendations regarding fair trial standards.

RIGHTS OF DETAINED PERSONS. The Office increased its involvement in detention monitoring in co-operation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Ombudsman Office and civil society representatives. In addition, the Office provided recommendations to the Government and organized training courses for law enforcement officials on the treatment of detainees, investigation techniques and prevention of ill-treatment.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE. The Office continued supporting four Legal Resource Centres (LRCs) in the Sheki, Lankaran, Sumgayit and Ganja regions. In addition to providing free legal advice to citizens, the LRCs serve as legal resource facilities where the Office organizes training activities for legal professionals, law enforcement officials and civil society representatives.

LEGAL EDUCATION AND RAISING AWARENESS. The Office supported training for legal professionals in Baku in co-operation with the Judicial Legal Council; training for defence lawyers related to the functioning of the European Court of Human Rights in co-operation with the Bar Association and the Justice Academy; and a study trip for legal professionals to Norway. Further, the Office provided simulations of court proceedings and guest lectures for law students in co-operation with State universities in Baku and Nakhchivan.

Democratization

ELECTION ASSISTANCE. The Office organized a study visit to Poland for government representatives on reforming political party legislation and supported the development of recommendations to improve the election complaints process. The Office also conducted workshops and seminars throughout the year for political party representatives and trained domestic non-partisan election observers to boost civic participation.

FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA AND MEDIA DEVELOPMENT. The Office continued work with the Azerbaijani Press Council on new draft anti-defamation legislation, organized a study visit for government press officials to London to learn best practices, and promoted reforms in journalism education in co-operation with the Ministry of Education. The Office also supported training on social media and online investigative techniques.

GENDER EQUALITY. The Office supported the implementation of new domestic violence legislation through a comprehensive set of activities with the State Committee on Women's, Children's and Family Affairs to raise public awareness, including a training and discussion series for civil society actors and government representatives.

PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANCE AND CIVIL SOCIETY. The Office supported increased access of citizens to Members of Parliament. These activities included regional discussions between MPs and their constituents, dialogue between the Government and civil society through open discussions and joint working groups; and capacity-building of civil society actors in assessment, reporting and advocacy, specifically on shadow reporting to United Nations treaty bodies.

Left: International expert Paul Radu (l) provides training on online investigative journalism for Azerbaijani journalists. Baku, 13 September 2011. (OSCE/Mehman Huseynov)

Right: As part of the Civic Action for Security and Environment (CASE) programme, a tree-planting campaign was launched in landslide-prone areas in Guba district, May 2011. (OSCE/Zahra Ahmadova)

SOUTH CAUCASUS OFFICE IN YEREVAN

Head of Office: **Ambassador Sergey Kapinos**

Budget: **€ 2,699,900**

www.osce.org/yerevan

In 2011, the Office marked its tenth anniversary. It continued to support police reform and further promoted the Aarhus Convention as well as economic reform and good governance. The Office also worked to strengthen the capacity of national institutions to combat trafficking in human beings and to monitor and promote human rights.

“In close co-operation with the OSCE, we brought substantial and positive changes in the Armenian police system, including the ongoing police education reform, community policing and a new public order management strategy.”

Arthur Osikyan, Deputy Head of the Armenian Police

Politico-military dimension activities

DEVELOPING DEMOCRATIC POLICING. An Office-led working group elaborated a deployment plan to expand the community-based policing model throughout Yerevan. To prepare for further expansion, a campaign to raise awareness of community policing was organized in all Armenian provinces. The Office promoted transparent police recruitment by supporting an independent admission commission. It also provided guidelines on negotiations and the use of force and accompanying training to police units in charge of public order management.

DEMOCRATIC CONTROL OF THE ARMED FORCES. The Office provided an analytical study on the state of democratic control of the armed forces in Armenia, as well as several surveys to assess and help address human rights violations and crime in the army. The Office organized training for defence spokespersons on how to successfully interact with media and the public.

CYBER SECURITY. The Office facilitated an experience exchange visit with the cybercrime department of the Moscow Police. It also assisted in establishing initial contacts between the European Regional Academy of Armenia and the State University of New York at Albany on a cyber security curriculum, to be followed by formal co-operation.

Economic and environmental dimension activities

ADVANCING BETTER REGULATION. The Office initiated a regulatory reform initiative that will eliminate

or simplify many of the 25,000 or so rules on the books, increasing Armenia’s attractiveness for investors.

SUPPORTING SME DEVELOPMENT. The Office became a permanent member of the Small and Medium-Size Enterprise Development Council and supported experts on tax and customs administration and inspection reforms to advise the Council. The Office offered training on drafting successful business plans to women entrepreneurs in the Syunik region.

RAISING ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS. The Office continued to support 15 Aarhus Centres throughout the country. It provided training for journalists on environmental issues and environmental education for youth groups and supported tree planting and a responsible waste collection campaign in the Syunik region.

ENVIRONMENT AND SECURITY INITIATIVE (ENVSEC). The Office assisted in conducting a live wildfire exercise and a roundtable on Armenia’s wildfire management strategy. Government officials and representatives from non-governmental organizations visited Albania and Montenegro to study sustainable mining practices. Mining waste sites in Alaverdi and Nubarashen were also assessed.

ADDRESSING CORRUPTION. The Office monitored undertaken reforms in notary and civil registry offices. It helped develop further interactive anti-corruption/integrity training materials for civil servants and sponsored an international conference on transparent and effective public service. The Office also assisted in elaborating the Law on Public Service, which includes measures to reduce corruption. It organized a training and experience exchange for customs brokers and officials at the European Customs Brokers Association.

CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR STATE BODIES. The Office responded to a request to attach a long-term international expert to Yerevan Municipality. As a result of the expert’s needs assessment, dozens of staffers were offered a month-long training course on municipal management and an experience exchange in Vienna.



Human dimension activities

SUPPORTING THE OMBUDSMAN INSTITUTION. The Office continued training experts of the National Preventive Mechanism on Torture and supported its visits to closed institutions. It organized a workshop to strengthen co-operation between the Ombudsman and NGOs.

SUPPORTING CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND JUDICIAL REFORMS. In co-operation with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the Office organized a review conference to assess implementation of recommendations from the 2010 trial monitoring report and assisted in drafting a new Criminal Procedure Code. The Office facilitated a discussion of the *Kyiv Recommendations on Judicial Independence* and submitted policy recommendations to interested agencies. It also presented a study on the implementation of decisions of the European Court of Human Rights on Armenia and commentaries to the decisions of the Cassation Court. The Office assessed the prosecutorial system against international standards, to be followed by a reform project.

PROMOTION OF PENITENTIARY AND JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORMS. The Office presented the results of a juvenile-trial monitoring project and conducted studies with recommendations on educational and vocational training needs of juvenile detainees and the existing parole mechanism. It also sponsored vocational training aimed at re-socializing adult and juvenile convicts. In addition, it assisted with experience exchange on life imprisonment and probation. The Office presented a report on witness protection procedures to the Ministry of Justice and civil society.

HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING AND EDUCATION. The Office strengthened the legal skills and monitoring capacity of civil society organizations that monitor police detention centres, prisons and closed educational institutions as well as the actors of the National Preventive Mechanism. Thirty secondary school teachers were trained to be human rights trainers, and the staff of army units and military educational institutions received training on the ODIHR/DCAF handbook on human rights in the armed forces.

SUPPORTING REFORMS IN THE SPHERE OF FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF. The Office sponsored two

roundtable discussions on freedom of religion and belief legislation that included religious organizations. It also organized training on reporting on religious affairs for journalists and journalism students.

MIGRATION MANAGEMENT AND ANTI-TRAFFICKING. The Office supported State institutions and civil society organizations in developing a national action plan pursuant to Armenia's migration management strategy. It also helped a team of national experts prepare anti-trafficking training manuals for trainers and students at law enforcement training facilities.

MEDIA FREEDOM. In co-operation with the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, the Office organized training for journalists, judges and lawyers on international freedom of expression standards following criticism of judicial handling of defamation cases. The Office also facilitated legal reviews on Armenia's new draft Broadcasting Law and supported a national survey to assess implementation of the freedom of information laws.

YOUTH AND EDUCATION. In co-operation with youth groups, the Office supported awareness campaigns on corruption in higher education. As a result roundtables were organized at universities in Yerevan and Gyumri, social networks were formed and a slogan competition was held. In partnership with the Ministry of Education, the Office organized a three-day training on corruption risks for higher education officials. The Office also organized several Model OSCE conferences, which brought together more than 60 students.

GENDER. Jointly with ODIHR the Office organized a roundtable followed by a two-day training to increase the political participation of women in preparation for general elections in 2012. The Office also co-sponsored the third annual "Na/Ne" competition to improve awareness of gender-related issues in the media. Lastly, the Office participated in the OSCE's gender-mainstreaming initiative, carried out by the Gender Section of the Secretariat.

ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE. The Office supported the Central Electoral Commission in organizing a two-day orientation and planning workshop for Election Commissions to ensure uniform application of the Election Code.

Left: High school students applaud their efforts in a human rights game organized by the OSCE Office in Yerevan and the Yerevan Club of Intellectual Games. (OSCE/Photolur)

Right: Some 50 fire brigade representatives received practical training on forest fire management. Syunik, 13 September 2011. (OSCE/Karen Arzumanyan)

CENTRAL ASIA

CENTRE IN ASHGABAT

Head of Centre: **Ambassador Sergei Belyaev** from 7 April,
succeeding Ambassador Arsim Zekolli

Budget: **€1,279,900**

www.osce.org/ashgabat

The Centre continued close co-operation with the Government of Turkmenistan in all three dimensions. It further facilitated energy security dialogue and supported legal reforms, media development and election processes. The Centre also worked to promote safe arms management, to enhance the capacity of border security officials and to assist in water management and the development of small and medium enterprises. Promoting human rights and gender equality as well as supporting the administration of justice remained among the focuses of the Centre's activities.

“Thanks to the OSCE, we have been able to organize training courses for hotline consultants and raise awareness about domestic violence, thus enhancing the quality of assistance to people in crisis situations and contributing to the prevention of this global social problem.”

Roza Kuzakhmedova, director of the public organization Keik Okara

Politico-military dimension activities

CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR CUSTOMS OFFICIALS. The Centre assisted the State Customs Service in establishing a fully equipped multimedia library at the Customs Training Centre. It also facilitated computer classes on electronic processing of cargo declarations for approximately 40 customs officials and conducted a train-the-trainer course on communication skills in customs training. In addition, the Centre organized a study visit to the Russian Customs Academy, providing an opportunity for the exchange of practices in customs education and in-service training.

PROMOTING SAFE MANAGEMENT OF SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION STOCKPILES. The Centre organized a study tour to the United Kingdom for military officers. Participants visited weapons and ammunition storage and destruction sites and discussed practices for physical security, stockpile management of small arms and light weapons (SALW), conventional ammunition and incidence response.

ENHANCING TRAVEL DOCUMENT SECURITY. The Centre continued supporting efforts to strengthen travel document security and provided border security agencies with 20 passport databases for use at border crossing points throughout Turkmenistan.

MEDIA DEVELOPMENT. In co-operation with the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, the Centre organized a roundtable on mechanisms to align the country's media legislation with relevant technologies and international standards. The Centre also conducted a training seminar for government spokespersons and press service representatives to promote access to official information and improve channels of communication between government institutions and media. The seminar focused on press officers' professional skills and Internet use for communication with media outlets and the general public.

Economic and environmental dimension activities

ENERGY SECURITY. The Centre promoted principles of energy diplomacy by organizing a workshop for energy and economic sector officials and academics on the interaction of governments and energy-related companies from the historical, geopolitical and economic perspectives. A follow-up workshop on oil and gas economics was also held to address effective mechanisms for developing international oil and gas pricing policy.

AARHUS CONVENTION. To facilitate access to environmental information, the Centre organized a training course for representatives of civil society and governmental institutions on the Aarhus Convention and its implementation in signatory countries.

WATER MANAGEMENT. The Centre assisted in developing local expertise on the application of Geographic Information Systems in operating and maintaining irrigation infrastructure and efficient management of water resources in the Lebap region.

PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING IN ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE COMMODITIES. The Centre enhanced the capacity of customs and border officials to detect and prevent illegal transboundary trafficking in waste and



other environmentally sensitive commodities by organizing a workshop and supporting the publication of the *Green Customs Guide* in the Turkmen language.

SUPPORT TO SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES. The Centre supported the establishment of the Business Consulting Centre in the Ahal region, which provides consultation services on business, economic and agriculture management for women, farmers, young people and the unemployed.

Human dimension activities

SUPPORTING LEGAL REFORM. The Centre conducted a technical seminar on legislative drafting skills for representatives of institutions involved in the lawmaking process. It also drafted and presented the publication *Guidelines on Legislative Drafting Skills* at the national Parliament and developed software to be used by Parliament for archiving legislative acts.

SUPPORTING ELECTION PROCESSES. The Centre promoted the exchange of best practices in elections organization and conduct by organizing a working visit for high-level election officials to Norway, during which the Turkmen delegation observed Norway's municipal elections process.

PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS. The Centre further facilitated the exchange of international expertise in the area of human rights and organized a lecture series on the promotion of human rights standards in the administration of criminal justice for students of the Institute under the Interior Ministry and the Turkmen State University. A course on human rights and international relations was held at the Institute of International Relations under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Centre also continued to provide legal support on individual cases, extending legal advice and assistance to more than 160 citizens in 2011.

SUPPORTING THE RULE OF LAW AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE. To further promote judicial training, the Centre organized a study visit for legal experts to Serbia and the Netherlands, on the initial training and regular follow-up training of judges and prosecutors. In

addition, the Centre drafted pocket cards to be used by citizens as a reference tool on the rights of crime perpetrators and crime victims provided by Turkmenistan's legislation. The Centre also finalized its article-by-article commentary on the Code of Criminal Procedure of Turkmenistan.

PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS IN THE PENITENTIARY SYSTEM. The Centre organized a working visit to Spain for representatives of the Presidential Administration and Ministry of Interior. During the visit, participants shared experiences in prison management and mechanisms to protect the rights of inmates. The Centre also held seminars to promote education, rehabilitation and social reintegration of prisoners and institutionalized pre-service and in-service training for prison staff.

PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY AND PREVENTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING. The Centre supported several civil society organizations throughout the country in conducting training courses for young people and social workers on gender equality, healthy lifestyles, the prevention of drug abuse and the prevention of human trafficking. In addition, the Centre continued to support the public organization Keik Okara, which works to increase public awareness of domestic violence, maintains a domestic violence hotline and trains hotline consultants.

Left: Participants in an OSCE-supported seminar on legislative drafting organized by the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat, 23 December 2011. (OSCE)

Right: Customs Service staff take part in a practical exercise during OSCE-supported training in Ashgabat, 19 September 2011. (OSCE)

Promoting energy security

A high-level Chairmanship conference on "Integrating Global Energy Markets – Providing Energy Security" was organized in Ashgabat to facilitate dialogue and co-operation on energy security. The conference, hosted by the Government of Turkmenistan and organized in co-operation with the Lithuanian Chairmanship, the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities and the Centre in Ashgabat, brought together policymakers and experts on energy diplomacy and provided a forum for discussion of mechanisms for the stable transit and diversification of energy resources in the OSCE region and beyond.

CENTRAL ASIA CENTRE IN ASTANA

Head of Centre: **Ambassador Alexandre Keltchewsky** until 4 November,
followed by Jeannette Kloetzer as Officer-in-Charge

Budget: € 2,163,900

www.osce.org/astana

In close partnership with the host Government, civil society, the OSCE Institutions and international organizations, the Centre in Astana continued to support Kazakhstan's efforts to implement OSCE principles and commitments in all three dimensions of security. The Centre's assistance in 2011 focused inter alia on political reforms, defence co-operation, promoting human rights and the rule of law, gender equality, transport and energy security, water resource management, good governance and media development.

“The Centre in Astana’s support for inclusive discussion platforms involving the broad participation of civil society institutions significantly contributes to the establishment of a culture of dialogue between society and government.”

Zauresh K. Battalova, President of the Fund for Parliamentary Development in Kazakhstan

Politico-military dimension

POLITICAL DIALOGUE. In a year that included both presidential elections and the announcement of parliamentary elections scheduled for 15 January 2012, the Centre brought together representatives of political parties, parliamentarians, Government and civil society to dialogue on the role of political parties in democratic societies, as well as on electoral and media legislation. The Centre also organized a three-month voter education project to promote young people's awareness of the electoral process. At a roundtable conducted with the Centre's support, governmental and public stakeholders discussed local self-government issues, including public participation in regional decision-making.

COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL THREATS. The Centre provided assistance to Parliament in improving the legislative framework on fighting organized crime. An expert from Georgia's General Prosecutor's Office invited by the Centre shared practical and legal experience in dealing with organized crime in her country. The Centre also provided significant support for a regional workshop on international co-operation in criminal matters that was organized by the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

BORDER SECURITY AND MANAGEMENT. The Centre partnered with Kazakhstan's Border Service Agency, the International Organization for Migration and the European Union-UN Development Programme's Border Management in Central Asia to organize two multi-day border security seminars for Kazakhstani customs officers and border guard representatives. The seminars were led by international experts and covered topics such as integrated border management and interagency cross-border co-ordination.

DEFENCE CO-OPERATION. The Centre continued its fruitful co-operation with Kazakhstan's Ministry of Defence by jointly organizing a regional training seminar on the Vienna Document 1999. In co-operation with the FSC Support Section, the Centre also supported a project to eliminate the hazardous rocket fuel component *mélange* by facilitating a visit by Russian technical experts to *mélange* storage sites in preparation for its disposal at facilities in the Russian Federation.

Economic and environmental dimension activities

TRANSPORT AND TRADE FACILITATION. The Centre's activities included support for Kazakhstani stakeholders in implementing the Chairmanship's priorities in this field. Key activities included capacity-building for customs officers and private sector operators on border control and risk management in light of the three-state Customs Union.

CASPIAN SEA AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY. The Centre's efforts related to Caspian Sea oil spills and maritime pollution were aimed at strengthening the country's ability to deal with such problems. The Centre accomplished this by promoting Kazakhstan's interaction with the International Maritime Organization on oil spill and disaster management and facilitating the country's signing of the Tehran Convention's First Protocol on prevention and response to major oil spills in the Caspian Sea.



GOOD GOVERNANCE AND TRANSPARENCY. Anti-corruption, combating money laundering and terrorism financing, labour migration management and transparency of proceeds from extractive industries in Kazakhstan were areas of focus in 2011. To promote the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and civil society participation in it, the Centre supported a series of training courses for journalists and non-governmental organization activists on EITI practices.

ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE, CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION. Assisting Kazakhstan in preparing for the Environment for Europe ministerial conference in Astana and the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2012 were priorities in the Centre's partnership with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and environmental NGOs. This relationship resulted in a wide range of joint activities under the Kazakhstani Green Bridge Partnership Programme in areas such as environmental governance, efficient water management and the implications of climate change for sustainable development. Public access to environmental information, decision-making and justice were promoted through a network of six Aarhus Centres which were established with the OSCE's support.

Human dimension activities

PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS. The Centre extended its support to national human rights institutions: the Ombudsman Office, the National Commission on Human Rights and NGOs. A project initiated in 2010 to strengthen the legislative framework and institutional capacity of the Ombudsman Office continued, with a special emphasis on reaching out to the regions. The Centre also continued to advocate the establishment of a National Preventive Mechanism, which was addressed during a number of roundtables to facilitate the drafting of legislation related to implementation of the Optional Protocol against Torture.

RULE OF LAW AND THE PENITENTIARY SYSTEM. The Centre continued to engage with its traditional partners in this field – the Ministry of Justice, the General Prosecutor's Office, the Supreme Court, the Parliament, the Penal Executive Committee, defence lawyers and NGOs – to support the ongoing judicial reform. The Centre organized seminars and training to promote fair trial standards, equal access to justice, criminal justice and penitentiary system reform.

COUNTERING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS. The Centre worked with Kazakhstani law enforcement agencies on strengthening regional and international co-operation in the fight against trafficking in human beings. The Centre co-hosted an interregional anti-trafficking workshop for law enforcement officials and the judiciary in Almaty. It also facilitated a high-level training event for judges on anti-trafficking casework, during which recommendations for police in the field of victim identification were elaborated.

MEDIA DEVELOPMENT. The Centre continued to provide journalists with professional development opportunities through training programmes on such topics as new media tools, Kazakh-language website development and international freedom of speech principles. The Centre facilitated inclusive discussions on the host country's draft Law on Television and Radio Broadcasting via a specially created website and roundtable events. It also co-sponsored a conference on the development of the Internet in the region and supported a study tour to Ukraine for NGO and media representatives on access to government information. The Centre also continued to closely follow cases of freedom of speech infringements and liaised with the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media and State authorities.

Left: A billboard proclaims the importance of environmental protection. Astana, 14 April 2011. (OSCE/Andrew Offenbacher)

Right: A workshop participant checks the authenticity of a passport during a practical exercise in Aktau, 12 October 2011. (OSCE/Mikhail Assafov)



CENTRAL ASIA CENTRE IN BISHKEK

Head of Centre: **Ambassador Andrew Tesoriere**

Budget: **€6,767,500**

www/osce.org/bishkek

2011 began with the dramatic events of 2010 fresh in the country's memory and their aftermath still to be addressed. The year has been about moving forward to the next chapter of Kyrgyzstan's history, following its constitutional transformation and successful Parliamentary elections in late 2010. Tackling the challenges of transition was the Centre in Bishkek's strategic focus, with the onus on strengthening national ownership and institutions as key elements in the relationship between the State and its citizens. The introduction of the Community Service Initiative also represented a major contribution by the Organization in addressing the consequences of violence in the previous year.

“In July and August, shortage of water is acute. I have to go to the fields almost every day to reconcile quarrelling farmers. Thanks to OSCE training we now understand which crops require the most water and have started to plan our crop plantations to maximize water use.”

Uktam Maximov, head of the Water User Association of Shark Village in Osh Province

Politico-military dimension activities

CONFLICT PREVENTION AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT. The Centre's stabilization work focused on the establishment of nationally owned crisis-management mechanisms. Efforts to create a nationwide crisis response centre were supported through peer-to-peer exchanges. On the local level, a 550-person-strong network of mediators was established. In all districts of Osh and Jalal-Abad provinces, community leaders and prominent individuals were identified, reflecting ethnic, religious, age and gender diversity. They were then equipped with the requisite skills and means to co-ordinate their efforts with State authorities.

This goes in parallel with the important role of the police in inter-communal relations. This year also marked the practical launch of the Community Security Initiative. In one of the largest OSCE operational deployments in recent years, 28 police advisors were sent to nine districts that were either badly affected by the June 2010 violence or potentially susceptible to similar tensions. The OSCE advisors launched a range of initiatives to improve mutual trust between local communities and the police, and continued to offer their support to the local authorities in their efforts aimed at raising respect for human rights.

ADDRESSING TRANSNATIONAL THREATS. In 2011 the Centre emphasized the transnational element of its efforts. Working with the OSCE Office in Tajikistan it conducted a series of border delegate workshops and specialized training for border troops from both countries to address common concerns, such as travel document security and identification of narcotic precursors. Complementing this, work on protecting critical infrastructure continued. The infrastructure of the Kambar-Ata hydroelectric station, which constitutes an important component of the United Energy System in Central Asia, was upgraded and its staff was trained in dealing with potential terrorist threats.

INSTITUTION-BUILDING. Strengthening State institutions and public trust in them was the main element of the Centre's democratization efforts. At the heart of this has been police reform. After seven years of sustained OSCE efforts, a ministerial-level National Forum endorsed key steps to improve the behaviour, accountability and organizational efficiency of the police, opening the door to fresh efforts to realize these mechanisms in 2012.

OSCE Academy

In just eight years, the OSCE Academy has developed into one of the most reputable academic institutions in Central Asia. In 2011 its Masters course in Politics and Security was oversubscribed 17 to 1. The Academy brought together more than 100 students, officials and academics from all five Central Asian states, Afghanistan and the wider OSCE area in its Masters course, research and dialogue initiatives, and training programmes. Preparations are underway to launch a second Masters programme, in Economic Governance and Development, in 2012, which will visibly expand the OSCE's second-dimension efforts in the region.



Left, from left: Zarylbek Akymbaev, Senior Neighbourhood Inspector; Jibek Uzubekova, OSCE Centre in Bishkek Programme Assistant; and Kurmanbek Musukeev, Juvenile Delinquency Inspector, during training on community policing. Naryn, 27 April 2011. (OSCE/Zarina Isakova)

Right: Participants in a practical exercise on information analysis for law enforcement representatives. Bishkek, 20 October 2011. (OSCE/Dmitry Zagrotskiy)

The Centre continued its support to the State Customs Service, with approximately 450 customs officers (including 80 officers from Afghanistan) participating in training programmes in 2011, ranging from basic training to more specialized modules for experienced officers and instructors. Participation in qualification courses is a pre-requisite for promotion of officers, an innovation for the Service. The nationally owned training strategy will allow the Service to build its own skills set to address many core challenges, such as maximizing duty collection and combating smuggling.

