Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
Vienna, 17 December 2004

To: All OSCE Delegations
Partners for Co-operation
Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation

Subject: First Preparatory Seminar for the Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum:
“Demographic Prospects in the OSCE area: Economic and Security Implications”

Attached herewith is the revised version of the Consolidated Summary of the First Preparatory Seminar for the Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum: “Demographic Prospects in the OSCE area: Economic and Security Implications”, which took place in Trieste, Italy, on 8 - 9 November 2004.
CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY

FIRST PREPARATORY SEMINAR FOR THE THIRTEENTH OSCE ECONOMIC FORUM:
DEMOGRAPHIC PROSPECTS IN THE OSCE AREA: ECONOMIC AND SECURITY
IMPLICATIONS

TRIESTE, ITALY 8 - 9 NOVEMBER 2004
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The First Preparatory Seminar for the 13th OSCE Economic Forum was held on 8 - 9 November 2004 in Trieste, Italy. The topic of the seminar was “Demographic Prospects in the OSCE area: Economic and Security Implications”.

This seminar was the first in a series of three preparatory seminars for the Thirteenth Economic Forum “Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE area", that will take place in Prague, within the period from 23 to 27 May 2004.

The event was organised by the incoming Slovenian Chairmanship of the OSCE and the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) in close co-operation with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Region Friuli Venezia Giulia, the Municipality of Trieste and the University of Trieste.

The seminar was opened by H.E. Roberto Antonione, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Italy, host country, H.E. Andrej Logar, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, incoming OSCE Chairmanship, Mr. Rakovski Lashev, OSCE Chairmanship Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bulgaria, OSCE Chairmanship and Mr. Marcin Święcicki, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities.

As co-organizers of the seminar, the regional and local authorities represented by Prof. Domenico Coccopalmerio, Dean of the Faculty of Political Sciences – University of Trieste, Mr. Ricardo Illy, President of the Region Friuli Venezia Giulia, Prof. Maria Paola Pagnini, City Counsellor for European relations of the Municipality of Trieste, welcomed the participants to the seminar.

Over 120 participants, official representatives from 36 OSCE participating States and Mediterranean partners for co-operation, UNECE, UNDP, IOM, representatives from Non-Governmental Organizations and the Academic Community, as well as 9 OSCE Field Offices attended the seminar and engaged in discussions.

16 speakers, experts from OSCE participating States, International Organisations, NGOs and academic community, presented their inside knowledge and their views thereby stimulating the discussion. Throughout the deliberations all the participants freely expressed their views and contributed to formulating concrete suggestions for further consideration by the OSCE Economic and Environmental Sub-Committee and the OSCE Economic Forum in Prague.

Numerous documents and presentations have been circulated. A Background Note "Demographic Changes in the OSCE region: Challenges and Responses (selected aspects)" was circulated by the Office of the Coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities to introduce the topic of the seminar (SECGAL0241). A list of these documents is included as an annex in the Consolidated Summary. The documents will be published on a CD-Rom available upon request from the OCEEA. Further information on the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities and the Economic Forum process can be found on the OSCE Website: www.osce.org/eea.
**Structure of the Seminar**

The seminar consisted of both opening and closing plenary sessions and six plenary working sessions. The working sessions were dedicated to the following topics:

- **Working Session 1** - Demographic prospects, economy and security: key issues
- **Working Session 2** - Impact of ageing and policy responses
- **Working Session 3** - Fertility, family dynamics and policy responses
- **Working Session 4** - Regional demographic developments affecting security and stability
- **Working Session 5** - Health hazards and communicable diseases (AIDS, tuberculosis) and their impact on demographic trends: economic implications
- **Working Session 6** - Demographic developments and Environmental issues

**Suggestions**

This seminar has accomplished its main goal of putting forward useful suggestions for the OSCE and its participating States with regard to various aspects related to economic and security challenges posed by demographic developments.

The overview of the discussions and the suggestions stemming from each session are presented in the **Rapporteurs’ Reports** which are included in this Consolidated Summary. It is envisaged that the Economic and Environmental Sub-Committee discusses these suggestions included in the Consolidated Summary, in order to streamline the preparatory process for the Forum.

In the Closing session of the seminar - Wrap-up and Way Forward -, a list of preliminary ideas and suggestions was presented to the participants, in order to stimulate discussions, obtain a final feedback and further distil the most useful suggestions for follow-up action. These preliminary ideas are presented below, for easy reference.

**Working Session 1**

The OSCE could:

- Assist the dissemination of information and knowledge on demographic developments and migration;
- Assist efforts to harmonise methodology, statistics and data collection on population developments, labour migration etc.;
- Develop closer co-operation with other international organisations on demographics and migration;
- Identify ways to promote the freedom of movement in the OSCE area;

Further discussions about migration will be held at the next preparatory seminar in Almaty.

**Working Session 2**

Ageing is expected to have a serious negative impact on the sustainability of current pensions and social security / health systems. The negative effects of ageing can only be partly remedied by immigration, requiring social integration. Other measures could include the reform of pension systems (which can be implemented by changing at least one of the three elements: increase of contribution to the pension schemes, reduction of pension benefits, increase in retirement age) and steps aimed at increasing fertility rates.

The OSCE could:

- Set up an OSCE task force/working group on demographic developments and migration;
- Encourage the exchange of information / transfer of know-how on ageing and intensify the co-operation with other international organisations;
- Participate in the fight against brain-drain;
Working Session 3

The OSCE could:

• Promote elements of family policies implemented in Norway since the 1980s, which could serve as a possible model for other countries;
• Assist in the transfer of know-how and education on family policy;
• Contribute to raising awareness about family policies;
• Assist research on family and gender issues in the OSCE area;

Working Session 4

• OSCE, with help of HCNM, could work with OSCE states to develop better understanding of migrant cultures and to ease integration;
• OSCE, with help of ODIHR, could assist in developing capacity to conduct regular census;
• OSCE could intensify training for youth to help ease unemployment and reduce brain drain;
• OSCE could facilitate exchange of existing demographic data and assist data harmonization;
• OSCE could assist drafting legislation on migration;

Working Session 5

The OSCE could:

• Assist information campaigns on HIV/AIDS;
• Create an OSCE working group on fighting HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases;
• Promote a multi-dimensional and multi-institutional approach on HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases;
• Encourage OSCE governments to take more decisive action in this field;

Working Session 6

• Demographic factors like population size and density, infant mortality, youth bulge and urbanisation have an impact on environmental security;
• Research indicates that the connection between demography & environment is more likely to contribute to internal than inter-state conflict; exceptions are conflicts over oil and water;
• Scarcity-induced conflicts are more likely with renewable resources (land, water, fisheries). Abundance-induced conflicts are more likely with non-renewables (oil and other minerals; partial exception: timber);
• In identifying the impact of environmental issues on security the Environment and Security Initiative takes demographic factors into account;

Annexes

A number of annexes - Agenda, List of Participants and List of Distributed Documents - have been attached to complete your picture of the Trieste Seminar. For further reading, please note that background documents from this seminar can be found on the OSCE web site under www.osce.org/eea or requested at the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (gabriel.leonte@osce.org or andrea.gredler@osce.org).
WELCOMING ADDRESS

by H.E. Senator Roberto Antonione,
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Italy

It is for me a pleasure and a great honour to take the floor in this Seminar and welcome you all in this city, Trieste, which can be considered as a symbol of the crossroad of different cultures, exactly in the same “spirit of Helsinki” which started up, almost thirty years ago, the CSCE process, of which the OSCE represents the natural evolution, after the end of the dark period of division of our Continent between East and West.

This year has marked a very significant step forward in the direction of continental reintegration. By welcoming ten new Member States -including Slovenia, represented here by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Andrej Logar- setting a clear calendar for the other candidate countries, as well as indicating the way forward to the peoples of the Western Balkans and opening clear perspectives for its new neighbours, the European Union has demonstrated in these last months its vitality and once more confounded the eternal euro-sceptics.

The signature, a few days ago in Rome, of the Constitutional Treaty of the European Union has further consolidated its political and institutional achievements, thus strengthening its international effectiveness. The enhanced external projection of its foreign policy, as stated inter alia in the Security Strategy outlined by the High Representative, Javier Solana, and the force of attraction that flows from it, constitutes the best evidence that the Union means to continue its efforts in order to avoid the arising of any new division line in the Continent.

The OSCE represents in this regard the natural partner for the EU, which is therefore trying to devise new and more efficient modalities of co-operation with the OSCE. Slovenia will have the important task to guide the OSCE next year: in view of this demanding role, Ljubljana can count as of now on the active contribution of the Government I represent.

