

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe is

**THE WORLD'S LARGEST REGIONAL
SECURITY ORGANIZATION**

working to ensure peace, democracy and stability for more than a billion people between Vancouver and Vladivostock.

Cover photo: OSCE monitors prepare for deployment in Kyiv, Ukraine, 6 April 2014.

Photo by OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine.

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MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

This year has undoubtedly been one of the most challenging in the history of the OSCE. Confronted with one of the most serious crises of European security since the end of the Cold War, the Organization responded quickly and effectively. Our inclusive platform for dialogue and our flexible toolbox enabled us to take rapid action. We quickly established two new civilian missions in Ukraine and the Russian Federation to provide objective monitoring of, and reporting on, the situation on the ground and to support efforts to restore peace and stability. But in truth, the entire Organization mobilized in response to the crisis in and around Ukraine, including the Institutions, the Secretariat, the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, as well as many other OSCE field presences.

This crisis has affected the entire OSCE agenda, but especially the protracted conflicts, which continue to require OSCE engagement. At the same time, we had to respond to broader threats to security in the OSCE area, including instability in neighbouring regions and the growing risk from transnational threats, including terrorism. These complex, cross-dimensional threats are often inter-connected, so we are strengthening our relationships with the Mediterranean and Asian Partners for Co-operation on many issues on our agenda.

In 2014, we marked the 20th anniversary of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, a document that could serve as a model for other regions. It was also the 10th anniversary of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, and we took stock of progress in promoting equal opportunities for women

and men. We also celebrated 20 years of the Mediterranean Contact Group, a long-standing partnership that continues to bear fruit in many areas of engagement. And on the eve of the 20th anniversary of the Dayton Peace Agreement in 2015, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia took ownership of regional arms control in a special ceremony at the Basel Ministerial Council.

The 2014 Ministerial Council, which drew record attendance by ministers, testified to the renewed interest and reliance on the OSCE. A number of important decisions were taken that will have a significant impact on our work, including our efforts to counter terrorism, mitigate the risk from natural disasters, tackle corruption, further promote gender equality and prevent domestic violence.

In 2014, we continued to increase our engagement with civil society and academia. OSCE Security Days once again addressed highly topical issues, including how regional organizations can better co-operate under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, the linkages between water and security, and approaches to revitalizing conventional arms control and confidence- and security-building measures. The OSCE Academic Network of think tanks and research institutes contributed valuable input to our security dialogue through its studies on threat perceptions and the future of OSCE field operations.

The current crisis is symptomatic of a broader challenge to the European security system. Signals of a deeper crisis have been evident for some time – a growing East-West divide, divergent security perceptions and priorities, decreasing trust and confidence. Addressing this deeper crisis will necessarily require serious efforts to rebuild consensus around security and co-operation in Europe as a shared concern and a common responsibility. I believe that the Helsinki+40 Process can contribute to the discussion on ways to reconsolidate European security and further develop the role of the OSCE.

Next year's anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act offers a timely opportunity for participating States to reaffirm their commitments while considering new approaches to security in the OSCE area. Looking back on the OSCE's own history, 40 years ago our region was even more deeply divided than it is today, yet leaders from both sides sat together at the same table and engaged in dialogue to prevent a new war. I hope that the participating States will make full use of the OSCE's inclusive platform for dialogue and joint action to defuse the current crisis and direct their efforts towards rebuilding trust and confidence.

In 2014, the OSCE once again demonstrated that we can react swiftly in times of crisis if we have the support of the participating States. Thanks to the leadership of the Swiss Chairmanship, we managed to navigate a very challenging course. We will continue to face challenges in 2015, and I look forward to working with the incoming Serbian Chairmanship to address them.

In closing, I wish to thank the talented and dedicated staff of the OSCE Secretariat, Institutions and Field Operations, who, irrespective of challenging political and financial circumstances, remain committed to the Organization's important and ambitious goal – promoting security and stability throughout the OSCE region.



Lamberto Zannier
OSCE Secretary General
Vienna, 2014

The many security-related activities of the OSCE

The OSCE's comprehensive security concept — covering the politico-military, economic-environmental and human dimensions — stems from the 1975 Helsinki Final Act. Forty years later, the principles and the promises of Helsinki remain central to the work of the OSCE. Throughout this report, look for these icons to learn more about what the OSCE is doing to promote comprehensive security.

Media freedom and development

Arms control

National minority issues

Economic activities

Elections

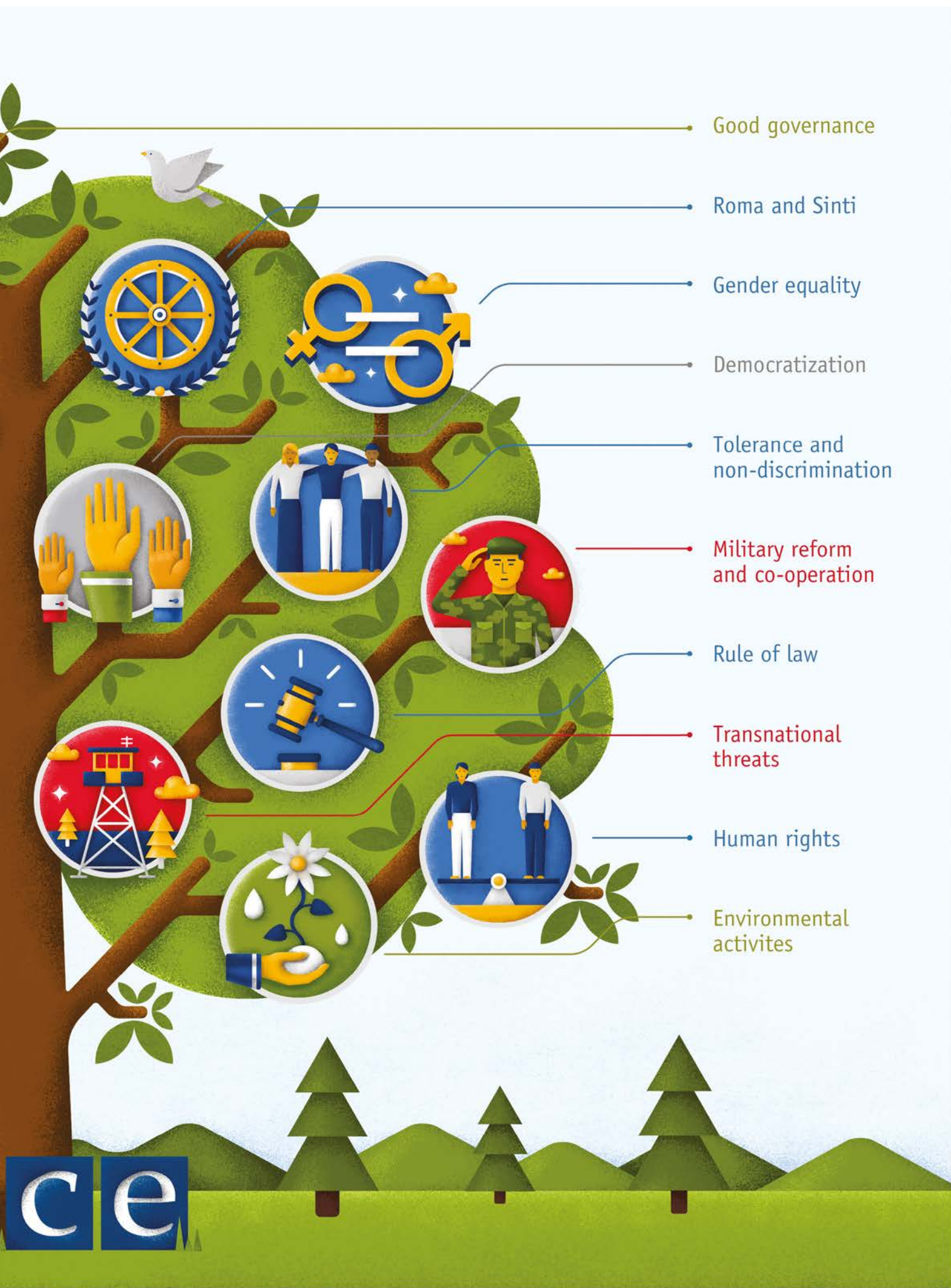
Conflict prevention and resolution

Education

Combating human trafficking



● Politico-Military dimension
 ● Economic and Environmental dimension
 ● Human dimension
 ● Cross-dimensional



Good governance

Roma and Sinti

Gender equality

Democratization

Tolerance and non-discrimination

Military reform and co-operation

Rule of law

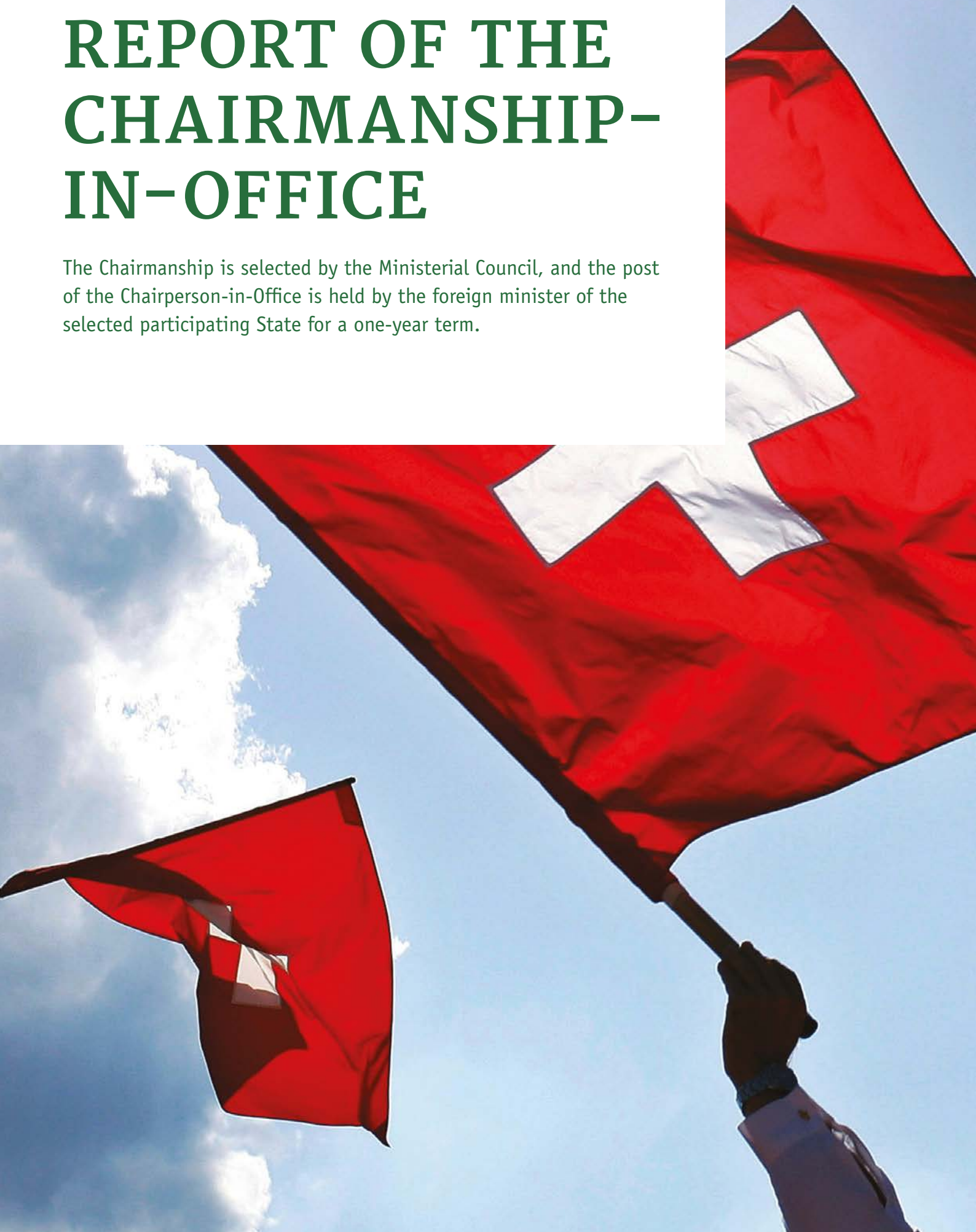
Transnational threats

Human rights

Environmental activities

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP- IN-OFFICE

The Chairmanship is selected by the Ministerial Council, and the post of the Chairperson-in-Office is held by the foreign minister of the selected participating State for a one-year term.



The Swiss Stimulus

www.osce.org/cio

A CLEAR COMMITMENT TO THE OSCE'S CAPACITY TO ACT AND SERVE AS A PLATFORM FOR DIALOGUE

On the first day of the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship, President of the Swiss Confederation and Foreign Minister Didier Burkhalter laid out the three key objectives for the year: fostering security and stability, improving people's lives, and strengthening the OSCE's capacity to act.

Amid regional challenges, the Swiss kept all participating States at the table and unified in support of using the OSCE's unique security platform to restore peace and stability. Despite intense efforts to find a political solution to the conflict in Ukraine, the Swiss Chair also managed to focus successfully on implementing the 10 priorities it had set for the year-long chairmanship.

Switzerland had chaired the OSCE once before, in 1996.




"We must not become complacent about peace but rather construct and secure it through constant dialogue, confidence-building and collective efforts to boost mutual understanding."



Didier Burkhalter
Foreign Minister of Switzerland and
OSCE Chairperson-in-Office



Didier Burkhalter, OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, at a press conference following a meeting of the Permanent Council in Vienna, 16 January 2014.

SWISS CHAIRMANSHIP PRIORITIES

Values	 SECURITY	 FREEDOM	 RESPONSIBILITY
Objectives	Fostering security and stability	Improving people’s lives	Strengthening the OSCE’s capacity to act
Priorities	Reconciliation and co-operation in the Western Balkans	Implementation of commitments in the human dimension	Further developing the OSCE (Helsinki +40)
	Dialogue and confidence-building in the South Caucasus	More reliable management of natural disasters	Strengthening of mediation capacities
	Modernization of the Vienna Document and exchange of ideas on conventional arms control	Combating transnational threats (terrorism, cyber domain)	Enhanced involvement of civil society and in particular of young people
	Strengthening of security sector governance		

FROM VANCOUVER TO VLADIVOSTOK  **57** Participating States  **11** Partners for Co-operation

UKRAINE

Swift crisis diplomacy by the Swiss Chairmanship catapulted the OSCE to the forefront of responses to the crisis in and around Ukraine. On 24 February, President Burkhalter, speaking at the United Nations Security Council, laid out a clear vision of what needed to occur to restore peace and stability in and around Ukraine. His plan was not only bold, but was largely achieved within a matter of weeks. (See *Timeline of a Crisis*, page 10.)

