



Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

**INFORMATION SHEET**  
**REQUEST FOR SHORT-TERM OBSERVERS**

**URGENT**  
**PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**  
**REPUBLIC OF MONTENEGRO**  
**6 April 2008**

At the invitation of the government of the Republic of Montenegro, the OSCE/ODIHR has established an Election Observation Mission (EOM) to observe the presidential election scheduled for 6 April. The mission, headed by Mr. Julian Peel Yates, consists of 11 core team members and 14 long-term observers from 18 OSCE participating States.

The OSCE/ODIHR requests participating States to second **one hundred (100)** short-term observers (STOs) to observe voting, counting and the tabulation of results. STOs will be deployed in multinational teams of two under a deployment plan prepared by the OSCE/ODIHR EOM. In the interests of a balanced representation among participating States in EOMs, the OSCE/ODIHR requests each participating State to nominate no more than 10 percent of the total number of requested STOs. In addition, committed to achieving a better gender balance in its activities, the OSCE/ODIHR encourages OSCE participating States to continue to second female STOs.

The Montenegrin legal framework provides that in the event that no presidential candidate receives an absolute majority of votes cast, a second round shall be held 14 days after the first round (Sunday, 20 April). Should a second round be necessary, it is anticipated that the OSCE/ODIHR will once again request the OSCE participating States to second STOs. In this event, the OSCE/ODIHR will issue an additional Information Sheet and would be grateful if OSCE participating States could identify as many as possible of the same STOs for redeployment.

To meet legal deadlines for the accreditation of observers by the State Election Commission (SEC) and the issuance of visas for the Republic of Montenegro (if required), the OSCE/ODIHR online registration form must be completed and returned to the OSCE/ODIHR **no later than 19 March 2008**.

Seconding States should verify visa requirements for their STOs. If required, visas must be obtained at the nearest Embassy or Consulate of the Republic of Montenegro prior to the arrival of STOs in the country. Only STOs without diplomatic representation of the Republic of Montenegro in their country of residence can be issued an entry visa at the airport upon arrival. No exceptions can be made. Participating States with no diplomatic representation of the Republic of Montenegro should inform the OSCE/ODIHR office in Warsaw in advance, in order for the OSCE/ODIHR to make arrangements for issuance of visas upon arrival. Participating States are legally and financially responsible for all observers they second. In case of emergency, diplomatic representations of seconding States in Montenegro will be contacted immediately.

The working language of the OSCE/ODIHR EOM is English. All briefings, de-briefings and reporting will be conducted in English, and all interpreters will work in the local language/English. Therefore, STOs must have a good working knowledge of English, both written and spoken.

All STOs should arrive in Podgorica on 2 April, at the latest, and depart on 8 April, at the earliest.

Details are provided below. Due to the relatively limited number of regular flights to Podgorica, the OSCE/ODIHR strongly encourages participating States to make early flight bookings.

All observers should strictly abide by the OSCE/ODIHR Code of Conduct and deployment plan prepared by the OSCE/ODIHR EOM.

The security and safety of observers is of the highest priority and will take precedence in OSCE/ODIHR EOM management, including the deployment plan. The observers will receive a security briefing from the EOM upon arrival and will be required to operate in accordance with security guidelines.

A COPY OF THIS INFORMATION SHEET IS AVAILABLE ON THE OSCE/ODIHR WEBSITE AND SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL SECONDED STOs.

The OSCE/ODIHR EOM contact details in Podgorica are as follows:

**II Crnogorskog Bataljona bb, Zagoric  
81000 Podgorica, Republic of Montenegro**  
**Tel: +382 (0)81 273008**  
**Fax: +382 (0)81 273005**  
**E-mail: [office@odih.org.yu](mailto:office@odih.org.yu)**  
**[http://www.osce.org/odih-elections/item\\_12\\_29835.html](http://www.osce.org/odih-elections/item_12_29835.html)**

## **1. Deployment Timetable**

STOs will be deployed according to the following schedule:

Wednesday, 02 April	Latest date for arrival in Podgorica
Thursday, 03 April	STO briefing in Budva
Friday, 04 April	Deployment to the <u>areas of observation</u> (AoO)
Saturday, 05 April	Familiarization with AoO
Sunday, 06 April	<b>Election day</b>
Monday, 07 April	Regional debriefings / Press Conference
Tuesday, 08 April	Return to Budva / Central Debriefing
	STO repatriation

## **2. Logistics**

### **a) Contact details**

All logistical arrangements for STOs will be organized by the OSCE/ODIHR EOM under the direction of the Logistics Expert, **Jane Kareski**.