Trieste is the ideal place to host an OSCE event: this ancient town, seat of subsequent Roman, Byzantine, Lombard and Frankish settlements, then free commune, and in the end Habsburg harbour and maritime opening for the whole of Central Europe, has always been cosmopolitan. It is finally recovering its role as a Central European cultural metropolis, and laboratory for ideas. On this very point, we all know how much Europe owes to “border people”, such as De Gasperi, Schuman and Adenauer. In Trieste, today, the intellectual heritage of Svevo, Joyce, Rilke, without forgetting Ivan Čankar and many others in their wake, until our Claudio Magris, to whom we owe the rediscovery of Habsburg literature, works in that same direction.

But Trieste excels as well as a seat of study and scientific research centres of excellence, such as, on the one hand, the United World College in Duino, and, on the other, the International Centre of Theoretical Physics Abdus Salam, the Science Park Area, the Third World Academy of Sciences, the International School for Advanced Studies, and other international initiatives involving on the whole 7000 researchers. Furthermore, Trieste is the seat of the Secretariat of the Central-European Initiative (CEI) and one of the recipients of the co-operation programs developed in the framework of the Adriatic-Ionic Initiative.

It is precisely in order to stress its recovered centrality in the process of continental reintegration that we have put forward the candidature of Trieste for the International Exhibition of 2008.

The subject of your Seminar, although quite specific, is of the utmost relevance for any nation nowadays, much beyond the confines of our reconstituted Europe, both East and West, North and South of any theoretical line of demarcation, in the widespread transition which we are all undergoing. Among the major achievements of the last century, we can effectively mention the reduction of national borders to an ever less rigid and impermeable concept, in the framework of a globalisation of communications which presents at the same time challenges and clear opportunities for progress.
Nevertheless, ever more frequently, well beyond the flows of people attributable to social and economic needs, we are witness to unacceptable phenomena of trafficking in human beings, real cases of modern enslavement, as well as massive exoduses of refugees and displaced persons as a result of conflicts. It has been calculated that in the world, today, there is one immigrant every 35th inhabitant. Such migratory movements have to be added to internal demographical factors, such as the lowering of birth and death rates characterizing our so-called advanced societies (for your information, due to its very low birth rate, Italy has one of the highest ageing populations, the fourth after S.Marino, Switzerland and Sweden). All this accounts for economic and social alterations of unprecedented proportions in the history of humanity. Of course, these momentous modifications produce important consequences on international stability and security. All of our States must confront, with seriousness and sense of responsibility, these new developments and challenges, which demand our prompt action for the identification of solutions and best practices that allow us to plan in the best possible way some reforms which become in some cases necessary, precisely as a consequence of our demographical trends, such as that of social security and the public health care system, which are fundamental social achievements that we must try to safeguard.

Italian migration policy is particularly generous, in conformity with our political upbringing. Land of emigration for centuries, post-war Italy has become a land of new immigration, well aware of the benefits deriving from it, for example in terms of GNP growth (in Italy there are 2,2 million legal immigrants, contributing significantly to the GNP).

Illegal immigration must instead be strongly opposed, in the interest not only of our States but also of the people involved, in order to pry them away from organized crime, trafficking of human beings and other forms of exploitation. Migration phenomena must therefore be more accurately regulated, by all of our countries. In the framework of the EU, the Ministers of Justice and of the Interior of the 25 Member States have recently set 2010 as the date within which the Union will work out a common policy on the right to asylum, and decided to strengthen as of now the co-operation between their respective authorities in this field.

The principles on which the OSCE rests, that is to say good governance, the rule of law, the respect for fundamental human rights, from which democracy, non-discrimination, equal opportunities and social inclusiveness derive, are the necessary backdrop for such a commitment.

Your proceedings should result in specific recommendations addressed to all of the OSCE States, which are united not only by the interconnections of phenomena such as the demographic developments you are going to discuss, but also by values, interests, and therefore by common political and practical purposes.

I will be glad to be informed about the further developments of the pan-European enterprise in which, with the contribution of my country, the OSCE is engaged.

Thank you.
WELCOMING ADDRESS

by H.E. Andrej Logar,
State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Slovenia/incoming OSCE Chairmanship

Thank you Mr. Chairman,
Mr. Deputy Minister,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Initially I would like to express my gratitude to the host country and the OSCE Office of the Coordinator for Economic and Environmental Activities for the excellent organization of this First Preparatory Seminar for the Thirteenth Economic Forum. I would also like to stress that it is my great pleasure to participate in this important event dedicated to demographic prospects in the OSCE area.

As the incoming Chairmanship-in-Office I wish to underline that Slovenia attaches special importance to the OSCE Economic and Environmental dimension of security. Today’s global economic security is under increasing threat by numerous factors, many of which know no borders. In this context, the transformative power of demographic changes and their impact on security and socio-economic development in the OSCE area pose significant challenges and dilemmas. Namely, the globalization of demographic risks proves that these affect the rich and the powerful as much as they do the poor and the weak.

Migration flows in this century are likely to amplify, as they are empowered by the engine of unbalanced demographic development, large economic inequalities and the various needs of diverse labor markets. Hence, it was agreed to devote 2005 Economic forum to the topic “Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons Belonging to National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE area”.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The factor believed to contribute the most to the demographic stabilization is economic development. However, unbalanced growth of the world population with respect to economic capacities and the possibilities of economic growth remains one of the biggest global challenges. Almost half of the world’s population lives with less than two dollars a day and one fifth of the population lives with less than one dollar a day. High demographic growth coincides with poverty and below replacement fertility with economic prosperity. The young and poor population of the "world's south" confronts the rapidly aging population of the rich countries. Economic wealth is increasingly asymmetric, although the absolute level of poverty has been decreasing.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Less developed countries have young, large population and high annual growth rates. Developed countries, in contrast, have generally old population with fertility rates below replacement level. The demographic gap may be balanced to some extent by migration. Therefore, the new global population arrangement calls for increased migration flows.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

An inadequate response to demographic challenges can prove costly. That is why, having an active role in designing this Preparatory seminar together with the OSCE Office of the Coordinator for Economic and Environmental Activities and the host county we structured it in an ambition to place demographic issues on both regional and global agenda by promoting a comprehensive debate among OSCE Participating States, international organizations, academia, civil society and other actors on all aspects of demography and issues related to demography, economy and security.
By analyzing gaps in current policy approaches to demography and by examining linkages with related issue-areas, such as the effects of demographic developments on security and stability, economic and environmental implications of the demographic trends, family dynamics, health hazards and communicable diseases, we trust that the Preparatory Seminar will provide with some relevant, useful and applicable findings.

Moreover, by focusing on various approaches and prospective applied by stakeholders in different OSCE regions, we believe the qualified discussions will produce useful suggestions. In proposing the suggestions the distinguished participants should share the ambition to set the bar slightly higher and generate political will and commitment for a common effort to bring about much needed regional and global managing of demographic issues.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Rarely in addressing the key economic security issues can basic principles and realistic interests coincide so accurately, and for so many countries in the OSCE regions as in the case of demographic prospects. Therefore we should not hesitate in our future joint deliberations in tackling the pressing challenges of Europe’s and global demography.

Thank you for your attention.
Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman,
Mr. Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy,
Mr. State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour and privilege for me on behalf of the Bulgarian OSCE Chairmanship to address participants in the seminar on “Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE area”. I am particularly pleased to attend this gathering which takes place in Italy shortly after the historic ceremony on signing the Treaty and the Final Act establishing a Constitution for Europe in Rome. I would like to express my warmest gratitude to the Government of Italy, Region Friuli Venezia Giulia, the Municipality of Trieste and the University of Trieste for hosting this major OSCE event and to commend the organizers of the seminar for their continuous efforts to make our stay in Trieste both enjoyable and fruitful.

The demographic developments in the OSCE area have assumed substantive importance in recent years. But the alarming demographic changes in the decades to come: the stagnation and imminent decline of the European population, acceleration of ageing, low fertility, depopulation of many regions and growing migration pressures on most participating States give grounds for increasing concern among policymakers. These trends lead to security, social and economic consequences and require developing prompt and adequate policies.

The OSCE with its comprehensive and co-operative approach to security attributes prominence to the population issues. The OSCE Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in the Twenty-First Century emphasizes that demographic factors and widespread degradation of health are among the potential challenges to security.

With a view of the above stated I wish to commend the incoming Slovenian OSCE Chairmanship for suggesting the theme “Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE area” for the Thirteenth Meeting of the Economic Forum.