First, he proposed establishing an international contact group to spur dialogue between Kyiv and Moscow.

Second, he supported the conduct of an OSCE needs-assessment mission and encouraged the Ukrainian leaders to invite ODIHR to send a Human Rights Assessment Mission to the country.

Third, he appointed a top Swiss diplomat with broad OSCE experience, Ambassador Tim Guldemann, as his personal envoy on Ukraine.

Fourth, Chairperson-in-Office Burkhalter called on the Ukrainian authorities to issue an early invitation for an ODIHR election observation mission for the May presidential elections.

Throughout March, Switzerland co-ordinated talks towards the creation of an OSCE field operation in Ukraine. On 21 March, the mandate of the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM) was adopted by a consensus decision of the 57 participating States. In April, when the foreign ministers of Ukraine, the Russian Federation, the United States and the EU High Representative on Foreign Affairs and Security Policy met in Geneva, they concluded that the SMM should assist the Ukrainian authorities and local communities with the implementation of the measures agreed to in the Geneva Statement. When the Geneva agreement stalled, the Swiss developed a road map to get the sides back on track before the May presidential election in Ukraine.

“The participating States proved the OSCE and its consensus-based decision-making can be powerful and flexible in times of crisis. It took patience and compromise, but in the end we have the Special Monitoring Mission.”

Ambassador Thomas Greminger
 Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the OSCE
 and Chair of the Permanent Council



Ambassador **Thomas Greninger**, Chair of the Permanent Council and Representative of Switzerland to the OSCE, presides over a meeting of the Permanent Council in Vienna on 30 April.

PERMANENT COUNCIL AS DIALOGUE PLATFORM

As part of its attempt to strengthen the OSCE's capacity to act, the Swiss Chairmanship was successful in its effort to make Permanent Council meetings more interactive, turning it into a real platform for dialogue for its 57 participating States. The Permanent Council met 53 times in 2014, including in special sessions. Additionally, the Forum for Security Co-operation and the Permanent Council held six joint meetings. Many high-level speakers (ministers from participating States, heads of international organizations, etc.) were invited to share their views with the OSCE. To foster dialogue between participating States, 332 political dialogues sessions were conducted by the Chairmanship throughout the year.

More information on the OSCE's role in the crisis in and around Ukraine can be found throughout this report, particularly in the following sections:

- Special Monitoring Mission, p. 70
- Observer Mission at the Russian Checkpoints, p. 76
- Forum for Security and Co-operation, p. 26
- Conflict Prevention Centre, p. 34



PERSONAL ENVOY ON UKRAINE

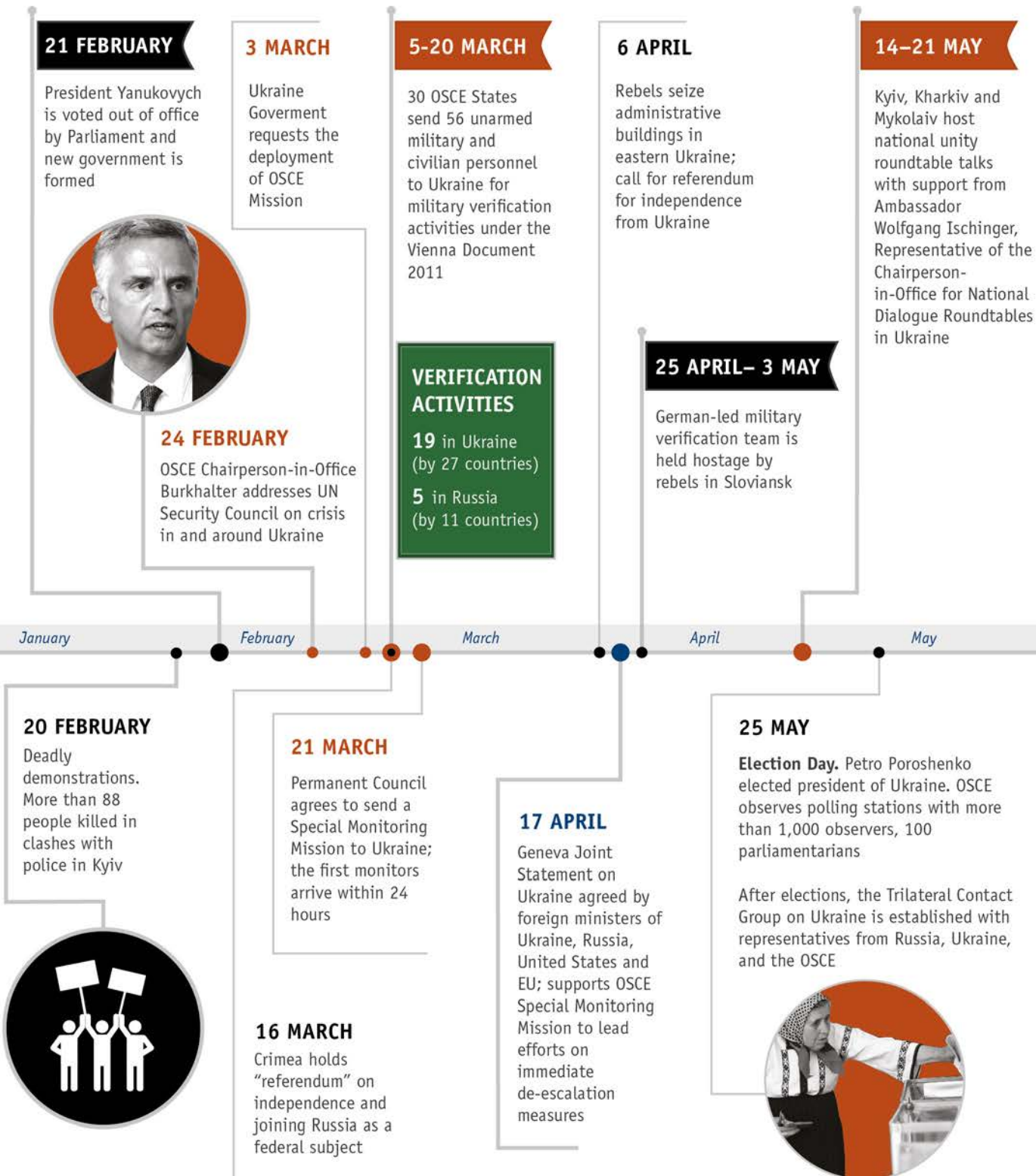
AMBASSADOR TIM GULDIMANN
PERSONAL ENVOY OF THE OSCE
CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE ON
UKRAINE

In February, after the deadly events on Kyiv's Independence Square, the Chairperson-in-Office appointed Ambassador Tim Guldemann as his Personal Envoy on Ukraine. In the first half of the year, Ambassador Guldemann visited Kyiv and other parts of the country, including the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the eastern regions. He held consultations with a number of participating States and informed the Chairperson-in-Office and the Permanent Council accordingly. His efforts contributed to preparing the ground for the establishment of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine.

TIMELINE OF A CRISIS

Key dates and OSCE actions in response to the crisis in and around Ukraine.

- OSCE actions
- Developments in Ukraine
- International developments



26 MAY – 28 JUNE

Two teams of four OSCE SMM monitors each are held hostage by rebels in Donetsk and Luhansk regions

8 JUNE

OSCE Chair-in-Office appoints Ambassador Heidi Tagliavini as representative to Trilateral Contact Group; the first round of talks are held between Ukraine and Russia with the aim of ending violence in Ukraine

19 JUNE

Ukrainian President Poroshenko tables 14-point peace plan to deescalate tensions

6 JUNE

First discussions on Ukraine in Normandy Format, including France, Germany, Russia, Ukraine

2 JULY

Berlin declaration of German, French, Ukrainian, Russian foreign ministers calls for OSCE to deploy observers at two Russian checkpoints, Gukovo and Donetsk (beyond the control of Ukrainian authorities)



2 JULY

At Annual Session in Baku, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly adopts resolutions related to crisis in and around Ukraine; creates Interparliamentary Liaison Group on Ukraine aimed at de-escalation; Russian and Ukrainian MPs meet on the sidelines



24 JULY

OSCE Permanent Council adopts decision on deployment of Border Observer Mission

17 JULY

Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 shot down in eastern Ukraine, killing all 298 people on board. SMM visits site and begins facilitating access for experts to investigate and recover bodies

5 SEPTEMBER

Arrangements for a ceasefire and OSCE monitoring are signed by members of Trilateral Contact Group and representatives of Donetsk and Luhansk regions in Minsk Protocol



23 OCTOBER

Unarmed/unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) begin monitoring flights

19 SEPTEMBER

After OSCE-mediated talks, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, and representatives of certain districts of Donetsk and Luhansk sign the Minsk Memorandum to support a ceasefire

26 OCTOBER

Parliamentary elections held. OSCE observes voting with 600 observers

31 DECEMBER

Mission has 361 monitors from 42 participating States by year end



June

July

August

September

October

November

December

TACKLING NEW THREATS TO SECURITY



COUNTERING TERRORISM

Under the Swiss Chairmanship, the OSCE has become more active in the field of countering terrorism. Switzerland organized an OSCE-wide conference on countering terrorism in April in Interlaken, bringing together senior

counter-terrorism officials from participating States, the United Nations, INTERPOL and the Global Counterterrorism Forum. The conference produced the “Interlaken Chairmanship recommendations” focused on foreign terrorist fighters and preventing kidnapping for ransom, calling for the safe release of hostages while applying a “non-ransom policy”. These recommendations identified a series of concrete measures aimed at enhancing international co-operation, which later formed the basis for two ministerial declarations adopted in Basel.

SWISS FURTHER OSCE’S WORK IN CYBER SECURITY

On 7 November, the Swiss Chairmanship organized a conference on cyber security in Vienna. Participants discussed confidence-building measures that can reduce the risk of cyber conflict. The Chairmanship called for a strategic approach with the OSCE promoting regional knowledge sharing, mapping capacities, or creating a pool of trainers to help governments to enhance the resilience of their information and communications technology.

ENHANCING SECURITY SECTOR GOVERNANCE AND REFORM

The Swiss and the incoming Serbian Chair (2015) tasked the OSCE executive structures to develop internal guidelines to make security sector governance and reform activities more coherent, including activities like democratic control of the military, border management, counter-terrorism, combating trafficking, and police reform. A conference organized jointly by the UN and the OSCE on “Enhancing OSCE-UN Collaboration on Security Sector Governance and Reform” in July marked the starting point of a new era of co-operation with the UN on this topic.



TRILATERAL CONTACT GROUP

AMBASSADOR HEIDI TAGLIAVINI,
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
OSCE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE TO
THE TRILATERAL CONTACT GROUP
(UKRAINE)

In early June, OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Didier Burkhalter appointed Ambassador Heidi Tagliavini as his Special Representative to the Trilateral Contact Group, comprised of Ukraine, the Russian Federation and the OSCE. The group focused its efforts on facilitating a peace plan for eastern Ukraine, securing the Ukraine-Russia border, and promoting inclusive political dialogue.

This work led to direct consultations between the Trilateral Contact Group and representatives of armed groups from Donetsk and Luhansk simultaneously, with a unilateral ceasefire declared by President Petro Poroshenko for 20-30 June. After the downing of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 on 17 July in eastern Ukraine, the Trilateral Contact Group, in close collaboration with the SMM, facilitated a local ceasefire and securing safe access of international experts to the crash site.

In September, Ambassador Tagliavini co-signed the Minsk Protocol and Minsk Memorandum with representatives of Ukraine and the Russian Federation, and representatives of armed groups from Donetsk and Luhansk, providing key elements for a peaceful settlement in eastern Ukraine. These arrangements led to the cessation of major military operations and the release of over 2,000 detainees on both sides. However, the implementation of the Minsk Agreements remained elusive and the ceasefire continued to be violated. The Special Representative therefore focused efforts on strengthening the implementation of the Minsk Agreements. As the cold of winter arrived in December, she also advocated for the urgent need to address the deteriorating humanitarian situation in and around the conflict zone, aiming at an organized delivery of humanitarian aid by the Government of Ukraine and international donors.

16 JANUARY
Chairperson-in-Office lays out
2014 Swiss priorities

14-18 JANUARY
Youth Ambassadors participate
in Model OSCE

24 FEBRUARY
Chairperson-in-Office
speaks at United Nations
Security Council

17-18 FEBRUARY
“Not for Sale” anti-human trafficking conference

21 MARCH
Permanent Council establishes Special Monitoring
Mission to Ukraine

28-29 APRIL
Counter-Terrorism
Conference

VIENNA

NEW YORK

VIENNA

INTERLAKEN



STANDING UP FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

The Swiss Chairmanship included a human rights element into much of its work in 2014, particularly by strengthening the implementation of commitments in the Human Dimension and by promoting the active participation of civil society.

The Swiss organized a major event in Berne in June entitled “The OSCE and Human Rights Defenders: The Budapest Document 20 Years On” with support from the incoming Serbian OSCE Chairmanship. The event concluded with calls for participating States to implement their commitments to protect human rights defenders and increase their efforts to bring about a safe and enabling environment for human rights defenders to carry out their vital work without fear.

Working with Germany, the Chairmanship gathered more than 500 political leaders, governmental officials and civil society representatives from across the OSCE region in Berlin for a conference to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the OSCE’s Berlin Declaration on Anti-Semitism and to discuss challenges posed by contemporary anti-Semitism. This led to a Ministerial Declaration on enhancing efforts to combat anti-Semitism that was adopted in Basel in December 2014.

After 10 years the Swiss Chairmanship brought the subject of torture prevention back to the OSCE agenda. Numerous events, including a Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting, as well as a meeting of national prevention mechanisms, were devoted to the topic and followed by the release of a CiO’s perception paper on the OSCE’s way forward. Convinced of the strategic role of the OSCE in attempts to eradicate torture, the Chairperson-in-Office laid the groundwork for future sustainable OSCE engagement, including civil society in all steps along the way.

Strengthening the overall participation of civil society in the activities of the OSCE was an overarching goal of the Swiss Chairmanship. It worked on enhancing the role and the voice of civil society in OSCE thematic activities because security, freedom and human rights are issues that concern everyone. Four regional workshops were organized to discuss the prevention of torture and to formulate concrete recommendations on topics such as tolerance and non-discrimination. These recommendations were adopted by a parallel civil society conference in Basel and handed over to the Chairperson-in-Office as part of the Swiss Chairmanship’s broader thematic work to improve people’s lives.