Rebuilding political dialogue was also an OSCE priority in 2011. The Centre-sponsored “Parliament of Political Parties” became a much-used means to ensure that political debates encompass voices from within and outside Parliament. The forum provided for open and inclusive dialogue between all parties from across the political spectrum.

Economic and environmental dimension activities

RESOURCE GOVERNANCE. Addressing factors exacerbating community tensions was a priority for the Centre’s Economic and Environmental Dimension in 2011. Throughout southern Kyrgyzstan, the Centre worked to improve the transparency and efficiency of local self-governance bodies and Water User Associations to prevent disputes related to scarce and precious resources, such as irrigation water and land. The Centre pioneered a peer mentoring approach, spreading local best practices through the practitioners themselves.

The Centre’s resource governance work also extended to the next generation of water users. The OSCE took the lead in advocating the principles of Integrated Water Resources Management to the country’s students, using practical initiatives to explain the

critical link between water and security and advocating for the mainstreaming of water security into school and university curricula.

Working with 30 local councils, the Centre sought to prevent land disputes in southern Kyrgyzstan by promoting simpler and more transparent land registration procedures. Initiatives to increase the income-generation potential of the local councils also allowed them to provide better services to the population, which is crucial to increasing confidence in the functioning of State structures in the south of the country.

Human dimension activities

HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION. State and civil society cooperation was also fostered in the human rights field. For the first time, a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ombudsman of Kyrgyzstan and human rights NGOs was brokered by the Centre. The agreement constitutes an encouraging development in efforts to address persistent human rights complaints – including of torture and ill-treatment. The final report under the project was presented on 13 December.

ELECTION ASSISTANCE. The October 2011 presidential election marked a watershed moment, with the first peaceful transition of presidential power in the country’s 20-year history. Through its election assistance the Centre worked to ensure professionalism and integrity of the process. Over 23,000 polling station officials were trained throughout the country to ensure a uniform understanding of the country’s election laws, supplemented by a widespread voter education campaign. The Centre also used the occasion to build the capacity of domestic observer groups to constructively scrutinize the conduct and administration of the election.

CENTRAL ASIA

OFFICE IN TAJIKISTAN

Head of Office: **Ambassador Ivar Vikki**

Budget: **€5,861,000**

www.osce.org/tajikistan

Highlights included the start of wide-ranging police reform support, broadened border management assistance, ground-breaking research in the field of combating corruption and radicalization that can lead to violent extremism and terrorism, and support for an intensive dialogue on human rights and media freedom.

“Without enhancing women’s participation in public life, we cannot do much within our respective parties. As members of this OSCE-supported working group, we think first about the interest of all Tajik women to take part in political life, even though we are members of different political parties.”

Umriniso Kasakova, member of the People’s Democratic Party of Tajikistan

Politico-military dimension activities

POLITICAL DIALOGUE. In collaboration with Tajikistan’s Public Council, the Office fostered dialogue between the Government and civil society on issues such as social well-being, extremism, economic development and human rights. The Office also conducted monthly roundtables at its five field presences for local representatives of political parties and civil society.

BORDER SECURITY. The Office accelerated its practical training for border guards and customs officials from Tajikistan and Afghanistan in patrolling, mine awareness and field medicine. The Office also hosted the initial meetings of an inter-agency co-ordination group, to implement the 2010 National Border Strategy.

SUPPORT FOR POLICE REFORM AND COUNTER TERRORISM. The Office helped the Ministry of Internal Affairs to develop a reform roadmap, including change management strategies. The Office supported a nationwide survey, mapping the potential for radicalization as a first step towards prevention.

MINE CLEARANCE. The Office assisted the Ministry of Defence’s Humanitarian Demining Group in clearing 194,601 square metres and destroying more than 428 anti-personnel landmines along the Tajik-Afghan border. The Office also facilitated the development of a long-term Mine Action Plan 2012–2015. In addition, the Office

participated in a mine action assessment in Kyrgyzstan and supported a regional workshop to enhance explosive hazards reduction and response.

SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS (SALW) AND CONVENTIONAL AMMUNITION. The Office assisted the Government in the initial phase of the newly established Co-ordination Council, which responds to incidents involving SALW. The Office helped draft general guidelines on stockpile security management.

Economic and environmental dimension activities

CROSS-BORDER TRADE. The Office continued to advise on the development of Free Economic Zones (FEZs). It also provided assistance to an international economic forum in the Sughd Province with 300 participants, and helped the Ishkashim FEZ to elaborate a long-term action plan. The Office assisted three trade promotion centres on the Tajik-Afghan border.

IMPROVING BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT CLIMATE. The Office collaborated with a Government working group to draft a new Law on Service Co-operatives, enabling small farmers to pool resources and start businesses in rural areas. The Office also advised returning labor migrants on business development. In co-operation with the Office, an inter-agency working group presented an action plan to consolidate the regulatory framework to attract investment in small hydropower development.

WATER MANAGEMENT. Together with the Government, the Office trained officials in Integrated Water Resources Management and international water law and developed a draft curriculum for universities on international water legislation. The Office raised awareness on shared water use in the Tajik-Kyrgyz border area and on radioactive safety and water security in the northern city of Taboshar.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND AWARENESS. Together with the Government and Parliament, the Office helped develop a National Environmental Code. The Office supported the National Aarhus Centre in Dushanbe



and facilitated the opening of a new Aarhus Centre in Khorogh. Under the Civic Action for Security and Environment (CASE) initiative, the Office helped develop eight local environmental projects throughout the country, empowering youth and civil society organizations.

GOOD GOVERNANCE. In co-operation with the Agency for State Financial Control and the Fight against Corruption, the Office encouraged the development of a draft Law on Conflicts of Interest and provided expertise on a draft Law on Anti-corruption Screening of Legal Acts. The results of a survey on corruption, which was supported by the Office, were incorporated into the strategic work plan of the National Council on Combating Corruption.

Human dimension activities

HUMAN RIGHTS AWARENESS. The Office supported an inter-agency working group led by the Ombudsman's Office in developing a five-year State Programme for Human Rights Education. The Office's five field presences co-operated with local schoolteachers to offer courses for young people on civic responsibility, human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Office facilitated a structured dialogue between Government and civil society that was presented as best practice to the OSCE Permanent Council's Human Dimension Committee.

RULE OF LAW. The Office trained officials on torture prevention and assisted civil society in building capacity to monitor closed institutions. It worked to raise awareness amongst prosecutors of human rights for victims and suspects in cases of alleged terrorism. The Office also produced an analysis of the legislative process to assist the Government in drafting laws in line with its international obligations.

DEMOCRATIZATION OF THE MEDIA. With the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, the Office hosted the Central Asia Media Conference, which focused on digital communication. The Office also facilitated dialogue on media legislation, policy and OSCE media commitments. A distribution co-operative for print media, established with Office assistance, began

operations, and Tajikistan's media self-regulation body sought to build consensus on professional ethics.

ELECTORAL REFORM. Working with the Central Commission on Elections and Referenda, the Office interviewed electoral process stakeholders to identify capacity needs in advance of the 2013 presidential election and expanded Tajikistan's roster of trained election observers.

GENDER. The Office co-operated with the Ministry of Internal Affairs to help specialized police units recognize and respond to domestic violence cases and to help the Police Academy develop a standard course. With Office support, leading female representatives of all eight political parties formed a nonpartisan working group to promote women's participation in public life. Eleven Office-supported Women's Resource Centres promoted girls' education and helped families in crisis access legal rights.

ANTI-TRAFFICKING. The Office supported the Government in holding a quarterly high-level "Dialogue on Combating Human Trafficking", a forum for officials, civil society and international actors to discuss implementation of the National Action Plan. It provided instruction on anti-trafficking investigation to the Prosecutors' Training Institute and helped the Police Academy train more faculty to teach its interactive course on anti-trafficking investigation.

Border Management Staff College

The OSCE Border Management Staff College (BMSC) is increasingly becoming a hub for border management and security training activities. Through courses for Afghan customs officers, an expert conference on regional security and a training event for Tajik and Afghan officers in Lithuania, the BMSC strengthened its international outreach. In total, 283 officers and experts from 15 OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation, including Afghanistan and Mongolia, attended courses.

Left: A planning workshop for regional commanders on police reform. Dushanbe, 2 March 2011. (OSCE/Oliver Janser)

Right: An equal number of men and women from all over Tajikistan applied and were selected for international election observation training organized by the OSCE Office in Tajikistan. Dushanbe, 19 September 2011. (OSCE/Skye Christensen)

CENTRAL ASIA

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UZBEKISTAN

Project Co-ordinator: **Ambassador Istvan Venczel**

Budget: **€1,912,100**

www.osce.org/tashkent

The Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan continued implementation of projects in the three dimensions, pursuing the involvement of Uzbek officials in OSCE events and activities.

“The Human Rights Resource Centre, created with OSCE support, will serve as a tool for raising awareness of police officers, increasing effectiveness of self-education and enhancing education activities using modern technologies.”

Ilkhom Turgunov, Head of the Human Rights Protection and Legal Provision Department of the Ministry of Interior

Politico-military dimension activities

BIOMETRIC PASSPORTS. The Project Co-ordinator continued to support the Government of Uzbekistan in improving the National Passport System, including through liaising directly with the Ministries of Interior and Foreign Affairs. The Project Co-ordinator, in co-operation with the OSCE Action against Terrorism Unit, organized a study tour for a delegation of local experts to the United States and Canada, with a visit to the International Civil Aviation Organization Office.

POLICE REFORM. The Project Co-ordinator helped establish two educational centres in the Police Academy. In co-operation with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit, it also organized training for the Police Academy in the area of juvenile justice, conducted by experts from the Irish Police.

CIVIL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT. The Project Co-ordinator supported training on methods to increase the effectiveness of civil society organizations and encourage interaction between governmental and non-governmental organizations.

COMBATING DRUG TRAFFICKING. The Project Co-ordinator organized seminars on national and international regulations on combating trafficking of illicit drugs for staff at the National Information Analytical Centre on Drug Control. It also supported the annual publication of the *Central Asian Drug Situation Bulletin*.

The Project Co-ordinator facilitated training for officers of Uzbek law enforcement agencies in Hungary, France and Italy, during which participants shared best practices in discussions led by experts.

MEDIA DEVELOPMENT. The Project Co-ordinator facilitated the participation of a Lithuanian expert in an international roundtable to provide recommendations on draft media development laws. It also provided assistance to the National Association of Electronic Mass Media in improving the professional skills of editors, camera operators, and other technical staff by organizing training with international experts from the United States and Germany.

Economic and environmental dimension activities

GOOD GOVERNANCE AND ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING. In July, Uzbekistan gained full access to the Egmont Group, an international financial intelligence network to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism. This achievement, supported by the Project Co-ordinator, was a major milestone for the Prosecutor General's Office. The Project Co-ordinator also supported the Central Bank by providing international trainers for courses on dealing with suspicious transactions, which were offered to compliance officers at commercial banks and to other financial and credit institutions.

PROMOTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND LEGAL REFORM. The Project Co-ordinator supported Parliament in the drafting of new legislation to further develop and promote small and private businesses and trade. It also facilitated the organization of training seminars for arbitration judges for the Association of Arbitration Courts.

SUPPORT TO FARMERS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT. Together with the Farmers' Association of Uzbekistan and the Israeli Mashav Centre for International Co-operation, the Project Co-ordinator supported the training of farmers on sustainable development and



diversification of farming, as well as on business skills. It also provided a training needs assessment of the Farmers' Association. At the parliamentary level, the Project Co-ordinator supported work on new legislation in the agricultural sector.

STRATEGY FOR PROMOTION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY. The Project Co-ordinator supported a project of the Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan through international expertise, a conference and a study tour in order to develop a strategy on renewable energy.

MONITORING ENVIRONMENTAL THREATS. Together with the State Nature Protection Committee and the State Committee on Geology and Mineral Resources, the Project Co-ordinator supported a complex assessment of the Syrdarya River Basin, focusing on the transboundary environmental impact of uranium tailings and the disposal of toxic waste.

DEVELOPMENT OF ECO-JOURNALISM. In co-operation with the State Nature Protection Committee and a non-governmental organization, the Project Co-ordinator worked to strengthen the capacity of different types of media representatives and improve media coverage of environmental security issues.

Human dimension activities

CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR THE INFORMATION SERVICES. The Project Co-ordinator provided training to 60 representatives of information services at State ministries and agencies. The training aimed to improve the efficiency of the information services, and – within the framework of the media legislation – to promote constructive interaction with the press and encourage greater transparency in communication between the public and the Government.

COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING. Building the national Inter-agency Commission's capacity to establish a more systematic and sustainable approach to combating human trafficking and to ensure the protection

of the human rights of victims of human trafficking and labour exploitation was the main focus of the Project Co-ordinator's work. This was achieved through training activities and the provision of educational materials on anti-trafficking standards and technical equipment.

SUPPORTING HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE POLICE ACADEMY. The Project Co-ordinator organized training for 125 police officers at the Police Academy on the practical application of human rights standards in their daily work, including awareness-raising on women's rights and ensuring human rights in combating transnational threats.

PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS. To further build the capacity of police officers in the area of human rights, the Project Co-ordinator supported the establishment of the Resource Centre at the Human Rights Protection and Legal Provision Department of the Ministry of Interior. Jointly with the Research Centre under the Supreme Court, the Project Co-ordinator carried out a training programme for judges on fair trial standards and extrajudicial skills, targeting 25 judges on criminal cases from all over the country. The Project Co-ordinator also supported the publication of handbooks on human rights for legal professionals.

SUPPORTING THE OMBUDSPERSON INSTITUTION. The Project Co-ordinator continued its efforts to further improve the skills of personnel of the Ombudsperson Institution. Towards this end it conducted the Autumn School, during which relevant international standards and national practices were examined.

PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL PENITENTIARY STANDARDS. The Project Co-ordinator organized a study tour for a group of Uzbek governmental officials from the Penitentiary System Administration and National Human Rights Centre. The delegation visited the Czech Republic and Slovakia, where they discussed best practices on treatment of convicts in accordance with international standards.

Left: Participants at a training session for teachers at Uzbekistan's Police Academy. Tashkent, 22 November 2011. (OSCE/Oleg Zaichenko)

Right: Participants at a training seminar on international transport law. Tashkent, 9 November 2011. (OSCE/Oleg Zaichenko)

ASSISTANCE WITH BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LATVIAN-RUSSIAN JOINT COMMISSION ON MILITARY PENSIONERS

OSCE Representative: **Helmut Napiontek**

Budget: €7,400

The Representative continued to assist in the implementation of the 1994 bilateral agreement between the Latvian and Russian governments on social guarantees for military pensioners of the Russian Federation and their families residing in Latvia. The latest available overview listed 14,095 persons who receive a pension from the federal budget of the Russian Federation – 7,845 persons fewer than when the Agreement was signed on 30 April 1994.

Activities and developments

No individual cases; compensation of costs for medical services under discussion; disagreement on interpretation of the Agreement

No individual complaints were brought to the attention of the Commission by military pensioners in 2011. In addition, an agreement was reached to start a discussion at the expert level regarding amendments to the current order for compensation of costs for medical services provided by Latvian health care institutions to military pensioners.

No substantial progress has been achieved thus far regarding disagreement between the parties on the interpretation of some of the provisions of the Agreement. There is still a difference of opinion as to who is subject to the Agreement, namely under which procedures individuals might be included in the list of eligible military pensioners.

It is expected that in the near future the Commission will discuss a revised interpretation of the specific provisions of the Agreement that are under dispute. This, combined with additional input from the OSCE Representative, could support efforts by the Russian and Latvian sides to identify possible procedures for the inclusion of additional persons on the list of eligible military pensioners.

7

INSTITUTIONS

OFFICE FOR DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Director: **Ambassador Janez Lenarčič**

Budget: **€ 15,515,900**

www.osce.org/odihr

As the chief OSCE Institution focusing on the human dimension, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) provides support, assistance and expertise to participating States and civil society to promote the implementation of OSCE commitments in the areas of democracy, rule of law, human rights and tolerance and non-discrimination.

Monitoring implementation

Elections are essential elements for democratic institutions and, therefore, a primary focus for ODIHR. In 2011, the Office carried out 18 election observation activities in 17 participating States, comprising eight election assessment and ten election observation missions. Expert teams were also deployed to follow local elections in two participating States. In recent years, a particular effort has been made to increase follow-up on recommendations made in observation mission final reports, and a number of visits were made to participating States for this purpose.

ODIHR continued its efforts to refine its observation methodology, including for the observation of new voting technologies. Thanks to its Fund for Diversification, ODIHR was able to maintain a broad geographical composition of observation teams. Training was provided

for observers from Fund countries, and the Office continued, where requested, to support national training efforts for election observers. Observers from 47 participating States took part in election observation activities in 2011.

The Office also carried out or supported the monitoring of freedom of assembly in a number of participating States and, in September, published the *Handbook on Monitoring Freedom of Peaceful Assembly*, to help build the monitoring capacities of non-governmental organizations. AssociatiOnline, an interactive web-based guide to freedom of association for State authorities and civil society, was also launched in September.

In November, the Office presented its findings from the monitoring, implemented in co-operation with Belarusian authorities, of the trials of 41 people charged in connection with the events following the 2010 presidential election in Belarus. ODIHR also continued to

ODIHR Election Activities in 2011

COUNTRY	ELECTION	DATE	TYPE OF MISSION
Estonia	Parliamentary	5 March	Assessment
Kazakhstan	Early Presidential	3 April	Observation
Finland	Parliamentary	17 April	Assessment
Albania	Local	8 May	Observation
Cyprus	Parliamentary	22 May	Assessment
Moldova	Local	5 June	Limited Observation
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Early Parliamentary	5 June	Observation
Turkey	General	12 June	Assessment
Latvia	Early Parliamentary	17 September	Limited Observation
Bulgaria	Presidential & Local	23 October	Limited Observation
Switzerland	Parliamentary	23 October	Assessment
Kyrgyzstan	Presidential	30 October	Observation
Poland	Parliamentary	9 October	Assessment
Spain	Parliamentary	20 November	Assessment
Russian Federation	State Duma	4 December	Observation
Croatia	Parliamentary	4 December	Limited Observation
Slovenia	Early Parliamentary	4 December	Assessment
Kazakhstan	Early Parliamentary	15 January 2012	Observation*

*Mission opened in December 2011



Left: OSCE/ODIHR short-term observers for the 4 December 2011 State Duma elections familiarize themselves with the deployment plan for election day. Moscow, 1 December 2011. (OSCE/Jens Eschenbacher)

Right: Ambassador Janez Lenarčič, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), at the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Serbian Parliament's Legislative Committee. Warsaw, 16 May 2011. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)

monitor closely the situation of human rights defenders detained and/or imprisoned in participating States, including Evgheny Zhovtis* (Kazakhstan), Azimjon Askarov (Kyrgyzstan) and Ales Bialiatski (Belarus).

Following a series of marches aimed at inciting hatred against Roma by extremist political groups in the Czech Republic and violent anti-Roma protests in Bulgaria, ODIHR conducted on-site visits to both countries, consulting with the authorities on effective measures to combat racism and discrimination against Roma.

Human dimension events

The Office held the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, Europe's largest annual human rights and democracy conference, over two weeks in September and October in Warsaw, where some 1,000 participants reviewed the progress made by participating States on meeting their human dimension commitments.

In co-operation with the 2011 Lithuanian OSCE Chairmanship, the Office organized a Human Dimension Seminar on the role of political parties (Warsaw, 18–20 May), as well as three Supplementary Human Dimension Meetings, held in Vienna. At the first Supplementary Meeting (14–15 April), participants explored good practices for national human rights institutions and the challenges they face in fulfilling their mandates. The focus of the second meeting (7–8 July) was on the promotion of pluralism in new media, while participants at the final event (10–11 November) focused on preventing racism, xenophobia and hate crimes through education and awareness-raising initiatives.

Three other high-level conferences organized in co-operation with the OSCE Chairmanship touched on related themes: confronting anti-Semitism in public discourse (Prague, 23–24 March); preventing and responding to hate incidents and crimes against Christians (Rome, 12 September); and confronting intolerance against Muslims in public discourse (Vienna, 28 October).

Following the events of the Arab Spring in 2011, ODIHR organized special meetings with the OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation: a three-day training session on human rights and elections observation for an Egyptian non-governmental association

(Warsaw, 26–28 July); four days of election observation training for 14 civil society and domestic non-partisan election observation organizations from Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia (Budva, Montenegro, 12–15 October); and a civil society conference on challenges facing Mediterranean democracies in transition (Vilnius, 4–5 December), ahead of the Ministerial Council meeting.

Support for implementation

The provision of training and expertise to support participating States and civil society in promoting the implementation of human dimension commitments is central to ODIHR's mandate and was its core activity in 2011.

In October, the €4 million War Crimes Justice Project, funded by the European Union and implemented with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), the United Nations International Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) and OSCE field operations, concluded 18 months of work to strengthen the capacities of national judiciaries in South-Eastern Europe to handle war crimes cases. Among the Project's achievements were: the training of more than 800 legal professionals on international humanitarian law; the creation of a new curriculum on international criminal law and practice for local training institutions; the provision of 60,000 pages of transcripts from the ICTY, translated into local languages; and the hiring of 30 young professionals as legal support staff in courts and other institutions dealing with war crimes cases in the region.

In promoting the implementation of OSCE commitments to provide effective protection from and responses to discrimination and hate crimes, ODIHR provided training in this area to more than 100 civil society organizations. Training against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE), a revised version of an earlier police-training programme, was piloted in Kosovo in December. In line with Ministerial Council decisions calling for co-operation with inter-governmental organizations on the collection of hate crime data, a training seminar on recognizing and monitoring hate crimes was organized in March for nine OSCE field operations, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

**Evgheny Zhovtis was granted amnesty on 1 February 2012, in celebration of the 20th anniversary of Kazakhstan independence, and released from prison on 17 February 2012.*

The Office assisted the governments of Austria, Hungary and Latvia in the development of country-specific teaching materials to counter anti-Semitism and continued its support for teacher-training seminars in Ukraine and Hungary, as part of its efforts to help participating States prevent manifestations of intolerance and to promote mutual respect and understanding. To help policymakers, education administrators, teachers and teacher trainers, ODIHR published the *Guidelines for Educators on Countering Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims: Addressing Islamophobia through Education* in October, in co-operation with the Council of Europe and the UN Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

ODIHR continued to support the OSCE participating States in implementing commitments related to gender equality. The Office published a pilot comparative review of national human rights institution (NHRI) good practices across the OSCE area and ran a workshop providing NHRI representatives an opportunity to share their experiences (Prague, 29 March). As part of its efforts to promote greater women's participation in political and public life, the Office, in co-operation with the Central Elections Commission of Georgia, organized a roundtable to explore options for the public funding of political parties and discussed good practices for the promotion of women as political party leaders and candidates for public office.

Part of the follow-up on Election Observation Mission reports involves assisting participating States in improving the accuracy of voter lists. A seminar organized by the Office (Warsaw, 31 August–1 September) allowed representatives from 16 participating States to share good practices and expertise on strengthening the links between voter and population registration in compiling voters lists.

In the field of migration, ODIHR commissioned a study on the integration of migrants in Ukraine, which provided the basis for discussion at a roundtable for government and civil society representatives organized in Kyiv, in co-operation with IOM and the Council of Europe. The roundtable led to the design of a multi-stakeholder capacity-building project for Ukraine's State Migration Service.

Assistance to security-sector agencies and personnel included training workshops in Pristina and Sarajevo for law-enforcement officers on countering terrorism and protecting human rights. Training activities on gender mainstreaming and domestic violence for law-enforcement officers, municipal administration staff and personnel at defence ministries were carried out in Moldova, Montenegro and Serbia. Partnering with the OSCE Office in Tajikistan, ODIHR launched a project to help law-enforcement institutions in Tajikistan develop a sustainable training programme on the protection of human rights while countering terrorism.

ODIHR provided training on border security and human rights, as well as on gender issues, at the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Tajikistan. In co-operation with the OSCE's Action against Terrorism Unit and its Gender Section, ODIHR also organized an expert meeting on the prevention of the terrorist radicalization of women (Vienna, 12 December).

To promote human rights-compliant approaches to the identification of victims of trafficking in human beings and their access to justice and effective remedies, including compensation, ODIHR co-organized a high-level event at the UN Human Rights Council (Geneva, 31 May), with a focus on individuals trafficked for labour exploitation.

ODIHR continued its activities to raise awareness and support the implementation of OSCE commitments related to greater social and economic inclusion for Roma and Sinti, speaking out on such issues as the need to combat violence and intolerance against Roma and to end the educational segregation of and discrimination against Roma children.