The European Union, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the United Nations Population Fund, the Council of Europe, other international bodies have already exerted tremendous efforts to elaborate and pursue innovative policy responses to demographic changes.

It is our understanding that the OSCE as a security organization has its own niche in these international endeavors. The Organization may support participating States to more properly identify and address demographic challenges through institutional strengthening, capacity building, raising public awareness, disseminating information on best practices, stimulating regular dialogue between the public administration and the civil society, etc. The OSCE has proven capacity to provide advice, mobilize assistance and catalyze international co-operation. Through its strong field presence the Organization may accurately target demographic assistance and channel resources to remote and under served areas.

Mr. Chairman,

The new geopolitical, economic and social realities in the OSCE region and in the world necessitate an adequate response by the Organization. Within this context I would like to elaborate on our proposal on moving the venue of the Economic Forum to Central Asia. The reforms leading to post
conflict reconstruction, market economy and recovery from environmental degradation in the countries of that sub-region are difficult and painful. They entail high political and social costs. Our Chairmanship shares the view that the OSCE and the international community should offer to the region of Central Asia, Afghanistan included, a clear vision, relevant assistance and strong incentives, similar to the ongoing integration processes involving other OSCE sub-regions. We regard moving the venue of the Economic Forum as a means of practically supporting Central Asian participating States, encouraging their democratic development, and increasing their visibility.

The issues of consolidating of the OSCE economic and environmental dimension, enhancing the Organization’s comparative advantages and increasing its catalytic role for international co-operation will be placed high on the agenda of the Twelfth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, which will take place in Sofia on 6 and 7 December 2004. The delegations will consider implementation of the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Economic Forum, including possible moving of its venue to Central Asia. A Memorandum of Understanding between the OSCE and the UN Economic Commission for Europe, confirming the role of the Commission as a key partner of our organization and streamlining the longstanding bilateral interaction is expected to be signed in Sofia.

Mr. Chairman,

My expectations are that the theme of the seminar, the high level attendance by participating States, international organizations, academia and NGOs and the admirable facilities, offered by the Italian Government, will stimulate us to extensively consider the items included.

I wish to all of you fruitful deliberations and a successful outcome!

Thank you for your attention!
WELCOMING ADDRESS

by Mr. Marcin Święcicki,
Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Distinguished Chairperson,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Ambassadors,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure and an honour for me to welcome all of you to this preparatory seminar to the 13th Economic Forum on demographic prospects in the OSCE region. This will be the first of three seminars we will be holding in the run up to the Economic Forum which will take place in Prague between 23 and 27 May 2005.

I also welcome our speakers who accepted our invitation to share their knowledge and experience with us. I have noticed with great pleasure that many representatives from the academia and various NGOs are present. I am also very pleased to welcome numerous representatives of various international organizations and last but not least representatives of OSCE participating States and Mediterranean Partners as well as OSCE Field Presences.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Office of the Co-ordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities has prepared a background paper which I hope you have all received. We tried to assemble, based on UN demographic statistics, an overview of population trends in OSCE states. Some of the data has been re-arranged in terms of highest/lowest figures or split up to highlight regional comparisons. We also derived some extra figures - for example certain percentages - however, I would like to emphasize, for clarity’s sake, that we always used UN numbers as the basis from which to calculate this additional data.

Of course, national forecasts may differ from the numbers of the UN. In the case of Turkey, I concur with the Turkish authorities that the rapid modernisation processes and potential EU accession might cause the Turkish population to increase at a slower rate than predicted by the UN. In fact this issue goes to the very heart of the matter we hope to discuss here; what are the interlocking effects of national development and demographic change and how can these be accurately predicted? Either way such developments unfold, I would still like to say a few words on the importance of this subject in light of international security concerns and highlight some of the difficult questions we will be tackling during the next two days.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the second half of the 20th century many OSCE states experienced an over-proportionate increase in young people – the post-war ‘Baby Boom’. I remember elementary schools having to give classes in two or even three shifts per day to accommodate all students. Oversupply of labour was a problem. Then came the ‘echo’ of the baby boom (the children of the baby boomers): again an oversupply of labour that had to be absorbed. In the first half of the 21st century, demographic trends are to reverse.

In 2003 many OSCE countries were already experiencing population declines. This will intensify. Thus, the first half of the 21st century will see most country’s population pyramids turned upside down. The workforce will shrink dramatically in the majority of states, in part also due to fertility rates falling much below 2.1 children per woman, the replacement rate at which population remains stable.
National development requires innovative and motivated young people, willing to take risks, to sustain growth. What will happen to the competitiveness of national economies when lower and lower numbers of young people (in relation to the total population) enter the labour market?

On the other hand, the elderly dependency ratio will increase at great speed, and nations will have to find funds to pay for the people requiring retirement benefits and aged care.

This year onwards, the post-Second World War baby-boom generation, to which many of us belong, will begin to enter retirement. By 2020, thanks to improvements in lifestyle and healthcare, they will become the older aged generation - the so-called "fourth age".

As much as many of us would like to sympathise with the US business man and politician, Bernard Baruch, who said:

“To me, old age is always fifteen years older than I am” ...

the ageing of our societies is a real and immediate concern.

What might happen with such an ageing population? Studies have shown that people between 40-60 years are the segment of a population that invests the most into stockmarkets and their pension and investment funds. As the large bulk of these people enter retirement, they will switch from being net contributors to net receivers.

With the onset of such changing investment patterns the question emerges whether this is a threat to the stability of stockmarkets around the world.

Some OSCE countries and many neighbouring countries are experiencing a different scenario: strong population growth. This could lead to an increase in the pressure on natural ecosystems to support life in those regions. The subsequent oversupply of labour combined with significant differences in the level of living might cause strong migratory pressures.

Let me just say at this point that we will discuss the topic of migration in more detail at our second preparatory seminar in January.

I would like to point out one specific factor that recently affects demographic trends in an astonishingly rapid and lethal manner: namely HIV/AIDS.

One cannot help but think of the Bubonic Plague. As a result of the “Black Death”, hundreds of thousands of people died during the 14th century, lending that period the name: “The Dark Ages”.

AIDS nowadays claims more casualties than armed conflicts. In the entire OSCE region, HIV prevalence is rising. In Central Asia and Eastern Europe HIV is spreading faster than anywhere in the world according to the UN.

Thus, nations must deal with a multitude of problems with regard to their populations: ageing, population declines and increases, and HIV/AIDS. Such demographic changes will impact on economic growth and the fiscal household of states. The political agenda, reflected by different voting patterns, will invariably change as result of varying economic health.

Such changes however, do not come overnight. No, they take years, indeed, generations. Slowly, but surely, the ground is shifting beneath our feet and countries that used to be economic miracles might turn out to be struggling nations in 40 years; while those nations that foresaw such demographic changes, and responded adequately, will maintain their economic pace.

“Demography is Destiny” – said Auguste Comte, a 19th century French philosopher. This is not necessarily so. Adequate policies can change demographic trends. “The Economist” has already proposed its medicine to reverse a gloomy demographic future of the most of Europe. European women should have more babies and should work longer.
Our task is to assess potential threats and discuss potential responses. We all have a stake in ensuring security and stability within our nations as well as amongst the 55 participating states of the OSCE. The only way forward is to tackle the causes and consequences of such demographic changes at the root by addressing family policies and retirement schemes, to name a few. Only then will we find sustainable solutions to the multitude of security implications of demographic shifts. While we at the OSCE do not pretend that our experiences and predictions on demographic change are all the same, we hope we may learn from one another.

I strongly encourage you to participate in what I hope will be a qualitatively outstanding seminar and to engage our speakers in an open dialogue.
Dear Participants,

In the name of the University Rector, of the Academic Senate, of the Administration Council and of the Faculty of Political Sciences, which I do represent in quality of Dean, I welcome the participants to this OSCE Seminar.

Today, the University of Trieste proudly hosts for the first time in Its history a Seminar of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, which represent an event of exceptional importance for our Institution, considering the remarkable political importance of this initiative.

The University of Trieste considers the opportunity to host the First Preparatory Seminar of the OSCE 13th Economic Forum like a great chance to welcome an event of international relevance linked to one of the greatest international organizations working at European level, becoming a privileged witness of high level political debates.

I would like to remind the impressive contribution in terms of experience and knowledge supplied by the Academic World to the field of international subjects. For this reason I think that the legitimacy of our meeting here today is naturally justified.