UKRAINE TOPS ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE

The 2014 Annual Security Review Conference in June focused heavily on the situation in and around Ukraine with participants hearing from newly appointed Foreign Minister of Ukraine Pavlo Klimkin and Ambassador Heidi Tagliavini, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office to the Trilateral Contact Group. The Chairmanship highlighted clear violations of the fundamental principles of the Helsinki Final Act, including the inviolability of frontiers and the peaceful settlement of disputes, and called for strengthening the OSCE “as an anchor for co-operative security” to assist in peacefully resolving the crisis.



*OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and Head of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs **Didier Burkhalter** and Ukrainian Foreign Minister **Pavlo Klimkin** met in Vienna in July during the Annual OSCE Security Review Conference.
Photo by Jonathan Perfect.*

20-21 MAY
2nd Preparatory Meeting of the Economic and Environmental Forum

8-10 JUNE
OSCE and Human Rights Defenders: The Budapest Document 20 Years On

8-10 JULY
Youth Ambassadors participate in Model OSCE

11-13 JULY
First OSCE Gender Review Conference

MONTREUX

BERNE

BELGRADE

VIENNA



NAGORNO-KARABAKH: 20 YEARS SINCE THE CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT

The active phase of the Nagorno-Karabakh war ended 20 years ago this year with a ceasefire agreement that remains in force. The OSCE is mandated to support the peace negotiations and set up what is called the Minsk Process. It consists of three separate entities, all of whom report to the Chairperson-in-Office (CiO).

THREE PARTS TO PEACE

THE MINSK GROUP

Co-chaired by France, the Russian Federation, and the United States, the Minsk Group includes 12 countries that are mandated to oversee the peace negotiations.



THE HIGH-LEVEL PLANNING GROUP

Military experts who develop plans for the deployment of a peacekeeping operation in support of a future peace agreement.



THE OFFICE OF THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CIO

Six international staff in the region headed by the Personal Representative who visit the line of contact to monitor the ceasefire and provide regular reports to the CiO and the Co-chairs and liaise with international organizations. The Personal Representative also maintains high-level contacts with all sides and is invited to the negotiations at all levels.

PLANNING FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF PEACE

THE HIGH-LEVEL PLANNING GROUP

www.osce.org/hlpg

In 2014, the High-Level Planning Group intensified its co-operation with the Minsk Group, which spearheads the OSCE's efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Launched in 1994, the High-Level Planning Group is mandated to make recommendations to the Chairperson-in-Office on a multinational peacekeeping force for the conflict area.

Military officers from the High-Level Planning Group participated in four monitoring exercises on the line of contact in 2014, organized by Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk, the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on the conflict dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference. The Head of the High-Level Planning Group, Col. Markus Widmer, and his team held a three-day tabletop exercise in Vienna to improve OSCE planning documents, and visited the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations in New York to discuss current trends and experiences in peacekeeping and potential co-operation. On 13 November, for the first time in years, the High-Level Planning Group, at the request of the Chairmanship, reported on its activities to the Permanent Council.



Col. Markus Widmer (left) visits the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations in New York.

10-12 SEPTEMBER

Concluding Meeting of the Economic and Environmental Forum

22 SEPTEMBER - 3 OCTOBER

Human Dimension Implementation Meeting

3-5 OCTOBER

Chairperson-in-Office addresses OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Autumn Meeting

9 OCTOBER

Reinforced Ambassadorial retreat

PRAGUE

WARSAW

GENEVA

LANGENLOIS

STRIVING FOR PEACE AMID RISING TENSIONS

AMBASSADOR ANDRZEJ KASPRZYK PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OSCE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE ON THE CONFLICT DEALT WITH BY THE MINSK CONFERENCE

www.osce.org/prcio

Throughout 2014, the authorities reported violations of the ceasefire agreement on an almost daily basis. The spikes in violence this year and unprecedented casualties served as a reminder of how vulnerable the region, its people, and the peace process are to the sudden and rapid escalation of violence.

Despite this rise in tension, the Office of the Personal Representative continued monitoring exercises throughout the year, including 17 times on the line of contact and seven times on the border. As the only current operational military confidence-building measure, the monitoring exercises provide a unique opportunity for local commanders to speak to each other via the OSCE's communications equipment and provide first-hand information about the situation on the front lines.

Throughout 2014, the Personal Representative and his team worked to de-escalate tensions. They liaised with key interlocutors on all sides to establish the facts of reported ceasefire violations and kept the Chairperson-in-Office and the Minsk Group Co-chairs up to date with the latest developments and insights.

The Office of the Personal Representative also provided logistical support, which enabled other key stakeholders to visit the region. In 2014, officers of the High-Level Planning Group joined the Personal Representative's team on four monitoring exercises. In addition, the Office of the Personal Representative supported the Minsk Group Co-chairs' visits to the region in February and July, facilitated crossings for them on the line of contact in May and on the border in October, and supported the Chairperson-in-Office's visit to the region in June.

"In a year that saw the most serious violence in over 20 years since the ceasefire agreement, I would like to stress again the volatility of the situation on the front lines of this conflict where soldiers – and civilians – perpetually live under threat. The office of the Personal Representative is working in very difficult circumstances – but in a very tangible way – to reduce tensions."

Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk
Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office for the
Conflict Dealt with by the Minsk Conference

16-18 OCTOBER
Chairperson-in-Office
addresses Summit of the
Asia-Europe Meeting

27-28 OCTOBER
Mediterranean Conference

13 NOVEMBER
Anti-Semitism Conference

4-5 DECEMBER
21st OSCE Ministerial Council

MILAN

NEUM

BERLIN

BASEL

PROMOTING RECONCILIATION AND REGIONAL CO-OPERATION IN SOUTH-EAST EUROPE

AMBASSADOR GÉRARD STOUDMANN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR SOUTH-EAST EUROPE

The Chairmanship, with the support of its Special Representative for the region, Ambassador Gérard Stoudmann, promoted reconciliation efforts and encouraged regional co-operation in South-East Europe.

In April, the Chairperson-in-Office paid a visit to Serbia, Albania and Kosovo¹, during which he lent the OSCE's support to the implementation of the 2013 agreement on the normalization of relations between Belgrade and Pristina.

Ambassador Stoudmann, in consultation with the European Union and Serbia, promoted the deployment of OSCE

activities in the north of Kosovo. Subsequent to the OSCE-facilitated local and parliamentary elections-organized for the first time throughout the entire territory of Kosovo, and co-funded by the Swiss Chairmanship-Ambassador Stoudman further encouraged the development of the capacities of the new legitimately elected local authorities and the integration of Serbian police officers in the Kosovo police force.

In August, Ambassador Stoudmann facilitated the signing of a declaration between Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, and Serbia on the role of the States in addressing the issue of persons missing due to armed conflict and human rights abuses, an initiative of the International Commission on Missing Persons aimed at further improving relations among states and citizens.

SOUTH CAUCASUS

AMBASSADOR ANGELO GNÄDINGER SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE SOUTH CAUCASUS

Throughout the year, the Special Representative of the Swiss OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for the South Caucasus, Ambassador Angelo Gnädinger, co-chaired four rounds of the Geneva International Discussions with representatives from the European Union and the United Nations and 10 meetings of the related Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM) in Ergneti (Georgia), with the Head of the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia.

The Geneva Discussions, the Ergneti IPRM, and the hotlines between security actors on the ground proved to be instrumental in ensuring that the security situation along both administrative boundary lines remained generally calm and stable despite a challenging geopolitical environment.

Ambassador Gnädinger worked on practical solutions for conflict-related problems, with a special focus on the conflict-affected population on both sides. He put special emphasis on the issues of missing persons, cultural heritage and public health and maintained constant dialogue with all relevant stakeholders. The Swiss Chairmanship implemented a series of small projects that involved civil society representatives, including artists, students and elderly people, from Tbilisi, Sukhumi and Tskhinvali.

The Chairperson-in-Office visited Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia in early June, where he conducted high-level discussions about the protracted conflicts and the OSCE's engagement in the region. In all three countries, the CiO also met civil society representatives and parliamentarians. On his trip to Georgia, he greeted the participants of the Ergneti IPRM and commended them for their pragmatic co-operation across dividing lines. In Armenia and Azerbaijan, the CiO called for an intensified and structured negotiation process towards a peaceful settlement and for the implementation of tension-reducing measures.

TRANSNISTRIAN CONFLICT



AMBASSADOR RADOJKO BOGOJEVIC SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE TRANSNISTRIAN SETTLEMENT PROCESS

The Chairmanship, with the OSCE Mission to Moldova, paid close attention to the Transnistrian conflict through the OSCE's role as co-mediator between the sides, along with the Russian Federation and Ukraine. The increasing tensions in the OSCE region affected the Transnistrian settlement process, resulting in a lower interest from both sides of the conflict to seriously engage in the 5+2 process, which includes Moldova, Transnistria, the OSCE, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, and the United States and European Union observers. In order to defuse tensions and facilitate dialogue between Moldova and Transnistria, but also between all the participants in the 5+2 format, the Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office, Ambassador Radojko Bogojevic travelled five times to the region and facilitated two negotiation rounds in Vienna. Despite the deteriorating security situation in and around neighbouring Ukraine, the situation remained stable in Moldova. All participants in the process are willing to continue on the path of the Transnistrian Settlement Process, and at the Ministerial Council in Basel, the participating States unanimously reaffirmed the foundations and goals of the process and encouraged the sides to intensify the dialogue and establish an annual calendar for negotiations.

¹All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

LOCAL CONTROL AFTER 19 YEARS OF OSCE-LED WORK ON DAYTON ACCORDS

Nearly two decades after the war in the Western Balkans, leaders from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, and Serbia gathered at the 2014 OSCE Ministerial Council in Basel to begin a new chapter of peace.

Since the Dayton Peace Accords were signed in 1995, the OSCE has played a major role helping to rebuild trust among the parties by reducing arms stocks, improving the sharing of information and allowing intrusive inspections.

Under the amendments signed in Basel, the four countries committed to take full responsibility for the control of arms and stability in the Western Balkans.

“The commitments from Article IV of the Dayton Peace Agreement became actions,” said Major General Michele Torres, the personal representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV of the Dayton Peace Accords. “Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, and Serbia proved they can establish a stable military balance, at lowest level of armaments, reducing the risk of a new escalation of the conflict. Our mission has been accomplished.”

The OSCE and the parties involved went above and beyond the amount of arms that were to be destroyed, and for the last two years the OSCE has helped the countries in the region step up their own inspections with increasingly less direct OSCE involvement.

After six different personal representatives of varying OSCE Chairpersons-in-Office carried out the Article IV activities, starting 1 January 2015 those duties will be completely handed over to the parties.

“Co-operation in all matters of arms control will remain with the OSCE, shifting from hands-on assistance to a more supportive role,” General Torres said.

The Swiss Chairmanship had declared transferring the Dayton process to local control a priority to help enhance co-operation with and in the Western Balkans.

OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and Swiss Foreign Minister Didier Burkhalter said the work conducted under Dayton should serve as a “model for other OSCE regions in order to enhance security and stability.”

“There is now a foundation for young people to build on.”

Major General Michele Torres
Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for
Article IV, Annex 1-B

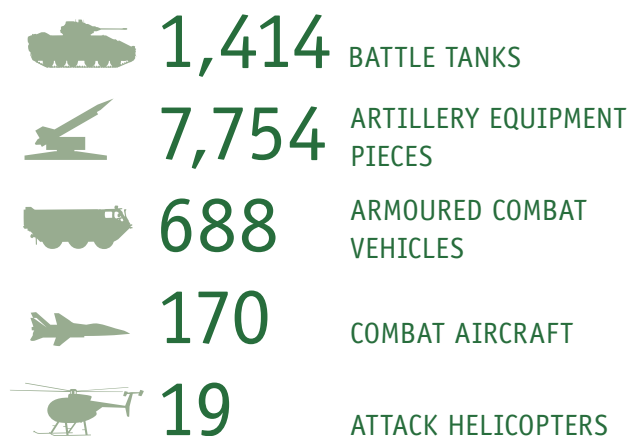


The foreign ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, and Serbia, respectively, after signing the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control at the Basel Ministerial Council on 4 December 2014.

STABILITY IN NUMBERS



DESTROYED UNDER DAYTON



Watch the video about the OSCE's work under the Dayton Peace Agreement here: www.osce.org/cio/126754



OSCE-UN CO-OPERATION

The Swiss Chairmanship joined the Secretariat in expanding international co-operation with the United Nations. Chairperson-in-Office Burkhalter presented the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship's priorities to the UN Security Council for the course of the year. South-East Europe and Ukraine represent concrete regional examples where the OSCE and the UN enjoy mutually beneficial co-operation.

On Ukraine, the OSCE and the UN have closely co-operated on human rights, mediation and humanitarian issues. The Chief Monitor, Ambassador Ertugrul Apakan, and the CiO's Special Representative to the Trilateral Contact Group, Heidi Tagliavini, briefed the UN Security Council on the situation in Ukraine. The High-Level Planning Group on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict met with the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations to discuss best practices in planning for peacekeeping before a settlement is reached.

The Swiss Chairmanship fostered dialogue with the United Nations by inviting numerous UN high-level representatives to the OSCE Permanent Council and joint meetings of the Permanent Council and Forum for Security Co-operation, including: Antonio Guterres, UN High Commissioner for Refugees (20 February); Angela Kane, UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs (20 May); Navi Pillay, then-UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (3 July); Jeffrey Feltman, UN Under-Secretary-General for political affairs (8 September); and Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General (4 November).

The OSCE and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees joined together to produce a Protection Checklist, intended to help OSCE staff to recognize issues relevant to displaced people

and refer issues to specialized agencies mandated to protect affected communities along the conflict cycle.

Strengthening co-operation among regional and international organizations was an overarching priority within the human dimension during the entire Chairmanship. The OSCE maintained close links to the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, and Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights Ivan Simonovic. Twice he was invited to brief participating States on the human rights situation in Ukraine along with the OSCE Representative on Freedom of Media, the High Commissioner on National Minorities, and the director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights.