E-mail: [jane.kareski@odih.org.yu](mailto:jane.kareski@odih.org.yu)  
Mobile: +382 (0)67 656441

### **b) Transportation/Accommodation**

The STOs will be met at the airport in Podgorica and transported to their accommodation. All accommodation will be arranged by the OSCE/ODIHR EOM. **Due to the limited availability of accommodation in Podgorica, Budva and the observation areas, STOs should be aware that**

**observers of the same gender may be required to share rooms with colleagues and that relatively modest conditions may be expected.**

**For safety reasons and to prevent problems with transportation, observers should use the accommodation arranged for them by the OSCE/ODIHR EOM.** However, should any of the observers choose not to stay in the accommodation arranged by the EOM, the seconding States should indicate this while registering on-line. If the OSCE/ODIHR is not notified in advance, STOs or the respective OSCE participating States will be charged for the cost regardless of whether or not they use the accommodation provided. It should also be noted that the OSCE/ODIHR EOM cannot provide in-city transportation for STOs who choose to stay outside their designated accommodation.

The OSCE/ODIHR EOM will also arrange in-country travel to deployment areas and for on-site drivers, cars and interpreters. STOs will start to be deployed on 4 April, by road.

STOs deployed to areas other than Budva will travel back to Budva on Monday, 7 April 2008. Arrangements will again be made by the OSCE/ODIHR EOM for their accommodation in Budva, as well as arrangements for their transportation to the airport in Podgorica.

#### **c) Security**

A memo on security arrangements for the STOs will be provided to the STOs upon their arrival. **STOs who choose not to stay in accommodation provided by the OSCE/ODIHR EOM will not be covered by the mission's security arrangements.**

#### **d) What to bring**

Due to potential modest living and road conditions in some deployment areas, STOs are advised to bring with them the following items:

- torch/flashlight with spare bulb and battery;
- all necessary medication (case specific);
- warm clothing;
- electricity converters (if needed) – Montenegro is 220V, European-style plug.

The OSCE/ODIHR EOM strongly recommends that STOs, while traveling by airplane, put items of immediate need into carry-on luggage (subject to any airport security restrictions), in case of late arrival of luggage to Podgorica.

#### **e) Flights**

Local time in Podgorica is GMT + 1 hour.

**Due to the relatively limited number of regular flights to Podgorica, the OSCE/ODIHR EOM strongly encourages participating States to make early flight bookings.**

### **3. Interpreters and Drivers**

All observers will be organized in multinational teams of two, under a deployment plan prepared by the OSCE/ODIHR EOM. Each team will have an interpreter and car/driver. Even in cases where one team member speaks Montenegrin, it will still be necessary for that team to have an interpreter in order that both members of the team can have full access to complete and equal information as they carry out their observation duties.

#### 4. Costs

It is projected that each STO will incur the following costs, although some STOs may not require the full amount indicated below:

<b>Operational/Transportation Cost</b>	<b>EUR</b>
Airport transfers	45
Transportation (movement to and from STO briefing/de-briefing)	15
In-Country Transportation (to and from deployment area)	65
Lunch on day of briefing; Reception	45
Communication (SIM card/mobile phone use)	30
Briefing costs (Briefing, Debriefing, Briefing pack)	70
<b>Estimated cost to be incurred by ODIHR on behalf of STOs</b>	<b>270</b>
Driver/Car (EUR 30 per day @ 4 days per observer)*	120
Fuel (EUR 15 per day @ 4 days per observer)*	60
Interpreter (EUR 30 per day@4 days per observer)*	120
Faxing of observation forms per observer	15
Accommodation (min 7 nights @ max EUR 100/per night)	700
Meals & Incidentals (approx. EUR 50 per day @ max 8 days)	400
Accommodation and meals for Interpreters and Drivers if needed (EUR 70 per night @ 3 nights per observer)*	210
<b>Costs paid directly by the STOs</b>	<b>1,625</b>
<b>Total cost per STO:</b>	<b>1,895</b>

\* The two members of each STO team will share equally the cost of drivers and interpreters. The amount above therefore represents half of these costs.