The Office followed up on reports from past field assessment visits by organizing training for Roma civil society representatives from Italy on combating hate crimes, and seminars on building partnerships between Roma organizations and police in Hungary and Romania. At the request of the European Commission, ODIHR provided expertise on the promotion of social and economic inclusion for Roma in pre-accession countries in South-Eastern Europe. This included consultations at meetings in Podgorica, Pristina, Sarajevo, Skopje and Tirana. ODIHR also provided assistance to the Moldovan authorities in developing the Roma Action Plan 2011–2015, including at a roundtable with the country's Bureau for Inter-Ethnic Relations (Chişinău, 7–8 April).

Legal support

To support OSCE participating States in drafting legislation in compliance with their OSCE commitments, in October ODIHR named 12 members to its Core Group of Experts on Political Parties. The Group will work to build on the expertise developed in the *Guidelines on Political Party Regulation*, published by ODIHR and the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe in May, and function as an advisory and consultative body to help ODIHR review participating States' legislation in this field, upon their request.

Roundtables organized by the Office in 2011 in Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova and Ukraine focused on specific recommendations to policymakers and lawmakers on national strategies and legislation made in the *Kyiv Recommendations on Judicial Independence in Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia*, which were published in co-operation with Germany's Max Planck Institute in 2010.

HIGH COMMISSIONER ON NATIONAL MINORITIES

High Commissioner: **Knut Vollebaek**

Budget: **€3,310,300**

www.osce.org/hcnm

The High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) was created in 1992 to identify and seek early resolution of ethnic tensions that might endanger peace, stability or friendly relations within or between OSCE participating States.

In 2011, the HCNM continued to address ethnic tensions, examining conditions for minority communities in many participating States and advising them on national legislation related to minorities and interethnic relations in general. The HCNM also assisted a number of countries in their bilateral dialogue on national minority issues and co-operated with international organizations on relevant issues, such as statelessness and the situation of Roma.

Activity by region and country

Central Asia

Central Asia remains a priority for the HCNM, who visited the region seven times in 2011. Three of these visits were to Kyrgyzstan to assess developments in the aftermath of ethnic violence in the south of the country in 2010. The HCNM will continue promoting regional co-operation through the Inter-State Dialogue on Social Integration and National Minority Education, which was started in Tashkent in 2006.

KAZAKHSTAN. In November, the HCNM visited Kazakhstan. He welcomed the authorities' expressed intent to foster an inclusive, tolerant, multilingual and multi-ethnic society. However, he noted that draft language legislation has sparked heated debate locally. The HCNM has been requested to provide comments on this draft as well as on the new draft Broadcasting Law.

KYRGYZSTAN. A year after the tragic events in Kyrgyzstan, society is still trying to heal. The HCNM visited Bishkek and Osh three times to assess progress: in March, in May/June and in December. Between March and May, the HCNM noted that a fragile stability seemed to have been reached. He commended the authorities' efforts towards reconstruction and their resolve to mitigate tensions involving land distribution. However, he remains concerned about the pervasive nationalist rhetoric and considers the security of ethnic minorities in the south to be at risk. He drew attention to the need for drastic reform of the law enforcement agencies, stating that the OSCE Community Security Initiative (CSI) could become a component of such reform.

TAJIKISTAN. The HCNM visited Tajikistan in July to discuss the 2009 Language Law, as well as education issues. While the law pursues a legitimate aim to strengthen the



Uri Rosenthal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands (left), and OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities Knut Vollebaek at the Max van der Stoel Award reception. The Hague, 24 October 2011. (OSCE/Arnaud Roelofs)

State language, some parts are ambiguous. The HCNM is working with the Government to ensure that the law is interpreted and implemented in a way that does not compromise international standards and/or infringe upon the right of ethnic communities to protect and promote minority languages.

TURKMENISTAN. In September, the HCNM visited Turkmenistan, where he discussed national minority education and citizenship. The authorities welcomed his proposal to study their approach to multilingual education for the benefit of exchange with other countries in the region. The HCNM also asked the Turkmen

authorities to re-engage in his regional dialogue on education issues.

UZBEKISTAN. In March, the HCNM visited Uzbekistan to assess the situation in the country and to explore the potential for enhanced regional co-operation. He also discussed the situation in the south of Kyrgyzstan. He urged the authorities to engage in regional dialogue on security and minority policies and on multilingual and multicultural education.

Caucasus

GEORGIA. The HCNM visited Georgia in May. He welcomed efforts to strengthen national minorities' knowledge of the State language combined with a quota system for minorities in higher education and the training of civil servants from minority backgrounds. He remains deeply concerned about the situation of ethnic Georgians in Gali and Akhagori districts. The HCNM is supporting repatriation of the Meskhetians.

South-Eastern Europe

The HCNM visited South-Eastern Europe seven times in 2011, where integration of society remains a concern. The HCNM has made integrated education a priority in this region. The risk of statelessness is also high on his agenda (see "*Thematic issues*").

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA. In February, the HCNM visited Bosnia and Herzegovina. After witnessing rising political tensions, renewed attacks on the Dayton Agreement and moves to strengthen ethnic territorial divisions, the HCNM considers that there are potential challenges to the territorial integrity of the State, which risk reigniting conflict.

SERBIA. The HCNM visited Serbia twice, in May and in October, when he attended the opening of a multi-ethnic and multilingual department of economics and marketing of the Faculty of Economics of Subotica. He commended the Serbian Government for its efforts to establish this department in Bujanovac, in close co-operation with the Albanian National Minority Council and local authorities.

The HCNM considers Kosovo* to be at increased risk of conflict. When he visited in July, he cautiously welcomed the improved social participation of ethnic Serbs south of the River Ibar, while expressing concern about the tense situation in the north.

THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA. The HCNM visited Skopje three times in 2011: in March, October and December. All visits were focused on the HCNM's efforts to reverse trends of separation along ethnic lines, with an emphasis on education. The HCNM

advised that education reforms should be protected from political interference. Meanwhile, the biennial Max van der Stoep Award was presented to the Nansen Dialogue Centre Skopje for bringing together students, parents and teachers in an area affected by the 2001 conflict and characterized by great ethnic divisions.

Eastern and Central Europe

The HCNM visited Eastern and Central Europe four times in 2011 to follow up on his longstanding activities in the region and encourage cross-border co-operation.

MOLDOVA. In March, the HCNM visited Moldova and observed an openness and determination on the part of the authorities to embark on far-reaching reform. At the same time, old challenges persist, including the conflict in Transdnistria; integrating society, including through promoting knowledge of the State language among minorities; and clarifying the legal framework so that Gagauz autonomy can function properly. The most immediate challenge is finding a solution to the constitutional impasse.

POLAND. The HCNM visited Poland in November to assess the situation of the Lithuanian minority in the northeast.

ROMANIA. In January, the HCNM visited Romania to discuss the recently approved Education Law, Romania's relations with neighbouring States and the situation of Roma (see "*Thematic issues*"). Romania has made considerable progress in the protection of minority rights. Relations with Moldova have improved. He urged Bucharest to resume joint Romanian-Ukrainian monitoring.

UKRAINE. In October, the HCNM travelled to Ukraine, where much of his attention is focused on the situation in Crimea and formerly deported people. He also continued his consultations on the draft Law on Languages. Another priority is to bring Ukraine's outdated legislative framework concerning minority rights and language into line with its international commitments. The HCNM also discussed Ukraine's bilateral relations with neighbouring countries, particularly the stalled Ukrainian-Romanian monitoring. The draft Law on the Restoration of Rights of Persons Deported on Ethnic Grounds is still awaiting discussion by the Verkhovna Rada. The HCNM is concerned about longstanding problems relating to illegal land seizure in Crimea by different ethnic groups.

Baltic States

The HCNM continued his involvement in the Baltic States, visiting Latvia in February, Estonia in June and Lithuania in November.



ESTONIA AND LATVIA. The HCNM noted with satisfaction that progress had been made in both Estonia and Latvia. In Latvia, he found that education reform has achieved one of its key goals: pupils from minority backgrounds have markedly improved their knowledge of the State language. In Estonia, while welcoming the ongoing education reform to provide instruction in Estonian to minority students, he noted concerns about the quality of minority language education. He is less satisfied with the language policies in both countries, which retain punitive mechanisms, and is concerned about the slow rate of naturalization of persons without citizenship.

LITHUANIA. The HCNM visited Lithuania in November to assess the situation of the Polish minority, which has become a contentious issue within the country and in its relations with Poland. The HCNM discussed the legislative framework for minority protection and implementation of the new Education Law.

Thematic issues

Statelessness, and Roma and Sinti issues

The problem of statelessness in the OSCE area remained high on the HCNM's agenda, especially in the States of the former Soviet Union and former Yugoslavia. Many Roma are at risk of becoming stateless due to their lack of identity papers. The HCNM called upon all States concerned to co-operate to find practical solutions to address this situation. Towards this end, he organized, in co-operation with the United Nations High

Commissioner on Refugees and the European Union, the Conference on the Provision of Civil Documentation and Registration in South-Eastern Europe in October. This resulted in the *Zagreb Declaration*, which calls upon participants to remove all obstacles to documentation and registration of vulnerable people.

Integration with respect for diversity

The HCNM has a unique approach to integration based on international law and norms and enriched by almost 20 years' experience in the field of conflict prevention. The HCNM considers the lack of integration of society to be one of the root causes of interethnic tension. He addresses this issue from several sides of the three pillars of national minority rights – identity, equality and participation – focusing on social and political participation, the search for a balance between State language promotion and protection of minority languages, and multilingual and intercultural education.

Language legislation

The HCNM advised various OSCE participating States on language legislation and policy. While the HCNM considers efforts to strengthen the State language valid, he urges States to achieve a balance between promoting the learning of the State language by all, and respecting linguistic diversity. The HCNM expresses concerns where language legislation either promotes the State language at the expense of minority languages or where punitive measures are used to control language use.

OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities Knut Vollebaek on a visit to the Fifth Primary School in Brcko district in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 23 March 2011. (OSCE/D.P.Subotić)

REPRESENTATIVE ON FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA

Representative on Freedom of the Media: **Dunja Mijatović**

Budget: €1,414,300

www.osce.org/fom

Developing approaches for protecting journalists and keeping the Internet free from unnecessary regulation and censorship highlighted the work of Dunja Mijatović, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, in 2011.

Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, at a news conference during the OSCE Ministerial Council meeting in Vilnius, 6 December 2011. (OSCE/Jonathan Perfect)



Monitoring and interventions

Pursuant to her mandate, the Representative's primary responsibility is to observe media developments across the OSCE region and provide early-warning of violations of free media commitments. In 2011 she intervened in 32 participating States on matters ranging from violence against and detention of journalists to providing expert legal advice on media-related legislation.

Journalists' safety

No issue touches more directly on media freedom commitments than the safety of journalists. For decades journalists across the OSCE region have been subject to attacks, including murder and harassment, for practicing journalism or simply expressing differing or critical views. 2011 was no exception. Two journalists were murdered in the OSCE region; scores more were beaten and threatened, jailed or detained.

Driven to give this issue the international attention it deserves, the Representative, along with the Lithuanian Chairmanship, hosted a two-day conference in June that brought regional attention to the issue and resulted in a series of practical recommendations for government officials, legislators, as well as journalists, to fight back against those who would commit violence against the media. (*For the full text of the Vilnius Recommendations on the Safety of Journalists, see the Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, page 15.*)

Journalists' safety also played a prominent role at the Ministerial Council in Vilnius as the Chairmanship and the Representative launched the *OSCE Guidebook to Journalists' Safety*, prepared by William Horsley, a former foreign correspondent for BBC News. (Available at: www.osce.org/fom/85777). The guidebook provides examples of best practices by OSCE participating States engaged in the fight to make the environment safer for journalists.

The Representative also championed the cause of journalists' safety by speaking at more than 20 conferences during the year with leading officials from international organizations, including the United Nations and the Council of Europe.

Ultimately, however, the Representative maintains that the battle can be won only through combining the efforts of those involved in the criminal justice process, including prosecutors, judges and elected officials, to make crimes against journalists simply unacceptable.

Internet freedom

The Representative believes the Internet offers an unprecedented means for the worldwide exchange of ideas and the free flow of information. In information societies, a free Internet is instrumental to exercise the basic right to freedom of expression and the corollary right to freedom of the media. She believes access to the Internet and its potential should be considered a human right in the 21st century.

Unnecessary government intervention and regulation of the Internet is counterproductive and contrary to OSCE media freedom commitments.

In 2011, the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media completed the first OSCE study of Internet



Participants at the 13th Central Asia Media Conference. Dushanbe, 29 November 2011. (OSCE)

laws to quantify the extent of Internet regulation in the region. The study, “Freedom of Expression on the Internet” by Professor Yaman Akdeniz of Istanbul Bilgi University, was unveiled at a Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (Vienna, 7–8 July). It provides a comprehensive database of legislation across the region, and its findings are a cause for concern. Throughout the region, participating States are increasingly shackling the Internet with restrictive rules that bear the risk of limiting the voices heard through new media, with attendant restrictions on media pluralism.

The Representative continues to call for maximum openness of the Internet and campaigns throughout the OSCE region against unnecessary restrictions.

There is no security without free media and free expression, and no free media and free expression without security. Security and human rights go hand-in-hand and are at the heart of the Helsinki Process and the *Astana Commemorative Declaration*, as well as the OSCE principles and commitments of all participating States. There is no better place to debate and fight for media freedom and security than in the OSCE.

Campaign against criminal defamation

The Representative continues to advocate for the decriminalization of defamation. She is pleased to report that in 2011 three more participating States adopted legislation removing criminal penalties, fully or partially, in defamation cases. The addition of Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro

and the Russian Federation brings to 14 the number of States that have removed criminal sanctions against media for merely expressing an opinion. Unfortunately, civil and criminal libel laws are still used across the region to punish dissent and restrict the free flow of information.

The Representative will continue to make this campaign one of the major priorities of her Office’s activities in 2012.

Legal assistance

The Representative continues to provide legal analyses and recommendations on media-related legislation and legislative reform initiatives. This year, these included:

- ◆ Georgia: A legal analysis of draft amendments to the law on broadcasting related to transparency of media ownership;
- ◆ Hungary: A legal analysis of media legislation adopted in 2010;
- ◆ Italy: An analysis of a draft law “On standards on the subject of telephone, data transmission and environmental interceptions, No. 1415-C” relating to, among other issues, the disclosure of information obtained through wiretaps, to legislative authorities;
- ◆ Kazakhstan: A legal analysis of the draft law “On television and radio broadcasting”. The Representative also organized a roundtable



OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Dunja Mijatović and journalism students at the Institute of International Relations, part of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan. Ashgabat, 19 September 2011. (OSCE)

7

- discussion on the law with the participation of government authorities, civil society representatives and members of the media;
- Turkmenistan: A legal analysis of the draft law “On the press and other mass media in Turkmen SSR” (1991) and “Basic rules that regulate professional activity of correspondents (journalists) of foreign media on the territory of Turkmenistan” (1993). The Representative also organized a roundtable discussion on modernizing Turkmenistan’s media legislation;
- Uzbekistan: A legal analysis of the draft law “On transparency of activities of bodies of state power and governance” and a legal analysis of the draft law “On television and radio broadcasting”.

The Representative will continue to offer all participating States the opportunity to take advantage of the Office’s expertise on proposed and existing media laws.

Training

The Representative increased her training activities for media in all fields, including a regional training seminar in Bishkek for government spokespersons and media of the Central Asia participating States on improving access to government-held information and a seminar in Moldova on establishing and managing professional and financially sustainable online media outlets.

Media conferences

The Representative expanded the reach of her Office’s assistance to media professionals by organizing the first “South-East Europe Media Conference” in Sarajevo. The event, which drew approximately 100 participants from the Balkans, focused on media independence, including the issues of public service broadcasting, legal challenges to media freedom, violence against and intimidation of journalists, and the employment conditions of members of the media.

The Representative continued to host annual media conferences in Central Asia, held in Dushanbe, and the South Caucasus, held in Tbilisi. More than 150 participants attended the events, which focused on Internet regulation and media pluralism. The Representative intends to continue these annual conferences in 2012.

8

SECRETARIAT

SECRETARIAT

Budget: €32,401,500

In 2011, the OSCE Secretariat, led by the Secretary General, continued working to ensure the implementation of OSCE decisions and to support the process of political dialogue and negotiation among the participating States. It provided operational support to the participating States through a wide range of mandated activities across all dimensions. It worked closely with and supported the Lithuanian OSCE Chairmanship to fulfil the Organization's goals and to maintain continuity in the Organization's activities. It supported all OSCE executive structures in order to ensure coherent and co-ordinated action across the Organization.

Throughout the year, the Secretariat provided support to the Lithuanian Chairmanship, the 2011 Chairmanships of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) (Iceland, Italy and Kazakhstan) and all participating States in their dialogue on current and future challenges to security in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian area. This included meetings of the existing formal mechanisms (e.g., the Permanent Council, the FSC, Troika meetings, the Annual Security Review Conference, the Economic and Environmental Forum, the Economic and Environmental Dimension Implementation Meeting, the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting) and informal "V to V Dialogues" organized at the initiative of the Chairmanship. In particular, the OSCE Secretariat and Institutions provided support and expert advice to the Chairmanship and the FSC Chairmanship in negotiating and drafting Ministerial Council, Permanent Council and Forum for Security Co-operation decisions throughout the year and the Ministerial Council decisions adopted in Vilnius on 6-7 December 2011.

The Secretariat provided robust management and operational support to field operations, in order to help them fulfil their mandates and also in relation to the effective and efficient management of human and financial resources.

The Secretariat remained actively engaged in international negotiations on the settlement of protracted conflicts in the OSCE area, supporting the

Chairmanship and the OSCE Mission to Moldova in working toward the resumption of official negotiations in the 5+2 format on the Transdniestrian settlement, and the Chairmanship in the Geneva International Discussions launched after the 2008 conflict in Georgia. The Secretariat also continued to provide assistance and support to the government and people of the Kyrgyz Republic through the Community Security Initiative (CSI) and the OSCE Centre in Bishkek.

The Secretariat continued to lend assistance to participating States in a wide range of thematic areas, focusing on multidimensional responses to security threats and challenges throughout the OSCE region. These included projects and other activities for the benefit of all participating States in such areas as:

- police-related activities, including efforts to fight organized crime and illicit drugs;
- action against terrorism, including through promoting public-private partnerships;
- improving border security and management, in particular in Central Asia;
- fighting against trafficking in human beings, including by providing expert support for the prosecution of offenders, protection of victims and prevention of this crime;
- promoting economic and environmental co-operation, including on good governance,



transport and energy issues and migration management;

- ◆ disposal of small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition, including the rocket fuel component *mélange*;
- ◆ assistance to States in developing national action plans to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540;
- ◆ advancing gender equality throughout the Organization's structure and programmes.

The Secretariat contributed significantly to maintaining engagement with OSCE Partners for Co-operation, including by organizing major annual conferences with the Mediterranean and with Asian Partners, while supporting the Chairmanship's efforts to strengthen the OSCE's partnerships in reaction to events in and around Afghanistan and in North Africa. The Secretariat continued to enhance interaction with other international organizations and institutions, on the basis of the 1999 Platform for Co-operative Security. Such enhanced interaction with the OSCE Partners for Co-operation and organizations was very much in the focus of discussions among the participating States in the framework of the V to V Dialogues, and the Secretariat provided its full substantive support to these deliberations. The Secretariat also developed a new generation of projects aimed

at supporting Afghanistan as an Asian Partner for Co-operation, while supporting the implementation of ongoing initiatives during the course of the year.

The Secretariat continued to ensure the effective and efficient management of the Organization's human and financial resources, to promote greater strategic and impact-oriented planning of activities using results-based management, and to ensure the sound implementation of the OSCE regulatory framework. In an overall context of declining resources within the Organization and challenging external financial and economic factors, these efforts remain crucial to the Organization's ability to deliver the results expected by its participating States.

More detailed reports on the activities of the Secretariat in 2011 are provided in the relevant sections that follow, the structure of which reflects the current composition of the Secretariat: Office of the Secretary General, Conflict Prevention Centre, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Department of Human Resources and the Department of Management and Finance.

The inner courtyard of the OSCE Secretariat in Vienna's historic Palais Palfy-Erdody. (OSCE/Mikhail Evstafiev)

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

The Office of the Secretary General includes Executive Management, the Press and Public Information Section, the Section for External Co-operation, Legal Services, the Gender Section, Security Management, the Strategic Police Matters Unit, the Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and the Action against Terrorism Unit, as well as the Office of Internal Oversight.

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

Executive Management supported the work of the Secretary General and the Lithuanian Chairmanship, providing leadership and co-ordination to ensure the coherence and continuity of the Organization's multifaceted and often long-term activities. As the focal point for internal co-ordination and day-to-day co-operation between the Chairmanship and the Secretariat, Executive Management's work throughout 2011 was, as always, heavily influenced by the OSCE's current agenda, tasks set by the participating States, major developments in the OSCE area and the priorities of the Chairmanship.

During 2011, Executive Management ensured proactive and well-co-ordinated support on the part of the Secretary General to the Lithuanian Chairmanship in steering the dialogue among the participating States including at the Permanent Council, in the framework of the informal V to V Dialogues and in the run-up to the Vilnius Ministerial Council.

Among other activities, Executive Management assisted the Lithuanian Chairmanship and the Secretary General in ensuring political and administrative oversight of the implementation of the end-of-mandate procedure of the OSCE's field operation in Belarus.

Executive Management continued to support the Secretary General in implementing the 2007 Ministerial Council Decision on OSCE Engagement with Afghanistan, and assisted the Chairmanship in preparing a new set of projects with that Partner for Co-operation, as well as a draft Ministerial Council Decision on Strengthening OSCE Engagement with Afghanistan (adopted at the Vilnius Ministerial Council as MC.DEC/4/11). This long-term endeavour required considerable work and effective co-ordination among various parts of the Organization.

Executive Management also followed up and provided guidance on a number of important multi-year projects requiring concerted and well-co-ordinated efforts by a wide range of Secretariat units and other executive structures, such as the Community Security Initiative (CSI) in the Kyrgyz Republic, water projects

in Georgia, the Border Management Staff College (BMSC) in Tajikistan and the destruction of the highly toxic rocket fuel component *mélange* in Ukraine.

Executive Management also played a strengthened role throughout 2011 as the Secretariat's focal point in co-ordinating activities conducted by the thematic and programmatic Units on combating transnational threats (TNT), ensuring co-ordination and dialogue with the OSCE Institutions and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. In preparation for the 2011 Unified Budget Proposal and the Vilnius Ministerial Council, Executive Management supported the development of the Secretary General's proposals for consolidating work on TNT into a new Secretariat department, and the Lithuanian Chairmanship's work on a draft Ministerial Council Decision on Addressing Transnational Threats (adopted at the Vilnius Ministerial Council as MC.DEC/9/11).

Throughout 2011, Executive Management continued to ensure policy co-ordination within the Secretariat, assisting the Secretary General in performing his role as the Organization's Chief Administrative Officer. Apart from ensuring coherence in the work of administrative and programmatic parts of the Organization, Executive Management supported the work of the Organization's internal oversight function and the OSCE Audit Committee. It also supported the mid-year management transition following the appointment of Ambassador Lamberto Zannier as Secretary General of the OSCE.

PRESS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION SECTION

2011 was a significant year for raising the profile of the OSCE and therefore for the Press and Public Information Section (PPIS). Key activities included implementation of the new communications strategy (2011–2013), launch of the new OSCE website, brand positioning of the Organization and innovative campaigns on social media. In addition, building on the success of the OSCE Summit in Astana and providing ongoing support to the Lithuanian Chairmanship and other parts of the Organization guided the work of the Section throughout the year.

OSCE: Bridging differences, building trust

“An enhanced profile for the OSCE is crucial if our Organization is to remain relevant to the needs of the participating States,” said the new OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier in his first address to the OSCE Permanent Council on 4 July 2011. His conviction that “we need to do a much better job of explaining this Organization to our leaders and to our societies” kick-started a brand-positioning exercise to develop a common concept for our public communication across the Organization.

To find out how target audiences perceive the Organization, PPIS carried out focused public opinion research, comprising a questionnaire that was sent to a representative sample of government officials, academics, researchers, NGO activists, journalists and the general public, and interviews with senior OSCE officials.

This exercise served to highlight the core strengths of the OSCE: a comprehensive approach to security, inclusive diplomacy, flexibility and promptness. It also helped to identify the uniqueness of the OSCE as an organization that works to foster a secure and trusting environment in which positive differences between individuals, states and regions co-exist productively and negative differences are reconciled peacefully. This is done within the framework of principles and commitments agreed by its 56 participating States.

Consultations with OSCE structures are ongoing to develop a common message for the Organization: Bridging differences, Building trust.