The OSCE and the UN co-operated on some specific thematic issues. The High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, shared her view with the Permanent Council of the challenges facing human rights in the OSCE, which gave rise to the signing of a memorandum of understanding between her office and ODIHR. A strategic partnership was also established between the OSCE and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime in the area of organized crime and counter-terrorism. The OSCE supports the implementation of the UN anti-terrorism instruments and collaborates closely with the UNODC in the field of combating corruption and money laundering. To strengthen co-operation with the United Nations on mediation, the OSCE completed a work plan with the United Nations Mediation Support Unit in June. Finally, close co-operation between the OSCE, the UN Economic Commission for Europe and UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction is taking place on issues such as water management and disaster risk reduction.



OSCE Secretary General **Lamberto Zannier** and Ambassador **Thomas Greminger** with UN Secretary-General **Ban Ki-moon** in Vienna on 4 November.

21ST OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL 4-5 DECEMBER, BASEL, SWITZERLAND

The Ministerial Council saw the introduction of thematic plenary sessions, as well as informal ministerial dinner and lunch events, all used to make the sessions, and debates more interactive for all participants. The second day was dedicated to minister-level dialogue with OSCE Partners for Co-operation, making Basel the first ministerial in which the foreign ministers had the chance to speak in plenary with representatives of the Partners from Asia and the Mediterranean. Ministers adopted two declarations of support for stronger relationships with the Partners.

The Swiss Chairmanship prioritized participation at the ministerial level, and in the end more than 50 foreign ministers made the trip.

In lieu of consensus on a decision related to the crisis in and around Ukraine, the Swiss Chairmanship publicly released a summary of the first day's proceedings, reporting that many participating States held the view that the crisis in and around Ukraine was the result of one participating State exerting pressure on another and that steps taken regarding the status of Crimea, including by the Russian Federation, were in breach of fundamental OSCE commitments. The Swiss Chairmanship reported that many participants called these actions incompatible with international law and called for Ukraine's territorial integrity, political independence, and internationally recognized borders to be respected in line with

the responsibility participating States share to adhere to the Helsinki Declaration on Principles Guiding Relations between Participating States.

In addition to efforts to restore peace and territorial integrity to Ukraine, the Swiss Chairmanship launched a reflection process on the broader crisis of European security and adherence to the principles enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act. In Basel, Chairperson-in-Office Burkhalter commissioned an independent Panel of Eminent Persons on European Security as a Common Project, in close co-ordination with the Troika members Serbia and Germany. This panel is to develop recommendations and provide advice on how to design an inclusive and constructive security dialogue throughout the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian regions. The purpose of the panel is to complement and support efforts by the OSCE participating States and to provide a stimulus to multilateral efforts to bring stability to the OSCE region. The panel is tasked with producing an interim report in June 2015 with proposals on how to strengthen the OSCE in light of the crisis in and around Ukraine, and a final report in December 2015 on the broader issue of European security and the possibility of truly co-operative security relations.

In total, the Ministerial Council adopted 21 decisions and declarations in Basel.



The plenary hall during the opening session of the 21st OSCE Ministerial Council in Basel, 4 December 2014.



INNOVATION IN THE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION

One of the Swiss Chairmanship’s ten priorities was to place disaster risk reduction and its security implications firmly on the agenda of the OSCE. In a year that saw record floods in South-East Europe, this issue happened to be discussed at a crucial moment. The Economic and Environmental Forum was dedicated to this topic with meetings in Vienna, Montreux, and a concluding meeting in Prague. The three meetings focused on the prevention, preparedness and management of natural disasters and cross-border co-operation with a view to promoting co-operation and security in the OSCE area. In Montreux, for the first time in the context of the Economic and Environmental Forum, participants embarked on field visits to showcase practical arrangements of integrated disaster risk management, including collaboration with neighbouring Italy. The Forum prepared the ground for a substantial Ministerial Decision on enhancing disaster risk reduction that was adopted in Basel in December 2014.

In another first, the Economic and Environmental Committee held a retreat outside Vienna to seek ways to enhance the strategic orientation of this dimension of security. Those discussions fed back into the Helsinki +40 process.

The Swiss Chairmanship also introduced a new format for the Economic and Environmental Dimension Implementation Meeting by dedicating the meeting to one main theme: good governance and the fight against corruption. This paved the way for the adoption of a Ministerial Council Decision on prevention of corruption. Water as a security issue also rose on the OSCE agenda in 2014, with the Chairmanship funding and supporting the organization of a Security Days event on water diplomacy in July and a meeting of the Economic and Environmental Committee on exchanging best practices on water management. Those successful events served as an excellent introduction to the theme of water governance that the 2015 Serbian Chairmanship chose in the summer of 2014 as their main priority within the economic and environmental dimension.

REINFORCED RETREAT

On 20 and 21 October, the Chairmanship organized a retreat at the ambassadorial level with a high level of attendance from OSCE capitals. The purpose of the retreat was to prepare the substance for the Ministerial Council in Basel and to discuss the innovative format suggested by Switzerland.

The Swiss Chairmanship placed participants into four or five groups, which each discussed the same topics through a moderator. Rapporteurs then presented each group’s ideas in plenary, creating a much more interactive environment.

DECISIONS AND DECLARATIONS ADOPTED AT THE 2014 OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

DECISIONS

- 1 Appointment of the Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (Michael Georg Link)
- 2 Extension of the appointment of the OSCE Secretary General (Lamberto Zannier to 1 July 2017)
- 3 OSCE Chairmanship for 2016 (Germany)
- 4 OSCE Chairmanship for 2017 (Austria)
- 5 Preventing corruption
- 6 Enhancing disaster risk reduction
- 7 Preventing and combating violence against women
- 8 Addendum to the 2004 OSCE Gender Equality Action Plan
- 9 Next OSCE Ministerial Council (Belgrade, 3-4 December 2015)
- 10 Small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition

DECLARATIONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

- 1 Declaration on further steps in the Helsinki +40 Process
- 2 Statement on negotiations on the Transdniestrian Settlement Process
- 3 Declaration on youth
- 4 Declaration on transferring ownership of the subregional arms control agreement (Article IV) in Bosnia and Herzegovina to the parties
- 5 Declaration on the OSCE role in countering the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters
- 6 Declaration on the OSCE role in countering kidnapping and hostage-taking committed by terrorist groups
- 7 Commemorative declaration on the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War
- 8 Declaration on enhancing efforts to combat anti-Semitism
- 9 Declaration on co-operation with the Mediterranean Partners
- 10 Declaration on co-operation with the Asian Partners
- 11 Declaration on the 20th anniversary of the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security

CODE OF CONDUCT ON POLITICO-MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Code of Conduct, the Swiss Chairmanship organized a side event during which the CiO presented the OSCE Secretary General with a commemorative study on the history, development, and achievements of this key OSCE document and the valuable role it has played in establishing new norms for transparency and co-operation among armed forces of participating States.

TOWARDS A MORE EFFECTIVE OSCE

CONTINUED DIALOGUE WITHIN THE HELSINKI +40 PROCESS

Against the backdrop of the crisis in and around Ukraine, the Swiss Chairmanship succeeded in keeping the participating States engaged in the Helsinki +40 process as a format for wide-ranging informal debate on the most pertinent issues on the OSCE agenda. Lessons learned from the OSCE's crisis response were seen as a potential avenue for substantive discussion on strengthening the OSCE's crisis management capacity.

The Informal Helsinki +40 Working Group met in February, April, October and November to discuss issues pertaining mainly to questions falling within the efficiency and effectiveness cluster, including longer-term budgeting and the future of field presences.

While much will depend on further developments in and around Ukraine and the wider discussion on overcoming the current crisis in European security, participating States have continuously expressed their interest in continuing the Helsinki +40 process. The Basel Ministerial Declaration on Helsinki +40 calls on the incoming Chairmanship of Serbia, supported by the Troika, to continue pursuing the Helsinki +40 process in a transparent and inclusive manner.

PARTNERS FOR CO-OPERATION

The Swiss Chairmanship promoted the involvement of the Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation in OSCE events and activities; encouraged participation in relevant committee meetings, seminars and conferences; looked for ways for the Partners to provide their valuable contribution to the Helsinki +40 process; and generally encouraged their closer engagement. The contributions from Australia, Israel, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Thailand toward the establishment of the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine further demonstrated the Partners' commitment to the OSCE in a tangible way.

In 2014, a plenary session during the second day of the Ministerial Council in Basel was dedicated to the Partners for Co-operation, focusing on counter-terrorism and giving more space for informal ministerial discussions. The Swiss Chairmanship also successfully promoted the adoption, for the first time, of two Ministerial Declarations specifically on the Asian and on the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation. Both declarations identified priorities in the co-operation between the Partners and participating States on issues of common interest. The declarations also promoted a closer relationship with academia, non-governmental organizations and other representatives of civil society to expand the existing dialogue.



GENDER EQUALITY

JUNE ZEITLIN
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE CHAIRPERSON-IN-
OFFICE ON GENDER ISSUES
www.osce.org/cio/srgender

Given the Swiss Chairmanship's goal of "creating a security community for the benefit of everyone", the Special Representative on Gender Issues played a significant role in 2015, helping to bring this inclusive theme to life with a strengthened focus on women's rights and gender equality.

Special Representative June Zeitlin focused much of her activity on combating violence against women – a critical component of comprehensive security. The Chairmanship organized the first-ever Gender Equality Review Conference, where participants identified the need to update the commitments related to gender equality, prompting the Ministerial Council in Basel to task participating States with producing an addendum to the 2004 Gender Action Plan under the Serbian Chairmanship.

Foreign ministers gathered in Basel in December agreed to a decision aimed at enhancing efforts by the OSCE and participating States to combat and prevent violence against women.

Zeitlin also presented a paper at the Gender Equality Review Conference recommending that the OSCE consider following an approach used by the UN and others to help mainstream gender issues within large and diverse organizations like the OSCE. The creation of UN Women headed by an under-secretary-general has led to a more comprehensive and effective approach to ensure that gender equality is seriously considered in all policy decisions, she said.

The Special Representative, in her third year in this post, continued to use country visits to highlight gender equality issues and provide expert support for the implementation of the Gender Action Plan. She made visits to countries in Eastern and Western Europe, the Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia. This year, she made her first joint visit with the ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues as they visited Albania, where they focused on women's political participation and violence against women. She also visited Tajikistan and Belarus.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The events in and around Ukraine laid bare the practical consequences of the OSCE’s continued lack of clarity around its legal status and that of its staff. The Chairmanship’s Special Advisor on the OSCE Legal Framework, Ambassador John Bernhard, sought a solution to this longstanding problem through informal channels and three meetings of the Informal Working Group on Strengthening the Legal Framework of the OSCE. A number of possible models were identified and discussed under Ambassador Bernhard’s leadership. There was a general agreement about the need to solve the problem as soon as possible and to continue the efforts in 2015, focused on a more detailed discussion of those proposals that are most likely to be able to gain consensus support.

YOUTH? YES!

When it comes to youth involvement, Chairperson-in-Office Burkhalter went all out, finding new ways for younger citizens to learn about, and engage with, the OSCE both in their home countries and abroad. Specifically, Switzerland breathed new life into a region-wide Model OSCE, giving young leaders a platform to connect and debate the modern challenges the whole region faces.

With negotiation rounds in Vienna and Belgrade as well as online via a special platform, the 57 “youth ambassadors” got a real taste for the OSCE and finalized a Model OSCE Youth Action Plan that they presented to the Ministerial Council in Basel. The ministers adopted a declaration on youth, acknowledging the role young people play in supporting participating States in implementing their OSCE commitments and their potential to contribute to economic, political and social development.

Download the Model OSCE Youth Action Plan here: <http://model-osce.ch/model-osce/youth-action-plan/>



Foreign ministers, heads of delegations and youth ambassadors pose for a family photo at the 21st OSCE Ministerial Council in Basel, on 4 December 2014.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE ON RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE

RABBI ANDREW BAKER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE ON COMBATING ANTI-SEMITISM

TALIP KUCUKCAN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE ON COMBATING DISCRIMINATION AND INTOLERANCE AGAINST MUSLIMS

ALEXEY AVTONOMOV

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE ON INTOLERANCE AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST CHRISTIANS AND MEMBERS OF OTHER RELIGIONS

The Personal Representatives of the Chairperson-in-Office to combat religious discrimination made four joint visits in 2014, which led them to Denmark, the United States, and – for the first time to the Russian Federation and Turkey. In addition, upon the invitation of the Ukrainian Government, the Personal Representative on combating anti-Semitism, Rabbi Andrew Baker, visited Ukraine on 27-30 April 2014 to assess the observance of the rights of the Jewish community in Ukraine. Rabbi Baker’s report on the visit welcomed the efforts of the Government of Ukraine to meet the needs of the Jewish community in Ukraine as well as the Ukrainian authorities’ public condemnation of anti-Semitism.

In an attempt to increase co-operation with other organizations, they held meetings with the EU Fundamental Rights Agency, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the European Court of Human Rights, and the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance. In April, Rabbi Baker visited Kyiv, where he discussed the situation of the Jewish community with community leaders and Government representatives.

The Chairmanship inspired a discussion on ways to improve the impact and structural support of the work of the three Personal Representatives, publishing a food-for-thought paper and facilitating the exchange among participating States on continuous support to the Personal Representatives’ efforts.

The three Representatives also met with NGO representatives, who provided valuable insight about intolerance in the region, and testified jointly before a hearing of the U.S. Helsinki Commission on intolerance and discrimination in the OSCE region.

In the 10th anniversary year of the OSCE Berlin Conference and Declaration on Anti-Semitism, Rabbi Baker noted a recent survey conducted by the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights showing high levels of anxiety and concern among Jewish communities. Baker addressed a surge of incidents at the civil society forum and high-level gathering in Berlin in November.

PERMANENT COUNCIL

The Permanent Council is the OSCE's regular body for political consultation and decision-making. It is responsible for the daily business of the Organization.



Permanent Council

www.osce.org/pc

The Permanent Council is the principal decision-making body for the day-to-day operational work of the OSCE between meetings of the Ministerial Council. In 2014, Switzerland’s ambassador to the Organization, Thomas Greminger, chaired the Permanent Council and its weekly meetings at the Hofburg in Vienna. It proved to be among the busiest years ever for the Council.