International organizations are carrying out a primary importance position in the current international framework. The OSCE, in particular, plays a role of absolute peculiarity to solve the complex and critical aspects concerning security and conflict prevention, economics and environment in our countries.

The University of Trieste and the Faculty of Political Sciences in particular, have always shown their engagement in following and analysing in detail the historical, political and geographical changing processes concerning great events in the international domain.

The fact that the OSCE First Preparatory Seminar is hold in the “Aula Magna” of the University of Trieste, which is its highest representation room, is the tangible proof of the constant participation of this University in making itself an active, open minded and collaborative part both for the dialogue between countries and for the local, regional and international political analysis.

Let me sincerely greet, in addition to the Diplomatic and Institutional Representatives, the foreign colleagues of the Academic Community and the undergraduate students of the Degree in Diplomatic and International Affairs of Gorizia. These students, who today will represents your attentive and competent public, have got a unique opportunity to be witnesses, for the first time, of such a prestigious event and to see directly how international political decisions are taken. We thank the OSCE Secretariat for this exceptional admittance and we wish that they will be able to understand the essential concepts of the discussion, to analyse its methodologies and to get to some useful conclusions.

(to the students)

Feel yourselves privileged in dealing with this experience. It is not commonly proposed to other students! Use this opportunity to implement further reflections, developing the capacity of objective analysis that is your main aim through the knowledge that you will be acquiring during your academic path.

I wish to everybody a fruitful seminar.
Thank you very much.
RAPPORTEURS’ REPORTS

WORKING SESSIONS 1 - “Demographic Prospects, Economy and Security – key issues”

Rapporteur: Ms. Jeannette Kloetzer, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Office in Yerevan

At Working Session I key issues of the Seminar have been presented by professional experts thus providing basic information as well as facts and figures and creating the basis for the following interventions and discussions. The speakers offered a historical overview on demographic transitions over the last century, an analysis of the current situation and main explanations for the occurring changes in the OSCE area and OSCE neighbourhood. Taking into account contrasting tendencies, they proposed scenarios how the economic and security concerns might be addressed on the national and international level.

The following aspects have been highlighted by the speakers:

Mr. Janez Malacic, Professor, Head of the Statistical Department of the Faculty of Economics of the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, elaborated on “Demographic evolution and long-term prospects in the OSCE area – What future for the OSCE area?” and analyzed mainly processes of demographic marginalization in Europe (including Russian Federation), which will continue at an accelerating speed. He focussed on the consequences of the declining trend of population prospects in the OSCE area.

Mr. Raimondo Cagiano de Azevedo, Professor for Demography, Faculty of Economics, University “La Sapienza” Rome, Italy, highlighted especially “Populations issues in the International Relations - Conflict and Security Implications” by analyzing two groups of conflicts – social conflicts and generational conflicts - under the aspects of sex, age, occupation as well as ethnicity, which proved to be a source of conflicts in the OSCE area. He drew the attention on changing demographic hierarchy in the world and its implications for vital spaces, access to resources, food, water and energy supply and environmental issues.

Mr. Maged Othman, Professor, Director of the Cairo Demographic Center, Egypt, introduced the audience with “Demographic tendencies in the OSCE neighbourhood”. He explained the demographic situation in the Arab World in comparison with Europe, which is a completely different one. The steady population increase is a big challenge for the countries to cope with problems like migration, unemployment, women status, health care, family formation etc.

Mr. Marek Kupiszewski, Director of the Central European Forum for Migration Research/IOM, Warsaw, Poland focused on the issues of “Population mobility and migration in the OSCE area and OSCE neighbourhood and economic implications”. Based on an overview on different forms of migration of people, which implicates also the migration of jobs and capital, the speaker elaborated on some considerations regarding benefits and losses of migration for sending and receiving countries in various sectors of the economic and social life: labour market, technology transfer, health and social security systems and others.

After the discussion on the above-mentioned key issues, the following aspects and recommendations can be considered as of specific importance from the point of view of economic stability and security in the OSCE area and the OSCE neighbourhood:

Need for a long-term, sustainable common policy, either a joint one or a cooperative one, which contains legal, economic and social aspects
Conflicts and economic and social insecurity produce demographic changes and population movements, which have long-term and complex impacts on the situation in all countries of the OSCE area and its neighbourhood. The controversial developments of fertility and mortality rates result in economic and social unbalances. More attention shall be paid also to the policies on handling the refugees and asylum seekers, common solutions have to be developed against illegal migrations, policies must be developed in favour of family reunions and building up new economic entities.

OSCE is expected to follow the issue, and to use its instruments, including field presences to facilitate the processes of consultations and coordination of respective policies.

**Need to harmonize the methodology, statistics and data collection on population developments, as well as to clarify definitions for the relevant terms like migration, mobility, asylum etc.**

- The existing reliability of data allows speaking on trends not on numbers;
- Population registration is not only important for elections;
- It is equally important for gaining real facts and figures as a basis for a realistic policy making;
- Compatible information and statistical systems shall be developed in the countries concerned;
- OSCE can be instrumental in promoting standard setting and best practice in that field.

**Need to overcome national perceptions and to promote freedom of movement**

- The benefits and losses of (labour) migration for both sending and receiving countries shall be realistically analysed. To what extent is it a factor of economic, social and cultural advantage for both sides?
- Systems and laws shall be introduced in order to legalize the migration to the greatest extent;
- Multilevel citizenship and visa exemption between OSCE countries shall be an issue of assessment and discussion;
- Awareness raising activities shall be developed in order to decrease religious, environmental and social welfare frontiers.

**Need to compare pension systems as well as health and social welfare schemes**

- Request for conducting comparative analyses of pension, health and social welfare systems in order to provide for recommendations to decision-making bodies. Request for supporting scientific research on health related issues;
- OSCE is expected to act as a catalyst in addressing those issues.

**Gender equality and family policies**

- OSCE shall be instrumental in raising awareness on the importance of that issue for a change in the demographic development. Best practice in the OSCE area for combining maternity and professional careers of women shall be studied and transferred into practical policies.

**Need for close cooperation with other international organizations**

- OSCE shall further identify its possible role in promoting international cooperation for the development of sustainable solutions of the essential issues raised during the seminar taking into account the relevant implications for national and international security and stability.
WORKING SESSIONS 2 - “Impact of ageing and policy responses”

Rapporteur: Mr. Oleg Ziborov, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the OSCE

Three speakers introduced the topic of the session. Mr. Miroslav Macura from UNECE had a presentation on the implications of population decline for the economy and immigration and the challenges facing Europe. Mr. Heikki Oksanen from the European Commission focused on the economic effects of population ageing, notably on public finances. The presentation of Professor Anis H. Bajrektarevic was entitled Europe beyond 2020: Three–Dimensional Challenges.

The lively discussions in the working session 2 were held in an open, constructive and objectivity-driven atmosphere, based on valuable, well-focused and highly competent presentations of the distinguished guest-speakers. Ageing related developments in the European Union, SEE states, CIS countries and the US were addressed with special emphasis on trends within the European Union.

Ageing defined as a combination of lower fertility rates with higher life expectancy was assessed as a global trend which in the period till 2050 will have an impact on the whole OSCE area, creating various demographic, social, labour market related problems, however with different scenarios. Therefore there cannot be a simple, one fits all solution for the whole community of OSCE participating States.

The main problem to be addressed in all participating States is the decline of the working age population. Country-specific solutions shall be developed in order to sustain the economic growth while the human resources are reduced.

From all regions within the OSCE responsibility the EU is the most advanced one in co-ordinating the responses of its Member States to the problem of ageing. Based on the EU experience, the negative effects of ageing could be addressed by a three-dimensional approach: reform of the pension systems, legal migration and measures towards increasing fertility rates. However, theoretically also increases in labour productivity, higher and more diversified taxes, certain growth of public debts could be considered within the context of responding to the challenge of ageing.

Reform of the pension systems can be implemented by changing at least one of the three elements: increase of contribution to the pension schemes, reduction of pension benefits, increase in retirement age. The need to ensure a fair and transparent process of adjustments of the pension systems was also underlined. In general, the reform of the pension systems was considered as an issue which should be addressed in a country-specific mode without binding recommendations from international organizations while benefiting fully from exchange in experience and lessons learned.

Migration flows alone cannot compensate decline in fertility rates and may even lead to negative social effects in an ageing society. Problems of the replacement migration should also be considered. An integral element of a modern well-managed migration which can significantly contribute to a positive economic and social development in the OSCE region will be a more effective social integration of new immigrants and ensuring social cohesion in the recipient countries.