Communications strategy for 2011–2013: focus on audiences

“Harmonizing and Streamlining the OSCE Image and Message”, a three-year communications strategy for 2011–2013, focuses on ways to more effectively target key audiences: media/bloggers, academics/think tanks, students/young people, professional groups/experts, and diplomats of OSCE participating States. This strategy includes web and social media strategy as well as crisis communications.

A re-launched public website

On 1 January a completely re-designed OSCE public website was launched. The new site has improved navigation and greater flexibility in structuring website content, as well as enhanced multimedia presentation capabilities. General information about the OSCE is easier to access, resulting in a 30 per cent increase in the number of views. The new site’s multilingual capability has enabled the Ukrainian-language version of the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine’s website to be fully integrated into the main OSCE website.

Press activities

PPIS edited and published 1,200 press releases and news items on the OSCE website in 2011, a 35 per cent increase over the preceding year, reflecting efforts to broaden our communications tools and reach out to different audiences.

PPIS supported the Chairperson-in-Office on his official visits across the OSCE region. In advance of these visits, PPIS liaised with local media outlets to place opinion articles in local newspapers. The political focus of each visit was further underlined through complementary media work, including press conferences, interviews, media advisories and press releases, all prepared by PPIS. With the enhanced multimedia capabilities of the new website, PPIS was also able to produce photo galleries following a number of visits.

To promote high-profile Chairmanship events, including the “Conference on Safety of Journalists” (Vilnius, 7–8 June) and the Economic and Environmental Forum (Vienna, 7–8 February; Druskininkai, Lithuania, 4–5 April; and Prague, 14–16 September), PPIS developed media plans and drafted all external communications.

PPIS also provided support to the 5+2 negotiations on the Transdniestrian settlement, the ongoing Geneva Discussions following the 2008 conflict in Georgia, the visit of OSCE ambassadors to Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan in April, as well as official visits of the OSCE Secretary General and other high-level OSCE representatives.

Given the increased focus on the OSCE Partner countries in light of the events in the southern Mediterranean, PPIS supported the Chairmanship, the Secretary General and other OSCE structures in their engagement. In April an opinion piece by the Chairperson-in-Office was drafted and placed by PPIS in a leading Egyptian daily. Political priorities of the Chairperson’s visit to Tunisia in April and the Secretary General’s visit to Egypt in September were communicated through interviews and press releases. PPIS also developed a factsheet on the OSCE’s engagement with its Partners for Co-operation in all OSCE official languages and in Arabic.

The OSCE Ministerial Council in Vilnius attracted more than 200 media representatives. PPIS co-ordinated the activities of the press centre and media logistics. An opinion piece from the Chairperson-in-Office drafted by PPIS was published prior to the event by 19 print and online media in ten countries. During the two days, 16,300 individuals (unique visitors) visited the OSCE website, resulting in 90,000 page views. In addition to providing continuous coverage of the Ministerial Council through the website and targeted contacts, PPIS web-streamed more than 12 hours of good-quality video, with more than 500 unique viewers watching the



Images from the 2011 OSCE photo contest on the topic of sustainable energy and transport.

Left: Flight into the Future "When we learned that there was no wind generator in our region, we decided to draw and build one. This boy will grow up appreciating the value of preserving the environment, and developing clean energy technologies." Kaluga region, Russia. (Zlata Elbakyan)

Right: Crossroads "The so-called 4-6 tram is one of the main and busiest arteries of Budapest's public transport system. It goes from Buda through downtown Pest and back to Buda again, transporting thousands of people from early morning until late into the night." (Zoltan Balogh)



webcasts. Blogs by ten ministers and one ambassador and a special photo gallery were also published on the OSCE Facebook page.

Social media

PPIS further developed our social media platforms as communications tools. The number of OSCE YouTube views in 2011 more than doubled compared with the previous year, reaching a total of 156,000; the number of OSCE Facebook fans grew by a quarter to almost 20,000; and OSCE Twitter followers almost tripled, reaching 8,600. As a pilot project, a series of posts on behalf of foreign ministers of OSCE participating States on the OSCE Facebook page were posted in the run-up to the Ministerial Council.

Other projects

- In April, with the support of the Chairmanship, PPIS organized a second annual OSCE Talks roundtable at Vilnius University. The event "Building Bridges: Security Community and Partnerships for Change", was followed by a publication distributed to international think tanks and research institutes.
- In September, the seminar "Follow-up on the Outcome of the OSCE Summit in Astana" was organized for journalists from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, with the support of Kazakhstan.
- To enhance the visibility of the Max van der Stoep Award and the work of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, PPIS produced a short documentary on the winning NGO. The documentary was distributed to 85 national media organizations in 56 countries through the European Broadcasting Union.
- PPIS assisted OCEEA and the Chairmanship

in organizing a photo contest on sustainable transport and energy. The winning photographs were displayed at the Economic and Environmental Forum and promoted through the OSCE website and Facebook.

- Four issues of *OSCE Magazine* were published in 2011. The print run of each issue was 9,000 in English and 3,500 in Russian. 2,740 individual subscribers receive each issue by post, and the remaining issues are distributed via OSCE field operations and at OSCE events. Articles focused on the OSCE as a Security Community, OSCE support to mediators in southern Kyrgyzstan, border demarcation processes and the history of OSCE engagement in Croatia, as well as on the OSCE's work with Aarhus Centres for public participation in environmental matters and with national human rights institutions.
- PPIS hosted some 1,800 visitors from more than 20 participating States, Partners for Co-operation and international organizations through our Visiting Group programme.
- The monthly *Highlights* newsletter announcing upcoming OSCE events was distributed to 5,300 journalists and other subscribers.
- New and updated factsheets were produced for the OSCE structures and field operations, taking into account the new brand-positioning language.
- In order to streamline corporate communications throughout the OSCE field operations and Institutions, PPIS hosted a Public Affairs Roundtable in March, bringing together press focal points from OSCE field operations, Parliamentary Assembly and Institutions to discuss and co-ordinate communications activities. Web training was provided to web focal points in February and at the March roundtable.

SECTION FOR EXTERNAL CO-OPERATION

The OSCE strives to enhance international co-operation and co-ordination through its work. As the liaison with the Partners for Co-operation in Asia and the Mediterranean and the first point of institutional contact with international, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions, the Section for External Co-operation plays an instrumental role in strengthening relations and promoting dialogue and co-operation with external partners, and in advising and supporting the OSCE Chairmanship, the Troika and the Secretary General on relations with these interlocutors.

Events in both the Mediterranean and the Asian regions in 2011 underscored that the security of the OSCE region is “inextricably linked” to security in neighbouring areas, highlighting the importance of the OSCE Partnership for Co-operation.

In 2011, the Section for External Co-operation played a key role in strengthening the Partnership. As events unfolded in the southern Mediterranean, the Section provided substantive input and expertise to the OSCE Chairmanship and the Chair of the Mediterranean Contact Group to facilitate internal discussions on how the OSCE could support these democratic changes, helped to ensure continued dialogue with relevant Partners and organized high-level visits to the region.

The OSCE firmly supported the United Nations in its role as co-ordinator of international assistance to the transitions in the southern Mediterranean region. For example, at the 2011 OSCE Ministerial Council meeting in Vilnius, the Section for External Co-operation organized a roundtable hosted by the OSCE Secretary General in co-operation with the UN to promote co-ordination among international and regional organizations in responding to the Arab Spring. This high-level meeting facilitated information-sharing, with the goal of enhancing complementarity and avoiding duplication of assistance efforts. A follow-on meeting was proposed for 2012.

The OSCE engaged in political dialogue, co-ordination and information exchange on thematic and regional issues with an array of international, regional and sub-regional organizations in 2011. The Section for External Co-operation continued to maintain established frameworks for regular co-operation at both the political and working levels with the UN, the European Union, NATO and the Council of Europe. It also strengthened OSCE ties with a number of regional and sub-regional organizations, including the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation and the Council of the Baltic Sea States.

The Section for External Co-operation co-ordinated contacts with the UN throughout 2011 for the OSCE Chairmanship and the Secretary General, including facilitating addresses by the Chairperson-in-Office to the UN Security Council and by the Secretary General to the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee in February. The Section organized the Secretary General’s participation in the opening session of the 66th UN General Assembly in September, including meetings with heads of numerous UN entities and departments, a high-level meeting of the OSCE and Council of Europe Chairs and Secretaries General, and a high-level meeting of the Chairs of the OSCE and the Organization for Islamic Cooperation. The Section also organized and hosted the annual staff-level working meeting with UN counterparts in Vienna in June.

Throughout the year, the Section for External Co-operation actively supported the Chairmanship-in-Office and the rotating Chair of the Forum for Security Co-operation in inviting senior officials from other organizations to address the OSCE Permanent Council, the Forum for Security Co-operation and the Annual Security Review Conference. Guest speakers included, among others, the Secretary General of NATO, the Director-General of the UN Office at Geneva and the European Union Special Representative for the South Caucasus. The Section actively supported OSCE participation in the Annual Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in Astana, and it also represented the OSCE at various UN meetings in 2011, including a commemorative ministerial meeting of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva and the Fourth Global Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilizations in Doha.

The Section worked closely in 2011 with the Asian Contact Group, chaired by Kazakhstan, and the Mediterranean Contact Group, chaired by Ireland, to foster open dialogue and information exchange with the Asian and Mediterranean Partners at regular Contact Group meetings. It also co-organized the 2011 OSCE-Mongolia Conference on transnational threats and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms in Ulaanbaatar, and the OSCE Mediterranean Conference in Budva, Montenegro, on democratic transformation in the southern Mediterranean.

The Section for External Co-operation also continued its administrative role as master project manager of the Partnership Fund, which in 2011 supported projects on environmental challenges to security, the role of civil society in fighting corruption, OSCE engagement with Afghanistan and the secondment of young diplomats from Partner States to the OSCE Secretariat. The Partnership Fund also supported increased participation by representatives of Partner States, especially Afghanistan, in OSCE activities. *For more information*

on the OSCE's partnerships for security and co-operation, see page 109.

LEGAL SERVICES

In 2011, Legal Services continued to play an essential role, supporting the Chairmanship-in-Office and the Secretary General in strengthening the international legal status of the Organization and advocating for the common set of privileges and immunities. Although the dialogue among participating States did not culminate in a new tasking by the Ministerial Council, it is clear that discussions will have to go on in future to find a lasting solution to this long outstanding issue which hampers the effectiveness and efficiency of the executive structures, particularly field operations.

Some of Legal Services' noteworthy achievements for 2011 include:

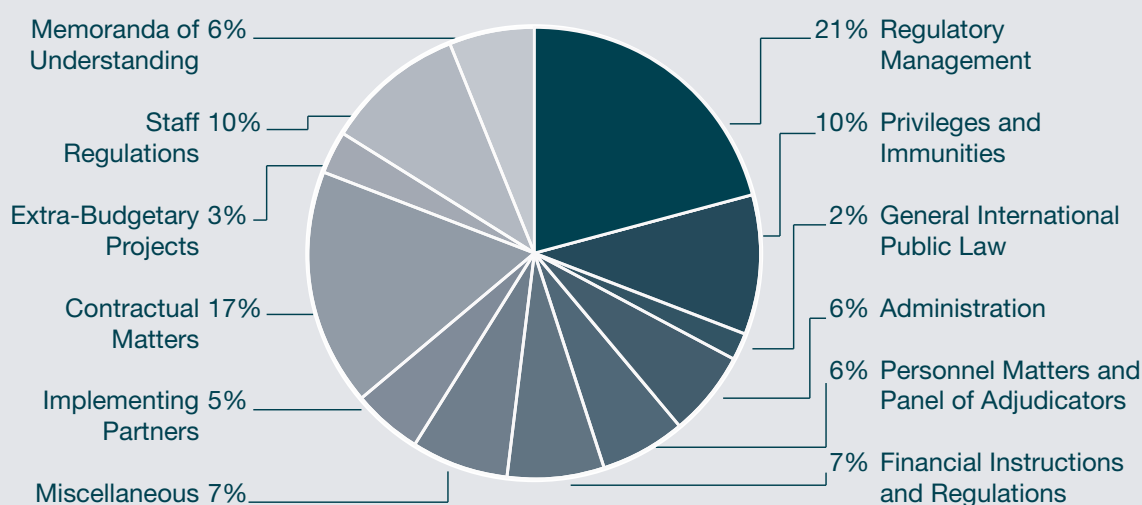
- Successfully concluding negotiations of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the Office in Tajikistan on 8 June, after more than five years of negotiation. However, the MoU requires parliamentary approval before it can enter into force.
- Providing the requisite legal advice, as part of the M elange Task Force, for a project initiated by the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan regarding elimination of stockpiles of *m elange* (a highly toxic liquid rocket fuel component) in Kazakhstan.
- Continuing its active support to participating States in the relevant task forces and providing advice on how to regulate and manage the OSCE's

activities, especially in Georgia and Belarus in view of the lack of an OSCE presence in these countries.

- Providing the necessary legal expertise on projects, in relation to the OSCE's engagement with Afghanistan, the Border Management Staff College, the Community Security Initiative in Kyrgyzstan and the Georgia Water Management Project.

In addition, Legal Services continued to provide legal advice to the Secretary General, the Chairmanship, Secretariat units and other executive structures (Institutions and field operations). In particular, Legal Services supported other administrative departments, such as the departments of Human Resources and Management and Finance. Specifically, Legal Services prepared appeals briefs for the Panel of Adjudicators and advised as to the legal implications for the Organization regarding formal complaints or legal claims resulting out of contracts. In addition, Legal Services provided valuable legal input on the revision of any Regulation, Rule or Instruction, as set out in Administrative Instruction No. 1, Documents of a Legal Nature. Legal Services continued to provide legal opinions and advice on a broad range of issues and assisted on matters such as bilateral agreements with host countries and donors, privileges and immunities, taxation of local staff, requests from the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) and the International Criminal Court (ICC) for provision of documents, intellectual property rights, interpretations of the Common Regulatory Management System (CRMS), and several contractual and project-related matters as well as providing various templates

Work typically undertaken by Legal Services (example taken from 1st quarter 2011)



such as lease agreements, copyright permissions, grant agreements and co-operation agreements.

Moreover, Legal Services continued to reach out to the wider OSCE community by holding its annual Legal Roundtable (29–30 September, Vienna). Participants from across the Organization discussed a wide range of topics, including the OSCE privileges and immunities, new media implications in the OSCE setting, conflict of interest for OSCE officials and current issues from OSCE field operations and Institutions. The Legal Services newsletter continued in 2011 to positive reviews and remains well-received by the OSCE community. Legal Services also raised its external profile by participating in United Nations and other relevant legal conferences.

GENDER SECTION

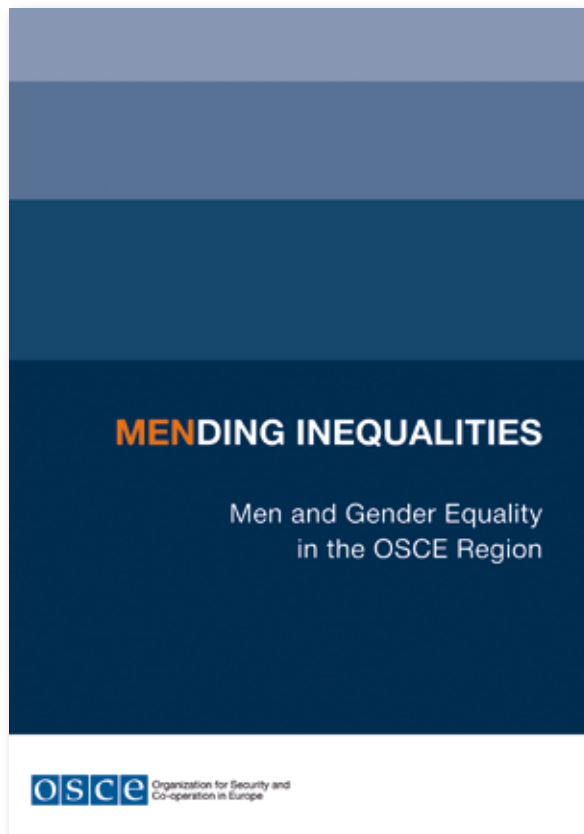
www.osce.org/gender

The Gender Section supports the promotion of gender equality in OSCE executive structures and works toward the integration of men's and women's perspectives in all dimensions, with a particular emphasis on the politico-military and economic and environmental dimensions in 2011.

The implementation of OSCE commitments to promote gender equality maintained positive momentum in 2011. As of May 2011, the representation of women in management positions in the OSCE executive structures reached 31 per cent. OSCE field operations continued to increase efforts to integrate a gender perspective in projects and activities, and a decision on Promoting Equal Opportunities for Women in the Economic Sphere (MC.DEC/12/11) was passed at the OSCE Ministerial Council in Vilnius in December.

The Gender Section provided assistance to an increased number of OSCE field operations, including five field presences that received five-day gender-mainstreaming capacity-building site visits. At the Mission in Kosovo, the Office in Yerevan, the Mission to Moldova, the Office in Baku and the Mission to Serbia, the Gender Section partnered with an expert consultant and field operations officers to provide targeted, specialized capacity-building on integrating a gender perspective into all aspects of their programmatic work. Additionally, the Gender Section visited the OSCE Centre in Bishkek and the Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina for consultations on integrating a gender perspective into field activities and the gender focal point network.

The Gender Section developed a tool to assist Aarhus Centres with mainstreaming gender in their activities and outreach. The publication *Gender Mainstreaming in Aarhus Activities: A Guideline for Practitioners* provides clear operational and thematic roadmaps of immediate actions and actions requiring additional support to fully integrate a gender perspective into all



Mending Inequalities: Men and Gender Equality in the OSCE Region was published by the OSCE Gender Section on 14 July 2011.

activities of the Aarhus Centres. The Section released two additional publications, *Mending Inequalities: Men and Gender Equality in the OSCE Region* and *Women's Entrepreneurship in the OSCE: Trends and Good Practices*, which provide examples and share best practices on equality initiatives across the OSCE.

The Gender Section also continued the publication of the electronic newsletter *The Gender Monitor*, distributing three issues in 2011.

In 2011, the Section organized two important events. The OSCE conference "UNSCR 1325: Moving Beyond Theory to Maximize Security in the OSCE" (Sarajevo, 27–28 October) gathered more than 100 participants from 29 different countries to discuss best practices and challenges in the creation of national action plans for the implementation of UNSCR 1325. The OSCE conference "Women's Entrepreneurship in the OSCE Region: Trends and Good Practices" (Vilnius, 3–4 March) stimulated discussions among experts and practitioners on challenges to women's economic participation and effective practices to overcome them and encourage female entrepreneurship in Central Asia and the Caucasus.

The Section contributed to meetings of the Economic and Environmental Committee and the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting and the OSCE Talks seminar (Vilnius, 5 April) and subsequent publication *Building Bridges: Security Community and Partnerships for Change*. Additionally, the Gender

Section gave opening and wrap-up speeches at the “Expert Roundtable on Preventing Women Terrorist Radicalization”, hosted by the Action against Terrorism Unit in co-operation with the OSCE Secretariat and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (Vienna, 12 December).

SECURITY MANAGEMENT

Throughout 2011, Security Management continued to provide support for all OSCE activities on security-related issues by ensuring the effective functioning of the OSCE Security Management System and the safety and well-being of OSCE staff.

A key achievement for Security Management in 2011 was the co-ordination and hosting of an awareness seminar to provide an overview on the subject of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) risk analysis, threat assessment and response. The purpose of the seminar was to provide participants an opportunity to analyse and discuss the issues and challenges in managing CBRN-related incidents and threats. Experts from the private sector and a participating State were invited to make presentations, and participants included representatives from the diplomatic and international community as well as the private sector.

Security Management continued its practice of delivering presentations on the OSCE Security Management System and safety and security to new OSCE staff at the General Orientation Programme and provided individual briefings to staff and mission members bearing security responsibilities. Participants at the Regional Heads-of-Mission meetings were updated on safety and security issues and on progress on new security developments in the OSCE.

The Eighth Annual Meeting of OSCE Security Officials (Vienna, 24–25 November) received guest speakers from NATO and the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) in New York and internal speakers from the Action against Terrorism Unit and the Department of Management and Finance. In general, the meeting focused on crisis management, professional development and strengthening the security aspect of the OSCE risk management process. Participants were provided an opportunity to discuss issues related to lessons learned in security preparedness and to participate in regional group meetings on common security trends. A security-training specialist from UNDSS also provided training to security focal points from OSCE field operations.

In 2011, Security Management:

- continued to conduct security assessment missions of field operations to facilitate compliance with security guidance documents;

- assisted field operations in the assessment of potential premises;
- trained field operations security personnel;
- in co-ordination with the Department of Human Resources (DHR) Training Section, made recommendations on the selection of participants for external security training;
- in co-operation with DHR, co-ordinated first aid training for Secretariat fire marshalls;
- held Security Management Committee meetings at the Secretariat;
- suggested the inclusion of security risk management in the enterprise risk management approach utilised by the OSCE.

Security Management also:

- regularly issued hazard-pay recommendations;
- participated in other meetings where safety and security issues were on the agenda.

Security Management continued its collaboration with UNDSS New York. Links with the various UN departments were maintained, specifically with the Policy Department, Training, Critical Incident Stress Management and Executive Management.

Security Management regularly met with representatives of law enforcement authorities and other international partner organizations both in Vienna and in the countries where the OSCE has field operations for the purpose of sharing information on issues of safety and security.

STRATEGIC POLICE MATTERS UNIT

In 2011, the Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU) continued to support police-related activities of the OSCE field operations and participating States in developing accountable law enforcement agencies within the broader national criminal justice systems that protect and serve the public and combat transnational threats, including those emanating from organized crime and terrorism, while at the same time respecting and protecting the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Policy development and project assessments

The Unit produced a policy paper on *The Role of the SPMU and OSCE Police-Related Activities*, which analyzed the OSCE’s added value and achievements in police-related activities and prioritized future fields of work. The paper served as the basis for the development of an OSCE strategic framework for police-related activities.

The SPMU also assessed two projects by OSCE field operations: the OSCE Community Policing Project in Azerbaijan, and the Community Security Initiative in

Kyrgyzstan. Both assessments were conducted in close co-operation with the host States and field operations, the latter also with the Conflict Prevention Centre. The findings and recommendations of both assessments were highly appreciated by the host countries and field operations.

New publications

In addition to regular annual reports on OSCE policing activities and efforts in combating organized crime, the SPMU and ODIHR developed a practical manual for law enforcement officers on human rights and the investigation of terrorist crimes. In late 2011, SPMU and ODIHR organized two pilot training courses in Pristina and Skopje, where the manual was tested. The final version of the manual will be published in 2012. The SPMU also published *Trafficking in Human Beings: Identification of Potential and Presumed Victims. A Community Policing Approach*. The book was widely distributed among the participating States and introduced at a roundtable on “Identification of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings: International and National Practice” (Astana, 14 September). The book was also translated into the Russian language. In 2012, the book will be further operationalized in the format of a training manual for law enforcement authorities.

In close co-operation with criminal justice experts from the OSCE executive structures, participating States, international organizations and think tanks, the SPMU also began work on a new guidebook, *Police Reform within the Reform of the Wider Criminal Justice System*. The book aims at providing good practices in a holistic approach to police reform that complements relevant reform activities in other sectors of the criminal justice system to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the entire criminal justice process. As part of the drafting process, the SPMU also organized the 2011 OSCE Annual Police Experts Meeting on the same topic.

Police-related capacity-building and training

Throughout the year, the Senior Police Adviser visited OSCE field operations and Institutions and held high-level meetings with ministers of interior, heads/directors of police agencies and police academies, and senior management of international and regional partner organizations to promote and co-ordinate the OSCE’s police assistance to the participating States. The SPMU continued with law enforcement capacity-building and training activities for the fight against organized crime, trafficking of illicit drugs, trafficking in human beings and cybercrime, including:

- Counter-narcotics training for mid- to senior-level Afghan police officers at the Turkish International Academy against Drugs and Organized Crime (Ankara, 30 April–14 May);

- A conference on “Combating Drug Trafficking and Enhancing Border Security and Management in the OSCE Area” (Vienna, 16–17 June);
- A seminar on “Criminal Assets Seizure and Asset Recovery from Drug Dealers” (Kyiv, 6–8 September);
- A seminar for Ukrainian law enforcement experts on “The Prevention and Fight against Trafficking in Human Beings and Related Crimes during Large Sporting Events” (Vienna, 22 June);
- A regional workshop on “Computer Forensics and Digital Evidence” for police, prosecutors and judges in South-Eastern Europe (Belgrade, 2–3 June);
- A workshop on “Contemporary Police Training: E-learning” for training experts from the OSCE, the Council of Europe, Interpol, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and a number of participating States (Ankara, 9–10 June);
- A regional workshop on “International Co-operation in Criminal Matters” for legal experts in Central Asia (Almaty, 11–13 July);
- Advanced cybercrime training for police in South-Eastern Europe in “Advanced Windows Forensics” at the German Federal Criminal Police Office (Wiesbaden, 10–14 October);
- Advanced cybercrime training for police in South-Eastern Europe in “Using Linux as an Investigative Tool” (Belgrade, 14–18 November).