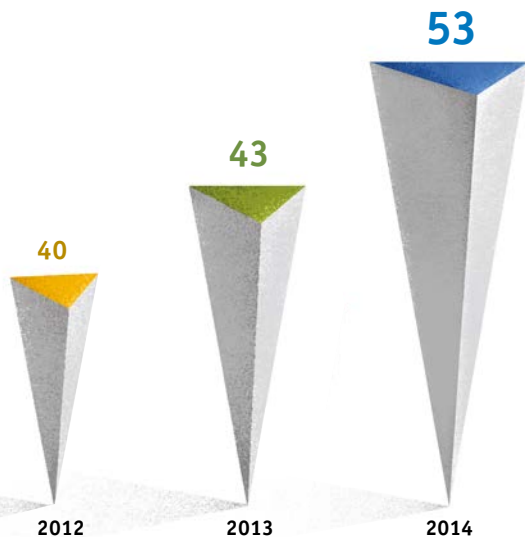
PERMANENT COUNCIL COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON APPOINTMENTS

The Chair of the Permanent Council appoints a chair for each of the three general committees. In 2014, the committees were led by:

- **Ambassador Dominic Schroeder (United Kingdom)** Chair of the Security Committee
- **Ambassador Ol’ga Algayerova (Slovakia)** Chair of the Economic and Environmental Committee
- **Ambassador Robert Kvile (Norway)** Chair of the Human Dimension Committee

The Permanent Council met 53 times in 2014. The crisis in and around Ukraine also led to greater collaboration with the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC), the OSCE’s key decision-making body on military aspects of security. In 2014, the FSC and Permanent Council held six joint meetings related to the crisis. Ambassadors to the OSCE also met for 332 Political Dialogues (informal meetings) and welcomed 20 high-level guest speakers at the rank of minister or above or heads of international organizations, including United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

PERMANENT COUNCIL MEETINGS



Ambassador Thomas Greminger of Switzerland, Chair of the OSCE Permanent Council, speaks to the media on 18 July after the Permanent Council discussed the crash of Malaysian Airlines flight MH17.

“We discussed ideas to make our chairmanship lively, to enhance debate. We were looking for a game changer, and it turned out that the game changer found us.”

Ambassador Thomas Greminger
Chair of the Permanent Council and Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the OSCE

Permanent Council decisions addressing the crisis in and around Ukraine:

- 21 March: created the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM)
- 18 July: the day after the downing of MH17, the PC adopted a declaration related to the incident, calling for a ceasefire in eastern Ukraine and for immediate, safe and secure access to the crash site
- 22 July: extended the SMM mandate
- 24 July: created the Observer Mission at the Russian Checkpoints at Gukovo and Donetsk
- 22 October: extended the mandate of the Border Observer Mission

SPECIAL GUESTS TO THE PERMANENT COUNCIL

16 January		Opening Address by Chairperson-in-Office Didier Burkhalter , President and Foreign Minister of Switzerland	15 July	First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Serbia, Ivica Dacic
30 January		Foreign Minister of Austria, Sebastian Kurz ; President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Peter Maurer	24 July	President of the Venice Commission, Gianni Buquicchio 
20 February		UN High Commissioner for Refugees, António Guterres 	8 September	UN Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Jeffery Feltman ; UN Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Ivan Simonovic 
27 February		Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers and Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan, Rashid Meredov ; Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, Nils Muiznieks	18 September	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Affairs of Slovakia, Miroslav Lajcak
13 March		Minister of Counter Narcotics of Afghanistan, Mobarez Rashedi	16 October	Head of the EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine, Francesco Bastagli
20 March		Acting Foreign Minister of Ukraine, Andrii Deshchytzia	4 November	 Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon
30 April		UN Special Representative for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), Ján Kubiš	6 November	 Co-Chairmen of the Geneva International Discussions on the Conflict in Georgia Special Representative of the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship for the South Caucasus; Ambassador Angelo Gnaedinger ; Ambassador Antti Turunen of the UN; and Ambassador Herbert Salber of the EU
8 May		Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Moldova, Natalia Gherman	27 November	State Secretary for Security of Spain, Francisco Martinez Vazquez ; Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco in Austria, Ambassador Ali El Mhamdi
21 May		UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Angela Kane		
3 July		UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay		
10 July		Foreign Minister of the Netherlands, Frans Timmermans		



FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION

The Forum is the OSCE's key decision-making body on political-military aspects of security. Its participants meet weekly in Vienna to discuss such issues as arms control and confidence- and security-building measures.



Forum for Security Co-operation

www.osce.org/fsc

The Forum for Security Co-operation, one of the OSCE's two main regular decision-making bodies, provides a unique platform for the participating States to discuss topical security challenges and to negotiate and implement confidence- and security-building measures.



A FORUM FOR DIALOGUE

In 2014, the Forum served as a useful platform to discuss issues pertaining to the crisis in and around Ukraine, especially with reference to the application of the Vienna Document.

The Forum continued to work jointly with the Permanent Council on issues relevant to both bodies. To this end, they held six joint meetings on Ukraine, disarmament, and transnational threats in the Mediterranean region.

The OSCE continued to be one of the most active regional actors in the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. Several country-specific dialogues were organized in co-ordination with the 1540 Committee and the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs.

The 24th Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting in March assessed the state of implementation of agreed confidence- and security-building measures. The Heads of Verification Centres met in December to exchange experiences and information on technical aspects of the Vienna Document. The FSC also contributed to the OSCE Annual Security Review Conference in June.

The Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security remained critically important for the FSC's work in 2014. The third Annual Implementation Discussion in July provided a unique opportunity to discuss how to promote and improve the implementation of the code and to examine its application in the context of the existing political and military situation. 2014 also served to commemorate the 20th anniversary of this key document. In December, the Basel Ministerial Council adopted a commemorative declaration. The Forum also continued to examine ways in which it can help implement UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security in the OSCE region.

The Forum's chairmanship rotates three times a year and sets the agenda for FSC meetings. The chairperson is assisted by the incoming and the outgoing chairperson, who together form the FSC Troika. In 2014, the Chairmanship was held by Malta, Moldova and Monaco.

A decision taken at the 2012 Ministerial Council invited the Forum to contribute to the Helsinki +40 process. In November, the Monaco Chair of the FSC sent a joint report by the three Chairs of the Forum in 2014 on the FSC's activities to implement this decision.



CO-OPERATION THROUGH THE CRISIS

The weekly Forum meetings in Vienna always include the agenda item "security dialogue", allowing participating States to raise any security concerns. In 2014, Ukraine and the Russian Federation used this feature of the agenda extensively, putting forward their perspective of events taking place in and around Ukraine.

Twenty-seven participating States also conducted inspections under the Vienna Document, which requires participating States to share information on their military forces, activities and defence planning – transparency that is a key to building confidence between nations.

VIENNA DOCUMENT IN ACTION

The Vienna Document is designed to allow mutual inspections of defence forces and activities.

VERIFICATION ACTIVITIES IN 2014

19 in Ukraine (by 25 countries)
6 in Russia (by 10 countries)

Participating States invoked the document’s risk reduction chapter 16 times, resulting in three joint meetings of the FSC and Permanent Council to consult on unusual military activities.

Throughout the crisis in and around Ukraine, there was never an interruption of discussions. “We always maintained dialogue. This is the essence of the OSCE,” said Ambassador Claude Giordan of Monaco, who chaired the FSC in the third trimester of 2014.



DEALING WITH ARMS AND AMMUNITION SURPLUSES

The OSCE documents on small arms and light weapons (SALW) and on stockpiles of conventional ammunition remained key topics on the FSC’s agenda. The

work of the Informal Group of Friends on SALW positively contributed to continuing the work of the Forum on these topics. In December, the Forum forwarded a decision to the Basel Ministerial Council on SALW and conventional ammunition, which the ministers approved, tasking the FSC to deepen its assistance to participating States for the handling of arms and ammunition stockpiles.

The Forum concentrated its attention on the implementation of agreed commitments and on reviewing and further developing norms, measures and principles contained in the relevant OSCE documents to increase their effectiveness and close existing loopholes.



Military officials from OSCE participating States visit Ukraine to observe military activity as provided under the Vienna Document.

OSCE MILITARY INSPECTORS FREED

After being held for more than a week by armed men in Eastern Ukraine, seven military inspectors from OSCE participating States were released on 3 May in Slovyansk. The team, which included military officers from Germany, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Poland and Sweden, had been visiting the region under the Vienna Document, which allows for mutual observation of certain military activities.

WHAT IS THE COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK?



A trusted platform for OSCE participating States to exchange information, primarily related to arms control treaties and agreements. The network, managed by the CPC, enables States to share and exchange such information securely, encouraging transparency and openness between them. Information on cyber-security confidence- and security-building measures could also be exchanged via the network.

DESTROYED OR DISPOSED



17,564 TONNES OF TOXIC ROCKET FUEL

162 TONNES OF NAPALM



1,500 TONNES OF UNSTABLE OR SURPLUS AMMUNITION

3,000 SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

SECURITY DAYS: CONVENTIONAL ARMS CONTROL AND CONFIDENCE- AND SECURITY-BUILDING MEASURES IN EUROPE

On 10 November, an OSCE Security Days expert roundtable on conventional arms control brought together OSCE practitioners with international experts from academia and government. The event assessed the role that conventional arms control and confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs) may play to ensure stability, predictability and transparency. Against the backdrop of the crisis in and around Ukraine participants pointed to the need for reinvigorating CSBMs and conventional arms control as an indispensable step toward rebuilding co-operative security in Europe.



OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

The Parliamentary Assembly brings together 323 parliamentarians from across the 57-nation OSCE region. It provides a forum for dialogue, leads election observation missions, and strengthens international co-operation to uphold commitments on political, security, economic, environmental and human rights issues.

OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Secretary General: **Spencer Oliver**

Budget: €3,030,00

Staff: 19 full-time employees

8 research fellows

www.oscepa.org

In providing a crucial forum for international parliamentary debate, including on the crisis in and around Ukraine, in adopting timely decisions through majority voting, and in undertaking some of its most ambitious election monitoring work ever, the Parliamentary Assembly (PA) again proved its role as an indispensable OSCE institution in 2014.



*The OSCE PA's delegation to eastern Ukraine, including then-Vice-President **Ilkka Kanerva** (right), **Kent Harstedt** (left) and Secretary General **Spencer Oliver** (centre), visit a checkpoint in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast on 29 April.*

LEADING DIALOGUE ON UKRAINE

The crisis in and around Ukraine – a focus of the OSCE all year long – was also at the top of the Parliamentary Assembly's 2014 agenda. At the PA's Annual Session and Winter and Autumn Meetings, parliamentarians from across the OSCE area debated the situation in the country. The PA facilitated some of the few meetings of Russian and Ukrainian lawmakers since the crisis began, and the Assembly President traveled to Kyiv and Moscow for meetings with Acting Ukrainian President Oleksandr Turchynov, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, and other leaders.

A GROUNDBREAKING YEAR IN ELECTION OBSERVATION

Former PA President Joao Soares of Portugal and Vice-President Kent Harstedt of Sweden, appointed by the OSCE Chair-in-Office, led hundreds of OSCE short-term observers for Ukraine's presidential and parliamentary elections, respectively. Pre-election visits by Soares, Harstedt, then-Vice-President Ilkka Kanerva, Vice-Presidents Doris Barnett and Isabel Pozuelo, Secretary General Spencer Oliver and other PA members, along with the deployment of nearly 200 parliamentarians for the elections, made the overall 2014 Ukraine election observation project the largest in the history of the PA. Parliamentarians traveled to all regions of the country on the pre-election visits, including to the east, meeting with Government leaders, electoral officials, party representatives, civil society leaders and journalists. On the eve of the presidential election, a senior PA delegation led by Soares and Oliver also visited Donetsk city, meeting with officials and encouraging citizens to vote despite the conflict.

osce
PARLIAMENTARY
ASSEMBLY



In 2014, the PA observed elections in Serbia, Hungary, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Moldova, as well as Ukraine. The PA also assessed the mid-term elections in the United States, demonstrating the Assembly's commitment to upholding standards both east and west of Vienna.

PARLIAMENTARY DIALOGUE

23RD ANNUAL SESSION, BAKU, 28 JUNE-2 JULY

Held under the theme “Helsinki +40: Towards Human Security for All,” the PA’s Annual Session included some 300 MPs from more than 50 OSCE participating States. The session featured keynote addresses by OSCE CiO Didier Burkhalter and Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev and spirited debates on Ukraine and the challenges of rising extremism, radicalism and xenophobia.

The Baku Declaration adopted by the parliamentarians contained wide-ranging recommendations on human rights, democracy, the environment, arms control and humanitarian questions. Parliamentarians also approved resolutions on Russia’s breach of the Helsinki Principles with respect to Ukraine, enhancing the OSCE’s mediation capacities, promoting comprehensive immigration reform, and eliminating torture, among other topics.

Members elected Ilkka Kanerva of Finland the PA’s 14th President.



ILKKA KANERVA

became the first person to have served as both PA President and OSCE Chairperson-in-Office in the Organization’s history. He served as CiO in 2008.

AUTUMN MEETING, GENEVA, 3-5 OCTOBER & WINTER MEETING, VIENNA, 13-14 FEBRUARY

The 2014 Autumn Meeting featured addresses by OSCE CiO Didier Burkhalter, International Committee of the Red Cross President Peter Maurer, OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities Astrid Thors, and others. Topics included the situation in Ukraine, climate change and the erosion of human rights. The PA’s Mediterranean Forum was also held, focusing on the threat of ISIS in the region, the crises in Iraq, Libya and Syria, Israeli-Palestinian relations, and irregular migration. The Assembly backed Georgia to host the 2016 Annual Session.



THE PA HAS RECEIVED A CLEAN ASSESSMENT FROM OUTSIDE, INDEPENDENT, PROFESSIONAL AUDITORS



1,826 PEOPLE ATTENDED AN OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY CONFERENCE OR MEETING IN 2014



Newly elected OSCE PA President Ilkka Kanerva speaks during a meeting of the Bureau in Baku, 2 July.

Fifty-five OSCE participating States and four Partners for Co-operation participated in the Winter Meeting. The opening session featured a special address by Abdul Raouf Ibrahim, Speaker of the Lower House of the Parliament of Afghanistan. Committees discussed democratic control of armed forces and co-operation in water management issues. Dunja Mijatovic, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, ODIHR Director Michael Link and others addressed the committee on humanitarian questions, which also featured a special debate on rule of law.

“The Parliamentary Assembly is the OSCE’s democratic backbone, bringing not only legitimacy to the Organization, but also the OSCE’s values back to our capitals.”

Ilkka Kanerva
OSCE PA President

WORKING FOR A BETTER OSCE

The year 2014 saw the launch of the PA’s Helsinki +40 Project, a series of international seminars at leading think-tanks that bring together diplomats, experts, politicians and academia to evaluate the OSCE’s past and inspire reform ahead of the 40th anniversary of its founding document, the Helsinki Final Act. The initial seminar was hosted by the Russian International Affairs Council in September in Moscow. The use of the OSCE’s various tools in and around Ukraine was seen as a sign of the Organization’s continued relevance, while the crisis also pointed to the urgent need for reform.

The second Helsinki +40 event was held in Washington in November, including six current and former Assembly presidents, members of the U.S. Congress, diplomats and experts. Hosted by The German Marshall Fund of the United States, it included a session with the leadership of the U.S. Helsinki Commission. Participants concluded that there is a need to strengthen the capacities of OSCE institutions, particularly its parliamentary dimension, and place a renewed focus on adherence to the Organization’s core principles.

Other suggestions offered in the seminars included strengthening the Organization’s accountability and transparency by opening Permanent Council meetings to the media, modifying the OSCE’s consensus-based decision-making, and providing for a parliamentary role in approving the OSCE budget and appointments of senior officials.



SECRETARIAT

Secretary General: **Lamberto Zannier**

Budget: €39,257,400

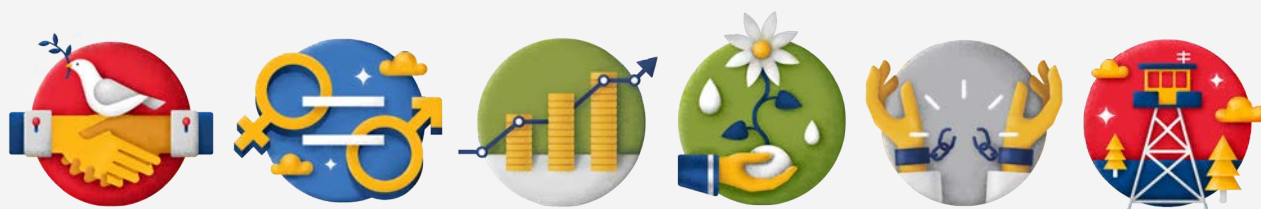
Staff: 378

www.osce.org/secretariat

Led by Secretary General Lamberto Zannier, the OSCE Secretariat based in Vienna is responsible for supporting dialogue and negotiation processes between the participating States and for implementing the Organization's political decisions. The staff of the Secretariat works with the Chairmanship – in 2014 Switzerland – providing operational support to participating States on a wide range of mandated activities across the three dimensions.

THE SECRETARIAT CONSISTS OF:

- Office of the Secretary General
- Conflict Prevention Centre
- Department of Human Resources
- Department of Management and Finance
- Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
- Office of Internal Oversight
- Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings
- Transnational Threats Department





Conflict Prevention

Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre: **Ambassador Adam Kobieracki**

Budget: €3,560,100

www.osce.org/what/conflict-prevention

The OSCE's Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) is the Secretariat's direct link to field operations, helping to address all phases of the conflict cycle and providing early warning of potential conflicts to participating States. The CPC is a cornerstone of the OSCE's politico-military dimension and efforts to find lasting political settlements for existing conflicts. In 2014, the crisis in and around Ukraine dominated the CPC's agenda.

RAPID RESPONSE TO A CRISIS

As the crisis in and around Ukraine was evolving, the CPC was working to ensure that if participating States wanted the OSCE to play a role on the ground the Organization could deploy a field operation at a moment's notice.

While negotiations were held on the political level, the CPC established and led an internal, Secretariat-wide task force to plan for the rapid set-up of a field presence. On the evening of Friday, 21 March 2014, the Permanent Council adopted its decision to create the Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) to Ukraine. The first advance team was deployed the next morning. Within three days, teams had been trained and deployed to all 10 locations stipulated in the mandate. In the first four days, 32 first responders drawn from the Secretariat and nine field operations were deployed.

The SMM is the first field operation of its size planned exclusively by the CPC and has proven to be the most

sophisticated and complex extra-budgetary operation the OSCE has launched since the Kosovo Verification Mission 18 years ago. Thirty-five participating States and four Partners for Co-operation contributed more than €33 million to the Special Monitoring Mission.

PREPARING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

In April, when the Joint Geneva Statement on Ukraine by the European Union, the Russian Federation, Ukraine, and the United States, called for the OSCE to play a leading role in implementing the parties' agreement to refrain from "violence, intimidation or provocative actions", the CPC sprang into action again. The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) Support Section established the OSCE's first repository programme so donors could contribute to help prepare the OSCE, in co-operation with Ukrainian authorities, to promptly implement a series of disarmament, arms control, and non-proliferation actions once a ceasefire agreement is in place.



The Conflict Prevention Centre supports the work of all OSCE field missions, including the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, shown here surveying the debris field of the Malaysian Airlines flight MH17 on 20 July.



IMPLEMENT POLITICO-MILITARY COMMITMENTS

Continuing its support to States in implementing their commitments on the control of small arms and light weapons (SALW), the CPC's Forum for

Security Co-operation Support Section held a dozen capacity-building events on issues related to the implementation of the OSCE politico-military tools. Albania, Belarus, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, and Ukraine saw particular progress in small arms and light weapons stockpile security and capacity building, as well as in destroying surplus weapons, ammunition and other military material.

The Support Section also organized country-specific dialogues and helped develop national action plans for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and national strategies on SALW. Furthermore, it initiated dialogue with Tunisia with regard to greater co-operation on issues related to SALW controls.

PROTRACTED CONFLICTS

The CPC continued to support the OSCE's ongoing work towards resolution of protracted conflicts.

Regarding the Transdniestrian settlement process, the CPC helped facilitate two meetings in the so-called "5+2" process during the course of the year and took part in the regular visits of the Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office, Ambassador Radojko Bogojevic, to Chisinau and Tiraspol. The CPC also worked closely with the Mission to Moldova throughout the year in support of its mandated tasks relating to the settlement process. (For more on the OSCE's work in Moldova, see page 68.)

Throughout the year, the CPC supported the work of the Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office for the South Caucasus, Ambassador Angelo Gnädinger. The Special Representative co-chaired four rounds of the Geneva International Discussions, during which the CPC co-moderated a working group dealing with humanitarian issues. The CPC also supported the Special Representative to co-facilitate, with the head of the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia, ten meetings of the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism in Ergneti. In these meetings, participants discussed issues of direct relevance to local communities' security, freedom of movement and livelihoods.



Ambassador **Angelo Gnädinger**, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairmanship for the South Caucasus, participates in the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism, in Ergneti on 17 November. Photo by EU Monitoring Mission

TAKING FLIGHT

For the first time, the OSCE deployed unarmed/unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to assist with monitoring the security situation in eastern Ukraine. The first flight was on 23 October.



BORDER OBSERVATION MISSION

On 2 July, the foreign ministers of Germany, France, Russia and Ukraine issued a Joint Declaration in Berlin that, among other things, called upon the OSCE "to take all necessary steps to deploy OSCE observers ... at the Russian checkpoints of Gukovo and Donetsk, while the mutually agreed ceasefire is in place". The CPC established and led a needs assessment mission to the Rostov region of south-west Russia to assess the factors on the ground that could impact the deployment of a stand-alone OSCE border observation mission. On 22 July, the Permanent Council agreed to deploy OSCE observers to two Russian checkpoints on the Russian-Ukrainian border.



ADDRESSING THE LEGACY OF THE PAST

The efforts of four countries in South-East Europe (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, and Serbia) and the international community, including the OSCE, to address the problem of displacement from the 1991-1995 conflict advanced in 2014 with the first tangible results of the Regional Housing Programme. In June, construction of the programme's first apartment buildings in Croatia began, and construction materials were allocated in October for future housing of refugee families in Serbia. Public tenders for similar housing projects have been launched in all partner countries across the region. The OSCE, in tandem with the UNHCR, has been monitoring the process of selecting beneficiaries and will continue advising partners on how to further strengthen the sustainability of the programme.



EARLY WARNING

The CPC organized the third annual meeting of the OSCE Early Warning Focal Point Network from 16 to 18 July in Vienna with 20 representatives of field operations and other executive structures. The meeting aimed to promote information sharing and networking among Early Warning Focal Points and focused on the use of OSCE conflict cycle tools, particularly related to early warning and conflict analysis.

OPENING A DIALOGUE

Dialogue has always been at the heart of the OSCE’s work in conflict prevention. In 2014, the CPC, together with the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, launched the National Dialogue Project, sending mediation experts to various locations across Ukraine to conduct interviews with local stakeholders from all walks of life. The CPC then supported the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine to organize a conference in Odessa to train Ukrainian local mediators and dialogue facilitators.

INVOLVING YOUTH

In June, the OSCE’s Conflict Prevention Centre launched a project to build an OSCE youth network in Georgia involving 62 prospective leaders, NGO members and students from all regions of Georgia.

The project, which aims to promote dialogue between the OSCE and Georgian civil society, was created in partnership with the Helsinki Citizen’s Assembly - Georgian National Committee in line with the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship’s priority of youth involvement.

Over the course of the 15 meetings, participants learned about civil society engagement and the basic principles, history and work of the OSCE.

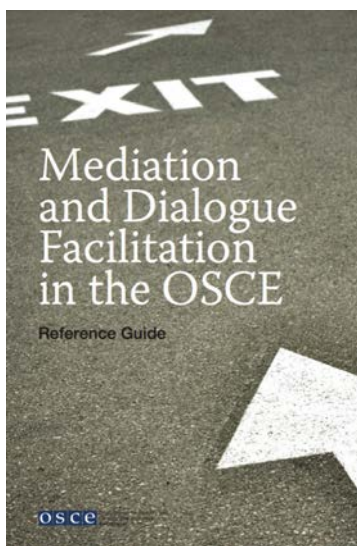
SHARING INFORMATION

The CPC facilitates the exchange of military information between participating States as stipulated in the Vienna Document 2011. This sharing of information is a key element to lasting confidence and trust within the OSCE area. The OSCE Communications Network, established by the 1990 Charter of Paris for a New Europe, provides all participating States with a reliable, timely and secure channel for transmitting military information. In 2014, the Communications Network was used much more extensively than in years past, with traffic increasing over 22 per cent.

THE EXTRA LOAD FROM UKRAINE

The OSCE Situation Room provides regular updates to Delegations on activities in the field. In 2014, the crisis in and around Ukraine resulted in a major increase in communications distributed:

	2012	2013	2014
<i>Updates</i>	194	205	1,909
<i>Emails and SMSs</i>	10,646	6,910	44,224
<i>Maps requested</i>	21	25	53



THE TOOLS OF MEDIATION

Given the OSCE’s leading role in providing a platform for dialogue to mediate conflict, the Organization continued to promote the use of these tools throughout the region and beyond. The OSCE Secretariat co-organized the 3rd Meeting of Regional, Subregional and other International Organizations on Preventive Diplomacy and Mediation in Cairo in February with representatives from the United Nations, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and the League of Arab States.

Throughout the year, the CPC provided operational support for dialogue efforts in Ukraine, including the roundtables on national unity in May. The CPC also organized co-ordination meetings with international actors promoting dialogue in Ukraine. The CPC then brought together OSCE mediators in a High-Level Gender and Inclusive Mediation Retreat, and published a new reference guide entitled *Mediation and Dialogue Facilitation in the OSCE*.

Next page: Observers from the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine in Luhansk document damage to a building as part of routine reporting on the crisis on 9 July. Photo by Evgeniy Maloletka





Transnational threats

Director of Transnational Threats Department: **Alexey Lyzhenkov**
Budget: €2,355,400

The OSCE Transnational Threats Department supports participating States and Partners for Co-operation by providing assistance to their efforts in countering transnational threats, such as terrorism, organized crime, including illicit drug trafficking, cybercrime and other types of illegal cross-border activities that impact stability and security in the OSCE region.

Hundreds of law enforcement officials, border and customs experts, and judicial officials benefited directly from the Department's work in addressing the above-mentioned threats and challenges.

COUNTER-TERRORISM: DEVELOPING NATIONAL LEADERS FOR GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Following the successful 2014 Chairmanship's OSCE-wide Counter-Terrorism Conference in Interlaken in the spring, the groundwork was laid for the adoption of two landmark Ministerial Council Declarations, namely: the Declaration on the OSCE Role in Countering Kidnapping and Hostage-taking Committed by Terrorist Groups in the Context of the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2133 and the Declaration on the OSCE Role in Countering the Phenomenon of Foreign Terrorist Fighters in the Context of the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 2170 and 2178.

“These Declarations show that the OSCE is playing a leading role and is a valuable partner for the UN and other organizations in tackling terrorism challenges. Indeed, these are very topical and difficult issues that can only be solved if participating States work together through international fora such as the OSCE and in co-operation with civil society and the private sector.”

Alexey Lyzhenkov
 Director of the OSCE Transnational Threats Department

CYBER/ICT SECURITY

The growing dependence on information and communication technologies (ICTs) and the interconnection of critical infrastructure have made a secure cyberspace vital to the functioning of a modern state. For all its benefits, ICTs have also added a complex and often poorly understood dimension to interstate relations – a potentially destabilizing factor for international peace and security.

Following the adoption of confidence-building measures (CBMs) to reduce the risks of conflict stemming from the use of ICTs by OSCE participating States in 2013, efforts in this field in 2014 focused on their implementation. This included supporting the Swiss Chairmanship with organizing a conference that offered a platform for non-governmental stakeholders to contribute to the CBM process, as well as to express their needs and expectations in relation to potential subsequent CBMs.

BORDER SECURITY

Criminals and terrorists respect neither physical nor 'virtual' borders. While the rapid growth of new technologies has expanded cross-border trade and the movement of people, it has also enabled transnational criminal activity to expand in ways that challenge border security and management. Transborder co-operation and co-ordination therefore is more critical than ever.

In 2014, the annual meeting of OSCE Border Security and Management National Focal Points focused on ways to develop more effective co-operation mechanisms and good practices with a focus on joint border operations, trade facilitation and anti-corruption. Forty-five national focal points and border security management experts from 30 participating States took part in this year's meeting.

Participants recommended harmonizing customs procedures to promote trade; tougher laws and stronger protection for whistle-blowers to combat corruption; and more efficient co-operation mechanisms, such as border liaison officers and joint training activities, to build and promote closer co-operation and co-ordination between agencies.