The total cost per STO is estimated at **EUR 1,895** (one thousand eight hundred and ninety five Euro) including **EUR 1,625** that participating States should supply to each observer in cash prior to their departure to Podgorica.

**EUR 270** is the projected cost expected to be incurred by the OSCE/ODIHR for each STO. After closure of the OSCE/ODIHR EOM, each seconding participating State will be billed by the ODIHR on the basis of total actual expenses incurred and the number of seconded STOs. Payment instructions will be provided to the seconding States with the final invoice.

Participating States must ensure that STOs arrive with sufficient funds in Euro (EUR) to cover these costs of **EUR 1,625**. STOs should also have sufficient cash in Euro to cover any additional personal expenses, such as telephone calls.

While there are cash machines (ATMs) in Podgorica, they may not be available in other areas of deployment. Hotels outside Podgorica may not accept credit cards. STOs should be prepared to pay hotel bills outside Podgorica in cash and upon check-in. Travellers cheques are not recommended. The local currency in Montenegro is the Euro (EUR).

#### 5. Visas and Insurance

Seconding States should verify visa requirements for their STOs. If required, visas must be obtained at the nearest Embassy or Consulate of the Republic of Montenegro prior to the arrival of STOs in the Republic of Montenegro.

Only STOs without diplomatic representation of the Republic of Montenegro in their country of residence can be issued an entry visa at the airport upon arrival. No exceptions can be made. Participating States with no diplomatic representation of the Republic of Montenegro should inform the OSCE/ODIHR office in Warsaw in advance, in order for the OSCE/ODIHR to make arrangements for issuance of visas upon arrival.

**IMPORTANT:** All STOs should ensure they arrive with adequate health, accidental/life disability, emergency/medical evacuation, property, theft and accident insurance, as this will not be provided by the OSCE/ODIHR. **STOs must have a copy of their insurance policy with them as well as two copies of the data page of their passport.**

## **6. Registration and Accreditation Process**

After receiving this information sheet, all OSCE participating States sending STOs should submit a **list of names (first name, last name, passport number)** of seconded STOs as soon as possible to the OSCE/ODIHR to the attention of Ms. Sylwia Zwolinska or Ms. Anna Krzysztofik.

Ms. Sylwia Zwolinska, Senior Administrative Assistant,  
telephone number: +48 22 520 06 00, ext. 2148; fax number: +48 22 628 69 67  
e-mail: sylwia.zwolinska@odihr.pl

Ms. Anna Krzysztofik, Administrative Assistant,  
telephone number: +48 22 520 06 00, ext. 2147; fax number: +48 22 628 69 67  
e-mail: anna.krzysztofik@odihr.pl

An official cover letter from MFAs or designated recruitment organizations should be sent together with the list of STO names.

After submitting the list of STOs, the sending State should register each of their proposed candidates on-line using the Registration Form at: [http://www.osce.org/odihr-elections/item\\_12\\_29835.html](http://www.osce.org/odihr-elections/item_12_29835.html) under Links. This on-line Registration Form is available as of 14 March 2008.

Before using the on-line registration system, the sending State should contact the OSCE/ODIHR, Ms. Sylwia Zwolinska or Ms. Anna Krzysztofik, and obtain a username and a password. These parameters are necessary in order to enter the registration system.

All sending States/organizations should be aware that after the registration deadline, they will not be able to modify, complete or withdraw the participation of a short-term observer on-line. They should contact Ms. Sylwia Zwolinska or Ms. Anna Krzysztofik in the OSCE/ODIHR Election Department to make any changes, if necessary.

**IN ORDER TO ENSURE ALL LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS, UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL THE OSCE/ODIHR ACCEPT ANY ON-LINE APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION AFTER 19 MARCH 2008.**

## **7. Other Information**

Please note that all OSCE/ODIHR election observation final reports, preliminary statements, election laws, and reviews of election laws are available at the OSCE/ODIHR website: [www.osce.org/odihr](http://www.osce.org/odihr)

All STOs are asked to familiarize themselves with the OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Handbook, available online at [www.osce.org/publications/odihr/2005/04/14004\\_240\\_en.pdf](http://www.osce.org/publications/odihr/2005/04/14004_240_en.pdf)

Specific information on the EOM to the Republic of Montenegro is available on the EOM website: [http://www.osce.org/odihr-elections/item\\_12\\_29835.html](http://www.osce.org/odihr-elections/item_12_29835.html)

STOs will be e-mailed a copy of the EOM Briefing Book for the Republic of Montenegro before their departure to the Republic of Montenegro.

