



DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS ASSISTANCE

**Assistance to Combat Intolerance and Prejudice and
Promote Tolerance, Respect and Mutual Understanding,
and Remembrance of the Holocaust (1300576)**

**FUNDED THROUGH
EXTRABUDGETARY CONTRIBUTIONS**

Warsaw, September 2012

Assistance to Combat Intolerance and Prejudice and Promote Tolerance, Respect and Mutual Understanding, and Remembrance of the Holocaust (1300576)

Current budget: EUR 259,200¹

1. Background

OSCE participating States have adopted commitments² in recent years through which they acknowledge and promote the role of education in responding to and combating intolerance and discrimination. In particular, MC Decision 10/2005 encourages participating States to consider drawing on ODIHR expertise and assistance in order to develop methods and curricula for tolerance education, including: fighting racial prejudice and hatred, xenophobia and discrimination; education on and remembrance of the Holocaust; education on anti-Semitism; fighting prejudice, intolerance and discrimination against Christians, Muslims and members of other religions. This programme is part of ODIHR's overall strategy to assist participating States in their efforts to prevent and respond to violent manifestations of intolerance and to promote mutual respect and understanding.

2. Approach

The programme's objectives are to provide tools which combat intolerance and discrimination on the grounds of race, nationality, and other characteristics, including against Jews, Muslims, Christians and persons identified with other religions or beliefs; it also aims to disseminate tools that fight prejudice and promote education on and remembrance of the Holocaust.

2.1 *Planned activities for 2012-2013 (funds permitting)*

Materials to combat intolerance and prejudice in the educational setting

ODIHR will use generic materials it has developed to combat intolerance and prejudice in the educational setting³ in teacher training seminars and student workshops to promote tolerance, respect and mutual understanding. The materials are flexible enough to be implemented and further tailored at the request of an interested participating State.

Educational materials, training and related programmes to combat anti-Semitism and to promote remembrance of the Holocaust

Based on its rich experience in developing teaching materials to combat anti-Semitism (already available in 14 OSCE participating States), ODIHR will transfer OSCE expert knowledge about them to relevant educational institutions and will continue to facilitate the exchange of expertise among experts from different countries. Existing teaching materials will be reviewed and

¹ For the period 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2013.

² 2002 Porto MC Decision 6/2002; PC Decision 607 (endorsed by the 2004 Sofia MC Decision 12/2003); PC Decision 621 (endorsed by the 2004 Sofia MC Decision 12/2004); 2005 Cordoba Declaration; 2005 Ljubljana MC Decision 10/2005; 2006 Brussels MC Decision 13/2006; 2007 Bucharest Declaration; 2007 Madrid MC Decision 10/2007; 2007 Cordoba Declaration on Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims; 2009 Athens MC Decision 9/2009; 2010 Astana Declaration.

³ These were prepared using experience gained through preparing country-adaptations of ODIHR's teaching materials to combat anti-Semitism, the *Guidelines for Educators on Countering Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims* and materials to combat intolerance and discrimination against Roma in schools (now under development).

adapted, as required, in other OSCE participating States. ODIHR will develop activities to train civil society and government officials to recognize and respond to anti-Semitism, including by using the available teaching materials as tools to raise awareness about anti-Semitism.

Educational materials, training and related programmes to combat intolerance against Muslims

In partnership with UNESCO and the Council of Europe's Directorate IV, ODIHR will continue to promote and disseminate its *Guidelines for Educators on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims* at events for educators and support the transfer of good practices in this field. For this purpose, ODIHR will increase its co-operation with ministries of education and pedagogical institutions across the region. Upon request, it will develop new educational tools and materials to complement the *Guidelines*. ODIHR will also train civil society and government officials to recognize and respond to intolerance against Muslims. Building on these activities, ODIHR will promote and disseminate good practices to respond to this form of intolerance.

2.2 *Indicators of achievement (examples)*

- New requests for customized versions of educational tools;
- Number of distributed copies of educational tools and guidelines including number of downloads on-line;
- Increased number of educators and trainers using them;
- Participants in training, seminars and workshops demonstrate better understanding of the content and purpose of ODIHR's educational and awareness-raising tools after training.

2.3 *Strategy/methodology*

In addressing the representation and behaviour of younger generations, the programme contributes to the sustainability of ODIHR's activities in this area. It will be co-ordinated by ODIHR's Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department in close co-operation with external experts as well as participating States, other intergovernmental organizations and civil society representatives from across the OSCE area.

2.4 *Assumptions and risks*

Participating States must have the political will to work with ODIHR to implement OSCE commitments on tolerance and non-discrimination and provide direct funding to relevant educational institutions for implementation of these commitments. It is assumed that participating States are ready to take into account recommendations developed by ODIHR during implementation of its activities when they develop their strategies, policies and legislation. Long-term effectiveness of the programme will depend on whether training and seminar participants subsequently remain active in the field of education and whether education on these topics is institutionalized.

2.5 *Quality factors*

ODIHR teaching materials on anti-Semitism and its *Guidelines for Educators on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims* are unique and have been in great demand in recent years. The materials on anti-Semitism continue to raise interest in new participating States, which leads to further country adaptations often funded directly by the government concerned,

while the more recent *Guidelines* have generated a lot of interest. ODIHR now has an established network of experts in the field of education which it can use to the benefit of all future work. In project implementation, ODIHR will pay particular attention to securing a gender-balanced approach.