Furthermore, SPMU staff members gave numerous presentations at workshops and training courses in their fields of expertise.

Throughout the year, the SPMU provided assistance to the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (UNDPKO) in developing a UN Police standardized training curriculum on investigating and preventing sexual and gender-based violence in conflict environments.

In an effort to enhance the network of police training institutions in the OSCE area, the SPMU signed co-operation protocols with the police academies of Georgia and Turkey. Similar co-operation mechanisms with the Association of the European Police Colleges and other regional and international organizations will be pursued in 2012.

Policing OnLine Information System (POLIS)

The POLIS team planned, designed and supported several online workshops in POLIS and also supported the first OSCE e-learning workshop in the field of policing. The team also created a thematic portal in POLIS on the trafficking of illicit drugs.

The POLIS team also introduced several measures to further improve the quality of the information stored in the system, particularly in the Policing Expert Database. Furthermore, the team initiated the quarterly



Left: Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, addresses the 11th High-level Alliance against Trafficking in Persons conference. Vienna, 20 June 2011. (OSCE/Susanna Löff)

Right: Some 1,500 students participated in a symbolic journey to Palermo against organized crime. Civitavecchia, Italy, 22 May 2011. (OSCE)



POLIS newsletter, which provides an overview of the latest developments in relation to POLIS and summarizes the quarterly statistics for the system.

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND CO-ORDINATOR FOR COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

Special Representative and Co-ordinator:
Maria Grazia Giammarinaro
www.osce.org/cthb

OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (SR/CTHB) Maria Grazia Giammarinaro continued to work with the participating States, OSCE structures, Institutions and field operations, as well as international organizations and non-governmental organizations, to make the anti-trafficking framework more effective. The SR/CTHB continued to raise the profile of the prevention of and fight against trafficking in human beings, both as a grave human rights violation and a serious transnational threat, and to dedicate special attention to the thematic priorities of child trafficking and trafficking for labour exploitation. She also called for renewed partnership and engagement with a broader spectrum of civil society actors.

Throughout 2011, the SR/CTHB worked closely with participating States to step up the implementation of relevant obligations and commitments, travelling to 16 countries on the occasion of high-level conferences and meetings with government authorities. On three country visits to the United Kingdom, Canada and Moldova, and on a joint visit to Kyrgyzstan with the Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on

Gender Issues, the SR/CTHB met with ministers and deputy ministers, senior officials in charge of anti-trafficking policy and a broad spectrum of interlocutors, including civil society actors. The SR/CTHB worked with relevant government authorities to follow up on the main findings of country visits, often in the form of a summary report offering specific recommendations based on OSCE anti-trafficking commitments (PC.DEC/557/Rev.1). The Office has received positive feedback on this methodology and looks forward to continued dialogue with participating States to assess ongoing progress in each country and to provide technical assistance where requested.

Recognizing that parliamentarians are key interlocutors and decision-makers at the national level, the SR/CTHB testified before the competent committees of the German Bundestag and the Italian Chamber of Deputies. She also further developed the working relationship with the All-Party Parliamentary Group against Human Trafficking in the United Kingdom.

With the aim of strengthening the criminal justice sector response, the SR/CTHB continued throughout 2011 to work closely with the judiciary in participating States to further improve access to justice for victims of trafficking as well as to provide capacity-building on the legal complexities which often characterize human trafficking cases at trial.

Working in close collaboration with the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and relevant OSCE structures, the SR/CTHB addressed the Human Dimension Committee on two occasions in 2011. The SR/CTHB also provided support in the preparations for the Ministerial Council *Declaration on Combating All Forms of Human Trafficking* (MC.DOC/1/11), which marks a renewed commitment to combating trafficking in human beings, as well as an important acknowledgment of the myriad forms of this crime, especially trafficking for labour exploitation.

In Vienna in June, the SR/CTHB convened the 11th Alliance against Trafficking in Persons Conference on “Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings for Labour Exploitation: Decent Work and Social Justice”. The event brought together more than 350 participants – including distinguished speakers representing the participating States, international organizations and civil society. For the first time, the conference was webcast live, thereby reaching out to a much broader audience. The conference examined the current trends and features of trafficking for labour exploitation and shed light on an innovative strategic approach to the prevention of human trafficking.

Working in close co-operation with the Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU) and the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA), together with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the SR/CTHB organized the Alliance Expert Seminar on “Leveraging Anti-Money Laundering Regimes to Combat Human Trafficking”. The event brought together key anti-money laundering actors with human trafficking investigators and NGOs to discuss on an operational level how financial investigation techniques can lead to more effective results in combating human trafficking, as well as improved access to justice for victims.

The Office continued to implement its technical assistance mandate, often in co-operation with OSCE field operations, by means of targeted training courses for professionals working in the anti-trafficking field, especially law enforcement personnel.

In order to build support for an anti-slavery movement to eliminate all forms of human trafficking, the SR/CTHB sought to reach out to wider audiences to raise awareness on human trafficking, including engaging with academia at major universities. The Office has commissioned research on some overlooked aspects of human trafficking, such as trafficking for the purpose of the removal of organs, trafficking amounting to torture and codes of conduct in the private sector and in the military.

Internal co-ordination required close co-operation in particular with SPMU, OCEEA and the Gender Section, and with the Anti-trafficking Programme of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), as well as with field operations, through the focal points meeting convened with ODIHR, and through promoting exchange of information on a regular basis.

External co-operation was further advanced in 2011 with UN.GIFT and other key partners, especially in the framework of the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons, including with international NGOs and for the first time with trade unions and employers’ associations.

ACTION AGAINST TERRORISM UNIT

www.osce.org/atu

In 2011, responding to requests by the Chairmanship-in-Office, participating States and the Secretary General, the Action against Terrorism Unit (ATU) intensified activities in the areas of cyber security, violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism (VERLT) and travel document security, while continuing its activities across all of its nine programmatic areas.

The ATU organized, supported or otherwise facilitated 20 capacity-building activities at the OSCE-wide, regional and national levels, involving the business sector and civil society whenever relevant. The Unit proactively co-ordinated activities with United Nations structures and other inter-governmental organizations to support or complement ongoing initiatives, share experiences and good practices, as well as facilitate contacts among national authorities and international experts.

Thematic highlights included:

- The ATU extensively supported participating States in their endeavour to identify an extended future OSCE role in the area of cyber security. Specifically, the Unit facilitated the Chairmanship Conference “A Comprehensive Approach to Cyber Security: Exploring the Future OSCE Role” (Vienna, 9–10 May). Building on the growing consensus for the OSCE to explore the possibility of elaborating confidence-building measures to enhance interstate transparency, predictability and stability in cyberspace, the Unit supported the Chairmanship-appointed *chef de file* in preparing potential next steps at the Vilnius Ministerial Council.
- The Unit intensified its work on VERLT and launched a series of new activities, including a joint workshop with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit in Kyrgyzstan that promoted community policing tools to counter VERLT. Particular attention was also paid to women and terrorism, including both their vulnerability to VERLT and their role in preventing it. To this end, the ATU promoted the non-governmental initiative Sisters Against Violent Extremism (SAVE) through a country visit to Tajikistan and organized an expert roundtable with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights on preventing women terrorist radicalization.
- The ATU optimized activities to cover all aspects of protecting and establishing identities through

travel documents and related processes. In Central Asia, the Unit pressed on with a project to connect 20 border control points in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan to INTERPOL's database on stolen and lost travel documents. Moreover, a new project with the International Organization for Migration in Tajikistan was initiated in 2011, designed to ensure that travel documents are compliant with international standards, while strengthening those processes and documents that allow authorities to confidently establish a person's identity during the application process and at border control.

- The ATU facilitated an initiative on public-private partnerships to enhance tourism security by facilitating an expert workshop on the topic (Vienna, 8–9 September). The workshop raised awareness of issues including the costs of terrorist attacks at tourist destinations, how security can be enhanced at major events and the importance of non-governmental sectors in efforts to combat terrorism.

Throughout the year the ATU also provided substantive input to political efforts to consolidate OSCE anti-terrorism activities and initiatives related to synergizing the work of the OSCE Secretariat related to countering transnational threats.

OFFICE OF INTERNAL OVERSIGHT

In late 2011, the Office of Internal Oversight (OIO) presented its internal audit process and working papers for an external quality assessment by a representative of the Institute of Internal Auditors. The outcome confirmed continued progress since the last assessment in late 2006. This achievement validates OIO's assertion in its reports that audits were conducted in accordance with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing as established by the Institute of Internal Auditors.

The work of the Office of Internal Oversight encompasses three distinct functions: internal audit, evaluation and investigation.

In the course of the year, OIO conducted six audits of field operations in South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia; one follow-up audit of project implementation at an Institution; and two audits in the Secretariat. To ensure an orderly and efficient closing of a field operation, OIO audited the process, procedures and co-ordination between staff at the Secretariat and the field operation.

Internal audits routinely monitor compliance with the OSCE regulatory framework, with the objective of providing assurance on the adequacy of internal controls and assisting managers in the achievement of

their objectives. A cumulative outcome of the work of OIO over some ten years of existence is illustrated by an increasing level of maturity in its capability. In its 2011 audits, OIO focused more on governance and risk management issues to further promote the culture of accountability.

OIO conducted five independent evaluations in 2011. These evaluations helped to improve internal processes, collected best practices and advised on how to improve ongoing and future activities.

OIO analysed major extra-budgetary projects in the areas of travel document security and parliamentary support in the Balkans. The latter review will provide learning opportunities for OSCE staff in the report *Findings and Best Practices on Parliamentary Development Projects in the OSCE*.

In a pilot approach to joint evaluations with participating States, the Office co-operated with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland in a joint evaluation of the OSCE's support to a higher education institution.

With the evaluation of the gender portfolio of one OSCE field operation, OIO tested an innovative approach (outcome mapping) to ascertaining how OSCE programmes and projects contribute to gender equality. If successful, the Office will tailor this approach to better assess the OSCE's non-project work.

OIO concluded seven financial investigations in 2011. These involved cases of financial losses to the Organization as well as cases of conflict of interest involving external parties. Not all cases resulted in findings of misconduct, however, and in one instance, OIO absolved a staff member of allegations of wrongdoing. The OIO investigator also worked on three separate personnel-related matters at the request of the Secretary General and provided ethics training to new recruits in the OSCE.

The Office's oversight work in 2011 resulted in the formulation of approximately 200 recommendations. OIO also followed up on the previous years' audit recommendations to ensure that management had addressed them effectively. The high acceptance and implementation rate of recommendations indicated good co-operation with the audited entities.

The OSCE Audit Committee continued to closely scrutinize OIO's work. OIO routinely provided the External Auditor copies of its audit and evaluation reports and held regular meetings in 2011 to co-ordinate planning and discuss possible areas for synergy.

CONFLICT PREVENTION CENTRE

The work of the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) focuses on early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation. In 2011, the CPC provided policy support and assisted in the review and further operational planning of the Community Security Initiative in Kyrgyzstan. The CPC also contributed to overall OSCE efforts to move the Transdniestrian conflict settlement process forward and continued its support to the Geneva International Discussions. The CPC prepared, participated in and provided follow-up to visits by the Chairmanship to Central Asia, Eastern Europe, South-Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus, as well as trips by OSCE ambassadors to Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Other priorities included analytical support on conflict cycle issues in the framework of the “V to V Dialogues”, which led to the adoption in Vilnius of MC.DEC/3/11 on elements of the conflict cycle, as well as assistance to borders- and customs-related projects, particularly in Central Asia, including the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe. The CPC continued to support the work of the Forum for Security Co-operation, including the preparation of its input to the OSCE Ministerial Council meeting in Vilnius and the update of the Vienna Document. A number of projects related to small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition were initiated. To date, almost 7,000 tonnes of the highly toxic rocket fuel mélange have been disposed of in Ukraine within the largest-ever OSCE project managed by the CPC. The CPC also facilitated in the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) by assisting participating States upon their request in the development of national action plans.

Furthermore, the CPC continued to be the Organization’s central reference on programme and project management issues, strategic planning and self-evaluation.

Policy Support Service

The Policy Support Service assisted the Chairmanship, the Secretary General and other high-level officials to ensure the Organization’s appropriate responses to political developments in the OSCE area with a view to reducing the risk of conflict. It co-ordinated the activities of the OSCE’s field operations and assisted in the implementation of their mandates.

The SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE DESK assisted the Chairmanship in maintaining an effective OSCE engagement in the region and overall co-ordination of the work of OSCE field operations. The Desk co-ordinated the work of the Secretariat and respective field operations in support of the OSCE’s contribution to the reinvigorated dialogue between countries of the region on durable solutions for refugees and initiated the convening of a technical meeting (Vienna, 16 June) with all international and regional stakeholders in preparation for the regional Ministerial conference. In the context of the developments in northern Kosovo, the Desk provided an effective link between the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and the Chairmanship, conveying information and analysis to the Chairperson-in-Office and transmitting requests and guidance to the Mission.

The EASTERN EUROPE DESK contributed to overall OSCE efforts to advance the Transdniestrian settlement

process. It supported the ongoing work of the mediators and observers and facilitated meetings in Vienna of all the key actors in this process. The Desk assisted the OSCE Office in Minsk with its closure process after the non-extension of its mandate in December 2010. The Desk advised the Chairmanship in its discussions with the Belarusian authorities on the future of the OSCE’s engagement with Belarus. It also supported the work of the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine in meeting requests from Government authorities and other relevant partners for projects. In addition, the Desk assisted in the preparation of, and took part in, numerous visits to the region, including those of the Chairperson, his Special Representative for Protracted Conflicts, the Secretary General and a group of OSCE Permanent Representatives.

The CAUCASUS DESK continued to support field operations in their activities aimed at assisting the host countries in fulfilling their OSCE commitments. The Desk continued to be closely involved in the preparations and conduct of the Geneva Discussions and participated in the regular meetings of the Dvani/Ergneti Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism. In the framework of the Geneva Discussions, it also implemented confidence-building water-related projects on both sides of the Administrative Boundary Line. The Desk accompanied and provided support to the Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office during regular visits of



Repairing infrastructure, building confidence and security

The CPC continued to support the Geneva International Discussions, which were established in the wake of the 2008 conflict in Georgia. Within this framework, the OSCE has been promoting practical humanitarian activities. In particular, the OSCE manages the implementation of water projects under a grant from the European Union. The Zonkari Dam project, which aims to restore the capacity to regulate the water level in the Zonkari Reservoir, is one of these. Years of tension in the area had prevented essential maintenance of the infrastructure. Essential repairs will alleviate the potential threat to those living downstream from the dam and restore its potential to provide irrigation water.

Left: The Zonkari Dam stores 40 million cubic metres of water for irrigation purposes. Because the outlets no longer work properly, the water reaches the emergency spillway during the flood season, 27 May 2011. (OSCE/Emmanuel Anquetil)

Right: Repair of the right wing of the service outlet, 20 December 2011. (OSCE/Emmanuel Anquetil)

the Co-Chairs of the Geneva Discussions to Tbilisi, Tskhinvali and Sukhumi. It also supported the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on the conflict dealt with by the Minsk Conference in his activities related to the settlement process of the conflict in and around Nagorno-Karabakh.

The CENTRAL ASIA DESK supported the work of the Chairmanship's Special Representative for Kyrgyzstan, in partnership with the UN and EU special representatives, to help the country resolve the 2010 crises. It worked closely with the Centre in Bishkek, the CPC Operations Service and the Strategic Police Matters Unit on the Community Security Initiative. It also supported the OSCE Academy in Bishkek. The Desk assisted the OSCE Office in Tajikistan and the Government of Tajikistan in convening the fifth annual joint OSCE-Tajikistan Task Force Meeting in Dushanbe in February to discuss common goals and supported several trips to the region by the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, the Secretary General and the Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre. In March, the Desk facilitated the visit of 17 Heads of Delegation and the Chairmanship's Task Force to Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan to become familiar with issues related to transnational threats and OSCE field activities. The Desk facilitated Chairmanship visits to all five countries, as well as to northern Afghanistan. It continued its involvement in the implementation the 2007 Ministerial Council Decision on OSCE Engagement with Afghanistan (MC.DEC/04/07).

The Programming and Evaluation Support Unit

The Unit focused on ensuring the quality, coherence and sound management of projects and programmes across

the Organization. It continued to serve as the main point of reference for project, programme and fund managers working to strategically plan, develop, implement and evaluate their work more efficiently and more effectively.

Four years into result-based management and one year since the publication of *Project Management in the OSCE*, the Unit continues to build the capacity of the Organization by providing tailor-made training and coaching sessions to all executive structures. While this continuous work, over the years, has allowed for the basic OSCE project and programme management methodology to be harmonized across the Funds, 2011 saw a greater emphasis on support to senior management *vis-à-vis* self-evaluation and strategic planning. The importance of this function is evident in particular in the context of the Unified Budget Cycle. In 2011 the Unit provided on-site assistance to the Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Presence in Albania, the Mission to Skopje, the Mission to Serbia, the Mission in Kosovo, the Office in Yerevan, as well as to the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the thematic units of the Secretariat.

With reference to extra-budgetary project proposals developed by field operations and by the Units of the Secretariat, the Unit co-ordinated the assessment of 118 proposals in 2011, with a value in excess of € 35.9 million.

Operations Service

OPERATIONAL PLANNING AND ANALYSIS. The Planning and Analysis Team continued offering analytical support to the Chairmanship and participating States in support of the V to V Dialogues, which featured a series of expert meetings on early warning, early crisis response, mediation support and post-conflict rehabilitation. It also

assisted with the drafting of MC.DEC/3/11 on enhancing the OSCE capabilities in conflict and crisis situations, which was adopted at the Vilnius Ministerial Council. On early warning, the Team initiated the process of developing internal early warning guidelines for use by OSCE executive structures. In that regard, an internal working group on early warning, consisting of senior management from OSCE Institutions, field operations and the Secretariat, was established.

The Planning and Analysis Team assisted in the planning and implementation of the discontinuation of the OSCE Office in Minsk as well as the planning of the closure of the OSCE Office in Zagreb. Additionally, the Team continued to assist in the implementation of the Community Security Initiative in Kyrgyzstan, including the project's mid-term assessment.

It also continued implementing its systematic approach to learning from past activities by co-ordinating the debriefing process of outgoing OSCE Chairmanships and senior officials from field operations. On the basis of the lessons identified by field operations, it continued to prepare recommendations to enhance the OSCE's effectiveness. The Team further assisted in the drafting of the After Action Report on the discontinuation of the OSCE Office in Minsk. Based on that and the Audit Report on the Office's discontinuation, the Team revised the *Operational Guidelines on the Closure or Restructuring of an OSCE Field Operation*.

Moreover, it provided support to the Chairmanship in the organization of the 2011 Annual Security Review Conference and assisted the Permanent Council's Security Committee on organizational and substantive matters.

24-HOURS-A-DAY/7-DAYS-A-WEEK operational link. Through its Situation/Communication Room, the Operations Service continued to provide an around-the-clock operational link and point of contact among OSCE structures, especially outside working hours. It provided real-time reporting on the OSCE area via text messages and email, with a particular focus on emerging crisis situations. The Situation Room continued to produce daily briefings, special briefings, weekly regional summaries and calendars of upcoming events. It also provided operational assistance for emergencies in the field, such as security incidents and medical evacuations.

BORDER SECURITY AND MANAGEMENT. The Operation Service's Borders Team continued to support the implementation of the OSCE Border Security and Management Concept, in close co-operation with field operations and national border/customs agencies across the OSCE area. While the geographic focus remained on major capacity-building initiatives targeting border

guards and customs officers in Central Asia, engagement with border agencies from other regions also continued.

The Borders Team continued to maintain and develop the OSCE Border Security and Management National Focal Point (NFP) Network. It published the Network's regular newsletter and conducted the network's annual meeting in Vilnius. In co-operation with NFPs and other experts, the Team also began preparatory work to develop training materials on a number of specific border management topics, including fighting corruption in border agencies.

Furthermore, the Borders Team supported the Border Management Staff College (BMSC) in Dushanbe. In July and August, the Borders Team supported the BMSC project review, including the establishment of new internal arrangements and procedures.

In line with MC.DEC/4/07 on OSCE Engagement with Afghanistan, the Borders Team continued to promote the participation of Afghan border officials in OSCE project activities in Central Asia, including in the BMSC. The Team also supported operational activities to strengthen the border between Central Asian participating States and Afghanistan and encouraged cross-border co-operation and joint patrolling efforts. The Team furthermore developed a list of potential follow-on and new border projects to engage with Afghanistan.

In June 2011, the Borders Team also organized the first OSCE seminar on technical aspects of border demarcation and delimitation in Vilnius for experts and practitioners to exchange best practices. In addition, the Team supported the FSC Support Section in the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 across the OSCE area, through contributing to a series of seminars meant to enhance interagency co-operation related to the movement of dual-use goods and small arms and light weapons.

FSC Support Section

In 2011, the Section continued to support the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) in its activities. Among others, the Section supported the FSC negotiations on the issuing of the Vienna Document 2011 and monitored the implementation of confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs). It contributed to the Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (AIAM) by publishing a *Summary Report on Recent Trends in the Implementation of the Vienna Document 1999 and Other Measures Addressed during the AIAM*. The FSC Support Section also chaired the fifth Meeting of the Heads of Verification Centres, where views were exchanged on the practical implementation of the Vienna Document.

With the support of Austria, Germany, Switzerland and Ukraine, the Section organized a regional seminar on "The Code of Conduct and Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the South Caucasus and Black Sea Region" in Odessa, Ukraine. In Kazakhstan,



The final shipment of the toxic rocket fuel component mélange is prepared for departure from Bila Tserkva, Ukraine, on 16 November 2011. Almost 7,000 tonnes of mélange have been removed from Ukraine since the launch of the project in 2009. (OSCE/Oksana Polyuga)

the Section contributed to a regional seminar on the Vienna Document organized together with Kazakhstan's Verification Centre and the OSCE Office in Astana to train military officials from Central Asia and the South Caucasus on the organization of verification activities.

The Section actively supported participating States in the implementation of the OSCE Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) adopted by the FSC in 2010. Particularly, the Section harmonized the OSCE templates for reporting on the implementation of SALW commitments with that of the UN in order to ease the reporting burden on participating States. Furthermore, the Section, assisted by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, developed a template End User Certificate for SALW used in the export control process. Finally, the Section produced a summary report of the national reports on the control of brokering activities of SALW, which was discussed at a Special Meeting of the FSC in September.

Following requests for assistance from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Moldova and Serbia in 2011, the Section organized three successful assessment visits and developed two project proposals, the implementation of which will be executed together with the UN Development Programme (UNDP). Moreover, the Section launched another OSCE-UNDP project in Georgia on the destruction of cluster bombs. In Ukraine, the Section finalized Phase III-B of the *mélange* project, removing all *mélange* stockpiles from western Ukraine (Radekhiv: more than 2.5 thousand tonnes) and initiated Phase III-C by removing *mélange* stockpiles from Central Ukraine (Bila Tserkva: more than 1.1 thousand

tonnes) The Section continued monitoring, verification and fundraising of the joint OSCE-UNDP programmes in Montenegro and Belarus in the area of SALW and stockpiles of conventional ammunition.

The OSCE Communication Network, which connects 51 of the 56 participating States, as well as the CPC and NATO, continued to facilitate the exchange of important information to further openness and transparency in military affairs. The FSC Support Section maintains the system and the custom software used to generate treaty notifications. In 2011, the replacement of the security infrastructure was completed and development tools put in place for the necessary software upgrades planned for 2012 and 2013. The network made possible the exchange of close to 300,000 messages between participating States, while maintaining security, reliability and availability more than 99.9 per cent of the time. The Section also continued to chair the OSCE Communications Group, which provides valuable oversight by and for delegations, as well as to support and organize the Annual Exchange of Military Information and the Global Exchange of Military Information. The OSCE Communication Network remains one of the Organization's most successful CSBMs.

The Section also actively assisted interested participating States in the development of national action plans on the implementation of UNSCR 1540 (2004), with direct support of the 1540 Committee. Together with the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), the Section co-organized a Regional Workshop on the Implementation of Resolution 1540 in Central Asia, hosted by Kazakhstan.

OFFICE OF THE CO-ORDINATOR OF OSCE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

The year 2011, in follow-up to the 2010 Astana Summit, saw intensified political dialogue among participating States on economic and environmental dimension issues, conducted, inter alia, in the framework of the Economic and Environmental Committee, as well as concrete work on the ground to implement past relevant Ministerial Council decisions. In a year that was characterized by both continuity and progress, important decisions were taken to streamline and strengthen the procedures and structure of second-dimension activities, including the introduction of a new, annual Economic and Environmental Dimension Implementation Meeting.