It was also noted that migration may lead to negative developments at the national labour markets of the donor countries because of reducing the potential of most qualified, dynamic and future-oriented human resources. Therefore within the framework of international efforts aimed at controlling migration, the need to avoid further deepening of economic and social disparities between the countries should be taken into account. Migration related issues will be further discussed at the next preparatory seminar.

In general, it was recognised that in recent years the issues of ageing have received an increasing, but still limited attention. The OSCE could contribute to a more intensive international discussion of this topical problem. A proposal was made to establish in the OSCE a special task force or a unit, within the framework of the OEECA, which will address demographic problems.
WORKING SESSIONS 3 - “Fertility, family dynamics and policy responses”

Rapporteur: Ms. Lyale Nazarova, Economic and Environmental Assistant, OSCE Centre in Ashgabat

At the start of the session Ambassador Mette Kongsheimer, moderator of the session, gave a brief status of the “Norwegian experiment” of a coherent family policy. She described the situation in the country in early 80-s, when the fertility rate was low, and the measures undertaken by the government in order to tackle the problem. By 1989 the rise was observed; the rate has been stabilized by now and is 1.8. Research has confirmed that there is a positive link between the relatively high fertility rate and the Norwegian policy of family friendly and gender equality policies. The system, which aimed at facilitating the reconciliation of family life and the possibility for both parents / the single provider to combine family life and work, had proven to be economically viable and very valuable to a dynamic and competitive business sector. The main factors of the system of family welfare included parental and adoption benefits and provisions for parental leave (42 weeks with full salary or 52 weeks with 80% salary and an optional one year extra without pay), maternity and paternity rights (four weeks reserved for the father), family allowances, cash benefit scheme for parents with small children, the right to leave of absence if the child were ill (ten days per year), right to shorter and flexible working hours, income and job protection during pregnancy and after childbirth, tax rules, pension points if one stays at home with the child, support to single providers and day-care centers. At the basis of the family welfare system was the general policy of gender equality. These elements could contribute to the sustainability and efficiency of a national family policy and should be considered when developing such a policy. Some of the factors facilitating this policy were mentioned such as a good national economy and a stable society.

The speaker at the session, Professor Vladimir A. Iontsev, underlined the extreme importance of demographic processes within the OSCE area, due to which the topic was placed high in the agenda of the OSCE economic and environmental activity. He proposed to set up a working group within the OSCE, dealing with demographic issues. In his opinion not enough attention was given to the fertility rate decrease as the main factor of general demographic decline. For the last 100 years total fertility rate in OSCE countries dropped. It plummeted in the 90-s of the last century. This tendency affects political and economic development of countries and there is no sign that this tendency will stabilize. The speaker compared the fertility rates in Norway, Armenia and Kazakhstan, and noted the negative impact of strong migration for the latter two countries. Accelerated reduction of fertility rate concerns societies more strongly than previously considered – it affects labour markets, economies and national security. The migration policies in European countries should be changed, otherwise, by 2075 there might be a change of civilizations. In CIS countries, in particular Russia and Ukraine, and in Baltic countries, the demographic crisis can also be observed. This process has a negative impact both quantitatively and qualitatively. Here the speaker, while praising the experience of Norway and Sweden, noticed that in other countries, where family policy is not a priority for the government and where there is not a social awareness of the problem, is still very much present. For example, in Russia there is a large consumption of tobacco products and alcohol, children bear alcoholism, drug addiction and HIV/AIDS, which lead to deterioration of the health of the population. It was proposed that in order to adequately respond to the emerging problems in this sphere during the process of globalization, countries should develop integrated approaches, as a threat for one country inevitably causes the threat for another country.

During the discussions further proposals for OSCE action were brought forward. They included those of assistance to academic circles and preparation of specialists in the demographic sphere. A practical step forward in this direction could be put in place by field presences. Words of caution were however expressed about the proposal for a working group or a task force set up within the OSCE. The research component in demographic science undergoes a critical phase and research centres could be set up or enforced not only in the OSCE area, but in other countries too. It was emphasized that the clear direction of what should be done is needed. The work should not be oriented at think-tanks, but rather at the best use of existing resources in the OSCE. Debates have just started and already there is some experience in this area. It was also noted that migration is not always the answer, but it is not always a problem either. It has its positive aspects.
Ukraine was used as an example by one participant. Families there are not ready for a large number of children for material reasons, it was said. The country already crossed the critical point – for the last 10 years there had been a decrease of 4 millions and prospects for the near future are rather gloomy. The tendency of population decline will persist and reproductive activity will be restricted.

The idea of increasing of the OSCE role in addressing human capital was stressed; it was suggested that the organization could play the role of a “clearing house” for co-operation with other organizations.

Finland was mentioned as another example of a country which has been able to raise the fertility rate by means of family policy. In the context of family policy there have been discussions about challenges related to equality, changing labour markets and family structures, as well as concerns about young couples postponing having children. It was agreed that keeping a well-balanced approach is not an easy task.

The opinion was expressed that the existing policy of planning migration has its negative and positive facets. A good analysis of all consequences for the economic, political, cultural spheres for receiving countries and those of sending countries, is required. Sometimes for economic purposes it makes more sense to move developed enterprises to the regions with the cheap workforce. It was mentioned that global tendencies in migration can become a serious problem if not actively addressed at present.

Recommendations of the session

- Setting up the OSCE Task Force for demographic development in order to work out the united OSCE strategy for solving demographic problems and co-operation with other organizations in this area;
- In order to tackle the negative demographic tendencies it is necessary to pay more attention to both quantitative and qualitative changes, to increase awareness of the importance of reproductive functions of families and demographic literacy;
- States should be aware of the negative implications of the current demographic situation, for rectification of which they have to develop sustainable national family and child policy, general health care policy, including children health care, as well as education in reproductive health;
- Gender equality factor should not be neglected; gender equality is not only about anti-discrimination but is a pre-requisite for a sustainable family policy, which should encourage sharing of family responsibilities, enabling men and women to participate in the labour force on an equal footing and share work at home;
- In order to solve demographic problems, adequate, concerted, integrated measures within the OSCE region should be developed as deterioration and threat in one country causes the “chain” reaction;
- To increase practical assistance to academic institutions and circles active on demographic issues in order to foster future high professional specialists;
- Migration policy should be carefully and developed and in a balanced way, taking into account both positive and negative implications; to make a good analysis of migration flows within the OSCE area and their impact on countries concerned.

**WORKING SESSIONS 4 - “Regional demographic developments affecting security and stability”**

**Rapporteur: Ms. Katherine Brucker, United States Mission to the OSCE**

In this session we heard reports on migration trends and issues in Western Europe, Albania and Central Asia.
Mr. Enrico Todisco explained that local receptivity to migrants is a function of whether migrants represent economic or non-economic flows. Non-economic migrants, except those who migrate for religious reasons, generally create fewer social apprehensions. Central and local authorities create and apply (respectively) policies to deal with integration of migrants. Access to jobs, housing and schooling (for children and adults) are important immediate issues. Longer term are the impact migrants have on general services and the pension system. Successful integration involves linking the sending and receiving cultures, a task much easier said than done, and a task made more difficult by the number of cultures of origin. Food and music, however, are two easy bridges as they represent natural, non-threatening areas of curiosity. Integrating short term migrants is more challenging as they themselves are often not interested in integrating.

Ms. Milva Ekonomi outlined the challenges Albania faces from internal migration. Though Albania has also seen net external migration resulting in brain drain, larger security challenges have arisen from internal population shifts, largely from the poorer northern regions to the south and to cities. This has posed problems for urbanization and regional job creation. With three religions in Albania, there are few religion-related social apprehensions from migration. Albania has limited fertility problems at present, though fertility has been upset somewhat by the fact that younger men represent the biggest group of external migrants, resulting in an age imbalance between men and women remaining in Albania. One pressing problem for Albania is the lack of reliable demographic data from neighboring countries, and the fact that Albania’s last census was in the early 1990s. Demographic data collected now is more difficult to analyze because the base data is so old. Ms. Ekonomi appealed for help in improving data exchange.

Ms. Lyudmila Maksakova illustrated the dramatic population decline in Central Asia, a decline that is attributed largely to an overall poor economic outlook, the high cost of raising children and improved family planning measures. There has been a two-fold reduction in fertility in a short period though experts do not agree whether this is temporary (people waiting longer to have children) or permanent, which would mean that de-population is a serious problem. Regional migrant outflow is primarily brain drain, with lower-skilled labor remaining behind. OSCE training for youth has been instrumental in Uzbekistan in reducing unemployment and thereby enhancing regional security. OSCE’s outline for a law on migration in Uzbekistan was a “revolutionary” project, filling a great need. Generally, access to medical care, re-productive health and family planning services, as well as the overall health of parents, are important factors affecting fertility.

Tajikistan’s unusual demographic transformation was raised in the discussion period; unlike other Central Asian states, population shifts in Tajikistan resulted from civil war. De-urbanization and a flight to rural areas led to increased fertility as children are relied upon to work on farms. School age children are often primary income earners in Tajik families, a phenomenon that Ms. Maksakova stressed was unhealthy for the long term well being (social and economic) of any country.

Remittances came up repeatedly as important positive effects of external migration though the amount of the remittances, where and how they are spent, the percentage of migrants remitting, and the effect they have on the recipients varies greatly between and even within countries. In addition to financial remittances, so-called “cultural remittances” in the form of skills and knowledge, can bring improvements to the home country.

On the challenge of better exchange of demographic data, it was explained that many of the important demographic definitions vary from state to state, and that these definitions are embedded in national constitutions. Harmonization, therefore is difficult and complicated, though still a goal worth aiming for. Easier to implement however, is harmonization in the variables collected. OSCE could play a role in promoting this. The OSCE could also play a role in facilitating the exchange of existing data, even by providing links on a website.

Specific Areas for Possible OSCE Action

- OSCE, with the help of ODIHR, could help states build capacity to conduct regular censuses. This would provide better base data upon which to evaluate demographic information.
• OSCE, with the help of HCNM, could intensify work with states to increase appreciation of and
toleration for other cultures, in an effort to create a more hospitable environment for migrants.

• The OSCE can intensify its work to train young people in business skills to reduce brain drain and to
increase security by reducing unemployment.

• Following on the example in Uzbekistan, the OSCE could help interested states draft laws on
migration.

• The OSCE could urge states to collect harmonized demographic variables and to work towards
harmonized definitions of demographic data. This might be accomplished regionally among states
that were previously part of the same state (Yugoslavia and Soviet Union).

• The OSCE could also play a role in facilitating the exchange of existing data, even by providing links
on a website.

• In general, many existing and core OSCE activities such as building market economies, promoting
tolerance, and building other national capacities so states can respond to the needs of their citizens are
very relevant to efforts to limit brain drain, increase stability by reducing unemployment, facilitate
integration of migrants, and help states create conditions likely to minimize large internal shifts or
external outflow by improving local conditions that will encourage people to stay.

WORKING SESSIONS 5 - “Health hazards and communicable diseases (AIDS, tuberculosis)
and their impact on demographic trends; economic implications”

Rapporteur: Mr. William Hanlon, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Mission to
Georgia

In this session we heard about the health issues that affect the demographic make up of a population. The
focus of this working group was to discuss HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases in the OSCE
area and specifically how they are and will affect the demographic composition of the region.

Ms. Natalia Gordienko began her discussion with a history of HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS was first
discovered about 20 years ago and has resulted in approximately 20 million deaths. In the Central and
Eastern Europe, outbreaks began in 1995 in Ukraine and Belarus and in 1996 in Kaliningrad oblast of the
Russian Federation. There are now approximately 2 million people in Eastern Europe with HIV/AIDS.
Ms. Gordienko then explained that there are good chances to reverse this trend. There are positives: there
are well-trained health professionals in Central and Eastern Europe and a health care system that can
work to stem HIV/AIDS. Furthermore, we know how to prevent the spread of aids, and there is about
600 million USD available in funding for HIV/AIDS prevention programmes. She further offered some
suggestions as to how to proceed. She suggested that there needs to be good governance practices. This is
not only a health care issue, it is a human issue and we can not leave out this element.

Dr. Alexey Bobrik explained that the OSCE Region can be divided into 3 parts; Southern Europe,
Western Europe and Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Generally the incidence of HIV/Aids is low in all
3 regions. The onset of HIV/AIDS occurred rather quickly in Eastern Europe and Central Asia and early
estimates had the spread of the disease growing at an alarming rate. So far there is generally a low
mortality rate, but the threat is there and vigilance is necessary. Dr. Bobrik pointed out that the problem
with drug resistant Tuberculosis is currently worse than the HIV/AIDS threat and the threat of other drug
resistant diseases poses a additional threat at this time. Especially as migrant population flows occur, the
spread of the diseases could increase dramatically. Dr. Bobrik concluded by stating that there is cause for
cautious optimism. There are funds available and the NGOs and international organizations have
instituted prophylactic programs. However there needs be cooperation to stop the spread of infectious
agents. There needs to be information dissemination and awareness programmes. Finally, all of these
efforts must result in a good public health care system and the development accessibility of drugs that can battle HIV/AIDs and drug resistant pathogens.

Ms. Baktygul Bozgorpoeva began by saying that Kyrgyzstan is different from much of the OSCE area in that it has a young population that is mostly rural. Some of the major problems in the country are the limits to the current healthcare system, the high mobility rate of the population from the rural areas to the city. These are also the main reasons for the spread of the disease. She explained that to date there are 650 cases of HIV/AIDS in Kyrgyzstan, most of which are located in the south in refugee populations. Ms. Bozgorpoeva then explained that some steps have already been instituted. Efforts have been made to increase HIV/AIDS awareness by a training program that was focused on the refugee population. She concluded by saying that the current needs include doing more work with refugees, specifically to carry out more surveys and to conduct more training.

Discussion

During the discussion several points were raised. A main point was the need for OSCE to develop an anti-HIV/AIDS project. Several participants to the conference noted that HIV/AIDS is a large problem and that the OSCE should be able to contribute to the battle.

A specific suggestion is that the OSCE form a working group to address this issue. It was also noted by a participate that there is room for optimism in addressing this problem, and that real steps can be taken to help governments take actions and responsibilities against the spread of HIV/AIDS and other communicable disease.

Furthermore, the issue of other diseases was raised, such as issues related to the healthcare of children. It is suggested that other diseases and threats be included in the discussion of communicable diseases.

OSCE Specific Recommendations:

- Assist information campaigns on HIV/AIDS;
- Create an OSCE working group on fighting HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases;
- Promote a multi-dimensional and multi-institutional approach on HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases;
- Encourage OSCE governments to take more decisive action.

WORKING SESSIONS 6 - “Demographic developments and Environmental issues”

Rapporteur: Ms. Annica Carlsson, Environmental Adviser, OSCE/OCEEA

In the session the linkages between demography, environment and security were explained. Professor Colin Kahl from the University of Minnesota elaborated on the theories as regards conflict resulting from scarcities or abundance of natural resources and the demographic, political and institutional factors that influence these processes.

Mr. Gianluca Rampolla from the OCEEA illustrated and corroborated the theories through maps developed by the OSCE/UNEP/UNDP Environment and Security Initiative with examples from the South Caucasus and Central Asia.

Professor Kahl said that international research indicates that the connection between demography and environment is more likely to contribute to internal than inter state conflict; exceptions are conflicts over oil and water. The ENVSEC assessment seems to corroborate this fact, although some concerns regarding the effects of other transboundary environmental problems, such as heavy pollution, also have been raised in already volatile regions.
Professor Kahl said that research over the past decades shows that some general factors correlate with civil wars, including poor economic performance of States, rapid regime change, international isolation and so called bad neighborhoods (e.g. already volatile areas). In combination with above mentioned factors demographic and environmental factors that are likely to impact on security are in particular:

- Population size and density,
- Infant mortality,
- Early stage of demographic transition (measured as high births and high deaths),
- Youth bulge (large numbers of people between 15-24 years of age),
- Rapid rates of urbanization,
- Scarcity of cropland and freshwater per capita,
- Dependence on natural resources exports.

Mr. Rampolla explained that the OSCE/UNDP/UNEP EnvSec Initiative aims at identifying hotspots where environmental factors may impact positively or negatively on security. In doing so the EnvSec Initiative uses inter alia demographic information, including information on population density, trends in birth and death rates, total population growth, migration flows, and ethnic distribution. Most important in the EnvSec hot-spot identification are perceptions among local stakeholders about security in their region. This information is gathered through local consultation in several steps.

Looking at the EnvSec hot-spot maps, many of the theories outlined by Professor Kahl could be illustrated. The hot spots identified so far are in areas where high population density and ethinical fragmentation coincide with environmental scarcity (mainly of soil and water), high levels of pollution and, in the case of southern Caucasus, rapid urbanization and social cleavages. In addition, migration flows from areas of conflict and/or environmental disasters (e.g. Aral Sea) go to these already densely populated areas, adding further pressure on an already strained environment.