**POST DESCRIPTION**  
**SHORT-TERM OBSERVERS (STOs)**  
**Presidential Election**  
**Republic of Montenegro**  
**06 April 2008**

**Post title: Short-Term Observer (STO)**

**Title of Supervisor:** Head of OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission (EOM)

STOs are deployed throughout the country in multinational two person teams to assess the close of the campaign, voting, counting and the tabulation of results. Participating States are urged to second STOs with relevant election experience and inter-personal skills.

STOs must adhere to the OSCE/ODIHR Observer Code of Conduct as outlined in the OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Handbook, to the EOM deployment plan, to security instructions, and national laws.

**REQUIREMENTS**

1. Experience of election administration/observation and/or public administration and/or civil society organizations.
2. English language proficiency.
3. Excellent health.
4. Willingness to work long hours in conditions which are sometimes difficult.
5. Ability to work in a team and deal with difficult situations in a positive manner.
6. Local language ability is an asset.

Knowledge of the country and surrounding region is desirable but not essential. STOs must be prepared to read briefing materials, attend all briefing and de-briefing sessions, understand procedural instructions and complete evaluation forms accurately, all in English. STOs must not have any concurrent commitments that could produce a conflict of interest with their participation in the OSCE/ODIHR EOM.

**The OSCE/ODIHR reserves the right to reject any candidate who is not capable of undertaking his/her activities in an impartial and objective manner, and to withdraw accreditation in case of any breach of the OSCE/ODIHR Code of Conduct.**

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Accreditation**

STOs require accreditation from the relevant authority before they can undertake their observer duties. The OSCE/ODIHR EOM will forward the names of STOs to the relevant authority in advance to facilitate the accreditation process.

## **Briefing**

Before deployment, STOs will be provided with an in-depth briefing, which will include:

- code of conduct;
- legislative framework;
- overview of the country, the campaign and the media situation;
- voting, counting and tabulation procedures;
- security situation; and
- logistical arrangements.

STOs will also be provided with briefing materials which will include all necessary electoral and logistical information, as well as reporting forms to complete during the observation of voting, counting, and vote tabulation.

STOs are asked to familiarize themselves with the OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Handbook, available online at [www.osce.org/publications/odihr/2005/04/14004\\_240\\_en.pdf](http://www.osce.org/publications/odihr/2005/04/14004_240_en.pdf)

## **Deployment**

The OSCE/ODIHR EOM will develop a deployment plan in co-operation with other international observation groups to avoid duplication of observation efforts. All STOs should abide strictly by the deployment plan and security instructions. STOs should not request special treatment with regard to deployment locations.

## **De-briefing**

A de-briefing for STOs will be organized after the election. This will provide an opportunity for STOs to discuss their major findings and share their conclusions with other observers and OSCE/ODIHR EOM members. The EOM will hold a press conference on the day after the elections to present its preliminary findings and conclusions. A comprehensive Final Report will be issued by the OSCE/ODIHR approximately two months after the election process has been completed, taking into account the findings of all EOM observers.



## **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OSCE/ODIHR OBSERVERS**

- Observers will maintain strict impartiality in the conduct of their duties and will, at no time, publicly express or exhibit any bias or preference in relation to national authorities, parties, candidates, or with reference to any issues in contention in the election process.
- Observers will undertake their duties in an unobtrusive manner and will not interfere in the electoral process. Observers may raise questions with election officials and bring irregularities to their attention, but they must not give instructions or countermand their decisions.
- Observers will remain on duty throughout election day, including observation of the vote count and, if instructed, the next stage of tabulation.
- Observers will base all conclusions on their personal observations or on clear and convincing facts or evidence.
- Observers will not make any comments to the media on the electoral process or on the substance of their observations, and any comment to the media will be limited to general information about the observation mission and the role of the observers.
- Observers will not take any unnecessary or undue risks. Each observer's personal safety overrides all other considerations.
- Observers will carry any prescribed identification issued by the host government or election commission and will identify themselves to any authority upon request.
- Observers will comply with all national laws and regulations.
- Observers will exhibit the highest levels of personal discretion and professional behaviour at all times.
- Observers will attend all required mission briefings and debriefings and adhere to the deployment plan and all other instructions provided by the OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission.