



Human Dimension Implementation Meeting

CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY

Warsaw, 23 September - 4 October 2013

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The seventeenth OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM) took place in Warsaw from 23 September to 4 October 2013. This year, it attracted a great number of participants representing OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation as well as OSCE structures, other international organizations and civil society. Organized by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), it aimed at reviewing the implementation of the full range of OSCE human dimension commitments related to human rights and democracy issues.

The HDIM provides a unique opportunity for representatives of civil society of the participating States to meet and exchange ideas, not only with their civil society counterparts from other countries but also with government representatives and international organizations.

Ambassador Janez Lenarčič, Director of the OSCE/ODIHR, chaired the Opening Plenary Session and gave an opening statement. The opening plenary also featured statements from: Mr. Bogusław Winid, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland; Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the OSCE; Ms. Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media; Ms. Astrid Thors, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities; Mr. Mehmet Sevki Kulkuloglu, Vice-Chair of the Committee for Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly; and Ambassador Adam Kobieracki, Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre, who gave a statement on behalf of the OSCE Secretary General.

The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Stavros Lambrinidis, EU Special Representative for Human Rights.

A number of participating States also delivered statements in the opening session.

Working Sessions of the first week focused on:

- Tolerance and non-discrimination I, including national minorities and preventing aggressive nationalism, racism and chauvinism (moderated by Mr. Alexander Hug, Head of Section and Senior Adviser to the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities);
- Tolerance and non-discrimination II, including review of the implementation of commitments on promotion of mutual respect and understanding, prevention and responses to hate crimes in the OSCE area, combating racism, xenophobia and discrimination, also focusing on intolerance and discrimination against Christians and members of other religions, combating anti-Semitism, combating intolerance and discrimination against Muslims (moderated by Ms. Robin Selafani, Director of CEJI – A Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe);
- Tolerance and non-discrimination II, including equality of opportunity for women and men, implementation of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, and prevention of violence against women and children (moderated by Ms. June Zeitlin, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Gender Issues);
- Fundamental freedoms I, including freedom of expression, free media and information, and best practices for protection of journalists (moderated by Dr. Andrey Rikhter, Director of the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media);
- Fundamental freedoms II, including freedom of movement, national human rights institutions and the role of civil society in the protection of human rights, and human rights education (moderated by Ms. Olga Potemkina, Head of European Integration Studies, Institute of Europe, Russian Academy of Sciences);
- Two specifically selected topics were also covered during the first week:

- Freedom of religion or belief (moderated by Professor Renata Treneska-Deskoska and Ms. Ingrid Vik, both Members of the OSCE/ODIHR Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief);
- Freedom of assembly and association (moderated by Ms. Nathalie Tagwerker, Deputy Head of the OSCE/ODIHR Democratization Department, and by Mr. Cyril Ritchie, President of the Expert Council on NGO Law, respectively).

Working Sessions of the second week were devoted to:

- Humanitarian issues and other commitments I, including combating trafficking in human beings, and implementation of the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (moderated by Ms. Eva Biaudet, Finnish Ombudsman for Minorities, former OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings);
- Democratic institutions, including democracy at the national, regional and local levels, citizenship and political rights (moderated by Mr. Thomas Vennen, Head of the OSCE/ODIHR Democratization Department);
- Rule of law I, including democratic lawmaking, independence of the judiciary, and right to a fair trial (moderated by Ms. Ekaterine Popkhadze, Executive Director of the Georgian Young Lawyers' Association);
- Rule of law II, including exchange of views on the question of abolition of capital punishment, prevention of torture, and protection of human rights and fighting terrorism (moderated by Ms. Hanne Sophie Greve, Member of the International Commission against the Death Penalty, Judge, Vice President of the Gulatings High Court for Western Norway);
- Humanitarian issues and other commitments II, including Roma and Sinti issues and implementation of the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti, migrant workers, the integration of legal migrants, refugees and displaced persons, treatment of citizens of other participating States (moderated by Mr. Andrzej Mirga, Senior Adviser, Chief of the OSCE/ODIHR Contact Point on Roma and Sinti Issues);
- Discussion of human dimension activities (with special emphasis on project work), including presentation of activities of the ODIHR and other OSCE institutions and field operations to implement priorities and tasks contained in relevant OSCE decisions and other documents (moderated by Ms. Beatriz Balbin, Deputy Director of the OSCE/ODIHR);
- One special topic was covered during the second week:
 - Democratic elections and election observation – sharing best practices (moderated by Dr. Beata Martin-Rozumiłowicz, Head of the OSCE/ODIHR Election Department).

Written summaries by rapporteurs of the Working Sessions were submitted and distributed in advance of the Closing Plenary Session. Their reports were distributed to all delegations and posted online. This new practice introduced in 2012 increased transparency by providing an opportunity for the delegations of participating States to familiarize themselves with the Rapporteurs' summaries in advance of the Closing Session, which was dedicated to a dialogue on review of the HDIM results and recommendations.

The HDIM was concluded by a Plenary Session reinforced by the participation of some officials from capitals. A number of participating States and one OSCE structure delivered statements at the Reinforced Plenary Session. Closing addresses were delivered by Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council and Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the OSCE, and by Ambassador Janez Lenarčič, Director of the OSCE/ODIHR.

An unprecedented number of side events (total of 66) were organized on the margins of the HDIM to highlight and address a wide range of human dimension topics. These provided

opportunities for governments to present best practices, for NGOs to brief on their activities and for more in-depth and focused discussions on various issues related to democracy and human rights in the OSCE area.

Participating States as well as NGOs provided a wide range of recommendations on human dimension issues that addressed the implementation of OSCE commitments in participating States and relevant programmes for OSCE Institutions. These recommendations were compiled thematically by ODIHR for each working session and distributed to all participants. The final compilation of written recommendations is included in this report.

As in previous years, ODIHR used its electronic Documents Distribution System (DDS). This tool allowed all documents and recommendations to be immediately displayed in electronic form on terminals available at the conference venue and accessible through the OSCE website. With the possibility of sending documents via e-mail directly from the terminals, the system facilitates additional input to and feedback from the debate. It also significantly reduces costs of the Meeting. The list of documents distributed during the HDIM is attached to this report. During the Meeting, participants also had the possibility to familiarize themselves with two other main tools developed and offered by ODIHR – the Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Information System (TANDIS) and Legislationline. TANDIS is a tool allowing ODIHR to serve as a collection point for information related to tolerance and non-discrimination as tasked by the 2003 Ministerial Council while Legislationline is a free-of-charge online legislative database assisting the participating States in bringing their legislation into line with relevant international human-rights standards. Both databases can be accessed through ODIHR's website.

LINK TO THE AGENDA

English: <http://www.osce.org/odihr/103919>

Russian: <http://www.osce.org/ru/odihr/104764>

II. PARTICIPATION

Total number of participants - 1134, including:

416 participants from 54 participating States (from: Albania (2), Andorra (1), Armenia (4), Austria (9), Azerbaijan (6), Belarus (7), Belgium (4), Bosnia and Herzegovina (1), Bulgaria (6), Canada (6), Croatia (3), Cyprus (1), Czech Republic (8), Denmark (4), Estonia (5), Finland (5), France (10), Georgia (9), Germany (5), Greece (4), Holy See (4), Hungary (9), Iceland (1), Ireland (3), Italy (5), Kazakhstan (15), Kyrgyzstan (5), Latvia (6), Liechtenstein (1), Lithuania (9), Luxembourg (5), Malta (1), Moldova (4), Mongolia (1), Montenegro (1), Netherlands (9), Norway (4), Poland (30), Portugal (2), Romania (5), Russian Federation (22), Serbia (12), Slovakia (8), Slovenia (5), Spain (7), Sweden (9), Switzerland (16), Tajikistan (7), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2), Turkey (13), Ukraine (35), United Kingdom (6), United States of America (46), Uzbekistan (8))

7 representatives from 3 Partners for Co-operation: Israel (1)
Morocco (2) Thailand (4)

31 representatives of 9 International Organizations:

- Community of Democracies (8)
- Council of Europe (14)
- European Union, European External Action Service (2)
- Frontex-European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders(2)
- International Humanitarian Fact Finding Commission (1)
- International Organization for Migration, Poland (1)
- Office of the EU Special Representative for Human Rights (1)
- UN Women; Georgia Country Office (1)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; Liaison Office in Austria (1)

21 participants from the 7 OSCE Institutions:

- OSCE Secretariat (3)
- OSCE Secretariat, Conflict Prevention Centre (1)
- OSCE Secretariat; Action against Terrorism Unit (1)
- OSCE Secretariat; Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (2)
- Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media (5)
- OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (4)
- OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (5)

48 representatives of 14 OSCE Missions/Field Operations:

- OSCE Presence in Albania (4)
- OSCE Centre in Astana (1)
- OSCE Office in Baku (3)
- OSCE Centre in Bishkek (3)
- OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina (2)
- OSCE Mission in Kosovo (4)
- OSCE Mission to Moldova (5)
- OSCE Mission to Montenegro (1)
- OSCE Mission to Serbia (6)
- OSCE Mission to Skopje (2)
- OSCE Office in Tajikistan (4)
- OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine (7)
- OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan (4)
- OSCE Office in Yerevan (2)

611 representatives of 432 NGOs from:

- Afghanistan (1)
- Armenia (5)
- Austria (12)
- Azerbaijan (11)
- Belarus (16)
- Belgium (18)
- Bosnia and Herzegovina (2)
- Bulgaria (3)
- Canada (1)
- Croatia (1)

- Denmark (5)
- Estonia (5)
- Finland (3)
- France (15)
- Georgia (7)
- Germany (15)
- Greece (3)
- Hungary (8)
- Ireland (4)
- Italy (6)
- Kazakhstan (34)
- Kyrgyzstan (13)
- Latvia (8)
- Lithuania (5)
- Moldova (6)
- Montenegro (1)
- Netherlands (7)
- Norway (6)
- Poland (52)
- Romania (6)
- Russian Federation (46)
- Serbia (7)
- Slovakia (2)
- Spain (2)
- Sweden (7)
- Switzerland (12)
- Tajikistan (12)
- Tunisia (2)
- Turkey (3)
- Ukraine (22)
- United Kingdom (19)
- United States of America (14)
- Uzbekistan (5)

Link to Final List of Participants:

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/107277>

III. RAPPORTEURS' REPORTS

Working Session 1: Tolerance and non-discrimination I

- Address by the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities;
- National Minorities
- Preventing aggressive nationalism, racism and chauvinism.

Rapporteur: Ms. Charlotta Rodhe, First Secretary, Permanent Delegation of Sweden to the OSCE

No. of statements: 57
Delegations: 15
Civil Society: 28
OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 2
Rights of Reply: 12

The Working Session 1 was introduced by the new OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, Ms. Astrid Thors. Thors focused her introduction on linguistic rights of persons belonging to national minorities and stressed that linguistic rights were a precondition for the realization of other rights, such as those related to education and participation, as well as the preservation of minority identities. Thors recalled the relevant OSCE, UN, Council of Europe and other international standards, as well as the HCNM thematic recommendations of the last 20 years and underlined the need to strike an appropriate balance between the promotion of the State language(s) as a tool for integration in society, and the obligation to promote and protect minority languages as an essential part of minority identities. In this connection, she drew attention to the latest set of HCNM recommendations, the Ljubljana Guidelines on the Integration of Diverse Societies. The HCNM pointed out that effective integration policies are indispensable in increasingly diverse societies and that these require that a delicate balance is struck between the goals of promoting cohesion of societies and respect for separate identities. Furthermore, she underlined that positive measures and incentives are the most effective way to promote cohesion and acquisition of the State language(s) by persons belonging to national minorities. Multilingual education is a highly effective tool to promote the learning of the State language(s) as well as to preserve a vibrant minority language for children from an early age, stressed the HCNM. Finally, she drew attention to the fact that inter-cultural education is equally essential to promote cross-cultural understanding.

45 participants made statements in the Session, out of which 28 intervened as Non-Governmental Organizations. 12 participants made use of their right to reply.

Several participants welcomed the new HCNM and expressed support for the HCNM's work methods and mandate. Some States underlined their good co-operation with the Office of the HCNM and one participant recalled the Office's past success in preventing inter-ethnic conflict from escalating through the use of the HCNM's effective work methods.

Some participants described a negative trend in parts of the OSCE region when it came to the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, and warned against a rise of aggressive nationalism, Nazism, extreme xenophobia and chauvinism. Refuting this criticism, other participants outlined measures taken to ensure respect, protection and promotion of rights of persons belonging to minorities in their respective countries and efforts to counter extremist ideologies. Concerns were raised that some of the criticism was politically motivated, rather than based on the assessment of implementation of commitments.

A number of participants brought up specific problems in parts of the OSCE area, particularly in the field of citizenship policies affecting minorities, political participation, housing and school segregation. Recent cases of forced evictions of persons belonging to minorities were a cause for concern expressed by certain participants.

The need for better implementation of the relevant OSCE commitments was widely agreed upon. There was also broad support for the HCNM statements regarding promotion of linguistic rights through education. Several participants made reference to the Ljubljana recommendations. One Delegation stated that the term national minority was, in fact, degrading, and that its government did not use that term.

Several participants made statements referring to the need to foster inclusive societies by ensuring minority representation in different professions, including law enforcement and other government structures. Also, several delegations pointed to the need to counter hate speech and hate crimes in order to prevent raising tensions and a culture of impunity.

A number of participants told of efforts to overcome a history of assimilationist policies. The need for authorities to recognize past wrongdoings and to jointly establish facts were underlined in this regard.

In the right of reply section, some of the allegations regarding discriminatory practices and other violations of rights were refuted. Participants referred to legislative efforts underway to ensure implementation of commitments as well as already existing legislation and structures and underlined their commitment to protect persons belonging to national minorities from hate crime. Allegations of sympathy to extremist ideologies were rejected.

Recommendations to the OSCE participating States:

- Ensure full implementation of relevant commitments to respect, promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to national minorities;
- Make use of the Ljubljana recommendations, as well as the expertise and advice of the HCNM;
- Monitor hate crimes and hate speech, including through setting up effective mechanisms to that end;
- Fully implement decisions of the European Court of Human Rights and other international human rights bodies.

Recommendations to the OSCE, its institutions and field operations:

- OSCE institutions should pay attention to negative tendencies throughout the OSCE region in regard to extremist ideologies;
- The HCNM should pay attention to education and citizenship issues in the OSCE region;
- The HCNM should continue to make use of discreet work methods proven to be successful;
- The HCNM should continue assistance to the OSCE participating States to promote integration of national minorities, including through multi-lingual education.

Working Session 2: Tolerance and non-discrimination II – Review of the implementation of commitments on promotion of mutual respect and understanding

- Prevention and responses to hate crimes in the OSCE area
- Combating racism, xenophobia and discrimination, also focusing on intolerance and discrimination against Christians and members of other religions;
- Combating anti-Semitism;
- Combating intolerance and discrimination against Muslims.

*Rapporteur: Mr. Jean-François Lacasse, Counsellor, Deputy Permanent Representative
Delegation of Canada to the OSCE*

No. of statements: 94

Delegations: 18

Civil Society: 61

OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 3

Rights of Reply: 12

The Introducer for session 2 was Ms. Salome Mbugua, Chief Executive Officer at the AkiDwAMigrant Women's Network in Ireland. She noted that available statistics make clear that there

are strong rooted prejudices and racism across the OSCE region, and that political will is required to face these. Migrant women constitute a particularly vulnerable group and, through daily life, face a number of challenges such as violence and threats of violence, sexual harassment and, difficulties to access public services. The development of responses should ensure that women's interests are taken into account and that culturally-appropriate services are developed to respond to issues such as forced marriage and sexual mutilations. She called on governments to actively promote respect for cultural diversity and improve efforts to combat discrimination, intolerance and hate crimes. This can be achieved through such measures as awareness raising, education, training of law enforcement officials, improved data collection, support for victims and strengthened legal protection.

The session also benefited from introductory words by the three *Special Representatives of the Chairman-in-Office*: Senator Adil Akhmetov on *Combating Intolerance against Muslims*, Rabbi Andrew Baker on *Combating Anti-Semitism* and Ambassador Tetiana Izhevska on *Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, also focusing on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians and Members of Other Religions*. Their presentations brought a number of issues to the attention of the participants: the need to improve co-operation between police authorities and communities to address the under-reporting of hate crimes, the dangers posed by the use of inflammatory rhetoric by some politicians, the new challenges posed by Internet/cyber-hate, the financial burden imposed on communities to increase their security, the challenges posed when a community faces particular prejudice from another and the debates surrounding legislation and the respect of religious traditions. The three Special Representative made a number of country visits in 2013 and appreciated the willingness of these participating States to engage with them. Finally, they encouraged States to enhance co-operation with ODIHR's experts and to make maximum use of available resources such as training and teaching guidelines.

82 participants made interventions following the introducers, including 61 made by nongovernmental organizations. 12 States made use of their right of reply. Interventions were limited to one minute and a half due to the high number of participants wishing to speak.

The vast majority of participants shared the Introducer's assessment that various forms of intolerance and discrimination, notably against migrants, remain to be addressed across the OSCE space, albeit some forms are more prevalent in certain regions.

Ongoing and sometimes growing discrimination against Christians, Jews and Muslims was highlighted, as was discrimination against other faiths or non-believers. Regardless of their creed, religious communities in a minority position can face a variety of challenges preventing them from practicing their faith freely. Particular issues mentioned included: inability or difficulties with registration or re-registration required by the State, return of religious property, inability of worshipping in public, banning of religious displays, punishment of conscientious objectors, discrimination in the workplace, prevention of missionary activity and, inability of communities to self-appoint their religious heads. Vandalism and destruction of properties such as churches, mosques, synagogues and other places of worship was also identified as a serious concern for many communities.

A large number of participants raised the issue of discrimination of persons on the basis of their sexual orientation. In a number of countries, LGBTI persons facing violence and threats are unable to report incidents to the police due to fear of further discrimination. Participating States were encouraged to ensure proper legislative and law enforcement measures are in place, including by avoiding legislation that criminalizes or otherwise create a climate of fear and discrimination.

Many participants expressed serious concerns with groups attempting to reanimate or glorify Nazism. These attempts are often combined with a strong nationalist discourse and governments are not seen as fighting these trends as forcefully as they should. Notably, gaps were identified between constitutional and legislative frameworks against discrimination and the practical application of these principles in some States. Some of these issues are also reflected in a lack of protection for language and education rights, notably for Russian-speaking minorities.

A number of participants identified discrimination against Roma and Sinti as a serious concern in many States and encouraged further implementation of the *2004 OSCE Action Plan* and related national action plans.

It was noted by some participants that the media and political parties have an important role to play in fighting discrimination. Unfortunately, some countries have seen the appearance of parties promoting anti-Semitic and anti-migrant discourses.

A number of participants highlighted the challenge in ensuring that both freedom of speech and freedom of religion or belief are respected, including in relation to the use of the Internet. Two participants called for the withdrawal of ODIHR's *Guidelines for Educators on Countering Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims* on the basis that they hinder free speech, while a number of participants saw the *Guidelines* as a useful tool that should be further used by participating States. A few participants called for the prohibition of religious material preaching hatred, while others called on States to avoid associating terrorism and extremism with a particular religion. Some participants expressed concerns with the use of unclear terminology in OSCE discussions.

When discussing solutions and approaches to combating intolerance and discrimination, some suggested basing our efforts on the concept of human dignity. It was also emphasized that we should see this work as a long-term process and a social investment.

A number of participating States shared their national experiences and good practices in confronting hate crime and supporting tolerance and non-discrimination. Many participants spoke on the need to improve efforts on hate crime data gathering through measures such as increased involvement of civil society, development of national action plans and, enhanced disaggregation of data. ODIHR's efforts on an OSCE database on hate crimes can however be hampered by a lack of harmonization between national practices.

Participating States were encouraged to respect and fully implement their OSCE commitments. Other suggestions included joining various instruments such as relevant Council of Europe Protocols and the Ottawa Protocol on Combating Antisemitism, as well as to hold Holocaust remembrance events.

A large number of participants welcomed the work done by ODIHR's Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department and encouraged further co-operation between its experts and participating States. In that context, appreciation was expressed for this year's Tirana OSCE High Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination.

Given the high number of interventions made and the limited time allowed for each delegation to speak, the list below does not constitute an exhaustive list of all recommendations. Please refer to individual statements by participants and the consolidated list of recommendations for a full list.

Recommendations to the participating States:

- Further increase their efforts to implement their OSCE commitments on tolerance and nondiscrimination;

- Fully utilize the ODIHR's education tools and guidelines;
- Support ODIHR and its Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department, including through increased funding;
- Provide disaggregated data on hate crime, as well as provide data consistently;
- Speak out against hatred in politics, condemn hate crime and hateful statements;
- Condemn racism and nazism and to ensure there are no gaps between legislation and implementation;
- Participate in training and reinforce efforts to fight violence, racism and discrimination;
- Make and support efforts to confront violence towards persons based on their sexual orientation by providing meaningful responses to such violations;
- Engage further in dialogue on discrimination against LGBTI persons.

Recommendations to the OSCE, its Institutions and Field Offices:

- For the OSCE to make better use of its three Personal Representatives and ODIHR's Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department as its tools;
- For ODIHR to organize a high level event on the anniversary of the Berlin Conference on Anti- Semitism in 2014;
- For the OSCE under the 2014 Swiss Chairmanship-in-Office to combat discrimination against Muslims, including through the organization of a high-level event on the issue;
- For the OSCE to adopt a document condemning attempts to glorify and reanimate Nazism;
- For ODIHR to withdraw from distribution the *Guidelines for Educators on Countering Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims*;
- For the OSCE to promote the *Guidelines for Educators on Countering Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims* across the OSCE region;
- For ODIHR and participating States to focus on issues with a security dimension;
- For the OSCE and ODIHR to avoid using contentious terms and instead use agreed-upon terms from the documents;
- For ODIHR to run training activities for prosecutors and judges;
- For the OSCE and participating States to build comprehensive strategies to combat discrimination against Roma and Sinti and to raise awareness of the Roma holocaust;
- For ODIHR to place the Roma/Sinti topic under the Tolerance and Non- Discrimination agenda item rather than the Humanitarian Issues of HDIM.

Working Session 3: Tolerance and non-discrimination II (continued)

- Equality of opportunity for women and men, including: Implementation of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality;
- Prevention of violence against women and children.

Rapporteur: Ms. Stephanie Winkler, First Secretary Permanent Mission of Austria to the OSCE

No. of statements: 52

Delegations: 21

Civil Society: 23

OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 1

Rights of Reply: 7

Working session 3 focused on the equality of opportunity for women and men, including the implementation of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality as well as on prevention of violence against women and children. Ambassador Janez Lenarčič, Director of ODIHR,

highlighted in his introductory remarks the commitments that participating States have made to gender equality. Some progress has been achieved in the representation of women in the security

sector and in the development of a comprehensive legislative framework relating to gender equality, yet much more remains to be done.

The Moderator, Ms. June Zeitlin, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Gender Issues, referred to violence against women as one of the most widespread human rights violations which occurs in every country in the OSCE region. Ms. Zeitlin recommended that participating States share their experience and lessons learned in order to find innovative and effective approaches. She also urged participating States to familiarize themselves with the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.

The first Introducer, Dr. Gulnara Ibraeva, Expert on Gender Equality and Associate Professor at the American University of Central Asia, noted the important role of civil society in achieving gender equality. Lack of resources and Islamization often hinder women from having a leadership role. Therefore there is a need for increased financial support for local gender programmes, especially in post-conflict countries. The second Introducer, Ms. Olga Kostina, Member of Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation, Head of Human Rights Movement “Resistance”, recommended the elaboration and then distribution through participating States of a road map with best practices for protecting children. Ms. Kostina stressed the need to create a safe environment at home for future citizens.

Ambassador Miroslava Beham, OSCE Senior Adviser on Gender Issues, gave an overview of upcoming events and activities organized by the OSCE Gender Section. Ambassador Beham noted positively the increase in the share of women in senior positions and the augmented awarenessraising related to UNSCR 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security in the last 12 months. The 10th anniversary of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality in 2014 provides a strategic opportunity to revisit commitments in the form of an addendum to the Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality as well as through the integration of a review mechanism. Furthermore, a National Gender Focal Points Network is being developed by the Gender Section to address the lack of systemized data and co-ordination related to gender issues in the OSCE.

In the debate that followed, it was widely stated that women and children still faced discrimination and violence. 45 interventions were made of which 23 by non-governmental organizations and 1 international organization. In addition, 7 participating States made use of their right of reply in response to prior interventions.

Several participants highlighted best practices to ensure gender equality in the legal, social, economic and cultural sphere and underlined the need to enhance the active participation of women in politics in all stages of the decision-making processes as a necessary precondition for development and sustained peace. Many delegations discussed the importance of economic rights related to gender equality and that enabling women to earn their own living is one of the most effective ways of empowerment. Some delegations mentioned the important role of OSCE Field Operations in facilitating compliance with gender commitments, *inter alia* through the recruitment of specific Gender Advisers. One delegation mentioned the Mentor Project for Women in the OSCE.

Many speakers stressed the importance of combating violence against women and children. A number of participants referred to the Council of Europe’s Istanbul Convention in this respect. Moreover, the need for public bodies to co-operate with civil society and share best practices was stressed. A number of participants shared their best practices in combating violence against women. One NGO highlighted the need to protect women detainees as they were a group particularly vulnerable to violence and harassment. Furthermore, several speakers stressed the importance of combating practices that harm women and girls, including forced marriage,

female genital mutilation, and honour killings. One delegation expressed concern about the abuse, sale and trafficking of children after adoption.

A large number of delegations expressed support for the development of an OSCE-wide action plan on UNSCR 1325 as well as to include women in all levels of OSCE activities. Several participants pointed out the need to pay attention to gender issues throughout the conflict cycle and to effectively address the issue of preventing sexual violence in conflicts. It was stressed that all parties to armed conflict must comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law.

Recommendations to the participating States:

- Step up national and regional efforts to eradicate all forms of violence against women and girls and in this context become a party to the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence;
- Adopt specific laws against domestic violence and spousal rape and establish adequate networks for victim assistance as well as rehabilitation measures;
- Effectively protect children from all forms of violence and abuse, i.e. through effective legislation and prevention programmes;
- Enhance efforts to improve the participation of women in political and public life and in decision-making at all levels, including introducing special measures to address discriminatory practices and involve men and boys in gender equality promotion activities;
- Adopt as soon as possible an OSCE system-wide Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security;
- Co-operate in combating sexual violence in conflicts and address the prevention of sexual violence within the OSCE's work on the Conflict Cycle and Mediation;
- Share best practices and experiences to improve economic opportunities for women.

Recommendations to OSCE institutions, executive structures and field operations:

- Develop a plan to advance the implementation of the OSCE 2004 Gender Action Plan, for instance in the form of an addendum to the Gender Action Plan;
- Mainstream gender issues in all OSCE policies and activities and take concrete steps to ensure that field operations have the capacity to implement the OSCE gender commitments;
- Foster an increased exchange amongst participating States on their experiences with the implementation of UN Resolution 1325 in order to strengthen coherence and co-ordination within the OSCE region.

Working Session 4: Fundamental freedoms I

- Freedom of expression, free media and information, including best practices for protection of journalists;
- Address by the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media.

Rapporteur: Mr. Daniel Bekcic, Human Dimension Political Advisor, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the OSCE

No. of statements: 74

Delegations: 17

Civil Society: 42

OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 3

Rights of Reply: 12

The Working Session 4 was devoted to the right to freedom of expression, free media and information, including best practices of protection of journalists. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

(RFOM), Ms. Dunja Mijatović, addressed the delegations and civil society as introducer.

Overlooking the past year, Ms. Mijatović stated the lack of progress in numerous participating States towards guaranteeing the freedom of expression and media. Two journalists were killed for doing their work in this time frame, and one died as a result of his earlier injuries. Journalists also continue to be subjected to beatings, threats, intimidation, and harassment; in some cases police assaulted media workers while they were reporting about public demonstrations.

Moreover, the practice of screening excessive amounts of online conversations and other personal data gives rise to concern and can negatively affect free expression. While she welcomed recent examples of dropping charges against journalists, and finding some perpetrators, Ms. Mijatović urged participating States to step up efforts towards safe working conditions for journalists and thus the full implementation of common OSCE commitments. Journalists fulfill a vital democratic function in disseminating information to the public, she stated, which is why they require special protection.

Ms. Mijatović continued to remind participating States that the obligation to protect the freedom of expression extends beyond merely the editorial office and includes online media and open journalism. The increasingly common practice of filtering and blocking websites in parts of the OSCE, often aimed at silencing critical voices under the pretext of national security, represents another major challenge to the participating States in living up to the commonly agreed standards of open societies. Ms. Mijatović concluded by calling on all participating States to muster up the political will and courage to jointly counter these worrisome trends.

The ensuing interactive part of the session saw 62 interventions, 42 of which by non-governmental organizations. 12 participating States exercised their right to reply.

Numerous speakers commended the work of the RFOM, with some interventions calling for her continued or stronger assistance to participating States in implementing their commitments. Numerous speakers concurred with her call for the universal respect for the freedom of expression, including with regard to online media, with some expressing their support for the 2011 MC Draft Decision on the Fundamental Freedoms in the Digital Age. The MC Draft Decision on the Protection of Journalists in the OSCE Area, tabled by the Chairmanship-in-Office, was welcomed by numerous speakers.

Appeals to participating States to foster safe working environments for journalists went hand in hand with calls for an end to harassment of media workers, immediate release of imprisoned journalists in a number of participating States and the consistent investigation of cases where violations of the freedom to expression have occurred in order to end impunity. The vital role that the freedom of expression plays in democratic societies as a multiplier for other human rights was often invoked.

A particular focus was repeatedly put on the obligation of participating States to ensure that the freedom of expression is upheld also in situations of crises and social unrest.

One delegation and a few CSOs voiced their disapproval of a tendency for widespread and indiscriminate collection of online data by participating States, amounting to violations of the right to privacy, and of the ensuing prosecution of those who unearth such practices.

Numerous speakers called attention to the potentially conflicting relation between the freedom of expression on the one hand and efforts to combat intolerance and non-discrimination on the other. Some organizations expressed concern over the presumably restricting effect of hate crime legislation on the freedom of expression, in particular due to the often imprecise and controversial scope of application of such legislation.

Other speakers identified a duty for media to contribute to a respectful environment, in particular for religious groupings, and reasoned that (self-) restrictions of the freedom of media may be justified in exceptional cases to prevent libel or hate speech. Security concerns may also represent – and have in fact represented – grounds for legitimate restrictions, as was occasionally argued.

A number of delegations and organizations called for the decriminalization of defamation across the OSCE region.

Recommendations to the participating States:

- To repeal provisions criminalizing and restricting the exercise of the freedom of expression both online and offline;
- To create safe working conditions for journalists and shield them from undue restrictions and intimidation;
- To immediately release imprisoned journalists;
- To carry out effective investigations into former violations of the right to freedom of expression with the aim of putting an end to impunity;
- To closely co-operate with RFOM and other international organizations with the aim to more effectively ensure freedom of expression;
- To facilitate the active participation of civil society in monitoring the situation of the freedom of expression and in reviewing relevant legislation;
- To reform hate speech legislation with the aim of rendering it consistent with freedom of expression;
- To ensure that the right to freedom of expression is respected at all times, including in situations of ongoing conflicts, social unrest, and in the fight against terrorism.

Recommendations to the OSCE/RFOM:

- The RFOM should continue to monitor and document violations of the freedom of expression and assist participating States in fulfilling their commitments;
- The RFOM should continue to co-operate closely with other international organizations such as the CoE and the UN in fulfilling her mandate.

Working Session 5: Fundamental freedoms II

- Freedom of movement;
- National human rights institutions and the role of civil society in the protection of human rights;
- Human rights education.

Rapporteur: Mr. Patrick O'Reilly, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Ireland to the OSCE

No. of statements: 47

Delegations: 12

Civil Society: 25

OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 1

Rights of Reply: 9

Working Session 5 was devoted to freedom of movement, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and the role of civil society in the protection of human rights, and human rights education. On freedom of movement, the discussion centred mainly on the absence of visa liberalization throughout the entire OSCE area and on restrictions

of the movement of some civil society representatives from and within some participating States. The session saw very broad agreement on the value of strong and effective Paris Principles-accredited NHRIs and as well as the importance of civil society organizations and human rights defenders in upholding universal human rights and fundamental freedoms and in holding

governments to account. There was widespread support too for the crucial contribution of effective human rights education in promoting human rights and combating intolerance and discrimination.

In his introductory remarks, Ambassador Janez Lanarčič, Director of ODIHR, noted that freedom of movement was a pre-requisite to ensure the free exercise of other fundamental freedoms. He highlighted the importance of human contact across borders and drew attention to the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on this topic earlier in 2013. He also stressed the vital role of NHRIs and civil society and noted the risks and challenges that many civil society representatives and human rights defenders faced as a result of their work. In this context, he noted that ODIHR is currently preparing recommendations for the protection of human rights defenders. He also drew attention to ODIHR's ongoing activities in the field of human rights education.

The first introducer, Ms. Debbie Kohner, Secretary General of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions, discussed the role of NHRIs and their relationship with the State and with civil society. She noted that although mandated and funded by the State, NHRIs should be fully independent so as to be able to promote and protect human rights in an open and transparent manner. She stressed the importance of accreditation through the Paris Principles and noted the support that her organization can offer to its membership. On freedom of movement, Ms. Kohner highlighted the right to leave one's country as well as the plight of stateless persons. She concluded by highlighting the value of effective human rights education, which should be accessible and inclusive and carried out in line with international standards and guidance.

The second introducer, Mr. Vyacheslav Kalyuzhnny, Head of the National Centre for Human Rights in the Republic of Kazakhstan, noted that freedom of movement within countries can be limited by overly burdensome registration systems. He highlighted the process of implementing laws concerning the creation of the NHRI in his own country and that institution's growing interaction with State authorities in order to promote human rights. He went on to stress the vital importance of human rights education, including in secondary schools. Following the introducers, there were 38 interventions, 25 of which were made by non-governmental organisations and 1 by an International Organisation. In addition, 8 participating States and 1 group of participating States availed of the opportunity to make a right of reply. On freedom of movement, participants stressed the importance of OSCE commitments in the area, but differed in their emphasis on the interpretation of the commitments. A large number of participants decried what they described as overly-restrictive visa regimes in some States that did not match OSCE commitments. Some suggested that some participating States were using "blacklists" to restrict freedom of movement. Many participants expressed deep concern that certain participating States are using exit visas and other administrative procedures to limit the freedom of movement of journalists, human rights defenders and other members of civil society. A number of participants suggested that the non-recognition of their travel documents by the majority of participating States was unfairly affecting their freedom of movement. Other participants in turn expressed concern about the erection of barriers along and increasing restrictions on movement across the Administrative Boundary Lines in one participating State.

There was very wide support for the crucial role played by NHRIs. Participants stressed the value of accreditation in line with the Paris Principles, and encouraged greater co-operation and information sharing between different NHRIs. One participant called for the development of a consolidated handbook on best practices for NHRIs. Several participants outlined the steps taken by their national authorities to develop an NHRI.

Participants who spoke on the issue of civil society stressed the vital importance of them being able to operate freely and without hindrance. A number of participants expressed concern at

restrictions being imposed on human rights defenders and civil society organizations (CSOs) in some participating States, ranging from outright harassment to damaging administrative, financial and fiscal measures and the use of overly burdensome registration systems to undermine certain CSOs or their activities. Some participants shared concerns about perceived undue restrictions on some CSOs resulting from the receipt of foreign financing. Several speakers commented favourably on ODIHR's work to develop recommendations for the protection of human rights defenders.

Participants who commented on human rights education highlighted the importance of education in promoting and protecting the understanding and practice of human rights and fundamental freedoms and in helping to combat intolerance and discrimination. Many participants suggested that human rights education should take place throughout the entire education system and should make best use of new technologies and media. Education for young people was stressed by several speakers as particularly useful, as was providing specific and relevant training for public servants, police and border officials, members of the military, the judiciary and those working in the legal profession. The importance of the UN World Programme on Human Rights Education was underlined.

Recommendations to the participating States:

- Examine the possibility of expanding localized visa-free regimes to additional areas;
- Exchange information on effective implementation of freedom of movement commitments;
- Those that have not already done so should establish national human rights institutions that are fully independent and sufficiently resourced and that are accredited in line with the Paris Principles;
- Create a safe and enabling environment for civil society and human rights defenders to operate in, without undue interference;
- Develop best practices in the area of financing civil society organizations, which should also address the issue of foreign financing;
- Make particular effort to provide comprehensive human rights education and training to public officials, including judges, prosecutors, police and prison officers;
- Fully and effectively implement measures foreseen in the UN World Programme on Human Rights Education;
- Appoint a Co-ordinator within the Helsinki plus 40 process to examine issues relating to the human dimension, including the role of civil society.

Recommendations to the OSCE, its institutions and field operations:

- OSCE executive structures should focus more on the full range of freedom of movement issues, such as examining visa policies and the freedom of movement from and within countries, including by human rights defenders, journalists and other members of civil society as well as members of minority groups;
- OSCE should encourage co-operation and contacts between NRIs and should produce an annual rating of such Institutions;
- OSCE Secretary General should establish a body to liaise with civil society, in much the same way as the liaison with Track 2 initiatives;
- ODIHR should continue to provide capacity-building assistance to civil society organizations across the OSCE area.

Working Session 6: Freedom of religion or belief

Rapporteurs: Ms.Jeanne Tor-De Tarle, Counsellor, Permanent Representation of France to the OSCE

No. of statements: 78
Delegations: 11
Civil Society: 54
OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 1
Rights of Reply: 12

Working Session 6 was devoted to freedom of religion or belief (FoRB). ODIHR Director Janez Lenarčič indicated that given the growing interest of participating States in this topic, ODIHR would intensify its activities in FoRB. The advisory Panel of experts on FoRB had just been renewed and new guidelines on recognition of religious and belief

communities would be launched early next year. ODIHR would continue its in-country co-operation activities working closely with field missions. Ambassador Lenarčič also encouraged participating States to continue submitting legislation in this area to ODIHR Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department.

The introducer, Dr. Andrew P.W. Bennett, Ambassador, Canada's Office of religious freedom, emphasized that freedom of religion was under increasing threat around the world, with one third of the countries implementing high or very high restrictions on freedom of religion, targeting those who manifested their religion, both individually and collectively. Many faced risk of imprisonment, torture or even death. Often, violation of freedom of religion was not the result of an overt act of government but more of its inability or unwillingness to protect the religious community. Despite our collective efforts, the extensive body of the OSCE commitments and good practices had not yet fully been implemented. The recommendations from HDIM 2012 were still relevant. In this context, human rights instruments were the only way forward, taking into account the broad definition of freedom of religion as defined in Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which encompassed also the right to change one's faith and to hold no religion or belief. Freedom of religion was not a theological issue but a human issue and human dignity had to be central in the implementation of this freedom. Lastly, Ambassador Bennett recalled that democracy, human rights, fundamental freedoms and rule of law were interrelated. These were not culturally specific but universal and all OSCE participating States had made commitments to them.

66 interventions were made after the introducer, of which 54 by civil society and non-governmental organizations. In addition, 12 participating States made use of their right of reply.

A number of participating States emphasized that FoRB was an individual right, that included all religions or beliefs, including those that had not been traditionally practiced, the beliefs of persons belonging to religious minorities, as well as non-theistic and atheistic belief. It was stressed that discrimination and persecution on the grounds of religion and belief continued to occur in parts of the OSCE area and that such violations of FoRB endangered social cohesion as well as internal and regional stability. When FoRB was at stake, other fundamental rights were under risk.

Some speakers noted that legislation pertaining to registration of religious communities was used by some participating States to stigmatize some religious communities which were forced to worship in illegality. Several NGOs pointed to several cases of imprisonment of priests as well as harassment campaigns against religious minorities in some participating States. Other representatives argued that traditional cultural values of participating States had to be respected; otherwise it would undermine the majority. Some NGOs condemned the police actions undertaken by some participating States to counter movements that were considered as sectarian, which was a way to discriminate some beliefs, while other participants emphasized the need to counter abuse of the weakness or vulnerability of people placed in a situation of psychological subjection by means of pressures or techniques designed to alter their free will.

Many participants brought forward the view that State should be strictly separate from the Church and should be careful to neither support nor disadvantage any religion. Neither should it involve itself in internal matters of religious groups, such as appointments of religious officers,

or prevent parents from educating their children in the belief of their choice. Some expressed strong concern about the ban encompassed in some religions against apostasy, which represented an infringement to the right of every individual to change one's religion or belief.

Some NGOs reported about attacks on holy monuments. Several speakers pointed out the increase of religious intolerance on behalf of liberal values in some parts of the OSCE area while others underlined the importance of distinguishing the notion of tolerance from the concept of FoRB. Several NGOs referred to the EU guidelines recently adopted on FoRB as a good reference point. A group of delegations highlighted that intra- and interreligious dialogue, education and co-operation were key to fostering a climate of mutual respect, but they could not substitute the need to ensure the fundamental right of each and every individual to freedom of religion or belief.

One NGO touched upon the question of some anti-extremism laws, which broad definition of extremism led to persecution of religious minorities.

Several speakers expressed support for the vital contribution of ODIHR in the field of FoRB and welcomed the future guidelines which would be launched on status of religious communities as a positive concrete step to help participating States to fully implement their commitments.

Other issues that were raised by the speakers include the right to conscientious objection, the negative impact of anti-blasphemy laws, propagating beliefs unduly considered as incitement to hatred, harassment of LGBTI people in connection with some beliefs, and the need to return the confiscated holy sites and not to transform them into museums.

Ambassador Bennett concluded the working session by emphasizing that there was continued concern among participating States with modalities of registration of religious communities as well as with the respect for the right to change one's religion. There was a need to advance on freedom of religion and to combat any violation of this right as well as violence and persecutions. In this combat, the focus on human dignity was fundamental.

Recommendations to the participating States:

- Fully implement their commitments in FoRB as well as Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights / Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- Work closely with ODIHR and use its expertise;
- Strictly adhere to non-interference in internal affairs;
- Condemn and put an end to serious violations of FoRB in the OSCE area, release religious leaders;
- Abolish blasphemy laws, as well as any ban on apostasy;
- Establish an environment conducive to dialogue, diversity and tolerance;
- Consult religious communities in drafting and implementing legislation on FoRB;
- Support religious leaders in implementing the universal code of holy sites and support a UN resolution on this topic;
- Focus on FoRB as an individual right and not a collective right;
- Comply with the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights on FoRB;
- Release the administrative fees in case of non-registration.

Recommendations to the OSCE, its institutions and field operations:

- Focus on FoRB as an individual right and not a collective right;
- Clarify the standards and common practices in terms of registration of religious communities;
- Abandon the use of the term "Islamophobia" in ODIHR guidelines;
- Provide expertise to prevent conflict related to tolerance and FoRB;

- Review OSCE standards to take into account cultural values and in view of intolerance against Christians;
- Encourage practices which foster interreligious dialogue;
- Continue to review legislation pertaining to the status of religious and belief communities

Working Session 7: Freedom of religion or belief (continued)

Rapporteur: Ms. Hilde Austad, Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of Norway to the OSCE

No. of statements: 45
Delegations: 7
Civil Society: 33
OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 0
Rights of Reply: 5

The session focussed on the responsibility of participating States to ensure respect for the right to non-discriminatory recognition of the legal personality of religious and belief communities. It examined to what extent legislation in this area can be improved, and how the implementation of this commitment by national authorities can be enhanced.

Introducer Dr. Nazila Ghanea (Lecturer in International Human Rights Law at the University of Oxford, Member of the OSCE/ODIHR Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief) made the point that the purpose of registration must be to enable and facilitate the practice of religion in community with others. Registration must promote the ability to operate internally and interact with society. It should be voluntary, easy, non-discriminatory and with a right to appeal.

There were 40 interventions, of which 33 by NGOs, and in addition 5 delegations under right of reply.

Many NGOs highlighted the problems for Christian communities in some countries. Despite laws guaranteeing freedom of religion or belief (FoRB), there were practical obstacles to exercising this freedom. Registration is often mandatory for practising one's faith in community with others. Many mentioned strict or ill-defined rules for registration, such as requirements for a large number of signatures, sometimes from several or all geographic regions of the country. Some authorities required excessive documentation. Sometimes rules seemed to be applied in an arbitrary and discriminatory way. Failure to register could be punished with severe fines. Religious activity outside the area of registration could be punished. Some communities experienced problems acquiring places of worship or importing literature.

Christian and Muslim groups pointed to cases where believers had been charged with extremism, inciting hatred or other illegal activities only for peacefully observing their faith. There were cases of torture, forced psychiatric treatment and imprisonment. Anti-terrorism laws were used against religious communities.

Some speakers stated that the right to conscientious objection and an alternative to military service was not recognized in some participating States.

In a few countries minority religious groups had experienced attacks from other groups that the authorities did little to prevent.

The establishment of ODIHR's new Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief was welcomed by several speakers.

A few speakers said that in some countries dominant secularist views left little room and respect for the role of religion. One religious group experienced problems being registered as a public benefit organization with the right to tax exemptions.

The need for non-denominational schools (in Ireland) was pointed out.

Some delegations stressed the link between FoRB and other rights, as freedom of expression, assembly and association. Religion must never be used to restrict the enjoyment of other rights, as women's rights.

One delegation stated that freedom for one group must never interfere with the freedom of others. Freedom for some must not threaten traditional moral values. Traditional religions must not be discredited. A balance must be found.

Creating a better environment for public dialogue between different religious communities and the authorities was mentioned as important. Religious leaders should protest against all forms of religiously motivated violence, not least that committed by members of their own communities. ODIHR should assist in training religious leaders.

It was stated that it should be legitimate to discuss the norms and practise of all religions and this should not be met with accusations of intolerance (as Islamophobia). Some speakers regretted the negative descriptions of one religion (Islam) by a few speakers.

Recommendations to the participating States:

- Start an open dialogue with minority confessions, recognize religious pluralism, and raise awareness of and promote a positive attitude towards diversity. This pluralism should be reflected in legislation;
- Use the tools and methodological materials developed by ODIHR;
- Ensure that legislation respects the basic freedom of conscience and provides religious communities with the right to full legal recognition and charitable status;
- Join with NGOs in combating anti-Semitism and intolerance towards Islam;
- Create an environment that promotes dialogue between religious groups and State authorities;
- Explore ways to update and reinforce existing OSCE commitments in FoRB.
- Continue promotion of international norms and commitments under MC Decision 4/03 Maastricht in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.
- The authorities of Kazakhstan should eliminate the article in the legislation on mandatory registration of religious communities according to international standards.
- The authorities of Azerbaijan should register the religious community of Jehovah's Christian Witnesses and give them the right to practice their belief.
- The authorities of the UK should resolve the issues of Plymouth Brethren Christian Church.
- The authorities of Uzbekistan should solve the problem of registration of religious communities and stop unauthorized home searches and assaults on places of worship.

Recommendations to the OSCE, its institutions and field operations:

- ODIHR and OSCE Field Operations should develop and carry out activities aimed at enhancing understanding and strengthening the implementation of FoRB.
- ODIHR should reinforce the work of its Desk on FoRB and effectively address the connections of FoRB with other fundamental freedoms in cooperation with its Human Rights Department.
- ODIHR was requested to collect best practices and experience on legislation on religious assemblies, public prayers and observation of religious holidays.

- ODIHR should train religious leaders to assist the participating States in promoting dialogue between religious groups and State authorities.

Working Session 8: Freedom of assembly and association

Rapporteur: Ms. Viktoria Wagner, First Secretary, Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria

No. of statements: 48
Delegations: 10
Civil Society: 31
OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 1
Rights of Reply: 6

Working Session 8 discussed challenges and progress of the realization of freedom of assembly in OSCE participating States, although some interventions also touched upon the freedom of association. After a welcoming address by Ambassador Janez Lenarčič, Director of the OSCE/ODIHR, who highlighted the important work of ODIHR in the area of freedom of

assembly, the Session was introduced by Dr. Michael Hamilton, senior expert in public protest law and Secretary of the OSCE/ODIHR Panel of Experts on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly. Dr. Hamilton highlighted the qualitative difference between the right to peaceful assembly and the right to free expression. While in a networked society, Dr. Hamilton pointed out, there are today numerous channels and opportunities to voice opinions and messages, free assembly is more than that: individuals physically present are constituting “the people”, an essential element of thriving democracies. He also stressed that the law and practise of OSCE participating States should not treat assemblies as a ‘public order problem’ but should facilitate peaceful assemblies as a fundamental human right. This means, he explained, providing access to public space, and protecting peaceful protesters especially when conveying controversial messages (positive obligation). It also means that States refrain from interfering with peaceful assemblies unless absolutely necessary and based on law (negative obligation). The imposition of burdensome and extensively interpreted notification procedures which do not allow for spontaneous or untraditional forms of assemblies today presents one of the main challenges to free assembly in the OSCE region, according to Dr. Hamilton.

42 interventions were made after the introducer, of which 31 by non-governmental organisations. In addition, 6 OSCE participating States made use of their right of reply to prior interventions.

Many delegations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) referred to specific instances in some OSCE participating States where the right to free assembly was restricted or denied. Some speakers reported of cases where protesters were arrested or even sentenced to prison terms, thereby discouraging other citizens to make use of their right to peaceful assembly. Striking a balance between the facilitation of the right to peaceful assembly, while at the same time having due regard for the rights of others, was identified as a major challenge for authorities in OSCE participating States. It was explained that often lengthy or overly burdensome procedures for notification of assemblies would discourage assemblies or prevent more spontaneous gatherings. Authorities would also often cite public order or safety for denying assemblies, particularly those with controversial messages, in highly frequented and thus prominent spaces. Moreover, authorities would often judge the purpose or message of an assembly, and deny or restrict its taking place, by openly referring to the protection of ‘traditional or moral values’ to be protected, or giving more opaque reasons. Some speakers also highlighted the important role of local authorities in facilitating the right to free assembly, and called for better regulation of that role.

Some speakers pointed out the need to pay particular attention to the protection of the right to free assembly of marginalized groups. While it was welcomed that in many OSCE participating

States, the right to free assembly of LGBT persons organizing so-called “Gay Pride” parades was fully protected, the denial of these assemblies by authorities in some OSCE participating States, based on the protection of ‘traditional or moral values’, or the lack of protection afforded to protesters by the authorities, was met with concern by delegations and NGOs.

The sharing of experience with the enactment of new legislation to facilitate free assembly according to international human rights standards by some OSCE participating States was welcomed. It was pointed out, however, that the key to full realization of the right was effective implementation of such laws. In this context, some delegations underscored the importance of training and awarenessraising among law enforcement officials regarding human rights standards and crowd management techniques, and called for exchange of experience among OSCE participating States.

Finally, OSCE initiatives such as the OSCE/ODIHR Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly, its free assembly monitoring project, or the recommendations emanating from the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting of November 2012 dedicated to the Freedom of Assembly and Association were commended by delegations and NGOs.

Regarding the right to free association, some speakers pointed out the difficult situation of LGBT persons in some OSCE participating States, where they were denied the right to associate based on ‘traditional or moral values’. The requirement in some OSCE participating States for associations to register as ‘foreign agents’ when receiving funding from abroad was also cited by some speakers as a major obstacle to the right of free association. Finally, some speakers highlighted that the right to free association also included the right not to associate, and criticized strict or inflexible rules in some OSCE participating States in that context.

Recommendations to the OSCE participating States:

- Respect and fully implement the OSCE commitments relating to freedom of peaceful assembly;
- Follow the OSCE/ODIHR Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly;
- Ensure that the notification process for the holding of assemblies is not cumbersome; any restrictions on the time, place, or manner of an assembly should be content-neutral and reasonable; the substance of speech or other expressive content should not be restricted or banned without compelling reason;
- Protect peaceful assemblies from counter-assemblies;
- Reaffirm that cultural, traditional or religious values cannot be used as a reason for restricting or denying the right to peaceful assembly or association.

Recommendations to the OSCE and its institutions:

- Facilitate initiatives by NGOs to monitor assemblies and develop the practice of joint monitoring of assemblies by ODIHR together with human rights defenders;
- Expand the OSCE/ODIHR Panel of Experts on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly so as to include a Special Representative to advocate for the implementation of the OSCE/ODIHR Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly in the OSCE participating States;
- Foster further co-operation with the Council of Europe Venice Commission and relevant UN bodies to offer legislative support regarding the freedom of peaceful assembly to OSCE participating States;
- Offer technical assistance regarding crowd management for law enforcement officials (including dialogue between police and protesters) in OSCE participating States.

Working Session 9: Freedom of assembly and association (continued)

Rapporteur: Ms. Tatiana Shlychkova, Senior Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the OSCE

No. of statements: 28

Delegations: 4

Civil Society: 13

OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 1

Rights of Reply: 10

Working session 9 focused on the fundamental freedoms of assembly and association with focus on the issues of association.

Introducing the session, ODIHR Director Ambassador Janez Lenarčič underlined that these freedoms were vital for the functioning of a democratic society.

He stressed the importance of implementation of the relevant OSCE commitments, including Vienna Document from 1989, in which OSCE participating States committed to “respect the rights of their citizens to contribute actively, individually or in association with others to the promotion and protection of fundamental rights and freedoms.” He mentioned that legislation and regulations in the area of freedom of association should create a favourable climate for the activity of NGOs and should not be restricting as it was in number of cases in recent years. He paid attention to the NGOs’ access to donor funding, including foreign funds and called on participating States to find alternative solutions to ensure transparency without chilling effect on freedom of association. He also informed that ODIHR together with the Venice Commission would begin to elaborate guidelines on Freedom of Association this year.

The session introducer Ms. Feray Salman, General Coordinator of the Human Rights Joint Platform (IHOP) focused on freedom of assembly and association (FAA) based on the experience of one country. She stressed that State laws and regulations on civil society organizations should enable such organizations to form and operate freely, express their views, communicate and convene and seek resources. She mentioned that anti-terrorist legislation restricted actions of civil society organizations in some countries. She also underlined the problems of prohibition on activities of unregistered organizations, expensive and complex registration processes, vague grounds for denial of registration, regulations for international organizations to establish local office. She paid special attention to the implementation of a dialogue between authorities and civil society, including NGO participation in consensus building and identifying solutions.

The session moderator Mr. Cyril Ritchie, President of the Expert Council on NGO Law mentioned that a small paper was available through the distribution services which outlined the two principal actions of the Conference of INGOs. He also stressed that the choice of a competent ministry to deal with NGO issues was very important. He pointed that it would be better if that would be a Ministry of Justice rather than the force agencies such as a Ministry of Interior.

18 speakers took the floor during the session. They highlighted the following: fundamental character of FAA in any democracy; using different mechanisms for increasing the role of civil society in the decision-making process, including referendums; existing problems in the registration of NGOs; restrictions for some of the groups, including national minorities and LGBT; lack of notions of national minorities in the legislation and the prohibition of the use of certain words, which create problems in the registration of NGOs; limitations in conducting peaceful assemblies; disproportional use of force by police; persecution of organizers of rallies, imprisonment of demonstrators.

They also drew attention to the supremacy of international law over national law, including ECtHR decisions, scope and reasonability of state regulation and control of NGOs' activity, problematic laws on FAA, prohibition of NGOs from keeping funds abroad.

Participants also stressed lengthy, bureaucratic or financially restrictive character of the registration process, some cases of imprisonment of activists for exercising their rights to assemble and associate, several unreasonable refusals to organize an assembly on the pretext of the risk of counter demonstration conducted by anti-fascist movements.

Two delegations presented their experience of improving the legislation regarding the issue of FAA. One delegation expressed a concern on the use of a black list of civil society and of trade union activists; it was also concerned about the case of legalization of a pedophile group. The same delegation underlined the necessity and importance of governmental support to NGOs, including national funding. Two delegations discussed the parallels and differences between internal political activity and political lobbying provided by some of NGOs and application of "foreign agent" laws in different countries.

10 delegations used their rights to reply.

Recommendations to the OSCE participating States:

- Ensure the implementation of OSCE commitments regarding the freedom of association;
- Implement the ECtHR decisions regarding FAA;
- Join international human rights conventions, including the Council of Europe framework Convention on the protection of national minorities, if they have not done it yet;
- Provide simple, fair, prompt, inexpensive and transparent registration requirements;
- Ensure the non-discriminatory character of registration of associations, including on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion or gender;
- Promote that national laws provide associations with possibility to seek, receive and manage financial support from domestic, foreign and international sources without unreasonable restrictions;
- Engage in a dialogue with civil society and support the NGOs' activity in the areas of social, cultural and human rights;
- Include civil society organizations in decision-making process;
- Introduce programmes on human rights education in all sectors;
- Ensure effective implementation of hate crime legislation, including establishment of a hotline for victims;
- Lift the territorial limit to the authorization provided by civil society organizations;
- Ensure that peaceful assemblies take place without undue interference;
- Take into account the difference between violent and peaceful demonstrators. If intervention is legitimate, restrict the use of force to those participants that are violent and train police officers.

Recommendations to the OSCE and its institutions:

- Pay attention to the issues of ensuring the freedom of assembly and associations for the protection of civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights, including in the context of the global financial crisis in the OSCE region;
- Develop consolidated guidelines for NGOs in the area of freedom of associations;
- Ensure exchange of best practices of participating States on this issue, e.g. model laws, public discussions on draft laws, holding of referendums and other methods.

Working Session 10: Humanitarian issues and other commitments I

- Combating trafficking in human beings;
- Implementation of the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings.

Rapporteur: Mr. Frank Duhamel, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Representation of Belgium to the OSCE

No. of statements: 26

Delegations: 17

Civil Society: 7

OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 1

Rights of Reply: 1

This working session focused on the increasing phenomenon of trafficking in human beings (THB), its features and most recent evolutions, and on the OSCE instrument to tackle it, the Action Plan. On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Action Plan, the session exceptionally reunited the current Special

Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, *Dr. Maria Grazia Gianninaro* and her two predecessors, *Dr. Helga Konrad* (currently head of the Regional Implementation Initiative at the Austrian Institute for International Affairs), as introducers, and *Ms. Eva Biaudet* (now Finnish Ombudsman for Minorities) as a moderator.

In the beginning of the session, the ODIHR Director Janez Lenarčič measured briefly the impact of the 2003 Action Plan, 10 years after its adoption:

- The unique human rights based approach resulted in the focus on the victims' rights and cooperation between the civil society and the State in protecting victims;
- It established a network of national contacts and resulted in a higher awareness of the realities and new trends in trafficking;
- It delivered Guidelines for carrying out more intensive investigations and trials;
- It allowed for better identification of THB victims.

Dr. Helga Konrad, the first OSCE Special Representative (2004-06) noted that for the last 15 years, the work was too much limited to discussions rather than to victims-focused actions. She noted that too much energy went into actions for the sake of actions, forgetting sometimes the pure victims' interest. Equally, these discussions were isolated from other related questions like development issues and aid; migration or even environmental decay. On the other hand, action has recently moved towards a more preventive approach. Other related issues are now introduced, by which the action has taken a crossdimensional nature. Therefore, due to its inclusive nature, the OSCE offers the best forum to tackle THB.

The OSCE has put this on the agenda, essentially since the Ministerial Council of 1999, and consolidated in 2000, also due to considerable efforts of the former Belgian Ambassador Del Marmol. Since then, many kinds of national institutions and agencies were established, with increased degree of co-ordination between those agencies. One of the critical moments was the creation of the 'Alliance' as a co-ordination tool created by the OSCE. Since then, the THB has become a priority for many governments, with even increased funds earmarked for this fight. However, few elements on its impact are known. In the long run, all actors would introduce impact assessments for the obvious need for transparency in public funds. On the other hand, co-ordination cannot be the goal. Tackling the THB must remain the goal as well as preventing people from becoming victims.

In her remarks, Dr. Gianninaro complimented the OSCE as one of the pioneering organizations in fighting the THB, in the first place due to its Action Plan with human rights approach. Since its existence, nearly all governments have adopted legal provisions for prosecuting traffickers and slavery. Dr. Gianninaro has even witnessed some landmark legal cases condemning traffickers and not victims. At the same time, public awareness and know-how about this phenomenon are growing.

Nevertheless, some serious challenges remain: (1) the need to invest more in translating commitments into action. Although a lot is being done, the actual judgements remain rare. (2) We have to better acknowledge the widening variety of crimes resulting from THB: today the new kinds of exploitation beyond sexual (which remains the most widespread) are home servitude, child labour or organ removals. (3) Hence, in order to be effective, this fight needs to be better connected with other related policy areas like migration, law enforcement, and labour policy. In any case, it has become a true form of transnational crime. The forms of THB today are less structured, but more competitive.

The judiciary stays behind: only a fraction of the cases results in convictions, and for those victims whose traffickers are convicted, the due compensation is hardly transferred to the victim. Ideally, more regular convictions should go together with an inclusion-strategy for victims. Also, assistance to victims should be unconditional. Too often, the assistance they should be entitled to (according to e.g. an EU-directive of 2011) is still conditional upon identifying the criminals.

Given this broader scope of criminal activities in THB, an addendum to the Action Plan would allow an update to these actual trends. It could equally strengthen the victims-based approach, by guaranteeing compensations and legal and other assistance to victims. The addendum would send a clear message to traffickers that justice will be done. It is the perpetrators who should fear, not the victims.

25 interventions were made during the discussion, including 7 by non-governmental organizations. 1 delegation used its right of reply.

This issue concerns people that are among the most vulnerable victims of all criminal activities. This form of crime is getting more sophisticated over time, and does not know any frontier. The days that this phenomenon was limited to sexual abuse are gone. Nowadays, a wide variety of rather new and related activities are trafficking children for forced labour or sexual exploitation. Also organ trafficking or household exploitation are new challenges in this fight. Due to this transnational nature, international co-ordination is of utmost importance. Therefore, co-operation among law-enforcement officers, social workers, and also policy-makers will determine the success of this fight. Criminals are getting more creative in their activities, use modern technologies, reach more remote 'customers' and hire good lawyers. Any strategy focused on helping the victims requires sophisticated tactics and broad coordination among all actors. We can only reach progress with an inclusive approach, involving all different aspects of this crime.

Some delegations praised positive steps taken and hence progress made in some States. In some cases, traffickers are more severely prosecuted, or victims are offered better assistance or States are allocating a more significant budget to this fight. Very focused measures were applauded, such as offering shelter to victims. Also, one country announced the holding of a 'week of fight against trafficking' to increase the awareness of the problem.

One delegation criticized the West or the 'old democracies' of being the main destination of the trade route of e.g. organs.

Another delegation denounced the key reason for the very existence of this crime, which is pure selfishness.

Generally, the 2003 Action Plan, the work of the OSCE Special Representative and all related activities of the OSCE in the fight of THB all enjoy broad support from all participating States. The human rights approach and the victims-based focus can equally count a widespread support. Many representatives of NGOs highlighted this based on specific examples in their States.

Recommendations to the participating States:

- Respect the international commitments in ensuring the rights of victims of the THB;
- Translate commitments into practice and address the ever evolving patterns of the THB crimes;
- Mainstream the anti-THB policy to related policy areas;
- Support the criminal justice response by civil law remedies bearing in mind that the ultimate goal for victims would be social inclusion. In this regard, the assistance to victims should not to be made conditional;
- Make better use of technology to raise awareness, disrupt traffickers and help victims;
- Ratify the Palermo Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Council of Europe anti-THB tools;
- Implement the UN Global Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons;
- Focus on assistance to victims without linking it to their co-operation with State authorities;
- Improve the inter-State co-operation in order to investigate and gather data on organ trafficking. Pay more attention to new forms of trafficking, in particular to exploitation of (diplomatic) household personnel;
- Where necessary, review the rules that a victim needs to comply in order to qualify for assistance;
- Support the decision at the Ministerial Council in Kyiv to promote a victims-focused approach in the OSCE.

Recommendations to the OSCE and its institutions:

- Promote the development of the culture of evaluation for anti-THB measures;
- Increase its profile as the promoter of human rights based policies;
- Share best practices in establishing the national preventive mechanisms as well as national action plans to combat THB. Consider creating mechanisms of co-operation and information exchange within the OSCE to make the fight against THB more efficient;
- Further analyse the THB forms in the OSCE region, with an aim to improve legal protection and exchange of experiences between countries on protection of domestic workers in diplomatic households;
- Consider co-operation with other international organizations in sharing good practices;
- Monitor the implementation of international commitments by participating States to send a message that these go beyond mere ratification of international documents;
- Create a formal structure to input victims' voices to the OSCE Action Plan;
- Assist the participating States more intensively in promulgating laws in preventing THB, such as legislation around business transparency and child protection.

Working Session 11: Democratic institutions

- Democracy at the national, regional and local levels;
- Citizenship and political rights.

*Rapporteur: Mr. Vahéh Gevorgyan, Head of the OSCE and Conventional Arms Division,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia*

No. of statements: 24

Delegations: 3

Civil Society: 16

OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 1

Rights of Reply: 4

Working session 11 was set up to discuss democratic institutions, including democracy at the national, regional and local levels as well as citizenship and political rights.

The introducer, Dr. Andriy Meleshevych of National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, explored the reflective link between formal political institutions and informal norms and traditions particularly in the countries of transition. In addressing dichotomy of political institutions versus political culture, he maintained that newly established political institutions can drive and shape new political culture. In basing his assumptions on one country specific situation, Dr. Meleshevych identified three important variables which can contribute towards creating viable political institutions: political party institutionalization, genuine separation of power and free and fair elections. Though the introducer subscribed to the institutionalist view of change, he clearly recognized the need to influence political culture through shaping and leading discourse on democracy and modern governance. To this end, he valued the role of ODIHR, which can bring recommendations and knowledge to wider public through inclusive discussions with the participation of all stakeholders such as government institutions, NGOs and academia.

The presentation of the introducer was followed by 20 interventions, of which 16 by non-governmental organizations and 1 by an international organization. 4 delegations exercised their rights to reply.

Throughout number of interventions fight against corruption was highlighted as key for proper function of democratic institutions along side with the need of transparency and accountability. It was argued that corruption undermines democratic principles and processes, and diverts resources from serving the public good.

A group of delegations stressed the importance of ensuring fundamental freedoms such as freedom of expression, opinion, assembly and association as necessary prerequisite for democratic governance.

Fighting discrimination towards national minorities and vulnerable groups was recognized as important undertaking by different delegations.

Large number of interventions stressed the role of active and independent civil society in building and maintaining a functional democracy. Likewise, the advancement of women participation in democratic institutions was prioritized.

Many interventions referred to country specific situations where political pluralism has been endangered through various restrictions imposed on political parties. The difficulties with registration and participation in the elections, as well as politically motivated criminal persecutions were most quoted challenges.

A number of non-governmental organizations and a representative of international organization supported the need of building democracy at the local level. Strengthening local self-governance through delegating more functions and responsibilities was recognized as an important step towards establishing local democratic institutions.

Some speakers placed importance in ensuring free access of the citizens to the democratic institutions and judiciary including courts and state agencies. The ability to inquire and receive information was noted in this regard. One delegation called on ODIHR to disseminate commitments of the OSCE participating States and thus enable citizens of the relevant participating States to pursue their interests in the framework of those commitments.

Throughout the discussion, a number of speakers valued relevant code of conducts and guidelines elaborated by ODIHR in the realm of democratic governance and called for their wider outreach.

The issues of citizenship and political rights were touched upon by number of speakers. One nongovernmental organization supported the exercise of the right to vote and form the government elsewhere in the OSCE area as a right deriving from the principle of self-determination which is enshrined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

A number of speakers, including representatives of delegations, international organization and nongovernmental organization addressed the issue of citizenship. The issues of political rights of stateless persons and foreigners, including the right to vote and education were most discussed topics. In this context some speakers argued that continued existence of large number of stateless persons in some participating States negatively influences the exercise of political and other rights.

A representative of international organization referred to the Council of Europe's 1992 Convention on the Participation of Foreigners in Public Life at Local Level, as useful instrument for providing consultative participation of foreign residents in local self-governing bodies.

Recommendations to the participating States:

- Adopt, implement, and enforce the laws to eliminate corruption;
- Consider legislative measures to facilitate a more balanced participation of women and men in political and public life, including decision-making;
- Bring the legislation regulating political parties' activities in line with international standards and the OSCE commitments.

Recommendations to the OSCE and its institutions:

- All relevant OSCE structures should continue their activities in advancing the participation of women in political life;
- The OSCE and ODIHR should assess the citizenship and minority rights in the OSCE participating States for compliance with international obligations;
- ODIHR should raise awareness of the citizens of the OSCE participating States on the commitments undertaken by the participating States in the realm of democratic institutions and political pluralism.

Working Session 12: Democratic elections and election observation – sharing best practices

Rapporteur: Mr. Ömer Numan Doğrukol, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Turkey to the OSCE

No. of statements: 41

Delegations: 14

Civil Society: 17

OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 2

Rights of Reply: 8

This session focused, as one of the specifically selected topics of this year's HDIM, on sharing best practices on the implementation of commitments undertaken by the participating States in the area of democratic elections and election observation activities.

As the session's introducer, ODIHR Director Janez Lenarčič emphasized the value of democratic elections as key test to evaluate if the common values of the OSCE are in practice. Ambassador Lenarčič referred to a number of positive trends along with some negative trends. He pointed out that general improvement in the electoral frameworks, engagement and open dialogue, women's participation in elections and increased level of fairness and better

monitoring of campaign finances are the positive trends while undue restrictions on voting rights, blurred distinction between party and state structures, unequal access to media and limitations on election observation missions form the negative seem to be the negative trends. Director Lenarčič drew attention to the shortfall in the secondment of long-term and short-term election observers and called on participating States to strengthen their efforts in contributing to the observation missions. Ambassador Lenarčič reiterated the ODIHR's readiness to support participating States in implementing their related commitments in co-operation with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and other international parliamentary bodies.

The co-introducer of the session, Ms. Isabel Santos of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly welcomed this platform to share the best practices in democratic elections and election observation. She underlined that democracy consists of much more than elections, but elections are its necessary element. Ms. Santos stressed the importance of enhancing the follow-up as was agreed by the participating States at the 1999 Istanbul Summit. She also reminded the participating States about their commitment to the 1990 Copenhagen Document as one standard to measure quality of elections in the OSCE area. In her remarks, Ms. Santos underlined the important role played by domestic observers and called them "domestic defenders of democracy".

33 interventions were made during the session, of which 17 by non-governmental organizations. In addition, 8 participating States used their right of reply in response to prior interventions.

Majority of the statements made in this session praised ODIHR's professionalism and election observation methodology, while in a few of statements, participants advocated that ODIHR's methodology should be reviewed. One delegation criticized the scope of election observation mission deployed in one other participating State.

Some NGOs pointed out the shortcomings in electoral frameworks or irregularities of election administrations and called for more inclusive, transparent and accountable electoral bodies.

A statement made on behalf of a group of participating States highlighted the importance of early and timely invitation of observers, and underlined that democratic elections are a prerequisite of democratic government but not an end in itself.

Many States acknowledged the election-related commitments are key tools to promote democracy, emphasized the importance of election observation activities and praised the expert knowledge accumulated in ODIHR over the years.

Also, many States commended ODIHR and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly for their co-operation in the important area of the election observation.

Recommendations to the participating States:

- Issue timely and early invitations to ODIHR in order to allow for sufficient time to carry out needs assessment missions;
- Exert more efforts to reach a common understanding on the election observation activities;
- Provide ODIHR with better resources to ensure that the Office continues its election observation activities;
- Commit to organize follow-up work after the final reports are published by the observation missions;
- Focus on ensuring compliance with and implementation of election-related commitments;
- Ensure the access of NGOs to the polling stations in order to facilitate domestic observation.

Recommendations to the OSCE and ODIHR:

- Engage more with civil society in the election observation activities conducted in the participating States;
- The link between long-term observation missions and the short-term observation missions should be made stronger and active;
- More voice should be given to the civil society members as they possess first-hand field information compared to international observers;
- OSCE should support events and projects which could present opportunities for comparative exchange of practices experienced in Europe and with those of countries in other regions.

Working Session 13: Democratic elections and election observation – sharing best practices

Rapporteur: Ms. Marina Milanović-Ilić, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Serbia to the OSCE

No. of statements: 13

Delegations: 4

Civil Society: 6

OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 0

Rights of Reply: 3

Working Session 13 was devoted to sharing best practices on democratic elections and election observation. The introducer, Ambassador Spiro Koçi, Permanent Representative of Albania to the OSCE, shared Albania's experience in co-operation with ODIHR. He explained that 17-year long history of co-operation included election monitoring as well as

assistance in reforming electoral legislation. Regarding the monitoring activity on recently held elections, Ambassador Koçi welcomed preliminary positive assessments by ODIHR, OSCE PA and PACE, stating its readiness to work on further improvements in accordance with the recommendations to be made in the final report. He presented the activities Albania undertook in regard to the recommendations from elections held in 2009 and 2011, focusing on the work of an ad hoc parliamentary committee, formed in 2012 to prepare necessary amendments to Electoral Code, specifically addressing the recommendations by ODIHR Election Observation Mission (EOM). The OSCE representative had been invited to participate in the work of the Committee and its role was perceived as an honest broker, mediating between different positions of political parties. Ambassador Koçi highlighted the bi-partisan formation of the Commission and its inclusive nature, which successfully produced agreed amendments well in advance of the next elections. Presenting some of the key ODIHR recommendations and challenges Albania has been facing in their implementation, Ambassador Koçi explained how the restructuring of the Central Election Commission, as the most sensitive issue had been solved, with the aim to depoliticize and increase the confidence in this body. He also mentioned the issues that still need time to be solved, such as public broadcasting. Having in mind these positive experiences in co-operation with the Office, Albania invited ODIHR to monitor its local elections, as well. In conclusion, Ambassador Koçi underlined that experience of his country showed that participating States could significantly benefit from impartial and expert assistance of ODIHR, even if they are not bound by commitments to follow up to ODIHR EOM's recommendations.

10 interventions were made after the introducer, of which 6 by non-governmental organizations. In addition, 3 participating States used their right of reply in response to prior interventions.

A large number of delegations gave its support to ODIHR's activities in election observation, including follow-up visits. Many delegations called on participating States to make good use of ODIHR's assistance in the framework of a follow-up to ODIHR's election monitoring reports,

including with regard to possible election legislation projects, and to report on follow-up measures. It was underlined that participating States should not shy away from recommendations, but welcome ODIHR's assistance in implementing their election-related commitments.

A number of delegations underlined the need for issuing timely invitations for election observation, thus allowing adequate preparation for ODIHR. In cases when the election date is yet to be defined, the suggestion was made to send the invitation before the official date for the elections is set.

Some delegations and non-governmental organizations raised their concerns regarding elections in specific countries. It was stated that even if regular elections exist in some participating States, the true choice for citizens does not exist. A number of NGOs underlined that the opposition often faces with serious obstacles and cases of imprisonment of political opposition activists continue to happen. The problems in freedom of the media, namely information blockade and state propaganda, were highlighted. One NGO suggested using new technologies to overcome these problems.

The session participants drew attention to the problem of transparency, particularly related to election administration, financing of the political parties and election campaign. The influence of private financing was also pointed out.

One delegation stressed the need to respect national legislation when applying election monitoring methodology, reminding that OSCE Copenhagen Document provides only general principles, but not specific norms. As an example of good practice, it mentioned international legally binding standards for election observation, adopted and ratified by the CIS countries.

A number of speakers raised the issue of non-citizenship as a human rights abuse and underscored that no elections could be accepted as legitimate, if these persons are deprived of their basic political rights, namely right to vote, even if they reside in the country since its independence. A few delegations expressed their concern for the high number of persons not being allowed to vote in some participating States. The problem of participation of national minorities in elections was also highlighted in a number of interventions.

Finally, some delegations informed on steps they have taken concerning their past or upcoming elections.

Recommendations to the OSCE participating States:

- Engage with ODIHR in the follow-up of electoral recommendations;
- Highlight measures taken to address ODIHR election recommendations at the political level of the OSCE Permanent Council;
- Invite ODIHR in a timely manner to observe elections;
- Ensure that all OSCE 'rules' apply to all OSCE participating States.

Recommendations to the OSCE, its institutions and field operations:

- Focus observation efforts on the media;
- Raise its voice when opposition activists are imprisoned;
- Pay attention to issue of non-citizenship.

Working Session 14: Rule of law I

- Democratic lawmaking;
- Independence of the judiciary;
- Right to a fair trial.

Rapporteur: Ms. Dea Hannust, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Estonia to the OSCE

No. of statements: 41

Delegations: 6

Civil Society: 25

OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 2

Rights of Reply: 8

The Working Session 14 on rule of law was devoted to democratic lawmaking, independence of the judiciary and right to a fair trial. In his introduction Mr. Yves Doutriaux, a State Counsellor of France reminded the participants of the interdependency between those three topics. He recalled the 1990 Copenhagen and 1991 Moscow commitments on

public process and open and transparent means of lawmaking. He explained the process by using the example of an impact study from France and suggested some principles for consultations with regard to new legislative initiatives, but also other major projects: 1) all info held by administration preparing the draft law should be accessible to public; 2) all participants on consultations should be able to comment on the draft and the comments should be made available to all; 3) consultations have to be impartial, if possible run by a neutral moderator outside the administration; 4) timeframes for giving opinions have to be reasonable, and 5) the consultations should have a follow-up process where the administration has to provide feedback and explain why they chose not to take some proposal into account.

He then reminded that independent execution of laws requires first the separation of powers, but also effective practice of judicial independence: systems for election of judges, their evaluation, management and financing of courts and salaries of judges to prevent corruption. He concluded by reiterating the importance of public hearings and monitoring trials by external experts. He also encouraged the dialogue between judges of international and national courts as a means of exchanging best practices, especially when applying the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

In ensuing discussion 33 interventions were made, 25 of those by NGOs. In addition, 8 participating States used their right of reply.

The speakers drew attention to problems such as lack of access to courts due to administrative or legal restrictions; lack of qualified legal personnel in courts and for defence purposes; selective administration of justice; political influence over judges; corruption of public authorities; misusing courts and law enforcement structures to defend the interests of the ruling class and to suppress political opposition; and length and cost of legal proceedings.

It was emphasised that transparency of court proceedings is one of the cornerstones of fair trial. Some noted that to implement the rule of law, the attitude of judges and law enforcement personnel is as important as political will, and legislation in compliance with international law. Some speakers discussed the influence of constitutional system of a country to appointing judges and adopting legislation. A speaker recalled the initiative launched through the Moscow Mechanism some years ago. Possible political motives behind international arrest warrants were seen as a problem by some. The role of media covering judicial proceedings, and the role of parliamentary mechanisms to protect human rights was pointed out.

Several specific cases involving human rights defenders, media figures, politicians and their businesses associates were mentioned. The proportionality of some concrete sanctions and other coercive measures was called into question.

Several participating States took the opportunity to introduce their reforms in the field of criminal justice and the impact of legislative initiatives.

The importance of the OSCE commitments and international sharing of expertise was emphasized, as well as ODIHR's role in monitoring trials.

Recommendations to the participating States:

- Reconfirm their commitments and speak up to those not willing to do so;
- Co-operate with ODIHR to strengthen judicial independence, trial monitoring, seek help in facilitating consultations on legislation;
- Continue reforms to meet commitments on right to a fair trial and related guarantees. Implement the legislation adopted for that purpose;
- Ensure respect for the separation of powers;
- Formulate and adopt laws by means of open process and public procedure, in accordance with OSCE commitments;
- Improve access to the legislative procedures and make all legislation accessible to citizens;
- Adopt legislation to grant the non-governmental organizations the right to participate in legal proceedings in public interests;
- Implement the international law through courts;
- Make public the statutes of courts and administrative regulations;
- Ensure thorough investigation of cases of abuse of power by authorities;
- Avoid harassment of judges and defence lawyers;
- Release prisoners of conscience;
- Enable specialisation of courts/judges in certain cases;
- Ensure independence of courts from political authorities;
- Ensure open and fair trial in ongoing proceedings;
- Close "secret prisons";
- Ensure implementation of judgements, including compensation for damages;
- Ensure availability of qualified and empowered legal representation in judicial process;
- Support the efforts for transitional justice.

Recommendations to the OSCE, its institutions and field operations:

- Carry out training and education of law enforcement authorities to ensure impartial administration of justice;
- Carry out analysis of legislation regarding non-governmental organisations;
- Continue trial monitoring with particular attention to specific cases of human rights defenders;
- Look into reasons for lengthy proceedings;
- ODIHR to provide indicators on media coverage with regard to trial monitoring.

Working Session 15: Rule of law II

- Exchange of views on the question of abolition of capital punishment;
- Prevention of torture;
- Protection of human rights and fighting terrorism.

Rapporteur: Mr. Paul Welsh, First Secretary Political, United Kingdom Delegation to the OSCE

No. of statements: 51
Delegations: 13
Civil Society: 26
OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 2
Rights of Reply: 10

Working session 15 addressed the issues of the abolition of capital punishment, prevention of torture and the protection of human rights in the fight against terrorism.

The Director of ODIHR, Ambassador Janez Lenarčič recalled that participating States have committed to protect and respect human rights while countering terrorism, firmly rejecting the identification of terrorism with any particular religion. However, he stressed that much remained to be done in a situation where some participating States seem to prioritize security imperatives ahead of human rights. Combating terrorism and respecting human rights should be seen as mutually reinforcing and be pursued simultaneously. In protecting individuals against terrorism, any measures taken must be human rights compliant. The Director underlined the absolute nature of the prohibition of torture but noted that commitments against torture remained unfulfilled in many participating States. He drew attention to ODIHR's just released annual publication on the death penalty in the OSCE region and ODIHR's role in facilitating the exchange of information and documenting the trend of abolition.

The introducer, Ms. Amrit Singh noted that participating States have committed to conduct antiterrorism measures in strict accordance with the rule of law. But she regretted that many participating States have not adhered to their international legal obligations. She highlighted a number of concerns including extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, overly broad anti-terrorism laws, extradition and deportation resulting in individuals being subject to torture, the use of incommunicado detention, extraordinary rendition programmes, the use of lethal force in combating terrorism and threats to the right to privacy as a result of surveillance programmes. Ms. Singh described torture as being systemic and widespread in many participating States and called for the OSCE to make a new and strong commitment in favour of the abolition of the death penalty.

Many speakers described the death penalty as an affront to human dignity and called for its abolition in the two participating States in which it is still carried out. A number of speakers described a global momentum towards abolition and pointed to a growing awareness on all continents of the need to tackle the issue. Where abolition had not yet happened, some speakers called for the imposition of a moratorium. One speaker described the traumatic and extensive impact on children of people sentenced to death.

During the discussion on torture prevention, a number of speakers opined that it was time to put the topic firmly at the top of the OSCE agenda. Speakers described many examples of acts of torture being carried out by law enforcement officials and called for more training and awareness raising to tackle this trend. Examples of torture against children, including the use of disciplinary punishment, were highlighted. Torture in penal and detention facilities was highlighted by a number of speakers. More generally, there were calls for independent medical investigation into torture allegations, greater transparency of torture investigations to assist public awareness, the active involvement of NGOs in investigations and the need for positive redress including compensation and rehabilitation. Some speakers described worrying examples where law enforcement and judicial bodies did not take allegations of torture seriously leading to impunity. Several speakers noted that the fight against terrorism and defending national security were often used as justification for acts amounting to torture.

Whilst many speakers recognized that protecting citizens was amongst a State's primary and most important obligations, this did not justify the suppression and abuse of fundamental freedoms and human rights. Human rights protection and the fight against terrorism should be seen as complementary rather than contradictory. Speakers highlighted an increasing tendency to resort to actions that undermine human rights principles including the use of intrusive

surveillance techniques that breached the right to privacy, illegal transfers and deportation including to countries where people faced the risk of torture, use of excessive armed force and violence, forced confessions, witness intimidation, secret detention and the use of systematic torture. ODIHR's work to support activities aimed at protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms in countering terrorism was praised by many speakers.

Recommendations to the participating States:

- Protect all individuals from acts of terrorism whilst at all times ensuring full compliance with international human rights standards;
- Ensure that any actions that involve interference into people's private lives are fully in line with the law, proportionate and necessary in a democratic society;
- Enhance co-operation and implement best practices in the field of anti-terrorism;
- One participating State should close down what some speakers described as an illegal detention facility;
- Politically support the intention by next year's OSCE Chairmanship to include torture prevention amongst their priorities;
- One State should adopt legislation to fight the use of torture, take measures to prevent the use of corporal punishment, establish mechanisms to uncover acts of torture against minors, build capacity and improve the qualifications of personnel working in juvenile institutions and ban the placing of children in adult prisons;
- Ratify international legal instruments to abolish the death penalty, including Protocol No 13 the European Convention on Human Rights and the 2nd Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
- Those States that retain the death penalty should declare a moratorium on executions;
- Pay particular attention to the impact of the death penalty on children;
- Adopt a commitment calling for the ending of the death penalty, abolishing it both in law and practice.

Recommendations to the OSCE and its institutions:

- ODIHR should accord the highest priority towards work against the death penalty;
- ODIHR should work towards the rehabilitation of victims of torture and work to support service providers such as medical, legal, social and psychological services;
- ODIHR should keep torture prevention work high on its agenda;
- OSCE should develop mechanisms to rapidly respond to situations of conflict;
- OSCE should work on guidelines covering the issue of the right to privacy online;
- ODIHR should continue the abolition debate with retentionist States;
- OSCE should research the correlation between terrorism and the death penalty.

Working Session 16: Humanitarian issues and other commitments II

- Roma and Sinti issues, including: Implementation of the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti;
- Migrant workers, the integration of legal migrants;
- Refugees and displaced persons;
- Treatment of citizens of other participating States.

Rapporteur: Mr. Chad Wilton, Political Officer, United States Mission to the OSCE

No. of statements: 42
Delegations: 18
Civil Society: 11
OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 3
Rights of Reply: 10

ODIHR Director Janez Lenarčič opened Working Session 16 on Roma/Sinti, migrants, and refugees by remarking that participating States need to think more about migrant integration, especially in difficult economic times when strains with host societies increase. Internally displaced persons are likewise a concern, especially for those facing long-term displacement, and he urged participating States

to focus more on their needs. Lenarčič announced the publication of ODIHR's 10th anniversary report on the implementation of the 2003 OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti. Lenarčič concluded by noting that while the situation for Roma/Sinti has received increased attention and funding, the overall situation for Roma/Sinti peoples remain unsatisfying.

Introducer Vladimir Petronijević, Executive Director of the Serbian "Group 404" focused his remarks on the progress made in recent years by refugees from the Western Balkans. He noted that when some visa regimes were liberalized, the result was an increase in refugees from the countries that received visa liberalization. Mr. Petronijević urged greater awareness by participating States of the brain drains that harm the countries of origin.

32 interventions were delivered, including 11 by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), 18 by participating States, and 3 from other international organizations. In addition, 10 participating States exercised their right of reply.

Many participating States discussed their national Roma/Sinti action plans and the steps they had taken toward increasing inclusion of Roma/Sinti in their societies. All expressed support for Roma/Sinti and increasing inclusiveness. Several participating States and NGOs, however, observed shortcomings in the lack of progress in the implementation of these action plans.

Certain participating States and NGOs acknowledged the lack of time to discuss Roma/Sinti, migrants, and refugees simultaneously and, therefore, focused on just one topic in their oral intervention. Several participating States focused on migration and discussed the resources they expend toward enhancing integration. Other interventions discussed the problems that economic migrants from Central Asia encounter and suggested greater legal support for workers that are exploited. One OSCE partner noted that it had become a transit point for migrants seeking to travel to Europe and discussed their recent national action plan to assist migrants who remain. Internally displaced persons were raised by several participating States and NGOs in places where "frozen conflicts" exist. One international organization stated that there are 4.8 million refugees in the OSCE region.

Recommendations to the participating States:

- Avoid social tensions in the society, illegal immigrants should be given the right to work;
- Achieve integration and the possibility for migrants to work in the jobs for which they are qualified, degrees/qualifications obtained in the state of origin should be recognized;
- Integration process for children should start early to improve opportunities for success in school;
- Children of migrants should be enrolled in kindergarten for two years, rather than one, to better acquire language skills in the host country;
- Discrimination and racism against Roma/Sinti must be promptly and loudly condemned;
- Participating States should hire a greater number of qualified Roma/Sinti for positions in government;
- Numbers of illegal labor migrants should be reduced by creating and promoting legal channels for labour migration;
- Illegal migrants should be given a path to gain legal status;

- Authorities should train migrants on national integration policies, teach them the local language, and facilitate contacts with civil society working on their integration.

Recommendations to the OSCE, its institutions and field operations:

- OSCE to respond to discrimination against Roma by courts in Russian Federation;
- OSCE called to improve policies on displacement due to environmental disasters;
- Under the Swiss Chairmanship, the OSCE should develop mechanisms for the protection of rights of maritime workers;
- OSCE invited to develop a document aimed at addressing IDPs rights based on the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement;
- OSCE to take measures to lift obstacles to freedom of movement in across occupation lines;
- Relevant UN bodies including the UNHCR should be allowed access in Nagorno-Karabakh

Working Session 17: Discussion of human dimension activities (with special emphasis on project work)

- Presentation of activities of the ODIHR and other OSCE institutions and field operations to implement priorities and tasks contained in relevant OSCE decisions and other documents.

Rapporteur: Ms. Anna Koikkalainen, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Finland to the OSCE

No. of statements: 14

Delegations: 4

Civil Society: 0

OSCE Inst./Int'l Org: 10

Rights of Reply: 0

The working session focused on human dimension activities, in particular on project work conducted by various OSCE structures.

The Moderator Beatriz Balbin, First Deputy Director of ODIHR opened the session. She explained that

projects are one of the many tools used by the OSCE/ODIHR to achieve its goals. Projects are often also a way of remaining engaged with various counterparts.

The first Introducer Laura Vai, Head of Programming and Evaluation Support Unit of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre contextualized the discussion, describing the ongoing efforts to further strengthen project work. Projects should stem from a coherent strategy with a multi-year vision, in line with the goals set by the participating States. Effectiveness, efficiency and accountability are key guiding principles. The cross-dimensional impact of human dimension projects will be increasingly emphasized. Ms. Vai underscored that the project work of the OSCE should provide added value.

The second Introducer Luc Lietaer, Project Co-ordinator of ODIHR described the continuous efforts of the Office to further improve its project management practices. Furthermore, he overviewed ODIHR's main priorities for the near future as follows:

- In the field of elections, a clear priority is maintaining the Fund for Enhancing the Diversification of ODIHR Election Observation Missions;
- ODIHR provides human rights training and capacity-building and develops policy tools to enhance the capacity of state and non-state actors to implement and monitor human dimension commitments;

- The programme on Human Rights and Anti-Terrorism aims to promote and strengthen participating States' compliance with international human rights standards in preventing and combating terrorism;
- The Freedom of Association Guidelines Project is an important new activity;
- Trial monitoring project in Georgia will be continued;
- As for the Programme for Combating Hate Crime, ODIHR strives to implement all components in the same participating States, conduct training against hate crime for law enforcement in two new countries per year, provide ongoing assistance as well as raise awareness;
- ODIHR contact point for Roma and Sinti will focus on the empowerment of Roma and Sinti women and youth. ODIHR is also implementing a large regional project on Best Practices for Roma Integration;
- Upon request, ODIHR will offer support to the OSCE Mediterranean Partners in the areas of democratic governance, legislative assistance, elections, women's political participation, human rights as well as tolerance and non-discrimination.

Two examples of ODIHR's project work were discussed in more detail. Benjamin Moreau, Chief of Rule of Law Unit briefed on trial monitoring activities, in particular on the ongoing project in Georgia. Judith Kiers, project manager of Best practices for Roma integration described the activities to increase the participation of Roma in local decision making, improve housing conditions, fight discrimination as well as enhance regional co-operation.

Ana Karlsreiter, Senior Adviser in the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media provided an overview of the project work of the Office, focusing especially on Internet freedom.

Five representatives of the OSCE field operations presented examples of their project activities and discussed project management practices. Rene Bebeau, Senior Project Officer at the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine described activities such as supporting the electoral process in Ukraine and combatting human trafficking. Mia Lausevic, Senior Political Assistant spoke about the project work of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro in promoting non-discrimination, rule of law and gender equality. Jo Faafeng, Senior Judicial Officer described the assistance to judicial reform provided by the OSCE Presence in Albania. Sanja Popovic, Legal Officer at the Legislative Review Section of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo presented the project on promoting inter-faith dialogue. Lisa Tilney, Chief of Rule of Law Unit at the OSCE Mission to Skopje explained the Mission's activities designed to address hate crimes.

In the following interventions a number of speakers stressed their strong support for OSCE human dimension activities as well as institutions. One delegation commended in particular ODIHR's trial monitoring project. ODIHR's election observation work and its methodology were praised in two interventions. One delegation called for more geographically balanced electoral monitoring. Two delegations called on OSCE to continue co-operation with civil society. The need for the OSCE to co-ordinate its activities with other regional or international organizations was mentioned by a number of speakers. One delegation called for more transparency. One speaker stressed the need to focus on issues where the gap between commitments and implementation is the widest. One delegation called on the OSCE to focus more on freedom of movement, mentioning furthermore the need to combat aggressive forms of nationalism.

The following recommendations were made:

- ODIHR's independence should be preserved;
- ODIHR should focus on core activities and pay particular attention to areas where the most serious violations of commitments exist;

- OSCE institutions, field operations and participating States are encouraged to extend the participation of civil society in human dimension activities and develop programmes to strengthen the protection of civil society, including human rights defenders;
- OSCE should work on issues that bridge diversities;
- OSCE needs to enhance co-operation with other international organizations to avoid duplication and to create synergy;
- A common system of rules for various electoral processes should be developed;
- Participating States need to assist the implementation of projects in the human dimension by facilitation on ground, financial or other material resources;
- Participating States should take account of and properly follow upon recommendations made by the OSCE institutions and field operations.

IV. COMPILATION OF WRITTEN RECOMMENDATIONS

Monday, 23 September 2013 OPENING PLENARY SESSION

Recommendations to participating States

OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

- All states must make efforts to make schools inclusive and desegregated. They must ensure all citizens have equal access to education. Curricula must be scrutinized and changed to ensure balanced and non-discriminatory coverage; particularly in the subjects of history and religious studies. It is the view of the Parliamentary Assembly, as stated in the resolution that more must be done to develop new educational materials, along with extra-curricular activities, in the name of tolerance and social cohesion. We must invest in training our educators to challenge intolerance in the classroom. To end intolerance, the focus clearly has to be on youth. Discrimination is learned behavior, as no child is born intolerant or racist. Classrooms, but also the media, are they key areas where racism and xenophobia must be challenged.

Recommendations for International Organizations

Russian Federation

- Мы призываем ВКНМ более активно работать над исправлением ситуации в странах Прибалтики. Надеемся, что новый Верховный комиссар г-жа Астрид Торс добьется выполнения этими странами международных рекомендаций.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Russian Federation

- Россия давно требует навести порядок в работе БДИПЧ по наблюдению за выборами. Сейчас она ведется избирательно, по неясным критериям и правилам.
- Подтверждаем наше предложение актуализировать устаревший мандат Представителя ОБСЕ по свободе СМИ. Он был принят в 1997 году, когда совсем другими были интернет, СМИ, журналисты и журналистика.

Monday, 23 September 2013

WORKING SESSION 1: Tolerance and non-discrimination I:

- Address by the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities;
- National Minorities
- Preventing aggressive nationalism, racism and chauvinism.

Recommendations to participating States

Switzerland

Recommandation:

- La diversité des communautés est un atout qu'il faut sauvegarder et promouvoir. Nous recommandons aux Etats participants de poursuivre leurs efforts pour mettre en oeuvre leurs engagements et développer l'échange de bonnes pratiques.

Constantinopolitan Society

Due to significant restrictions and serious limitations on human rights which are threatening the sustainable vitality, survival and vibrant future of the Greek Minority in Turkey, OSCE / ODIHR is called upon to urge Turkey-as an OSCE participating State-to:

Property rights

- Properties of minority foundations registered in the 1936 Declarations should be returned, without precondition and bureaucratic obstacles, to their rightful owners. If there is any kind of dispute as for the ownership of a particular property, the burden of proof should lay on the state and not on the foundations.
- Amend the Law on non-Muslim Welfare Foundations in such a way that would allow for, among others:
 - Putting an end to the fragmentation of minority Foundations as a result of the Wakifs system in force; allowing for the unification of the various Greek Minority Foundations is key to their survival as well as cost-effective functioning;
 - Solving the question of property that was seized and sold to third parties, including by provide for proper compensations;
 - Recognizing the equality of the minority Foundations and all other Foundations, thus terminating discriminatory practices against them;
 - Returning the archives and the library of 50.000 valuable volumes of the Hellenic Literary Society of Constantinople (Ellinikos Filologikos Syllogos Konstantinoupolis) –which has been illegally confiscated in 1925 –to a Greek Minority Foundation in Istanbul. This library represents the intellectual heritage of the Hellenism of Constantinople;
- Ensure that Greek citizens are able to fully enjoy their rights over inherited patrimonial property, by implementing as of March 2010 recommendations of the Council of Europe Venice Commission on the protection of property rights. Turkey should conform to the relevant rulings of the European Court for Human Rights.

Educational rights

- Lift all educational and administrative restrictions regarding the Greek Minority, specifically:
 - Amend the Law on Private Schools Education, so as the diplomas of students of European and other nationalities are officially recognized and validated for their admittance in Turkish Universities etc.
 - Support financially minority schools, as it is foreseen by the Treaty of Lausanne.
 - Eliminate all anti-minority references in schoolbooks used for teaching in Turkey, as it forges historic realities, fosters discriminatory behavior against members of the minority and incites hate actions.

Human rights, non-discrimination in general

- Turkey should ensure that Greek citizens are able to fully enjoy their rights over inherited patrimonial property.
- The Turkish authorities should abolish the confidential “race codes” given to the members of non-Muslim minorities.
- Give effect to ECRI’s General Policy Recommendation N° 7 on National Legislation to combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (13/12/2002) and ratify promptly Protocol N° 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights.
- Turkey is called upon to take seriously into consideration the recommendations by EU and international organizations pertaining to human rights and act upon them and make more strenuous efforts to prevent discrimination, intolerance and religiously motivated acts of violence.

Center for Information and Analysis (SOVA)

Recommendations to the countries - members of the OSCE:

- There is a need to adopt and develop comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation or a series of individual acts containing effective rules and procedures of proving discrimination;
- When enforcing the laws relating to violations of the rules of entry and residence in the country, obtaining work permits, etc., officials should avoid making public statements linking these disorders with specific ethnic groups, and avoid holding large campaigns. Such enforcement should be carried out systematically and uniformly;
- Ethnic minorities of immigrant origin need to be considered on an equal footing with the minorities that are indigenous to the country, particularly in the context of practical integration programs;
- Freedom of speech presupposes the possibility of public expression of intolerance, and resistance to such intolerance should first take the form of counter-polemics and social stigma. It has to be recognized that widespread condemnation of manifestations of ethnic intolerance is the only truly effective method, as opposed to prosecution, which is also sometimes necessary, but is bound to remain extremely selective in this respect;
- Public officials should have no right to express publicly their intolerance or even disrespect to any minorities. Civil service legislation should include effective sanctions against such actions. These penalties also need to be made public.

Turkische Akademiker Dresden

Recommendations:

- German government must implement legal regulations against nationalism instead of evaluating it as extreme Right thought;
- German government must revise their Integration politics. Especially in the matter of Dual nationality right, education rights and social rights. New legal regulations and incentive activities should be organized for national minorities;
- German government must organize and support intercultural activities more, and must compensate intercultural academic researches more.

Public Union "Kyrgyz Indigo"

Recommendations to participating States from Central Asia:

- Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between men;
- Follow human rights based approach in policies, laws and programs and reaffirm that cultural, traditional and religious values can't justify any form of violence and discrimination against LGBTIQ;
- Eliminate any legal and policy limitations to freedom of assembly, association and expression of LGBTIQ;
- Introduce comprehensive laws, policies and mechanisms on the protection of LGBTIQ individuals from hate crime, violence and discrimination;
- Provide necessary remedies and support to victims of violence or hate crime on a basis of sexual orientation and gender identity;
- Introduce necessary laws and regulations that ease the procedures of changing gender markers and names in the passports for transgender people;
- Together with the civil society systematically monitor cases of violence, hate crime and discrimination against LGBTIQ;
- Criminalize, condemn and fight against police violence and brutality against LGBTI;

Recommendations to other participating States:

- Inform the country delegations and representatives from CA region about the urgency of responding to violence, hate crime and discrimination against LGBTIQ in the region;
- Actively condemn any policies and laws that criminalize consensual same-sex sexual relationships, promote violence and discrimination against LGBTIQ;
- React to cases of violation of rights of LGBTIQ human rights defenders in CA and to individual cases;
- Share experiences and best practices of protecting the rights of LGBTIQ with the representatives of the Governments of Central Asia;

No Borders- Ukraine

КПД обращается к странам-членам ОБСЕ с просьбой продолжить мониторинг выполнения Украиной своих обязательств в сфере недискриминации и рекомендовать ей немедленно внести изменения в антидискриминационное законодательство для обеспечения следующего:

- Наличие четкого определения основных понятий и полного перечня защищаемых характеристик в законе;
- Создания эффективного механизма обжалования дискриминации;
- Разработки базовых стандартов и принципов доказывания фактов дискриминации;
- Разработки образовательных и методологических материалов для правоохранительных органов и судей по работе с заявителями и рассмотрению дел связанных с нарушением равенства и дискриминацией;
- Создания и обеспечения эффективной работы национальной институции обеспечивающей защиту равенства и недискриминации.

КПД считает, что национальное законодательство должно отображать обязанность государства устанавливать и проводить позитивные меры по предупреждению дискриминации, так же как и по информированию граждан о том, что дискриминация недопустима и у них есть механизм защиты от нее. Для выполнения таких функций в государстве необходимо создание национальной институции обеспечивающей мониторинг соблюдения равенства и принципа недискриминации. Такой институцией на сегодня является офис Уполномоченного ВР по правам человека. Признавая работу Уполномоченного в сфере прав человека и принцип недискриминации офису Уполномоченного необходимы не только законодательное расширение полномочий и эффективный механизм, но и изменение подхода к проблеме дискриминации, который включал бы в себя более активную адвокацию защиты прав всех уязвимых групп и меньшинств, более тесное сотрудничество и консультации с гражданским обществом, и также системный подход к мониторингу не только отдельных проявлений дискриминации, но и законодательных инициатив и практики соблюдения норм в данной сфере.

Latvian Human Rights Committee

For Latvia:

- To swiftly implement the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights and views of the UN Human Rights Committee, as well as to allow bringing individual communications under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
- To withdraw the restrictive declarations to Articles 10 and 11, made while ratifying FCNM;
- To expand the possibility of dual citizenship, at least, to all OSCE participating states;

- To make the requirements for naturalization more flexible, in particular for those elderly, born in Latvia or married to Latvian citizens; to open it as a possibility for those excluded on basis of belonging to organizations dissolved in a non-judicial way;
- To grant voting rights in the local elections to all permanent residents;
- To reconsider the language policy based on wider use of minority languages as a medium of instruction in public education and as a means of communication with local authorities;
- To affirm the leading role of individual choice in the writing of personal names in documents, as long as Latvian alphabet is used;
- To ensure proportionality of government-imposed professional Latvian language requirements and to avoid their interference with the freedom of association and freedom to conduct business, regarding the private sector, including NGOs;
- To recognize that a requirement by an employer for an employee to have a command a minority language can be justified, if there is a demand to services in that minority language (for jobs implying work with customers) or a need to use it in the own affairs of an enterprise.

Armenia

Recommendations:

- Strengthening monitoring of situation with national minorities and identify warning signs;
- Establishment of close cooperation with ombudsmen offices aimed to assist them in protection of minority rights and dissemination of international standards in the field;
- Inclusion of human rights education subject in school's curricula.

International Civil Liberties Alliance

- L'International Civil Liberties Alliance recommande aux états participants de veiller avec une attention accrue a ce que la lutte légitime contre les nationalismes agressifs ne se fasse pas au détriment du devoir d'égale protection de toutes les catégories de populations. Devoir a maintes reprises réitéré dans les engagements pris par les états participants de l'OSCE.

Amnesty International

Amnesty International is calling on all OSCE participating states to ensure that:

- Roma are not targeted with forced evictions, relocation to segregated and inadequate housing, and discriminated against in accessing social housing;
- Roma are not discriminated against in access to services such as water and electricity;
- Romani pupils are not segregated in Roma-only schools and classes or in special schools or classes for pupils with mild mental disabilities;
- State authorities, including the police, prevent and effectively and thoroughly investigate violent attacks against the Roma.

Center for Security Policy

- Recommendation to ODIHR and Participating States to refrain from using these terms until they are precisely and officially defined and accepted by the consensus of all participating groups holding diverse views.

Georgia

- The Government of Georgia urges the international organizations to duly assess Russia's illegal activities, and undertake appropriate measures in response to the deteriorating security and human rights situation, including, through activating human rights monitoring mechanisms.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Turkische Akademiker Dresden

Recommendations for OSCE:

- OSCE must advise and encourage Germany on their politics against racism and nationalism, and integration.

International Human Rights Movement "World Without Nazism"- Russia

- Вообще тема агрессивного национализма, расовой, религиозной, этнической и пр. дискриминации является темой отдельного разговора. Я призываю Швейцарию, которая принимает на себя скоро председательство в ОБСЕ созвать отдельную конференцию на эту тему в 2014 году.

Latvian Human Rights Committee

For OSCE:

- To reaffirm its commitment to the use of minority languages in education, as expressed in the Hague Recommendations Regarding the Education Rights of National Minorities of 1996;
- To invite all participating States to swiftly implement the decisions of international human rights courts and quasi-judicial bodies in individual cases, as well as to join the communications procedures of human rights treaty bodies, if they have not already done so;
- To express recognition that, in order not to be discriminatory, professional language requirements, be they established by employers or governments and be they related to official or non-official languages, should respect proportionality; as regards those working in the private sector, governmental requirements should also respect freedom of association and freedom to conduct business, as well as be limited by public interests.

Center for Security Policy

- Recommendation to ODIHR and participating States to refrain from using these terms until they are precisely and officially defined and accepted by the consensus of all participating groups holding diverse views.

Tuesday, 24 September 2013

WORKING SESSION 2: Tolerance and non-discrimination II – Review of the implementation of commitments on promotion of mutual respect and understanding:

- Prevention and responses to hate crimes in the OSCE area
- Combating racism, xenophobia and discrimination, also focusing on intolerance and discrimination against Christians and members of other religions;

- Combating anti-Semitism;
- Combating intolerance and discrimination against Muslims.

Recommendations to participating States

Amaro Drom e.V.

- We call upon the OSCE and all participating States to build comprehensive strategies and to enhance their efforts in combating antigypsyism, racism and hate speech especially among young people;
- We recommend to all stakeholders to invest into the empowerment, education and capacity-building of Roma youth, through scholarships, human rights education and the support of youth self-organizations in order to promote tolerance and non-discrimination between Roma and non-Roma youth;
- We recommend to the OSCE to call upon its participating states to recognize the Roma Genocidel;
- We recommend to all participating States and civil society stakeholders to support remembrance and educational activities on 2 August as the Roma Genocide Remembrance Day.

Gustav Stresemann Stiftung e.V.

The Stresemann Foundation recommends that the OSCE urge the participating States that:

- Human rights apply only to individuals, but do not protect a god, a religion or a prophet; only intolerance against human beings should thus be banned.
- Politicians of a constitutional state should not decide which opinions are allowed and which ones are forbidden; only an independent court can make a judgment on this.

OSCE Chairperson-in-Office

- Participating States should draw more political attention to the extent of violence used in physical attacks on Muslim communities. The terrorist plots targeting several mosques in the UK and France are recent examples of this worrying trend, which we already observed in the Oslo massacre and the spate of neo-Nazi serial killings in Germany. The responses by governments and their political leadership to these incidents are commendable, but both OSCE institutions and participating States still need to do more to prevent the threats posed by violent organizations and individuals on the security of Muslims in North America and Europe;
- In addition to developing more comprehensive security policies, this would require enhanced co-operation between law enforcement officers and Muslim communities in combating hate crimes. However, anti-Muslim hate crimes remain significantly under-reported and under-recorded, because the victims have the perception that they will not be taken seriously by the police or some police officers have biased views about Muslims. Participating States should increase confidence in law enforcement by avoiding the practice of religious profiling, conducting training activities for police officers to deconstruct stereotypes against Muslims, promoting religious diversity in public services and institutionalizing co-operation with Muslim community-based organizations. In these efforts, special attention should be paid to the vulnerability of Muslim women to hate crimes;
- Furthermore, participating States should have a better understanding of the context when and how anti-Muslim hate crimes are being committed, because as indicated in ODIHR's annual hate crime reports, such crimes do not take place in a vacuum. There are a number of indicators concerning the motives behind these incidents suggesting that the perpetrators are influenced by the widespread prejudices and stereotypes about Muslims.

- Glorification and justification of hatred, such as the Oslo massacre, and the spread of conspiracy theories against Muslims through the Internet should concern all of us and must be consistently countered across the OSCE region. To this end, political figures and the media should take the lead in raising awareness of intolerance against Muslims and promote mutual understanding through public campaigns and educational activities;
- But first and foremost, by preventing discriminatory practices against Muslims, especially violations of their freedom of religion or belief, States should send a clear message to the society that intolerance against Muslims is not acceptable. For this reason, governments should refrain from intervening in the religious matters of Muslims, in particular, in relation to the election of their religious leaders and appointment of imams. They should also ensure that any restriction to the manifestation of religion or belief does not lead to direct or indirect discrimination against a certain community. The issues concerning access to places of worship and wearing religious clothes should be resolved in accordance with the established international human rights standards and in a broad consultation with all stakeholders;
 - During my country visits I have been pleased to observe that there is increasing civil society activism to combat intolerance and discrimination against Muslims. Government institutions should work closely with these NGOs and support their activities to prevent and respond to hate crimes as well as promote freedom of religion;
 - I also strongly encourage participating States to draw on ODIHR's expertise in combating hate crimes and developing educational programmes to counter stereotypes. Since 2011, ODIHR has provided training seminars for NGOs on hate crimes against Muslims in a number of countries, including Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Germany and Spain. I hope that these activities will continue in the future. Moreover, since 2012, ODIHR has organized several regional roundtable meetings for government officials, experts and civil society representative to promote the Guidelines for Educators on Countering Intolerance against Muslims and collect recommendations from participants. I look forward to seeing the implementation of these recommendations.

Norway

- First, states and international organisations should take effective measures to address and combat hate crime, hate speech and other forms of intolerance;
- Second, states should swiftly investigate and effectively sanction incidents of hate crime. They should provide access to justice and the right to remedy when appropriate;
- Third, states should enact legislation to combat intolerance, discrimination and violence against minorities, including through the Internet and social media. But they must at the same time safeguard other fundamental rights, particularly freedom of expression;
- Fourth, states should guarantee the systematic collection and analysis of data on hate crime, hate speech and other forms of intolerance, in order to ensure informed public debates and policy-making;
- Fifth, civil society organisations should contribute to the monitoring and reporting of discrimination and hate crime. They should provide practical assistance, such as legal advice and counselling. States should provide the necessary legal and political framework;
- Sixth, states and political leaders should implement national action plans to combat discrimination, hate crime and intolerance. It is of particular concern when negative stereotypes of minorities are ignored, or even condoned, by political leaders;
- Seventh, governments, politicians, national human rights institutions and civil society organisations should engage in debate on these issues and publicly condemn manifestations of hate and acts of violence;
- Eighth, in order to avoid duplication of efforts and secure the sharing of best practices, the Conference further recommended international cooperation in the search for new and

more effective measures to counter right-wing extremism, hate crime, hate speech and other forms of intolerance.

United States of America

At the Tirana Tolerance Conference earlier this year, we urged the OSCE community to move beyond meetings to *actions*. Specifically, we call upon the participating States to:

- **Support and fully utilize ODIHR's Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Unit.** The Tolerance Unit has received numerous requests for training in handling hate crimes and for support of ad hoc tolerance meetings in addition to the five annual human dimension meetings. Additionally, there are many calls for increased monitoring and capacity building tools to combat racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism, intolerance and discrimination against Muslims, violence and discrimination against LGBT persons, and violent extremism. Funding for the Tolerance Unit has declined in spite of its increasing workload. Providing increased funding for ODIHR within the unified budget and through extra-budgetary projects would support the current work of the Tolerance Unit and allow for its expansion in the face of growing intolerance;
- **Fulfill OSCE hate crimes commitments.** Despite the Athens Ministerial Decision on Combating Hate Crimes and the adoption of other related commitments, the OSCE Annual Hate Crimes report documented more than 1,300 bias-motivated crimes to date this year and more than 5,000 last year. Eight EU States have experienced increases in hate crimes, with several studies suggesting that hate crimes may be underreported by as much as 60 percent. In accordance with OSCE commitments, participating States should monitor and evaluate their national hate crimes policies and initiatives, provide disaggregated national hate crimes data to the Tolerance Unit, provide support to victims and ensure their access to justice, and use the Tolerance Unit capacity building measures as needed to improve current efforts;
- **Strengthen Efforts to combat anti-Semitism and intolerance and discrimination against Muslims.** Both anti-Semitism and intolerance and discrimination against Muslims are on the rise, as evidenced by physical assaults, desecration of cemeteries and places of worship, and defacement of Holocaust memorials. In my own country, nearly two out of three religion-based hate crimes are committed against Jews. In France, in 2012, the Jewish community recorded a 58 percent increase over the previous year in the number of anti-Semitic attacks. Developments such as these not only led the OSCE to hold this June its first experts' conference on the security of members of Jewish communities, but have also highlighted the need for participating States to review and strengthen efforts to combat anti-Semitism as outlined in the Berlin Declaration. In Hungary, anti-Semitic rhetoric by Jobbik party leaders still sometimes goes unchallenged by the government. In Greece, the neo-Nazi party Golden Dawn has repeatedly been linked to anti-Semitic, anti-immigrant, and racist activities. Many similar political parties have resorted to political rhetoric against the Roma community and immigrants, especially those from Muslim countries, contributing to their societal exclusion and intimidation. In France in 2012, the Committee Against Islamophobia reported a 57 percent increase over the previous year in anti-Muslim acts. This year in the United Kingdom, in a two-week period alone after the shooting of a British soldier in London by an extremist Muslim, there were more than 16 attacks on mosques and other buildings. In Russia, the government conducted raids on mosques and detained hundreds of Muslims, raising concerns about the vagueness and broad application the extremism law. We welcome the steps the Polish government is taking to find a solution to allow the practice of ritual animal slaughter to continue in Poland, as it is an essential part of religious practice for many faiths, including Jews and Muslims who adhere to kosher and halal dietary laws. We encourage Poland to continue to work diligently to protect Jewish, Muslim, and other religious practices;
- **Strengthen efforts to promote religious tolerance, including toward Christians and**

members of other religions. Onerous religious registration requirements and restrictive religion laws in several participating States discriminate against members of so-called *nontraditional* religions, including Protestants, Jehovah's Witnesses, Scientologists, and readers of Said Nursi. Consequently, some religious organizations were unable to legally build, rent, or purchase places of worship and their members faced harassment and even criminal charges because of their religion. We will discuss this in detail in Session 7;

- **Fulfill OSCE commitments relating to the human rights of Roma individuals, and support the Roma Action Plan.** We will discuss this in detail during next week's session;
- **Strengthen OSCE tools for combating racism and xenophobia.** In my own country, many hate crimes continue to be motivated by racial bias. In Greece, attacks on immigrants have been escalating, while Sweden has seen an increase in hate crimes against Roma individuals and persons of African origin. A barrage of racist discourse met the appointment of Italy's first Minister of African descent, Cécile Kyenge. It is regrettable, therefore, that no agreement was reached on a Ministerial Decision on Racism and Xenophobia last year. To mark the tenth anniversary of the OSCE's first *Conference on Tolerance and the Fight Against Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination*, the participating States, in cooperation with ODIHR and other relevant OSCE institutions, should elaborate an Action Plan, and direct ODIHR to publish a report on racism and xenophobia in the OSCE region that includes a focus on African descendants. In light of the *European Network Against Racism* report detailing the high levels of discrimination faced by people of African descent and the many racially motivated murders and violent assaults against people of African origin reported in the OSCE Annual Hate Crimes Report, we also encourage ODIHR to continue and expand its hate crimes outreach, training, and monitoring efforts to communities of African descent in the OSCE region;
- **Condemn and combat violations of the human rights of all persons and attacks on their inherent dignity, including the human rights and human dignity of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender individuals.** The brutal attacks on LGBT persons around the world and in the OSCE region are appalling and utterly unacceptable. These crimes should be condemned, thoroughly investigated and prosecuted by all participating States. It is deeply concerning when participating States, which have committed themselves under Principle VII of the Helsinki Final Act to respect the human rights of all human beings -- rights that derive from "the inherent dignity of the human person" -- take actions that contribute to an environment where violence against LGBT persons is tolerated and the exercise of fundamental freedoms by LGBT individuals and their supporters is criminalized. We are especially concerned about the anti-gay "propaganda" legislation being adopted and enforced in Russia and the concurrent rise in violence against LGBT persons there, and about the criminalization of homosexual acts in a number of participating States.

Turkey

Recommendations made by Turkey at the High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination held in Tirana on 21-22 May 2013

- Hostility and hate crimes against Muslims have had a serious impact on the sense of security among Muslim communities. We call on all participating States to take the necessary legal, administrative and educational measures to combat manifestations of anti-Muslim sentiment, including stereotypes and prejudice against Muslims;
- Participating States should intensify their exchange of best practices in combating intolerance and discrimination towards Muslims, including examples of good cooperation between Muslim communities and law enforcement officers in combating hate crimes against members of these communities;
- Participating States should step up their efforts in monitoring and reporting on hate

- crimes, including a more effective partnering with civil society as well as the collection of disaggregated data in order to shed more light on the extent of manifestations of hostility towards Muslims;
- Participating States should develop community projects that aim to provide around-the-clock support to victims of anti-Muslim hate crimes; participating States should also take measures to thoroughly address forms of intolerance and discrimination other than hate crimes experienced by Muslim communities;
 - Participating States should develop training programs on Islamophobia for law enforcement officers, other public officials, as well as teachers, clergy and imams, requesting ODIHR to provide the necessary support if required;
 - Participating States should support and increase funding for the work of the ODIHR and the three Personal Representatives of the Chairperson-in-Office on combating intolerance and discrimination;
 - Participating States should make better use of ODIHR's capacity to raise awareness on intolerance, discrimination and xenophobia. Additional activities can be proposed by ODIHR, within its current tasking, to tackle issues going beyond those addressed by current programs. ODIHR has the potential to do more, if provided with more resources;
 - Participating States should initiate increased cooperation to address intolerant public discourse concerning Muslims, including by political leaders, in the media, and on the internet. In addition, ODIHR and the Representative on Freedom of the Media should enhance their collaboration in addressing anti-Muslim media activities, biased reporting and negative stereotyping;
 - Participating States should consider possible avenues of cooperation and coordination in countering the growing cohesion and networking of across the OSCE area of groups promoting an Islamophobic agenda.

Western Thrace Minority University Graduates Association

Taking into consideration increasing xenophobic, racist and hate-motivated crimes as well as Islamophobic attacks against the ethnic Turkish and Muslim identities in the Western Thrace region of Greece, some examples of which are mentioned above, the Western Thrace Minority University Graduates Association calls upon Greece to:

- Comply fully with OSCE commitments;
- Identify, arrest and punish hate-oriented attackers against the Minority survival in Western Thrace;
- Prevent any kind of verbal and physical hate-based and Islamophobic action that endangers the coexistence of these two fundamental entities of Western Thrace;
- Strengthen basic principles of respect and tolerance towards the ethnic Turkish and Muslim identities not only inside Western Thrace but also across the country.

Canada

- For participating States to further increase their efforts to implement their OSCE commitments on tolerance and non-discrimination, including by combating discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex or sexual orientation;
- For participating States to make and support efforts to confront violence towards persons based on their sexual orientation by providing meaningful responses to such violations.

Institute European de Recherches et D'Etudes Des Sciences Sociales et Religieuses

- Nous appelons le Royaume de Belgique comme tous les Pays Participants à contrer l'islamophobie institutionnelle qui existe parfois dans certains espaces publics.

Comment lutter contre ce phénomène si, de fait, l'Etat déroge lui-même au principe d'égalité entre les citoyens comme c'est le cas pour le voile islamique ;

- Nous appelons le Royaume de Belgique comme tous les Pays Participants à veiller au respect des droits fondamentaux et de la dignité de chaque individu sans tenir compte de sa situation légale. Le gouvernement belge doit être le garant de la protection de toutes les personnes vivant sur son territoire.

Human Rights Movement “Resistance”

Подводя итог выступлению, хотелось бы отметить и рекомендовать государствам-участникам, с учетом выполнения принятых ранее обязательств в рамках ОБСЕ, следующее:

- Необходимо на национальных уровнях активизировать работу по выполнению своих международных обязательств в сфере обеспечения гендерного равенства, защиты женщин и детей от насилия;
- Необходимо расширить обмен опытом государств-участников по поддержке материнства и детства, повышению качества жизни семьи, повышению рождаемости, по созданию условий для полноценного участия родителей в политической, экономической и общественной жизни, по укреплению роли женщин в сохранении традиционных семейных ценностей;
- Необходимо создавать и развивать условия для самообеспечения и благосостояния семьи, как базовой ячейки общества;
- Необходимо активнее пропагандировать семейные ценности, престиж семьи и укрепление её роли в современном обществе, используя международные правовые инструменты, институты ОБСЕ, а также активно привлекать к этой деятельности СМИ;
- Необходимо уделять больше внимания вопросам защиты женщин и детей от преступных посягательств;
- Необходимо развивать неправительственные межгосударственные отношения среди профильных общественных правозащитных организаций, развивать сотрудничество в этой сфере, а также в сфере мониторинга семей, усыновивших детей из других стран;
- При решении вопросов защиты женщин и детей от насилия необходимо уделить особое внимание проведению своевременной виктимологической профилактики и пресечению насильственных преступлений, оптимизации наказания за преступные посягательства, созданию государственных механизмов компенсации причиненного вреда и решению вопросов социальной реабилитации потерпевших от преступлений.

ABTTF - Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe

- We invite the Government of Greece to impose effective penalties or prohibition, if necessary for the extremist activities of political organizations, including Golden Dawn political party. Such political parties where evidence demonstrates that they advocate for and are involved directly or indirectly in acts of racist violence, must be banned and excluded from all state subsidies which are usually provided to political parties.

Chernivtsi Regional NGO ‘Human Rights’

- Провести перепись населения Украины;
- Принять анти дискриминационный Закон Украины в соответствии со стандартами ЕС та рекомендациями ОБСЕ;

- Создать специализированный государственный орган для борьбы с нетерпимостью и дискриминацией;
- Провести широкое обсуждение Национальной стратегии борьбы с дискриминацией;
- Разработать и ввести в программы всех учебных заведений курсы по терпимости и недискриминации.

Center for Information and Analysis (SOVA)

- More actively use the information collected by non-governmental organizations that perform systematic monitoring of racist groups, and consult NGOs on law enforcement issues. Despite methodological, and even political, differences, such cooperation can be very productive;
- Adjust the legislative framework covering hate crimes and related activities, including public incitement, organizing, financing, etc. Legislation should focus law enforcement efforts, first and foremost, on prosecuting the most dangerous crimes against the person. The internal policies and regulations of the law enforcement agencies should reflect the same priorities;
- Change the crime reporting system so that suspected hate motive could be recorded at any stage, including the earliest one. Specialized police units are more effective in investigating hate crimes, but regular police should conduct such investigations as well;
- Publish hate crime statistics, highlighting the different types, regions, and number of victims. Official statistics should be based on court decisions (for both proven and unproven cases), and not on the number of opened criminal cases;
- Actively participate in the TAHCLE training program for police officers;
- Train law enforcement personnel in detecting and deterring any unusual forms of offenses motivated by racial and similar hatred.

Constantinopolitan Society

Due to systematic, ongoing, and egregious violations of religious freedom, OSCE / ODIHR is called upon to urge the Turkish government to bring its laws and practices into compliance with international standards on freedom of religion or belief. Specifically: OSCE / ODIHR is called upon to urge Turkey-as an OSCE participating State-to:

- Give the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate the right to officially use the ecclesiastical title of “Ecumenical”, as it is a title that is historically established since the 6th century and globally recognized;
- Grant full legal personality to the Ecumenical Patriarchate, so that the latter may enjoy, inter alia, ownership rights and exercise property ownership / management;
- Lift the prerequisite that the election of the Ecumenical Patriarch depends on the pre-approval of the Prefecture of Istanbul;
- End Turkish citizenship requirements for the Ecumenical Patriarch and the Holy Synod of the Greek Orthodox Church, and permit them to select and appoint their leadership and members in accordance with their internal guidelines and beliefs;
- Resolve the question of those non-Muslim Foundations considered fused / mazbut, which, along with their properties, should be returned to the Greek Orthodox community and the Ecumenical Patriarchate;
- Re-open without any delay and prerequisite the Theological Seminary of Halki with exactly the same status it held before 1971 and permit students to enroll from both within and outside Turkey;
- Restore historical Byzantine churches of Hagia Sophia in Nicaea (Iznik) and Hagia Sophia in Trebizond, which were arbitrarily turned into mosques, to their previous function as museums;

- Give permission to the Ecumenical Patriarchate to have its own printing facilities for the publishing of religious editions (books, journals etc.);
- Abolish Article 301 of the Turkish Penal Code, which restricts the freedoms of thought and expression and negatively affects the freedom of religion or belief;
- Return the three churches of Panayia Kafatiani, Aya Yani and Aya Nikola in the district of Karakoy-Galata in Istanbul, as well as their 72 immovable properties, which have been illegally and forcibly occupied by the self – declared and nonexistent “Turkish Orthodox Patriarchate (TOP)”;
- Implement the Turkish Constitution and the Lausanne Treaty consistent with international obligations, such as OSCE commitments on freedom of religion or belief;
- Implement the Turkish Constitution and the Lausanne Treaty consistent with international obligations, such as Article 18 of the ICCPR and OSCE commitments on freedom of religion or belief.

Anti Defamation League

Here are the Anti-Defamation League’s recommendations for governments to begin the process to combat anti-Semitism and hate or to build on steps already taken to institutionalize a systemic, comprehensive strategy:

- ***Start by using your own bully pulpit to speak out.*** Political leaders have the most immediate and significant opportunity to set the tone of a national response to an anti-Semitic incident, an anti-Semitic party, or an anti-Semitic parliamentarian. I welcome the statements made in this room by participating States, I urge you to publicize your pledges and commitments in your media at home. This is Europe’s largest human rights conference and communities barely read a word about it in the media. Each of your governments has a significant media platform to promote the messages and commitments you are elevating here today. I hope you will leave this room committed to use it;
- ***Stop fearing hate crime data and information about anti-Semitism in your country.*** The measure of your countries' commitment to protect Jews and others from hate crime is not in the number of hate crimes. The real measure is in the quality of your government's response. The existence of a data collection mechanism is a sign that your government is recognizing the problem and taking the first step to respond. Then, what the state does with it, is the next important measure. The lack of recorded incidents does not mean your country is safe for a targeted group, it can mean quite the contrary;
- ***Fulfill your pledge to monitor and address hate crime.*** Hate crime data is the essential foundation for a whole range of political, policy education, prevention, and response measures. This monitoring is a powerful tool to confront anti-Semitism and other forms of bigotry and it prompts government outreach and police training to identify, report, and respond to hate violence. Governments should maintain official systems of monitoring and reporting to provide accurate data for informed policy decisions to combat violent hate crimes. Participating States should, at a minimum provide ODIHR basic information and data on the nature, incidence, and response to hate crimes as they have committed to do;
- ***Convene a “Berlin-plus Ten.”*** The Ministerial Council in December should endorse a high-level conference marking the tenth anniversary of the landmark Berlin declaration in which States pledged to fight anti-Semitism and which gave birth to ODIHR’s Tolerance and non-Discrimination Program. We urge participating States to register support here at the HDIM for the organization of a high-level meeting in 2014 and committing to high level participation;
- ***Support the specialized work of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), Tolerance, and Non-Discrimination Department and promote its reporting, education and training programs and other tools to combat anti-Semitism and hate crime.*** ODIHR tools, like *Hate Crime Laws: A Practical Guide*,

which ADL is proud to have played a role in drafting, encourage governments to partner with communities and empower them to help address hate crime. These tools are designed to help establish a common framework to improve hate crime response with models for lawmakers, community organizations, and law enforcement;

- ***Forge links with civil society:*** States should establish a framework for regular communication between communities and relevant officials and involve communities in efforts to craft and implement policies. States should support ODIHR efforts to build the capacity of non-governmental organizations to serve as a bridge between officials and law enforcement and communities to ensure an effective response;
- ***Parliaments should have zero-tolerance for anti-Semitism and bigotry.*** Voters are free to cast votes for any party on the ballot, but parliamentarians also have the ability to reject the anti-Semitism espoused by some parties and to ensure that parliaments are a platform to showcase a society's highest values and not its basest ideas. Parliaments can also be a vehicle for positive proactive action of all types. In December 2012, over 150 members of parliaments from 30 countries wrote a letter to the President, Prime Minister, and the Speaker of the Parliament of Hungary to condemn the Jobbik MP's statement in Parliament asking for a list of Jews in government and parliament to be created. Anti-Semitism and hatred is a shared problem across the OSCE Region and all States, all sectors of society in each of our countries share a stake in our collective effort to combat it.

Wuestenstrom e.V.

Recommendations to OSCE/ODIHR and participating States:

- Please do not allow politicians, parties or governments to fight against fundamental rights like therapeutic choice, freedom of profession, the freedom of sexual self-determination and the parents' right to educate;
- Please do not prevent minors and grownups from any kind of psychotherapy to find themselves in their identities in a process of autonomous self-presentation. With that you guarantee the inviolability of human dignity;
- Please do not promote efforts to implement culturally particular ideologies like the idea of an inherent "sexual identity" in constitutions and laws and with that make it more and more difficult for men and women to find support, when they experience unwanted sexual orientations.

No Borders- Ukraine

No Borders Project has a number of recommendations for the State and urges member-states to continue monitoring Ukraine's progress in implementation of the following:

- Reform relevant legislation and implementation mechanisms to ensure access to redress for victims of all kinds of discrimination including hate crimes;
- The State must ensure access to the fair justice in courts, as well as for free legal assistance, for all victims of discrimination;
- Provide human rights trainings for the police, prosecutors, border guards, staff of temporary detention facilities and judiciary, as well as facilitate the reporting of cases when Roma people are abused due to their ethnicity, as well as when it happens to other persons of different ethnic origin, or LGBT persons: effectively investigate complaints and bring those found guilty of such acts to justice;
- Develop dialogue with the civil society organizations aimed at improvement of reporting and investigation practices, as well as at building cooperation mechanisms for better provision of services. Take measures to effectively identify and ban illegal profiling practices within law enforcement authorities and establish independent mechanism of complaints on human rights abuses committed by police.

France

- En conclusion et en guise de recommandation, la France réitère son appel à une application pleine et entière des engagements de l'OSCE dans la lutte contre les crimes de haine et pour combattre toutes les formes de discrimination et d'intolérance, quels qu'en soient leurs motifs. A ce titre, laisser dire ou laisser croire que certains motifs de discriminations et de crimes de haine sont moins dignes de combat que d'autres est contraire à nos engagements en faveur de l'égale dignité de toute personne humaine.

Order of St. Andrew the Apostle

We respectfully submit that OSCE should immediately impress upon the Government of Turkey the need to fully comply with the principles of OSCE, of which Turkey is a member, and specifically, to:

- Fully adhere to the principles on the rights of expression, assembly and association, dissent, and religious faith and practice of all citizens without discrimination;
- Allow full legal status for Turkey's religious institutions (minorities), including religious leadership organs, by making all the necessary legal changes and imbed the changes into the new constitution;
- Establish and defend a climate of respect, tolerance, and legitimate assistance toward the free functioning of ethnic and religious minorities and their various institutions;
- Convert the Decree on the Return of Properties into a Law of the Land, and appoint a truly independent body for its oversight and implementation. The law must correct the deficiencies that have been pointed out in the Decree, including extending property losses before 1936. The Law should also mandate full cooperation of the bureaucracy, with strong incentives and strict penalties for stone-walling and other non-compliance;
- Extend the deadline as needed and provide for the full implementation of the Government Decree of 27-August-2011, on the return of confiscated properties with full cooperation by VGM and its Assembly;
- Appoint a Public Advocate with the necessary staff and power to assist applicants and help them work with the government (modeled after a similar institution of the European Union).

Forum for Religious Freedom Europe (FOREF)

- We demand that the degree of freedom of religion in Hungary is restored to its pre 2011 level and that the legislation concerning freedom of religion in Hungary is adjusted with European and UN guidelines and recommendations. We believe that the legislation violating fundamental human rights should not be ignored as it can serve as dangerous precedent and a bad example that other countries in the region might follow.

European Union

En guise de conclusion, l'UE souhaite formuler les recommandations suivantes :

- Garantir la pleine mise en oeuvre des engagements existants de l'OSCE dans la lutte contre toutes les formes d'intolérance ;
- Coopérer avec le BIDDH pour l'élaboration du rapport sur les crimes de haine et participer à ses formations sur ce sujet ;
- Renforcer les politiques de lutte contre les stigmatisations quels qu'en soient les motifs et faire preuve d'une vigilance renforcée contre toute incitation publique à la haine ou à la violence ;

- Mieux prendre en compte les formes multiples de discrimination et évaluer régulièrement l'efficacité des plans nationaux de lutte contre le racisme.

Anti Defamation League

- **Acknowledge and condemn violent hate crimes whenever they occur.** Senior government leaders should send immediate, strong, public, and consistent messages that violent crimes which appear to be motivated by prejudice and intolerance will be investigated thoroughly and prosecuted to the full extent of the law;
- **Enact laws that expressly address hate crimes.** Recognizing the particular harm caused by violent hate crimes, governments should enact laws that establish specific offenses or provide enhanced penalties for violent crimes committed because of the victim's race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, mental and physical disabilities, or other similar status;
- **Strengthen enforcement and prosecute offenders.** Governments should ensure that those responsible for hate crimes are held accountable under the law, that the enforcement of hate crime laws is a priority for the criminal justice system, and that the record of their enforcement is well documented and publicized;
- **Provide adequate instructions and resources to law enforcement bodies.** Governments should ensure that police and investigators—as the first responders in cases of violent crime—are specifically instructed and have the necessary procedures, resources and training to identify, investigate and register bias motives before the courts, and that prosecutors have been trained to bring evidence of bias motivations and apply the legal measures required to prosecute hate crimes;
- **Undertake parliamentary, interagency or other special inquiries into the problem of hate crimes.** Such public, official inquiries should encourage public debate, investigate ways to better respond to hate crimes, and seek creative ways to address the roots of intolerance and discrimination through education and other means;
- **Monitor and report on hate crimes.** Governments should maintain official systems of monitoring and public reporting to provide accurate data for informed policy decisions to combat violent hate crimes. Such systems should include anonymous and disaggregated information on bias motivations and/or victim groups, and should monitor incidents and offenses, as well as prosecutions. Governments should consider establishing third party complaint procedures to encourage greater reporting of hate crimes and conducting periodic hate crime victimization surveys to monitor underreporting by victims and underrecording by police;
- **Create and strengthen antidiscrimination bodies.** Official antidiscrimination and human rights bodies should have the authority to address hate crimes through monitoring, reporting, and assistance to victims;
- **Reach out to community groups.** Governments should conduct outreach and education efforts to communities and civil society groups to reduce fear and assist victims, advance police-community relations, encourage improved reporting of hate crimes to the police and improve the quality of data collection by law enforcement bodies;
- **Speak out against official intolerance and bigotry.** Freedom of speech allows considerable latitude for offensive and hateful speech, but public figures should be held to a higher standard. Members of parliament and local government leaders should be held politically accountable for bigoted words that encourage discrimination and violence and create a climate of fear for minorities;
- **Encourage international cooperation on hate crimes.** Governments should support and strengthen the mandates of intergovernmental organizations that are addressing discrimination—like the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, and the Fundamental Rights Agency—by encouraging such organizations to raise the capacity of and train police,

prosecutors, and judges, as well as other official bodies and civil society groups to combat violent hate crimes. Governments should also provide a detailed accounting on the incidence and nature of hate crimes to these bodies in accordance with relevant commitments.

Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians in Europe

Additionally we recommend:

- To combat underreporting by collecting disaggregated data on hate crimes against Christians. In some countries, vandalism against a Christian site is only listed as vandalism against a public building;
- Combating persecution of Christians outside the OSCE area must become a priority of the foreign secretaries of participating States in their foreign policy.

Turkische Akademiker Dresden

- German government must go over these illegal organizations bravely;
- German government must show more effort in the effectively education of civil servants (especially police units, teachers, officers, etc.) against to Xenophobia (and police violence).

European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC)

Key recommendations for government action:

- Scale up or implement programmes to increase the number of Roma employed in police forces;
- Develop community safety and policing programmes, with close cooperation between police, Romani NGOs and Romani communities;
- Respective authorities should regularly collect, publish and analyse data disaggregated by ethnicity on violence against Roma, including hate crimes, and their prosecution;
- Ensure full assistance, protection, prosecution and compensation to the victims of violence;
- Senior government officials should publicly denounce every instance of anti-Roma violence and other kinds of hate crimes;
- Draft and distribute to all respective authorities clear guidance on the investigation and prosecution of violence against Roma and hate crimes, in line with guidance available from the OSCE and countries such as the United Kingdom;
- Provide systematic and ongoing training to police officers, prosecutors and judges on addressing violence against Roma and hate crimes; and
- Prosecute to the fullest extent of the law all perpetrators of violence and hate crimes against Roma.

Council of Europe

The Council of Europe presents the following specific recommendations:

- Member States of the Council of Europe are encouraged to sign and ratify Protocol No. 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights, which provides for the general prohibition of discrimination;
- OSCE participating States are encouraged to sign and ratify the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe's Convention on Cybercrime, on the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems;
- Member States of the Council of Europe are encouraged to enact and implement legislation against racism and racial discrimination, if such legislation does not already

exist or is incomplete, and to ensure that such legislation reflects the key elements in ECRI's General Policy Recommendation No. 7, which include the setting up of an independent body specialised in the fight against racism and racial discrimination;

- In particular, ECRI urges member States of the Council of Europe to base their policies relating to employment on its most recent General Policy Recommendation on combating racism and racial discrimination in employment. Member States of the Council of Europe are also encouraged to implement ECRI's remaining General Policy Recommendations as well as its country-by-country recommendations.

Alliance Defending Freedom

- My recommendation is that participating OSCE States must find a fair balance between the different competing rights that have been created by non-discrimination laws, so that citizens are not unfairly penalized and punished for upholding their deeply held religious beliefs in the workplace or in other areas of public life.

Pro Igual

Recommendations:

- The governments must recognize the reality and the danger of the extreme right ascent to power, and not dismiss the right-wing extremism as fringe behavior of a handful of marginalized youths;
- It is also important to recognize that the extreme right has received a public relations makeover. We are no longer dealing with just crude manifestations, such as shaven heads or military boots. The contemporary extreme right is an increasingly sophisticated and insidious ideology that masks hate as care and violence as freedom, and actively uses democratic means to attain undemocratic ends;
- Appeasement does not work. Some of the mainstream parties tried to woo the extreme right voters by embracing xenophobia. But they will never be radical enough for the extreme right, but will instead lose their core supporters alongside with integrity;
- Economic crisis and corruption must be addressed urgently, as they feed into the extreme right's popularity. Ineptitude in handling the economic crisis, lack of transparency and seemingly endemic corruption turn the mainstream, moderate voters away from the established parties into the grip of the extreme right;
- Laws must protect the victims of right-wing extremism, not provide loopholes and excuses for perpetrators;
- It is not enough to be reactive; it is essential to become pro-active. This means the alarm must be raised BEFORE the extreme right ascend to power. Otherwise, with each new victory of the extreme right, there will be fewer countries even left to condemn it;
- Last but not least, the Governments should work treat civil society as an ally, and not as a nuisance, as presently civil society is the only force resisting the rise of the extreme right to power.

Burgerbewegung Pax Europa

BPE recommends the following to the OSCE, ODIHR and participating States:

- That the term "racism" be used sparingly by OSCE, and only to explicit obstacles to human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- That OSCE and participating States respond to the staggering number of crimes committed in the name of Islam.

Switzerland

Sur la base de ces considérations, nous formulons les deux recommandations suivantes :

- Concernant la discrimination des personnes LGBT, nous recommandons à tous les Etats participants d'engager un dialogue constructif entre eux et avec la société civile, et ce en dépit des différentes opinions et positions qui prévalent ;
- Nous encourageons les Etats participants à renforcer les mesures de prévention et de sensibilisation en faveur des victimes de discrimination.

Human Rights Without Frontiers

Human Rights Without Frontiers Int'l is deeply concerned about the increasing number of acts of vandalism and violence committed against members and buildings of new religious movements in countries of Western Europe, Central Europe and Eastern Europe whatever their political regime and recommends to the OSCE participating States:

- To combat any form of social hostility and any act of violence against any religious or belief community, not just Christians, Muslims or Jews;
- To organize human rights seminars with a wide range of religious institutions in order to promote inter-religious tolerance and peaceful co-existence.

Muslim Denomination in Bulgaria

With reference to the above mentioned matters I'd like to make the following recommendations to the Bulgarian authorities:

- National authorities to ensure implementation of OSCE Ministerial Decision No. 9/09 on Hate Crime and OSCE Permanent Council Decisions 607 and 621 on Tolerance and the Fight against Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, as well as other related commitments established by Ministerial Council decisions between 2003 and 2007;
- To undertake specific measures in strengthening and implementing legislation and data collection mechanisms to address hate crime and in identifying and implementing good practices;
- The authorities actively engage with civil society organizations to combat hate crimes and other manifestations of intolerance, whilst recognizing the independent role played by the latter;
- To undertake specific measures so that attempts and actions of this nature against religious and ethnic groups as a whole will not be treated as "hooligan acts", but will be considered as acts "threatening ethnic and religious peace" in the country and be punished strictly and uncompromisingly, regardless of ethnic and religious affiliation of the perpetrator and to whom they are directed;
- The national authorities to implement the commitments of OSCE to address intolerance and discrimination by conducting awareness-raising activities, developing educational programmes in order to raise awareness among youth of the value of mutual respect and understanding, encouraging the establishment of national institutions and specialized bodies and co-operating with civil society;
- The national authorities to submit periodically the annual hate crime list to ODIHR.

Teskedsorden (The Order of the Teaspoon)

- We therefore encourage all of you to take a look into the structure, the methodology and the result of this programme called the Tolerance project. A project and method that our organization has received support from the Swedish government to implement all over Sweden. And ask yourselves if you can afford not to implement a similar programme.

Amnesty International

To conclude, Amnesty International calls on OSCE Participating States to enhance take all measures necessary in combating hate crimes by:

- Ensuring that their laws prohibit all crimes that are perpetrated against individuals or property because of their real or perceived association with, or belonging to, a group defined by a protected characteristic according to international human rights law;
- Including real or perceived sexual orientation and gender identity as protected characteristics on the basis of which a hate crime can be perpetrated;
- Ensuring that investigative authorities do their utmost to unveil any alleged hate motive associated with a crime, even when such hate motive was not reported by the victim;
- Ensuring that prosecuting authorities consistently bring alleged hate motives to the attention of the court when there is sufficient evidence to do so;
- Collecting data on hate crimes at all levels, including reporting, investigation, prosecution and sentencing. Such data must be disaggregated by hate motive including sexual orientation and gender identity. This data should be made publicly available and authorities should develop policies to combat all forms of discrimination on the basis of such data;
- Ensuring that victims of hate crimes receive thorough and prompt information about the developments of their cases, be able to be heard in the legal proceedings and be provided with legal and psychological support as appropriate;
- Providing police, judicial authorities and health professionals with general training on discrimination on multiple grounds and specific training on hate crimes.

Freedom House

- The OSCE and participating States should continue to work with Ukraine to see that it passes relevant legislation to ensure that LGBTI people are not discriminated against, in the workplace or anywhere.

Association "Inva-Sodeystvie"

- We fully recommend Georgia to acknowledge Abkhazia/South Ossetia as fully authorised negotiating partners rather than “occupied territories” ruled from outside. Such an agreement would definitely create a more favourable and useful atmosphere between the three states, which have essentially been in a state of war for the last 20 years and have at times, suffered severe violations of human rights.

Recommendations to International Organizations

Institut d'Alisher Navoi

- Мы обращаемся к международному сообществу, к европейским организациям с призывом, наконец-то, сформулировать консолидированную позицию и программу действий в отношении зафиксированных очевидных и вопиющих фактов нарушения прав человека в этой стране. Задача таких действий – не допустить рецидива трагических событий 2010 года. А они, как я говорил, могут повториться, поскольку до сих пор нет серьёзных внешних ограничителей для тех или иных решений, которые власти Кыргызстана принимают в нарушении всяческих международных норм.

Russian Federation

- Призываем государства-участники ОБСЕ снять оговорки к статье 4 Международной конвенции о ликвидации всех форм расовой дискриминации и

обеспечить, чтобы национальное законодательство учитывало ее положения. Следует включить в уголовное законодательство положения, согласно которым мотивы или цели, связанные с расизмом или ксенофобией, являются отягчающим обстоятельством при совершении преступления.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Amaro Drom e.V.

- We recommend to the OSCE and especially to ODIHR to initiate a research about the education on the Roma genocide in school curriculums.

Faculte des Sciences Islamiques de Bruxelles

- We encourage the Ministerial Council of the OSCE to adopt a global and deep decision in order to prevent racial discrimination, xenophobia and hatred against Muslims, by promoting educational initiatives and raising public awareness;
- We encourage the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) to support the Swiss presidency in an effort to conceive and implement “islamophobia prevention projects”, particularly by promoting educational initiatives and raising public awareness in the media as well as in political discourse;
- We suggest that the ODIHR create tools to support the efforts of media experts in developing and implementing codes of conduct, mechanisms of self-regulation and other adequate measures that ensure equal representation of people and groups in the society. The ODIHR should commit itself in an open dialogue with civil society and political figures. This dialogue will pave the way for encouraging responsibility and ethics in public discourse. Eventually, it will help to take concrete measures by implementing codes of behaviour that will allow treating the widespread and growing use of anti-Islamic attacks in the public sphere. Educational Institutions, like the BFIS, could be effective partners in this matter;
- We call out the Belgian State to consider Institutions specialised in the teaching of Islam as trusted partners for managing the Islamic religion in Belgium, with full transparency and taking into account the principles and values of our Kingdom. The FISB is ready to take part in all these kinds of cooperation;
- In conclusion, we want to congratulate the ODIHR for having written a guide that helps teachers and educators address intolerance against Muslims. This guide will serve as a model in order to fight racism and xenophobia and we will use it within our educational system. The FISB is preparing a module that will draw inspiration from this guide.

Institute European de Recherches et D'Etudes Des Sciences Sociales et Religieuses

- Nous appelons la prochaine Présidence Suisse de l'OSCE, à renforcer les moyens du BIDDH pour qu'il puisse mieux prévenir les attaques vécues par les minorités religieuses au sein des Pays Participants comme en Belgique. Nous tenons à souligner que, pour assurer une participation plus équilibrée de toutes les communautés dans la région de l'OSCE, le BIDDH doit promouvoir davantage la participation à ses activités des ONG musulmanes ;
- Le fait anti-musulman s'est désormais normalisé dans un grand nombre de pays à l'Ouest de Vienne. Il s'est même institutionnalisé par le biais de l'intervention publique dans les médias des personnes que nous pouvons appeler les "*terroristes culturelles*". C'est pourquoi, nous appelons la prochaine Présidence Suisse de l'OSCE à ce qu'elle tienne compte de l'intolérance et de la discrimination croissante envers les musulmans, et à la lumière de cette situation inquiétante, de suivre son évolution de plus près et de ne plus permettre aux individus ou organisations xénophobes et d'extrêmes droites de

polémiquer sur la question, notamment ici-même. Plusieurs organisations ont émis depuis plusieurs années le souhait de la tenue à l'OSCE d'une Haute Conférence sur la question de l'islamophobie, nous soutenons bien évidemment ce souhait ;

- Enfin, l'islamophobie s'est transformée en une nouvelle forme de racisme et de xénophobie. Nous invitons l'OSCE à poursuivre la promotion des Principes Directeurs pour les éducateurs développés par le BIDDH à cet égard. Cet outil qui permet de mieux cerner ce phénomène est disponible en Français et pourrait être utilisé au sein des instances éducatives en Belgique.

Center for Information and Analysis (SOVA)

- Compile and distribute the experience gained from prior comprehensive efforts against groups that practice racist violence, including specific criminal investigations, detection and destruction of the groups' infrastructure, isolation of their funding sources, identifying organizers and coordinators of violent actions, etc. Hold an international expert workshop on this topic, if needed;
- Organize a seminar for law enforcement officials from different countries, presenting a summary of successful practices for collecting information and recording hate crimes statistics.

Council of Europe

The Council of Europe presents the following specific recommendations:

- OSCE institutions are encouraged to continue their co-operation in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, antisemitism and intolerance with the Council of Europe, and in particular ECRI, by further strengthening mechanisms enabling the free flow of and exchange of information and data and common action.

Turkische Akademiker Dresden

- OSCE must be the observer of this serial hate crimes' judgment;
- OSCE must continue to bring all religions' delegates together and to encourage them to make consensus against to the hate crimes;
- OSCE should consider the increasing police violence especially at the social events and organizations (mostly against to the foreigners (as Xenophobia)).

Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians in Europe

The Observatory on Intolerance against Christians recommends:

- The targeted and purposeful implementation of the OSCE's own recommendations put forth by the Parliamentary Assembly's "Resolution on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in the OSCE Area", adopted in Belgrade in July 2011, particularly:
 - that a "public debate on intolerance and discrimination against Christians be initiated and that the right of Christians to participate fully in public life be ensured";
 - that, legislation in the participating States, including
 - labour law,
 - equality law,
 - laws on freedom of expression and assembly,
 - and laws related to religious communities and rights of conscientious objection be assessed in view of discrimination and intolerance against Christians;
 - The Resolution also "encourages the media not to spread prejudices against Christians and to combat negative stereotyping";

- Additionally we recommend to the OSCE/ODIHR: to develop materials on how to combat intolerance against Christians and to disseminate this through the OSCE region.

Latvian Anti-fascist Committee

- Уважаемые коллеги, весь послевоенный мир в Европе построен на самом главном основополагающем принципе: «Never again!». И я бы очень хотел, чтобы ОБСЕ приняла документ, жестко и однозначно определяющий, что никогда европейская толерантность не будет распространяться ни на какие попытки реанимировать нацизм или реабилитировать нацистское и эсэсовское прошлое, и любые попытки нарушить этот постулат будут приравниваться к преступлению против человечности.

International Human Rights Movement "World Without Nazism"- Russia

- Я предлагаю в рамках ОБСЕ провести отдельную конференцию, посвященную проблеме агрессивного национализма и ксенофобии, где участники смогут ознакомиться с выводами и рекомендациями экспертов, с позициями отдельных стран и дискриминируемых групп, и приступить, наконец, к системному решению проблемы.

Gustav Stresemann Stiftung e.V.

Recommendations

- The STRESEMANN FOUNDATION recommends the OSCE to urge its individual divisions, participating states and NGOs, that statements be supported by (statistical) facts and that speculations (of an ideological nature) be omitted wherever possible.

International Civil Liberties Alliance

We therefore make the following recommendations:

- That the OSCE provide an official definition of the term “Islamophobia” including a comprehensive list of what Islamophobia is not. This would go a long way to helping organisations like ICLA to articulate their messages in the most sensitive way possible.
- That the OSCE organize a much more diverse range of stakeholders to come together to create a revised booklet for educators that is both fair and politically neutral. For such an important publication to achieve what it purports to want to achieve, it has to be more inclusive with regard to those who compile it.

Russian Federation

- Важно, что ОБСЕ и ее институты, такие как БДИПЧ, Представитель по свободе СМИ, ВКНМ, личные представители Действующего председательства уделяли особое внимание выполнению обязательств ОБСЕ в этой сфере, провели в следующем году тематические мероприятия, посвященные анализу ситуации и мерам борьбы с расизмом, ксенофобией, антисемитизмом, исламофобией и христианофобией.

Muslim Denomination in Bulgaria

Recommendations to ODIHR/OSCE:

- ODIHR should suggest specific measures to prevent intolerance, xenophobia and hate crimes;

- ODIHR and other OSCE institutions, including the Personal Representatives of the Chairperson in Office on tolerance and non-discrimination issues, to undertake measures for better supporting OSCE participating States in implementing their commitments on tolerance and nondiscrimination;
- ODIHR to continue with the training programmes on responding to hate crimes and all kind of intolerance for law enforcement, educators, NGOs and representatives of religious organizations

International Civil Liberties Alliance

- L'international Civil Liberties Alliance lance aujourd'hui un appel urgent solennel au directeur du BIDDH. Le livret « Principes directeurs à l'attention des éducateurs pour combattre l'intolérance et la discrimination à l'encontre des musulmans : aborder l'islamophobie à travers l'éducation » doit être immédiatement retiré de la distribution.

Center for Security Policy

- CSP recommends that the OSCE and ODIHR suspend this practice until a published definition of terms is provided that meets EU Human Rights and U.S. Civil Rights scrutiny.

Recommendations to NGOs

Center for Information and Analysis (SOVA)

- Actively participate in monitoring of hate crimes;
- Organize public debates in order to explain the importance and meaning of the combating hate crimes and discrimination to citizens.

Tuesday, 24 September 2013

WORKING SESSION 3: Tolerance and non-discrimination II (continued):

- Equality of opportunity for women and men, including: Implementation of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality;
- Prevention of violence against women and children.

Recommendations to participating States

Canada

- For States to enact, reinforce or amend domestic legislation to enhance the protection of women and girls subjected to sexual violence;
- That States publicly condemn violence against women and girls and provide visible and sustained leadership to prevent acts of violence, including sexually-based violence.

Foundation "CitizenGO"

- To demand the respect and protection (in terms of social security and in other areas) of women who decide to educate their children personally at home;
- To promote maternity as the most important goal for a woman and not as a obstacle, which interferes with her career;

- To research and document the situation of woman in the beginning as well as in the continuation of their professional career after giving birth and raising children.

Chernivtsi Regional NGO ‘Human Rights’

- Принять законодательство, обеспечивающее увеличение участие женщин в политической жизни - все политические партии законодательно обязать соблюдать принцип 50/50 в избирательном списке (мужчина/женщина);
- Повести эффективное расследование преступлений, совершенных властями относительно меня и моей семьи – нанесение телесных повреждений, незаконное преследование и арест имущества, давление на членов семьи;
- Ратифицировать Конвенцию Совета Европы по предупреждению и борьбу с насилием относительно женщин и домашним насилием;
- Публиковать статистику по домашнему насилию и насилию над женщинами, обеспечить эффективное раскрытие этих преступлений;
- Подписать и ратифицировать Декларацию ООН о правозащитниках для защиты женщин-правозащитниц, принять соответствующее внутреннее законодательство;
- Прекратить политические преследования, обеспечить лечение и участие в выборах лидера оппозиционной партии «Батьківщина» Ю. Тимошенко.

Austria

Austria would like to offer the following recommendations:

- Step up national and regional efforts to eradicate all forms of violence against women and girls and in this context become a party to the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence;
- Effectively protect children from all forms of violence and abuse, i.e. through effective legislation and prevention programmes, including particularly children living in institutional settings or otherwise deprived of their liberty;
- Systemize and exchange best practices concerning the development of National Action Plans or other national measures for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000);
- Adopt as soon as possible an OSCE system-wide Action Plan on Woman, Peace and Security.

Centro de Investigaciones en Derechos Humanos (CIDH) PRO IGUAL

Recommendations for the Spanish Government:

- The relevant authorities should collect disaggregated data on migrant women in irregular administrative situation;
- The authorities should permit human rights monitors and NGOs to enter CIEs and privately interview inmates in order to document their situation;
- All CIE personnel must be required to wear visible identification badges and sanctioned for failure to comply;
- The authorities must investigate all allegations of ill-treatment of inmates by CIE guards and prosecute those found responsible for human rights violations and sexual harassment;
- All CIE inmates should be provided with independent legal counsel, and an interpreter if necessary;
- The authorities should declare a temporary moratorium on expulsions of undocumented migrants, pending the review of their cases;

- All CIE inmates should have access to medical assistance as necessary, and women should have gender-sensitive care and adequate nutrition; translation services should be available to help inmates communicate their health concerns;
- Pregnant and lactating women and women with young children should under no circumstances be detained in CIEs or separated from their children and families;
- Suspected victims of human trafficking should receive necessary legal, medical and other assistance and granted residence on humanitarian grounds;
- The authorities should decisively end ethnic profiling practices by the police and law enforcement.

Penal Reform International

PRI recommends for all OSCE participating States to review its penal legislation, policies and practices, by reference of the UN Bangkok Rules including by:

- Undertaking research and data-collection on the background, characteristics and rehabilitative needs of women offenders and prisoners, in line with Rule 67 of the UN Bangkok Rules;
- Including the UN Bangkok Rules as part of the training curriculum of criminal justice actors, including prison authorities and staff.

International Federation for Therapeutic Choice (IFTC)

We therefore recommend to OSCE Participating States, in light the aforementioned fundamental rights upheld by the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* and the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*:

- To recognize and condemn intolerance and discrimination against sexual minorities who freely choose to receive help in order to overcome or diminish their unwanted sexual attractions, orientation, behaviors, and/or identity;
- To draft legislation to safeguard the freedom of medical and mental health practitioners and educators: to offer their professional guidance and therapeutic expertise to all people, whose own whose sexual minority concerns are *unwanted* and who *freely* choose help in order to overcome or diminish their unwanted sexual attractions, orientation, behaviors, and/or identity. This includes minor children who themselves freely seek such services with the consent of their parents.

COC Netherlands

We recommend OSCE participating States:

- To prevent, investigate, and punish the perpetrators of physical and sexual violence against LBT women (in compliance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women);
- To protect LBT-girls against discrimination and violence; and to ensure education on sexual orientation and gender identity (in compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child), including to repeal the anti-propaganda legislation in the Russian Federation.

Pro Igual

On the basis of these findings, we would like to recommend to the Spanish authorities the following:

- Human rights NGOs and monitors should be allowed to enter detention centers and privately interview inmates – this is often sabotaged by the centers' directors;
- All personnel of the detention centers must wear visible identification badges and face sanctions for failure to comply;

- All allegations of ill-treatment, especially sexual abuse of female inmates, by the guards must be investigated and prosecuted;
- All inmates should have access to independent legal counsel, and translation if necessary;
- The authorities should declare a temporary moratorium on expulsions of migrant women, pending the review of their cases;
- Women detainees in particular should have gender-sensitive healthcare and adequate nutrition;
- Pregnant and breastfeeding women should under no circumstances be detained or separated from their children and families;
- Suspected victims of human trafficking should receive necessary legal, medical and other assistance;
- The authorities should decisively end ethnic profiling practices by the police.

Humanitas Helvetica

Empfehlungen für Regierungen

- Anstelle der Kriminalisierung der Prostitution und der damit verbundenen Verdrängung in den undurchsichtigen illegalen Untergrund, empfiehlt Humanitas Helvetica den Regierungen, die aus freien Stücken ausgeübte Prostitution von Frauen und Männern als selbständige Erwerbsgrundlage anzuerkennen. Hingegen muss dem Menschenhandel mit aller Härte des Gesetzes entgegengetreten werden. Gesetzliche Grundlagen müssen geschaffen oder wo vorhanden ausgebaut werden, damit schon der Versuch des Menschenhandels im Keim erstickt werden kann. Parallel empfiehlt Humanitas Helvetica die verstärkte Sensibilisierung aller involvierter Stellen (Polizei, Justiz, Migrationsämter, Arbeitsämter, Botschaften etc.), um Fällen von Menschenhandel rascher entgegenwirken zu können, respektive frühzeitig Anzeichen eines möglichen Menschenhandels erkennen zu können.

Buergerbewegung Pax Europa

Recommendation to participating States:

Violence against women and children can only be combatted if the problem is recognized. This recognition is especially important with respect to the barbaric practice of female genital mutilation.

- We recommend that participating States recognize that FGM is not a cultural practice, but a religious one as it is endorsed by many Islamic clerics and scholars due to its justification in Islamic law;
- Endorsement, performance and support of FGM must be reported to the authorities and prosecuted;
- Legal penalties for FGM should be raised;
- Educational awareness programs in health education should be introduced;
- As for best practices, it is deplorable that none exist yet.

Buergerbewegung PAX EUROPA

In addition to the high numbers, BPE-Austria is concerned over the apparent pattern that the native majority population is targeted by Muslim immigrants, a trend that calls for more research and investigation. Therefore BPE-Austria recommends for participating States (among others):

- That law enforcement is encouraged to do their best, and that lack of proper investigation must be treated as complicity to crime. Fear of being labeled 'racist' or 'xenophobic' is no sound excuse.

Womenforfreedom

Women For Freedom suggests the following, especially to the German government:

- That FGM should explicitly be added to the catalogue of human rights offenses;
- FGM should be classified as severe bodily harm in all of Europe, as it constitutes a lifelong suffering, and should be punished accordingly;
- Training about FGM should be conducted for teachers, doctors and police officers, that they will be able to handle it in real life;
- Children at risk of FGM should be taken out of their families for their own safety;
- Children who are already victims of FGM should have a clear path towards taking guilty parties to court, including possibly their own parents.

ACT! For Canada – Education

- We recommend the unequivocal condemnation of OSCE participating States of Islamic misogyny, gender apartheid and the dehumanization of women. We recommend that participating States do not stand by silently while the Islamic world brutalizes women.

Recommendations to the OSCE

European Union

Finally, we would like to reiterate the four main recommendations of the EU with regard to promoting gender equality:

- Continue mainstreaming of gender issues in OSCE policies and activities, with a focus on the cross-dimensionality of gender issues;
- Adopt an OSCE-Wide Action Plan on UNSCR 1325, as well as develop further the tools for implementation of the 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality;
- Take concrete steps to ensure that field missions have the capacity to implement the OSCE gender commitments;
- Increase focus on tackling violence against women and girls, particularly those that are most prevalent such as domestic violence, and involve men and boys in gender equality promotion activities.

International Federation for Therapeutic Choice (IFTC)

We recommend to the OSCE/ODIHR and OSCE Missions:

- To be aware of and condemn intolerance and discrimination against sexual minorities who freely choose help in order to eliminate, diminish, or manage unwanted feelings, thoughts, behavior, and/or identity;
- To assist OSCE Participating States in monitoring and drafting legislation, with special attention to safeguarding the above-mentioned rights upheld by the CRC and the UDHR.

COC Netherlands

We recommend the OSCE:

- To ensure that discrimination and violence against LGBT women are properly and explicitly addressed in the OSCE trainings for law enforcement and prosecutors.

Switzerland

Für die zukünftigen Anstrengungen der OSZE zur Beachtung der Gen-derdimension empfehlen wir:

- Die Stärkung der OSZE-Strukturen für die Implementierung des OSZE-Aktionsplans zur Förderung der Gleichstellung von Frauen und Männern. Wir begrüßen die Erarbeitung eines Implementierungs-plans zur Umsetzung des Aktionsplans. Auch prüfen wir gerne die Erarbeitung eines Addendums zum Aktionsplan, welches den Entwicklungen seit 2004 Rechnung trägt;
- Den Erfahrungsaustausch über die Staatenpraxis zur Umsetzung der UNO Sicherheitsratsresolution 1325 mit dem Ziel, die Kohärenz zu verstärken;
- Die Förderung der politischen Partizipation von Frauen als Akteure der Konflikttransformation auf allen gesellschaftlichen Ebenen.

Russian Federation

Полагаем, что ОБСЕ и ее государства-участники должны адекватно реагировать на возникшие вызовы в этой сфере, объединять усилия в борьбе за будущее наших детей. В этой связи рекомендовали бы институтам ОБСЕ провести:

- Всесторонний анализ положения детей, касающийся всех сфер их жизни, оценку наиболее часто встречающихся нарушений прав детей, обзор национального законодательства, направленного на защиту материнства и детства, анализ соответствия национального законодательства международным обязательствам, выявление пробелов в обязательствах ОБСЕ, касающихся защиты детей;
- Обзор национальных инструментов и институтов по защите прав детей, обмен наилучшими практиками;
- Развивать сотрудничество с международными институтами по защите детей.

Buergerbewegung PAX EUROPA

In addition to the high numbers, BPE-Austria is concerned over the apparent pattern that the native majority population is targeted by Muslim immigrants, a trend that calls for more research and investigation. Therefore BPE-Austria recommends for participating States:

- That relevant agencies conduct information campaigns targeting immigrant communities, making it clear that rape is an inexcusable crime, that woman reporting such crimes will be protected by the state, and that perpetrators will face the full force of the law, including possible deportation;
- Victims and witnesses should be protected as soon as they have reported a crime. Threats and intimidation intended to silence witnesses need to be systematically punished;
- That law enforcement is encouraged to do their best, and that lack of proper investigation must be treated as complicity to crime. Fear of being labeled 'racist' or 'xenophobic' is no sound excuse;
- Deportation should be considered as a punishment whenever possible;
- Finally, BPE recommends that agreements be negotiated with foreign countries so that foreign criminals can serve their sentences in their home countries.

Franco-Egyptian Organization for Human Rights

Recommendation to the Delegations, NGO, OSCE, ODIHR:

- OFEDH is recommending OSCE to define actions to prevent such barbaric acts from occurring in their state members.

Salut et Misericorde

- L'association Salut et Miséricorde recommande à l'OSCE de s'assurer auprès des États membres qu'ils empêchent et pénalisent la diffusion d'ouvrages enseignant un statut inférieur et dégradant de la femme et des enfants.

Wednesday, 25 September 2013

WORKING SESSION 4: Fundamental freedoms I, including:

- Freedom of expression, free media and information, including best practices for protection of journalists;
- Address by the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media.

Recommendations to participating States

Gustav Stresemann Stiftung e.V

The Stresemann Foundation recommends the OSCE and the participating States to take into account for upcoming commitments and legal restrictions- without the freedom of expression:

- Freedom of the press wouldn't exist, since every publication critical of the government or predominant ideology would be forbidden or burdened by sanctions;
- There would be no community of religion or creed other than the predominant or state religion, as wherever possible, a general belief ban would exist in order to prevent unwanted expressions of opinion on the state of the world;
- Freedom of assembly or association wouldn't exist, since individuals or groups who think differently could neither assemble nor would they have the right to receive corresponding information if this information contradicted the "official line";
- There would be no free research and science, since the execution and publication of undesirable research projects and results would not be allowed;
- There would be no artistic freedom, since, for example, cartoon critiques would be forbidden or works would be classified as "degenerate" or "blasphemy."

United Kingdom

- In conclusion, we call on participating States to work cooperatively to protect and promote freedom of the media in all its forms. This is sometimes presented as a divisive topic where one group of States is seeking to preach to others. It need not be this way. Last year's resolutions in Geneva demonstrate that consensus can prevail.

Regional Centre of Human Rights

- To the NGOs and especially for the governments – to pay much more attention to the education of lawyers in the standards of human rights;
- To the NGOs - to adopt the best practices of the Human Rights House Network gained during the implementation of the Project “Electronic human rights education for lawyers”.

Freedom Now

- I speak today on behalf of my organization that works on behalf of individual prisoners of conscience, and our partner organizations in the countries of Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan, two participating States in the OSCE region that use arbitrary detention to silence individual expression, most often of activists and journalists. I call on these countries to comply with their binding obligations under international law, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and to comply with judgments

issued by the European Court, the UN Human Rights Committee, and the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, all of which call for the immediate release of countless individuals who have been imprisoned as a result of their exercise of a fundamental right.

European Union

Participating States should:

- Reaffirm the existing principles and commitments in the field of freedom of expression and freedom of the media as well as their determination to implement them;
- Consider how to enhance the implementation of commitments with regard to freedom of the media as well as to examine the strengthening of those commitments including to reflect technological developments such as the internet;
- Extend open invitations to the Representative and her office;
- Ensure that media laws are in line with international standards and OSCE commitments and are implemented subsequently;
- Strengthen their commitment to ensure freedom of opinion and expression, and especially to protect journalistic activities from an inappropriate application of criminal law;
- Ensure that journalists in the OSCE area can work safely and without being threatened by physical violence, persecution, detention, harassment, intimidation, direct or indirect economic pressure or any other form of interference;
- Act decisively to investigate thoroughly all acts of violence against journalists and bring offenders to justice, and fight the climate of impunity;
- Ensure that press freedom is guaranteed by an independent judiciary to which journalists can appeal in cases of alleged violations;
- Ensure the right of journalists to keep their sources of information confidential by enacting appropriate legislation (“shield laws”);
- Ensure that these commitments equally apply to journalists who are also Human Rights Defenders.

Switzerland

- We recommend to all OSCE participating States to respect the right of journalists to carry out their work under safe conditions, without fear of being harassed, threatened, attacked, beaten or killed;
- We call on all participating States to work closely with the relevant international organizations with the aim to contribute to a relevant policy development to advance media freedom.

Austria

We would, in conclusion, like to offer the following recommendations:

- Participating States shall enable a safe working environment for journalists and media workers, particularly by preventing attacks and bringing the perpetrators to justice.

Western Thrace Minority University Graduates Association

Thus, we call upon the Greek State:

- To respect the right to freedom of expression, media and press regarding particularly smaller and minority press so that diversity of opinion in the Minority media in Western Thrace is promoted, safeguarded and enriched;
- To uphold the principle of fair and proportional punishment in judicial process;

- To revise immediately the Law 3592 /2007 that is not in line with the right to the free flow of information, freedom of expression and pluralism.

ABTTF - Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe

- We urge all participating States, in particular Greece to reconsider to revise and amend the relevant legislation that hinders the freedom of the media and to ensure that media pluralism is guaranteed, protected and promoted in the country by all means. We kindly request the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media to have a greater role in review of the implementation of OSCE commitments related to the freedom of the media in all OSCE States.

Observatory for Religious Tolerance and Freedom Associazione “Dossetti: i Valori”

Participating States are urged to:

- Adopt practical measures to assure that the media as well as the political and public discourse are respectful for religions, their representatives, teaching and symbols.
- Solicit their political institutions adopting code of conduct or ethics for elected representatives preventing intolerant discourse.
- Encourage Internet service providers and social networking services to adopt standard form contracts providing termination clauses and penalties in case of intolerant conducts of people using their services.

Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians in Europe

- The Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination encourages **participating States** to assess their legislation with regard to freedom of expression with a particular view to the Christian communities in their countries. This assessment of legislation was recommended by the parliamentary assembly of OSCE in Belgrade in 2011.

Alliance Defending Freedom

- My recommendation is that participating States reform, repeal or abolish all domestic “hate speech” laws that violate clear international human rights law on the right to freedom of expression.

Humanitas Helvetica

- Die **Regierungen** sind angehalten, alles zu unternehmen, dass die Pressefreiheit einerseits sowie die Pressevielfalt andererseits als ein hohes Gut in der demokratischen Meinungsbildung der Bürger eines Staates an Stellenwert gewinnen. Die kritische Auseinandersetzung mit der Machtkonzentration vereinzelter Medienkonzerne sollte ebenso als Gradmesser der de-mokratischen Entwicklung dienen wie die Förderung der Presse- und Meinungsfreiheit und der daraus resultierenden breit abgestützten Meinungsbildung eines jeden Bürgers. Dort, wo die Meinungs- und Pressevielfalt durch die Machtkonzentration einiger weniger Verlage Gefahr läuft zu verschwinden, bedarf es einer wettbewerbsrechtlichen Intervention seitens des Staates. Umgekehrt ist es nach wie vor fatal, wenn Regierungen die Entwicklung der Pressevielfalt einschränken, weil kritische oder unbequeme Medienprodukte durch staatliche Hindernisse in ihrer Arbeit eingeschränkt oder gänzlich verboten werden.
- **Medien und Journalisten** tragen eine grosse Verantwortung. Der Eindruck täuscht nicht, dass ausgerechnet in demokratischen Staaten (zum Beispiel Schweiz, Deutschland, Österreich u.a.) diese Verantwortung teilweise nicht mehr wahrgenommen wird. Dies äussert sich einerseits in der teilweise mangelhaften Qualität der journalistischen Arbeit,

andererseits eben auch in Ermangelung verschiedenster Meinungen zu einem Sachverhalt. Auf der anderen Sei-te kämpfen Journalisten in osteuropäischen oder zentralasiatischen Staaten mit staatlicher Zensur. Der Graben könnte nicht grösser sein. Auf der einen Seite teilweise medialer Ein-heitsbreit, auf der anderen Seite vielfältige publizistische Meinung, die aber aufgrund von Ein-schränkungen oder Verboten nicht geäussert werden darf. Gerade Journalisten, welche in demokratischen Staaten ihrer wichtigen Arbeit nachgehen, sollten sich auf das Privileg der Meinungsvielfalt besinnen. Es geht nicht darum, contre coeur, also gegen die eigene, persön-liche Meinung, zu schreiben. Es geht darum, die publizistische Vielfalt in der Meinungsbildung zu erhalten und bisweilen auch gegen die verlegerische Doktrin anzutreten, entsprechend zu recherchieren und am Schluss zu informieren.

- **Nichtregierungsorganisationen** nehmen im Kampf für Presse- und Meinungsfreiheit sowie der publizistischen Vielfalt einen wichtigen Stellenwert ein. Unabhängig von ihren Hauptanlie-gen, muss es im Interesse aller NGO's sein, dass mediendemokratische Strukturen überall etabliert werden können. Genau wie die Politik, sind auch NGO's in gewissem Masse von den Medien abhängig. Durch die freien und vielfältigen Medien können NGO's ihre Botschaften an den Mann und die Frau bringen, ihren Anliegen ein Gehör verschaffen. Wünschenswert wäre die Zusammenarbeit verschiedener NGO's im Bereich der Presse- und Meinungsfreiheit. Die beiden demokratischen Grundrechte sind im Übrigen an weitere Rechte der Bürger eines Staates gekoppelt und können ohne weiteres - auch hier unabhängig vom Hauptanliegen ei-ner NGO - bearbeitet und vor allem gefördert werden.

Institute for Reporters' Freedom and Safety

IRFS calls on the OSCE to take the following steps:

- Ensure that ODIHR's election monitoring report on Azerbaijan's 9 October presidential election fully addresses the underlying widespread and systemic human rights violations that persist from election to election, preventing elections from meeting international democratic standards;
- Carefully monitor the transition of the Office in Baku to the Project Co-ordinator in Baku, ensuring that the new mandate prioritizes Azerbaijan's implementation of its human dimension commitments;
- Explore ways of supporting the work of the RFOM and holding the Azerbaijani government accountable for fulfilling its media freedom obligations;
- Engage more directly with local civil society representatives on Azerbaijan's implementation of its human dimension commitments;
- Facilitate dialogue between local civil society representatives and the government to encourage greater accountability in fulfillment of Azerbaijan's human dimension commitments;
- Strengthen communications between ODIHR and the Azerbaijani government and publicize ODIHR's efforts to ensure Azerbaijan's implementation of its human dimension commitments;
- Foster debate at the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly on human rights issues in Azerbaijan, starting with a discussion on the body's failure to monitor Azerbaijan's presidential election, in contrast to its involvement with other elections in the region.

Recommendations to the Government of Azerbaijan:

- One of the challenges for Azerbaijan's foreign affairs and investment policy remains a persistent image and credibility gap, which emerged out of the country's failure to live up to its international commitments. Many analysts believe there is lack of consensus within the ruling elite, and that the failure to implement those commitments is largely the result of uncertainty about the real preferences and intentions of President Ilham Aliyev.

Azerbaijan can bridge its credibility gap only by introducing long-awaited reforms in the justice sector and in the field of freedoms of expression, assembly and association. Both today's needs and the long-term interests of the Azerbaijani people are not best served by the human rights violations that are undermining Azerbaijan's democratic development and long-term stability. The Azerbaijani government must allow space for peaceful protest, critical opinion and opposition, and end all forms of harassment and suppression of civil society and independent media. It must free all political prisoners and fully respect its obligations with regard to fundamental freedoms under international law.

International Association of Independent Democrats Against Authoritarian Regimes

Рекомендация:

- Мы предлагаем рекомендовать демократическим правительствам запретить продажу оборудования для контроля Интернет – коммуникаций странам диктатуры, прежде всего, тем, которые мы перечислили;
- Правительству США рекомендовать компании Microsoft принимать более взвешенные решения, только после заграничной экспертизы, по передачи информации правительствам, находящейся в коммуникациях Skype.

Nonali

- Je demande au Gouvernement Belge de prendre ses responsabilités en faisant invalider le rachat du Groupe de Presse L'AVENIR par l'intercommunale TECTEO afin de maintenir en Belgique la pluralité de la presse qui est une tradition nationale.

Russian Federation

- Российская Федерация вновь призывает государства-участники ОБСЕ, а также действующее председательство начать работу по обновлению одобренного в 1997 г. мандата Представителя ОБСЕ по вопросам свободы СМИ в целях его адаптации к новым реалиям и задачам в этой сфере.

Human Rights House Foundation

- We call upon the authorities of the Russian Federation to ensure that investigations into threats and attacks against and murders of journalists and media workers are conducted effectively, promptly, thoroughly, independently and impartially, and that those guilty are brought to justice;
- The Human Rights House Foundation resolutely condemns the latest detention of journalist and human rights activist Parviz Hashimli and the raid on his newspaper office on September 17 deeming it as a pre-election pressure on the media and civil society and calls upon the Azerbaijani government to release him immediately;
- We call on the government of Belarus to stop all disproportionate and unnecessary legal and extrajudicial practices, online and offline, that compromise freedom of expression. On the day of his birthday, we would like to commemorate Ales Bialiatsky, arbitrary detained by the Belarusian Authorities since 4 August 2011 for his legitimate work on the promotion of human rights and once again, we call upon the authorities of Belarus to immediately and unconditionally release Ales Bialiatski and all other political prisoners in Belarus, drop all charges against them and fully rehabilitate them.

Freedom House

- Freedom House calls on the government of Turkey to cease intimidation of dissent and to allow a free media to flourish.

Regional Centre of Human Rights

- *Правительству Украины:* принять необходимые меры для поддержания и сохранения плюрализма в медиа сфере в процессе перехода на цифровое вещание.

International Civil Liberties Alliance (ICLA)

Recommandation à la France :

- L'International Civil Liberties Alliance demande à la France de veiller à une application scrupuleuse de ses engagements en protégeant la liberté d'expression des journalistes et de cesser de subventionner les organisations pratiquant le harcèlement juridique à fin politique.

Media Rights Institute

We call upon the Government of Azerbaijan:

- To take immediate steps to repeal the criminal defamation provisions of the Criminal Code, including the recent amendments aimed at criminal defamation online;
- To ensure the immediate release of all imprisoned journalists on politically motivated charges;
- To end abusive application of civil defamation laws and cease the practice of application of draconian fines to critical media;
- To ensure independent, prompt and effective investigations into attacks, threats and other violations of journalists' rights.

Freedom House

We encourage the OSCE and participating states to address the issues we've raised – media ownership, journalistic ethics, and attacks on journalists – across the OSCE space as the situation in Ukraine is in many ways not unique. With this in mind, we make the following recommendations to Ukraine:

- implement effective media transparency legislation without loopholes such as ones that allow a web of shell companies to obfuscate real media ownership
- implement effective remedies for journalists and civil activists who are victims of violence and censorship by introducing protections of journalism as an activity, sharing police best practices and experiences, and establishing a special consultative group on the topic in administration of Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- address quality issues in the media by implementing legislation that guarantees editorial staff independence, encouraging cooperation between Commission on Journalistic Ethics and National Council on TV and Radio Broadcasting; and encouraging the establishment of ethical commissions within broadcast media outlets

Recommendations to International Organizations

Regional Centre of Human Rights

- *Международным неправительственным организациям:* организовать изучение успешных практик и подготовить рекомендации по переходу на цифровое вещание.

Institute for Reporters' Freedom and Safety

Recommendations to the European Union:

- If the European Union (EU) is a community of values, then its global duty should be to focus on promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- An energy security partnership between the EU and Azerbaijan is valuable and productive, but it should be rooted in mutual respect for human rights. When entering a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) or even a legal agreement with Azerbaijan on energy cooperation, the EU should include human rights reforms as an explicit requirement for cooperation;
- The revolutions in the Arab and Middle Eastern states, many of which are energy and resource rich, demonstrated the illusory nature of stability. If the security of energy-rich countries is important to the EU, then it is necessary to build security from the bottom up, and that means starting with respect for basic human rights;
- In authoritarian countries, human rights issues are rarely resolved domestically. The three resolutions of the European Parliament on Azerbaijan's human rights record, as well numerous statements from EU and EC officials, have addressed some of the human rights issues in the country. However, these resolutions and statements have not been enough. The need to protect and support human rights in Azerbaijan must be voiced by the highest-level EU officials in their negotiations with the government of Azerbaijan;
- For instance, in negotiating the Association Agreement,¹³ the EU should stay true to its conditionality commitment and impose concrete benchmarks for Azerbaijan in exchange for greater political and economic integration. Any framework for advanced relations between the EU and Azerbaijan should include a strong human rights component. This approach perfectly aligns with EU policy, and is consistent with the 2012 EU Strategic Framework on Human Rights and Democracy,¹⁴ adopted by EU foreign ministers and endorsed by EU heads of government and state in 2012;
- Brussels should act to improve its political influence in Azerbaijan by building stronger human rights and democratization initiatives designed to improve Azerbaijan's human rights record – at both the national and international level. The EU should act to help build and further strengthen institutions that are capable of influencing both citizens and policymakers in the long term. The EU should also support the development of independent media outlets with the intention of promoting free expression in the country;
- In summary, Brussels should impose clear benchmarks for improvements on human rights violations if the EU is to succeed in persuading Baku to respect its human rights commitments.

Institut d'Alisher Navoi

- Призываем ООН, ОБСЕ, ЕС, ОДКБ, ШОС и других международных организаций более настойчиво требовать властей КР прекращать тенденциозно продолжающую дискриминацию узбекского народа, выполнение рекомендаций и Устава ООН Правительством КР

Recommendations to the OSCE

Ossigeno per l'Informazione

- Raccomandiamo perciò all'OSCE, e in particolare alla Rappresentante per la libertà dei media, di promuovere in tutta Europa questa indagine per la quale mettiamo a disposizione il nostro metodo e la nostra esperienza.

European Union

The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media should:

- Continue to assist participating states in achieving full implementation of the OSCE commitments;

- Continue efforts to promote adoption of legislation which is in line with OSCE and other international standards notably in the field of libel and defamation;
- Continue to elaborate how comprehensive and non-discriminatory access to information in particular to the internet can be ensured;
- Continue to strengthen freedom of the media through capacity building in the framework of training activities and media conferences;
- In coordination with the ODIHR's Point of Contact on Human Rights Defenders, assist the participating states in delivering on their commitments to protect the journalists who are also Human Rights Defenders;
- Continue to develop new media, including internet and digital broadcasting, as a focus area;
- Continue to cooperate with other regional and international organisations such as the Council of Europe or the United Nations on freedom of media issues.

Austria

We would, in conclusion, like to offer the following recommendations:

- The OSCE is encouraged to increase its cooperation with other regional or international organisations and mechanisms working for the safety of journalists, in order to exchange experience and coordinate activities.

Foundation "CitizenGO"

- For OSCE to call upon media groups to show respect for religious beliefs (Christians in particular, as they are the preferred target of offensive contents) and take responsibility in maintaining an open, tolerant and free society;
- Hate Crimes begin with mocking: Raise awareness that the mocking of Christians and Christianity, the negative stereotyping by the media as well as the ridiculisation of Christians and Christian positions could possibly lead to hate crimes;
- To use all available OSCE means to work against intolerance against Christians, inter alia by encouraging the media not to spread prejudices against Christians, and by working more closely with representatives of Christian churches.

Observatory for Religious Tolerance and Freedom Associazione “Dossetti: i Valori”

The OSCE Representative on the Freedom of the Media is called upon to:

- Provide – in close cooperation with the OSCE-ODIHR and the Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief – guidelines for voluntary professional standards and selfregulation of the media in order to prevent intolerant discourse against religions.

Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians in Europe

- We recommend to OSCE/ ODIHR to extend their educational materials and guidelines to increase the awareness of the readers with regard to the difficulties Christians in Europe face when hate speech legislations bans or at least seems to ban elements of the Christian faith.

Internet Association of Kazakhstan

- Кстати, присутствие и участие сотрудников офиса представителя по свободе СМИ было бы крайне полезным и важным как для участников медиаконгресса, так и для сотрудников офиса с точки зрения понимания страновых проблем и вопросов в

области медиа-рынка. Это первая рекомендация – необходимо участие офиса представителя по свободе СМИ в страновых мероприятиях.

NONALI

- Je demande à l'OSCE que des recommandations soient adressées aux états membres afin que la presse ne deviennent directement la propriété de l'état ou d'une de ses » *sociétés écrans* ».

International Center for Journalism MediaNet

- На мой взгляд, чтобы продвигать любые демократические ценности и принципы, эффективно бороться с проявлениями ксенофобии, повышать правовые знания массовой аудитории и так далее, гражданскому обществу необходимо как можно скорее модернизировать свою работу;
- Традиционные talk-форматы, дискуссионные площадки уже не настолько эффективны, зачастую консервируя бесценную информацию в узком кругу. И это надо признать и переориентировать гражданское общество на интерактивные, crowdsource-сервисы, активно использовать SMM, SEO и другие бизнес-инструменты продвижения информации;
- На мой взгляд, Бюро Представителя по свободе слова ОБСЕ могло бы взять на себя функцию инициатора и координатора в этом процессе.

Regional Centre of Human Rights

Представителю ОБСЕ по свободе СМИ г-же Дунье Миятович (Dunja Mijatović):

- Обратить внимание на угрозу свободе СМИ, которая возникла в Украине в связи с переходом на цифровое вещание, и принять меры в соответствии с мандатом ОБСЕ.

United Kingdom

- We commend the Ukrainian Chairmanship for their intention to table a media freedom decision at this year's Ministerial Council. We hope that we can overcome our differences and take steps to protect and foster this most fundamental of human rights.

Wednesday, 25 September 2013

WORKING SESSION 5: Fundamental freedoms II, including:

- Freedom of movement;
- National human rights institutions and the role of civil society in the protection of human rights;
- Human rights education.

Recommendations to participating States

Institute for International Research at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences

The OSCE participating States:

- To avoid double-standard approach in visa liberalization policy;
- To exchange information on effective implementation of the commitments on freedom of movement and national minorities integration.

Human Rights House Foundation

- Encourage lawyers including judges and prosecutors to increase their knowledge in human rights law and international standards;
- Support and facilitate the closer cooperation of national human rights institutions with human rights organizations and lawyers;
- Provide financial support to the OSCE ODIHR, the CoE for collecting best practices in human rights education and providing expertizes and assistance for lawyers and human rights defenders.

Ecumenical Federation of Costantinopolitans

- Considering the severe depletion of the population of the Community because of the above-mentioned anti-minority measures, it is imperative that the Government of Republic of Turkey to expedite the proposed remedy and reparation measures towards the expatriated Greek Community of Istanbul. This requires the ongoing discussions between the Ec.Fe.Con and authorities of Republic of Turkey to be accelerated and work towards concrete results.

European Union

- Participating States shall ensure that all those seeking to uphold human rights are able to do so in safe environment and shall refrain from excessive restrictions on civil society and human rights defenders, including as regards foreign funding;
- Participating States shall ensure freedom of movement within their territories and consider ways how to strengthen the guarantees for the freedom of movement of human rights defenders, journalists and election observers;
- Participating States shall promote the establishment of national human rights institutions, including at local level in line with the Paris Principles and their functioning without obstacles;
- Participating States should encourage systematic human rights education and training programmes that are designed to promote mutual understanding, respect for human rights and diversity, including for judges and prosecutors.
- Participating States are encouraged to inform judges, prosecutors, lawyers and other practitioners and officials dealing with the legal protection of human rights (including border guards and immigration officials) as well as others working with national authorities, of existing handbooks on European law in various fields of human rights protection.

Freedom House

- In Kazakhstan, Freedom House is engaging seriously, but without full satisfaction, in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs human dimension working group. We have made a number of recommendations, including: to reform the national legislation related to freedom of peaceful assembly to expand the opportunities of citizens to engage in political debate. Based on our participation we are concerned that while the government of Kazakhstan has enabled a forum for dialogue there is not commitment to genuine engagement in positive resolution of human rights issues;
- Finally, National Human Rights Institutions, such as Ombudsmen, should play a central role in supporting human rights. We just returned from Turkey where a fledgling ombudsman institution was just established in 2012. We hope that it will develop in an independent manner so that it builds trust among civil society and can deal with citizen

complaints. In Ukraine, based on meetings in the ombudsman's office and with civil society, we are encouraged that it is becoming a trusted advocate for human rights.

Observatory for Religious Tolerance and Freedom Associazione “Dossetti: i Valori”

Participating States are urged to:

- Not force children to a compulsory religious or ethical teaching which may be not consistent with the convictions of the children's parents, providing for this case non-discriminatory opt-out possibilities.

Austria

- Participating States shall make special efforts to provide comprehensive human rights education and training to public officials, including judges, prosecutors, police and correction officers;
- Participating States are encouraged to fully and effectively implement the measures foreseen by the UN World Programme on Human Rights Education.

Kyrgyz Committee for Human Rights

Активисты предлагают следующие рекомендации к тексту Концепции, а также призывают государство:

- Организовать систематическое обучение своих служащих конституционным и международным стандартам прав и свобод человека и в частности свободы вероисповедания;
- Не перекладывать свои функции по обеспечению прав и свобод на плечи самих граждан и организаций;
- Начать работу по пересмотру нормативных правовых актов, противоречащих Конституции 2010 года и международным обязательствам страны в сфере обеспечения права на свободу вероисповеданий;
- Отказаться от устаревшего и неэффективного инструмента отказа в регистрации религиозных организаций;
- Пересмотреть задачи государственного органа по делам религий, сделав основной упор на позитивные мероприятия, связанные с предупреждением конфликтов, способствование установлению отношений взаимной терпимости и уважения между гражданами, исповедующими религию и не исповедующими ее, между религиозными организациями различных вероисповеданий, а также между их последователями;
- Привести ограничения права на свободу вероисповедания в соответствие с требованиями Конституции и международными обязательствами страны в сфере прав и свобод человека;
- Проводить в обязательном порядке и учитывать результаты правозащитной экспертизы проектов нормативных правовых актов в сфере свободы вероисповедания

Ukraine

- Исходя из вышеизложенного, предлагаем инициировать перед Комитетом Верховной Рады Украины по правам человека, национальных меньшинств и международных отношений вопрос о наработке в ближайшее время соответствующего Закона.

Legal Information Centre for Human Rights, Estonia

- Considering that no country is free from racial discrimination, the Committee recommends that the State party verify whether the small number of complaints is not the result of victims' lack of awareness of their rights, fear of reprisals, limited access to available mechanisms, lack of confidence in the police and judicial authorities, or the authorities' lack of attention or sensitivity to cases of racial discrimination (para. 18).

Kazakh Community Association

Рекомендации:

- Помочь народному герою Арону Едигееву;
- Рекомендовать властям Казахстана, что бы не препятствовали международным ассоциациям помогать политзаключённым Казахстана;
- Просим посодействовать нашей организации встретиться с Ароном Едигеевым, что бы убедится, что он жив и не подвергается ли пыткам и террору, унижающим человеческое достоинство действиям. Что бы власти Казахстана дали разрешение на эту встречу.

Recommendations to International Organizations

Human Rights House Foundation

- Continue to support lawyers with training and expertizes on implementation of human rights standards;
- Broader involve human rights lawyers in work of international conferences, by developing guidelines, recommendations and legal standards.

Slovenia

- To galvanize the efforts that States undertake through their human rights education and training programmes at national and local levels, we encourage enhanced focus to be granted to international cooperation between the OSCE, Council of Europe and the UN as well as numerous NGOs.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Institute for International Research at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences

In line with such integrated perception, we would propose some few initial thoughts to be considered by

the active and incoming OSCE Chairmanships:

- To further elaborate on the idea of appointing a special coordinator or establishing a sub-group of nongovernmental experts on human dimension issues within the framework of the Informal Helsinki+40 Working Group;
- In close cooperation with all participating States to dwell on the question how to increase practically the openness of the OSCE decision making and subsidiary bodies (Permanent Council, Human Dimension Committee, etc) for constructive engagement of civil society under the comprehensive security agenda of the Helsinki+40 process as well as on the issues to be discussed during the informal meetings between representatives of participating States and of NGOs.

the OSCE Secretary General:

- To establish at the OSCE Secretariat a sort of informal advisory/liaison body on cooperation with civil society representatives on all aspects of Track II operational issues, including human dimension one, to be beyond the mandate of individual OSCE

- structures and institutions (likewise the recently created coordination mechanism for OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions);
- To broaden the scope of recently started Track II initiatives to cover sensitive human dimension issues.

the ODIHR:

- To interact closely with the OSCE Chairmanship, Secretary General and participating States on the issues for strengthening the capacity of civil society and their active involvement in the Helsinki+40 process;
- To serve as a temporal focal point for gathering available propositions and suggestions on human dimension issues from civil society and conveying them to the Informal Helsinki+40 Working Group.

Bearing in mind all above-mentioned, and ensuring the full enjoyment of freedom of movement in the OSCE region we propose the following suggestion to be considered by:

The ODIHR:

- To support organizing awareness-raising campaigns in affected OSCE participating States with emphasis on facilitation and liberalization of cross-border traveling;
- To provide methodological support for national and international institutions, civil society representatives engaged in monitoring visa processing formalities.

The HCNM:

- To facilitate implementation of national commitments on freedom of movement and national minorities with regard to increased flow of refugees and asylum seekers in the OSCE region;
- To initiate the development within the OSCE of a dialogue on freedom of movement and human contacts with special emphasis on national minorities issue under visa-free travel conditions;
- To expend co-operation with respective governmental and non-governmental actors involved in order to reduce the negative effect on the freedom of movement from the growing flow of asylum seekers, refugees and mixed migration.

The OSCE Field Missions:

- To monitor and analyse situation developments on visa-free travel conditions in host countries based on existing mandates, and prepare respective reports and recommendations on national minority integration for supporting effective visa-free travel policy.

Observatory for Religious Tolerance and Freedom Associazione “Dossetti: i Valori”

The OSCE/ODIHR is called upon to:

- Assist – in cooperation with the Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief – the participating States in reviewing or drafting legislation pertaining freedom of religion or belief in order to guarantee (a) that the liberty of parents to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions is fully respected and (b) that the participating States provide non-discriminatory opt-out possibilities that would accommodate the wishes of parents.
- Develop Guidelines for educators on countering intolerance and discrimination against Christians.

- В качестве рекомендаций выскажусь о необходимости опубликования ежегодного рейтинга государственных превоззащитных институтов региона ОБСЕ. В качестве критериев для такого рейтинга могут служить лучшие практики и преодоление несоответствий Парижским принципам. Аналогичный рейтинг может публиковаться и по состоянию образования в области прав человека в регионе ОБСЕ.

Azerbaijan

- As the office of the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Republic of Azerbaijan we strongly condemn these serious violations of the rights of our Moldovan colleague in Armenia and call on all of the international organizations, including OSCE and our colleagues not to remain indifferent to these shameful actions happened in Armenia against the Ombudsman of Moldova and join us in expressing our deepest concern in this regard.

Recommendations to NGOs

Human Rights House Foundation

- Seek and get professional support and legal aid rendered by lawyers educated in human rights

Thursday, 26 September 2013 WORKING SESSION 6: Freedom of religion or belief

Recommendations to participating States

European Association of Jehovah's Christian Witnesses

- Jehovah's Witnesses are thankful to the government of Armenia for enacting a programme of alternative civilian service. They respectfully request that the government immediately and unconditionally release their 29 fellow believers who remain imprisoned as conscientious objectors to military service;
- Jehovah's Witnesses respectfully request the government of South Korea to pardon the conscientious objectors now in prison and to honour the right to conscientiously object to military service;
- Jehovah's Witnesses respectfully call on the Kazakhstan government to honour its commitments to uphold fundamental human rights, to stop its campaign of arrests of Witnesses and raids of their religious meetings, and to reverse the ban on their religious publications.

Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians in Europe

The Observatory recommends:

- To assess “legislation in the participating States, including labour law, equality law, laws on freedom of expression and assembly, and laws related to religious communities and rights of conscientious objection” “in view of discrimination and intolerance against Christians,” (13), as called for by OSCE’s Parliamentary Assembly recommended in its Resolution on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in the OSCE area, adopted in Belgrade in July 2011;

- To strengthen our understanding of “reasonable accommodation” when it comes to the clash. Space for everyone instead of social and educational goals trumping freedom of religion;
- To be weary when it comes to horizontal equal treatment legislation: Such policies can inflict serious dilemmas on Christians;
- Combating persecution of Christians outside the OSCE area must become a priority of the foreign secretaries of participating States in their foreign policy.

Austria

- Participating States shall ensure the free exercise of religion or belief and protect persons belonging to religious minorities from violence and discrimination through targeted policies and effective legislation.
- Participating States are encouraged to foster, and exchange good practise examples for inter-religious and intercultural dialogue within their countries as a means to strengthen social cohesion and overcome prejudice.

United Kingdom

- In conclusion, we urge all participating States to implement their existing OSCE commitments on freedom of religion or belief. However, commitments and changes to legislation are not enough. Governments, NGOs and civil society actors need to recognise this freedom as a barometer for the state of wider human rights in any given country, and to work together to ensure that it is protected.

Canada

- That participating States ensure that legislation pertaining to registration of religious organizations embrace the principles of Article 18 and not be used to obstruct and curtail activities of religious communities;
- That participating States repel the provisions of blasphemy laws that consider criticism of religious beliefs, religious organizations and religious practices or religious debate as a crime;
- That participating States respect the right of those citizens who wish to change their religion;
- That participating States ensure that religious communities are able to peacefully practice their religion without the threat of violence and persecution;
- That participating States cooperate and work closely with ODIHR and its Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department to benefit from their expertise and experience, so as to better meet OSCE commmitments.

Atman Yoga Center

Atman Yoga School Italy recommends to the the OSCE ODIHR and OSCE participating states, especially to the Italian representative:

- To investigate and counteract determining factors for discrimination against spiritual groups and minority religions, with regards to incitement coming from so called anti-sect associations to the creation of a social alarm non-existent on the ‘sects’ phenomena;
- To investigate on the effects that the creation of special departments of police to fight the sects is having on the fundamental freedom of religion, consciousness and beliefs;
- To actively promote an open spiritual society, to further promote tolerance and pluralism in spirituality through education.

NGO Russian Ministries (USA)

- For all these reasons, I urge the government of Kazakhstan to return to the path of religious tolerance and freedom of conscience, in which this country has moved for twenty years; review the provisions of the law "On Religious Activity and Religious Associations" adopted in 2011; release Pastor Kashkumbayev immediately; and stop the unwarranted defamation of evangelical communities by the media.

European Council of Religious Leaders - Religions for Peace

- We further encourage OSCE to include language in the draft Ministerial Council Decision on Freedom of Religion or Belief in support of the principles of the Code as expressed in the introductory words of the Code: "*Holy sites are places of profound significance and sacred religious attachment whose special character and integrity are to be preserved and protected against all violence and desecration. In focusing on issues of definitions, access, education, sharing, establishment, reconstruction, memorialisation, expropriation and excavation of holy sites, this Universal Code lays out the foundation for a cooperative, concrete implementation plan for preventing and ending conflict in relation to sacred places. May it inspire the hearts and minds of all who read and support it to advance the path of peace, justice, forgiveness and reconciliation.*" ;
- The language could call upon all Participating States to support these principles and take measures to strengthen their application. The Holy Sites working group would stand ready to offer suggestions for appropriate wording. We believe that the Code, which benefits all religions, will improve collaboration among faiths around holy sites and is likely to prevent conflicts from erupting or escalating. We would therefore encourage all Participating states to support interfaith initiatives for implementation of the Code in their respective countries and worldwide.

European Humanist Federation

In this connection, I would like to make three points:

- We would wish that President Putin would cease to embrace - politically and otherwise - Patriarch Kirill, previously accused of having links with the KGB, now leader of the Russian Orthodox Church;
- We demand that the two members of Pussy Riot who were charged with blasphemy be released and compensated for the injustice they have suffered for having criticised the close political links between the Russian Orthodox Church and President Putin;
- Finally, we call on President Putin to take steps to achieve the abolishment of the recently adopted law forbidding homosexual people to show their love for same sex partners in the presence of young people.

Center for Information and Analysis (SOVA)

Our recommendations for OSCE participating States:

- Regardless of whether their legislation emphasizes certain religions and religious organizations, the states should strive to ensure that all forms of cooperation between the state and religion were open to an ever wider range of religious and spiritual organizations and groups;
- Do not use lists of banned literature as an instrument for protecting tolerance, including religious tolerance as this tool has already demonstrated a complete lack of efficiency, and it generates a lot of human rights violations;

- The states should strictly follow the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of religious organizations and groups to the same extent as in those of other civil associations;
- Accept the fact that religious tolerance should be protected by the same mechanisms as other forms of tolerance, and refrain from creating special rules that restrict certain freedoms for the sake of specifically religious tolerance;
- Disavow any and all laws that interpret religious polemics as incitement to religious hatred, and to revise the previously adopted solutions reflecting this spirit;
- Prevent enactment of new laws that restrict public expression of religious beliefs.

ABTF - Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe

- ABTF would like to stress that the State should not involve in/intervene to any matters regarding issues of faith, belief, or the organization of a religious group, and it should extricate itself any matter which might be considered internal. It is unacceptable that Greece, which does not even interfere with the Orthodox Church, shall prospectively be able to select/appoint servants of the religious organizations of the Minority. The ecclesiastic of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ, which is the prevailing religion in Greece, are public servants, but they are appointed/elected/selected by the Church itself, and the State is not allowed to involve in/intervene to any matter internal or doctrinal to the Church;
- Greece should fully guarantee and realize that the members of the Turkish Minority would enjoy the same treatment and security in law and in fact as other Greek nationals in the management and control of their religious institutions and that they could exercise their religion freely therein. Therefore, ABTF request Greece to repeal Law 4115/2013 and allow the Turkish Minority of Western Thrace to choose its own religious teacher and/or imams just like the Jewish Central Board and the Catholic and Protestant Church did;
- Reminding the 1989 Vienna Ministerial Council Decision which clearly stipulates that freedom of religion or belief includes respect by participating States the right of religious communities, among other things, to select, appoint and replace their personnel in accordance with their respected requirements and standards as well as with any freely accepted arrangements between them and their State, we call for the Government of Greece to fully guarantee and realize that the members of the Turkish Minority would enjoy the same treatment and security in law and in fact as other Greek nationals in the management and control of their religious institutions and that they could exercise their religion freely therein.

Western Thrace Minority University Graduates Association

Given that fundamental problems about freedom of religion, conscience and belief persist while creation of new ones prevent members of the Muslim Turkish minority in Western Thrace from enjoying fully their religious liberties enshrined in bilateral and international texts to which Greece is a party, we call upon Greece:

- To promote implementation of the OSCE commitments regarding religious liberties of the Minority in Western Thrace;
- Respect the right of its Muslim Turkish citizens' right to define their own religious heads;
- Take into consideration opinions from the Minority and revise the Law 3647/2008 regarding the religious pious foundations/waqfs passed by the Greek Parliament that excessive power to the local administrative bodies of the Greek state;
- Solve problems regarding the height of minarets and permits for construction and restoration of mosques across Western Thrace;

- Stop the application of the Law 4115/2013 regarding the appointment of imams.

Christian Solidarity Worldwide

- To implement the recommendations in the Rabat Plan of Action, ensuring that State legislation, jurisprudence and policies regarding incitement to violence on religion or belief grounds are in line with international human rights law;
- To promote an environment conducive to intercultural dialogue, understanding and respect for diversity, through education, training and public debate;
- To develop resources and compile best practices, through cooperation and information sharing with the UN and other regional mechanisms, including with the EU and Council of Europe, and to make best use of existing tools such as the Rabat Plan of Action, the EU Guidelines on the promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief, the ODIHR/Venice Commission Guidelines for Review of Legislation pertaining to Religion or Belief, and the future ODIHR Guidelines on Recognition of Religious or Belief Communities.

Order of St. Andrew the Apostle, USA

- It is self-evident that the OSCE members should be expected to fully uphold the OSCE Charter. Turkey, as a signatory to this Charter, must affirm and enforce, in the strongest terms, religious freedom as a fundamental human right. Furthermore the Order calls on the Government of Turkey to comply with the principles of the Helsinki Final Act and the Vienna and Copenhagen Concluding Documents. We claim that these rights are inherent to the Ecumenical Patriarchate and must be respected and defended by the public authorities of Turkey not only for the sake of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, but also for all faiths in the country. Our position hinges on a dual approach: on one hand, it highlights the Government of Turkey's failures to fully adhere to these principles notwithstanding the fact that it is a signatory to the OSCE; and, on the other hand, it acknowledges, with satisfaction and hope, recent government actions and announcements by the government, expecting actual implementation of decrees and statements of good intentions;
- We recognize the drastic change of the political and social climate in Turkey that has taken place in recent years and the government stated willingness to adhere, observe, and apply the principles of OSCE through bold reforms. However, in view of past history of back-tracking and inconsistency, we reinforce the demands presented in previous years and ask that OSCE and its Committees approach the Government of Turkey and vigorously request the following: (a) Continue the reform process in connection with the election of a new Ecumenical Patriarch and, ultimately, abstain completely from any interference. (b) Accord recognition of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and other religious denominations and faiths in Turkey as legal entities, with rights to acquire, own, build and repair property; (c) Allow, at long last, the opening and normal operation of the Theological School of Halki; (d) Accept and use, officially, the use of the title "Ecumenical;" and (e) Complete the process of the return of seized properties of non-Muslim Foundations.

Forum 18

To assist implementation of human dimension commitments, recommendations for participating States and OSCE institutions and field operations would include:

- Insisting that the politically binding human dimension commitments to ensure freedom of religion or belief and related human rights are implemented in full by all participating States;

- Identifying freedom of religion or belief violations against particular people or communities as attacks on the fundamental rights and freedoms of all people;
- Mainstreaming the commitments to ensure and promote freedom of religion or belief for all and its interlinked human rights, taking advantage of resources such as the *EU Guidelines on the promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief*, the *ODIHR/Venice Commission Guidelines for Review of Legislation pertaining to Religion or Belief*, and the forthcoming *ODIHR Guidelines on Recognition of Religious or Belief Communities*.

Muslim Problems Research Center

В связи с этим мы рекомендуем:

- БДИПЧ писоедениться к рекомендациям Веницианской комиссии при Совете Европы, в которых озвучивается необходимость внесения прояснений в российское экстремистское законодательство, так как в нем отсутствует четкая формулировка определения экстремизма, позволяющее произвольно трактовать этот закон, что ведет к произволу в отношении как незарегистрированных религиозных ненасильственных организаций, так и мусульман в частности;
- Необходимо приостановить действие экстремистского законодательства, в ныне существующем виде, а также всех созданных созданных на его основе инструментов, таких как списки запрещенных религиозных организаций и списки запрещенных религиозных материалов до момента внесения в данный закон существенных корректировок, соответствующих международным нормам;
- Всем гражданам России, кто ранее подвергся уголовному преследованию на основе столь неоднозначного экстремистского законодательства, предоставить право на реабилитацию;
- России перейти от увеличения и ужесточения карательных мер в сфере свободы религии и убеждений к мерам предупреждения;
- Создать внутригосударственную площадку для возможности построения диалога между государством и незарегистрированными религиозными, в том числе исламскими организациями.

European Association of Jehovah's Christian Witnesses

- Jehovah's Witnesses respectfully request Azerbaijan to register them with full legal status, to introduce alternative civilian service in harmony with European standards, and to stop interfering with their worship by censoring their religious literature;
- Jehovah's Witnesses respectfully call upon the President of Turkmenistan to respect the right to conscientious objection to military service, to amnesty or pardon the eight imprisoned conscientious objectors, to allow Jehovah's Witnesses official registration in Turkmenistan, and to end the abuses inflicted on the Witnesses merely for exercise of their beliefs;
- Jehovah's Witnesses request the government of Kyrgyzstan to register their local religious organizations in the Osh, Naryn, Jalal-Abad, and Batken districts. This is necessary so that Jehovah's Witnesses can peacefully manifest their religious beliefs without the fear of arrests and police raids;
- Jehovah's Witnesses respectfully request the government of Ukraine to
 - Ensure that law enforcement authorities provide appropriate protection against physical assaults on Jehovah's Witnesses in the Ukraine;
 - Ensure that law enforcement authorities thoroughly investigate reported crimes, acknowledge hate crimes, and institute criminal cases to punish perpetrators;
 - Provide adequate protection for houses of worship and prosecute criminals who desecrate and destroy houses of worship; and

- Abide by commitments to uphold the fundamental freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution of Ukraine, the European Convention on Human Rights, and the ICCPR for all citizens, including Jehovah's Witnesses.
- Jehovah's Witnesses respectfully call upon the government of Uzbekistan to legally register their congregations outside of Chirchik, and discontinue illegal home searches, confiscation of personal property, arrests, and exorbitant fines imposed on its members simply for peacefully practicing their religious freedoms guaranteed under the Uzbekistan Constitution;
- Jehovah's Witnesses respectfully ask the Tajikistan government to implement the August 20013 Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee and restore the legal status of Jehovah's Witnesses so that they can manifest their religious beliefs in harmony with the guarantees of law.

Religious Information and Advisory Centre "Sana"

- Рекомендую, более корректно отнестись к неправительственным организациям, которых называют ГОНГО, которых часто обвиняют в поддержке «традиционных» религий или разделение на «традиционные» и «нетрадиционные». Действительно, на законодательном уровне все религиозные конфессии равны перед законом и между собой, однако разделение на традиционные и нетрадиционные религии глубоко заложено в сознании казахстанского народа. Традиционные религии вплетенные в национальную культуру и традиции — это объективная реальность, и их статус необязательно прописывать. И даже искусственно это искоренить трудно. Особенно сейчас, как в противовес негативным тенденциям глобализации национальная культура — это защитный код нашего народа, оберег, если хотите, защита от разрушения мира и самих себя. Думаю, когда великий гуманист Ганди сказал: « Я хочу, чтобы в моем доме были открытые окна и дули ветры всех культур, но я не хочу, чтоб этот ветер сбивал меня с ног», то имел ввиду, что не все дозволено во имя свободы совести или религии, и необходима, кроме всего прочего, государственная воля, «вмешательство государства, чтоб регулировать полноценно и сбалансированно религиозные отношения, а религиозным организациям уметь работать в правовом поле.

United States of America

- We are deeply disturbed by attacks against members of religious communities in the OSCE region. We call on governments to take concrete action against religious intolerance. Governments that act to restrict or repress freedom of religion send the message that discrimination against individuals on the basis of religion is acceptable. Governments also bear a responsibility to protect the safety and universal rights of all their people, regardless of their faith, and to work to eliminate societal intolerance, discrimination, and violence. Disturbing trends demonstrate the need for joint action by governments and civil society to confront issues of religious intolerance, wherever they arise.

Plymouth Brethren Christian Church

- We invite you to appeal to the British Government to resolve this matter urgently so that freedom of worship is maintained for all Christians worldwide, and indeed for all faiths.