In the discussion following the presentations it was mentioned that other examples of areas where demographic shifts had impacted on security included Kosovo and Palestine. It was also questioned whether the existing research actually can tell us anything about the links between demography, environment and security.

Professor Kahl clarified that neither demography nor environment by themselves were sufficient causes for conflicts, but interaction of other variables are necessary. However two hypothesis have emerged:

1. Scarcity in combination with renewable resources and abundance in combination with non-renewable resources can be contributing factors to conflict.
2. Demographic and environmental factors interact with two crucial components: The strength and legitimacy of political institutions; and cleavages along social, ethnical or religious lines.

One delegation questioned the relevance of the discussion of security implications for the topic of the seminar. Mr. Rampolla replied that since the title of the Economic Forum was “Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE area”, and given OSCE’s mandate as a regional security organization, security implications of demography seemed highly relevant.

One delegation suggested that focus should be widened to include also non-violent conflicts. One example would be the demographic decline in areas affected by the Chernobyl disaster. It was suggested that the social problems relating to unemployment, resettlement, housing and health of affected persons impact in a non-violent way on the national security of Belarus.

Professor Kahl agreed to this wider viewpoint and underlined that both population increase and population decrease can be a cause for concern. Mr. Rampolla explained that the EnvSec Initiative uses a broad definition of “security” in its assessment and looks in particular at tensions below the violence threshold. He also clarified that the areas of highest population density did not automatically become
EnvSec hotspots, but it is when they coincide with serious environmental problems that they may become EnvSec hotspots.

**Recommendations:**

- Demographic factors like population size and density, infant mortality, youth bulge and urbanization have an impact on environmental security;
- Research indicates that the connection between demography and environment is more likely to contribute to internal than inter state conflict; exceptions are conflicts over oil and water;
- Scarcity-induced conflicts are more likely with renewable resources (land, water, fisheries). Abundance-induced conflicts are more likely with non-renewable (oil and other minerals; partial exception: timber);
- In identifying the impact of environmental issues on security the EnvSec Initiative takes demographic factors into account;
- The OSCE can work with governments to raise awareness of these issues and linkages, raise support from the international community and support small scale projects.
Mr. Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Excellencies,

The lively discussion of the last two days proved the relevance of the topic selected for the First Preparatory Seminar "Demographic Prospects in the OSCE area: Economic and Security Implications". The comments and the contribution of the participants illustrated the whole array of various demographic realities in the OSCE region. Moreover, the discussion touched upon possible scenarios of demographic developments and their future implications. The last two days proved the need for the OSCE to engage actively and cross-dimensionally in pressing demographic issues.

Migration flows will stay on the agenda. They are empowered by the engine of unbalanced demographic developments. Economic effect of migration is difficult to quantify, even though it generate net gains. The economic results are different for sending and receiving countries and depend on the demographic structure of the flows. There is a possible role for the OSCE in helping to draft national migration laws and to provide various activities to ease the integration of migrants. Furthermore, the OSCE could offer training aimed at reversing excessive brain drain of young population.

The challenges stemming from demographic issues mainly come from low fertility, population decline and increasing longevity. A successful management of this challenge is needed. For example, the retirement age in the emerging knowledge-based society should increase in order to provide the sustainability of pensions. However, solving the demographic challenges is not merely an economic security matter. It is also about keeping and improving education and health care as well as insurance systems.

The importance of developing sustainable family policies and gender equality as instruments to provide for the reverse of the decreasing fertility rates has been rightly pointed out. Governments should be encouraged to address the core issues of the current negative demographic developments. Demographic crisis is multi-faceted. For some OSCE regions the decrease in fertility rates does not represent the only challenge while it is clear that it can not be solved by immigration alone. The need for action has been emphasized several times. In this respect the creation of a demography working group/task force within the OSCE was proposed to contribute to demographic education. In addition, the need to obtain accurate demographic data was highlighted. In this respect, the funding of research capabilities remains a key issue.

Mr. Chairman,

In the globalized world, there is no country that can avoid health hazards posed by communicable diseases. Lack of political will to recognize and tackle the dangerous implications of HIV/AIDS on demographic trends may have deteriorating long-term consequences. It is therefore important to try to develop relevant recommendations in the field of fighting HIV/AIDS in the course of the preparatory cycle to the 13th Economic Forum.

It is of great importance that the linkages between demography, environment and security were demonstrated. In this respect unveiling the evidence for a connection between demography, environment and violent conflict and help in preventing the latter should be one of the OSCE important future tasks within already existing Environment and Security Initiative.
Mr. Chairman, this seminar has been a motivating event. Qualified participants have been active both in their presentations as well as in discussions. Some solutions of how to tackle the pressing demographic challenges in the OSCE area were proposed. The two forthcoming seminars on migration and integrating persons belonging to national minorities will follow a similar pattern.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, let me say that in the capacity of incoming Chairmanship we are looking forward to explore the issues that were discussed here in Trieste. The deliberations of the last two days are reinforcing us to believe that Participating States will stand together for the challenges of the OSCE’s Economic Forum in May 2005 in Prague and beyond. This awareness should bring us to action-oriented recommendations.

Let me use this opportunity and invite you to attend the Second Preparatory Seminar dedicated to Migration issues to be held in Almaty, Kazakhstan on 24-25 January 2005.

Thank you for your attention.
CONCLUDING REMARKS

by Mr. Marcin Święcicki,
Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear participants,

I would like to welcome you all to the Closing Plenary Session. Over the last two days we have heard very interesting presentations on a wide range of issues related to demographic trends, migration, economic, environmental and security causes and consequences of these phenomena, and we had fruitful debates.

I have the pleasure to start this session by giving the floor to Ms. Blažka Kepic, representing the incoming Slovenian Chairmanship. She will present the preliminary suggestions formulated during the seminar’s working sessions. These suggestions were extracted from the discussions over the last days by our excellent rapporteurs and moderators. I want to use this opportunity to extend to all of them my warmest thanks and my gratitude for their excellent work.

Let me share with you a few remarks on some findings of our seminar.

Demographic trends were not contested. The dramatic swift is to occur in the next 50 years. To give you just one example, in Italy population is to drop by 22 per cent. We also have learned that those trends might be reverted at least partially. We are “renewable resource”. Couples have today many options to conduct a meaningful life. Having children is only one of them. But we have learnt that a stable job and adequate family policy, helping to continue professional activity with parental responsibilities, may facilitate taking decision on procreation.

Pension systems are under threat. Contributions will be shrinking, benefits flows will be rising. This may be cured. Experts told us that raising retirements age is key measure in repairing relations between contributions and benefits.

We preliminary discussed migratory pressures. This seems to be the topic with many potential recommendations. Luckily the next seminar will be devoted to it. Time and again we were reminded about too drastic economic discrepancies that contribute to migratory pressures and brain drain of enormous proportions.

The Consolidated Summary of the Seminar will be soon made available to the Delegations in Vienna and to the participants. It will also be available to you all on our website. The Economic and Environmental Sub-Committee in Vienna and then the 13th Economic Forum will further debate the suggestions regarding follow up actions by the OSCE participating States and my office.

Before closing I once again would like to express my gratitude to our Italian hosts and co-organizers of the seminar – the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, represented by H.E. Guido Lenzi, former Italian Ambassador to the OSCE, as well as H.E. Francesco Bascone who was very helpful in arranging our seminar in Trieste. I would like to thank the Region Friuli-Venezia Giulia, the Province of Trieste, the Municipality of Trieste and the Chamber of Commerce. I would also like to thank the Trieste Expo Challenge Board and to wish them to succeed in their bid for hosting the Expo 2008 in Trieste. I am also grateful to the University of Trieste for offering this nice venue, I would like to thank the United World College and the Foundation Cassa Di Risparmio. Special words of thanks go to the interpreters and the Italian logistic team.

I would also like to thank again the Bulgarian OSCE Chairmanship and the incoming Slovenian Chairmanship.
Special words of thanks also go to the stimulating speakers, the moderators and rapporteurs and to the staff of my office Ms. Andrea Gredler, Mr. Gabriel Leonte and Mr. Kilian Strauss. They all did an excellent work.

I want to greet the students present in this room and thank them for their interest and patience and to wish them all success in their endeavour.

Our deliberations would of course not have been possible without all the participants in the event, and I would like to thank you all for your support and contributions. All the OSCE Delegations taking part, the many Field Missions, the International Organizations, NGOs and Academics, thank you very much.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, it was an honour and a great pleasure to be with all of you and I am looking forward to our continuing co-operation.