Economic and Environmental Forum

The OCEEA provided support to the Lithuanian Chairmanship throughout the 19th Economic and Environmental Forum process, which was for the first time synchronized with the Chairmanship year. The Forum, consisting of two preparatory meetings and the traditional concluding meeting in Prague, focused on promotion of common actions and co-operation in the OSCE area in the fields of development of sustainable energy and transport. It covered a wide range of topics, including integration of transport networks through reduction of barriers and simplification of border-crossing, improvement of energy efficiency, good governance and transparency in the energy field, and regional and sub-regional co-operation on sustainable energy and transport.

Good governance

In 2011, the OCEEA saw a strong renewed interest in promoting good governance and transparency, fighting corruption and combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism, expressed in the participating States' decision to dedicate the 2012 Forum theme to "Promoting Security and Stability through Good Governance" and in the discussions of the topic in the Economic and Environmental Committee as well as at the Economic and Environmental Dimension Implementation Meeting.

The OCEEA continued its work to promote and support effective implementation of key international commitments and legal instruments, *inter alia*, the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the Financial Action Task Force 40+9 Recommendations on Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing and the UN Security Council Resolutions on countering the financing of terrorism. Together with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and other partners, a variety of activities were undertaken to

assist participating States in implementing these instruments, including awareness-raising; needs assessments; provision of technical content to seminars, workshops and conferences; and development of technical materials and training. An area of particular focus was money laundering national risk assessment.

Increased efforts were also invested in promoting good governance, transparency and inclusion of civil society organizations, media and the private sector. Activities were undertaken with the Council of Europe and the OSCE field operations to support regional dialogue and experience exchange on local good governance reforms and financial transparency. A roundtable on the role of civil society in fighting corruption was organized in Vienna in support of the discussions of the Fourth Conference of the State Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption as well as the 2012 Economic and Environmental Forum.

Transport

The OCEEA furthered its involvement in transport-related activities and provided support to the Chairmanship throughout the entire Forum process. In particular, the OCEEA worked with the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) on finalizing the *Handbook of Best Practices at Border Crossings: A Trade and Transport Facilitation Perspective*. It also promoted better understanding of inland transport security challenges across the OSCE region by supporting activities aimed at improving the co-ordination and effectiveness of national and international efforts to address these challenges.

Migration management

The OCEEA also continued supporting a comprehensive approach to migration management. Early in the year it launched a new publication entitled *Training Modules on Labour Migration Management – Trainer's Manual* on comprehensive labour migration management together with the International Organization for Migration

Goran Svilanović,
Co-ordinator of
OSCE Economic
and Environmental
Activities, speaks to
journalists during the
Second Preparatory
Meeting of the
19th Economic and
Environmental Forum.
Drukininkai, Lithuania,
4 April 2011. (OSCE)



(IOM), complementing a handbook on the subject prepared by the OSCE, IOM and the International Labour Office (ILO).

The OCEEA partnered with the IOM to implement a new project, “Harmonised Migration Data Collection as Sound Basis for Policy Making”, which aims at facilitating evidence-based decision-making on migration. Three assessments on gathering and sharing of migration statistics were carried out in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, and the results were presented at national seminars. These results will also be included in a handbook for data collection.

The OCEEA also continued to promote improved awareness of the need for gender-sensitive labour migration policies by *inter alia* organizing a regional training seminar on gender and labour migration in Vienna for policy-makers from the European Union and South-Eastern European countries. It also worked with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights on updating the *Gender and Labour Migration Trainer’s Manual*.

Energy security

The OCEEA increased its interaction with OSCE field presences. The Office jointly organized training events in energy diplomacy with the Centre in Ashgabat. It also assisted in the organization of a Chairmanship Conference on energy security in Turkmenistan. The OCEEA deepened co-operation with other international bodies. As a member of the Vienna Energy Club, an informal grouping of eight Vienna-based international organizations dealing with energy, the OSCE is actively exploring opportunities to create synergies. Co-operation with other organizations include NATO, the Energy Charter Secretariat, the International Energy Agency and UNECE.

Environment and security

In 2011, the OSCE chaired the Environment and Security (ENVSEC) Initiative. During its chairmanship, the OSCE identified four priority areas: strengthening

the security dimension of the Initiative, expanding its partners and donor base, increasing its visibility and improving the reporting of its results. In line with these objectives, a security study was launched to redefine the focus of the ENVSEC work programme in light of the current and emerging linkages between environment and security and provide guidance on better monitoring and reporting of the security benefits of the Initiative. The ENVSEC Donors Forum and two ENVSEC side events – at the Seventh Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (Astana, 21–23 September) and at the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Rio+20 (Geneva, 2 December) – contributed significantly to the increased visibility of the Initiative and expansion of its partners base.

The OCEEA continued its projects within the ENVSEC Initiative in all four OSCE regions on issues related to transboundary water management, hazardous waste management and climate change. The Office provided leadership for the ENVSEC work programme in the South Caucasus region in the fields of wildfire management, transboundary water co-operation, local environmental assessment and public participation.

The OCEEA continued promoting the UNECE Aarhus Convention principles, which are designed to promote transparency and democracy in environmental decision-making. The Aarhus Centres Initiative has been expanded to include 33 Aarhus Centres in ten countries. During the Fourth Meeting of the Parties to the UNECE Aarhus Convention in Chişinău, Moldova, the OSCE organized a side event that brought together Aarhus Centre stakeholders, the parties to the Aarhus Convention and international institutions to exchange experiences and lessons learned.

The OCEEA continued to support the implementation of the Civic Action for Security and Environment (CASE) – a small-grants programme for civil society organizations in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Tajikistan to enhance their capacity to address environmental and security challenges – in close partnership with respective OSCE field operations.

Together with the European Environmental Agency (EEA) the OCEEA implemented a project assessing the impact of climate change on natural resources, energy and food availability and its repercussions until 2050 in the regions of Eastern Europe, South-Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia. The initial scenario workshop took place in Lviv, Ukraine, in February. Another two workshops were held in Belgrade and Dushanbe later in the year. The results provide a tool for co-operative action and policy recommendations that could be implemented by the OSCE field operations or elevated to the Permanent Council.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

The Department of Human Resources (DHR) continued to play a key role in attracting, developing and motivating staff with professional skills matching the organizational needs and in providing strategic support in planning, co-ordinating and directing the human resources activities of the OSCE. Promoting a professional working environment, gender sensitivity and an ethical approach in daily work, DHR ensured that the OSCE has the human resources capacity necessary to successfully implement its mandates. DHR also ensured policies were in place to support the fair and transparent management of staff and that the delivery of services in the areas of recruitment, administration of benefits and entitlements, payroll, performance management and training across the Organization was efficient and responsive.

Key achievements in 2011 included:

Staffing

- maintaining adequately competitive conditions of service in the OSCE, paying particular attention to locally recruited mission members (salary levels and exemption from national income tax) and seconded staff (duration of assignment), bearing in mind the current financial climate and constraints of the maximum periods of service, and through close dialogue with the Organization's decision-making bodies;
- supporting the Chairmanship-in-Office through tailored training activities as well as through administering recruitment and extension processes for the senior management of the Organization;
- further developing recruitment tools and procedures aimed at securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity when fairly and transparently recruiting staff from all participating States;
- continued attention to well-functioning of the secondment system as the backbone of international staffing, particularly in field operations;
- continuing the Junior Professional Officer programme, which provides young professionals from participating States an opportunity to gain an overview of the Organization, both in the Secretariat and in field operations/Institutions. Building on the programme's success over the preceding five years and the continuing support of the participating States and nominating authorities, two rounds of the programme were again successfully run in 2011;
- continuing the internship programme within the Organization, with approximately 40 interns being taken on in the Secretariat in 2011.

Compliance with the OSCE HR Common Regulatory Management System (CRMS)

- developing proposals on enhancing coherence, effectiveness and efficiency in management of the OSCE's human resources and undertaking efforts to improve the accountability framework in the Organization, also by conducting a comprehensive review of the disciplinary procedures applicable to senior management and presenting its outcome and findings for consideration by participating States;
- providing leadership and support to management in the Secretariat, Institutions and field operations to ensure that human resources management decisions are compliant with the CRMS, leading to a significant reduction in the number of human resources-related exception requests;
- reviewing and updating of a number of Staff Instructions to ensure alignment with the Staff Regulations and Rules and to improve work procedures.

Payroll and benefits entitlements

- implementing standard payroll operating procedures across the Organization and improving the technical system's capacity in processing all staff benefits and entitlements;
- improving the IRMA human resources module for timely and accurate reporting functionality, including a major update to further enhance its stability and usability, an analysis of the impact of application of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) on human resources aspects and the provision of timely advice on the necessity of a system upgrade;
- maintaining interaction and co-operation with other international organizations, particularly the United Nations, on a broad range of human resources issues, including staff entitlements and

benefits, payroll procedures, periods of service, training and recruitment.

Training

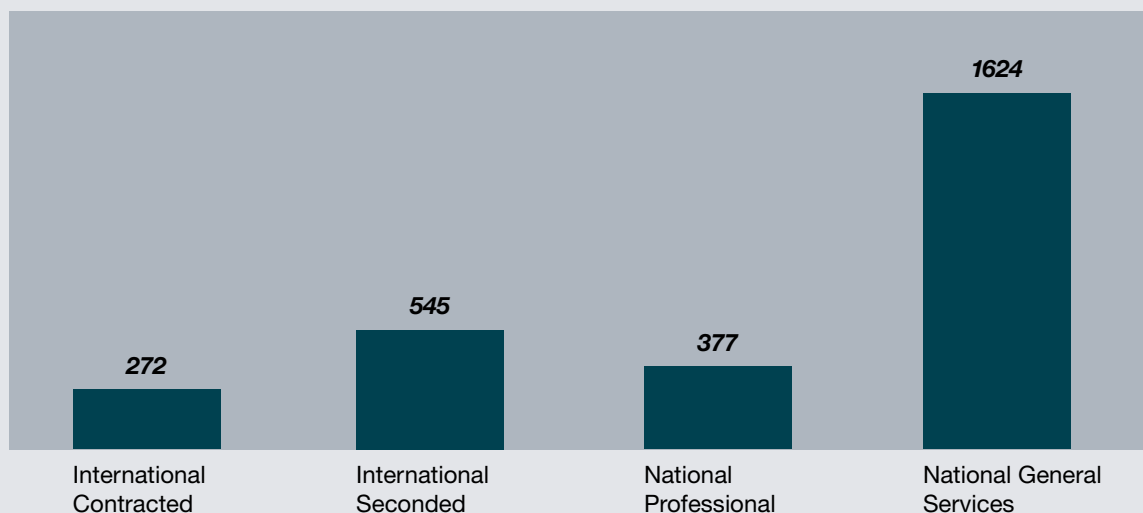
- continued delivery of intensive gender training, a three-day programme designed to equip staff with the knowledge and skills needed to implement the commitments of the Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality;
- participation of 715 OSCE staff and mission members (363 women and 352 men) in training activities conducted in Vienna on various topics;
- revising methodology and content of the General Orientation Programme with a view to maximizing primary and secondary learning of participants; ongoing implementation of the General Orientation Programme and support of local induction programmes as a primary tool for integrating new staff.

Enabling environment

- launching the OSCE’s first Leadership Development Programme for Heads of Mission, Deputy Heads of Missions and Institutions, and Directors with a view to creating a common leadership culture;
- continuing to integrate gender aspects into human resources management policies and procedures and encouraging improvement of the professional working environment across the OSCE, including through work to introduce an online exit survey to be completed by all outgoing OSCE officials;

- enhancing the ethics co-ordination role within the OSCE, and as first steps submitting a draft revised OSCE Code of Conduct for consideration by participating States and looking into the possible ways of raising the awareness of ethical conduct amongst OSCE officials;
- reviewing current mechanisms for recognizing and addressing conflicts in the workplace, including through building a roster of external mediators, providing relevant training opportunities and preparing an awareness-raising campaign to increase all OSCE officials’ knowledge of policies and procedures;
- with a view to creating a more family-friendly and gender-sensitive working environment, promoting wider use and consistent application of flexible working arrangements and supporting similar approaches in other duty stations.

2011 OSCE Post Table



DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE

The Department of Management and Finance (DMF) provides managerial, financial and administrative advice, services and support to OSCE participating States, the Secretary General and the Secretariat, Institutions and field operations. DMF comprises Budget and Internal Control Services, Finance, Accounting and Treasury Services, Mission Support Services including Supply Chain Management, Information and Communications Technology Services, Conference Services as well as oversight of the Prague Archives Office.

DMF fulfilled its 2011 obligations regarding the Organization's planning and budget cycles and continued the pursuit of Organization-wide management reform by spearheading together with the Department of Human Resources and the Office of the Secretary General the enhancement of the Organization's regulatory framework, the Common Regulatory Management System (CRMS), in particular through strengthened guidance on travel management. The Department helped leverage Organization-wide performance within travel management, strengthening OSCE travel management strategy implementation through first-time introduction of performance targets. DMF helped facilitate the process to further develop the Organization's Performance-Based Programme Budgeting model and provided continued support and functional training to field operations. It supported the Organization's successful delivery of OSCE meetings and conferences throughout the year.

In 2011, DMF successfully:

- received an unqualified (positive) external audit opinion on the 2010 financial statements. The External Auditor of the Accounting Chamber of Ukraine stated: "In our opinion, these financial statements, present fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position as at 31 December 2010, and the results of the operations and cash flow for the period then ended";
- managed OSCE funds placed on accounts with financial institutions (banks) to ensure the funds were invested with a minimum of risk during the continued volatile global financial environment in 2011;
- continued with its progressive adoption of International Public Sector Accounting Standards with the implementation of several standards to be included in the 2011 Financial Statements;
- continued to meet commitments for delivery of planning and budget-cycle documents and provision of guidance, advice and assistance to the Chair of the OSCE Advisory Committee for Management and Finance in completing timely approval of the 2011 Unified Budget;
- continued to enhance the internal control structure through a formalized Organization-wide risk management system that facilitates effective management by identifying and ensuring appropriate resource allocation to critical risk areas;
- continued to provide critical systems and business process support to all Fund Administration Units in all OSCE field operations and Institutions, providing guidance on Financial Administrative Instructions and monitoring improved internal controls;
- strengthened further the CRMS and the internal control structure by developing revisions of Financial Administrative Instruction (FAI) 5 Income and Cash Management, FAI 6 Procurement and Contracting and FAI 9 Official Travel Management;
- provided technical support to the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance Working Groups on Financial Regulations and Scales of Contributions;
- enhanced IT governance for corporate IT structures and developed IT and Enterprise Resource Planning systems change strategy aimed at upgrading the existing Oracle/IRMA platform;
- enhanced search capabilities in DocIn to enable greater access to records and information sources across the OSCE;
- completed design and preparation of a new network operating system (based on industry-standard Microsoft technologies) ready for deployment in 2012 across the OSCE;
- increased IT security prevention capabilities and successfully passed external IT security penetration testing;
- improved the infrastructure for meetings and conferences, i.e., provided logistical support and language services, upgraded provision of IT support services in OSCE premises;
- continued to focus on capacity-building and reinforcing procedural knowledge for all executive



- structures through a mix of formal training, on-site visits and Vienna-based training events;
 - ensured that the Organization continues to secure best value for participating States' money through effective procurement contract negotiations and improved utilization of travel budgets;
 - continued to provide direct technical support to various executive structures and Secretariat programmes in procurement, assets management, project management and related fields;
 - contributed to logistical planning and management of the preparations of the OSCE Ministerial Council;
 - served and managed an increased number of meetings within the existing budget as well as provided continuation of all services to the Joint Consultative Group and the Open Skies Consultative Commission.
- completed four mailings to 2,900 subscribers and 67 depositary libraries, accounting for an average of 45 publications and 600 selected documents. Depositary libraries received biannual CD compilations engineered by the Office;
 - made further progress in the CSCE/OSCE Oral History project by assuring the transcription and translation of collected audio visual materials of interviews collected thus far;
 - opened its archive collections to eight long-term researchers-in-residence, (Japan, Luxembourg, Romania, Ireland) as well as four MA candidates from Czech academic institutions;
 - welcomed 36 student groups on study trips in Prague, amounting to an average of 610 visitors this year.

through the Prague Office,

- organized a thematic discussion seminar "The OSCE at the Threshold of the Second Decade of the 21st Century" held in the Senate of the Czech Republic, in co-operation with the Center for Social and Economic Strategies;
- integrated records received from the Office in Minsk into the closed-down mission holdings;
- supported the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities in the logistical preparation and technical set-up of the concluding meeting of the 19th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum held in Prague;

9

PARTNERSHIPS FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE ASIAN AND MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERS FOR CO-OPERATION

At the Astana Summit in 2010, the participating States acknowledged that the security of the OSCE region is “inextricably linked” to security in neighbouring areas. In 2011, the transitions of the Arab Spring, the physical disasters that struck Japan and Thailand, as well as ongoing challenges arising from transnational threats such as trafficking in illicit drugs originating in Afghanistan, highlighted the importance of the OSCE Partnership for Co-operation. The Partnership fosters dialogue, co-operation and information-sharing between OSCE participating States and Partners in the Mediterranean and Asian regions to identify areas of common concern and to develop joint approaches to shared security challenges. A crucial element of the Partnership is the sharing of OSCE norms, commitments and expertise to promote OSCE values, facilitate the exchange of good practices and, if requested, assist the Partners in the voluntary implementation of OSCE commitments. A decision on the Partners for Co-operation at the Vilnius Ministerial Council (MC.DEC/5/11) underscored the willingness of the OSCE to share its experience in promoting sustainable security and supporting democratic transitions with Partner countries in close co-operation with the international community under the guidance of the United Nations.

In a year characterized by dramatic transitions in the OSCE neighbourhood, the Organization stood ready to share its know-how and experience with its Partners for Co-operation in the Mediterranean and Asian regions, including by supporting concrete measures and projects to strengthen democratic institutions, ensure freedom of expression, strengthen civil society and stimulate economic growth. Democratic transition is a complex, multidimensional, long-term process requiring tailor-made approaches. While the OSCE can advise, assist, offer lessons learned and best practices, it will not impose its priorities, policies or vision.

Report of the Chairmanship

The Lithuanian Chairmanship was deeply committed to promoting closer dialogue with the Mediterranean and Asian Partners. Foreign Minister Audronius Ažubalis, OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, publicly expressed solidarity with the democratic aspirations of the peoples of

Tunisia, Egypt and the other Mediterranean Partners. In his address to the United Nations Security Council on 15 February, he reconfirmed the readiness of the OSCE to share its experience and expertise where it is needed. Noting that “Twenty years ago, the OSCE played a key role in managing the challenges of transition in Eastern Europe,” Ažubalis said that “in these times of dramatic change in Tunisia and in Egypt, perhaps the OSCE toolbox as well as its principles and institutions could provide inspiration to others.”

The Chairperson actively promoted co-ordination of assistance in the southern Mediterranean by international organizations under UN leadership through his personal contacts with the UN Secretary General. He also visited Tunisia in April, while Lithuanian Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Asta Skaisgirytė Liauškienė visited Egypt in June. Accompanied by experts from the OSCE Chairmanship, the Secretariat and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), they held high-level discussions about possible OSCE assistance and also reached out to civil society in these countries. In March, the Chairmanship presented a background paper on possible OSCE assistance to the Partners, which recognized that assistance must be tailored to the specific needs of individual States, and that it could focus on economic and migration issues as well as on electoral support.

The Chairperson also visited the Tajik-Afghan border in May and discussed Afghan engagement with the OSCE with the governor of Afghanistan’s Kunduz Province; as an outcome of these talks, Afghan and Tajik border guards participated in a training programme in Lithuania in November.

Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation

Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia
Chair of the Mediterranean Contact Group: Ireland

Asian Partners for Co-operation

Afghanistan, Australia, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea and Thailand
Chair of the Asian Contact Group: Kazakhstan



Vilnius Ministerial Council

The Partners for Co-operation were the focus of significant attention at the 2011 Ministerial Council in Vilnius. The participating States agreed to enhance engagement with the Partners for Co-operation (MC.DEC/5/11) and to support a new package of assistance for Afghanistan (MC.DEC/4/11). “We have taken a decision to strengthen our engagement with the Partner country Afghanistan. This is particularly critical as we near the drawdown of international forces from the country,” the Chairperson-in-Office stated in his closing remarks at the Ministerial Council. “We have also decided to further enhance our interaction with the Partner for Co-operation countries. This decision will underpin the OSCE’s efforts to support our Partners in responding to developments in the Middle East and North Africa.” This action-oriented document will help move the Partnership to a new level by strengthening the framework for dialogue and enabling greater interaction on a wide range of practical issues, which will bolster the OSCE’s ability to help Partners manage their transition processes and implement reforms.

The participating States also adopted a decision to consider Mongolia’s application to become a participating State – the first such request from a State outside the OSCE region.

The Lithuanian Chairmanship, in co-operation with ODIHR, organized a civil society conference of NGOs from the Mediterranean Partner States ahead of the Ministerial Council. This conference, entitled “Transparency and Pluralism in Electoral Good Practice, Political Participation, Justice and Legal Reform,” enhanced awareness among NGOs of relevant international and OSCE standards, institutions, programmes, tools and practices, and generated civil society recommendations on the future role of the OSCE Mediterranean Partnership that were considered by participating States at the Ministerial Council.

Report of the Secretary General

Exchanging information and experiences with regional organizations is a promising means of enhancing

synergies and effectiveness as well as reaching out to Partners while ensuring local ownership. In September, the OSCE Secretary General visited the recently appointed Secretary General of the League of Arab States (LAS), who expressed strong interest in the OSCE sharing its best practices and handbooks to help build LAS capacity and to disseminate to LAS members, particularly those that are also OSCE Partners for Co-operation. The OSCE Secretariat continues to work with LAS counterparts in identifying and prioritizing the specific tools to be used in such an exercise.

The OSCE Secretary General also participated in the “International Afghanistan Conference” (Bonn, 5 December). Afghanistan has been an OSCE Partner for Co-operation since 2003. The OSCE, particularly through its field operations in Central Asia, has worked with Afghanistan to strengthen the country’s border, customs and law enforcement agencies, and also supported the country’s last four national elections. “Our goal is to intensify the OSCE’s concrete support for international and regional efforts to promote a stable, independent, prosperous and democratic Afghanistan,” the Secretary General stated at the conference.

On the margins of the Vilnius Ministerial Council, the OSCE Secretary General in co-operation with UN Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs B. Lynn Pascoe hosted a roundtable to promote closer co-ordination among international and regional organizations in responding to the Arab Spring. The meeting brought together representatives of the League of Arab States and the Organization for Islamic Co-operation with counterparts from the European Union, NATO, the Council of Europe, the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, as well as the OSCE and the UN. A follow-on meeting was proposed for 2012.

The OSCE Annual Security Review Conference (Vienna, 29 June–1 July) included a special section devoted to the Partnership for Co-operation emphasizing the need to establish a multilateral mechanism to help Afghanistan achieve a democratic form of governance. The OSCE concluded a first package of assistance to Afghanistan devoted primarily to border security

Left: The 2011 Asian Conference was held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, on 23–24 May 2011. (Alastair Rae)

Right: The 2011 Mediterranean Conference was held in Budva, Montenegro, on 10–11 October 2011. (OSCE/ Shiv Sharma)

issues in 2011, and a second package of assistance covering a broader array of issues in all three OSCE dimensions was approved at the Vilnius Ministerial Council (MC.DEC/4/11).

The OSCE Section for External Co-operation played a key role in strengthening the Partnership for Co-operation in 2011. The Section worked closely with both the Asian Contact Group and the Mediterranean Contact Group to foster open dialogue and information exchange at regular meetings throughout the year. It also co-organized the 2011 OSCE-Mongolia Conference (Ulaanbaatar, 23–24 May) on transnational threats and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the OSCE Mediterranean Conference (Budva, Montenegro, 10–11 October) on democratic

transformation in the southern Mediterranean. The Section provided substantive input and expertise to the OSCE Chairmanship and the Chair of the Mediterranean Contact Group to facilitate internal discussions on how the OSCE could support the democratic changes in the southern Mediterranean. It also helped to ensure continued dialogue with relevant Partners and organized high-level visits to the region.

Contact Groups

The OSCE Asian and Mediterranean Contact Groups play a very active role in ensuring that the Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation contribute to OSCE dialogue and participate in OSCE activities. In 2011, the Asian Contact Group was chaired by

The Partnership Fund

The OSCE Partnership Fund promotes engagement of the Partners for Co-operation in the activities of the OSCE. With new pledges in 2011 from Austria, Canada, Germany, South Korea and Thailand, the Fund's total pledges since its establishment in 2007 surpassed €950,000.

In 2011 the Partnership Fund, administered by the Section for External Co-operation, supported projects on environmental challenges to security, the role of civil society in fighting corruption, OSCE engagement with Afghanistan and the secondment of young diplomats from Partner States to the OSCE Secretariat to enhance mutual knowledge. The Partnership Fund also supported increased participation by representatives of Partner States, especially Afghanistan, in OSCE activities.

The Asian Contact Group drew on the resources of the Partnership Fund in 2011 to promote comprehensive security in the region. For example, a side event at the OSCE-Mongolia Conference on “Afghanistan Capacity Building: Strengthening the Diplomatic Service” identified specific needs and possible approaches to enhance the capacity of the Afghan diplomatic corps. Transparency and openness in diplomatic relations can help a State undergoing a transition gain the trust and support of other countries, which also helps to attract aid and investment. During the event, Mongolia proposed a training initiative to build the capacity of Afghan diplomats in Ulaanbaatar in 2012, with support from the Partnership Fund.

The Mediterranean Contact Group utilized the Partnership Fund in 2011 to address emerging challenges in the region. For example, corruption is recognized as one of the factors underlying the unrest in the southern Mediterranean. With support from the Partnership Fund, the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities organized a roundtable (Vienna, 5 July) to facilitate the exchange of innovative practices and models on the role of civil society, including the media, in preventing, detecting and prosecuting corruption. The roundtable also helped OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation prepare for the civil society segment of the “Fourth Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption” held in Marrakech in October.

In 2011 the Partnership Fund also initiated the following new projects:

- a series of workshops on environment and security issues in the southern Mediterranean as part of the follow-up to the 2007 Valencia Seminar on environmental security in the region;
- a workshop on “Promoting Security through a Comprehensive Approach to Development in Border Areas: A Capacity Building Programme According to Thai Experience” to be hosted by Thailand in 2012, which will build on a similar successful initiative in 2010 and focus on strengthening joint efforts to combat transnational threats posed by illicit crop cultivation and drug trafficking through a comprehensive approach that includes alternative livelihoods; and
- a seminar on “Co-operation for Security and Development in Northeast Asia and the OSCE Experience”, aimed at developing concrete principles, goals and measures to initiate a mechanism for multilateral security co-operation in Northeast Asia and develop recommendations for a road map for the Six-Party Talks, covering such issues as denuclearization, security guarantees and a peace treaty. Originally scheduled to take place in 2011, the seminar was postponed to allow for meaningful contributions from all major actors in the Six-Party Talks.

Kazakhstan, and the Mediterranean Contact Group was chaired by Ireland.

The annual joint meeting of the Asian and Mediterranean Contact Groups (Vienna, 21 July) provided an opportunity for a broader exchange of views on developments in regions bordering the OSCE area, including the southern Mediterranean, as well as updates on recent OSCE events, such as the Annual Session of the Parliamentary Assembly. It also included a discussion of OSCE activities in the areas of police reform, good governance and media freedom and reform.

Asian Contact Group

In its seven meetings in 2011, the Asian Contact Group discussed a wide range of security issues affecting both the OSCE and Asian regions. The meetings also provided an opportunity for briefings on OSCE activities in areas of particular relevance to the Asian Partners in all three dimensions. Among the many topics covered were transnational threats; border security and management; environmental security; good governance and combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism; human rights and democracy issues; non-proliferation; and OSCE efforts to help stabilize Afghanistan. The Group also benefited from presentations by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Mongolia, Korea and Australia on various aspects of regional security.

The 2011 Asian Conference (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 23–24 May) focused on “Enhancing OSCE Cooperation with the Asian Partners in Addressing Common Challenges through a Comprehensive Approach to Security”. The conference explored ways to promote comprehensive security by strengthening joint efforts to confront transnational threats, enhance economic co-operation and strengthen human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law. The participants recognized that rapid changes taking place in Asia are creating both opportunities and challenges, increasing the incentives for strengthening regional co-operation. Although there are significant differences between the history and security needs of the OSCE region and Asia, it was broadly acknowledged that the OSCE and its approach to dialogue and confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs) could provide inspiration to the Asian Partners, and that there was significant scope for co-operation based on common interests.

Mediterranean Contact Group

The Mediterranean Contact Group met five times during 2011, discussing a wide range of security issues and possible avenues for OSCE support for peaceful transitions in the region. Experts from the OSCE and other international organizations addressed the group, and representatives of Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia briefed it on unfolding events and national

reform programmes. The Contact Group meetings also provided an opportunity for briefings on OSCE activities in areas of particular relevance to the Mediterranean Partners in all three dimensions, including border security and management, non-proliferation, energy and environmental security, migration management, and democratic reform and human rights.

The 2011 Mediterranean Conference (Budva, Montenegro, 10–11 October) focused on “Democratic Transformation: Challenges and Opportunities in the Mediterranean Region.” It covered issues in all three dimensions, including the role of the police and the armed forces in democratic societies; promoting human rights, fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law; and strengthening good governance. The conference confirmed that OSCE participating and Partner States share fundamental principles and a commitment to enhancing dialogue and co-operation with each other, and reconfirmed the consensus of the Astana Summit that the security of the OSCE area and that of the Partners for Co-operation is “inextricably linked.” It also recognized the vital role of civil society in the development of modern, free, secure and humane societies.

Supporting democratic development in the southern Mediterranean

The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights has decades of experience in assisting countries with democratic transition that it is ready to share with OSCE Partners for Co-operation. ODIHR Director Janez Lenarčič visited Morocco in May, reaching out to civil society and holding high-level discussions about possible OSCE assistance. In response to requests by civil society representatives in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, ODIHR organized training for Egyptian NGOs in July on methodologies for monitoring human rights and elections, and training on election observation for civil society representatives from Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia in October in conjunction with the Budva Mediterranean Conference.

Together with the Lithuanian Chairmanship, ODIHR organized the OSCE-Mediterranean Partner Countries’ Conference for Civil Society ahead of the Ministerial Council (Vilnius, 4–5 December). The event, entitled “Transparency and Pluralism in Electoral Good Practices, Political Participation, Justice and Legal Reform”, informed NGO participants about relevant international and OSCE standards, institutions, programmes, tools and practices, and collected civil society recommendations on the future role of the OSCE Mediterranean Partnership for consideration at the Ministerial Council.

ENGAGEMENT WITH INTERNATIONAL, REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

As threats to security become increasingly complex and interconnected, international co-operation and co-ordination are essential. The OSCE partners with the United Nations, the European Union, NATO, the Council of Europe and many other international, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions to enhance security and co-operation in the OSCE area and adjacent regions. Because each organization offers different tools and value added, the OSCE strives to develop synergies that increase political and technical efficiency, ensure an effective division of labour and maximize the impact of available resources. Co-operation with international organizations enables the OSCE to achieve progress in confronting both existing and emerging threats. This approach is firmly grounded on the 1999 Platform for Co-operative Security and the principles reaffirmed in the Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community.

The OSCE engages in political dialogue, co-ordination and information exchange on thematic and regional issues with a wide array of international, regional and sub-regional organizations at both the expert and political levels. The thematic units, the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) and co-ordinators based in the Secretariat, the Institutions, the Parliamentary Assembly and field operations across the OSCE region co-operate with these organizations to enhance security in all three dimensions.

In 2011, the impact of OSCE co-operation with international, regional and sub-regional organizations was felt from the highest political levels to local communities, enhancing security throughout the OSCE area. By working in partnership with other organizations, the OSCE builds trust between people, communities and States, and helps bridge differences between them.

A breakthrough was achieved in 2011 with the resumption of the 5+2 negotiations on the Transdniestrian settlement after a hiatus of nearly six years. The decision to resume the official negotiations in the 5+2 format was taken in Moscow in September, and the first round of the renewed official talks, formally known as the “Permanent Conference on Political Issues in the Negotiating Process for Transdniestrian Settlement”, took place in Vilnius in December.

Together with the UN and the EU, the OSCE co-chaired four rounds of the Geneva Discussions in 2011. A joint appearance of the three co-chairs at the OSCE Permanent Council in July underscored the importance of the talks to the security of the OSCE region. The OSCE also co-facilitated, together with the EU Monitoring Mission (EUMM), eight meetings of the second Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM), an important tool for resolving issues on the ground.

In 2011, the OSCE continued its strong support for the democratic transition underway in Kyrgyzstan. The CPC Central Asian Desk and the OSCE Centre in Bishkek supported periodic visits to Kyrgyzstan

throughout 2011 by the special representatives of the OSCE, the UN and the EU to meet with Kyrgyz authorities and civil society.

Thanks to continued collaboration and co-ordination, the OSCE, the EU and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) achieved notable progress in resolving outstanding issues related to the residual problem of human displacement in South-Eastern Europe stemming from the 1991–1995 conflict. The successful regional ministerial meeting in Belgrade in November paved the way for convening a donors’ conference in 2012, which will provide funding for a regional project to address the needs of the most vulnerable refugee and displaced populations in South-Eastern Europe.

The United Nations

Because the UN Security Council has primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security, the UN is the OSCE’s principal partner organization. The OSCE Chairmanship, the Secretariat, the Institutions, the Parliamentary Assembly and field operations work with a wide range of UN entities to enhance security in all three dimensions across the OSCE region.

The Section for External Co-operation co-ordinated contacts with the UN throughout 2011 for the OSCE Chairmanship and the Secretary General, including facilitating addresses by the Chairperson-in-Office to the UN Security Council and by the Secretary General to the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee in February.



The Secretary General participated in the opening session of the 66th UN General Assembly in September, including meetings with heads of numerous UN entities and departments; a high-level meeting of the OSCE and Council of Europe (CoE) Chairs and Secretaries General; and a high-level meeting of the Chairmanships of the OSCE and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). The OSCE also organized and hosted the 2011 annual staff-level working meeting with UN counterparts (Vienna, 6–7 June).

The OSCE firmly supported the UN in its role as co-ordinator of international assistance to the transitions underway in the southern Mediterranean region. The OSCE Secretary General and the UN Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs hosted a roundtable for international and regional organizations to promote co-ordination in responding to the Arab Spring. This high-level meeting, which took place on the margins of the OSCE Ministerial Council in Vilnius, facilitated information-sharing to help ensure that assistance efforts are complementary, maximize the impact of resources and avoid duplication. A follow-on meeting was proposed for 2012.

The European Union

In 2011, as the EU began implementation of the Lisbon Treaty and established the European External Action Service (EEAS), the OSCE continued to work closely with the EU on issues of common concern, including protracted conflicts in the OSCE region. The OSCE Section for External Co-operation co-ordinated contacts with the EU, facilitating two addresses by the Secretary General to the EU Political and Security Committee in March and October, numerous bilateral meetings with representatives of the Commission and the EEAS, and an ambassadorial-level meeting in June. For the first time, the regular OSCE-EU ministerial meeting was co-chaired by the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and the EU High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. At the OSCE Ministerial Council, Helga Schmid, Deputy Secretary General of EEAS, emphasized the importance of the OSCE: “For the European Union,

the role of the OSCE remains essential for our security. Its shared values and principles, its broad membership and its comprehensive approach to European security are key assets. The European Union remains a strong supporter of the OSCE.”

NATO

The OSCE maintains a close working relationship with NATO through regular political dialogue and co-operation at the expert level. At the OSCE Annual Security Review Conference, NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen stated: “With the Helsinki Final Act and the Charter for European Security, the OSCE has become the standard-bearer of democracy and human rights. You play a significant role in preventing and managing conflicts. And you are a major forum for pan-European arms control, and for confidence-building. All that makes the OSCE indispensable for the security of this continent – and a key partner for NATO.”

Throughout 2011, the Section for External Co-operation facilitated interaction with NATO, including the NATO Secretary General’s participation in the Annual Security Review Conference; an address by the NATO Deputy Secretary General to the Forum for Security Co-operation; and two staff-level meetings in February and November to discuss shared regional concerns; the implementation of UNSCR 1325 supporting women’s participation in peace negotiations and post-conflict reconstruction; control of small arms and light weapons; as well as emerging security challenges and transnational threats.

The Council of Europe

The OSCE works closely with the Council of Europe (CoE), sharing information and co-ordinating activities on issues of common interest at both the political and expert levels, including in the field. In particular, the two organizations co-operate in four priority areas – promoting tolerance and non-discrimination, protecting the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, fighting terrorism and combating trafficking in human beings. The Section for External

Left: Participants at the 18th round of the Geneva Discussions. Geneva, 14 December 2011. (OSCE/Frane Maroevic)

Right: NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen addresses the OSCE Annual Security Review Conference. Vienna, 30 June 2011. (OSCE/Frane Maroevic)

Co-operation co-ordinated contacts with the CoE for the Chairmanship and the Secretary General, including facilitating two regular meetings of the CoE-OSCE Co-ordination Group (Strasbourg, 11 March, and Vienna, 21 October) to review progress in the four priority areas and identify new areas for co-operation. The 20th high-level 2+2 meeting of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, the Chairperson of the CoE Committee of Ministers and the Secretaries General of both organizations took place in New York in September, on the margins of which the Secretaries General held a bilateral meeting. These high-level meetings underscored the complementary nature of the work of the two organizations and the enhanced results that could be achieved through a closer working relationship. In addition, the CoE opened liaison offices in Vienna and Warsaw in 2011 to facilitate closer co-operation with the Secretariat and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR).

Other organizations

The OSCE serves as a forum for co-operation with regional and sub-regional organizations and initiatives within the OSCE area in accordance with the

1999 Charter for European Security. In 2011 the OSCE engaged with or discussed possible co-operation with the Adriatic and Ionian Initiative, the Central European Initiative, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Cooperation Council of Turkish Speaking States, the Council of the Baltic Sea States, the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the Regional Cooperation Council and the South-East European Cooperation Process. In recent years the OSCE has also broadened its dialogue and contacts with regional organizations outside the OSCE area to exchange best practices and lessons learned. Given developments in the southern Mediterranean in 2011, particular efforts were made to reach out to the OIC, the League of Arab States (LAS) and the African Union.

The Secretariat

Throughout the year, the OSCE thematic units, the Conflict Prevention Centre and other Secretariat entities co-operated with numerous international, regional and sub-regional organizations, and often with each other, to address security threats.

OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier (l) and UNODC Executive Director Yury Fedotov discussed a joint action plan to tackle transnational threats on 22 December 2011. (UNODC)



International co-operation to tackle transnational threats

As stated in the *Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community*, “in today’s complex and inter-connected world, we must achieve greater unity of purpose and action in facing emerging transnational threats” originating both within and outside the OSCE region. In 2011, enhancing practical co-operation between the OSCE and other international actors was among the Organization’s principal approaches to confronting this growing challenge. One of the year’s highlights was the signing of a Joint Action Plan between the OSCE and UNODC to combat transnational threats in six areas: illicit drugs; illicit firearms, SALW and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; terrorism; transnational organized crime, corruption and money laundering; trafficking in human beings; and irregular migration and the smuggling of migrants.

The GENDER SECTION works toward integrating the perspectives of both women and men into all security dimensions, with specific emphasis on the politico-military and economic and environmental dimensions. In 2011, the Gender Section intensified its co-operation with other international organizations, particularly NATO and UN Women, through active participation in activities focused on gender equality and gender mainstreaming, the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and economic empowerment of women.

The STRATEGIC POLICE MATTERS UNIT co-operated on projects with UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and INTERPOL to promote police reform, combat money laundering and strengthen cross-border law enforcement contacts to confront drug trafficking.

The SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND CO-ORDINATOR FOR COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS promoted multi-stakeholder partnership through the Alliance against Trafficking in Human Beings, a broad forum of international, regional and sub-regional organizations, NGOs and national authorities. The Alliance’s 11th High-Level Conference (Vienna, 20–21 June) brought together more than 300 participants to address safeguarding human rights and workers’ rights to prevent trafficking for labour exploitation. The Special Representative also maintained ongoing co-operation with UNODC, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Council of Europe, the EU and

the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), and she continued to serve on the Steering Committee of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT), which in 2011 finalized its strategic plan for 2012–2014.

The ANTI-TERRORISM UNIT co-operated with more than 20 UN entities, international, regional and sub-regional organizations and specialized agencies to support and promote counter-terrorism related activities, share experiences and best practices and facilitate contacts among national authorities and international experts.

The CONFLICT PREVENTION CENTRE engaged with numerous international, regional and sub-regional organizations to strengthen security throughout the OSCE region. Through its Borders Team, the CPC Operations Service collaborated with numerous UN entities and other international and regional organizations to enhance border security and management. The CPC Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) Support Section continued to collaborate closely with both the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) to counter the illicit spread of small arms and light weapons (SALW). In 2011, the joint OSCE-UNDP project to refurbish the Taras SALW and conventional ammunition storage site in Montenegro and destroy unstable ammunition was successfully concluded; a joint capacity-building project in Belarus continued; and new joint OSCE-UNDP initiatives on SALW and conventional ammunition were launched in Georgia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. The OSCE also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with UNODA on joint activities to promote the regional implementation of UNSCR 1540 to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

During 2011, the CPC Operations Service Planning and Analysis Team continued to co-operate closely with the UN Mediation Support Unit and the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union on mediation support. It also published *Perspectives of the UN & Regional Organizations on Preventive and Quiet Diplomacy, Dialogue Facilitation and Mediation: Common Challenges & Good Practices*, a report based on a December 2010 workshop for regional organizations co-sponsored by the OSCE and the UN and hosted by the OSCE in Vienna. In November, the Planning and Analysis Team initiated a lessons learned/best practices project on OSCE co-operation and co-ordination with other actors in the field, including international and regional organizations. It also continued its involvement with the International Stabilization and Peacebuilding Initiative, which includes governments, non-governmental organizations, think tanks and academic institutions as well as international organizations such as the African Union, the CoE, the UN and the World Bank.



Sandeep Chawla,
Director of the
Division for Policy
Analysis and Public
Affairs at UNODC,
at an expert seminar
on fighting human
trafficking, Vienna,
3 October 2011.
(OSCE/ Jonathan
Perfect)

Combating trafficking in human beings

The Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, OCEEA and SPMU, together with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, co-organized an expert seminar of the Alliance against Trafficking in Human Beings on “Leveraging Anti-Money Laundering Regimes to Combat Human Trafficking” (Vienna, 3–4 October). This event featured operational-level roundtable discussions on how financial investigation techniques can be effectively applied in criminal investigations of human trafficking to ensure confiscation of the proceeds of crime and to help deter future crimes. Participants included representatives of the Financial Action Task Force, the Egmont Group, the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism, government representatives, Alliance partners, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

The OFFICE OF THE CO-ORDINATOR OF ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES worked with numerous international organizations to combat threats to security in the second dimension. To promote good governance and fight corruption, money laundering and the financing of terrorism, the OCEEA co-operated on various initiatives with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), UNODC, the World Bank, the CoE and other organizations. It also worked with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and ILO on migration management issues, and with the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) on transport security and water management issues. In 2011, the Co-ordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities served as chair of the Environmental and Security Initiative (ENVSEC), a partnership of six international organizations devoted to reducing transnational environmental security risks. The OCEEA also worked with

Afghanistan's
Minister for Counter
Narcotics, Zarar
Ahmad Moqbel
Osman, at a
conference on drug
trafficking and
border security.
Vienna, 16 June 2011.
(OSCE/Frane
Maroevic)



Cross-border law enforcement co-operation

In close co-operation with the Lithuanian Chairmanship, UNODC and the CPC Operations Service Borders Team, the Special Police Matters Unit organized a conference on “Combating Drug Trafficking and Enhancing Border Security and Management in the OSCE Area” (Vienna, 16–17 June). Some 120 representatives of OSCE participating States, Partners for Co-operation and eight international organizations took part in the conference, which promoted cross-border law enforcement contacts and international and regional counter-narcotics co-operation.

the European Environmental Agency on combating climate change, and on energy security with UNECE, NATO and the Vienna Energy Club of Vienna-based international organizations.

The Institutions

In 2011, the OSCE Institutions co-operated closely with international and regional organizations to enhance the effectiveness of their work.

The HIGH COMMISSIONER ON NATIONAL MINORITIES continued to build upon his links with the EC, in particular with the EU Commissioner for Enlargement and the Directorate-General for Enlargement in 2011, as well as with the CoE, especially its Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the Venice Commission, and with the UN Secretariat and specialized UN bodies such as OHCHR, UNHCR and UNDP.

In 2011, the REPRESENTATIVE ON FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA worked with special rapporteurs from the UN, the Organization of American States and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to produce a *Declaration on Freedom of Expression and the Internet* that establishes basic requirements for

maintaining the Internet as a medium of free expression. The Representative also participated in international events on freedom of expression organized by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and on protection of journalists in the OSCE region organized by the CoE Commissioner for Human Rights. The Representative also co-funded, with the Open Society Institute, research on the future of media regulation in Europe, which resulted in the publication of a guide to public service media regulation in Europe.

The OFFICE FOR DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS continued its strong partnership with the CoE European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) in 2011. The Commission reviewed legislation for OSCE participating States upon request, including in the areas of freedom of assembly, political parties, freedom of religion and belief, and the judiciary. ODIHR also strengthened its co-operation with UN entities, particularly with UNDP and UN Women in promoting women's political participation and strengthening national mechanisms for the advancement of women, and established a key partnership on migration issues with IOM in Ukraine, the CoE and OSCE/OCEEA. In 2011, ODIHR also completed the € 4 million, 18-month War Crimes Justice Project funded by the EU and implemented in partnership with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), the UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and OSCE field operations.

ODIHR also co-operated with the Venice Commission on election-related legal reviews and continued to work in strong partnership with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, as well as other parliamentary assemblies (the CoE, the European Parliament and NATO) on election observation. ODIHR participated actively in the Sixth Annual Follow-up Meeting on the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation with the UN, the EC, the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, the Carter Center, the National Democratic Institute and the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa.

ODIHR also strengthened its co-operation and co-ordination with other key inter-governmental partners to combat racism, xenophobia and intolerance, including with the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, the EU Fundamental Rights Agency, OHCHR, as well as with other OSCE institutions. The Office also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of the UNHCR for co-operation on activities in this area.

Highlights of co-operation in the field

The OSCE field operations work on the ground with numerous international, regional and sub-regional



organizations and institutions, NGOs and other groups to strengthen security in all three dimensions. An overview of their co-operative activities follows.

South-Eastern Europe

The PRESENCE IN ALBANIA worked with the EU on property and police; with the EU and CoE on the media; with the CoE on decentralization; and with the UN, World Bank and EU on donor co-ordination.

The MISSION TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA co-operated with NATO on combating cyber crime; with UNDP on arms control and fulfilling politico-military commitments; with the EU on justice sector monitoring and strengthening civil society; with the CoE on education reform, local government reform, prison reform and implementing judicial decisions; and with UNHCR on durable solutions for displaced persons, refugees and returnees.

Working within the overall framework of the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), the MISSION IN KOSOVO closely co-ordinated its activities with international partners such as UNHCR, UNDP, the EU Rule of Law Mission (EULEX), the European Commission Liaison Office, KFOR, and the CoE to further enhance the capacities of institutions, strengthen civil society and promote human rights, particularly community rights.

The MISSION TO MONTENEGRO worked with the South East Europe Co-operation Process to strengthen regional co-operation and co-ordination in justice and policing; with the European Broadcasting Union to develop a strategic document to accelerate reform of state media into a public broadcasting service; and with UNDP on the Montenegro Demilitarization Programme (MONDEM),

which in 2011 facilitated the destruction of 150 tonnes of unstable munitions.

The MISSION TO SERBIA co-operated with UN agencies including UNDP, UNHCR, UNOHCHR, as well as with the EU, the CoE, the ICTY, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the World Bank and NGOs to strengthen the rule of law and human rights, democratization, law enforcement and independent media.

The MISSION TO SKOPJE co-operated with the EU, UNESCO, UNICEF and others on an HCNM-initiated government strategy on integrated education; with EULEX and KFOR on the co-ordination of joint border patrols and improved border security; with the EU and others on improving the efficiency of the Ministry of Internal Affairs; with UNDP, the OECD and UNESCO on fighting corruption; and with the EU and ICRC on judicial reform.

The OFFICE IN ZAGREB co-operated with the EU delegation, the ICTY Liaison Office and three NGOs on monitoring war crimes proceedings, and contributed to the War Crimes Justice Project carried out by ODIHR in partnership with the ICTY and UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI). The Office also co-operated with the EU, UNHCR and others on its Housing Care Implementation Unit.

Eastern Europe

The MISSION IN MOLDOVA closely co-operated with UN agencies, IOM and the CoE to combat human trafficking, domestic violence and discrimination; and with the European Broadcasting Union on the reform and transformation of state television and radio into a public service broadcaster. The Mission also helped organize and participated in four informal 5+2 meetings and in the

Participants in the renewed official 5+2 talks on the Transnistrian settlement. Vilnius, 30 November 2011. (OSCE/Lyndon Allin)

renewed formal 5+2 negotiations, as well as joint events in the academic, cultural and environmental spheres in support of confidence- and security-building measures related to the 5+2 negotiations.

The PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UKRAINE worked with NATO to provide assistance to former military personnel; participated in the ENVSEC initiative to combat environmental crimes and improve co-operation on water and health issues; and co-operated with IOM, UNICEF, ILO, UNAIDS and the non-governmental organization La Strada to prevent human trafficking.

South Caucasus

The OFFICE IN BAKU worked with the ILO, IOM and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) on combating trafficking of human beings; with UNECE on water management; with UNDP on Civic Action for Security and Environment; with the CoE on cyber security issues; with ICRC on monitoring detention facilities; and with the EU, the CoE and the World Bank on judicial reform.

The OFFICE IN YEREVAN closely co-operated with the CoE, including the Venice Commission, EU Delegation and Advisory Group and the UN in the areas of elections, combating corruption, police assistance, human rights, economic and environmental issues, judicial reform, media, gender, anti-trafficking and migration.

Central Asia

The CENTRE IN ASHGABAT co-operated with UNECE to promote the Aarhus Convention and liaised with UN agencies, the EU and other organizations on border security and management, media development, environmental protection and combating trafficking in illicit drugs and human beings.

The CENTRE IN ASTANA co-operated with the IOM and UNODC to promote law enforcement and judicial co-operation in responding to human trafficking and migrant smuggling; with UNOHCHR on penal reform; with UNODC on countering transnational threats; with the EU and UNDP on border security and management; with UNECE (together with OCEEA) on transport and trade facilitation; with the International Maritime Organization on energy security and oil spill management in the Caspian Sea; with Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Council on good governance and transparency; and with NGO partners and the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media on media development and media freedom.

The CENTRE IN BISHKEK closely co-ordinated its work on reconciliation, conflict prevention, peace-building and mediation with the UN, the EU and other international

organizations. It worked with the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy and UNOHCHR on advancing the rights of minorities; with UNODC on fighting terrorism; with UNODA and the UN 1540 Committee to help Kyrgyzstan to develop a National Action Plan for implementing UNSCR 1540; with the EU and UNDP on sustainable development; with the OECD on combating corruption; with UNOHCHR on torture prevention; with ODIHR, UNOHCHR, the CoE Venice Commission, the EU-UNDP New Legal Framework Project and other partners on the selection of judges; with OHCHR and UNHCR and ICRC on human rights protection; and with the IOM and UNODC on combating human trafficking.

The OFFICE IN TAJIKISTAN worked with the EC, UNDP, UNODC, IOM and UNHCR on border security and management issues; with the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, EU, UNDP, NATO, the European Network of Environmental Professionals (ENEP), UNECE, the Regional Environmental Centre, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) on counter-terrorism and police reform; with UNHCR and IOM on migration, asylum seeker and refugee issues, gender and human rights; and with UNDP/UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS), the International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining on mine clearance. The Office also participated in ENVSEC and worked with IAEA on radioactive waste; with UNDP, IFC and the EBRD on energy security; and with the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea, Oxfam and UNDP on water management. It co-operated with the World Bank, IFC and UNDP on fighting corruption; with ICRC on access to prisons; with the CoE Venice Commission, UN Women, UNOHCHR and the EU on political participation and gender equality; with the IOM, ILO and UNODC to combat human trafficking; and with UNOHCHR, UNDP, the EU and UNICEF to promote human rights.

The PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UZBEKISTAN organized various events in co-ordination with international organizations, NGOs and other partners in all three dimensions. All project activities were developed and implemented through very close co-operation with representatives of relevant national agencies and public organizations.

For more detailed information about the activities of the field operations, please see the individual chapters dedicated to their work.

10

ANNEXES

THE OSCE AT A GLANCE

With 56 participating States in North America, Europe and Asia, the OSCE is the world's largest regional security organization, working to ensure peace, democracy and stability for more than a billion people.

The OSCE offers a forum for high-level political dialogue on a wide range of security issues and a platform for practical work to improve the lives of individuals and communities. As an inclusive regional instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, we help bridge differences and build trust through co-operation.

The OSCE views security as comprehensive and works to address the three dimensions of security – the politico-military, the economic and environmental, and the human – as an integrated whole.

Work in the POLITICO-MILITARY DIMENSION includes:

- facilitating and co-mediating conflict settlement negotiations;
- fostering arms control and confidence- and security-building measures;
- building border-security and -management practices;
- helping reform military and police forces; and
- destroying small arms and conventional ammunition and ensuring safe stockpile management.

Work in the ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION includes:

- enhancing economic co-operation and good governance;
- addressing environmental security risks and promoting transboundary co-operation; and
- promoting co-operation on energy security.

Work in the HUMAN DIMENSION includes:

- promoting respect for human rights;
- strengthening democratic institutions;
- fostering tolerance and non-discrimination;
- observing elections; and
- promoting minority rights.

History

The OSCE traces its origins to the early 1970s, when the two-year Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) brought together representatives from Eastern and Western countries in Helsinki and Geneva, resulting in agreement on the Helsinki Final Act, signed on 1 August 1975.

Following the end of the Cold War, the CSCE took on a new role in managing the historic change taking place in Europe and responding to new security challenges. In the early 1990s, the Conference's work became more structured and it acquired permanent institutions, including a Secretariat, an Office for Free Elections and a Conflict Prevention Centre.

Recognizing that the CSCE was no longer simply a Conference, participating States agreed at the 1994 Budapest Summit to change its name to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

Thanks to its inclusive membership and developing partnerships, its comprehensive approach and its flexibility, the OSCE has continued to provide its participating States with effective, efficient tools and means to address current security issues. The need to deal with challenges inherited from the past – resolving protracted conflicts, promoting military transparency, supporting transition processes and democratic reforms – as well as the transnational threats of the 21st century has made it clear that the co-operation fostered by the OSCE is needed now more than ever.

How the OSCE works

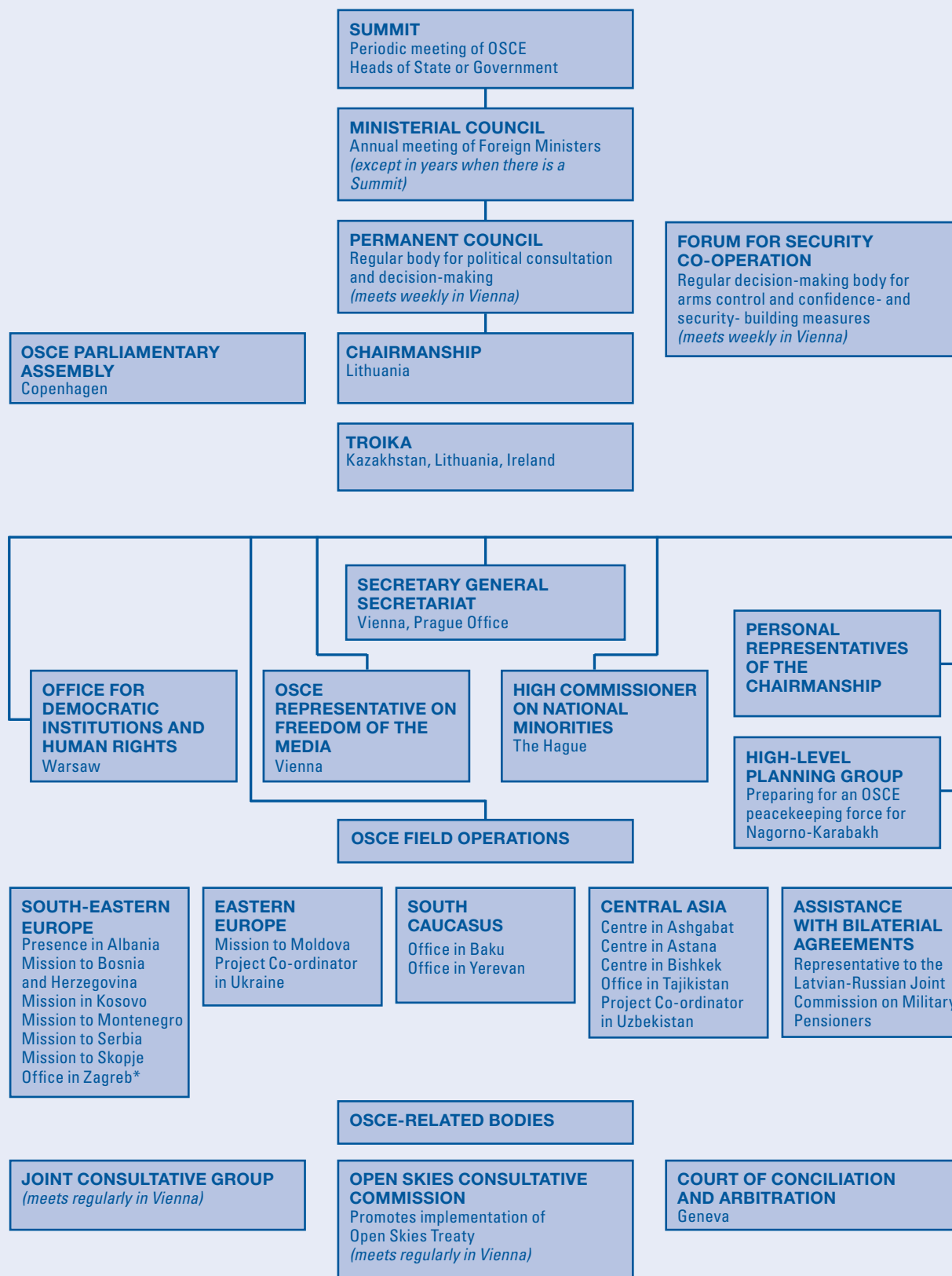
The OSCE is chaired by one of its participating States, a role that rotates annually. In 2011, Lithuania held the Chairmanship. To aid in long-term planning and foster continuity, Lithuania promoted active dialogue between fellow Troika members Kazakhstan (2010) and Ireland (2012) and the future Chairmanship of Ukraine (2013).

Continuous dialogue and negotiations take place in Vienna, where the ambassadors of the participating States and Partners for Co-operation meet weekly in the Permanent Council, the OSCE's political decision-making body, and the Forum for Security Co-operation, where the participating States take decisions regarding military aspects of security. OSCE participating States enjoy equal status within the Organization, and decisions are taken by consensus.

Other bodies or forums also play a decision-making role within the Organization: periodic Summits or Heads of State or Government; the annual Ministerial Council; the Economic and Environmental Forum; the Annual Security Review Conference; and the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting. The last OSCE Summit was held in 2010 in Astana, Kazakhstan.

For further information: www.osce.org

OSCE ORGANIGRAM



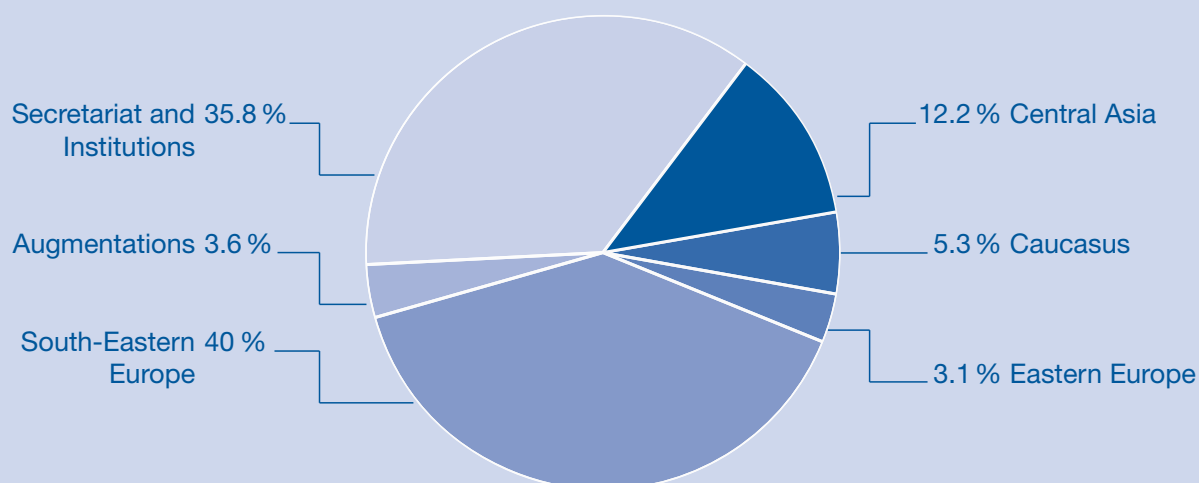
**The OSCE has maintained a presence in Croatia since 1996. On 15 December, the Permanent Council adopted the decision to close the Office in Zagreb following the successful fulfilment of its mandate.*

OSCE UNIFIED BUDGET 2011 BY FUND

(as of 16 February 2012)

FUND	EUROS	%
The Secretariat	32,401,500	22.02 %
Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights	15,515,900	10.54 %
High Commissioner on National Minorities	3,310,300	2.25 %
Representative on Freedom of the Media	1,414,300	0.96 %
Augmentations	5,254,800	3.57 %
Mission in Kosovo	22,606,300	15.36 %
Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	14,864,300	10.10 %
Office in Zagreb	1,418,500	0.96 %
Mission to Serbia	7,484,400	5.09 %
Presence in Albania	3,161,800	2.15 %
Mission to Skopje	7,018,200	4.77 %
Mission to Montenegro	2,338,100	1.59 %
Mission to Moldova	2,020,600	1.37 %
Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine	2,372,300	1.61 %
Office in Minsk	196,400	0.13 %
Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners	7,400	0.01 %
Office in Yerevan	2,699,900	1.83 %
Office in Baku	2,825,900	1.92 %
High-level Planning Group	161,200	0.11 %
The Minsk Process	953,300	0.65 %
Personal Representative of the CiO – Minsk Conference	1,155,300	0.79 %
Centre in Astana	2,163,900	1.47 %
Centre in Ashgabat	1,279,900	0.87 %
Centre in Bishkek	6,767,500	4.60 %
Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan	1,912,100	1.30 %
Office in Tajikistan	5,861,000	3.98 %
Total	147,165,100	100 %

2011 budget by institutions and regions (PC.DEC/1030)



OSCE EXTRA-BUDGETARY SUPPORT

The OSCE works on the basis of a modest unified budget financed through contributions from the participating States. Most of this money goes to field operations, in keeping with the priorities of the OSCE.

The OSCE is committed to being streamlined and effective, and we operate on a zero-growth budget. This means we rely on the generous voluntary contributions of participating States and Partners to finance many of our key initiatives and projects, and to help us to promote the values underpinning the OSCE's vision of comprehensive and co-operative security.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who funded projects that were ongoing in 2011. We look forward to working with you in the years to come.

- The Principality of Andorra
- The Republic of Austria
- The Republic of Azerbaijan
- The Kingdom of Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Canada
- The Republic of Cyprus
- The Czech Republic
- The Kingdom of Denmark
- The Republic of Estonia
- The Republic of Finland
- The French Republic
- Georgia
- The Federal Republic of Germany
- The Hellenic Republic
- The Holy See
- The Republic of Hungary
- The Republic of Iceland
- Ireland
- The Italian Republic
- The Republic of Kazakhstan
- The Principality of Liechtenstein
- The Republic of Lithuania
- The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
- The Principality of Monaco
- The Kingdom of the Netherlands
- The Kingdom of Norway
- The Republic of Poland
- The Portuguese Republic
- Romania
- The Russian Federation
- The Republic of San Marino
- The Slovak Republic
- The Republic of Slovenia
- The Kingdom of Spain
- Sweden
- The Swiss Confederation
- The Republic of Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- The United States of America

- Australia
- The Arab Republic of Egypt
- The State of Israel
- Japan
- The Republic of Korea
- The Kingdom of Morocco
- The Kingdom of Thailand

- Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)
- Austrian Development Agency (ADA)
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- Carter Center
- Charity Commission for England and Wales
- Council of Europe
- Council of the European Union
- Development Associates Inc.
- European Agency for Reconstruction
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- European Commission
- European Union
- Ford Foundation
- Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)
- German Technical Corporation (GTZ)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Irish Aid
- Kosovo Consolidated Budget (KCB)
- Living History Forum
- Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment
- NETRUST PTE Ltd.
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)
- Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- Open Society Fund – Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Open Society Institute
- Press Now
- Statoil
- Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)
- United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility and Future”

OSCE FIXED-TERM STAFF

(as of 31 December 2011, including staff financed from extra-budgetary contributions)

NATIONALITY	Kosovo	BiH	Skopje	Serbia	Montenegro	Zagreb	Albania	Baku	Yerevan	Minsk Conf.	Moldova	Ukraine	Astana	Ashgabat	Bishkek	Tajikistan	Uzbekistan	Total for Field Operations	Secretariat	RFOM	HCNM	ODIHR	Total for Secretariat & Institutions	Grand Total	
Albania	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Andorra	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Armenia	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	-	-	1	1	6	
Austria	14	2	3	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	25	10	1	-	4	15	40	
Azerbaijan	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	2	
Belarus	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	2	1	-	2	5	9	
Belgium	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	4	-	-	-	4	7	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	11	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	15	3	1	-	2	6	21	
Bulgaria	1	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	3	1	1	14	2	-	-	1	3	17	
Canada	8	1	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	8	-	-	3	11	25	
Croatia	8	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	2	-	-	1	3	14	
Cyprus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Czech Republic	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	3	8	
Denmark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	4	1	-	-	1	2	6	
Estonia	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	1	5	
Finland	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	1	4	
France	2	2	4	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	16	9	2	1	3	15	31	
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	1	-	-	-	1	9	
Georgia	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	7	2	-	1	3	6	13	
Germany	6	4	3	1	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	4	-	26	14	1	1	6	22	48	
Greece	6	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	1	-	-	-	1	12	
Hungary	4	2	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	15	2	1	-	2	5	20	
Holy See	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Iceland	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Ireland	5	4	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	14	3	-	-	1	4	18	
Italy	18	6	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	33	13	-	-	4	17	50	
Kazakhstan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	4	-	1	2	7	8
Kyrgyzstan	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	2	3	
Latvia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	2	4	
Liechtenstein	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Lithuania	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	5	4	-	-	1	5	10	
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	
Malta	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Moldova	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	5	-	-	-	2	2	7	
Monaco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Montenegro	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Netherlands	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	4	1	7	11	
Norway	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	7	2	-	3	1	6	13	
Poland	4	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	9	2	-	-	11	13	22	
Portugal	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	2	6	
Romania	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	3	5	
Russian Federation	-	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	2	-	14	10	1	1	1	13	27	
San Marino	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Serbia	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	5	4	-	-	-	4	9	
Slovakia	1	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	6	2	-	-	1	3	9	
Slovenia	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	2	3	6	
Spain	5	2	6	1	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	20	10	-	2	3	15	35	
Sweden	3	1	-	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	3	2	-	16	5	-	-	1	6	22	
Switzerland	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	3	5	
Tajikistan	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	2	
Turkey	9	1	4	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	21	6	-	-	-	6	27	
Turkmenistan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	2	
Ukraine	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	5	6	-	1	-	7	12	
United Kingdom	10	5	3	5	1	-	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	33	16	-	1	6	23	56	
United States	19	11	3	4	2	-	4	2	2	-	2	1	1	1	8	4	-	64	19	1	2	7	29	93	
Uzbekistan	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	2	4	
Internationally Recruited Staff	158	68	50	35	12	3	22	13	6	5	12	4	4	6	51	24	2	475	186	11	20	76	293	768	
Locally Recruited Staff	485	428	120	141	33	15	78	28	42	11	40	52	23	19	113	156	18	1802	192	3	13	67	275	2077	
Total Number of Staff	643	496	170	176	45	18	100	41	48	16	52	56	27	25	164	180	20	2277	378	14	33	143	568	2845	

CONTACT INFORMATION

Press and Public Information Section

OSCE Secretariat
Wallnerstrasse 6
1010 Vienna, Austria
Tel.: +43 1 514 36 60 00
Fax: +43 1 514 36 69 96
info@osce.org
www.osce.org

OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

International Secretariat
Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 Copenhagen K Denmark
Tel.: +45 33 37 80 40
Fax: +45 33 37 80 30
international.secretariat@oscepa.dk

INSTITUTIONS

OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

Ulica Miodowa 10
00-251 Warsaw, Poland
Tel.: +48 22 520 06 00
Fax: +48 22 520 06 05
office@odhr.pl

OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Prinsessegracht 22
2514 AP The Hague, The Netherlands
Tel.: +31 70 312 55 00
Fax: +31 70 363 59 10
hcnm@hcnm.org

OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Wallnerstrasse 6
1010 Vienna, Austria
Tel.: +43 1 514 36 68 00
Fax: +43 1 514 36 68 02
pm-fom@osce.org

FIELD OPERATIONS

SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

OSCE Presence in Albania

Sheshi "Italia"
Sheraton Hotel, 1st floor
Tirana, Albania
Tel.: +355 4 223 59 93
Fax: +355 4 223 59 94
pm-al@osce.org

OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Fra Andjela Zvizdovica 1
71000 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Tel.: +387 33 75 21 00
Fax: +387 33 44 24 79
info.ba@osce.org

OSCE Mission in Kosovo

OSCE Headquarters
10000 Pristina Kosovo-UNMIK
Tel.: +381 38 24 01 00
Fax: +381 38 24 07 11
press.omik@osce.org

OSCE Mission to Montenegro

Bulevar Sv. Petra Cetinjskog 1a
81000 Podgorica, Montenegro
Tel.: +382 20 40 64 01
Fax: +382 20 40 64 31
omim@osce.org

OSCE Mission to Serbia

Cakorska 1
11000 Belgrade, Serbia
Tel.: +381 11 360 61 00
Fax: +381 11 360 61 19
ppiu-serbia@osce.org

OSCE Mission to Skopje

Oktomvrska Revolucija bb
MK-1000 Skopje, The former
Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Tel.: +389 2 323 40 00
Fax: +389 2 323 42 34
info-MK@osce.org

OSCE Office in Zagreb*

EASTERN EUROPE

OSCE Mission to Moldova

108 Mitropolit Dosoftei Str.
MD-2012 Chişinău, Moldova
Tel.: +373 22 22 34 95
Fax: +373 22 22 34 96
moldova@osce.org

OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

16 Striletska St.
01034 Kyiv, Ukraine
Tel.: +380 444 92 03 82
Fax: +380 444 92 03 83
liliia.dakhno@osce.org

OSCE Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners

Wieleweg 7
22417 Hamburg, Germany
Tel.: +43 664 464 15 62
Fax: +43 1 514 36 61 24
helmut.napiontek@osce.org

SOUTH CAUCASUS

OSCE Office in Baku

The Landmark III, 96 Nizami St.
Baku, Azerbaijan
Tel.: +994 124 97 23 73
Fax: +994 124 97 23 77
office-az@osce.org

The Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference

4 Freedom Square GMT Plaza, 1st floor
0105 Tbilisi, Georgia
Tel.: +995 322 99 87 32
Fax: +995 322 98 85 66
prcio@osce.org

OSCE Office in Yerevan

64/1 Sundukyan Str.
Yerevan 0012
Armenia
Tel.: +374 10 22 96 10-14
Fax: +374 10 22 96 15
yerevan-am@osce.org

CENTRAL ASIA

OSCE Centre in Ashgabat

Turkmenbashi Shayoly 15
744005 Ashgabat
Turkmenistan
Tel.: +993 12 94 60 92
Fax: +993 12 94 60 41
info_tm@osce.org

OSCE Centre in Astana

10 Beibitshilik St.
Astana 010000
Kazakhstan
Tel.: +771 72 58 00 70
Fax: +771 72 32 83 04
astana-kz@osce.org

OSCE Centre in Bishkek

139 Toktogul St.
720001 Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
Tel.: +996 312 66 50 15
Fax: +996 312 66 31 69
pm-kg@osce.org

OSCE Office in Tajikistan

18a Ahmadi Donish Avenue
734012 Dushanbe
Tajikistan
Tel.: +992 372 26 50 14/15/16/17/18
Fax: +992 372 26 50 19
Oit@osce.org

OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

Afrosiyob Street 12b, 4th floor
100015 Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan
Tel.: +998 711 40 04 70
Fax: +998 711 40 04 66/67
osce-cit@osce.org

**The OSCE has maintained a presence in Croatia since 1996. On 15 December, the Permanent Council adopted the decision to close the Office in Zagreb following the successful fulfilment of its mandate. For information, visit www.osce.org or contact info@osce.org.*

*The OSCE flag outside
the Hofburg in Vienna.
(OSCE /Martina
Gadoiti Rodrigues)*



Press and Public Information Section
OSCE Secretariat
Wallnerstrasse 6
1010 Vienna, Austria
Tel.: +43 1 514 36 60 00
Fax: +43 1 514 36 69 96
info@osce.org
www.osce.org