Human Rights Without Frontiers

- Human Rights Without Frontiers Int'l hails the recent adoption by Armenia of appropriate legislation recognizing the right to conscientious objection and recommends

to Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Turkey and Turkmenistan to legalize the right to conscientious objection to military service on religious or philosophical grounds.

Buergerbewegung PAX EUROPA

- BPE Austria therefore recommends that measurements be taken by law enforcement and authorities to protect Apostates from Islam in the OSCE region and to consequently punish the perpetrators even if it means deportation.

Recommendation to the Austrian Delegation

- BPE-Austria recommends that Austria take seriously its OSCE commitments with respect to implementing the Law on Islam in Austria. We ask that the Austrian authorities demand a certified German copy of the Koran to check whether Islamic teachings are indeed compatible with Austrian laws.

Alliance Defending Freedom

- To conclude, Alliance Defending Freedom strongly urges OSCE Participating States to protect the fundamental right of freedom of thought, conscience and religion by recognizing the freedom of parents to educate their children according to their own religious beliefs, whether this is through homeschooling or by withdrawing their children from certain explicit sexual education classes.

Muslim Denomination in Bulgaria

In this respect we encourage the National authorities to:

- Implement effectively the commitments to freedom of religion or belief and antidiscriminatory legislation;
- Address these issues for their employees, so that they are more careful and sensitive when the subject of their work is religions or beliefs of the citizens;
- Urge on educational institutions to use the Guidelines for Educators on Countering Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims, co-published by OSCE, UNESCO and CoE.

Foundation "CitizenGO"

Recommendations:

- Defend the respect of the human right of religious belief, which is unable to exist with unlimited tolerance;
- Be critical of legal documents and the rulings of the courts, which include in their justification unlimited tolerance without considering the human values they violate.

International Civil Liberties Alliance (ICLA)

- To the Participating States: Refrain in all circumstances from using the term “Islamophobia” in any public discussions, papers, publications, brochures, and other printed material.

Muslim Problems Research Center

In this regard we recommend:

- To abolish the extremist legislation in its current form also tools based on it such as lists of banned religious organizations and lists of banned religious materials until the significant adjustments to the law in accordance with international standards be made.

- To give the right of rehabilitation to all citizens of Russia who had previously been prosecuted on the basis of such an ambiguous extremist legislation.
- Russia to pass from toughening of punitive measures in the sphere of freedom of religion and belief to warning measures.

Atheist Ireland

- OSCE/ODIHR to host an event specifically to combat discrimination against atheists, similar to the events held to specifically combat discrimination against Christians, Muslims and Jews. This is our second year making this request;
- OSCE/ODIHR and all states and NGOs to support the attached recommendations in the Dublin Declarations on Secularism and Religion and Public Life, and on Secularism Empowering Women, put together by atheist advocates internationally;
- OSCE/ODIHR and Ireland to Support the attached recommendations on specific steps needed to achieve secularism, civil rights and empowering women in Ireland;
- OSCE/ODIHR and all states to publicly oppose undemocratic State proselytizing, such as EU/IOC joint statements about respecting all prophets, and to strongly oppose all blasphemy laws. People have rights; our beliefs do not;
- OSCE/ODIHR and all states, particularly Ireland, to oppose the mandatory swearing of religious oaths as a condition of taking up public office, such as in Ireland the President and judges, and most recently, agnostic Eamon Gilmore, last year's chair of the OSCE;
- OSCE/ODIHR and all states to treat the Vatican/Holy See/Catholic Church as an NGO religion, and not as a state, and the Holy See to choose not to undermine civic democracy by telling politicians to follow religious ethics instead of legislating for all citizens;
- OSCE/ODIHR and Ireland to support atheists having the same legal recognition given to religions in Ireland. The Constitution prevents only discrimination between religions;
- OSCE/ODIHR and Ireland to support the UN recommendation that nondenominational schools be widely available throughout Ireland. There are currently none;
- OSCE/ODIHR and Ireland to take positive steps to protect secular parents and their children from religious discrimination in the education system;
- OSCE/ODIHR and Ireland to prevent religious schools from legally giving preference to coreligionists in order to uphold their religious ethos. Do not allow schools to require parents to produce a Catholic baptismal certificate when enrolling their child at the only local school;
- OSCE/ODIHR and Ireland to endorse the concern by the UN human rights committee that the religious integrated curriculum in Catholic schools in Ireland denies parents access to a secular education for their children. They said it was discrimination, breached the right to freedom of conscience, the rights of the child and the right to equality before the law;
- Ireland to make schools, not parents, responsible for the supervision of children if parents opt them out of religious instruction classes.

ACT! For Canada – Education

- ACT! for Canada recommends that participating states practice due diligence in enforcing laws against violence and intimidation that prevent the free expression of religion.

Freedom House

Активисты предлагают следующие рекомендации к тексту Концепции, а также призывают государство:

- Организовать систематическое обучение своих служащих конституционным и международным стандартам прав и свобод человека и в частности свободы вероисповедания;
- Не перекладывать свои функции по обеспечению прав и свобод на плечи самих граждан и организаций;
- Начать работу по пересмотру нормативных правовых актов, противоречащих Конституции 2010 года и международным обязательствам страны в сфере обеспечения права на свободу вероисповеданий;
- Отказаться от устаревшего и неэффективного инструмента отказа в регистрации религиозных организаций;
- Пересмотреть задачи государственного органа по делам религий, сделав основной упор на позитивные мероприятия, связанные с предупреждением конфликтов, способствование установлению отношений взаимной терпимости и уважения между гражданами, исповедующими религию и не исповедующими ее, между религиозными организациями различных вероисповеданий, а также между их последователями;
- Привести ограничения права на свободу вероисповедания в соответствие с требованиями Конституции и международными обязательствами страны в сфере прав и свобод человека;
- Проводить в обязательном порядке и учитывать результаты правозащитной экспертизы проектов нормативных правовых актов в сфере свободы вероисповедания.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Soteria International

Sono qui per segnalare all'OSCE, che opera per assicurare la pace, la democrazia e la stabilità, il pericolo che, in Italia, si verifichino limitazioni o violazioni della libertà religiosa delle minoranze e per chiedere alle autorità italiane:

- Di intraprendere un'indagine, anche attraverso un'apposita commissione d'inchiesta, per verificare la costituzionalità e la legalità del Dipartimento di Polizia Anti-Sette e la correttezza del suo operato, specialmente in relazione ai consulenti di cui si serve per monitorare i gruppi religiosi e spirituali;
- Di verificare se la Squadra di Polizia Anti-Sette, nelle sue finalità e, attraverso il suo operato, non viola il diritto costituzionalmente garantito di professare la propria religione e il proprio credo;
- Di intraprendere, nei confronti delle minoranze religiose e spirituali presenti in Italia, strategie di accoglienza e dialogo costruttivo che promuovano l'integrazione e la convivenza civile

Coordination des Associations et Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience

- CAP respectfully requires that the OSCE intervenes with the French government so that such policy and measures cease and freedom of religion or belief is restored in France.

Church of Scientology; Human Rights Office

- We respectfully ask the ODIHR to intervene to put an end to such spreading of intolerance and discrimination that endanger the rights of Parents to educate their children according to their own beliefs in Europe.

Set My People Free

- Thank you for the work you have done for adopting the EU Guidelines on the promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief, which was passed by the Foreign Affairs Council meeting Luxembourg, 24 June 2013 and I believe you in OSCE has played part on it;
- The guide lines are based on article 18 Freedom of thoughts, conscious and believe and freedom to change and practice and teach and assemble. It is freedom to adopt and not adopt religion. Religious freedom is a civil right we need to protect;
- Now we need have to have procedures of implementation because without implementation these guidelines will not make any difference for the people on the ground. It becomes only Slogans.

Kyrgyzstan

- Сегодняшие дискуссии, также как и дискуссии во второй день, демонстрируют, что требуется отдельное мероприятие по вопросам свободы вероисповедания. Возможно, эти дискуссии на первой фазе могут быть организованы в формате регионов. Выражаем готовность оказать содействие в БДИПЧ ОБСЕ в проведении такого рода дискуссий по Центрально-азиатскому региону в Кыргызской Республике.

Religious Information and Advisory Centre "Sana"

- Поэтому рекомендую решить проблему применения компромисса стандартов ОБСЕ к духовным ценностям и традициями той страны, где они развиваются.

Buergerbewegung Pax Europa

BPE thus recommend to the OSCE, and in particular to ODIHR:

- That OSCE work on freedom of religion issues focus on inalienable individual rights, not group rights;
- That OSCE and pS call upon Islamic leaders to unconditionally repudiate capital punishment for leaving Islam.

Gustav Stresemann Stiftung e.V.

Because the UN human rights declaration and the Cairo Declaration are diametrically opposed, the STRESEMANN FOUNDATION recommends to the OSCE:

- To require of participating states who are members of OIC, a clear statement of what human rights they mean when they speak of human rights;
- To reject all statements on human rights by OIC member countries which refer to the “Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam.”

Womenforfreedom

- Wir bitten die OSZE darauf zu achten, dass die Religionsfreiheit für alle Menschen in den OSZE Teilnehmerstaaten gewährleistet wird, was das Verlassen, den Wechsel, aber auch den Nicht-Glauben, also Atheismus beinhaltet.

Muslim Denomination in Bulgaria

We call upon the OSCE/ODIHR:

- To monitor the process of implementation of commitment to freedom of religion and belief in Bulgaria;
- OSCE/ODIHR Advisory Panel on Freedom of Religion or Belief to have a greater role in the work of the OSCE on further implementation of the freedom of religion or belief in all participating States.

International Civil Liberties Alliance (ICLA)

- The International Civil Liberties Alliance recommends that ODIHR immediately abandon any use of the term “Islamophobia”, remove it from existing official publications, and omit it from all future publications;
- To ODIHR: Based on the above, ODIHR must abandon any discussion of the term immediately. The term must be removed from any existing official publications, and may not be included in any future publications;
- Alternatively, to ODIHR: Appoint a committee whose duty will be to establish a definition of Islamophobia that is acceptable by consensus. The makeup of the committee must include Muslims, Jews, Christians, and atheists. The non-Muslims on the committee should include in equal numbers supporters of Islam, critics of Islam, and people with no opinion on Islam.

Muslim Problems Research Center

- ODIHR to join the recommendations of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe which voiced necessity to clarify the Russian extremist legislation, as it has no clear wording of the definition of extremism that allows arbitrarily interpret the law leading to outrage against non-violent non-registered religious organizations and Muslims in particular.

Center for Security Policy

- CSP recommends that the ODIHR ensure that terms like “incitement” not be allowed to have open-ended definitions that can be foreseeably used to cause a chilling effect on what would otherwise be protected speech and faith.

Thursday, 26 September 2013

WORKING SESSION 7: Freedom of religion or belief (continued)

Recommendations to participating States

European Union

- In promoting freedom of religion or belief, the indivisibility, interdependence and interrelation of human rights and OSCE human dimension commitments should be kept in mind. The implementation of commitments in this area goes hand in hand with respect for other fundamental freedoms and human rights, especially freedom of expression and equality and non-discrimination for all without distinction. If one of them is lacking, the other one cannot be fully achieved and vice versa;
- Participating States should safeguard the rights of all persons independent of their religion or belief or the absence thereof by following a rights-based approach. They should protect all persons - not religions or beliefs in themselves - and protect also the right to express opinions on any or all religions and beliefs;

- Participating States should guarantee the right to freedom of expression and opinion of individuals on any or all religions and beliefs and create an environment that enables citizens and groups to challenge prejudices and discrimination against any persons or communities, be it minority or majority, because of their religious or non-religious beliefs;
- Participating States should explore ways to update and reinforce existing OSCE commitments in Freedom of Religion or Belief.

The Values Foundation

- Madame Chair, we would encourage the OSCE to look into this carefully and in the light of this, we respectfully would submit a recommendation for consideration at the next OSCE Ministerial Session in December; *That participating States should ensure that their legislation respect the basic freedom of conscience and not deny religious communities the right to full legal recognition and charitable status because of some interpretation of their particular belief or practice;*
- I would also welcome a comment from the United Kingdom delegation as to this current situation in the UK over what qualifies public benefit for religious minorities.

European Council of Religious Leaders - Religions for Peace

Governments:

- Should secure that the institutional aspect of public space is regulated to secure fairness and even handedness, and that the political public space is open and free to provide inclusiveness and participation for all, and encourage experimentation and innovation.
- Laws and practicing of laws on religions should not be based on the notion that religion or belief is the problem and needs to be restricted. Concerns around unlawful acts in the name of religion should be dealt with within the framework of criminal laws and not lead to introduction of restrictive religious laws.

Religious and belief communities should recognize the importance of cooperation and solemnly pledge:

- To work individually and collectively for the advancement of religious freedom, and to stand together when religious freedom is threatened, whether by States' excessive restrictions, actions or lack of action in the face of violence or threats of violence against religious communities.
- To speak out together in full solidarity against hate crimes which target religious, belief or other communities; and with a particular obligation to speak out against threats to the religious freedom of others when they come from within their own communities.

The European Federation of Centers of Research and Information on Cultism (FECRIS)

- This year is not an exception. FECRIS calls on the OSCE participating States to review and pay close attention to the existing legislation governing the sphere of religion in France and Belgium. These two countries have experienced the scope of existing problems in this field, adopted the corresponding laws, created procedures, gained a valuable experience and practical knowledge which can be applied to other countries to safeguard the human rights and democratic values.

Associazione culturale “Giuseppe Dossetti: i Valori”

To the participating States

Participating States are urged to:

- Guarantee the right to wear religious symbols and attire in public spaces, which is encompassed by the freedom of religion or belief;
- Guarantee the conscientious objection not only to the compulsory military service but also in relation to all morally sensitive questions;
- Foster the participation of religious communities in public life and welcome the interventions in the public debate of the religious leaders;
- Engage in consultations with religious communities in order to adopt anti-discrimination laws which do not violate the autonomy and self-organization of the religious communities;
- Return to religious communities the place of worship which were confiscated by public authorities, returning them to the original owner instead allocating to other religious;
- Adopt legislation and zoning laws which prohibits zoning of place of worship for different use than original;
- Promote a dialogue between the representatives of the religious communities that are building a new place of worship and the religious communities historically present in the places in order to foster a climate of mutual tolerance and respect between believers of different communities;
- Request the assistance of the OSCE/ODIHR in reviewing or drafting legislation pertaining freedom of religion or belief;
- Mainstream freedom of religion or belief in their foreign policies.

United States of America

- While 35 participating States have reported they collect data on hate crimes motivated by religious bias, they have not provided this information to ODIHR. Without accurate data, we are left with an inaccurate picture of the problem. We therefore urge countries within the OSCE region to utilize ODIHR's Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Unit, its vital Annual Hate Crimes Report, and its Practice Guide on Hate Crime Laws more extensively and more effectively.

U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom

UZBEKISTAN RECOMMENDATIONS

USCIRF recommends that the U.S. government continue to designate Uzbekistan as a CPC and immediately engage in intensive negotiations to see concrete progress to address religious freedom abuses. If those talks fail after 180 days, it should lift the waiver and impose sanctions, including a ban on visits to the United States by high-level and mid-level Uzbek officials. As described below, USCIRF recommends that the U.S. government should prioritize freedom of religion or belief in U.S.-Uzbek bilateral relations, encourage greater international scrutiny of Uzbekistan's rights record, and support human rights defenders and religious freedom initiatives.

I. PRIORITIZING FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF AS AN ISSUE IN BILATERAL RELATIONS

In addition to continuing to designate Uzbekistan as a CPC, the U.S. government should:

- Press for concrete progress to address religious freedom abuses, and if those efforts fail after 180 days, lift the indefinite waiver and impose sanctions, including a ban on visits to the United States by high-level and mid-level Uzbek officials, and work to have Uzbek officials up to and including President Karimov added to the Politically Exposed Persons list as a consequence of Uzbekistan's CPC designation and human rights violations;
- Ensure that U.S. assistance to the Uzbek government, such as U.S. security materiel and other assistance, with the exception of assistance to improve humanitarian conditions and advance human rights, be made contingent upon establishing and implementing specific measures to improve conditions of freedom of religion or belief and observe international human rights standards, including:

- Establishing a mechanism to review the cases of persons previously detained under suspicion of or charged with religious, political, or security offenses; releasing those who have been imprisoned solely because of their religious beliefs or practices as well as others unjustly detained or sentenced; and making public detailed information about individuals detained under these articles or imprisoned following conviction;
- Revising the 1998 Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations to bring it into compliance with international standards, including making changes consistent with recommendations made by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief, and registering religious groups that have complied with the legal requirements;
- Ending reliance on convictions based solely on confessions and implementing the recommendations of the UN Committee Against Torture and the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture; and
- Adopting policies to ensure that every prisoner has greater access to his or her family, human rights monitors, adequate medical care, and a lawyer, as specified in international human rights instruments, and allowing prisoners to practice their religion while in detention to the fullest extent compatible with the specific nature of their detention; and for any assistance provided, make certain that it does not go to Uzbek government agencies, such as branches of the Interior and Justice Ministries and certain judges and prosecutors, responsible for particularly severe violations of religious freedom.

II. ENCOURAGING GREATER INTERNATIONAL SCRUTINY OF UZBEKISTAN'S HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD

The U.S. government should:

- Encourage public scrutiny of Uzbek religious freedom and related human rights in appropriate international fora, such as the UN, OSCE and other multilateral venues, and facilitate the participation of Uzbek human rights defenders in multilateral human rights mechanisms; and
- Urge the Uzbek government to agree to visits by UN Special Rapporteurs on Freedom of Religion or Belief, the Independence of the Judiciary, and Torture, set specific visit dates, and provide the full and necessary conditions for such a visit.

III. SUPPORTING UZBEK HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM INITIATIVES

The U.S. government should:

- Continue to monitor closely the status of individuals who are arrested for alleged religious, political, and security offenses;
- Continue efforts to improve the situation of Uzbek human rights defenders, including by pressing for religious communities and human rights groups to be allowed to register or to operate freely without registration and ensuring that the U.S. Embassy in Uzbekistan maintains active contacts with Uzbek human rights activists and recognizes their work;
- Increase foreign travel opportunities for religious leaders, civil society activists and others in Uzbekistan concerned with religious freedom so that they can take part in international conferences and exchange programs, and ensure that the U.S. Embassy vigorously protests if Uzbek authorities harass participants after their return to Uzbekistan, and if such harassment continues, implement penalties, including a ban on high-level meetings;
- Support the development of civil society institutions' ability to protect religious freedom and related human rights, including by funding training in human rights and the rule of law, expanding legal assistance programs for Uzbek relatives of detainees and religious communities;
- Specify freedom of religion as a grants category and area of activity in the Democracy and Conflict Mitigation program of the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Democracy Commission Small Grants program administered by the U.S. Embassy,

and encourage the publicly-funded National Endowment for Democracy to make grants for civil society programs on tolerance and freedom of religion or belief; and

- Counteract the Uzbek government's blockade on information into the country by increasing radio, Internet, and other broadcasting, particularly in the Uzbek language, of objective news and information on relevant issues, including specific religious freedom concerns in the country and explaining why religious freedom is an important element of U.S. foreign policy.

AZERBAIJAN

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR U.S. POLICY

In order to promote freedom of religion or belief in Azerbaijan, the U.S. government should:

- Press the Azeri government to allow religious groups to operate freely without registration, and advocate for substantive amendments to the religion law's registration process so as to ease its requirements and to make it voluntary;
- Urge the Azeri government to cease police raids of religious meetings, as well as the issuance of fines, property confiscation, detentions and imprisonment of participants and leaders;
- Encourage President Aliev to speak publicly about respect for religious freedom for all Azeris, to state that repressive government actions will not be tolerated, and to include minority and other domestic religious communities in various conferences that discuss and promote international religious tolerance in Baku;
- Encourage public scrutiny of Azerbaijan's record on religious freedom and related human rights in appropriate international fora, such as the UN, OSCE, and other multilateral venues, and highlight cases of prosecution of Azeri citizens that violate these international norms in comments at such fora;
- Urge the Azeri government to agree to visits by UN Special Rapporteurs on Freedom of Religion or Belief, the Independence of the Judiciary, and Torture, set specific visit dates, and provide the full and necessary conditions for such a visit;
- Ensure that the U.S. Embassy in Azerbaijan maintains active contacts with Azeri human rights activists and press the Azeri government to ensure that every prisoner has greater access to his or her family, human rights monitors, adequate medical care, and a lawyer, as specified in international human rights instruments;
- Specify freedom of religion as a grants category and area of activity in the Democracy and Conflict Mitigation program of the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Democracy Commission Small Grants program administered by the U.S. Embassy, and encourage the publicly-funded National Endowment for Democracy to make grants for civil society programs on tolerance and freedom of religion or belief; and
- Increase radio, Internet, and other broadcasting, particularly in the Azeri language, of objective news and information on relevant issues, including specific religious freedom concerns in the country and explaining why religious freedom is an important element of U.S. foreign policy.

KAZAKHSTAN

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR U.S. POLICY

In order to promote freedom of religion or belief in Kazakhstan, the U.S. government should:

- Press the Kazakh government to allow religious groups to operate freely without registration until substantive amendments to the 2011 Religion Law's registration process ease it and make it voluntary, thereby bringing it into compliance with recommendations of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief;
- Urge the Kazakh government to cease police raids of religious meetings, as well as the issuance of fines, property confiscation, detentions and imprisonment of participants and religious leaders;

- Encourage President Nazarbaev to speak publicly about respect for religious freedom for all Kazakhstanis, to clarify that repressive government actions will not be tolerated, and to include minority religious communities into the Congress of World and Traditional Religions held biannually in the capital Astana;
- Encourage public scrutiny of Kazakhstan's record on religious freedom and related human rights in appropriate international fora, such as the UN, OSCE and other multilateral venues, especially in cases of prosecution of Kazakh citizens for comments at such fora;
- Urge the Kazakh government to agree to visits by UN Special Rapporteurs on Freedom of Religion or Belief, the Independence of the Judiciary, and Torture, set specific visit dates, and provide the full and necessary conditions for such a visit;
- Ensure that the U.S. Embassy in Kazakhstan maintains active contacts with Kazakh human rights activists and press the Kazakh government to adopt policies to ensure that every prisoner has greater access to his or her family, human rights monitors, adequate medical care, and a lawyer, as specified in international human rights instruments;
- Specify freedom of religion as a grants category and area of activity in the Democracy and Conflict Mitigation program of the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Democracy Commission Small Grants program administered by the U.S. Embassy, and encourage the publicly-funded National Endowment for Democracy to make grants for civil society programs on tolerance and freedom of religion or belief; and
- Increase radio, Internet, and other broadcasting, particularly in the Kazakh language, of objective news and information on relevant issues, including specific religious freedom concerns in the country and explaining why religious freedom is an important element of U.S. foreign policy.

RUSSIA

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR U.S. POLICY

In response to continuing violations of religious freedom in Russia, the U.S. government should:

- Urge the Russian government, in public and at high political levels, to amend the extremism law to ensure respect for international norms on freedom of religion or belief;
- Make freedom of religion or belief a key human rights and security concern in the U.S.-Russia relationship, such as by creating in the U.S.-Russia Bilateral Presidential Commission a working group comprised of legal experts on international norms on freedom of religion or belief;
- Press the Russian government to reform the extremism law by adding criteria related to advocacy or use of violence to ensure the law is not used against peaceful religious communities, and to amend the process for banning books by either removing that power or giving it only to the Supreme Court;
- Recommend Chechen President Ramzan Kadyrov for inclusion in the Politically Exposed Persons list of government officials whose bank assets should be frozen due to their corrupt practices and gross human rights violations;
- Include in U.S.-funded exchange programs participants from Russian regions with sizeable Muslim and other religious minority populations and initiate an International Visitor's Program for Russian officials on the prevention and prosecution of hate crimes; and
- Reprogram funding from the \$50 million slated for the now defunct USAID Russia program to other programs benefitting Russian civil society, including a new Internet program to address issues relating to post-Soviet historical and cultural issues and practical programs on tolerance and on freedom of religion or belief.

TURKMENISTAN

I.PROMOTING FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS

The U.S. government should:

- Raise human rights and freedom of religion or belief during all bilateral meetings with the government of Turkmenistan, explore ways in which Turkmenistan can implement laws and practices to comply with international human rights standards, and establish a regular reporting mechanism on these issues; and
- Designate Turkmenistan as a CPC, if specific improvements are not made in line with the recommendations immediately below.

The U.S. government should urge the government of Turkmenistan to:

- Repeal all laws, decrees or regulations and amend those articles of the religion law that violate international norms on freedom of religion or belief, including by implementing the recommendations of the ICNL analysis of the religion law;
- Restore genuine legal alternatives to military service on the grounds of religious or conscientious objection based on international commitments, and cease the criminal prosecution and fully restore the civil and political rights of Jehovah's Witnesses and others who refuse to serve in the army on the grounds of conscience;
- End state interference in the management of religious communities and in the selection and training of religious leaders, including those from Sunni and Shi'i Muslim and the Russian Orthodox communities, as well as from Protestant and other minority communities;
- Honor its commitment to allow a USCIRF delegation to return to Turkmenistan to assess current conditions for freedom of religion or belief, providing USCIRF access to Turkmen government officials, current or former prisoners of conscience in places of detention, and unimpeded contact with religious and other organizations and their members; and
- Fulfill its previous human rights promises, including those regarding freedom of religion or belief made to the USCIRF delegation during its August 2007 visit.

II. EXPANDING U.S. PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS

AND REFORM EFFORTS

The U.S. government should:

- Increase and improve publicly-funded radio, Internet, and other broadcasts of objective news and information, including on freedom of religion or belief and religious tolerance, by expanding the Turkmen Service of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), adding RFE/RL Russian-language broadcasts, and restoring Voice of America's Russian-language television and radio broadcasts;
- Support projects to translate educational materials on human rights, freedom of religion or belief, tolerance, civic education, and international legal standards into the Turkmen and Russian languages and make them available to schools and libraries;
- Develop programs, including by the publicly-funded National Endowment for Democracy, to encourage civil society groups to promote freedom of religion or belief, including by expanding legal assistance programs to include representatives of religious communities as well as through grants that address freedom of religion or belief; and
- Expand international contacts and increase U.S. involvement in communities in Turkmenistan, including through USAID programs, include religious leaders in community projects in order to address social problems and increase tolerance, and expand exchange programs, including with civil society leaders, students, and others concerned with human rights and religious freedom.

III. STRENGTHENING EFFORTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA

In various international fora, the U.S. government should urge the Turkmenistan government to:

- Implement past recommendations of UN human rights bodies to improve religious freedom conditions in Turkmenistan, including from the UN Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review, the UN Human Rights Committee, and the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief;

- Allow UN Special Rapporteurs, including the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, and OSCE representatives, including its Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief, to visit the country, and provide the full and necessary conditions for such visits; and
- Participate fully in the OSCE, including in the annual Human Dimension meeting in Warsaw, and expand the activities of the OSCE Center in Ashgabat, particularly on civic education, human rights, including programs with local schools, universities, and institutes on human rights standards, including freedom of religion or belief.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Barnabas Fund

- OSCE, through its own actions and the actions of individual state representation with the Central Asian countries concerned, continue to press for greater respect for religious freedom and for their international engagements under MC Decision 4/03 Maastricht. In particular, individual religious freedom should be upheld, and freedom to manifest religion should not be restricted by burdensome bureaucratic obstacles to registration of churches and other associations;
- I recommend continued vigorous promotion of international norms on these issues in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan and look forward to the publication shortly of OSCE best practice guidelines on registration administration;
- It is noted that individual freedom of belief is absolute, and may not be restricted by the state. This includes the right to change one's belief to another faith or none, the right to religious practice, and the right to personal integrity on these issues and not suffer harsh police treatment. It is also noted that restrictions on the corporate manifestation of religion may be limited but only on very specific and limited grounds. It is not appropriate that, for example, non-standard religious denominations that are demonstrably peaceful and possibly pacifist, should be refused registration on vague state-security grounds. Finally it should be underlined that administrative registration should not be a requirement for a group to manifest their religion as provided under UDHR Article 18.

European Union

- ODIHR and OSCE Field Operations should develop and carry out activities aimed at enhancing understanding and strengthening the implementation of freedom of religion or belief;
- ODIHR should reinforce the work of its Desk on Freedom of Religion or Belief and effectively address the connections of Freedom of Religion or Belief with other fundamental freedoms in cooperation with its Human Rights Department.

European Council of Religious Leaders - Religions for Peace

OSCE/ODIHR:

- Should intensify the systematic training of leaders of religious and belief communities in the rights and commitments connected with Freedom of Religion or Belief. This training should preferably be done jointly with representatives of religious traditions together with representatives of governments and other stakeholders in order to create understanding and respect across identities and roles. European Council of Religious Leaders stands ready to partner with OSCE/ODIHR in this endeavour on European and national level.

The OSCE/ODIHR is called upon to:

- Raise awareness on the positive contribution of the religions to the building and the well-being of our democratic societies;
- Assist, in cooperation with the Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief, the participating States in reviewing or drafting legislation pertaining freedom of religion or belief in order to guarantee the right to conscientious objection in all morally sensitive questions, providing that the rights of others to be free from discrimination are respected and that the access to lawful services is guaranteed.

Franco-Egyptian Organization for Human Rights

- The Franco Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights is recommending OSCE and the European community to be watchful about the out coming drafts of the future constitution, and its matching with Human Rights, as they are understood within the United Nations International Treaties and conventions

Friday, 27 September 2013

WORKING SESSION 8: Freedom of assembly and association

Recommendations to participating States

Center for Civil Liberties, Ukraine

Рекомендации органам власти Украины:

- Урегулировать вопрос правовой неопределенности, приняв специальное законодательство о свободе мирных собраний в соответствии с положениями Пакта и практики Комитета ООН по правам человека;
- Официально признать Указ Президиума ВС СССР N 9306 - XI от 28.07.88 "О порядке организации и проведения собраний, митингов, уличных шествий и демонстраций в СССР" недействительным в Украине и исключить его применение органами государственной власти и местного самоуправления;
- Безотлагательно внести в Кодекс об административном судопроизводстве Украины изменения для обеспечения права на эффективное апелляционное обжалование судебных решений по делам по искам об ограничении права на мирные собрания;
- Урегулировать вопрос о привлечении к охране порядка во время мирных собраний сотрудников органов внутренних дел без форменной одежды, а также обязать сотрудников органов внутренних дел на форменной одежде носить нагрудный знак (жетон) с указанными именем, фамилией и личным номером на законодательном уровне;
- Безотлагательно внести изменения в Устав патрульно - постовой службы милиции Украины для приведения его в соответствие с Конституцией Украины и определенной Законом Украины "О милиции" компетенции Министерства внутренних дел Украины;
- Отменить все решения органов местного самоуправления, регламентирующие порядок организации и проведения мирных собраний;
- Предоставить официальное разъяснение законодательства по одиночным протестам.

Рекомендации Правительству Республики Таджикистан

- Исключить территориальное ограничение деятельности общественных объединений;
- Исключить требование об указании в Уставе «действительного местонахождения управляющего органа организации» - достаточно информационной справки, которую предоставляют НПО ежегодно до 1 апреля в регистрирующий орган, в которой и указывается данная информация;
- Осуществлять государственную регистрацию общественных объединений в уведомительном порядке;
- Конкретизировать причины различных санкций в отношении общественных объединений, особенно в случаях приостановления и требований о ликвидации организаций;
- Принять отдельный закон, регламентирующий порядок проведения проверок в общественных объединениях с конкретным указанием сроков, причин и оснований для таких проверок, а также полномочий государственных органов в ходе этих проверок;
- Исключить из Закона РТ «Об общественных объединениях» запрет на регистрацию ранее ликвидированного общественного объединения;
- Имплементировать в законодательство страны и иные международные стандарты в области свободы ассоциаций.

No Borders – Ukraine

- The Coalition is asking participating States to continue monitoring of Ukraine obligations under human rights acts and democracy principals in order to ensure that the state is protecting the right to peaceful assemble for all groups and takes measures to ensure safety of its participants.

The Values Foundation

We respectfully ask;

- That OSCE participating States are urged to consider that national legislation should provide for individuals and groups to be free to exercise the freedom of non-association and not suffer discrimination as a result of this.

International Partnership for Human Rights (IPHR)

To the governments of Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in view of the concerns raised in our statement:

- Ensure that any legislation affecting NGOs does not place unnecessary, disproportionate or discriminatory restrictions on the right to freedom of association and related fundamental rights. Reject draft legislation that does not meet these requirements and repeal or revise problematic legislation in force in accordance with the recommendations made by international human rights bodies and experts;
- Protect and uphold the right of NGOs, including those based in exile, to carry out their activities without intimidation, harassment and undue interference; and refrain from imposing excessive controls and unreasonably heavy reporting requirements on NGOs that are not justified and necessary for reasons of transparency and accountability, put NGOs – or some categories of NGOs – in a discriminatory position compared to other groups, and have the effect of seriously obstructing the work of NGOs;
- Respect the right of human rights groups to solicit, receive and utilize resources for their work, in accordance with the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, as well as the

resolution on protecting human rights defenders (A/HRC/22/L.13) that was adopted by the UN Human Rights Council in March 2013;

- Abolish regulations that establish burdensome, inhibitory and discriminatory requirements and procedures for NGOs to access and use funding, in particular foreign grants, and/or that prohibit or criminalize human rights activities undertaken on the basis of such funds;
- Put an end to government policies and rhetoric that stigmatize and discredit independent human rights NGOs and other NGOs that scrutinize and criticize the actions of authorities, in particular NGOs that receive grants from abroad; acknowledge publicly the legitimate and important role that human rights groups play in the promotion and protection of human rights; and take concrete steps, in accordance with guidelines and recommendations adopted by international human rights mechanisms, to create and maintain an enabling environment for human rights NGOs;
- Rescind any bans or penalties currently in place for unregistered NGO activity and ensure that NGOs may obtain registration in a simple, transparent, expeditious and fair procedure that does not grant discretion to authorities or allow for refusing or depriving NGOs of registration on arbitrary grounds. Promptly reconsider cases where NGOs have been denied or deprived of registration, or their applications have been left pending, under procedures that do not meet these requirements;
- Ensure that any sanctions imposed on NGOs for failures to observe legal requirements are proportionate to the violations committed and that the drastic measures of suspending or liquidating an NGO may only be ordered by court in exceptional circumstances, on the basis of compelling evidence of serious misconduct and as a last resort after an NGO has been warned and granted opportunities to rectify the violation. Immediately revise any decision where an NGO has been closed down in retaliation for its human rights work.

To other OSCE participating States, in particular the EU Member States:

In accordance with the basic principle that issues relating to human dimension commitments are matters of direct and legitimate concern to all OSCE participating States:

- Raise concerns about legislation and policies negatively affecting human rights NGOs in a prominent and consistent way in bilateral and multilateral contacts with the governments of the countries mentioned in our statement;
- Use available arenas and avenues to insist that these governments take effective measures to address existing concerns in accordance with the recommendations listed above;
- Support ODIHR and other international human rights bodies in the implementation of their mandate of providing expertise and practical assistance to governments in ensuring compliance with international human rights standards in the area of NGO operations;
- Continue to offer solidarity and support to human rights NGOs working in the countries covered by this statement in the face of the obstacles and impediments they face in their invaluable efforts to improve respect for human rights, including through cooperation with international human rights mechanisms;
- Take appropriate measures to facilitate and support the work of exiled human rights groups based in your countries and thoroughly investigate incidents of harassment targeting these.

Norwegian Helsinki Committee

- We strongly recommend other OSCE participating States not to enact this kind of legislation. We were glad to see the statement by President Atambaev of Kyrgyzstan recently, that he is opposed to the idea of a similar law in the Kyrgyz Republic, as suggested by some Parliamentarians.

Center for Legal Initiatives

For the government:

- To improve the current legislation according to the good international practice by demonstrating good political will in order to provide freedom of joining;
- To expand public discussion, consultations and dialogues with NGOs;
- To improve confidence atmosphere and cooperation between NGOs and government institutions.

To simplify NGO registration process:

- To make registration process speedy, cheap and simple;
- To define time limits for registration (for example 3 days);
- To determine time limit for the state to review applications;
- To apply simplified notification method of the changes in the formation documents.

In order to make access to financial resources easy, to simplify the existing financial, tax regulations/rules according to good experiences and international law;

- To simplify grant receiving rules;
- To simplify donations and membership fee gathering procedures;
- Re-design tax and fiscal policies of government.

To incite good management and international practice in the control and regulation over NGO activity;

- To specify control and monitoring rules over NGO activity;
- To re-define report demands according to the activity volume of NGOs in order simplify reporting procedures;
- To improve proactive and stimulative regulations by liquidating high penalties;
- To respect realization of the fundamental freedoms of free assembly, speech in NGO activity.

Kazakh Community Association

- Чтобы БДИПЧ призвал Казахстан оставить в покое людей работающих на рынках, базарах и бараҳолқаһ, чтобы не поджигали рабочие места, потому что эти люди зарабатывают на жизнь и кормят свои семьи благодаря работе на этих бараҳолқаһ. Торговцам и другим работникам базаров и бараҳолок порекомендовать – отстаивать свои рабочие места и не боятся властей Казахстана;
- Призвать власти Казахстана отпустить на свободу и не преследовать всех молодых людей, задержанных после концерта Кайрата Нуртаса. Эти молодые люди только пришли на концерт своего кумира;
- Призвать власти Казахстана прислушаться к бастующим гражданам Казахстана.

European Union (EU)

In order to address some of the challenges, we recommend the following to all participating States.

- All participating States should follow the valuable guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly produced by ODIHR and the Venice Commission;
- Ensure that any restrictions on assemblies are prescribed by law and consistent with international standards;
- Recognise that assemblies facilitate the expression of diverse, unpopular or minority opinions. This is important for the development of tolerant and pluralistic societies and should never be used as a reason to impose restrictions;

- Fully implement existing OSCE commitments pertaining to freedom of peaceful assembly.

Buergerbewegung PAX EUROPA, Austria

Therefore BPE Austria recommends:

- More and stronger protection by the law enforcement authorities;
- Banning violent ANTIFA groups from events;
- Consequent and strong punishments for left wing extremist groups who are trying to suppress different opinions and to limit basic rights;
- OSCE monitoring especially for the upcoming elections to the European Parliament

International Civil Liberties Alliance (ICLA)

- ICLA reminds Germany of its commitment to facilitate and protect public rallies, and to refrain from imposing bureaucratic restrictions on them.

Public Union "Kyrgyz Indigo"

I ask Central Asian States to:

- Allow for registration of all NGOs that meet the administrative criteria for registration and allow those de-registered to appeal the decision and demonstrate that they have met the relevant criteria and be re-registered;
- Allow the free operation of organizations providing SRH services, including LGBT individuals, and encourage the spread of information around safe sex and prevention practices;
- Apply comprehensive human-rights approach to policies, laws and programmes;
- Reaffirm that cultural, traditional and religious values CANNOT justify any forms of violence and discrimination against LGBTI

Alliance Defending Freedom

- My recommendation to OSCE participating States is that any state system regarding the registration and recognition of religious communities is operated fairly and in a non-discriminatory manner, and that the requirements placed on religious communities are not excessively burdensome or simply unattainable;
- The issue of recognition and registration has undoubtedly risen in prominence in recent years as many states have introduced laws that have actually increased restrictions on religious communities, rather than reduced them;
- The forthcoming guidelines to be produced by ODIHR in conjunction with the Venice Commission are therefore very welcome indeed and we look forward to their publication;
- There are two areas in particular where the registration of religious communities is problematic: (1) the process of registration and (2) the requirements of registration;
- For example, in some states the process is incredibly long and can take over a decade from beginning to end. In other countries the process of registration can be highly arbitrary and in some countries there is no domestic remedy against a decision not to grant higher tier registration;
- Regarding the requirements of registration – some participating states require extremely large numbers of members, others require the religious community to have been in existence for a very long period of time, up to 100 years in some cases, and some countries allow for a very intrusive investigation into the content and teaching of the particular group seeking registration;

- While it is accepted that the different Participating States must be fully entitled to adopt different methods of facilitating the activity of religious communities, and a one size fits all approach is not appropriate, the emphasis must surely always be on finding ways to better facilitate the activities of religious communities, rather than on ways to restrict it.

Youth Information Service of Kazakhstan

- В контексте поднятой проблемы властям Казахстана необходимо обратить особое внимание на практический аспект реализации свободы объединения, который, также как и нормы законодательства, должен соответствовать международным стандартам и обязательствам Казахстана по свободе объединения.

Human Rights House Foundation

- The Human Rights House Foundation calls upon the Authorities of the Republic of Azerbaijan and of the Russian Federation to repeal restrictive legislation affecting the freedom of association, to ensure that freedom of association standards are properly implemented and to not prevent civil society organizations from obtaining funds, be it from national, international or foreign sources;
- OSCE participating States should not seek to legitimize restrictive or repressive practices on freedom of association and peaceful assembly, rather aspire to good practices that are in full compliance with international human rights law and the OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly.

Buergerbewegung Pax Europa

- BPE reminds the United Kingdom of its commitments to facilitate public assemblies;
- BPE calles upon the United Kingdom to effectively prosecute those who attack public rallies.

ACT! For Canada – Education

- We recommend that Canada, as a participating state of the OSCE, continues to stand firmly with its commitments to upholding freedom of assembly and association.

Buergerbewegung PAX EUROPA

- BPE Austria empfiehlt deshalb Deutschland, Wahlkampfveranstaltungen mehr und stärker zu schützen und die ANTIFA und andere linksextreme Gruppen von derartigen Veranstaltungen auszuschließen. Linksextremistische Gruppen, die versuchen, abweichende Meinungen zu unterdrücken und Grundrechte einzuschränken müssen hart und konsequent bestraft werden.
- Die Bürgerbewegung Pax Europa Austria möchte Deutschland noch einmal an seine Verpflichtung erinnern, öffentliche Veranstaltungen zu ermöglichen und zu schützen. Deshalb empfiehlt BPE Austria dringend, ODIHR Beobachter zu entsenden, um unabhängig vor Ort die Situation beurteilen zu können.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Public Group of Initiative Volunteers "Akcent"

Рекомендации ОБСЕ

- От политики дипломатически завуалированных рекомендаций странам развивающихся демократий, которые на практике иногда их не выполняют, перейти к жестким требованиям выполнения стандартов прав человека;

- Разработать международный механизм защиты прав человека для стран региона ОБСЕ, что дало бы возможность обжалования решений национальных судов. Этот особенно важно для стран азиатского континента, поскольку, если в Европе действует Европейский суд по правам человека, то для нашего региона подобных органов нет, что и дальше будет приводить к безнаказанности в принятии неправомерных решений;
- Пересмотреть вопрос финансирования государственных программ в тех странах, где свобода ассоциаций в частности и права человека в общем, остаются под угрозой.

Center for Civil Liberties, Ukraine

Рекомендации структурам ОБСЕ:

- На данный момент в парламенте зарегистрированы законопроекты, которые регулируют свободу мирных собраний. В связи с этим мы призываем структуры ОБСЕ способствовать тому, чтобы принятые законы соответствовали стандартам ОБСЕ по свободе мирных собраний, в частности, Руководящим принципам;
- Структурам ОБСЕ способствовать работе таких гражданских механизмов, как общественный мониторинг свободы мирных собраний. Вырабатывать общую практику мониторинга свободы мирных собраний общественными активистами, представителями гражданских организаций и БДИПЧ, чтобы совместно решать выявленные системные проблемы как на уровне законодательства, так и практики.

No Borders – Ukraine

- The Coalition also urges the OSCE institutions as well as the participating States to recommend Ukraine to adopt effective legislation concerning fulfillment of peaceful assembly right according to the general principles developed by ODIHR;
- We also encourage the OSCE and ODIHR in particular to do all best to empower Ukraine's and other eastern European countries civil society and marginalized groups in particular in order to achieve more results in local lobbying of effective securing the right to assemble peacefully.

International Civil Liberties Alliance (ICLA)

- ICLA urges ODIHR to send monitors to rallies at risk, also West of Vienna, in order to independently assess the situation on the ground.

International Association of Independent Democrats Against Authoritarian Regimes

Рекомендации для ОБСЕ и БДИПЧ

- Мы просим на всех возможных уровнях обсудить вышеназванные пункты и предлагаем странам-участникам реально имплементировать их в жизнь государства.

Buergerbewegung Pax Europa

- Finally, BPE calls upon ODIHR to send observers to assess the situation on the ground in the United Kingdom.

Russian Federation

- В этой связи предлагаем БДИПЧ провести анализ того, насколько эффективно используется свобода собраний в защите прав национальных меньшинств, а также в обеспечении социальных и экономических прав на пространстве ОБСЕ и провести мероприятие по обмену наилучшим опытом.

Center for Security Policy

- CSP recommends that ODIHR ensures that the treatment of the expression of basic rights not lose sight of their basic meaning by expressing them in commonly understood language using commonly defined terms. This includes the right to peaceably assemble.

Friday, 27 September 2013

WORKING SESSION 9: Freedom of assembly and association (continued)

Recommendations to the OSCE

Western Thrace Minority University Graduates Association

Therefore we call upon the Greek State:

- To respect and implement its duties emanating from the international instruments in which the freedom of association is safeguarded;
- To recognize and implement the ECtHR decisions.

Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe

In light of the information above, we urge Greek authorities to;

- Implement, without any further delay, the decisions of the European Court in the cases Turkish Association of Xanthis and Others v. Greece, Bekir Ousta and Others v. Greece & Emin and Others v. Greece;
- Reaffirm the commitment of the Greek authorities to implementing fully and completely the judgments of ECtHR and amend the Code of Civil Procedures in such a way that it allows the implementation of the European Court decisions in matters related to freedom of association;
- Allow the registration of associations under the names of the choice of their founding members whether they contain the name of an ethnic group or the word “minority”;
- Immediately ratify the Council of Europe’s Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

Freedom House

- Freedom House calls on the government of Turkey to uphold its OSCE commitments to freedom of assembly and association, and to avoid using the Gezi Park protests as a pretext for persecution of civil society and political groups. The consequences of such an approach will be further polarization, tension, and conflict within Turkish society;
- We call on the participating States of the OSCE to monitor the adherence to these commitments and to encourage reforms to better uphold these important rights and commitments.

International Civil Liberties Alliance (ICLA)

Recommandation à la France :

- Notre recommandation serait que la France laisse la défense de l'Islam aux pays de l'Organisation de la Coopération Islamique et conserve la neutralité qui est précisée dans sa Constitution.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Russian Federation

- Полагаем, что ОБСЕ и ее институтам нужно обеспечить широкий тематический охват применительно к рассмотрению вопросов свободы ассоциаций. Больше внимания уделять роли свободы ассоциаций в защите прав детей, нацменьшинств, таких уязвимых категорий, как инвалиды, пенсионеры, безработные;
- В этой связи предлагаем БДИПЧ провести анализ того, насколько эффективно используется свобода ассоциаций в защите прав национальных меньшинств, а также в обеспечении социальных и экономических прав на пространстве ОБСЕ и провести мероприятие по обмену наилучшим опытом.

Monday, 30 September 2013

WORKING SESSION 10: Humanitarian issues and other commitments I:

- Combating trafficking in human beings;
- Implementation of the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings.