But before wishing all of you a safe journey to your home country, I am giving the floor to a very special person, Professor Maria Paola Pagnini, representing both the Municipality of Trieste and the Universities in Trieste and Gorizia. Without her contribution the seminar would not have been possible.

Thank you.
Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum
“Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE area”

First Preparatory Seminar: Demographic Prospects in the OSCE area: Economic and Security Implications
8 – 9 November, Trieste, Italy

Conference venue: Università degli Studi di Trieste, Aula Magna (3rd floor), Piazzale Europa 1

ANNOTATED AGENDA

Sunday, 7 November 2004

19:30 – 21:30 Welcoming Reception hosted by the Slovenian Incoming Chairmanship,
Grand Hotel Duchi d’ Aosta, Piazza Unita D’Italia

Monday, 8 November 2004

09.00 - 10.00 Opening Plenary Session (open to Press)
Welcoming Remarks by:

- H.E. Roberto Antonione, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Italy, host country
- H.E. Andrej Logar, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, incoming OSCE Chairmanship
- Mr. Rakovski Lashev, OSCE Chairmanship Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bulgaria, OSCE Chairmanship
- Mr. Marcin Święcicki, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
- Prof. Domenico Coccopalmerio, Dean of the Faculty of Political Sciences - University of Trieste
- Mr. Riccardo Illy, President, Region Friuli Venezia Giulia
- Prof. Maria Paola Pagnini, City Counsellor for European relations of the Municipality of Trieste
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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| 10.00 - 11.00 | Working Session 1: Demographic Prospects, Economy and Security – key issues | • Demographic evolution and long-term prospects in the OSCE area – what future for the OSCE area  
• Economic and security implications of population trends in the OSCE area |

**Moderator:** Ambassador Guido Lenzi, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy  
**Rapporteur:** Ms. Jeannette Kloetzer, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Office in Yerevan

**Speakers:**  
Mr. Janez Malačič, Professor, Head of the Statistical Department, Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Mr. Raimondo Cagiano de Azevedo, Professor of Demography, Faculty of Economics, University “La Sapienza”, Rome, Italy

**Discussion**

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| 11.30 - 12.30 | Working Session 1: Demographic Prospects, Economy and Security — key issues (continued) | • Demographic tendencies in the OSCE neighbourhood  
• Population movements in the OSCE area and the OSCE neighbourhood |

**Speakers:**  
Mr. Maged Othman, Professor, Director of the Cairo Demographic Center, Egypt  
Mr. Marek Kupiszewski, Director of the Central European Forum for Migration Research / IOM, Warsaw, Poland

**Discussion**

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| 14.30 - 16.00 | Working Session 2: Impact of ageing and policy responses | • Ageing and declining population, its impact on the economy  
• Social and political consequences of ageing  
• Policy responses |

**Moderator:** Mr. Rasto Ovin, Professor, Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Maribor, Slovenia  
**Rapporteur:** Mr. Oleg Ziborov, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the OSCE

**Speakers:**  
Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, Population Activities Unit, UNECE  
Mr. Heikki Oksanen, Adviser, DG for Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission  
Mr. Anis H. Bajrektarevic, Chairman, International Law and Global Political Studies, IMC University of Applied Management Sciences, Krems, Austria

**Discussion**

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16.30 - 18.00   Working Session 3 : Fertility, family dynamics and policy responses

- Patterns of fertility in the OSCE region – underlying reasons
- Fertility in times of societal and economic change
- Policy responses to declining population growth rates

Moderator:   Ambassador Mette Kongshem, Permanent Representative of Norway to the OSCE
Rapporteur: Ms. Lyale Nazarova, Economic and Environmental Assistant, OSCE Centre in Ashgabad

Speakers:
Mr. Vladimir A. Iontsev, Professor, Head of the Department of Population, Faculty of Economics, Moscow State University “Lomonosov”, Russian Federation

Discussion

19.30   Reception at the Trieste "Prefettura", hosted by the Task Force of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the Candidacy of Trieste to the Expo 2008

Tuesday, 9 November 2004

09.00 - 10.30   Working Session 4 : Regional demographic developments affecting security and stability

- Regional demographic developments
- The impact of internal and external demographic shifts on security

Moderator:   Ambassador Francisco Seixas da Costa, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the OSCE
Rapporteur: Ms. Katherine Brucker, United States Mission to the OSCE

Speakers:
Mr. Enrico Todisco, Professor of Demography, Faculty of Economics, University “La Sapienza”, Rome, Italy
Ms. Milva Ekonomi, General Director, Institute of Statistics, Tirana, Albania
Ms. Lyudmila Maksakova, Chief of the Department of Demography and Labor Markets, Center for Effective Economic Policy under the Ministry of Economics of Uzbekistan

Discussion

10.30 - 11.00   Coffee Break

11.00 - 12.00   Working Session 5 : Health hazards and communicable diseases (AIDS, tuberculosis) and their impact on demographic trends; economic implications

Moderator:   Ambassador Francesco Bascone, Permanent Mission of Italy to the OSCE
Rapporteur: Mr. William Hanlon, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Mission to Georgia

Speakers:
Ms. Natalia Gordienko, Regional Policy Advisor on HIV/AIDS, UNDP/Bratislava Regional Centre
Mr. Alexey V. Bobrik, Deputy Director, Open Health Institute, Russian Federation
Ms. Baktygul Bozgorpoeva, Project Manager, Kyrgyz Family Planning Alliance (KFPA), Kyrgyzstan
12.00 - 13.00   Working Session 6: Demographic developments and Environmental issues

- Demography – Environment – Security: an overview of linkages
- Demography and environment – a visualisation exercise

**Moderator:** Mr. Denis Sidorenko, Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Belarus to OSCE

**Rapporteur:** Ms. Annica Carlsson, Environmental Adviser, OSCE/OCEEA

**Speakers:**
- Mr. Colin H. Kahl, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Minnesota, US
- Mr. Gianluca Rampolla, Economic and Environmental Adviser, OSCE/OCEEA

**Discussion**

13.00 - 13.15   Coffee break

13.15 - 14.00   Wrap-up and Way Forward

- Presentation of Recommendations
- Discussion and Follow-up

**Closing Remarks by**

- Mr. Aleksander Geržina, Head of the OSCE Task Force, State Undersecretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, incoming OSCE Chairmanship, Head of OSCE Task Force
- Mr. Marcin Święcicki, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

14:00 – 15:00   Lunch

15:00 – 16:30   Optional Visit to “PORTO VECCHIO“ (OLD HARBOUR) of Trieste and to the Castle Miramare
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OBSERVERS

The undergraduate students of the Degree in Diplomatic and International Affairs of Gorizia.
**LOG OF CONTRIBUTIONS**

FOR THE FIRST PREPARATORY SEMINAR FOR THE 13TH OSCE ECONOMIC FORUM

TRIESTE, 8-9 NOVEMBER 2004

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<td>Demographic Prospects in the OSCE area and OSCE Neighbourhood and economic implications, by Janez Malacic, Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, Head of Statistical Department</td>
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<td>Population Issues in the International Relations: Conflicts and Security Implications, by Raimondo Cagiano de Azevedo, Faculty of Economics, University &quot;La Sapienza&quot;, Rome, Professor of Demography</td>
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<td>Demographic tendencies in the OSCE Neighborhood, by Mr. Maged Othman, Demographic center of the Cairo, Director</td>
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<td>Population mobility and migration in the OSCE area and OSCE Neighbourhood and economic implications, by Mr. Marek Kupiszewski, IOM, Poland, Director of the Central European Forum</td>
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<td>Implications of Population Decline for the Economy and Immigration: Challenges facing Europe, by Mr. Miroslav Macura, IOM, Director of the Central European Forum</td>
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<td>1PS13EFWS2/2</td>
<td>On the Economic Effects of Population Ageing, notably on Public Finances, by Mr. Heikki Oksanen, DG for Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission, Adviser</td>
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<td>Europe beyond 2020: Three–Dimensional Challenges, by Mr. Anis Bajrektarevic, IMC Univeristy of Applied Management Sciences, Austria, Chairman, International Law and Global Political Studies</td>
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<td>Impact of Population on Social Security and Economic Development (Abstract and PPP), by Ms. Lyudmila Maksakova, Center for Effective</td>
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<td>Presentation by Ms. Natalia Gordienko, UNDP Bratislava Regional Center, Policy Advisor on HIV/AIDS</td>
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