Recommendations to participating States

Netherlands Helsinki Committee

- GRETA urges the competent authorities to ensure that the offence of human trafficking is incorporated in a consistent manner in all criminal codes applicable on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- GRETA urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to ensure, in close co-operation with the authorities of the entities and the Brcko District, that anti-trafficking legislation and policies are coherent and are effectively implemented and assessed. Particular attention should be paid to preventing and combating trafficking within Bosnia and Herzegovina. The responsible authorities should also pursue regular exchanges of information concerning all aspects of THB and aim for a greater co-ordination of their activities;
- GRETA considers that the authorities should ensure that meetings of coordinating bodies (especially the State Group) take place regularly, and should increase the effectiveness of participation of all public bodies involved in the implementation of anti-trafficking measures at the state and entity levels;
- GRETA encourages the National Coordinator to intensify efforts for greater co-ordination of activities with the Regional Monitoring Teams. Further, GRETA considers that the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the two entities and the Brcko District should effectively involve NGOs working in the anti-trafficking field in the discussion and elaboration of anti-trafficking policies and promote their participation in the work of the anti-trafficking public bodies;
- GRETA considers that the authorities at the state, entity and cantonal level in Bosnia and Herzegovina should increase their efforts, including through funding, to provide regular training on THB-related issues to all relevant professionals. Training programmes should be designed in a manner providing practical knowledge and skills for the identification of victims of trafficking, the assistance and protection of victims, and the prosecution of traffickers (see also paragraphs 92, 106, 115 and 159);

- GRETA considers that the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina should conduct and support research on trafficking-related issues as an important source of information for future policy measures. Areas where research is particularly needed to shed more light on the extent and nature of the problem of trafficking include child trafficking, internal trafficking, and trafficking in groups particularly vulnerable to trafficking;
- GRETA also considers that when collecting statistical information from all main actors, the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina should take all the necessary measures **to respect the right of data subjects to personal data protection**, including when NGOs working with victims of trafficking are asked to provide information for the official database;
- GRETA considers that the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina should enhance international co-operation in the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking cases, as well as the assistance of victims of THB;
- GRETA considers that the authorities, be it at state or other levels, should launch a comprehensive campaign for the general public as well as targeted initiatives for groups vulnerable to THB, in order to raise their awareness of the risks of human trafficking;
- GRETA considers that future action in the area of awareness rising should be designed in the light of the assessment of previous measures and be focused on the needs identified. Prevention within the Roma community should be strengthened through specific campaigns, using the materials readily understood in these communities. The authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina should also increase their efforts to raise awareness of THB among the general public, with special attention to children and young people;
- GRETA considers that the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina should take further measures to discourage demand for services of victims of trafficking, including through raising awareness among the general public. In this context, GRETA considers that the state-level offence of the use of services of a victim of human trafficking should be incorporated into the criminal codes of the entities and the Brcko District;
- GRETA stresses that absence of registration of children is often one of the aspects making this group particularly vulnerable to human trafficking and urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to strengthen their efforts to ensure the registration at birth of all children;
- In view of the number of children living in great poverty and at risk of human trafficking, GRETA urges the competent authorities to ensure that drop-in centers for children need to be provided with sufficient resources to stay open and provide adequate assistance;
- Given that forced marriages of children leading to exploitation have been on the increase in the country (see paragraph 11), and considering that Roma children are a particularly vulnerable group, GRETA urges the competent authorities to take all necessary measures to ensure that they have effective access to education as a measure for preventing human trafficking;
- GRETA therefore considers that the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina should make further efforts to:
 - detect and prevent THB through border control measures;
 - ensure that training on THB and the identification of victims is provided for frontline Border Police staff, immigration officers as well as diplomatic and consular staff, on a regular basis. Such training should underscore the difference between human trafficking and the smuggling of migrants;
 - introduce a checklist to identify THB-related risks during the visa application system;
- GRETA urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to:
 - disconnect the formal identification of victims of human trafficking from the initiation of criminal proceedings;

- establish a multi-agency involvement in victim identification by introducing a national referral mechanism which defines the roles and procedures of all frontline staff who may come into contact with victims of trafficking;
 - provide specialized training on the identification of victims of THB to all frontline staff who may come into contact with possible victims (including law enforcement officials, staff of social welfare centers, staff of child drop-in centers, labor inspectors, medical staff and NGOs);
 - ensure that law enforcement officials, social workers, labor inspectors and other relevant actors adopt a more proactive approach and increase their outreach work to identify possible victims of trafficking, regardless of the possibility of initiating criminal cases;
 - avoid unnecessary repetition of interviews with victims of trafficking;
 - improve the identification of child victims of trafficking, subjected to force begging and other forms of exploitation targeting children;
- GRETA urges the responsible authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to take further measures to provide victims and possible victims of THB with adequate assistance and protection, and in particular to:
 - ensure that all assistance measures provided for in law are guaranteed in practice; when assistance is delegated to NGOs as service providers, the state has an obligation to provide adequate financing and ensure the quality of the services delivered by the NGOs;
 - ensure that social welfare centers and other public bodies involved in the provision of assistance to victims have the necessary human and financial resources to ensure their unhindered and effective functioning;
 - facilitate the reintegration of victims of trafficking into society and avoid re-trafficking by providing vocational training and access to the labor market for victims who are lawfully resident in the country;
 - improve the system for providing assistance to child victims of trafficking, both in terms of accommodation and as regards medium and long-term support programmes tailored to the needs of the children;
 - provide specialized training to all persons responsible for the provision of assistance to victims of trafficking;
- GRETA urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to review the regulations in order to ensure that the recovery and reflection period provided for in Article 13 of the Convention is specifically defined in law;
- Further, GRETA urges the authorities to ensure that trafficked persons are systematically informed of the possibility to use this recovery and reflection period and are effectively granted such a period;
- GRETA considers that the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina should ensure that victims of trafficking can fully benefit from the right to obtain a renewable residence permit in compliance with Article 14 of the Convention, including those who were identified but whose case did not lead to any criminal prosecution;
- GRETA urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to:
 - review the existing legislation on compensation with a view to ensuring that victims of human trafficking have an effective possibility to obtain compensation from the perpetrators, including by providing effective access to legal aid and information in this respect;
 - set up a state compensation scheme, such as a compensation fund, accessible to victims of trafficking in order to resolve the current difficulties for them to receive compensation from the perpetrators;
- GRETA considers that the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina should take further steps to ensure that the return of victims of trafficking is conducted with due regard for the rights, safety and dignity of the person and the status of legal proceedings; this includes protection from retaliation and re-trafficking;

- GRETA urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to take legislative or other measures, such as issuing guidance to investigating and prosecuting authorities at state and entity level, allowing for the possibility of not imposing penalties on victims of THB for their involvement in unlawful activities to the extent that they were compelled to do so;
- GRETA urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to:
 - identify gaps in the investigation procedure and the presentation of cases in court, *inter alia*, with a view to ensuring that crimes related to THB are investigated and prosecuted effectively, leading to proportionate and dissuasive sanctions;
 - take measures to ensure that crimes related to THB are investigated and prosecuted promptly and effectively, in order to avoid undue delays in criminal proceedings;
 - strengthen their efforts to proactively investigate THB offences, with a special emphasis on cases involving trafficking for the purpose of labor exploitation and trafficking of children;
- Further, GRETA considers that the knowledge and awareness of judges, prosecutors, investigators and lawyers about THB needs to be improved, including as regards specific elements of the offence, the rights of victims and access to compensation. Future training programmes should be designed with a view to improving the knowledge and skills of relevant professionals which enable them to effectively assist and protect victims of trafficking, and to ensure traffickers receive adequate convictions. During the training, particular attention should be paid to overcoming entrenched negative attitudes and prejudices vis-à-vis victims of trafficking;
- GRETA urges the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to take legislative and practical measures to ensure the effective protection of victims of THB, especially children, during the investigation and to prevent their intimidation during and after court proceedings;
- A multi-disciplinary approach, involving all relevant actors across all policy areas including the private sector, needs to be further developed;
- Identification of victims needs to be improved, especially of children victims of trafficking;
- Practical measures should be taken in order to improve co-operation and communication between the police at local level and NGOs, especially as regards the identification of victims of THB;
- Concerning the identification problem concerning the labour exploitation, the labour inspectors are not actively involved in the process as an important institutional element for overseeing the labour practices, which causes the lack of identification of labour exploitation;
- Administrative management of cases, and different register of in-take offices in police, prosecution offices and courts, makes it difficult to follow the case prosecution and court proceedings. Namely, the statistics of reported THB cases is so low that challenges the existence of the established mechanisms for combating THB (institutional ineffectiveness and inefficiency). Especially the cases of THB for labour exploitation are almost invisible for the systems, which presents a barrier for testing the efficiency of institutional structures and further improvements;
- Training sessions for State Attorneys would be beneficial in prosecuting cases of labour exploitation;
- Regional cooperation with neighboring countries and interdisciplinary cooperation to identify victims of human trafficking should be stepped up;
- In order to establish an effective guarantee of the right to compensation and redress for the victims of THB according to international and European commitment of the Western Balkan countries, the specialized compensation system should be established within the legal framework and monitoring institutions;

- It would be useful to introduce a periodic independent evaluation of the National Plan as a tool for assessing the impact of the activities and for planning future policies and measures to combat THB;
- Adopt a new Strategy and National Action Plan for combating trafficking in human beings;
- Establish the institute of the National Rapporteur on human trafficking;
- Plan and allocate a budgetary line in the budget of the Republic of Serbia for the protection of victims, the prosecution of perpetrators and the prevention of human trafficking;
- Article 388 of the Criminal Code of Serbia should explicitly provide that the consent of a trafficking victim to exploitation, actual or intended, shall be of no relevance where any of the means specified in this Article has been used;
- Article 388 of the Criminal Code of Serbia should explicitly include “non-punishment” clause;
- Amend the Criminal Procedure Act so that it envisages that trafficking victims may claim for compensation only in criminal proceedings in which way the need for civil suit will be eliminated;
- Article 389 of the Criminal Code of Serbia should provide protection to all underage persons, in accordance with the standards set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which defines a child as any person younger than 18 years of age;
- The incrimination of Article 388 should include the following elements: abduction and fraud should be established as means of committing the offence; the fact that the offence of human trafficking has been committed by a state official performing official duties, or when the victim’s life has been exposed to danger deliberately or by gross negligence during the committing of the offence should be envisaged as aggravating circumstances; the offences committed in an extremely brutal or degrading manner should be criminalized, so that the offence might be considered as “endangering the life”, and the demand set forth by the CoE Convention regarding the definition of endangering the victim’s life deliberately or by negligence might be met;
- Improve and formalize cooperation between NGOs and police;
- Standardize the operation of the professionals involved by adopting protocols;
- Provide for the obligation of the court to act on the victim's request for asset rights and compensation;
- Continuously monitor judicial practice and the implementation of existing legislation; coupled with regular independent reporting on problems observed in practice to the competent authorities;
- (Additionally) train the judiciary staff and encourage a proactive approach of the Prosecutors' Office;
- Establish a Compensation Fund;
- Define indicators for the identification of children and adult victims in all phases of human trafficking and design new methods that would facilitate self-identification of (potential) victims;
- Adopt a document on minimum standards in the provision of assistance to trafficking victims in all phases of assistance provision and on procedures for the operation of relevant actors that would be based on the principles of respect for victim's will, her/his best interest and non-discrimination. Based on those standards and procedures, all anti-trafficking actors should sign a memorandum of understanding;
- Ensure that NGOs with a history of providing victim care in Serbia are included and integrated in the system of direct victim care, in order to ensure effective care and reintegration assistance;
- Develop and establish special programs for child trafficking victims that will include continual care, from identification to reintegration phase and that would be based on UNICEF Guidelines for Protection of the Rights of Children Victims Trafficking In

South-Eastern Europe and empower professionals to apply these measures and new legislation in the field of the rights of the child;

- Systematically solve the problem of urgent care for children victims of trafficking, including the training of foster families and the identification of trainings and work on the sensitization of employees at child-care institutions, and develop specialized reintegration programs for children;
- Define the term “victim” in the Criminal Procedure Code;
- Persistently enforce legal possibilities and court and other proceedings in order to prevent revictimization of trafficking victims;
- Introduce provisions on victims’ right not to cooperate with law enforcement as well as on reflection period;
- Specify the duration of reflection period, i.e. the period necessary for the first stabilization of the victim after she/he has survived a traumatic experience, and apply it persistently;
- Design a procedure for regulating personal documents for domestic nationals in cases when they do not have permanent residence, with full respect of privacy and protection of victim’s identity;
- Within the Criminal Procedure Code provide for the possibility that the identity of victim in particularly difficult and dangerous circumstances for the victim remains secret throughout the criminal proceedings, with prospective limitation of the potential evidence of their statement;
- Amend the existing Law on the Protection Program for Persons Participating in the Criminal Proceedings, adopt appropriate measures aimed at protecting the integrity of trafficking victims and train members of the Witness Protection Unit for work with trafficking victims;
- Provide for the obligatory video and audio recording of the testimony of victim and interrogating the victim via a video link or conference call;
- Ensure that trafficking victims are not jailed or punished for crimes committed as a direct result of their trafficking;
- Victims of trafficking shall, without delay, be provided with legal counsel, and in accordance with the role of victim in the proceedings, a legal representative for, among other things, compensation claims;
- Consistently apply the recently adopted Special Protocol on Actions of the Judicial Authorities to Protect Victims of Trafficking;
- Introduce procedures for mandatory collection of information on safety and reintegration possibilities in the country of origin, i.e. introduce procedures based on which feedback information would be received on assistance provided after victim’s return to the country of origin;
- Establish a system of free and qualified legal aid for victims of trafficking.
- Develop and implement state-run programs of long-term reintegration for trafficking victims, adjust them to existing reintegration programs and make them available in all mixed/combined cases;
- Design and implement policies aimed at reducing poverty and social exclusion, and consequently at reducing vulnerability to human trafficking among the unemployed women, Roma women, unregistered and undocumented women, women with disabilities, women – refugees and IDPs who are exposed to multiple discrimination;
- Start with the implementation of the recommendations of the CEDAW Committee to the Republic of Serbia, in particular:
 - Provide training and retraining to unemployed women, including marginalized groups of women, credit to women entrepreneurs and to those who wish to set up their own business and social security benefits for unpaid family helpers;
 - Prevent systemic indirect discrimination against women in the area of employment;

- Work intensively on the elimination of all forms of violence against women and children, in particular family violence;
 - Design and implement anti-trafficking activities through a human rights-based and gender-based approach;
- Aim prevention activities at groups of children at risk and at factors that lead to trafficking and exploitation of children, through information-sharing, peer education, economic empowerment, registration of children, education, improvement of basic living conditions of vulnerable groups, as well as through the improvement of decision-making skills and capacities of children and adolescents;
- Include Roma community and Roma non-governmental organizations in all mechanisms of operation aiming at suppressing and preventing trafficking in people;
- Work systemically on child trafficking prevention, preferably through formal education system, intensify efforts to raise awareness of both parents and children about the problem of human trafficking; work on the awareness raising and capacity building of persons who work with children, first and foremost in the area of human trafficking prevention;
- Examine a correlation between human trafficking and sex work and initiate a public debate about sex work that would include all relevant actors;
- Within trainings on the problem of human trafficking for police officers, pay special attention to differentiating between human trafficking and similar offenses, as practice so far shows that, due to lack of experience and insufficient education, as well as due to the lack of evidence, the police and the prosecutor's offices sometimes raise charges for other offenses, but not for human trafficking;
- Design programs for prevention and assistance to the victims of labor exploitation;
- In the field of labor and employment, sign bilateral, i.e. multilateral agreements on employment between Serbia and other countries aimed at human trafficking prevention;
- Trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labor exploitation must be recognized as a problem which results from the situation on the labor market and which does not affect only one industry. In that respect, it is necessary to build and promote such labor market in which labor legislation will be persistently enforced with small share of unregistered labor;
- Establish permanent and proactive cooperation of experts and the media and joint work in the best interest and aimed at protection of integrity of trafficking victims, as well as aimed at informing the public for the purpose of human trafficking prevention;
- Conduct participative analyses and surveys aimed at timely identification of trends, recruitment methods and causes of human trafficking;
- Conduct the analysis of effects and quality of prevention activities carried out to date, as well as the analysis and research of causes and hot spots for human trafficking in the Republic of Serbia, alongside with defining target groups and their needs, for the purpose of designing as effective as possible prevention programs;
- Create a political climate in which it would be possible to implement measures for strengthening an independent civil society;
- Design the indicators for monitoring the implementation of projects in the field of human trafficking by the state and mechanisms for the monitoring and evaluation of effects and cost efficiency of these projects.

Netherlands Helsinki Committee

- Madam moderator, delegates, our recommendations follow directly from this analysis; they are detailed in the Declaration. As I said the laws are in place to ensure the protection of the rights of trafficking victims; international good practice shows the way for their implementation. We call on the governments of Serbia, Macedonia, Bosnia-

Hercegovina and Croatia to honour their international commitments and prioritize proper protection of trafficking victims in their national policies.

Independent Human Rights Organization of Uzbekistan

«НОПЧУ» РЕКОМЕНДУЕТ:

- Провести реальные экономические реформы, которые привели бы к созданию реальных рабочих мест и достойного заработка;
- Принять срочные меры для предотвращения торговли людьми, защиты жертв такой торговли и судебного преследования причастных к ней лиц;
- Совершенствовать процедуру получения «выездных виз» (разрешительного стикера для выезда за рубеж) оформление документов для внешней трудовой миграции;
- Координировать действия по борьбе с торговлей людьми с другими государствами;
- Подписать договора со странами, где работают граждане Узбекистана, и таким образом защитить права трудовых мигрантов;
- УстраниТЬ социальные, экономические, культурные, политические и другие факторы, которые делают людей уязвимыми к торговле людьми, такие как нищета, безработица, неравенство, а также установка терпимости к насилию в отношении женщин, молодежи и детей;
- Расширить масштабы проведения информационно-разъяснительных кампаний, ориентированных на лиц, которые могут стать жертвами торговли людьми, а также на широкую общественность, с помощью просветительской деятельности и эффективного привлечения средств массовой информации, неправительственных организаций, частного сектора и лидеров местных сообществ;
- Принять меры по повышению способности сотрудников правоохранительных, миграционных и образовательных органов и социальных, трудовых и других соответствующих служб предупреждать торговлю людьми.
- Принять все необходимые меры к тому, чтобы выявленные жертвы торговли людьми не подвергались преследованию и наказанию;
- Принять меры для того, чтобы жертвы торговли людьми могли получать компенсацию за причиненный им ущерб, в соответствии с положениями Конвенции и Протокола о торговле людьми.

Netherlands Helsinki Committee

We call upon our governments to:

Investigation and prosecution of trafficking and exploitation

- Criminalise, duly investigate and adequately punish all forms of trafficking, forced labour and services, servitude and slavery-like practices, and expand current protections for trafficked persons to victims of all the above mentioned practices;
- Ensure that all people are equally protected against trafficking and exploitation without discrimination, including both nationals and migrants, men and women, sex workers and minority groups;
- Develop pro-active means of investigation without to rely upon the cooperation and testimony of the victims, by using a combination of intelligence, human and technical surveillance, undercover deployments (when authorised under the law) and standard investigation techniques. Pro-active investigations increase the successful prosecution of the offenders and acknowledge the real difficulties confronting victims who may not be able or willing to testify against their exploiters;
- Ensure that all actors responsible for investigating and prosecuting trafficking and exploitation are trained regularly and effectively, are equipped with the skills and

knowledge necessary to accurately identify victims and secure their rights, and understand the human rights dimensions of trafficking and related practices;

Securing victims' rights

- Implement measures to ensure that victims of trafficking and exploitation from the first contact with the authorities have access to free and qualified legal counsel and legal representation, including for the purpose of claiming compensation;
- Ensure that, in partnership with CSOs, proper assistance is available, accessible and adequately resourced, independent of the victim's ability or willingness to cooperate in the prosecution, and including, where needed, the granting and/or renewal of a residence permit;
- Ensure that assistance is focused on supporting victims to rebuild their lives and their reintegration in society, is tailored to the age, gender and needs of the victim, is provided on a consensual and confidential basis by specialized service providers, and is in line with internationally defined standards;
- Ensure that foreign and national victims are equally entitled to a reflection period. The duration of the reflection period should be sufficient to achieve its purpose, which is to facilitate victims' recovery and ability to make an informed decision about cooperation with the authorities;
- Ensure that foreign victims have effective access to a temporary residence permit for the duration of criminal and other legal procedures, including for claiming compensation, and that during this period they have access to assistance and protection on an equal footing with domestic victims;

Non-punishment principle

- Ensure that the obligation not to prosecute and/or punish victims of trafficking and exploitation for criminal or administrative offences that are caused or directly linked to their having been trafficked or exploited, is effectively implemented in the criminal justice system and practice;
- Ensure that once a reasonable grounds indication has been reached that a suspect is a victim of trafficking or exploitation, the victim is treated as a victim and witness of serious crimes, and any prosecution against them for a crime caused or directly linked to their having been a victim of trafficking or exploitation is discontinued as soon as possible;

Criminal investigation and trial

- Take the necessary measures to protect victims against unlawful interference with their privacy and safety and protect victims and their families, where necessary, from intimidation and retaliation from the side of the suspects before, during and after criminal proceedings;
- Ensure adequate training of law enforcement and judicial officials and, where applicable, adopt the necessary measures to guarantee that victims of trafficking and exploitation receive specific and respectful treatment aimed at preventing their secondary victimization, including avoiding
 - Inappropriate and contemptuous treatment by police, prosecution and court during investigation, prosecution and trial;
 - Unnecessary questions about the victim's private and/or sexual life or history;
 - Unnecessary repetition of interviews during investigation, prosecution and trial;
 - Direct confrontation, such as visual contact between the victim and defendants while giving evidence (e.g. by the use of audio-visual means);
 - Giving of evidence in open court;

Access to Compensation

- Ensure that there is not only a legislative, but also a practical possibility for victims of trafficking and exploitation to effectively obtain compensation for material and immaterial damages. Existing provisions to this aim shall be fully applied and accessible, and procedures shall be as short as possible while limiting victims' exposure to

secondary victimization. The responsibility to recover awarded claims should lie with the State authorities instead of the victim;

- Ensure that the police inform victims about the available possibilities to claim compensation and record, together with the statement of the victim, relevant information about the material and immaterial damages the victim suffered;
- Ensure that victims have access to existing schemes of compensation for victims of violent crimes of intent, and, where necessary, adapt legislation to provide for payment of compensation by the State where such compensation cannot be obtained from the trafficker or exploiter, e.g. through the establishment of a Victim Fund for victims of serious crimes;
- Take the necessary measures to ensure that
 - the competent authorities are entitled to seize and confiscate instrumentalities and proceedings from trafficking offenses;
 - the revenue gained from the confiscation of instrumentalities and proceedings from trafficking and exploitation is used for victim compensation;
- Take the necessary measures to ensure that the existing compensation procedures and rules are comprehensible, speedy, and do not jeopardize the effectiveness of the right to compensation;

Protection of Privacy and Safety

- Take the necessary measures to ensure that access to assistance is not conditional on victims' sharing personal data with the authorities and that victim assistance providers are not forced to share data about their beneficiaries with state authorities, including the police;
 - Ensure that victims' personal data are collected from victims only for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and in the framework of the tasks of the competent authority and are processed only for the same purpose for which the data was collected. Processing of this data has to be lawful, adequate, relevant and not excessive in relation to the purpose for which it was collected, and should take into account that data on a victims engagement in prostitution are to be qualified as "sensitive data", subject to a stricter regime;
 - Take the necessary steps to ensure that, where applicable, victims' freely given and informed consent is necessary for the collection and other ways of processing of their personal data, that they have access to the data kept about them, and that victims' personal data is deleted or made anonymous when no longer required for the purpose for which it was collected;
 - Raise awareness with all relevant parties on the need to protect victims' confidentiality and privacy and the attached risks of misuse of data;
 - Ensure that victims of trafficking and exploitation have access to privacy and safety protection measures, including witness protection programs. These measures shall be readily accessible, implemented on the basis of an individual risk assessment, and shall not infringe upon victims' freedom, particularly their freedom of movement;
 - Take the necessary legislative and other measures to ensure that foreign victims of trafficking and exploitation are not returned to their country and are entitled to apply for residence on humanitarian grounds, when there are reasonable grounds to believe that return would jeopardize their safety or that of their family, or would expose them to the risk of re-trafficking, persecution or social exclusion. Return should always be preceded by an individual multi-stakeholder risk assessment, which should involve consultation with CSOs;
- Non-detention
- Ensure that (presumed) victims of trafficking and exploitation are not held in immigration detention centres, other forms of custody, or shelters under conditions akin to detention. This violates their right to freedom of movement and puts them in a

- situation in which their being deprived of their freedom by traffickers is only replaced by deprivation of their freedom by the State;
- Ensure that child victims are not placed in closed facilities, unless it can be demonstrated that this is in their best interest and there is no reasonable alternative for protection, it is for the shortest possible period of time and subject to periodic review;
 - Ensure that staff in immigration and other detention centres are adequately trained and qualified to identify victims of trafficking and exploitation in order to prevent them being detained;
- Corruption
- Ensure that any anti-trafficking policies address all forms of corruption and its causes, and include both preventive and repressive strategies;
 - Take concrete steps to address public sector involvement or complicity in the trafficking and the exploitation of human beings and to rigorously punish any official involved or complicit in such practices, including a ban from exercising a public duty.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Russian Federation

- В этой связи призываем ОБСЕ и ее институты уделять пристальное внимание решению вопросов борьбы со всеми формами торговли людьми, включая проведение специального мероприятия по обмену наилучшими практиками в этой сфере. Поддерживаем предложение украинского председательства о разработке проекта решения СМИД ОБСЕ в Киеве по борьбе с торговлей людьми. Надеемся, что в нем будут отражены все аспекты этой темы, включая торговлю органами и тканями человека.

Soteria International

- Soteria International recommends the OSCE/ODIHR and the OSCE participating States to develop the judiciary formulations regarding human trafficking so that voluntary work cannot be included under it. This refers especially to religious forms of voluntary work as these groups are more likely to be targeted by false accusations;
- Soteria International recommends Romania to thoroughly investigate the consequences of their present formulations of human trafficking and the trial against yogis practicing „karma yoga”.

Monday, 30 September 2013

WORKING SESSION 11: Democratic institutions, including:

- Democracy at the national, regional and local levels;
- Citizenship and political rights.

Recommendations to participating States

Norwegian Helsinki Committee

- The Norwegian Helsinki Committee urges key OSCE institutions to continue to monitor developments and be a constant reminder that one cannot get away with measures that weakens democratic rule just by claiming to be democratic;
- We also urge Hungarian authorities to learn from the well-intended criticism of European institutions and governments in order strengthen respect of democratic principles in the

country. They should restore a culture of political talks and consultations with the opposition and with civil society.

Fund for Development of Parliamentarism in Kazakhstan

Рекомендации экспертов, представителей политических партий и НПО по совершенствованию деятельности политических партий Республики Казахстан
По совершенствованию законодательства о политических партиях:

- Минимизировать ограничения и упростить процедуры создания и регистрации политических партий;
- Привести основания и процедуру роспуска и запрещения политических партий в соответствие с международными стандартами, в т.ч. отменить временное приостановление деятельности политических партий, ликвидацию партии за неучастие в выборах и пр.;
- Законодательно закрепить равное отношение государственных органов к политическим партиям;
- Обеспечить равный доступ политических партий к средствам массовой информации, принадлежащим государству, в т.ч. в период между избирательными кампаниями.

По совершенствованию выборного законодательства:

- Наделить партии, участвующие в выборах, правом иметь своих представителей во всех избирательных комиссиях. Наделить все партии правом иметь своих представителей во всех избирательных комиссиях с совещательным голосом;
- Снизить порог прохождения партий в Мажилис Парламента Республики Казахстан;
- Снять запрет на партийные блоки;
- Ввести систему открытых списков;
- Отменить императивный мандат, т.е. возможность отзыва депутата после выхода/исключения из партии;
- Отменить возможность отстранения политических партий от участия в выборах любым органом, кроме суда;

По совершенствованию порядка финансирования политических партий:

- Снизить барьер финансирования политических партий, сделав его ниже порога прохождения в Мажилис Парламента Республики Казахстан;
- Запретить юридическим лицам финансировать политические партии;
- Повысить прозрачность финансирования партий при одновременных гарантиях от преследования за поддержку оппозиционных партий;

По совершенствованию уставов политических партий:

- Регламентировать уставами партий тайное голосование при выборах руководящих органов и формировании списков кандидатов в депутаты;
- Регламентировать уставами участие регионов в формировании списка кандидатов;
- Обеспечить в нормативных документах политических партий равные условия для женщин.

Russian Federation

- Предлагаем ОБСЕ, а также ЕС провести анализ законодательства Латвии и Эстонии, касающегося правового статуса детей «неграждан», родившихся после распада СССР;
- Призываем ЕС привести в соответствие количество европарламентариев от Латвии и Эстонии в соответствии с числом граждан этой страны, либо решить вопрос об избрании «негражданами» своих представителей в Европарламент в рамках имеющихся страновых квот.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Center for Civil Liberties, Ukraine

- The coalition of civil society organizations "For Honest Referendum" addresses to Ukraine as the chair of OSCE to stress from the international tribune the problems regarding fulfillment of OSCE's obligations in the human dimension sphere which appeared along with adopting the Law "On All-Ukrainian Referendum";
- The Law "On All-Ukrainian Referendum" was adopted with rude violations of constitutional and parliamentary procedures in November 2012. The authorities violated the procedure in order to implement undemocratic and unconstitutional law in the legal frame of Ukraine. Regardless its' puton appearance of democratism, it disables actual expression of will and creates all conditions for usurpation of the right to define and change the constitutional order in Ukraine by the authorities. Therefore, this legislative act allows copying the "successful" experience of totalitarian regimes;
- The Venice Commission stresses the danger this Law causes for constitutional stability and legitimacy in Ukraine. Pro-European course of Ukraine's integration process brings obligations to change unconstitutional and undemocratic dispositions of the Law "On All-Ukrainian Referendum", especially considering the possibility of signing associated partnership agreement with the EU this autumn. We also would like to point out that this Law is mentioned in the Association meeting agenda;
- The Coalition in its statements to the President, parliamentarians, Ombudsman, the Constitutional Assembly of Ukraine, has repeatedly claimed that the above Law contradicts the Constitution and is needed to be estimated by the Constitutional court of Ukraine. The fact that the Law's dispositions have to be revised was publicly articulated both by the ruling party representatives (Prime-Minister M. Azarov) and by oppositionists (J. Tymoshenko mentioned this law as one of the most dangerous in her recent interview). Nevertheless, the authorities keep being inactive and the Law keeps working!
- Considering all stated above, we urge the Ukrainian chairmanship of OSCE to amend the Law according to the Ukrainian Constitution and EC standards in the sphere of referendums with no postponing.

Russian Federation

- Предлагаем институтам ОБСЕ провести тематический семинар, посвященный вопросам гражданства, а также мероприятие по обмену опытом развития диалога между государством и НПО, представляющими интересы нацменьшинств.

The international association of independent democrats against authoritarian regimes

- Мы просим ОБСЕ (БДИПЧ) обратить внимание властей Туркменистана, Узбекистана, Азербайджана, Беларуси, Казахстана на реализацию права граждан насамом нижнем уровне, если они не могутдать такие права гражданам на национальном уровне;
- Разработать и предложить руководства на русском языке для эффективного решения социальных проблем на местном уровне, через местные выборные органы.

Tuesday, 1 October 2013

WORKING SESSION 12: Democratic elections and election observation – sharing best practices

Recommendations to participating States

United Kingdom

- States should focus on ensuring compliance with and implementation of OSCE election related commitments and should support rather than question ODIHR's election observation methodology.

Czech Republic

- The Czech Republic considers election observation to be one of the most efficient OSCE tools for democracy support in all participating States. We strongly support ODIHR's observation methodology and call upon all OSCE participating States to invite the ODIHR to observe their national elections in accordance with their commitments as early as possible and without any restrictions.

Baltic Center of Historical and Socio-Political Researches

At the international level:

- Should be sought from the international community, and especially the OSCE, support the conclusion that the existence of a long-term deficit of democracy in Latvia - it is not a legal but a political problem, and, consequently, its solution can only be political. The essence of this political decision is to recognize the OSCE error that was made by the organization in the early 1990s, which resulted in the actual consent of the OSCE does not extend to Latvia and Estonia recorded in the international law principle of option. The essence of this political decision is also in recognition of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania "On the restoration of the rights of citizens of the Republic of Latvia and the basic conditions of naturalization" does not meet recognized in international law and the principle of option in effect on October 15, 1991 Constitutional Law, Latvia;
- Need to ensure that the international community, including Russia, the European Union and the United Nations has recognized that the elections to the local authorities, national and European parliaments, which are not eligible hundreds of thousands of permanent residents, cannot be considered democratic. Accordingly, the state of Latvia cannot be considered democratic today.

At the local level:

- Must seek review from the text of the Declaration of the Supreme Council of the Latvian SSR "On the restoration of the state independence of the Republic of Latvia" from May 4, 1990 thesis on the continuity of the existence of de jure the Republic of Latvia from 1918 to 1990, since this thesis is fundamentally contrary to the spirit and the letter of the Final act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, signed in Helsinki in 1975;
- Civil society organizations and political parties of the democratic opposition in Latvia must demand the immediate and unconditional elimination of mass statelessness and the holding of the first after the 1990 general elections to local authorities, national and European parliaments.

The Organization for International Observation CIS-EMO keeps updating their specific set of proposals for the Ukrainian civil society on the reformation and modernization of the current electoral legislation of Ukraine towards its further democratization and accountability. In particular, we suggest to:

- Return the possibility of inter-party political blocking during the parliamentary and local elections to the electoral legislation of Ukraine;
- Cancel draconian property qualifications for participation of the political parties and their majority candidates in the parliamentary elections;
- Change the electoral threshold for party lists in the Verkhovna Rada back to the rate of 3%, followed by preparation to reduce this figure;
- Set aside the necessity for political parties of Ukraine to participate in the election of the President and Parliament of Ukraine every 10 years under the threat of de-registration in the Justice Ministry of Ukraine;
- Return a democratic opportunity for the Ukrainian voters to vote “against all parties and candidates”;
- Restrict the total expenses for election campaigns of the parties and candidates (campaign funds) with specific and reasonable amount;
- Forbid categorically both direct and indirect financing of election campaigns bypassing the official campaign funds of the parties and candidates;
- Establish the institutions of social control with a deciding vote over the parties and candidates spending of their election funds;
- Entrench the right of full and free access of the parties and candidates to the private mass media during the election campaign;
- Strengthen the government and public media liability for unequal coverage of election campaigns of all parties and candidates without exception; and
- Reconsider the restriction of the right to stand for election as a result of conviction record, which has not been expunged or removed at the beginning of the candidates’ nomination, to ensure compliance to the ratio principle between the offense gravity and voting rights protection.

Human Rights Educational Centre, Belarus

Рекомендации. (для Беларуси):

- На всех уровнях, в избирательных комиссиях, должно быть не менее 3-х членов, от реальной оппозиции, а не от просто «от партий», т.е. без обмана. Именно то, о чём говорил директор ODIHR Amb. LENARCIC Janez: честность и прозрачность. Это должно быть!
- Реальный доступ к ТВ, телевидению, и реальное время, для представления своей программы кандидатами.

The international association of independent democrats against authoritarian regimes

Рекомендация.

- Помочь угнетённым народам ЦА и Беларуси освободиться от диктатуры и, реально, пользоваться, документами ОБСЕ и иметь права человека.

Recommendations to International Organizations

European Exchange

I will close my presentation with a small set of recommendations to those international organisations that already support or intend to support citizens' election observation in the OSCE region:

- Where election dates are as a rule well known for years in advance civil society never knows in advance about the thematic focus and the dates of upcoming calls for proposals and often has to develop observation strategy, methods and operation in only a very few months ahead of the elections. This situation extremely restricts the quality of election observation. Funders should develop long-term strategies for citizens' election observation in Europe;
- Citizens' election observation needs a long-term commitment and therefore institutional support. Election observation requires longstanding networks of activists, permanent development and update of methods and techniques and well-developed contacts to local media and political stakeholders – this means that a long-term and sustainable funding strategy for citizens' election observation is indispensable;
- Stefan Fule' motto "more for more" is not applicable for citizens' election observation. Democracy support needs a "more for less" – the more free elections are at risk the greater should be international awareness and support for those election observers that stand for the transparency of the election process in their countries.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Social Democratic Party of Tajikistan

В конце хотел бы сделать ряд рекомендаций для БДИПЧ ОБСЕ, прежде всего с целью укрепления и её работы, и совершенствования процесса организации и проведения выборов в Таджикистане. Итак:

- Хотелось бы, чтобы БДИПЧ ОБСЕ был более решителен и настойчив в требовании соблюдения своих рекомендаций, ибо от этого, зависит авторитет БДИПЧ ОБСЕ;
- Необходимо настоятельно требовать разработки и принятия нового конституционного Закона РТ «О выборах президента РТ», с целью приведения этого закона в соответствие с действующей Конституцией страны и обязательствами РТ;
- Особым требованием должно явиться неукоснительное обеспечение равного и равноправного участия субъектов избирательного процесса в частности, политических партий, особенно в формировании избирательных комиссий;
- Необходимо уменьшение или отмена сбора подписей для выдвиженцев в кандидаты в президенты от политических партий, оставив сбор подписей в свою поддержку только для самовыдвиженцев, для чего в новом законе предусмотреть право граждан на самовыдвижение;
- Безусловно необходимо увеличение срока для избирательной кампании (сегодня всего 23 дня), хотя до трех месяцев, чтобы этот срок был бы достаточным для ознакомления избирателей с предвыборной программой кандидата в президенты РТ и организации разъяснительной работы;
- Исключить из закона предоставление права на выдвижение кандидатов в президенты РТ не субъектам избирательного процесса на уровне президента страны, например, местным представительным органам, которое не соответствует праву и законодательству РТ;
- Принять существенные меры для обеспечения прозрачности и демократичности организации и подведения итогов голосование, своевременного и прозрачного подсчета голосов и предоставления протоколов итогов голосование заинтересованным сторонам и их представителям.

Human Rights Educational Centre, Belarus

- Просим ОБСЕ, Парламентскую ассамблею, принять наше предложение 2003 года, «Конвенцию избирательных принципов».

Tuesday, 1 October 2013

WORKING SESSION 13: Democratic elections and election observation – sharing best practices (continued)

Recommendations to participating States

Independent TV SAFO

Рекомендации:

- Призвать таджикские власти обеспечить беспрепятственный доступ к подследственному адвокатов, обеспечить его необходимой медицинской помощью, обеспечить открытое судебное разбирательство с допуском прессы, прекратить нарушать презумпцию невиновности, прекратить проведение кампании очернения Зайда Саидова в государственных СМИ, потребовать проведения независимой ДНК-экспертизы, которая бы определила, является ли Зайд Саидов отцом ребенка так называемой потерпевшей, предложить помочь таджикским правоохранительным органам в проведении независимой ДНК-экспертизы, которая могла бы помочь определить весомость обвинений против Зайда Саидова. Уверены, что справедливое разрешение конфликта вокруг Зайда Саидова и партии «Новый Таджикистан», строгое следование законам, процессуальным нормам и международным правовым обязательствам, прозрачность, гуманность и цивилизованное отношение власти к инакомыслию, выражению иного мнения и ненасильственным проявлениям политической конкуренции благоприятно отразятся на атмосфере в стране, на доверии к власти перед президентскими выборами и на международном имидже Таджикистана. Политическое по сути, преследование Зайда Саидова может оказать негативное влияние на дальнейшее развитие ситуации в Таджикистане, на инвестиционный климат в стране и может негативно отразиться на международном имидже Таджикистана.

CIS-EMO- Centre for Monitoring Democratic Processes "Quorum"

Мы предлагаем:

- Вернуть в избирательное законодательство Украины возможность межпартийного политического блокирования на парламентских выборах и выборах в органы местного самоуправления;
- Отменить драконовские имущественные цензы для участия политических партий и их мажоритарных кандидатов в парламентских выборах;
- Вернуть проходной барьер для прохождения партийного списка в Верховную Раду в размере 3% с последующей подготовкой уменьшения и этой цифры;
- Отменить необходимость для политических партий Украины 1 раз в 10 лет принимать участие в выборах Президента и парламента Украины под угрозой их снятия с регистрации в Министерстве юстиции Украины;
- Вернуть демократическую возможность для избирателей Украины голосовать «Против всех партий и кандидатов»;
- Ограничить конкретными и обоснованными цифрами сумму общих расходов партий и кандидатов (избирательные фонды) на проведение избирательных кампаний;
- Категорически запретить как прямое, так и косвенное финансирование избирательных кампаний в обход официальных избирательных фондов партий и кандидатов;

- Ввести институты общественного контроля с решающим голосом по расходованию партиями и кандидатами средств избирательных фондов;
- Закрепить право полного и беспрепятственного доступа партий и кандидатов во время избирательной кампании к средствам массовой информации частной формы собственности;
- Усилить ответственность государственных и коммунальных СМИ за неравноправное освещение избирательных кампаний всех без исключения партий и кандидатов.
- Пересмотреть ограничение права баллотироваться на выборах в результате судимости, которая не была снята или погашена в начале выдвижения кандидатур, для обеспечения соблюдения принципа соотношения тяжести правонарушения и защиты избирательных прав.

European Union

- The EU believes that the value of democratic elections cannot be reduced to questions related to legislation and procedures. In implementing ODIHR's recommendations, the participating States should take also into account the important role played by civil Society and free media in helping us to ensure full respect for democracy, including free and fair elections, as stated in the OSCE Astana Commemorative Declaration;
- In order to improve the implementation of recommendations resulting from election observation the EU supports a concrete and dynamic follow-up also at the political level of the OSCE, first and foremost by informed and timely in-depth debates of related issues in the Permanent Council. The EU calls upon all participating states to accept their ownership for this process and to actively report on follow-up measures to be adopted in reaction to ODIHR's recommendations.

Wednesday, 2 October 2013

WORKING SESSION 14: Rule of law I, including:

- Democratic lawmaking;
- Independence of the judiciary;
- Right to a fair trial.

Recommendations to participating States

Save Teghut Civic Initiative

The Government of Armenia has huge influence on law making process (more than 80% of laws are admitted by the Parliament after the initiative of the Government). Therefore, the negative position of the Government is actually stops the process of legal amendments. Thus, the content of our recommendation is completely similar to the recommendation of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee and the Constitutional Court of Armenia, which is as follows:

- To stimulate the Government of Armenia to initiate legal amendments in the Law on NGOs and the Administrative Procedure Code, and clearly define the right of Access to Justice of NGOs in protecting the public interests, which are defined in the Charter of the NGO.

Open Dialog Foundation

- I hereby appeal to all the OSCE member countries to pay close attention to the case regarding Tatiana Paraskovich's extradition, and support the initiative, presented during

the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Istanbul, regarding the need for the reform of Interpol, as under the current system of operation; Interpol doesn't have the slightest opportunity to verify the political context of charges.

Fund for Development of Parliamentarism in Kazakhstan

- В связи с вышеизложенным, считаем необходимым рекомендовать казахстанским властям привести национальное законодательство и международные договоры с учетом фундаментального права каждого гражданина на благоприятную для жизни и здоровья окружающую среду в соответствие с международными обязательствами Республики Казахстан.

Recommendations to International Organizations

Norwegian Helsinki Committee

- Bosnia and Herzegovina still has a long way to go towards reconciliation. Educating future leaders and professionals in the values and applications of transitional justice is therefore an important task. Hence, the Helsinki Committees of Human Rights in Republika Srpska (Bosnia and Herzegovina) and Norway have carried out a project for nearly 3 years providing extracurricular education in transitional justice to students of law, journalism, and political and social sciences. The methodology and contents that have been developed in cooperation with professors from five universities is ready for being systematically used in full scale by all universities within law, journalism and political and social sciences. However, Universities have to make decisions to do so as a part of the formal education and they need the support of education ministries. We are working with friends and partners at Universities to bring this about, but we call on international organizations, including the OSCE mission and all participating States to strongly support this effort.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Russian Federation

- С учетом изложенного хотели бы призвать ОБСЕ продолжить обсуждение причин чрезмерно длительных сроков судебного разбирательства, его высокой стоимости. При этом важно добиваться снижения издержек судопроизводства для сторон, в особенности в спорах граждан с государством;
- Также хотели бы рекомендовать БДИПЧ провести мониторинг соблюдения прав узников Гуантанамо. Кроме того, призываем ОБСЕ обратить пристальное внимание на практику бессудного содержания заключенных под стражей, распространить положительный опыт по предотвращению пыток и недопущению непропцессуальных методов следствия и дознания.

Open Dialog Foundation

- We hereby call on the OSCE to continue the discussion, begun in Istanbul during the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly on the need to reform Interpol mechanisms, and to urge Kazakhstan to comply with the international conventions they have signed. As long as there is no chance of a fair trial in Kazakhstan and similar countries, no one should be extradited from Europe to countries where they may face torture and inhumane treatment;
- We call on the OSCE to monitor the situation regarding the fairness of trials in Kazakhstan closely and to prevent the extradition of persons who may face torture, as

well as to counteract the abuse of Interpol by non-democratic regimes and to work out specific recommendations for Interpol.

Wednesday, 2 October 2013

WORKING SESSION 15: Rule of law II, including:

- Exchange of views on the question of abolition of capital punishment;
- Prevention of torture;
- Protection of human rights and fighting terrorism.

Recommendations to participating States

NGO 'Sandidzan'

- Считаем необходимым призвать Грузию к выполнению взятых на себя обязательств в целях искоренения практики пыток и других форм жестокого обращения.

Spain

- Abogamos por la adopción por los Estados de unas líneas directrices y un catálogo de derechos de las víctimas del terrorismo, incluyendo la reparación e indemnización, la protección de la dignidad, la seguridad y la vida privada, la asistencia en el proceso penal, el derecho a la justicia, a la verdad y a la memoria.

Kazakhstan International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law

- Казахстану следует исключить существующую альтернативную подследственность по делам о пытках (и смежных составах), наделив Департамент специальных прокуроров Генеральной Прокуратуры и его подразделения на местах (Департамент) исключительными полномочиями по проведению расследования, а также доследственных проверок, сообщений о пытках (и смежных составах);
- При проведении следственных действий в рамках проверок и предварительного расследования сообщений о пытках (и смежных составах), исключить любое взаимодействие спецпрокуроров с правоохранительными и/или иными органами, чьи действия послужили основанием для проведения проверки/расследования;
- Установить общественный контроль за работой Департамента спецпрокуроров ГП РК по делам о пытках посредством:
 - наделения общественных организаций полномочиями направлять материалы, имеющих отношение к проводимой проверке/расследованию (в том числе после принятия процессуального решения в порядке ст. 185 УПК РК), для их изучения и приобщения к материалам проверки/дела;
 - предоставления общественности доступа к документам, регламентирующими работу Департамента в части расследования сообщений о пытках и порядка проведения проверок/предварительного следствия по делам о пытках;
 - размещения регулярных отчетов о работе Департамента в части расследования сообщений о пытках на сайте Генеральной прокуратуры РК;
 - представления ежегодных публичных докладов о работе Департамента в части расследования сообщений о пытках в Парламенте;
 - привлечения общественных организаций к совершенствованию работы Департамента в части расследования сообщений о пытках.

France

- We call upon all States employing the death penalty to observe a moratorium and launch reflection on this cruel and inhumane punishment.

Human Rights Center, Khujand

To the Republic of Tajikistan:

- The state must openly admit existence of torture and inhumane treatment in the country and make an unequivocal statement about “zero tolerance” and inadmissibility of torture and inhumane treatment, as well as fighting torture and impunity in the country;
- Ensure unobstructed access to temporary holding facilities, pre-trial detention centers, and correctional institutions for independent monitoring by civil society representatives;
- Ensure reporting and control of all complaints related to torture and inhumane treatment by a special-purpose committee under the General Prosecution Office of the Republic of Tajikistan, with the involvement of the Ombudsman’s office and civil society representatives, to take efficient action for investigating cases of torture and providing compensations to victims, with a wide media coverage of the committee’s operation;
- Strengthen the guarantees for persons in official detention facilities, concerning access to legal support and procedures for submitting complaints independently from the administration of the institutions;
- In terms of priorities in the area of legislative reform to ensure the necessary conditions for an efficient fight against torture, the following is needed:
 - In the Criminal Code of the Republic of Tajikistan, in the article stipulating responsibility for using torture (Article 143 Part 1 Note 1), stipulate the punishment adequate to the gravity of the crime (with the aim of avoiding impunity as a result of dismissal of a case due to amnesty or reconciliation of the parties) in accordance with Articles 1 and 4 of the Convention Against Torture;
 - Ensure inevitability of punishment for torture, by making respective changes to the criminal legislation, and exclude the possibility of using amnesty on persons responsible for committing acts of torture;
 - In the Criminal Proceedings Code, stipulate a procedure for prompt, thorough and unbiased investigation of the facts of torture or inhumane treatment by an independent authority in accordance with Articles 12-13 of the Convention against Torture and requirements of Istanbul Protocol;
 - Stipulate in the Criminal Proceedings Code a procedure for immediate medical examination of all persons detained by the inquest and preliminary investigation authorities in the first hours of detention;
- Develop and include in the legislation an institution for independent medical examination.

Norwegian Helsinki Committee

On this background, we recommend that:

- United States and other democratic states set standards that prevent development of a global online *Orwellian* surveillance society. The right to privacy should be respected when we communicate electronically. If democratic states do not abide by this principle, they risk undermining the global struggle to strengthen respect of fundamental freedoms.

Penal Reform International

Firstly, we highly welcome the accession by Latvia to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the steps taken by Armenia towards ratification: we encourage ratification as soon as possible. PRI calls on all states

that have not done so to follow these examples. We also commend the strong support given by OSCE participating States to the most recent UN General Assembly Resolution on a death penalty moratorium, with 54 OSCE members voting in favour. PRI welcomes the commitment by OSCE participating states to share information regarding the death penalty;

- We encourage states to include in this information details of the wider effects of the death penalty, including the impact on defence lawyers of trying to prevent a client's execution – what one recent book on the subject called 'fighting for their lives' – the effect on prison officers of administering prisoners on death row, and in particular the impact on family members, especially children, of having a parent arrested, tried, sentenced to death and executed.

Russian Federation

- Одновременно призываем власти США провести всестороннее и независимое расследование допущенных правонарушений, привлечь виновных к ответственности, закрыть тюрьму в Гуантанамо, а также отказаться от практики военных трибуналов и бессрочного заключения без предъявления обвинения и судебного разбирательства.

Amnesty International

To all OSCE participating States:

- Ensure that no one within their jurisdiction is returned, by means of extradition or otherwise, to any country where they would be at risk of torture or other ill-treatment (the non-refoulement obligation);
- Refrain from the use of and reliance on diplomatic assurances to circumvent this obligation and extradite or otherwise return persons to places where they are at risk of torture and other ill-treatment.

To Central Asian States:

- Ensure that all detainees, including those who have been extradited or returned from other countries, are able, from the outset of detention, to exercise their rights to contact their family or another third party, and to consult in private with a lawyer of their choice and with an independent medical practitioner;
- Establish a system of regular, independent, unannounced and unrestricted visits of inspection to all places of detention, with the opportunity for the inspectors to speak privately with any and all detainees;
- Ensure that all trials, including of people extradited or otherwise forcibly returned to Central Asian countries, comply with international law and standards relating to fair trial.

To Ukraine and the Russian Federation;

- Fully comply with all interim measures and judgments of the European Court of Human Rights in relation to cases of return and extradition.

Open Dialog Foundation

- We are extremely concerned with the fact that Kazakhstan is detaining Ablyazov's family as political hostages, and we therefore call on the OSCE to work out recommendations in order to prevent the possibility of future use of the mechanisms of cooperation of intelligence services and Interpol for the purpose of politically motivated prosecution;
- I have to return to Russia, as my family live there and I am a full-time student of a university there. However, I fear for my life. There are numerous reports on the use of torture and cooperation of Russian and Kazakh intelligence services, and so, I hereby

appeal to all the OSCE diplomatic missions to stand in our defence and to monitor closely the developments in the case of my other's extradition. Dear representatives of the OSCE diplomatic missions, human rights defenders, I do not know how else and who else I should address in order to protect our family, even if only to a limited extent. We would be grateful for any support and assistance on your part. Thank you for your attention.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Norwegian Helsinki Committee

On this background, we recommend that:

- The OSCE engage in clarifying the framework of Internet and mobile phone surveillance that fully respect human rights;
- ODIHR could be tasked to provide guidelines for the participating States. There is clearly a need for international standards that prevent surveillance of persons that are not under suspicion of any criminal act and which are not properly sanctioned by a court order;

Human Rights Center, Khujand

To the OSCE:

- In the spirit of Athens Declaration of 2009, by the 25th anniversary of the Convention against Torture, support and facilitate the operation of civil society on torture prevention, paying special attention to protecting and ensuring safety of human rights advocates taking part in fight against torture;
- Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) to strengthen support of the states and civil society institutions at the political and practical level in translating international standards, obligations and recommendations of inter-governmental bodies to a practical level.

Thursday, 3 October 2013

WORKING SESSION 16: Humanitarian issues and other commitments II, including:

- Roma and Sinti issues, including: Implementation of the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti;
- Migrant workers, the integration of legal migrants;
- Refugees and displaced persons;
- Treatment of citizens of other participating States.

Recommendations to participating States

Ukrainian Independent Maritime Trade Union

- Our union propose to ODIHR OSCE, to any other interested OSCE institutions, national governments, NGO of OSCE region to cooperate with ILO and IMO in a way of establishing the modern standards of seafarers' right such as MLC-2006, to struggle against violation the common, labor and social rights of seafarers and to struggle and prevent the seafarers' discrimination in OSCE region. Coherent organizational and programmatic OSCE mechanisms must be created.

Recommendations:

Taking into account the large scale of external labor migration and its significant impact on the economic and social stability in the Kyrgyz Republic, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the authorized bodies in the area of migration should:

- Take timely actions to effectively manage migration processes. One of the measures should be to establish a separate and stably operating administrative body in the Kyrgyz Republic dealing with issues of labour migration and oriented at the processes of external migration from Kyrgyzstan;
- Pay attention to pre-departure preparedness of labour migrants consisting of such components as:
 - Providing consultations to labour migrants on the issues of employment and carrying out labour activities, pension, medical insurance and health care and providing the main information about a host country;
 - Medical examination of labour migrants prior to the departure from the country to assess their risks and opportunities;
 - Creating conditions for job training;
- Take effective measures to create favourable conditions for migrants to use labour markets of other countries besides Russia and Kazakhstan, thus having certain control of external labour migration and protection of labour migrants' rights in accordance with international obligations of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Promote the development of a competitive market to provide service abroad which is currently in Kyrgyzstan, particularly in the south, in rudimentary condition. At the same time to increase the efficiency of measures to stop the activities of firms providing intermediary services illegally;
- Initiate adoption of the KR law about private employment agencies corresponding to the international legal tools in the area of labour migration;
- Take measures to create the best environment for labour migrants' stay in host countries, particularly to strengthen the work on the extension of period of KR citizens' stay without registration in host countries;
- Consider the issue of providing affordable health care to the KR citizens in host countries. For that purpose to provide for the opening of specialized medical rooms under diplomatic missions of the Kyrgyz Republic or to sign appropriate agreements with state and private health care facilities in host countries;
- Initiate public discussion of the Government Decree #222 about effective guarantees of pension rights of the labour migrants, citizens of the KR;
- Take measures on step-by-step introduction of mandatory medical insurance into practice with the purpose of possible obtaining a standard package of medical services in host countries;
- Develop mechanisms of creating conditions for the KR citizens to acquire financially affordable health care policies in host countries;
- Prepare a labour migration situation report and submit it timely to the UN Committee on labour migrants so that it can be considered timely in 2014;
- Increase the participation of NGOs in consultative bodies of the KR;
- Take measures to improve technical equipment of diplomatic missions in the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan;

Recommendations in the health care sphere:

- Set up a system of recording and statistical reporting of the incidence among labour migrants in host countries applying to health care facilities of host countries regarding the issue of obtaining the statistics of incidence of the KR citizens in order to include the data into the national reporting system and to take appropriate measures;
- Conduct awareness raising activities among the population about the need to have fluorography examination of the total population;

- Provide assistance to health care facilities in host countries with the supply of information posters, booklets and leaflets on reproductive health, STIs, HIV, safe motherhood in the Kyrgyz and Russian languages;
- Apply to international and donor organizations with the suggestion to consider the possibility of providing health care centers/public associations in host countries rendering services to labour migrants of the KR with free contraception means;

In the area of education and science

- Recommend studying the opportunity to prepare experts on migration;
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic in collaboration with the KR embassies in the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan to:
- Develop a long-term comprehensive plan on the work with labour migrants;
- Continue the practice of expanding diplomatic missions using the institutions of honorary consuls;
- Pay attention to the opportunity to use the resources of Kyrgyz Diaspora especially in the Russian Federation. The KR embassy should become a body consolidating associations of compatriots and coordinating their activities;

Diplomatic services of the Kyrgyz Republic in countries hosting the KR citizens should:

- Strengthen the work on interaction with local authorities on the issues of protection of rights and legal interests of the Kyrgyz Republic citizens, monitoring and timely response to the cases of indicated violations;
- Focus attention on the effective provision of rights under the legislation of host countries and international agreements, conduct monitoring of criminal cases and court verdicts for the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic to check the effective representation of their rights and legal interests in the authorized state bodies including penitentiary institutions and judiciary bodies;
- Introduce into the practice of consular services the monitoring of court verdicts on the labour migrants' cases posted on the sites of regional and higher courts;
- Study the reasons of gender imbalance of the staff in order to develop a system of measures to introduce principles of gender equality into the staff policy and increase representation of women in diplomatic missions and consular agencies including lawyers;
- Improve the media cooperation in host countries in order to reduce the stigmatization of labour migrants and to promote tolerant attitude of the local population to labour migrants.
- Recommend ratifying international conventions about the protection of labour migrants' and their family members' rights by host countries and to incorporate the international norms into the national legislation:

The government of the Russian Federation:

- Activate joining of the Russian Federation to international agreements about the rights of labour migrants: UN International Convention about the protection of all migrants' and their family members' rights as of 1990; Convention of ILO #97 (revised) about labour migrants as of 1949; Convention of ILO #143 about labour migrants (additional provisions), 1975; European Convention about the legal rights of labour migrants, 1977.

The government of the republic of Kazakhstan:

- Ratify ILO Convention #97 about migrant workers (revised in 1949) and Convention #143 about the abuse in the area of migration and providing migrant workers with equal opportunities and treatment.

European Union (EU)

Recommendations:

- Continue the regular review of the implementation of the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area by ODIHR. In this context, participating States should respond promptly and comprehensively to ODIHR's requests for information;
- Exchange best practices on policies to improve the situation of Roma and Sinti and on devising and implementing mechanisms for the monitoring of commitments in this field;
- Enhance data collection with regard to the situation of Roma and Sinti in all fields of the Action Plan;
- Enhance cooperation among international organizations with regard to improving the situation of Roma and Sinti.

Soteria International

- Soteria International recommends OSCE/ODIHR and the OSCE participating states to work for the protection of refugees to make sure that they are not threatened by EU directives;
- Soteria International recommends to OSCE/ODIR and Sweden to take full protection of the refugee's rights, and not disregard or annul the asylum in order to fit political directives.

Georgia

Taking into account all above mentioned, we deem it necessary to:

- Call upon the Russian Federation to immediately stop and reverse the process of the barbwire fence installation along the occupation lines in the Tskhinvali and Abkhazia regions, and to comply with the provisions of the 2008 Ceasefire Agreement and its commitments under international law;
- Call upon the Russian Federation to comply with its obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law and as an occupying power, cease the ongoing flagrant violations of fundamental rights and freedoms of the population residing in the occupied territories and in their vicinity;
- To place OSCE at the forefront of addressing displacement and its consequences. To underlie foundations of our work, the OSCE needs to strengthen its normative and functional basis for dealing effectively and successfully with displacement.

Recommendations to International Organizations

Georgia

- Urge the international organizations to duly assess Russia's illegal activities, and undertake appropriate measures in response to the deteriorating security and human rights situation, including through activating human rights monitoring mechanisms.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Ukrainian Independent Maritime Trade Union

- В силу этого мы требуем от БДИПЧ ОБСЕ дать оценку степени воздействия таких вопиющих фактов на состояние безопасности в регионе ОБСЕ и содействовать прекращению их последствий путем воздействия на власти РФ для освобождения незаконно захваченного гражданина Украины Александра Федоровича. Для содействия предотвращению таких ситуаций в дальнейшем ОБСЕ может содействовать ускорению переговорного процесса по установлению границы

между РФ и Украиной в АМ, поскольку сегодня данный процесс фактически блокирован действиями РФ.

- Our union propose to ODIHR OSCE, to any other interested OSCE institutions, national governments, NGO of OSCE region to cooperate with ILO and IMO in a way of establishing the modern standards of seafarers' right such as MLC-2006, to struggle against violation the common, labor and social rights of seafarers and to struggle and prevent the seafarers' discrimination in OSCE region. Coherent organizational and programmatic OSCE mechanisms must be created.

Soteria International

- Soteria International recommends OSCE/ODIHR and the OSCE participating states to work for the protection of refugees to make sure that they are not threatened by EU directives;
- Soteria International recommends to OSCE/ODIR and Sweden to take full protection of the refugee's rights, and not disregard or annul the asylum in order to fit political directives.

Thursday, 3 October 2013

WORKING SESSION 17: Discussion of human dimension activities (with special emphasis on project work):

- Presentation of activities of the ODIHR and other OSCE institutions and field operations to implement priorities and tasks contained in relevant OSCE decisions and other documents.

Recommendations to the OSCE

Soteria International

- Thus our recommendation to the OSCE/ODIHR is to consider to provide stipulations, indicators and guidelines on media coverage of court cases and to prepare provisions for trial monitoring and for recognition of the court decisions, based on criteria pertaining to media coverage.

V. REMARKS AND SPEECHES

Opening remarks by Ambassador Janez Lenarčič, Director of the OSCE/ODIHR

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a privilege to warmly welcome you all for the opening of this year's Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM), as we mark 20 years that have passed since the first *CSCE Implementation Meeting on Human Dimension Issues* (as it was called then). Based on the 1992 Helsinki Summit's recognition that *implementation is to commitments what practice is to theory*, the participating States decided to meet annually to review the progress made in the implementation of the commitments undertaken within the human dimension. Importantly, the participating States not only emphasized that human dimension commitments are matters of direct and legitimate concern to all participating States and do not belong exclusively to the internal affairs of the State concerned; they also underlined the democratic rights of citizens to demand from the governments respect for the values and standards their governments had committed themselves to in such landmark documents as the Helsinki Final Act and the Paris Charter for a New Europe. Two years later, in Budapest, the participating States welcomed the participation of civil society in the implementation review and recognized the value that non-governmental organizations can add by contributing ideas and raising concerns through dialogue with the participating States' governments.

20 years have now passed since the implementation of the full range of OSCE Human Dimension commitments by the participating States (then 53 of them) was reviewed in this forum for the first time. Since then HDIM (and Review Conferences in years with OSCE Summits) has become a well-established platform for peer review, self-reflection and dialogue on implementation of human rights commitments together with civil society and partners from other international organizations. Without prejudicing the discussions over the next two weeks, the fact that we have received a very high number of venue requests for side events from both participating States and civil society points to, 20 years on, the continued importance and relevance attached to HDIM.

It is my pleasure now to welcome the speakers in the opening session to whom I wish to thank for kindly accepting our invitation and for being able to join us this morning.

The host country is represented by **Mr. Bogusław Winid**, Undersecretary of State from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the OSCE **Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk**, will speak on behalf of the Chairperson-in-Office; to be followed by **Ms. Dunja Mijatović**, Representative on Freedom of the Media; I have the pleasure to welcome for the first time the new High Commissioner for National Minorities **Ms. Astrid Thors**; afterwards we will hear Vice-Chair of the Committee for Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly **Mr. Mehmet Sevki Kulkuloglu** representing the President of the OSCE PA and **Ambassador Adam Kobieracki**, Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre, on behalf of the OSCE Secretary General.

I would also like to convey a special gratitude to this year's keynote speaker **Mr. Stavros Lambrinidis**, EU Special Representative for Human Rights. We are very happy to have you present and are looking forward to your important contribution to this meeting.

As per established practice, I will address every working session in the coming two weeks. Here I only wish to highlight a few issues that can help us understand where we stand today, as an

organization founded upon the concept of comprehensive security, which includes also human dimension.

First, on fundamental freedoms: we hear about limitations on freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, and freedom of association, among others, justified by the purported need to protect the rights of the “majority” population, those holding “traditional values”, or others who could be “offended”, or “disturbed” by the public manifestation of certain rights. Such justifications should be rejected. As John Adams warned more than two centuries ago in his defense of the US Constitution and J. S. Mills elaborated upon a century later: *it is impermissible to make the exercise of certain rights conditional upon acceptance by the majority*. On the contrary, as we last year stressed in our report on Freedom of Assembly: where minority and vulnerable groups, who may have suffered a history of prejudice and social exclusion, exercise their human rights, the state has even greater obligation to refrain from imposing undue restrictions on their enjoyment of human rights. While democracy as a theoretical term in its most simplistic meaning may denote a political system ruled by the majority, a genuine democracy can only exist where the majority respects equal rights of everyone, including those who belong to its minorities.

Since the last HDIM and the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Freedom of Association and Assembly held in December 2012, developments in the OSCE region have shown that, although OSCE participating States pledged their respect for these freedoms, some enacted legislation that further hinders the exercise of both freedoms through burdensome administrative procedures, blanket prohibitions and often disproportionately high sanctions. Likewise, we also noted legislative amendments unduly limiting access to foreign funds for associations in certain OSCE participating States.

In the field of rule of law there continues to be credible reports on pressure on judges and political attempts at influencing individual court cases. In the absence of effective protection for the independence of the judiciary in many OSCE participating States, undue political interventions and pressure often lead to distortions of justice. Such pressure also undermines public trust in the judiciary and the rule of law in general.

I also have to emphasize that harassment, threats and intimidation targeting human rights defenders have continued. This is not a new phenomenon. When we refer to the duty to protect human rights defenders, as enshrined in OSCE commitments and other human rights standards, we must remember the broad definition of human rights defenders. These are not only those individuals who, for example as NGO activists, devote their professional life to the promotion and protection of human rights. A broad spectrum of individuals can be human rights defenders. For example those who, acting alone, sometimes marginalized, decide to speak out against an injustice they see. They include journalists, who are protected in international human rights standards as reporters, but who also become human rights defenders, when they report on and denounce human rights violations. Whistleblowers can be human rights defenders, when the malpractice they disclose amounts to or results in human rights violations. All of them, facing sometimes different challenges, risks and vulnerabilities, deserve both the full protection of the State, and to be seen as a matter of direct and legitimate concern for all our participating States collectively.

Throughout the OSCE region, individuals and communities continue to be targeted on the basis of their race, color, sex, language, religion or belief, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Our Office remains concerned about such manifestations of intolerance and discrimination and about the absence or the insufficiencies of government responses to these phenomena. OSCE participating States have adopted comprehensive commitments in the area of tolerance and non-discrimination, but nevertheless, the implementation gap remains wide.

The same assessment is valid in the area of freedom of religion or belief. There are longstanding commitments of the OSCE community that are far from being met. Across the OSCE region, religion or belief communities face undue restrictions with regard to their right to gather, worship or register and run legitimate activities.

Tacking stock of today's situation of Roma and Sinti, I will have to once more to underline the need for urgent action by OSCE participating States. Ten years after implementing the OSCE Action Plan on Roma and Sinti, the picture remains largely bleak and we will have to redouble efforts to address the longstanding and continuing challenges with regard to the their social and economic exclusion, and to end racism and discrimination, including violent manifestations, against them. Equal access to quality education was identified by the OSCE as a key vehicle to promote integration of Roma and Sinti into our societies; yet, this vehicle is still not working properly.

As you are aware our Office is currently finalizing the second Status Report on implementation of the 2003 OSCE Action Plan on Roma and Sinti. Also this year's last SHDM will be devoted to this topic. While in many cases a robust legal and policy framework exists, more effective implementation is called for if we are to avoid losing another decade and another generation of Roma and Sinti deprived of opportunity. For the implementation to be effective, it must be inclusive and not imposed. To maximize ownership, authorities should therefore encourage and facilitate active participation of the target communities, and especially of Roma and Sinti women in all areas of the policy design, implementation and evaluation affecting them. Education, as already mentioned, should be seen as a key precondition for full participation in society on equal footing, and priority should therefore be given to ensure that all children have equal access to, and are able to take full advantage of, quality education.

Next year will mark another 10th anniversary - the OSCE Action Plan on the Promotion of Gender Equality. I would like to encourage OSCE participating States to consider how to further enhance the implementation of the commitments contained therein. ODIHR will continue to provide practical assistance by, for instance, training police officers on improving their response to violence against women and domestic violence as part of its comprehensive, on-going training package on issues related to UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

In the following two weeks participants will be able to discuss these and many other issues in seventeen Working Sessions that cover the whole spectrum of human dimension commitments. Among those there are also three specifically selected topics this year focusing on the *Freedom of Religion and Belief, Freedom of Assembly and Association* as well as *Democratic Elections and Election Observation – Sharing Best Practices*. I would like to bring to your attention also the fact that in addition to plenary and working sessions there will be a record number - more than 60 – of side events as well as many other opportunities to have formal as well as informal discussions with participants from the whole OSCE area and from Partners for Co-operation.

The goal of the meeting, as it has been since the first one 20 years ago, is to conduct a peer-review of the implementation of commitments among the participating States, to hear the concerns and proposals from civil society and to discuss the assessment of this implementation by ODIHR and other OSCE Institutions as well as Field Operations, whose role is to monitor, assist and report to participating states according to their respective mandates.

Our Office has been, in accordance with its mandate, active in monitoring the implementation of human dimension commitments in a number of areas, from elections, to fair trial rights, to freedom of peaceful assembly. It is a very positive sign that most participating States have been

open to ODIHR's monitoring and have facilitated the work of our observers on the ground. I would like to thank them for this and to strongly encourage all participating States to be open to take further advantage of ODIHR's monitoring work.

I started by noting that implementation relates to commitments the way practice does to theory. HDIM provides a unique opportunity to do just that; - for the participating States through open dialogue with each other, and together with civil society and international partner organizations, to take stock of where they are in terms of translating commitments into meaningful realities for the citizens of our countries, and to map out the road ahead for more effective implementation.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Opening address by Mr. Bogusław Winid, Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland

Mister Chairman,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

- I have great pleasure to welcome you, on behalf of Foreign Minister Radosław Sikorski, to the annual Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw. I am very pleased to welcome Mr. Mehmet Sevki Kulkuloglu from the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the Representative on Freedom of the Media, Ms. Dunja Mijatovic, Special EU Representative, Mr. Lambrinidis, Ambassador Prokopchuk, representing Ukrainian Chairmanship in Office and Conflict Prevention Centre Director, Ambassador Kobieracki. I am also particularly glad that one of our guests today is Ms. Astrid Thors, the newly appointed High Commissioner on National Minorities. Ms. Thors, please accept my wishes of every success in carrying out your difficult and responsible mission.
- Let me also thank the current Ukrainian OSCE Chairmanship. You've made a great job preparing this year's HDIM, and I appreciate your commitment to making sure the upcoming Ministerial Council in Kiev achieves good results and makes progress on the Helsinki +40 process. As usual, I would also like to thank the ODIHR Director, Ambassador Janez Lenarčič, and his team for their involvement in organizing our meeting and for the incessant efforts to assist OSCE states in implementing their commitments.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- There's no doubt that the Implementation Meeting remains central to the OSCE's work as an important mechanism for promoting democracy and human rights in the Euro-Atlantic and Euro-Asian area. This aspect of the Meeting is particularly important to Poland, which has undergone a successful political and social transformation in the last 25 years.
- An active participation of NGO representatives is a clear advantage of the human rights discussion that is held during OSCE human dimension meetings. Without NGOs, our debate would be incomplete, lacking an important perspective that helps assess the compliance with third basket obligations.
- We believe that in order to effectively promote democracy, the rule of law and human rights we need to use various mechanisms that are adjusted to a given country or geographic region. Therefore, Poland continues to actively promote efforts to strengthen democracy and respect for human rights, and seeks to optimize a wide range of

instruments in this field. We believe that both formal tools, like the Council of Europe and the United Nations Human Rights Council, whose presidency Poland holds this year, and the less formal ones, such as the Community of Democracies and EU mechanisms, have an important role to play. As the EU Member State, Poland makes a special contribution to developing such mechanisms as the Eastern Partnership and the European Endowment for Democracy.

- In this context, let me mention one example of my country's involvement in promoting democracy and human rights, namely the periodic Warsaw Dialogue for Democracy, which started last year. This year's edition will be held in the second half of October and will focus on the impact new technologies have on developing democracy. The conference's conclusions will form an input to the World Forum for Democracy, which is organized by the Council of Europe in Strasbourg in late autumn 2013.
- Coming back to the present-day condition of the OSCE human dimension, we should consider two worrying issues. On the one hand, there is a tendency - which is especially visible in the human dimension's day-to-day work - to devote too much time and energy to discussing work plans, meeting agendas, and other formal and procedural issues. This way we lose time that would be better spent on in-depth discussions. On the other hand, the dynamics and effects of our debates are far from satisfying. For quite some time now, the OSCE participating states have reached no consensus on specific third basket decisions, nor on the direction that the Organization's further work should take in this area. It is clear that this negative trend can only be reversed if we are mutually open to dialogue and show willingness to look critically at human rights situations in our own countries.
- The violation of fundamental freedoms in the OSCE area continues to pose a problem. We need to clearly and frankly tell ourselves that the freedom of association, assembly, and expression - realized also through modern communication technologies, as well as the right to a fair trial, are all too often violated, and that improvements in this area are much needed.
- During nearly 40 years of its activity, the OSCE has created important institutions that help countries meet their commitments in the human dimension, and has developed many useful mechanisms to that end, including the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting. We should make every effort so that our accomplishments are not lost and contribute to strengthening mutual trust and security in the OSCE area.
- I wish you an interesting and inspiring discussion.
- Thank you very much for your attention.

Opening speech by Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the OSCE, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council

Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Mr. Leonid Kozhara I would like to warmly welcome all of you to the 2013 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting.

Respect for and promotion of democracy, human rights, fundamental freedoms, and the rule of law are cornerstones of stability and security in Europe and beyond. *The OSCE Astana Commemorative Declaration reiterates that the inherent dignity of the individual is at the core of comprehensive security*, and the commitments undertaken in the field of the human dimension

are matters of direct and legitimate concern to all participating states. The broad concept of comprehensive security would remain hollow without the promotion and protection of human rights as its essential elements.

Translating into reality the Astana Summit's call for the establishment of a security community requires continuous engagement, coordinated efforts and persistence in implementing our commitments. Strengthening implementation of commitments by all participating States on human rights, democracy and the rule of law has been placed at the top of the Ukrainian OSCE Chairmanship's agenda.

Through many years the OSCE has elaborated an extensive *acquis* in the Human Dimension aimed at enhancing protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. *The HDIM, as the Europe's largest annual human rights and democracy conference dedicated to the review of implementation of the human dimension commitments, continues to remain crucially important for the fulfillment of human rights and democratic standards by the participating States.*

Let me point out that this year's HDIM is symbolic. Exactly 20 years ago, in 1993, the first CSCE Implementation Meeting on Human Dimension Issues took place in Warsaw being first of its kind. Back in 1975 the participating States introduced the notion of “*a thorough exchange of views (...) on the implementation of the provisions*” of the Helsinki Final Act. And it was again in Helsinki 1992 where the participating States set up a specific system of reviewing the implementation of commitments, designed to be “*of cooperative nature, comprehensive in scope and at the same time able to address specific issues*” and which has developed into our annual Human Dimension Implementation Meetings.

The nature of the HDIM is unique.

On the one hand, it provides participating States with an excellent opportunity to discuss a wide range of issues relating to human rights and democracy, identify existing shortcomings, emerging challenges and share best practices in the implementation of the OSCE human dimension commitments.

On the other hand, the HDIM is a forum for broad and active participation of the civil society and NGOs. Given the security challenges that we face, free and open dialogue among NGOs representatives, OSCE institutions and the participating States, in accordance with the Helsinki 1992 document, remains of utmost importance. Civil society participation in the meeting, on equal footing, enriches our deliberations and allows to look at the situation in the OSCE area from different angles.

Excellencies,

I would like to use this opportunity to briefly highlight a few areas which the Ukrainian Chairmanship pursued throughout this year in the human dimension.

Building on the work of the previous OSCE Chairmanships and following up on last year's discussions at different human dimension events, Ukraine has prioritized for 2013 combating trafficking in human beings, media freedom and youth human rights education on the principles of tolerance and non-discrimination.

We have also focused our attention on issues such as free movement of people, inter-religious dialogue in promoting freedom of religion or belief, freedom of association and assembly, as well as democratic elections and election observation.

The Chairmanship secured agreement between participating States on a balanced and relevant programme of the Human Dimension activities in 2013 and a number of successful events have already taken place over the year.

We started the year with the Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Freedom of Movement and Human Contacts, which looked into implementation of OSCE commitments and challenges in this area. It provided for an interesting discussion on policy solutions in facilitating the freedom of movement and cross-border mobility.

The Human Dimension Seminar on Media Freedom Legal Framework provided a platform for participating States and all interested actors to discuss the pressing issues of media freedom domestically and internationally, particularly in the context of legislative framework that should guarantee and foster this freedom. *This has been one of very few events on media freedom within the OSCE to which all participating States agreed by consensus.*

A Supplementary Meeting took place in July on the Rule of Law in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights addressing the role of different frameworks and instruments to protect human rights and prevent human rights violations.

The Ukrainian Chairmanship successfully facilitated consensus building on holding the OSCE High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination, which took place in May. The Conference addressed such important issues as combating manifestations of discrimination and intolerance, prevention and response to hate crimes, and important role of human rights education for young people to promote mutual understanding and respect for diversity.

In pursuit of its priorities the Chairmanship convened the High- Level Conference on Strengthening the OSCE Response to Trafficking in Human Beings, held in Kyiv in June, which set the ground for elaboration of a new Addendum to the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings. Adoption of such an Addendum would mark a continuous high-level commitment to tackling this problem and allow to substantively update the 2003 Action Plan and subsequent Ministerial Council decisions, declarations and recommendations.

Convinced that youth participation can bring added value to the OSCE in achieving the goals and purposes of the Organization the Ukrainian Chairmanship hosted in July the OSCE Youth Summit in the International Children’s Center “Artek” in Crimea, aimed at promoting tolerance and non-discrimination, respect for diversity, peaceful development and friendship as well as raising awareness of OSCE activities among young people. It brought together over 500 young people from different pS and partners countries.

The upcoming, last this year’s Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting to be held on 7 and 8 November in Vienna will allow to mark the 10th anniversary of the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti by focusing on assessing its implementation and taking stock of progress in this area.

The Ukrainian Chairmanship believes that all human dimension events held in 2013 make an important and meaningful contribution to strengthening the implementation of the OSCE commitments in the human dimension.

Moreover, all these meetings generated numerous proposals and recommendations that could serve as a basis for Ministerial Council decisions. *Looking ahead to the Kyiv Ministerial Council the Ukrainian Chairmanship has prepared a balanced package of draft decisions that reflects the priorities of all participating States in the human dimension. We will aim at building consensus on the draft decisions on protection of journalists, freedom of movement, freedom of religion or belief, Roma and Sinti.*

We do hope that by continuous joint efforts we will be in the position to effectively address the divergence of views in a number of areas and enhance confidence among each other. It is important to revitalize the “culture of engagement” that inspired the signing of the Helsinki Final Act. In 1975, divergences among signatories were far greater than those among participating States today, yet still they managed to unite around a common notion of comprehensive security and a set of shared principles and commitments that maintain their relevance today.

In achieving these objectives the Chairmanship sees a critical *role in translating our common vision of a security community formulated at the OSCE Astana Summit into common actions*. We encourage the participating States to demonstrate constructive approaches that would allow us to promote and strengthen implementation of existing commitments as well as produce decisions by the end of this year with a view to making the human dimension more efficient.

Dear colleagues,

It is clear that decisions without adequate follow-up do not lead to results. I would like to emphasize that the key word in the title of this Meeting is implementation. Strengthening full implementation of the extensive OSCE *acquis* in the human dimension remains of utmost importance with a view to safeguarding stability and security in the OSCE region.

In this regard I would like to note the high value of ODIHR’s assistance to participating States in meeting voluntarily our commitments. We commend ODIHR for providing expertise to participating States in the field of elections, supporting and strengthening democratic institutions, gender equality and rule of law, building capacity of government authorities in human rights and antiterrorism, preventing and responding to hate crimes and intolerance, and promoting full integration of Roma and Sinti people.

Let me also express my gratitude to the Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media, the Parliamentary Assembly as well as the CIO’s Personal representatives on tolerance non-discrimination for their valuable work and contribution to enhancing implementation of human dimension commitments by all participating States.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am confident that the next two weeks of debate on the implementation by OSCE participating States of their human dimension commitments will provide valuable insights and guidance for our activities through employment of best practices. This Meeting offers us an excellent opportunity to affirm our dedication to the principles of democracy, observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rule of law and other pertinent issues that lie at the heart of the OSCE comprehensive concept of security.

I wish to thank the ODIHR’s Director Ambassador Lenarcic and his staff for their tireless efforts in organizing this year’s meeting. I am confident that it will be marked by dynamic discussion, both fruitful and constructive, in the Helsinki spirit of co-operation, equality and dialogue.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to cordially invite all distinguished participants of the Meeting to the reception hosted by the Ukrainian Chairmanship which will take place tomorrow, September 24, 2013.

Thank you for your attention.

Opening address by Ms. Astrid Thors, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a special honour for me to be part of the first working session of this year's Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, here in the beautiful city of Warsaw. The coming days are important as a forum that has stood the test of time in which we can review our human dimension commitments and discuss how we can advance their implementation. The presence of many representatives of participating States and non-governmental organizations is promising and I am looking forward to exchanging experiences and best practices during this session.

In this session, I will focus on linguistic rights. Linguistic rights are essential for all communities, regardless of their size. Language is an expression of individual and collective identity, and it is a medium that gives every individual access to other people, to experiences and to society as a whole.

Linguistic rights are closely linked to, and are important for, the realization of other rights, especially those related to education and effective participation. Being able to use one's own language provides access to public services. Since the establishment of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities 20 years ago, successive High Commissioners have placed a special emphasis on linguistic rights.

As a result of the work of my predecessors, we see many situations with tensions that have been defused and we can see that States have taken their responsibility towards their minorities. Of course that is not the case everywhere. I also vividly remember how I, as a member of the European Parliament, always wanted to be sure that steps taken in the EU enlargement process of the late 1990s and early 2000s were taken in accordance with the opinions of the then HCNM, Max van der Stoel.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

While nearly all minority rights are interlinked, this is especially the case with linguistic rights. The protection of linguistic rights must be guaranteed in connection with other rights, including the right to education, access to the media, and participation in cultural, social and economic life and in public affairs.

The OSCE has articulated, reiterated and elaborated upon these rights in a number of important documents, including the 1990 Document of the Copenhagen Meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimension. I also would like to refer to the thematic work of my predecessors, especially the first three sets of thematic Recommendations – the 1996 Hague Recommendations Regarding the Education Rights of National Minorities, the 1998 Oslo Recommendations Regarding the Linguistic Rights of National Minorities and the 1999 Lund Recommendations on the Effective Participation of National Minorities in Public Life – as well as the most recent, the 2012 Ljubljana Guidelines on Integration of Diverse Societies.

International and regional human rights law continues to play an important role in setting standards for the protection and promotion of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, including, but not limited to, through linguistic rights. This legal framework has evolved significantly in recent decades. Various United Nations instruments have contributed to

developing norms in the field of linguistic rights, notably the Declaration on the Rights of Persons belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities. There are also several regional conventions that guarantee linguistic rights, including the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The legal framework pertaining to linguistic rights prescribes two main strands of rights. First, there is the right to maintain and develop one's own identity through language. This includes the freedom to choose and use one's language. To guarantee this freedom, the State is required not to interfere with an individual's language choice in the private sphere.

Second, where language creates undue obstacles to people's access to basic public services, the right to non-discriminatory treatment may be infringed upon. Basic public services include, for example, the police, the judiciary, the health system, the media and education. To facilitate access to these services for persons belonging to national minorities, a more substantive engagement by the State is required.

States need to balance the rights of individuals to use and preserve their own language with the need for one or more State languages. This balancing act is not an easy task. It is context-specific, and as such, the methods to achieve this balance vary from country to country.

However, the accumulated experience of my Institution indicates that failing to achieve this balance can be both the underlying cause and the spark that leads to inter-ethnic tensions. My predecessors witnessed events in which the tensions between majority and minority communities escalated when a State restricted the use of a minority language in the private sphere or when it imposed unqualified and disproportionate State-language requirements. We have also seen that sanctions for not using the State language in public may have divisive effects. When national minorities are restricted from using their own languages, they often find themselves excluded from public life. This has a detrimental impact on the cohesion of an entire society.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

As my predecessors have repeatedly emphasized, diverse societies are a reality. In recent decades, conflicts, the redrawing of national borders and globalization have been changing our societies. We all now live in increasingly multi-ethnic and multilingual societies.

States need to develop effective national policies that promote the integration of their societies while respecting diversity. Although integration policies may not always be the direct target of hate speech, such rhetoric nearly always undermines these policies, making integration the victim.

While the Ljubljana Guidelines provide practical guidance on how States can develop language policies, they also go beyond ensuring the rights of national minorities. They address integration as a responsibility of States to adopt a comprehensive approach that both ensures respect for minority rights while also working towards an inclusive and cohesive society. The Ljubljana Guidelines recommend that States adopt specific and targeted integration policies that respect diversity and avoid assimilation and excessive separation between groups.

Governments need to ensure that all groups in a society are consulted in the process. This consultation has to be effective, transparent and continuous. Failing to facilitate effective participation of all parts of society will render any resulting policies less effective.

There is no single recipe for a successful integration policy, and every situation will be unique. However, it is possible to broadly say that integration policies need to be specific enough to be effective in the given circumstances and flexible enough to accommodate changing realities. Importantly, integration policies should assign clearly stipulated responsibilities and competencies to all authorities concerned. Equally important is the inclusion of all levels of administration: from the central authorities to the municipal offices who deliver public services. This institutional set-up also has to take into account the necessity of co-ordinating policy action between the different levels and layers of authority.

Allow me to make two things crystal clear. In my experience as the minister responsible for integration in the previous Finnish administration, I learned that broad consultation, as mentioned earlier, and clear leadership from the top level of government are preconditions for a successful integration policy. Without top-level support, integration policies will just attract dust on the shelves. I also learned that integration will change society and it requires effort from both majorities and minorities.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

From a practical perspective, how can States design integration policies that balance the need for one or more shared languages as a basis for the integration of a society with the obligation to protect the linguistic rights of minorities? States have a rather wide margin of appreciation in determining whether they maintain one or more official language. If a State does decide to specify an official language or languages for the purpose of integration, allowing the use of other, minority languages is the way to accommodate the rights of national minorities. Policies determining when and how national minorities can use their own languages to interact with public administration need to be tailored to the specific circumstances on the ground. States may introduce State-language requirements in the public sphere, provided these are legitimate, necessary and proportional, and do not unduly restrict the use of minority languages.

When members of national minorities are proficient in the State language or languages, this facilitates their full and effective participation in society. However, punitive measures to ensure that people learn and use the State language might be counterproductive. My Institution has long advocated for State policies that promote State-language use through positive means and incentives, including by providing accessible public programmes for learning that language. This approach reduces the risk of engendering resentment and resistance among national minorities and helps promote the integration of society.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

As I stated at the outset, linguistic rights are closely interlinked with other rights, including to education, which is a universally respected human right.

As a minimum, persons belonging to a national minority have opportunities to learn his or her minority language. However, members of national minorities also need to gain sufficient proficiency in the State language to be able to fully realize their potential within society, such as being able to pursue higher education or employment and actively participate in the political,

economic and cultural aspects of their society. Therefore, States should provide genuine and accessible opportunities to learn the State language at all levels of education.

Multilingual education can be one way to achieve the balance I mentioned before in certain circumstances. When elaborating education policies, I hope policymakers increasingly make use of children's extraordinary capacity to learn languages at an early age. Bureaucracy should not get in the way of modern, inexpensive ways of allowing teachers with different linguistic backgrounds to work with the same pupils. This is sometimes referred to as language immersion.

My predecessors worked closely with governments struggling to design and implement effective integrated education policies. Integrated education is not the same as multilingual education, and that difference is to be noted. You can have integrated education without having multilingual education.

Integrated programmes should create opportunities for interaction between pupils from different backgrounds so they learn about each other. This fosters mutual understanding and enables pupils to develop in an environment that is respectful of diversity. The education system should seek to combine interaction and participation of all with support for the maintenance and development of diverse identities.

There is no template to structure an education system that accommodates all these aspects. Education policies need to be tailored to the conditions of the participating State in question. However, all participating States do need to consult national minorities during the process of elaborating an education policy, taking their needs and wishes into account, as far as possible. In my own experience, it is especially important to interact on the language programme – for instance, Swedish schools in Finland need to put a lot of emphasis on languages, as they have different levels of education in Finnish depending on the linguistic background of the pupil.

There is, however, also the danger that well intended efforts to provide education in minority languages can lead to undesired consequences. When pupils from different ethnic backgrounds are taught at different schools, this separation can have severe impact on the cohesion of society. However, it is important to remember that education policies are seldom the sole cause of separation and States must remain alert to the need to implement measures that counter this undesired result.

Excellencies
Ladies and gentlemen

The experience of my Institution has shown that violations of human rights are potential conflict triggers. Therefore, protection of human rights is central to conflict prevention. As we know, the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities belongs to the first OSCE dimension: the politico-military. However, let there be no misunderstanding: the protection of fundamental rights, in particular those pertaining to national minorities, underpins my mandate.

And conflict prevention is what the High Commissioner stands for. My mandate is to provide early warning and, as appropriate, early action at the earliest possible stage. For this to be achievable, it is essential that I maintain good dialogue and co-operation with all participating States. Conflict prevention is not only about addressing emerging tensions at the earliest possible stage, it also means identifying and tackling the root causes of these tensions. This includes, but is not limited to, the failure to respect rights. This illustrates the relevance of both the first and third dimensions in relation to my mandate.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In his final statement before the Permanent Council, in July this year, my predecessor Ambassador Knut Vollebaek expressed his concern about rising nationalism and political extremism in many parts of the OSCE area. On that occasion, he said that “[t]hese ideas have always been present in the political undercurrent, but today the movements that represent them are again gaining ground and are allowed onto the political stage.”

I can only agree with this sentiment. Throughout the OSCE area, my Institution has seen politicians becoming increasingly less embarrassed to generate easy support through populist rhetoric. This in turn emboldens those who verge towards more extreme positions.

Democratic leadership also entails a responsible leadership; a leadership that does not passively tolerate hate speech but instead leads through example and firmly rejects such language.

And the majority has a big responsibility.
Thank you for your attention.

Opening statement of Dr. Sevki Kulkuloglu, Vice-Chair of the General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Your Excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a privilege to address you here today as a representative of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and also as a member of the Turkish Parliament. For many years, the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting has greatly influenced the human rights agenda in Europe and beyond. As Vice-Chair of the Parliamentary Assembly's General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions, I look forward to sharing the recommendations from this meeting with my colleagues; 323 elected officials from OSCE participating States.

As parliamentarians we take the values, aims and commitments of the OSCE back to our national assemblies. Crucially however, we take the principles of the OSCE back to our constituents. It is these constituents, these individuals – one billion of them- that the OSCE's comprehensive approach to security is designed to protect. It is in this way that the Parliamentary Assembly maintains and further strengthens the OSCE's commitment to democracy. Furthermore, through parliamentary diplomacy, we endeavor to strengthen dialogue and increase security in a truly representative fashion. Through the Parliamentary Assembly, we seek to unite legislators on issues of democratic values and human rights.

Co-operation is the very essence of our security community. It is the view of the Parliamentary Assembly that cooperation must also take pride of place between OSCE institutions and not just between participating States. No one here needs to be told the benefits of dialogue and mutual support. We all know that any obstacles that prevent OSCE institutions co-operating will only have a negative effect on the mission of the whole Organization. So it is at this point that I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to my friends and colleagues at ODIHR for hosting us here in Warsaw. I look forward to working closely with you in the future, in order to maximize our strengths by acting together.

Through their tireless commitment to democracy and human rights, ODIHR and the Parliamentary Assembly can support equitable and representative democracy across the OSCE

region. Whether acting on humanitarian issues, human rights or election observation missions, ODIHR and the Parliamentary Assembly can be standardbearers for democratic values.

As you may have heard, we have re-instituted the Co-operation agreement between the OSCE/ODIHR and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, when it comes to cooperating in election observations missions – a key element of our work.

A crucial part of democracy is of course freedom of assembly. It is a fundamental right of all people and it is one of many issues the Parliamentary Assembly's election observers watch closely whilst on observation missions. If the right to freedom of assembly is taken away then, more often than not, freedom of association, freedom of belief and freedom of the media are all swept away with it. Tolerating the views of others is the mark of a stable and healthy democracy. Of course no democracy is perfect and as such we all benefit from outside scrutiny and inquiry. That is one of the great strengths of the OSCE and of the Parliamentary Assembly's election observation missions in particular. As I stand here and talk of freedom of assembly as someone from Turkey, some of you may be thinking of the recent events in Taksim Square.

The main focus for today's meeting, and indeed the focus of my speech, is tolerance. It is a topic for which Turkey strived to be included on the agenda and it is a virtue that should underpin our security community. It was in Turkey that the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, in its Istanbul Declaration, passed a resolution on Strengthening the Role of Education in Combating Racism, Xenophobia and other forms of Intolerance and Discrimination. It is the view of the Parliamentary Assembly that education must stop being used as a conduit for intolerance. Sadly the OSCE region still has areas where schools are segregated, where not all people have equal access to education and where curricula espouse chauvinism.

All states must make efforts to make schools inclusive and desegregated. They must ensure all citizens have equal access to education. Curricula must be scrutinized and changed to ensure balanced and non-discriminatory coverage; particularly in the subjects of history and religious studies. It is the view of the Parliamentary Assembly, as stated in the resolution that more must be done to develop new educational materials, along with extra-curricular activities, in the name of tolerance and social cohesion. We must invest in training our educators to challenge intolerance in the classroom. To end intolerance, the focus clearly has to be on youth. Discrimination is learned behavior, as no child is born intolerant or racist. Classrooms, but also the media, are they key areas where racism and xenophobia must be challenged.

On the subject of tolerance and non-discrimination, it is of course the 20th anniversary of the founding of the High Commissioner on National Minorities. I would like to congratulate the recently appointed High Commissioner, Ms. Astrid Thors, on her new position and I speak for the whole Parliamentary Assembly in wishing her every success in her new role. I know she will further strengthen the HCNM's important work in protecting national minority communities and managing interstate cooperation on this issue.

Throughout history national minorities have often occupied a delicate position in our societies due to insecurity and a disregard of their fundamental rights. Contemporary society is ever more complex and there are many different groups in our region, not just national minorities, who are denied their basic freedoms. Some of the starker examples are the LGBT community, labor migrants and refugees. Today, these are the groups who are most often faced with intolerance, discrimination and a denial of their fundamental freedoms. I ask you: What is the use of a security community if the most vulnerable and those most in need of protection are not defended? We must all help encourage societies that tolerate all groups, through putting an end to discrimination in all its forms.

Of course we cannot talk of refugees and their fundamental rights without mentioning the ongoing crisis in Syria. Turkey has provided, along with other countries in the region, an immense amount of support to those who have fled a horrific civil war. These are indeed worrying times as the situation becomes more and more uncertain. But one thing can be certain: that Turkey will continue to support those in need whilst maintaining their dignity and ensuring their rights as human beings.

As I finish speaking to you today, I would like to point out that many challenges lie ahead. In facing these challenges we would do well to remember the Helsinki Final Act, which binds us together and is the reason we are all gathered today. As we look to the future and the Helsinki +40 process, we must try and recapture what was a truly groundbreaking moment for human rights in all participating States. The Parliamentary Assembly has already begun working on how to mark the occasion and how to add the voice of our constituents to the Helsinki +40 process. When thinking of Helsinki +40 I am reminded of the quote from Aristotle: "Political society exists for the sake of noble actions, and not of mere companionship." The companionship that the OSCE provides has of course given us a greater level of security and a platform for dialogue that at one time was unimaginable. But it is our collective action that is of the most importance.

Thank you for your attention.

Opening Statement by Ambassador Adam Kobieracki, Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre

Dear Ambassadors, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear Janez;

As you can imagine – it is always a pleasure for me to come to Warsaw. But I am particularly delighted to be here again for the opening of the 2013 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting. And I would like to thank you Janez, for having me here again the second year in a row.

I am addressing you, not only as Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre, but also as Deputy Head of the Secretariat with a message of appreciation and support from the Secretary General, who unfortunately cannot be here with us today as he is in New York for the UN General Assembly Meeting.

We in Vienna enjoy excellent co-operation with ODIHR and as you very well know, Janez, the Secretary General fully supports the work, the mandate and the autonomy of ODIHR – and so do I.

As you might recall, both the CPC and ODIHR are children of the 1990 Paris Charter. At those times, the CPC was an instrument of the first dimension, tasked to "assist the [CSCE] Council in reducing the risk of conflict", mainly of a military nature. However, at subsequent OSCE Summits in Helsinki, Budapest and Istanbul, as well as at various Ministerial Councils, further tasks were assigned to the CPC and I think it is fair to say that the CPC today is very much of a cross-dimensional nature.

While arms control and the support for the Forum for Security Co-operation are still an important element of the CPC's work, our focus has clearly shifted – much of our daily business now relates to aspects of conflict prevention, conflict management and post-conflict rehabilitation, which are mainly of a *non-military* nature and to a great extent relate to the issues

you will discuss here over the next two weeks. The CPC today provides the key link between the Secretariat and the field operations – all of which work on Human Dimension issues and co-operate on many issues with ODIHR as well as with the High Commissioner on National Minorities and the Representative on Freedom of the Media. Moreover the CPC has increased its efforts to review our conceptual basis and our toolbox across the conflict cycle in light of Ministerial Council Decision No. 3/11.

If you allow me, I would like to highlight just a few aspects which demonstrate the interlinkage between your agenda and our work on across the conflict cycle.

Just a week ago, we organized in Vienna a Security Days event on conflict resolution. As was repeatedly highlighted during that day, sustainable peace is not achievable without respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Sustainable peacebuilding requires that efforts in that respect focus on meeting the most immediate needs of people, building their confidence in, as well as, their commitment to peace, and helping to restore state legitimacy and effectiveness. Tolerance and non-discrimination, rule of law and protection of human and minority rights and democratic, inclusive political processes – to name just a few – are key ingredients of such a process.

Tomorrow, you will also discuss equality of women and men and prevention of violence against women. Both aspects are highly relevant for conflict resolution and sustainable peacebuilding. It is paramount that peace agreements include measures to ensure that the needs and concerns of women and girls are protected and their human rights are respected. In this regard, the participation of women and/or gender-sensitive mediators provides representation that can advocate for the inclusion of provisions and gender-balanced approaches in these agreements. Over the past months, the Gender Section of the OSCE Secretariat has put tremendous efforts into furthering the work on enhancing the role of women in mediation processes. On 24 October, Ambassador Beham and her team will launch a guidance note on gender responsive mediation processes at a special event in Istanbul. Within the CPC, we have fully integrated gender issues in our mediation-support work – in training and capacity building as well as with respect to the operational support that we offer. But much more could and should be done. It is important to address the impact of conflict on women in all stages of the conflict cycle as called for by UN Security Council resolution 1325. For instance, National Action Plans can assist governments in identifying responses to promote a secure environment for women and strengthen resilience to gender-based violence.

Another topic we discussed both last week and more intensely during a dedicated Security Days event last December – which I’m sure you will recall, Janez, as you were present – is reconciliation.

Reconciliation is key to sustainable peacebuilding. While one would have to look in each particular case to determine whether the time is ripe to engage in a reconciliation process, it seems to me that no one would argue with the fact that one as to engage in such a process at ONE point in time in order to achieve lasting peace. Now, reconciliation is a process which is closely linked to the question of truth and justice. As Janez rightly pointed out at last December “True reconciliation cannot happen by “forgetting” about or “burying” the past, thereby leaving the victims and their families without justice. Recent history within the OSCE area has shown that successful reconciliation was achieved when past crimes were addressed. On the other hand, where this did not happen, conflicts continued or re-emerged.”

Janez, if might quote you again, you also reminded us that “reconciliation, and, by extension, a genuine security community in the OSCE area, can only be achieved through accountable and functioning democratic institutions. Thus, again, tolerance, rule of law and functioning democratic institutions are needed.

Dear Ambassadors, Ladies and Gentlemen,

20 years have now passed since the first Human Dimension Implementation Meeting convened in Warsaw. Over the years, this meeting has evolved, developed and become the key event for all of us within and connected to OSCE work on Human Dimension issues. As I have tried to point out today, the issues you will discuss over the next two weeks are not isolated but interconnected. They are important building blocks for the primary scope of the OSCE: fostering security, peace and stability from Vancouver to Vladivostok and moving all residents of the OSCE area toward the building of a security community. While we have embarked in the OSCE on the Helsinki + 40 Process as a stepping stone towards this security community, I think it is worthwhile to remind ourselves that, while these discussions are important and necessary, it is the practical work done by ODIHR as well as by our field operations, the High Commissioner, and the Representative on Freedom of the Media, which matter most. Building a security community needs practical steps and real action, especially in the Human Dimension.

With this in mind and also in this spirit of tolerance, reconciling diverging views and striving towards the common purpose of a genuine security community, I wish you a successful and interesting Human Dimension Implementation Meeting 2013.

Thank you for your attention!

Adam Kobieracki

Ambassador

Deputy Head of the OSCE Secretariat

LINK TO THE TIMETABLE

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/105011>

MODALITIES FOR OSCE MEETING ON HUMAN DIMENSION ISSUES

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/23762>

LINK TO THE ANNOTATED AGENDA

English: <http://www.osce.org/odihr/104890>

Russian: <http://www.osce.org/ru/odihr/105281>

LINK TO THE OVERVIEW OF SIDE EVENTS

English: <http://www.osce.org/odihr/104902>

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<http://www.osce.org/odihr/107390>

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All participants were able to distribute their documents in the course of the HDIM.

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U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom	<p>301.Excerpted Chapters from 2013 USCIRF Annual Report, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 17 pages; English, 18 pages; English, 15 pages; English, 14 pages; English, 15 pages; English, 17 pages]</p>
Albania	<p>580.Introductory remarks on Albania's experiences with electoral reform in respect of ODIHR's recommendations, as delivered by Ambassador Spiro Koci, Working Session 13 (Tuesday, 1 October, 15.00). [English, 4 pages]</p> <p>579.Speaking Points on Roma and Sinti inclusion in Albania, as delivered by Ambassador Spiro Koci, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
United States of America	<p>39. Opening Plenary Statement as prepared for delivery by Ambassador Robert Bradtke, Head of U.S. Delegation, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [English, 5 pages; Russian, 5 pages]</p> <p>40. Working Session 1: National Minorities and Aggressive Nationalism, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 4 pages; Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>135.Statement by the United States of America on Working Session 2, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 4 pages]</p> <p>136.Statement by the United States of America on Working Session 3, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>149.Session 3 - Right of Reply Exercised: Response to Statement by the Russian Federation, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>254.Right of Reply - Response to Russian Federation, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>423.United States Statement under Session 4 (Fundamental Freedoms I) as prepared for delivery by Thomas O. Melia, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages; Russian, 5 pages]</p>

- 255.USA Statement on fundamental freedoms II as prepared for delivery by Ambassador Robert Bradtke - Session 5, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 3 pages]
- 321.United States Statement under Session 6 (Freedom of religion or belief) as prepared for delivery by Kari Johnstone, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 2 pages]
- 355.United States Statement under Session 7 (Freedom of Religion or Belief II) as prepared for delivery by Dr. Katrina Lantos Swett, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 2 pages]
- 318.United States Statement under Session 8 (Freedom of Assembly and Association) as prepared for delivery by Ambassador Robert Bradtke, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 3 pages]
- 515.Remarks at the LGBT Ministerial Event by John Kerry (Secretary of State, New York City), Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]
- 366.United States Statement under Session 9 (Freedom of Assembly and Association II) as prepared for delivery by Ambassador Robert Bradtke, Working Session 9 (Friday, 27 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 3 pages]
- 340.United States Statement under Session 10 (Humanitarian issues and other commitments I) as prepared for delivery by Ambassador Robert Bradtke, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 2 pages]
- 397.United States Statement under Session 11 (Democratic institutions, including: Democracy at the national, regional and local levels; Citizenship and political rights) as prepared for delivery by Brent Hartley, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 2 pages]
- 457.United States Statement under Session 12 (Democratic elections and election observation) as prepared for delivery by Gavin Weise, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 3 pages]
- 458.United States Statement under Session 13 (Democratic elections and election observation - continued) as prepared for delivery by Gavin Weise, Working Session 13 (Tuesday, 1 October, 15.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 4 pages]
- 535.United States Statement under Session 14 (Rule of Law I: Democratic lawmaking; Independence of the judiciary; Right to a fair trial) as prepared for delivery by Ambassador Robert Bradtke, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 3 pages]
- 536.United States Statement under Session 15 (Rule of Law II: Capital Punishment; Prevention of Torture; and Protection of Human Rights while Countering Terrorism) as prepared for delivery by Ambassador Robert Bradtke, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 3 pages]
- 591.Statement for Working Session 16, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 3 pages]
- 592.Statement for Working Session 17, Working Session 17 (Thursday, 3 October, 15.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 3 pages]
- 596.United States Statement - Closing Reinforced Plenary: Any Other Business, as prepared for delivery by Ambassador Robert Bradtke, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 2 pages]
- 597.United States statement for the Closing Reinforced Plenary Session: Final Remarks, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 3 pages]

	<p>preventing aggressive nationalism, racism and chauvinism, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>296. Recommendations of Armenia under Working session 1: Tolerance and non-discrimination I - National Minorities, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>293. Statement in the Exercise of the Rights of Reply to the Republic of Azerbaijan, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>294. Statement of Armenia - Prevention and responses to hate crimes in the OSCE area, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>287. Equality of opportunity for women and men, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>286. Working session 5: Fundamental Freedoms II - Freedom of Movement, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>285. Statement in the Exercise of the Rights of Reply to the Azerbaijani NGO Turam, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>667. Statement of the Delegation of Armenia under Working Session 10: Humanitarian issues and other commitments I, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>666. Right of Reply by the Delegation of Armenia, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>663. Statement of the Delegation of Armenia under Working Session 16: Humanitarian issues and other commitments II, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>664. Right of Reply by the Delegation of Armenia, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>665. Statement of the Delegation of Armenia, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Austria	<p>94. Statement by Austria - Working Session 3: Gender equality/Prevention of violence against women and children, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>153. Statement by Austria on Freedom of Expression, Media Freedom, Safety of Journalists, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>152. Statement by Austria on Human Rights Education, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>252. Statement by Austria under Working Session 6: Freedom of Religion or Belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Azerbaijan	<p>506. Reply of the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>313. Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan under Working Session 2 - Tolerance and non-discrimination II: Review of the implementation of commitments on promotion of mutual respect and understanding, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>314. Reply of the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan - Working Session 2, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>374. Review of the implementation of commitments on promotion of mutual respect and understanding, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>310. Activity of Azerbaijani Ombudsman in the field of Human Rights, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>

	<p>371.Reply of the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>309.Statement on violation of the rights of the Ombudsman of the Republic of Moldova Mrs. Aurelia Grigoriu in the Republic of Armenia, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>372.Reply of the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>316.Reply by the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan - Working Session 6: Freedom of Religion or Belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>370.Reply by the Delegation of Azerbaijan, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>315.Reply of the delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan - Working Session 8: Freedom of assembly and association, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>449.Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>539.Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 5 pages]</p>
Belarus	<p>369.Statement by Belarus - Working Session 10, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [Russian, 5 pages]</p> <p>419.Statement by Delegation of Belarus delivered at Working Session 12, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p>
Canada	<p>22. Opening Statement of the Canadian Delegation, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page; French, 1 page]</p> <p>128.Statement by Canada for Working Session 2 - Tolerance and non-discrimination II: Review of the implementation of commitments on promotion of mutual respect and understanding, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; French, 2 pages]</p> <p>129.Statement by Canada for Working Session 3: Tolerance and non- discrimination II (continued), Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages; French, 2 pages]</p> <p>246.Delegation of Canada - Recommendations for Working Session 6: Freedom of Religion or Belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page; French, 1 page]</p> <p>364.Statement by Canada - Working Session 10, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; French, 2 pages]</p> <p>396.Statement by Canada for Working Session 12: Democratic elections and election observation-sharing best practices, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; French, 2 pages]</p>
Croatia	<p>48. National Minorities in Croatia - Statement by the Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>440.Statement by Croatia - Working Session 2: Tolerance and non-discrimination II. Prevention and responses to hate crimes in the OSCE area, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>78. Statement of Croatia - Prevention of Violence against Women and Children, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Spain	<p>76. Statement of Spain - Violence against Women, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [Spanish, 3 pages]</p> <p>522.Statement by Spain - Working Session 15, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [Spanish, 2 pages]</p>

Estonia	<p>85. Reply of the Estonian Delegation, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>164. Statement by the Permanent Representative of Estonia under Working Session 4, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Finland	<p>73. Statement of Finland - Equality of Opportunity for Women and Men, Prevention of Violence against Women and Children, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
France	<p>46. French Delegation's Statement on Tolerance and non-discrimination II (working session 2), Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>55. Statement of France on tolerance and non-discrimination (working session 2), Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [French, 2 pages]</p> <p>102. Tolerance and non-discrimination II - Response of the French delegation, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [French, 8 pages]</p> <p>119. France's Reply - Tolerance and non-discrimination II Working Session 2, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 8 pages]</p> <p>103. Women's Rights - of the French delegation - Tolerance and Non-discrimination II, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page; French, 1 page]</p> <p>188. Reply of the French Delegation - Fundamental Freedoms I, Freedom of Expression (Working Session 4), Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [French, 1 page]</p> <p>276. Reply of the French delegation - Freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief (working session 6), Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page; French, 1 page]</p> <p>277. Intervention of the French delegation - Freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief (Working Session 6), Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; French, 2 pages]</p> <p>275. Reply of France - Freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief (working session 7), Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [French, 1 page]</p> <p>412. Response of the French delegation to the intervention of the Russian Federation - Working Session 8: Freedom of assembly, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [French, 1 page]</p> <p>413. Response of the French delegation - Working Session 9: Freedom of assembly and demonstration, Working Session 9 (Friday, 27 September, 15.00). [French, 1 page]</p> <p>520. Statement by France - Working Session 15: Rule of law II, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 2 pages; French, 2 pages]</p> <p>611. Roma and Sinti, implementation of the OSCE action plan to improve the situation of Roma and Sinti - reply of the French delegation, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [French, 1 page]</p>
Georgia	<p>236. Statement by Georgia under Working Session 1: Tolerance and non-discrimination: National minorities, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>238. Statement by Georgia-Working Session 4: Fundamental freedoms I - Freedom of expression, free media and information, including best practices for protection of journalists, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>237. Statement by Georgia under Working Session 5: Fundamental freedoms II: Freedom of Movement, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>349. Statement by Georgia under Working Session 6: Freedom of Religion or</p>

	<p>Belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>416.Statement by Georgia - Working Session 8: Freedom of Assembly and Association, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>590.Statement of the Georgian Delegation, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>
United Kingdom	<p>50. Statement of The United Kingdom - Working Session II, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>125.Statement by the United Kigdom - Tolerance and Non-discrimination: Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>261.UK Statement under Session 4 - Freedom of Expression, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>250.Statement of the United Kingdom under Session No. 6: Freedom of Religion or Belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>417.UK Statement under Working Sesseion 12: Elections, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Greece	<p>68. Statement of Greece - Review of the Implementation of Commitments on Promotion of Mutual Respect and Understanding, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>305.Statement by the delegation of Greece under Working Session 6: Freedom of Religion or Belief and the Law 4115/2013, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Hungary	<p>133.Statement by the Delegation of Hungary for Working Session 2: Tolerance and Non-discrimination II-Review of the implementation of commitments on promotion of mutual respect and understanding, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>526.Statement by the Delegation of Hungary at the Working Session 16: Humanitarian issues and other commitments II-Roma and Sinti issues, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Italy	<p>51. Observatory for Security Against Discriminatory Acts OSCAD, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages; Italian, 5 pages; Italian, 5 pages; Italian, 4 pages]</p> <p>100.Italian measures on Gender Violence - Speech of the Italian Delegation, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [Italian, 3 pages]</p>
Kazakhstan	<p>15. Opening Statement of Kazakhstan, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>434.Statement by the representative of General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>468.Statement by representative of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>489.Statement by Ambassador at Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p>
Kyrgyzstan	<p>57. Statement of Mira Karybaeva, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>101.Gender Equality - Statement of Mira Karybaeva from the Kyrgyz Delegation, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>111.Media in the Kyrgyz Republic - Statement of the Kyrgyz Delegation,</p>

	<p>Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>306.Statement of the Delegation of Kyrgyzstan under Working Session 6: Freedom of Religion and Belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>278.Statement of the Delegation of Kyrgyz Republic under Working Session 8: Freedom of Assembly and Association, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p>
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	<p>42. Statement by Ambassador Zoran Dabik, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Macedonia to OSCE in response to the Head of the US HDIM Delegation, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>482.Statement by the Republic of Macedonia under the Working Session 4, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Liechtenstein	<p>528.Statement by Liechtenstein - Working Session 16: Humanitarian issues and commitments I, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [German, 2 pages]</p> <p>529.Liechtenstein's Refugee and Migration Assistance-information sheet, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>
Norway	<p>146.Statement by Norway as delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>239.Statement by Norway as delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>150.Statement by Norway as delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>151.Statement by Norway as delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>523.Statement by Norway - Working Session 15, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>617.Statement by Permanent Delegation of Norway to the OSCE, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>649.Statement by Norway as delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Netherlands	<p>226.Statement by the Netherlands - Working session 5 on Fundamental freedoms (II), Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>538.Reply by the delegation of the Netherlands to the statement made by the delegation of the Russian Federation - Working session 16 on Humanitarian issues and other commitments (II), Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Poland	<p>336.Address by Mr. Boguslaw Winid, Under-Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>
Uzbekistan	<p>3. Statement from Uzbekistan, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [Russian, 9 pages]</p>
Russian Federation	<p>20. Opening Statement of the Russian Delegation to the OSCE, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>547.Statement by the Delegation of the Russian Federation, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>328.Tolerance and Non-Discrimination. Promotion of natural respect and understanding., Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p> <p>327.Tolerance and non-discrimination. Violence against children., Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p>

	<p>179. Freedom of expression, mass media and information (official statement of the Russian delegation), Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>493. Statement by Ambassador at Large of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the Working Session 5 - Freedom of Movement, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>551. Statement by the Delegation of the Russian Federation, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>553. Statement by the Delegation of the Russian Federation, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>556. Statement by the Delegation of the Russian Federation, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>552. Statement by the Delegation of the Russian Federation, Working Session 9 (Friday, 27 September, 15.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>554. Statement by the Delegation of the Russian Federation, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>555. Statement by the Delegation of the Russian Federation, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p> <p>402. Control over the sources of funds and expenditures of candidates for elections in Russian Federation, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [Russian, 6 pages]</p> <p>403. Democratical elections and observation of the election process - exchange of the most efficient practices (using the technical equipment during the election observation process), Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p> <p>404. Democratical elections and the observation of the election process - the exchange of the most efficient practices, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [Russian, 6 pages]</p> <p>548. Statement by the Delegation of the Russian Federation, Working Session 13 (Tuesday, 1 October, 15.00). [Russian, 7 pages]</p> <p>549. Statement by the Delegation of the Russian Federation, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>550. Statement by the Delegation of the Russian Federation, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p> <p>557. Statement by the Delegation of the Russian Federation, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>578. Statement from the Russian Federation, Working Session 17 (Thursday, 3 October, 15.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p> <p>634. Statement by the Deputy Head of the Delegation of the Russian Federation G.E.Lukyantsev, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [Russian, 5 pages]</p>
Holy See	<p>69. Statement of the Holy See - Religious Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Issues, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>182. Freedom of Expression and the Media, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>299. The Holy See Statement under Working Session 6; Specifically selected topic: Freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>514. Statement by The Holy See under Working Session 7 - Specifically selected topic: Freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>367. The Holy See intervention on the 10th Session, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>

Serbia	<p>586. Statement of the Republic of Serbia, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>587. Statement of the Republic of Serbia, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>588. Statement of the Republic of Serbia, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>589. Statement of the Republic of Serbia, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Slovenia	<p>652. Statement by the Delegation of Slovenia under Working Session 3: Tolerance and non-discrimination II, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>651. Statement by the Delegation of Slovenia under Working Session 5- Fundamental Freedoms II, including Human Rights Education, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>650. Statement by the Delegation of Slovenia under Working Session 8- Freedom of Assembly and Association, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>658. Statement of the Republic of Slovenia on the implementation of the OSCE Action Plan on improving the situation of Roma and Sinti, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Sweden	<p>4. Opening Session - national statement of Sweden, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>24. National statement of Sweden: Working Session 1: Tolerance and Non-Discrimination I, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>186. National Statement of Sweden - Session 4: Freedom, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 5 pages]</p>
Switzerland	<p>19. Opening Statement of Switzerland, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [French, 3 pages]</p> <p>41. Statement of Switzerland for Working Session 1, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [French, 2 pages]</p> <p>363. Statement of Switzerland for Working Session 2 - Tolerance and non-Discrimination II: Review of the implementation of commitments on promoting of mutual respect and understanding, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [French, 2 pages]</p> <p>141. Statement of Switzerland under Working Session 3: Equality of opportunity for women and men, including: Implementation of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [German, 3 pages]</p> <p>154. Statement by Switzerland on Media Freedom, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>472. Statement by the Delegation of Switzerland under Working Sessions 12 - Elections, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>
Tajikistan	<p>97. Introduction by the Tajikistan Delegation, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p> <p>98. Gender - Speech of the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [Russian, 7 pages]</p> <p>99. Freedom of Expression - Speech of the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 5 pages]</p> <p>187. The formation and development of the institution of the Ombudsman Rights in the Republic of Tajikistan, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25</p>

	<p>September, 15.00). [Russian, 7 pages]</p> <p>211. Freedom of conscience, religion and belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [Russian, 6 pages]</p> <p>274. Freedom of Association in Tajikistan, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [Russian, 8 pages]</p> <p>330. Freedom of assembly, Working Session 9 (Friday, 27 September, 15.00). [Russian, 5 pages]</p> <p>378. Trafficking of human beings, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p> <p>429. Elections, Working Session 13 (Tuesday, 1 October, 15.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p> <p>433. Rule of law. Independence of the judiciary, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [Russian, 16 pages]</p> <p>450. Death penalty, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [Russian, 5 pages]</p> <p>502. Humanitarian issues and other commitments, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p>
Czech Republic	<p>108. Statement of the Czech Republic - Working Session Fundamental Freedoms I, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>96. Statement of the Czech Republic - Working Session Tolerance and non-discrimination II, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>530. Right of Reply Statement by Czech Republic - Working Session 2: Tolerance and non-discrimination II, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>368. Statement of the Czech Republic - Working Session 10: Humanitarian issues and other commitments I., Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>411. Statement by the Czech Republic at Working Session 12 - Democratic elections and election observation: Sharing best practices, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>525. Statement of the Czech Republic - Working Session 16: Humanitarian Issues and other commitments II, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>531. Right of Reply Statement by Czech Republic - Working Session 16: Humanitarian Issues and other commitments II, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Turkey	<p>79. Opening Session - national statement of Turkey, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>81. Statement by Turkey - Reply to the Statement of the Constantinopolitan Society at Working Session 1, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>130. Statement by Turkey - Reply to some statements made at Working Session 2 (Tolerance and non-discrimination II), Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>131. Statement by Ambassador Tacan Il dem, Permanent Representative of Turkey - Working Session 2, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>132. Statement by Ambassador Tacan Il dem, Permanent Representative of Turkey - Working Session 3, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>518. Right of Reply Statement by Turkey - Working Session 4: Fundamental freedoms I, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>

	<p>519.Right of Reply Statement by Turkey - Working Session 5, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>516.Right of Reply Statement by Turkey - Working Session 8: Freedom of Assembly and Association, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>517.Right of Reply Statement by Turkey - Working Session 9: Freedom of assembly and association - continued, Working Session 9 (Friday, 27 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Ukraine	<p>281.Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>70. Statement of Ukraine - Measures Taken by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine on Prevention of Anti-Semitism, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>77. Statement of Ukraine - role of state institutions to provide public policy in the field of combating domestic violence, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>282.Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>284.Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>228.Freedom of Expression and the Media in Ukraine - Open Dialogue Program as a good practice example for the OSCE area, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>229.Freedom of expression, independent media, free access to information and protection of journalists in Ukraine, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>320.Respecting Human Rights by Ukrainian Border Services, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>622.Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine, Human Rights Education, Working Session 5, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p> <p>283.Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>623.Speech by the Judge of the Supreme Court of Ukraine, Ms. Galina Kanygina on the Independence of the Judicial Branch of Law, Working Session 14, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p>

OSCE Institutions

OSCE Chairperson-in-Office	<p>185.Opening speech by the Chairperson of the Permanent Council, Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [English, 6 pages]</p> <p>232.Statement by Adil Akhmetov, CiO Personal Representative, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>233.Statement by Rabbi Andrew Baker, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chair in Office on Combating Anti-Semitism, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages]</p> <p>621.Closing statement by Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 5 pages]</p>
OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities	<p>231.Statement by the High Commissioner on National Minorities, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [English, 9 pages]</p>

1. Annotated Agenda, Background documents (Monday, 23 September, 9:00). [English, 38 pages; Russian, 46 pages]
2. Provisional List of Participants, Background documents (Monday, 23 September, 9:00). [English, 97 pages]
90. Compilation of Written Recommendations (Working Sessions 1-3), Background documents (Monday, 23 September, 9:00). [English, 35 pages]
345. Compilation of Written Recommendations (Working sessions 4-7), Background documents (Monday, 23 September, 9:00). [English, 39 pages]
395. Compilation of Written Recommendations (Working sessions 8-11), Background documents (Monday, 23 September, 9:00). [English, 25 pages]
570. Final List of Participants, Background documents (Monday, 23 September, 9:00). [English, 94 pages]
657. Compilation of Written Recommendations (Working sessions 12-15), Background documents (Monday, 23 September, 9:00). [English, 11 pages]
659. Compilation of written recommendations (covering working sessions 16-17), Background documents (Monday, 23 September, 9:00). [English, 6 pages]
661. Opening Remarks by Ambassador Janez Lenarcic, Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10:00). [English, 9 pages]
356. Remarks of Introducer Dr. Nazila Ghanea (University of Oxford) - Working Session 7: Freedom of Religion or Belief, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15:00). [English, 2 pages]
473. Introducer's comments - Working Session 8 (Freedom of Assembly) by Michael Hamilton, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10:00). [English, 7 pages]
612. Introducer Speech for Working Session 11 "Democratic institutions, including: Democracy at the national, regional and local levels. Citizenship and political rights", Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15:00). [English, 4 pages]
460. Introducer's speech for Working Session 14: Democratic Lawmaking, Independence of the Judiciary, Right to a Fair Trial, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10:00). [French, 11 pages]
463. Introductory Statement by Amrit Singh for the Working Session 15 (Rule of Law II), Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15:00). [English, 9 pages]
504. Statement by Mr. Branislav Jovanovic (Young Roma Professional) at the Working Session 16, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10:00). [English, 1 page]
542. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 4: Fundamental freedoms I, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10:00). [English, 2 pages]
543. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 3: Tolerance and non-discrimination II (continued), Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10:00). [English, 3 pages]
544. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 2: Tolerance and Non-Discrimination II, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10:00). [English, 4 pages]
545. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 5: Fundamental Freedoms II, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10:00). [English, 3 pages]
546. Rapporteur's Report for Working session 1: Tolerance and Non-Discrimination I, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10:00). [English, 2 pages]
558. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 6: Freedom of religion or belief, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10:00). [English, 3 pages]
559. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 8: Freedom of Assembly and Association, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10:00). [English,

	<p>2 pages]</p> <p>560. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 10: Humanitarian issues and other commitments I, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>561. Rapporteur's Report for Working session 9: Freedom of assembly and association, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>562. Rapporteur's Report for Working session 7: Freedom of religion or belief, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>563. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 11: Democratic institutions, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>564. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 12: Democratic elections and election observation-sharing best practices, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>565. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 13: Democratic elections and election observation-sharing best practices (continued), Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>566. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 14: Rule of law I, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>567. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 15: Rule of Law II, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>568. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 16: Humanitarian Issues and Other Commitments II, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>569. Rapporteur's Report for Working Session 17: Discussion of human dimension activities (with special emphasis on project work), Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>662. Closing Remarks by Ambassador Janez Lenarcic, Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE, Closing Plenary Session, (Friday, 4 October, 10.00). [English, 4 pages]</p>
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly	<p>660. Opening Statement of Dr. Sevki Kulkuloglu, Vice-Chair, OSCE PA General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>

OSCE Secretariat

OSCE Secretariat	<p>89. Opening Statement of the Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre Ambassador Adam Kobieracki, Opening Plenary Session (Monday, 23 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>
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International Organizations

Council of Europe	<p>14. Council of Europe Activities in the Field of Protection of National Minorities, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 12 pages]</p> <p>62. Promotion of mutual respect and understanding through intercultural education, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 6 pages]</p> <p>63. Non-discrimination as guaranteed by the European Social Charter, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 6 pages]</p> <p>64. MEDIANE - Media in Europe for Diversity Inclusiveness, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>65. Combating Intolerance and Discrimination and Promoting Mutual Respect and Understanding: A Council of Europe Priority, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages]</p> <p>66. Promotion of mutual respect and understanding through global</p>
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- education, history teaching and interreligious dialogue (North-South Centre), Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]
67. Intercultural Cities: governance and policies for diverse communities, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]
171. Equality between women and men, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]
172. Protecting and promoting the rights of people with disabilities, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]
156. Overview of the Work of the Council of Europe in the Media and Information Society Field, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 8 pages]
169. Education for democratic citizenship and human rights education, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 6 pages]
481. Action by the Council of Europe and its Conference of INGOs - NGOs and civil society: promoters of democracy and active citizenship, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]
354. Contribution of the Council of Europe as regards combating trafficking in human beings - Working session 10: Combating trafficking in human beings, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]
379. Statement of Mr. Lars Molin, the Monitoring Committee of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]
484. Contribution by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. The voice of Cities and Regions in Europe, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 24 pages]
485. Contribution of the Council of Europe for the Working Session 11 - Democratic Institutions. Enhancing participation of people with disabilities in political and public life, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]
486. Contribution of the Council of Europe for the Working Session 11 - Democratic Institutions. Local and Regional Democracy, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 4 pages]
461. Contribution of the Council of Europe for the Working Session 14: Rule of Law I, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [English, 12 pages]
487. Contribution of the Council of Europe for the Working Session 15: Rule of Law II. The work of the European Committee for the prevention of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (CPT), Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]
488. Contribution of the Council of Europe for the Working Session 15: Rule of Law II. Abolition of the death penalty, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 5 pages]
507. Contribution of the Council of Europe for the Working Session 16: Roma/Sinti, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 5 pages]
508. Contribution of the Council of Europe for the Working Session 16: Migrant workers, the integration of legal migrants, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 12 pages]
509. Contribution of the Council of Europe for the Working Session 16: Humanitarian issues and other commitments, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]
510. Contribution of the Council of Europe for the Working session 16: Roma and Sinti issues, including: Implementation of the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti, Working Session 16

	(Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 6 pages] 511. Contribution of the Council of Europe. Follow-up to the Strasbourg Declaration on Roma, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 16 pages]
International Humanitarian Fact Finding Commission	585. Statement by the representative of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission, Ms. Elzbieta Mikos-Skuza, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	512. Speech of the Head of the UNHCR Liaison Office to the OSCE and Vienna to the HDIM, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 4 pages] 513. UNHCR Contribution to the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 9 pages]

Non-Governmental Organizations

"Democratic and Public Initiatives" Simferopol City Public Organization	105. Statement on Free Media, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]
"Veresk" Charity Foundation for Disabled and Amputees	584. Abkhazia Is Against Nationalism, Racism and Chauvinism, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages] 618. National Minority Issues in Abkhazia, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages] 643. National Minorities issues in Abkhazia, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages] 619. Violations and Discrimination by Georgia, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 642. Violations and Discrimination by Georgia, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 583. Canonical Status of the Orthodox Community of Abkhazia and Restoration of an Independent Church of Abkhazia, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages] 620. Abkhazia: Citizenship and Political Rights, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages] 644. Abkhazia: Citizenship and Political Rights, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]
ABTF - Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe	117. Statement for Working Session 2: Review of the Implementation of Commitments on Promotion of Mutual Respect and Understanding, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages] 155. Statement under Working Session 4: Fundamental Freedoms I, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 244. Statement under Working Session VI: Freedom of religion or belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]
ACT for America 5280 Coalition	34. Preventing Aggressive Nationalism, Racism and Chauvinism, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages] 209. Two Systems of Human Rights, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]
ACT! For Canada - Education	625. Intervention on Violence Against Women, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages] 624. Intervention on Freedom of Religion, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]

	626. Intervention on Freedom of Assembly, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]
Administrative Centre of Jehovah's Witnesses in Russia	216. Religious Freedom Concerns in Russia, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 4 pages]
Ahmadiyya Muslim Community International	351. The Intervention by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community International in relation to religious freedom in Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 3 pages]
Alliance Defending Freedom	123. Statement for Working Session 2: Tolerance and Non-Discrimination II, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page] 124. Statement for Working session 4: Fundamental Freedoms I, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page] 424. Freedom of religion or belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page] 259. Statement under Working session 8: Freedom of assembly and association, as delivered by Paul Coleman, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]
Amaro Drom e.V.	235. Statement on Roma youth presented by Jonathan Mack (Amaro Drom e.V. / ternYpe International Roma Youth Network), Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]
Amnesty International	606. Time for serious action to end discrimination and racism against Roma in Europe, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 5 pages] 605. OSCE Participating States must take measures to combat hate crimes, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages] 604. Returns to risk of torture and accountability for Complicity in the US-led Rendition/Secret Detention Programmes, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 4 pages]
Anti Defamation League	38. Statement of the Anti - Defamation League, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages] 82. Human Rights First/Anti-Defamation League 2012 Reaction to ODIHR Hate Crime Report, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 8 pages]
Anti-Discrimination Centre "Memorial"	292. The case of ADC Memorial: Persecutions of defenders of vulnerable groups for the cooperation with the UN, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]
Association "Inva-Sodeystvie"	655. Mythical Occupation of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 656. Stop the Policy of Isolation of Abkhazia/South Ossetia From the Global Community, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]
Association for the Prevention of Torture	456. Time to Put Torture Back on Top of the OSCE Agenda, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]
Associazione Dossetti: i Valori Observatory for Religious Tolerance and	43. Statement by Dr. Mattia F. Ferrero for Working Session 2, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]

Freedom	
Atheist Ireland	598. Atheist Ireland's recommendations under Working Session 6: Freedom of Religion or Belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 8 pages]
Atman Yoga Center	256. Intervention by Roberta Rendina, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]
Baltic Center of Historical and Socio-Political Researches	409. Problems in Latvia to eliminate long-term democratic deficit, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 410. On the non-compliance of the local elections in Latvia held on June 1, 2013, with the European democracy standards, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 431. Statement, Working Session 13 (Tuesday, 1 October, 15.00). [Russian, 1 page]
Barnabas Fund	279. Statement by Barnabas Fund on Issues of Religious Freedom in Central Asia, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]
Buergerbewegung Pax Europa	84. National Minorities - Integration, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page] 260. Statement under Working Session 2, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 257. Statement under Working Session 3, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages] 346. Statement by Burgerbewegung Pax Europa, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page] 415. Statement by Burgerbewegung Pax Europa - Session 8: Freedom of Assembly and Association, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]
Buergerbewegung PAX EUROPA, Austria	388. Intervention from BPE Austria on Prevention of violence against women and children, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages] 390. Paper from BPE Austria on Sexual exploitation and violence against women: Unaddressed problems in Northern Europe, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages] 389. Intervention from BPE Austria on Freedom of Religion, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page] 392. Statement by BPE Austria - Working Session 6, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 291. Intervention on the topic of Freedom of Assembly, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page] 381. Intervention from BPE Austria on Freedom of Assembly in Germany, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 653. Freedom of assembly in Germany at risk, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [German, 3 pages]
Center for Civil Liberties, Ukraine	302. Statement from the Center for Civil Liberties on the situation regarding the right to assemble peacefully in Ukraine, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages] 380. To the official delegation of Ukraine's on the Law of Ukraine "About All-Ukrainian Referendum" from the coalition of civil society organizations "For honest referendum", Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 2 pages]
Center for Information and Analysis (SOVA)	17. Ultra-nationalism, hate crimes and counteraction to them in Russia. Brief review on half part of 2013 and statistics for 2004-2013, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 3 pages]

	<p>25. Address at the working session 1 - "Tolerance and non-discrimination I", Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>35. Address at the working session 2 - "Tolerance and non-discrimination II", Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>208. Address at the working session 6 - "Freedom of religion and belief", Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 2 pages]</p>
Center for Legal Initiatives	<p>344. Freedom Of Association in Azerbaijan: Gaps Analysis of the legislative and practical issues related to NGOs, operating in Azerbaijan, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 12 pages]</p>
Center for Security Policy	<p>613. Intervention by the Center for Security Policy, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>645. Intervention by the Center for Security Policy under Working Session 1, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>614. Intervention by the Center for Security Policy, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>648. Intervention by the Center for Security Policy under Working Session 2, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>615. Intervention by the Center for Security Policy, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>647. Intervention by the Center for Security Policy under Working Session 6, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>616. Intervention by the Center for Security Policy, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>646. Intervention by the Center for Security Policy under Working Session 8, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>
Center for Support of International Protection	<p>503. Report on monitoring of consular services provided by diplomatic missions and consular agencies of the Kyrgyzstan in Russia and Kazakhstan. A situational analysis of the rights of labour migrants working in Russia and Kazakhstan, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 9 pages; Russian, 9 pages]</p>
Centre dâ€™Action Laique	<p>189. CAL Calls for Abolition of Blasphemy Laws, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Centro de Investigaciones en Derechos Humanos (CIDH) PRO IGUAL	<p>138. Pro Igual Intervention on the Rise of Extreme Right Political Parties in the OSCE Region, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>88. Communication on Human Rights Violations of Migrant Women in Spain: Detention in Centros de Internamiento de Extranjeros, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>139. Pro Igual Intervention on the Treatment of Migrant Women in Spanish Detention Centers, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Chernivtsy Regional NGO 'Human Rights'	<p>115. Statement for Working Session 2: Review of the Implementation of Commitments on Promotion of Mutual Respect and Understanding, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>116. Statement for Working Session 3: Review of the Implementation of Commitments on Promotion of Mutual Respect and Understanding, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [Russian, 1 page]</p>
Christian Solidarity International	<p>83. Statement on combating intolerance against religions, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>492. Understanding the other religion - building a tolerant society, Side</p>

Austria	Events (Thursday, 26 September, 13.00). [English, 16 pages]
Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW)	201.Christian Solidarity Worldwide Statement for Working Session 6, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]
Church of Scientology; Human Rights Office	203.Submission by the Church of Scientology- France, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 9 pages]
CIS-EMO- Centre for Monitoring Democratic Processes "Quorum"	<p>386.Ukraine Electoral System Situation Report by International Organization for Elections Observation CIS-EMO, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 20 pages; Russian, 20 pages]</p> <p>405.CIS-EMO - Semenov - Ukrainian election reform, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>428.CIS-EMO - Kochetkov - Reform of Ukrainian electoral legislation, Working Session 13 (Tuesday, 1 October, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>387.Militia vs Ukrainian people - report based on monitoring results of Ukrainian militia illegal actions, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [English, 64 pages; Russian, 64 pages]</p> <p>432.Statement of "Public Diplomacy" Foundation on police reforming in Ukraine, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>466.Statement of Ukrainian Delegation on difficulties in police reforming, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p>
Citizens Advice Bureau "CONSENTIA"	414.Statement, Effective participation of national minorities as a key challenge for inclusive democracy, Citizens advice bureau "Consentia", Latvia, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]
COC Netherlands	122.Violence and non-discrimination of LBT-women, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]
Committee for the Protection of the Rights of Muslims of the Spiritual Administration of Muslims in the Asian part of Russia	521.Religious literature prohibition. Russian readers of the Qur'anic tafsir "Risale-i Nur" by Badiuzzaman Said Nursi prosecution, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [Russian, 5 pages]
Communaute Islamique du Milli Gorus - CIMG EST	47. CIMG EST Statement on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [French, 1 page]
Constantinopolitan Society	<p>26. The Greek Minority in Turkey - Statement, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 8 pages]</p> <p>27. The Greek Minority in Turkey - Recommendations to OSCE/ODIHR, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>36. The Ecumenical Patriarchate in Turkey Recommendation to OSCE/ODIHR, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>37. The Ecumenical Patriarchate in Turkey - Statement, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages]</p>
Coordination des Associations et Particuliers pour la Liberte de	204.Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization and discrimination based on religion or belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 6 pages]

Conscience	
Ecumenical Federation of Costantinopolitans	<p>168.The Imperative Necessity of the Remedy and Reparation towards the Greek Community of Istanbul by the Republic of Turkey, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>202.The necessity of respect of the religious Rights of the Greek-Orthodox Community of Istanbul, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
European Association of Jehovah's Christian Witnesses	<p>217.Religious Freedom Concerns in Armenia, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>218.Religious Freedom Concerns in Azerbaijan, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>219.Religious Freedom Concerns in South Korea, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>220.Religious Freedom Concerns in Turkmenistan, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>221.Religious Freedom Concerns in Kyrgyzstan, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>222.Religious Freedom Concerns in Kazakhstan, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>223.Religious Freedom Concerns in Ukraine, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>224.Religious Freedom Concerns in Uzbekistan, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page; Russian, 1 page]</p> <p>225.Religious Freedom Concerns in Tajikistan, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page; Russian, 1 page]</p>
European Center for Artsakh (EUCFA)	<p>180.National Institutes for Human Rights in Nagorno-Karabakh, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [German, 3 pages]</p>
European Council of Religious Leaders - Religions for Peace	<p>269.Statement by Stein Villumstad, General Secretary of the European Council of Religious Leaders - Religions for Peace (ECRL), Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>240.Statement by Stein Villumstad, General Secretary of the European Council of Religious Leaders â€“ Religions for Peace (ECRL), Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
European Exchange	<p>398.Intervention from European Exchange on behalf of the European Platform for Democratic Elections (EPDE) - Civil Society Election Observers: A Relevant and Important Player in Democratic Elections, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 4 pages]</p>
European Humanist Federation	<p>311.Homophobia Rising in Russia, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
European Muslim Initiative for Social Cohesion (EMISCO)	<p>56. EMISCO Statement for Session 2, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
European Network of National Human Rights Institutions	<p>352.Introducing statement by Debbie Kohner, European Network of National Human Rights Institutions - Working Session 5, Fundamental Freedoms II, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 5 pages]</p>
European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC)	<p>5. European Roma Rights Centre - Czech Republic Country Profile, Side Events (Monday, 23 September, 13.00). [English, 45 pages]</p> <p>6. European Roma Rights Centre - Slovakia Country Profile, Side Events (Monday, 23 September, 13.00). [English, 39 pages]</p>

	<p>7. European Roma Rights Centre - Romania Country Profile, Side Events (Monday, 23 September, 13.00). [English, 36 pages]</p> <p>8. European Roma Rights Centre - Italy Country Profile, Side Events (Monday, 23 September, 13.00). [English, 39 pages]</p> <p>9. European Roma Rights Centre - Serbia Country Profile, Side Events (Monday, 23 September, 13.00). [English, 41 pages]</p> <p>10. European Roma Rights Centre - Macedonia Country Profile, Side Events (Monday, 23 September, 13.00). [English, 43 pages]</p> <p>11. European Roma Rights Centre - Turkey Country Profile, Side Events (Monday, 23 September, 13.00). [English, 28 pages]</p> <p>12. European Roma Rights Centre - Ukraine Country Profile, Side Events (Monday, 23 September, 13.00). [English, 26 pages]</p> <p>13. European Roma Rights Centre - Russian Federation Country Profile, Side Events (Monday, 23 September, 13.00). [English, 26 pages]</p> <p>71. ERRC Brief Intervention - Combating Racism and Discrimination against Roma, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 5 pages]</p>
Federation Europeenne des Centres de Recherche et d'Information sur le Sectarisme (FECRIS)	<p>319.Presentation by Daniele Muller-Tulli, FECRIS Vice Chair, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; French, 6 pages]</p> <p>272.Presentation under Working Session 7, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 2 pages]</p>
Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe	<p>359.Statement by Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe (ABTTF) at Working Session 9, Working Session 9 (Friday, 27 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>
Finnish-Russian Citizen's Forum	<p>453.Statement by the Finnish-Russian Citizen's Forum, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>581.Statement by the Finnish-Russian Citizens' Forum, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Forum 18	<p>207.Freedom of religion or belief - Implementing this fundamental freedom, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>273.Freedom of Religion or Belief-Legal Status and the Freedoms of Assembly and Association, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Forum for Religious Freedom Europe (FOREF)	<p>33. Report on Hungarian Law on Churches and its Implications on Freedom of Religion, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages]</p>
Foundation "CitizenGO"	<p>118.Statement on Equality of opportunity for women and men, including Implementation of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>145.Statement for Working session 4: Fundamental freedoms I, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>483.Statement by under Working session 6: Freedom of religion or belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Foundation of Regional Initiatives	<p>627.Statement of the All-Ukrainian Initiative 'For Peaceful Protest!' regarding the decision of the European Court of Human Rights in case of 'Vyerentsov v. Ukraine', Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>628.Memorandum of the All-Ukrainian Initiative 'For Peaceful Protest!', Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>

	<p>496.Higher Administrative Court of Ukraine can not establish any period of notice for peaceful assemblies, Working Session 9 (Friday, 27 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>497.On prohibition of the Equality March in Kyiv (Ukraine), 2013, Working Session 9 (Friday, 27 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>498.Declaration and Principles of Structure of the Network of protecting and promoting freedom of assembly in OSCE region, Working Session 9 (Friday, 27 September, 15.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p>
Franco-Egyptian Organization for Human Rights	<p>479.Working Session 3: Tolerance and non-discrimination. OSCE Action Plan for Gender Equality, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>353.Egypt: A new Constitution For a New Era, freedom of Conscience, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>478.Working Session 7: Freedom of Religion or Belief, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Freedom House	<p>630.Statement on behalf of Freedom House under Working Session 2, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>137.Turkish Government Should Cease Intimidation of the Media - Statement for Working Session 4, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>631.Statement on behalf of the Institute for Mass Information and Freedom House under Working Session 4, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>176.Protecting Human Rights Defenders, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>633.Issues in Legal Implementation of Freedom of Belief in Kyrgyzstan, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [Russian, 5 pages]</p> <p>632.Deepening Restrictions on Freedom of Association in Kazakhstan, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>357.Turkey: Uphold Freedoms of Assembly and Association in Order to Avoid Polarization, Working Session 9 (Friday, 27 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Freedom Now	<p>160.Statement on Fundamental Freedoms, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Fund for Development of Parliamentarism in Kazakhstan	<p>399.Statement of the Fund for Development of Parliamentarism in Kazakhstan, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p> <p>540.On some aspects of electoral legislation in Kazakhstan, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>541.On some problems of the rule of law and access to justice in the Republic of Kazakhstan, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [Russian, 6 pages]</p>
Gustav Stresemann Stiftung e.V.	<p>234.Intervention on behalf of the Gustav Stresemann Stiftung e.V. - Combating intolerance and discrimination of Muslims, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; German, 2 pages]</p> <p>266.Reply to the Statement of Adil Akhmetov, the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page; German, 1 page]</p> <p>265.Freedom of Expression must be protected from blasphemy laws and other restrictions, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; German, 2 pages]</p> <p>350.Intervention on behalf of the Gustav Stresemann Stiftung e.V. - Freedom of religion in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the</p>

	Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page; German, 1 page]
Human Rights Center, Khujand	491.Statement for the Working Session 15, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 5 pages]
Human Rights Educational Centre, Belarus	280.Statement on freedom of movement, national human rights institutions, the role of civil society in the protection of human rights, and human rights education, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 571.Democratic Election, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [Russian, 1 page]
Human Rights House Foundation	140.Statement of the Human Rights House Foundation under the Working Session 4, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 227.Human Rights House Network 's Program International Law in Advocacy, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages] 347.Statements of the Human Rights House Foundation (HRHF), Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]
Human Rights Movement "Resistance"	121.Introductory Statement by Olga Kostina, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [Russian, 5 pages]
Human Rights Society "Return our names"	391.Statement by Human Rights Society "Return our names", Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [Russian, 10 pages]
Human Rights Without Frontiers	376.Social Hostility in Armenia, France, Georgia and Ukraine, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages] 375.Conscientious Objection in the OSCE Space, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages]
Humanitas Helvetica	191.Statement and Recommendations by Humanitas Helvetica e.V. Zurich, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [German, 2 pages] 312.Statement and recommendations of Humanitas Helvetica e.V. Zurich, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [German, 2 pages] 104.Statement and Recommendations of Humanitas Helvetica e.V. Zurich on Free Media, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [German, 2 pages]
Independent Human Rights Organization of Uzbekistan	400.Statement by Independent Human Rights Organization of Uzbekistan, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [Russian, 14 pages]
Independent TV SAFO	593.Statement of the Independent TV SAFO, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [Russian, 6 pages] 443.Case of Zaid Saidov (Tajikistan), Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]
Information-Educational Institute "Platforma"	476.Brief Summary "Platforma", Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 1 page; Russian, 1 page]
Institut d'Alisher Navoi	31. Discrimination of Uzbeks in South Kyrgyzstan still continues, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 92. Statement for Working Session 2 - Speech 1, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 93. Statement for Working Session 2 - Speech 2, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]

	95. Linguocide and ethnocide - continuation of Uzbek discrimination in Kyrgyzstan, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]
Institute Europeen de Recherches et D'Etudes Des Sciences Sociales et Religieuses (IERES)	120.IERES Statement for Working Session 2, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [French, 3 pages]
Institute for International Research at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences	192.Talking points on the role of civil society in the full implementation of human dimension commitments as an essential element of comprehensive security, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages] 193.Talking points on the freedom of movement and national minorities integration, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]
Institute for Reporters' Freedom and Safety	109.Azerbaijan and the European Union: A Policy Dilemma, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 26 pages] 110.Azerbaijan at the OSCE: Ignoring the Human Dimension, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 18 pages]
International Association of Independent Democrats Against Authoritarian Regimes	181.Freedom of expression, free media and information, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 373.Freedom - not, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages] 573.There are not any rights in the dictatorship, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [Russian, 1 page] 574.Election? No! The game only, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 572.Tortures, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages]
International Center for Journalism MediaNet	161.Speech by the Chairman of the Media Alliance of Kazakhstan Adil Jalilov at Working Session 4, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 1 page]
International Civil Liberties Alliance (ICLA)	603.ICLA Statement under Working session 1: Tolerance and non-discrimination I - Preventing aggressive nationalism, racism and chauvinism, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [French, 2 pages] 289.Statement under Working Session II-Review of the implementation of commitments on promotion of mutual respect and understanding: Combatting intolerance and discrimination against Muslims, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 602.ICLA Statement under Working session 2: Tolerance and non-discrimination II - Combating intolerance and discrimination against Muslims, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [French, 1 page] 601.ICLA Statement under Working Session 4: Fundamental freedoms I, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [French, 1 page] 524.ICLA Statement - Working Session 6: Freedom of religion or belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page] 537.ICLA Statement - Working Session 6: Freedom of religion or belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages] 290.Harassment of political rallies in Germany, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page] 600.ICLA Statement under Working session 9: Freedom of assembly and

	association (continued), Working Session 9 (Friday, 27 September, 15.00). [French, 2 pages]
International Federation for Therapeutic Choice (IFTC)	75. IFTC Intervention on Freedom of Therapeutic Choice, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 6 pages]
International Human Rights Movement "World Without Nazism" - Russia	59. The Statement of the 1st vice-President regarding the growing of aggressive nationalism in Europe, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [Russian, 1 page] 60. Statement of 1st vice-President Valery Engel on Discrimination in Europe, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [Russian, 1 page]
International Partnership for Human Rights (IPHR)	338. Written statement by International Partnership for Human Rights, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 5 pages]
International Verband der Deutschen Kultur (IVDK)	147. Support for National Minorities in Russia, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [Russian, 3 pages; German, 3 pages]
Internet Association of Kazakhstan	183. Speech by Shavkat Sabirov, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 1 page]
Istanbul Foundation for Science and Culture	462. The prohibition of commentary of Quran by Bediuzzaman Said Nursi, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [English, 5 pages]
Kazakh Community Association	361. Statement by Kazakh Community Association at Working Session 5, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 362. Statement by Kazakh Community Association at Working Session 8, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]
Kazakhstan International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law	178. Speech by Yuri Gusakov under Working Session 5, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 490. Theses of the Anastasia Miller report, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages]
Kyrgyz Committee for Human Rights	210. Freedom of Religion in Kyrgyzstan, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [Russian, 4 pages]
Latvian Anti-Fascist Committee	53. Statement of Latvian Antifascist Committee, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [Russian, 1 page] 177. Freedom of Movement, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]
Latvian Human Rights Committee	18. Submission from the Latvian Human Rights Committee, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]
Legal Information Centre for Human Rights, Estonia	322. Statement by the Legal Information Centre for Human Rights, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 3 pages]
Media Rights Institute	629. Severe concern about freedom of expression and media freedom in Azerbaijan, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 5 pages]
Muslim Denomination in	475. Statement to working session 2: Tolerance and non-discrimination II, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages]

Bulgaria	474.Statement to working session 6: Freedom of religion or belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]
Muslim Problems Research Center	214.Recommendations from the Center for Muslim Studies to improve the situation with regard to freedom of religion and belief in Russia 2013, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 477.The situation of freedom of religion and beliefs in Russia 2013, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 3 pages] 582.Recommendations from Muslim Problem Research Center, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]
National Human Rights Movement "Ukraine without nazism"	54. Attention to Ukraine, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [Russian, 1 page] 148.The problem of xenophobia and aggressive nationalism in Ukraine, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 174.The role of the civic society in the democracy formation in Ukraine, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages]
Netherlands Helsinki Committee	341.Balkans Act Now! project, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages] 342.Balkans Act Now! project, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [English, 234 pages] 407.Balkans ACT Now! project, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 408.Balkans ACT Now! project, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [English, 8 pages]
NGO 'Sandidzan'	444.Tolerance and nondiscrimination, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 445.Tolerance and nondiscrimination, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 446.Fundamental freedoms, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 447.Fundamental freedoms, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 448.Freedom of religion, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 465.Rule of law, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 499.Humanitarian issues and other commitments, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]
NGO Russian Ministries (USA)	253.The State of Religious Freedom in Kazakhstan - Session 6, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]
No Borders - Ukraine	32. Statement from Coalition against Discrimination in Ukraine to its obligations in the field of Human Dimension, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages] 52. Statement from No Borders Project and Eastern Partnership Minorities Network regarding developments in the field of minorities' rights in Ukraine, particularly in relation to hate crimes and state response, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages] 308.Statement from the Coalition for Combating Discrimination in Ukraine to the systemic violations of the right to peaceful assembly, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]
NONALI	170.Violence against Women, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [French, 1 page] 184.Freedom of press, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September,

	<p>10.00). [French, 1 page]</p> <p>271.Statement on Freedom of Religion, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [French, 1 page]</p> <p>323.Freedom of Association, Working Session 9 (Friday, 27 September, 15.00). [French, 1 page]</p>
Norwegian Helsinki Committee	<p>258.The need for a principled approach to freedom of religion or belief, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>339.The Russian "foreign agent law" violates OSCE commitments, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>385.Full-fledged democracy under attack in Hungary, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>401.Civil Society Election Observers: A relevant and important player in democratic elections, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>459.Intervention on behalf of the Norwegian Helsinki Committee and the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Republica Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>467.Internet and mobile phone surveillance must be in compliance with human rights provisions on privacy, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Observatory for Religious Tolerance and Freedom 'Giuseppe Dossetti: i Valori'	<p>143.Statement by Dr. Mattia F. Ferrero, Coordinator of the Observatory for Religious Tolerance and Freedom Associazione «Dossetti: i Valori» (Italy), Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>144.Recommendations by Dr. Mattia F. Ferrero, Coordinator of the Observatory for Religious Tolerance and Freedom Associazione «Dossetti: i Valori» (Italy), Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>165.Statement by Dr. Mattia F. Ferrero under Working Session 5, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>166.Recommendations by Dr. Mattia F. Ferrero under Working Session 5, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>333.Statement by Dr. Mattia F. Ferrero, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>334.Statement by Dr. Mattia F. Ferrero under Working Session 7, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>335.Recommendations by Dr. Mattia F. Ferrero under Working Session 7, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians in Europe	<p>80. Intervention on behalf of the Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians by Barbara Vittucci, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>142.Intervention on behalf of the Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians by Barbara Vittucci, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>264.Intervention by Barbara Vittucci - Working Session 4, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>263.Intervention by Barbara Vittucci - Working Session 6, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>268.Intervention by Barbara Vittucci - Session 6: Freedom of Religion, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>
Open Dialog Foundation	<p>469.Statement by Open Dialog Foundation, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p>

	<p>470.Statement by Open Dialog Foundation, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>607.Statement of Open Dialog Foundation under Working session 14: Rule of law I, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>608.Statement on Tatiana Paraskevich case - Working Session 14, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>471.Statement by Open Dialog Foundation, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [Russian, 1 page]</p> <p>609.Statement of Open Dialog Foundation under Working session 15: Rule of law II, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>610.Statement on Tatiana Paraskevich case - Working Session 15, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Open Viewpoint Public Foundation	<p>215.Freedom of Religion or Belief in the Kyrgyz Republic: an overview, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 52 pages; Russian, 55 pages]</p>
Order of St. Andrew the Apostle, USA	<p>58. The Status and Issues of the Greek-Orthodox Minority in Turkey, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 8 pages]</p> <p>206.The Status and Issues of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 6 pages]</p>
Ossigeno per l'Informazione	<p>106.Ossigeno: The Italian Method to Discover New Censorship (part 1), Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>107.Italy: The Oxygen Method (part 2), Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>112.Italy: The Oxygen Method (info), Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>113.Italy: The Oxygen Method (How Ossigeno Works), Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>114.Italy: The Oxygen Method (Statistics), Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages]</p> <p>162.Intimidation of journalists. Italian illness that concerns Europe, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Italian, 2 pages]</p>
Parliament of Non-represented	<p>343.Report, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>383.Ethno-political conflicts and national identity in Latvia. Attachment to the Report, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 18 pages]</p> <p>384.Ethnic conflicts in post-soviet baltic states: content, form, mechanisms of formation, external influences. Attachment to the Report, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 10 pages]</p> <p>418.The positive experience of the Parliament of unrepresented in Latvia, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 3 pages; Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>505.Report, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages; Russian, 2 pages]</p>
Penal Reform International	<p>74. Statement of Penal Reform International Working Session 3: Prevention of violence against women and children, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>464.Statement by Penal Reform International, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Plymouth Brethren Christian Church	<p>325.Threats to religious freedom in England and Wales today, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>

Polish Forum of Young Diplomats (Forum Młodych Dyplomatów)	159. Importance of Public Media in Democratic Societies, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]
Public Foundation "Journalists in Troubles"	<p>91. Statement on Freedom of Speech in Kazakhstan, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>435. Statement, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p> <p>436. A complaint to the UN. Yesergepov Ramazan Takhtarovich vs Republic of Kazakhstan, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [English, 14 pages; Russian, 15 pages]</p> <p>437. Statement, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p> <p>438. Statement, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p> <p>439. Court decision, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [Russian, 9 pages]</p>
Public Fund "Information and Consultative Group "Perspective"	<p>190. Contexts of state-confessional relations in the Republic of Kazakhstan, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 5 pages]</p> <p>195. Expert evidence No.11044, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 11 pages]</p> <p>196. Data about calls to Emergency Ward for 2012 year, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages]</p> <p>197. Talking points for those who prefer and respect Quran, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 12 pages]</p>
Public Group of Initiative Volunteers "Akcent"	304. Freedom of Association in Tajikistan, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [Russian, 5 pages]
Public Union "Kyrgyz Indigo"	<p>16. LGBT Human Rights in Central Asia, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>61. Recommendations to OSCE member states from LGBTIQ organizations in Kyrgyzstan, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>288. Statement under Working Session 6 - Freedom of Assembly and Association by COC Netherlands, Kyrgyz Indigo and Labrys (Kyrgyzstan), Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Regional Centre of Human Rights	<p>134. Statement by the Regional Centre of Human Rights (RCHR) in Ukraine, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>163. Speech by Andrey Androsov, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Religious Information and Advisory Centre "Sana"	307. Contradictions of OSCE standards with spiritual values and traditions in Kazakhstan, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]
Republican Party of Turkmenistan in exile	324. Appeal to the Participants of the 16th annual OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]
Russian Jewish Congress	45. Manifestation of Antisemitism in Russia in years 2012/13, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [Russian, 3 pages]
Russian Public Institute of Electoral Law	406. Preliminary Statement of distance monitoring of German elections, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [Russian, 7 pages]

	<p>426.Distance monitoring of USA presidential elections. Final Report, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [Russian, 505 pages]</p> <p>430.Statement, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [Russian, 5 pages]</p> <p>427.Statement, Working Session 13 (Tuesday, 1 October, 15.00). [Russian, 3 pages]</p>
Salut et Misericorde	<p>641.Statement under Working Session 1, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [French, 1 page]</p> <p>636.Statement under Working Session 2, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [French, 1 page]</p> <p>640.Statement under Working Session 3, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [French, 1 page]</p> <p>639.Statement under Working Session 4, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [French, 1 page]</p> <p>638.Statement under Working Session 5, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [French, 1 page]</p> <p>635.Statement under Working Session 6, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [French, 1 page]</p> <p>637.Statement under Working Session 7, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [French, 1 page]</p>
Save Teghut Civic Initiative	<p>534.Access to Justice for Non-Governmental Organizations as a tool of public participation in administrative decision making, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Set My People Free	<p>245.Statement under Working Session 1: Tolerance and Non-Discrimination, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>230.Set My People Free recommendations, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>425.Intervention by Set My People Free - Working Session 8: Freedom of assembly and association, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Social Democratic Party of Tajikistan	<p>442.Statement of Social Democratic Party of Tajikistan, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>441.Statement on Social Democratic Party of Tajikistan, Working Session 14 (Wednesday, 2 October, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p>
Soteria International	<p>326.Religious and Spiritual Minorities Discrimination in Italy, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [Italian, 2 pages]</p> <p>575.Soteria International Contribution to Working Session 10, Working Session 10 (Monday, 30 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>576.Soteria International Contribution to Working Session 16, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>577.Soteria International Contribution to Working Session 14, Working Session 17 (Thursday, 3 October, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
SUFFA Foundation	<p>495.Regarding to Protection of Human Rights and Fighting Terrorism, Side Events (Wednesday, 2 October, 13.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>494.Religious Literature Prohibition in Russia, Side Events (Wednesday, 2 October, 18.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Support Centre for Victims of Destructive Religious Movements	<p>248.Situation of the religious organization "Grace", Kazakhstan, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [Russian, 11 pages]</p> <p>249.Situation of the religious organization "Grace", Kazakhstan, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p>
Swedish OSCE	<p>241.Statement by Olof Kleberg from the Swedish OSCE Network, Working</p>

Network	Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]
Teskedsorden (The Order of the Teaspoon)	<p>21. The Kungalv Model - Responding to Social Unrest and Intolerance at School, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 12 pages]</p> <p>527. Recommendation from Order of the Teaspoon directed to the OSCE delegation - Working Session 2: Tolerance and non-discrimination II, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
The Values Foundation	<p>242. Need for a greater recognition of the Freedom of Conscience in the challenge to religious communities to legal personality and status and a Recommendation to the OSCE Ministerial Meeting in December, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>337. Need for a recognition of the Freedom of Non-Association throughout the EU and a Recommendation to the OSCE Ministerial Meeting in December, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p>
Tuerkische Gemeinschaft Schweiz (TGS)	262. Proposals for the promotion of religious peace, Working Session 7 (Thursday, 26 September, 15.00). [German, 2 pages]
Turkische Akademiker Dresden	<p>23. Status of Integration Politics and Fight against Nationalism in Germany, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>72. Status of Hate Crimes and Xenophobia in Germany and Recommendations, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Turkische Gemeinschaft Schweiz	49. The role of politics and the media in combating racism, xenophobia and intolerance against Muslims, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [German, 2 pages]
TURSAM- Center for Strategic Studies	<p>205. Freedom of Religions and Tolerance: Experience of Azerbaijan Republic, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 5 pages]</p> <p>300. Freedom of Assembly in Azerbaijan Republic, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>382. Democratic rights and political rights in Azerbaijan Republic, Working Session 11 (Monday, 30 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>451. Presidential Elections in Azerbaijan Republic, Working Session 12 (Tuesday, 1 October, 10.00). [English, 4 pages]</p> <p>452. Fight against terrorism: Experience of Azerbaijan Republic, Working Session 15 (Wednesday, 2 October, 15.00). [English, 9 pages]</p>
Ukrainian Independent Council of Jewish Women	<p>331. Ensuring the rights of Ukrainians in Israel to receive the earned pensions in Ukraine, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p> <p>332. The right to freedom of religion of the Jews in Ukraine, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [Russian, 2 pages]</p>
Ukrainian Independent Maritime Trade Union	<p>500. Unlawful Attack on Ukrainian Citizens in the Azov Sea: Duty for the OSCE to Evaluate the Situation, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [Russian, 7 pages]</p> <p>501. Mass Violation of Labor and Social Rights of Seafarers as Significant Threat for OSCE Human Dimension Development, Working Session 16 (Thursday, 3 October, 10.00). [English, 1 page; Russian, 5 pages]</p>
Western Thrace Minority University Graduates Association	<p>127. Combating intolerance and hate-motivated attacks against the Muslim Turkish Minority of Western Thrace in Greece, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 4 pages]</p> <p>175. Freedom of Minority Media in Western Thrace, Greece, Working Session 4 (Wednesday, 25 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>

	<p>243.Religious liberties and the survival of historical minorities in Europe: The case of Muslim Turks in Western Thrace, Greece, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [English, 5 pages]</p> <p>360.Statement by Western Thrace Minority University Graduates Association at Working Session 9, Working Session 9 (Friday, 27 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>
Womenforfreedom	<p>480.FGM-wilfully harming women is a crime against humanity, Working Session 3 (Tuesday, 24 September, 15.00). [English, 3 pages]</p> <p>377.Womenforfreedom for freedom of religion, Working Session 6 (Thursday, 26 September, 10.00). [German, 1 page]</p>
World Russian People's Council	<p>329.National human rights institutions and the role of civil society in the protection of human rights, Working Session 5 (Wednesday, 25 September, 15.00). [Russian, 4 pages]</p>
World Without Nazism - France	<p>28. About Apartheid Policies in the Baltic States - Commentary Speech, Working Session 1 (Monday, 23 September, 15.00). [English, 2 pages]</p> <p>167.Russophobic Tendencies in Finland - Speech by Dr. Johan Baekman (Finland), Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 1 page]</p> <p>212.Systematic Violations of the Rights of the Child in Finland, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 2 pages]</p>
Wuestenstrom e.V.	<p>44. Statement of the Registered Association "Wuestenstrom" on LGBT rights, Working Session 2 (Tuesday, 24 September, 10.00). [English, 3 pages]</p>
Youth Information Service of Kazakhstan	<p>303.Freedom of Association in Kazakhstan, Working Session 8 (Friday, 27 September, 10.00). [Russian, 1 page]</p>