POLICING ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING

Two two-week training events organized by the Strategic Police Matters Unit brought more than 20 Afghan police trainers to the Moscow region for courses related to search techniques and effective use of dogs and special equipment, especially when searching in private residences, airport terminals and in vehicles. Trainees also practised how to detect and dismantle illegal drug production labs. The workshops enhanced the professional level of Afghan police trainers, and they have now returned to share their new skills with their colleagues at training courses in Afghanistan.

The Strategic Police Matters Unit supported the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship in organizing an international conference in Vienna focusing on public-private partnerships to combat drug trafficking and the diversion of chemical precursors used to make illegal drugs. Some 120 representatives from OSCE law enforcement authorities and 14 international organizations discussed how police can build up and foster co-operation with health authorities, social services, the transportation sector, and the pharmaceutical and chemical industries, to fight illegal drug trafficking.

“Co-operation with other public authorities, as well as with NGOs and the private sector, is vital to reinforce efforts of law enforcement authorities against drug trafficking and can create opportunities otherwise not available for them.”

From the conclusions of the international drug conference on combatting drug trafficking

“The problem of combating drug trafficking cannot be solved within one country. This problem requires a consolidation of efforts of all countries and of all the OSCE participating States.”

Akhmed Mansurov

Director of the National Center for Drug Control, Uzbekistan

CYBERCRIME TRAINING

OSCE/TNTD facilitated regional cybercrime training activities for law enforcement officers in South-Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the South Caucasus. The practical training courses, using European Cybercrime Training Education Group material, aimed to enhance the capacity of cybercrime investigators and help them to build regional networks.

Law enforcement officers from 11 participating States received cybercrime training through these programmes held in Danilovgrad, Montenegro; Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan; and Tbilisi, Georgia in co-operation with local OSCE offices and relevant interior ministries.



200 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENTS FROM EASTERN EUROPE, SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA TRAINED ON DRUG CRIME INTERDICTION BY THE STRATEGIC POLICE MATTERS

OFF THE SHELF

The Transnational Threats Department and ODIHR jointly released the OSCE guidebook *Preventing Terrorism and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism: A Community-Policing Approach*. The guidebook provides policy guidance on community-policing approaches that can be most successful preventing terrorism and countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism. The publication was produced in English, Russian, Albanian, Arabic, Bosnian and Serbian.

www.osce.org/atu/111438

Preventing Terrorism and Countering Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism: A Community-Policing Approach



Economic and Environmental Activities

Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities: **Halil Yurdakul Yigitgüden**

Budget: €1,961,200

Staff: 21

www.osce.org/what/economic

www.osce.org/what/environmental

The OSCE's holistic approach to security includes an economic and environmental dimension. The Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) leads the Organization's work in this area.



DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Co-operative responses to environmental challenges in the context of disaster risk reduction (DRR) were the focus of the 2014 Economic and Environmental Forum discussions.

Concrete results:

- A Ministerial Council decision encouraging greater collaboration among participating States to reduce environmental disaster risks
- The launch of a two-year project to strengthen the capacities of Aarhus Centres in the field of disaster risk reduction (for more information on the work of the Aarhus Centre, see next page)
- A regional wildfire management training in Antalya, Turkey, for fire brigades, trainers and managers from the South Caucasus and Western Balkans

WATER

Water played a major part in 2014 security discussions. Water management was at the core of a workshop on environment and security issues in the Southern Mediterranean. The OCEEA also supported bilateral negotiations between Azerbaijan and Georgia to finalize the Kura River Basin Agreement on the protection and sustainable use of the water resources.



FACILITATION OF TRANSPORT AND TRADE

In the field of trade, transport and customs, the OCEEA's main focus remained on capacity-building and training activities. In the course of the year, the Office, in co-operation with the World Customs Organization and the UN Economic Commission for Europe, conducted three regional workshops at the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe focused on customs risk management, trade facilitation, and the implementation of a trusted trader programme.



Participants during a field exercise in Antalya, Turkey, on 16 October, where they studied fire behaviour and fire suppression techniques, as well as tools and equipment. Photo by Kadir Alperen Coskuner



COMBATING CORRUPTION

The OCEEA worked closely with field operations and international partners to implement the UN Convention against Corruption, promote regulatory reform, and engage civil society and the private sector.

Issues of interest included codes of conducts for civil servants, transparency in public procurement, whistle-blower protection, and conflicts of interest. In partnership with the UN Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the OCEEA conducted a regional seminar on corruption prevention for government representatives of South Caucasus and Eastern European countries in Batumi, Georgia. Along with the OECD and the OSCE Presence in Albania, the OSCE co-organized a corruption prevention seminar in Tirana for officials from Eastern Europe and Central Asia.



ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING

In the area of anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism, the OCEEA focused on strengthening the capacity of financial intelligence units to conduct national risk assessments. The

2012 OSCE Handbook on Data Collection in support of Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing National Risk Assessments was translated from English into Russian. In October, the Office, in partnership with the UNODC and the Eurasian Group on combating money laundering and financing of terrorism, conducted a workshop on cross-border co-operation against corruption and money laundering in Vienna for government representatives from Central Asia, the South Caucasus and Eastern Europe, which produced practical interstate co-operation and inspired requests for follow-up regional activities.

ENERGY

In line with the two 2013 Kyiv Ministerial Council decisions on energy and the environment, the OCEEA maintained its focus on sustainable energy and risks to the energy sector from natural disasters.

To foster transboundary co-operation, the OSCE hosted an expert workshop in July to share best practices in protecting electricity networks from natural disasters and began developing a handbook on the topic. High-level OSCE engagement in the Bratislava Energy Charter Forum as well as events co-organized with field operations in Turkmenistan and Tajikistan complemented 2014 energy activities.

AARHUS CENTRES

Promoting active public participation in environmental policy debates has been a focus of the OCEEA for over ten years. The fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention in Maastricht, Netherlands, in June provided an opportunity to exchange views among over 100 representatives from Aarhus Centres and OSCE field operations in 14 countries.

SECURITY DAYS:

ENHANCING SECURITY THROUGH WATER DIPLOMACY

On 8 July, an OSCE Security Days event dedicated to enhancing security through water diplomacy brought together some 150 participants for discussions on water as both a source of tension and a tool for confidence-building and co-operation.

The keynote address was delivered by His Royal Highness Prince El Hassan bin Talal of Jordan, former Chairman of the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation, and currently the Chairman of the High Level Forum for the Blue Peace Middle East Plan. Participants pointed to the many linkages between water and security. The OSCE was seen as well placed to help foster co-operation on water issues in the OSCE area. OSCE experience in supporting better water management, particularly in the context of transboundary water resources, was highlighted.



His Royal Highness Prince El Hassan bin Talal of Jordan (left) and OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier at a bilateral meeting in Vienna, 8 July 2014.

MORE ENVIRONMENTAL HIGHLIGHTS:

- National consultations in 11 countries on security implications of climate change, supported by the European Union Instrument for Stability and the Austrian Development Agency
- An environmental assessment mission to an arsenic mining site in the Tsana area of Georgia
- Customs experts trained from Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus and Central Asia on how to detect illegal trafficking of hazardous waste at borders

Most of the environmental activities were carried out by the OSCE in the framework of the Environment and Security Initiative with the UN Development Programme, UN Economic Commission for Europe, UN Environment Programme, and the Regional Environmental Center.

Combating trafficking in human beings

Special Representative and Co-ordinator: **Ambassador Madina Jarbussynova**

Budget: €756,800

Staff: 11

www.osce.org/what/trafficking

The Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings is focused on assisting participating States to better prevent human trafficking, to prosecute those who commit human trafficking crimes and to protect victims of trafficking. In 2014, the Office of the Special Representative continued to build partnerships between governments, international organizations, civil society, trade unions, the media, and the private sector, in order to strengthen co-operation at the regional and international level.



PROMOTING PROSECUTION

Prosecution was a major theme of the February “Not for Sale” conference in Vienna, a joint event between the OSCE and the Council of Europe. Delegates called on governments to intensify the

fight against modern-day slavery by taking specific steps to protect victims and prosecute the criminals who commit such crimes.

The Office of the Special Representative also organized training sessions for prosecutors and judges in Haifa, Israel, and Strasbourg, France, and trained OSCE field offices to promote the non-punishment principle to prevent victims from being prosecuted for crimes they were forced to commit by their traffickers.



CO-OPERATING IN-COUNTRY

In her first official visit since taking the helm of the office on 1 September, Special Representative and Co-ordinator Madina Jarbussynova visited Moldova in October. In Tiraspol, she participated

in the evaluation of a project that has assisted more than 900 children on both sides of the Dniester/Nistru River who are living without parental care. Since 2011, the OSCE has been partnering with local NGOs and relevant government ministries in Moldova to teach crucial life and professional skills to such children in 12 residential schools in ten regions. In 2014, the project expanded to Transnistria.

Earlier in the year, Ruth Freedom Pojman, as Acting Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, conducted follow-up visits to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan. On these visits, Pojman met with NGO service providers and visited shelters that aid victims of human trafficking.



THE OSCE ALLIANCE AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

30+

international, non-governmental and inter-governmental organizations



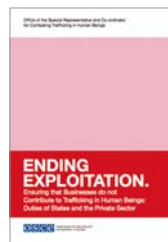
Ambassador *Madina Jarbussynova*, Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, confers with Senior Co-ordination Adviser *Marco Bonabello* at the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons conference in November in Vienna.

ALLIANCE AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS CONFERENCE

The 14th meeting of the OSCE-organized Alliance against Trafficking in Persons focused on ethical principles involved in preventing and combating trafficking in human beings. During two days, participants addressed a range of important ethical issues and explored measures that OSCE participating States, civil society, international organizations, businesses, trade unions, medical professionals, media and other stakeholders can take to ensure that they do not contribute to trafficking in human beings. The conference served as an opportunity to review strategies used to promote ethical sourcing in the private sector to prevent and combat human trafficking and discuss the impact codes of conduct have in preventing human trafficking in conflict and crisis situations. Additionally, one expert panel took up the issue of medical ethics and trafficking in human beings for the purpose of organ removal. The group discussed a number of related topics, including steps that can be taken to proactively identify potential victims.

OFF THE SHELF

Titles released in 2014 by the Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings



Ending Exploitation. Ensuring that Businesses do not Contribute to Trafficking in Human Beings: Duties of States and the Private Sector

Launched at the November Alliance conference to promote worker-driven social responsibility to help prevent human trafficking in supply chains in the private sector.



Leveraging Anti-Money Laundering Regimes to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings

Combined six years of research and seminars to argue for financial probes to be a part of human trafficking investigations, so criminal assets can be identified, frozen or seized.



Handbook: How to prevent human trafficking for domestic servitude in diplomatic households and protect private domestic workers

Released in November and currently in use by protocol departments, this guide focuses on how to detect abuse, react to exploitative situations, and protect the rights of domestic workers.

“We will not stop until we end exploitation and abuse in all forms.”

Didier Burkhalter

Swiss Foreign Minister and OSCE Chairperson-in-Office

Gender Equality

Senior Adviser on Gender Issues: **Ambassador Miroslava Beham**

Budget: €359,000

Staff: 5

www.osce.org/secretariat/gender



In marking the 10th anniversary of the OSCE’s 2004 Action Plan on the Promotion of Gender Equality, the Secretariat’s Gender Section had a landmark year.

There were breakthroughs in gender mainstreaming work in the field, active involvement with the United Nations, and a year-end success with two ministerial decisions on gender issues.

The Gender Section, together with the Chairperson-in-Office and ODIHR, organized the first Gender Equality Review Conference in the OSCE with the participation of some 200 government and civil society representatives and experts.

In another first, a gender adviser was deployed within the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine to include a gender perspective in its work. The Senior Adviser also visited Ukraine to identify priorities for the country and areas for improvement in the Special Monitoring Mission.



Ambassador Miroslava Beham, Senior Adviser on Gender Issues, at the United Nations.

At the Ministerial Council in Basel, participating States called for the OSCE to strengthen and update the 2004 Gender Action Plan and in a separate decision enhanced OSCE commitments on preventing and combating violence against women.



A student takes to the floor during a debate tournament co-organized by the OSCE Mission to Serbia to promote women’s participation in political life.

“Women’s enhanced participation in the peace and wider political process is key to achieving security and stability in Ukraine.”

Ambassador Ertugrul Apakan

Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

In October, the Senior Adviser spoke at the UN Security Council Open Debate on UN Security Council Resolution 1325, further raising awareness of the OSCE’s regional work to enhance implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in the OSCE area.

MAKING IT MAINSTREAM

How participating States consider gender in policy and programme cycles

- 
25 HAVE AGENCIES, OFFICES, OR COMMISSIONS UNDER PRIME MINISTER OR PRESIDENT
- 
22 HAVE DEPARTMENTS (UNDER LABOUR, SOCIAL AFFAIRS, JUSTICE OR EDUCATION MINISTRIES)
- 
5 HAVE MINISTRIES
- 
2 HAVE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

WOMEN IN THE OSCE

Staff At the OSCE

 **57** PARTICIPATING STATES

 **11** FEMALE HEADS OF DELEGATION

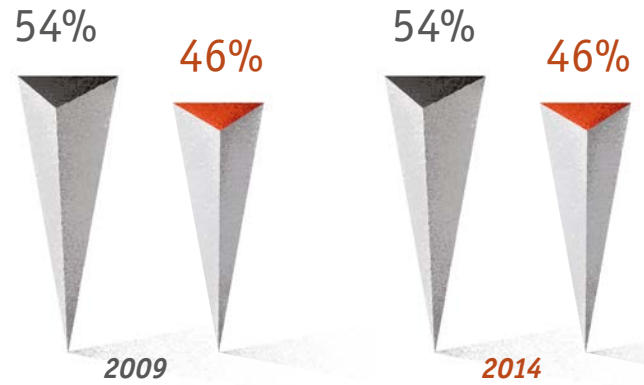
 **46** MALE HEADS OF DELEGATION

OVERALL OSCE HISTORY

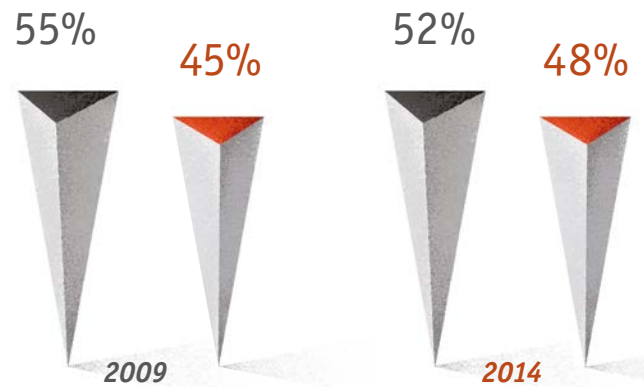
Heads of Field Operations

 **8** FEMALE  **122** MALE

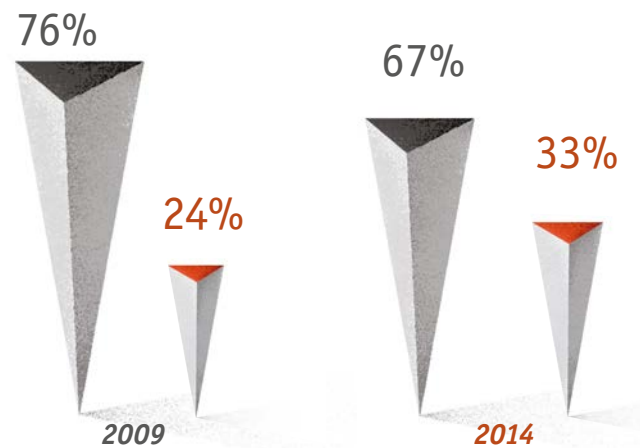
General service:



Professional:



Management:



Employment data as of 31 December 2014.

OFFICE FOR DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Director: **Michael Georg Link**

Budget: €16,039,300

Staff: 78 international

66 local

www.osce.org/odihr



The year 2014 saw a crisis in and around Ukraine and troubling developments in the areas of hate crimes and discrimination across the OSCE region. The Warsaw-based OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) focused on strengthening democratic institutions and the rule of law, countering threats to human rights and empowering those working to defend them.

ODIHR and the High Commissioner on National Minorities were the first international actors to respond to the request of the Government of Ukraine to send a mission to assess the human rights situation in the country and laid the groundwork for a project to strengthen dialogue among civil society. In addition, ODIHR continued to support participating States in their efforts to improve electoral systems, while its active monitoring of public assemblies helped promote the freedom of peaceful assembly.



Michael Georg Link, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

“The ongoing crisis in and around Ukraine has again proven the relevance of the OSCE’s comprehensive concept of security. The weakest individuals in a society often suffer the most from a crisis, and safeguarding their rights is what the human dimension of security is about.”

Michael Georg Link
ODIHR Director

ELECTIONS

In 2014, ODIHR conducted a total of 12 election-related activities in a number of OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation. The Office's election work goes beyond observing proceedings on election day, and includes expert assessments of, among others, the legal framework for elections, election administration, campaign financing, candidate and voter registration, as well as the media environment surrounding elections. ODIHR recommendations and follow-up activities assist participating States in their efforts to improve electoral processes.

Observers look for compliance with:

- OSCE commitments
- international obligations and other standards for democratic elections
- national legislation

Throughout their work, ODIHR observers join with parliamentarians from the OSCE, the Council of Europe, NATO and the European Parliament.



An 85-year-old voter in Krasnoilsk, Chernivitsi region of Ukraine, casts her vote during the early presidential elections, 25 May 2014.

Photo by Michael Forster Rothbart

HUMAN RIGHTS

In 2014, ODIHR launched the first National Human Rights Institutions Academy to bring together staff from across the OSCE region working on common human dimension issues. When the crisis in and around Ukraine began, ODIHR sprang to action, deploying a Human Rights Assessment Mission to observe and report on the human rights situation in the country, particularly as it affected displaced persons and national minorities.



ELECTIONS OBSERVED IN 2014

ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSIONS (EOM)

Comprised of a core team of experts and long- and short-term observers.

* denotes Limited Election Observation Missions comprised of a core team of experts and long-term observers

** denotes Election Assessment Missions comprised of a core team of experts only

UKRAINE ELECTIONS

The election observation missions to Ukraine were among the largest in the Office's history, with a total of almost 2,000 observers from 49 countries deployed for the May presidential and October parliamentary elections.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS:

"After the 2012 Parliamentary Election, ODIHR recommendations provided a basis for changing electoral laws in 2013 and 2014. These changes played an important role in ensuring further compliance with international democratic standards. Considering the political atmosphere, lobbying for such changes to the electoral law could have been much harder without ODIHR recommendations."

Olga Aivazovska

Head of the Board, Civil Network OPORA, Ukraine

In addition, ODIHR's human dimension meetings provide civil society representatives with the opportunity to make their voices heard while addressing human rights issues, establishing contact with others and deepening their co-operation with the OSCE and its participating States. In 2014, ODIHR worked with the Swiss Chairmanship to organize supplementary human dimension meetings focused on preventing torture and securing human rights amid economic crises. The lengthier Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM) in Warsaw dedicated full days to discussions on the rights of migrants, national minorities and violence against women and children.

16 March

SERBIA

Early Parliamentary*



AFGHANISTAN

5 APRIL, Presidential

14 JUNE, Provincial Council

Election Support Team comprised of experts to assist the electoral process.

6 April

HUNGARY

Parliamentary*



Afghanistan holds presidential and provincial council elections, 5 April 2014.
Photo by UN Photo/Fardin Waezi

ELECTION EXPERTS TO AFGHANISTAN

During Afghanistan’s first transition of presidential power through elections, ODIHR was present to provide recommendations to strengthen the country’s compliance with international standards for democratic elections.

Following an invitation from the Afghan authorities, the OSCE Permanent Council tasked ODIHR with deploying an Election Support Team to provide expertise in the Afghan-led electoral process. ODIHR conducted similar work in Afghanistan during votes in 2004, 2009 and 2010.



TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

Ten years after the adoption of the Berlin Declaration on anti-Semitism, ODIHR, the German Federal Foreign Office and the Swiss Chairmanship brought the OSCE community together in Berlin in November to reaffirm their commitments to fight anti-Semitism in the wake of a rise in troubling and dangerous incidents in the region. The Ministerial Council later passed a declaration on enhancing efforts to combat anti-Semitism. ODIHR also organized an expert conference attended by 26 participating States on the security needs of Muslim communities. ODIHR staff assisted police, prosecutors and judges from across the region in putting these agreements into practice, delivering more than a dozen workshops that reached more than 500 people.

OFF THE SHELF

A selection of ODIHR’s key publications released in 2014



NATIONAL MINORITIES

Handbook on Observing and Promoting the Participation of National Minorities in Electoral Processes

Presented in September with the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities



MIGRATION

Baseline Study on Cross-Border Mobility in the OSCE Region

Launched during a meeting of 30 visa policy experts in Vienna in May



WOMEN IN POLITICS

Handbook on Promoting Women’s Political Participation in Political Parties

Presented at the OSCE Gender Equality Review Conference in Vienna in July



HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

Guidelines on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders

Presented in June with the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship to commemorate 20 years of the Budapest Document, which singled out the need for participating States and third states to protect human rights defenders

REPORTING HATE CRIMES

<http://hatecrime.osce.org>

ODIHR launched a website to make public cases of hate crimes reported by participating States and civil society on hate crimes in 2014. The site went live with data submitted from 36 governments and 109 NGOs covering incidents from 45 participating States.

YOUTH POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

ODIHR organized and contributed to nine events for 420 people representing 37 countries, including two Youth Leadership Forums that brought together 85 young leaders from 37 participating States.

13 and 27 April

THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

13 APRIL, Presidential (first round)
27 APRIL, Presidential (second round) and Early Parliamentary



UKRAINE

25 MAY, Early Presidential
26 OCTOBER, Early Parliamentary

10 August

TURKEY

Presidential*

4 October

LATVIA

Parliamentary**



ROMA AND SINTI ISSUES

As one of the OSCE region's largest ethnic minorities, the safety of Romani and Sinti people can often be a barometer for larger security and stability issues in a democracy. For that reason, in 2003, the OSCE mandated ODIHR's Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues to analyse the situation of Roma in crisis and post-crisis situations. In 2014, the OSCE was the only international organization to publish a report on the human rights situation of Roma in Ukraine, one of the most vulnerable populations to be displaced amid the crisis. ODIHR also hosted the first-ever meeting for young Roma and Sinti to encourage civic participation to improve living conditions (see box below).



14 of the participants at OSCE Roma and Sinti Youth Conference in Belgrade, Serbia, on 8-9 December.

Photo by: Edvard Molnar

ODIHR EMPOWERS ROMA YOUTH THROUGH LEADERSHIP FORUM IN BELGRADE

More than 40 young activists from across the OSCE region gathered in Belgrade in December for the first-ever OSCE Roma and Sinti Youth Conference. At the conference, they discussed policies to empower their communities to play more prominent roles in politics and decision-making. Roma youth addressed national authorities about the security challenges they face in their home countries, including health risks from environmental hazards, as well as barriers to education and poverty that can leave young Roma vulnerable to criminal exploitation.



WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

25% Portion of parliamentary seats held by women in OSCE participating States



DEMOCRATIZATION

Ensuring real human security requires focusing on people of all ages and in all facets of democratic life. That is why ODIHR works on a wide range of fields relevant to democratization, including long-term trial monitoring, legislative assistance and activities to increase the participation of women and youth in the civic process.

GEORGIA TRIAL MONITORING

ODIHR concluded nearly two years of trial-monitoring activity in Georgia in December. The Office monitored 327 hearings in 14 criminal cases involving high-ranking officials in the previous Georgian Government. The final trial-monitoring report provided analysis of compliance with selected fair trial rights and offered concrete recommendations for strengthening these rights and the independence of the judiciary.

HUMAN RIGHTS? YES PLEASE.



Participation in the OSCE's five human dimension meetings has increased year after year

↑ 9% PARTICIPANTS

↑ 11% NGOs

STOPPING THE HATE



11 WORKSHOPS on combating hate crimes against Muslim women – 227 participants



301 PROSECUTORS and POLICE trained to recognize bias in hate crimes

5 October

BULGARIA

Early Parliamentary*

12 October

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

General



MOLDOVA

30 NOVEMBER, Parliamentary

21 December

UZBEKISTAN

Parliamentary*

HIGH COMMISSIONER ON NATIONAL MINORITIES

High Commissioner: **Astrid Thors**

Budget: €3,407,600

Staff: 18 international

12 local

www.osce.org/hcnm



High Commissioner on National Minorities Astrid Thors

The High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) was created in 1992 to identify and seek early resolution of ethnic tensions that might endanger peace, stability or friendly relations within or between OSCE participating States. In 2014, the HCNM continued this work, examining conditions for minority communities in many participating States and advising them on national legislation and policies related to national minorities and inter-ethnic relations.

INTEGRATION OF DIVERSE SOCIETIES

The HCNM continued to promote the Ljubljana Guidelines on Diverse Societies, a set of guidelines for participating States to establish communication and interaction across ethnic divides and go beyond simply recognizing minority culture, identity and political interests.

All participating States have their own unique policy considerations related to the challenges they face in managing diversity in their societies. In 2014, the HCNM conducted 20 country visits to support the integration of society and held events in Kazakhstan and Serbia with respect to their integration policies.

The HCNM visited Moldova twice in 2014 to assist the Government in developing an integration strategy that strengthens social cohesion while protecting and promoting national minority rights.



EDUCATION

Connecting communities can happen in a variety of places, but sometimes the best place to start can be a classroom. The HCNM promotes conflict prevention through education, supporting bilingual

and multilingual education; integrated education; and teaching of state languages to national minorities, all depending on the context. The aim is to help national minorities to be better able to participate in public life while maintaining their own language. Inclusive education recognizes that state languages can be an important tool of nation building but also protects and promotes the right of minorities to learn and use their own language. The HCNM focused on education at the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting and during bilateral visits to Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan.

The High Commissioner's mandate includes regular visits to the OSCE participating States to discuss national minority issues with government officials, minority representatives and members of civil society. **IN 2014, THE HCNM MADE 20 COUNTRY VISITS TO 13 PARTICIPATING STATES.**

JANUARY

Serbia

MARCH

Ukraine, including Crimea
Moldova

FEBRUARY

Georgia

APRIL

Ukraine (twice)

MAX VAN DER STOEL AWARD

Spravedlivost, an NGO from Jalal-Abad, Kyrgyzstan, won the Max van der Stoel Award for its outstanding work in improving the position of national minorities in the OSCE area. Spravedlivost is widely respected for its activities to promote human rights in Kyrgyzstan. It has worked for many years on issues related to the protection of the most vulnerable groups, including national minorities. Since the June 2010 events in southern Kyrgyzstan that caused the deaths of hundreds of individuals and displaced hundreds of thousands of people, Spravedlivost has worked consistently to support national minorities despite being subject to harassment. The jury remarked upon the bravery of its staff, who continue to speak out against human rights abuses and promote a more tolerant, just and peaceful society.



On 12 June 2010, the Kyrgyz-Uzbek University of People's Friendship in Jalal-Abad was looted and burned during the June 2010 events in southern Kyrgyzstan. The University remained in ruins in September 2014.



EXPANDING LANGUAGE IN SERBIA

Serbia's Bujanovac Department of Economics at Novi Sad University is a positive example of bilingual education helping to foster inter-ethnic understanding and socio-economic

development. The HCNM chaired several meetings of the stakeholders of this bilingual, state-funded higher-education institution, which has become a symbol of interaction and integration in southern Serbia. The department expects its first students to graduate by June 2015.

The HCNM also helped launch a report called "Study on Serbian Language Teaching and Learning as a Non-Mother Tongue in Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveda." The study recommends improving the quality of teaching materials in the short term and working long-term to train new language teachers.

A COMMITMENT TO UKRAINE

The HCNM made six visits to Ukraine, including one to Crimea. The High Commissioner found no evidence of violations to the rights of the Russian-speaking population. She expressed concern about the ongoing conflict in the east and south but urged the authorities not to make hasty changes to the national language policy. The HCNM and ODIHR deployed a joint Human Rights Assessment Mission, and the HCNM worked closely with the Special Monitoring Mission throughout the year. The HCNM has been requesting access to Crimea to assess the situation following reports of alleged human rights abuses on the peninsula. "If human rights, including minority rights, are not respected, there is an increased risk of inter-ethnic tensions, and even conflict," Commissioner Thors said.

MAY

Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ukraine

JULY

Moldova

SEPTEMBER

Albania
Ukraine

NOVEMBER

Tajikistan

JUNE

former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Kazakhstan

AUGUST

Serbia

OCTOBER

Kyrgyzstan
Latvia

DECEMBER

former Yugoslav Republic
of Macedonia

REPRESENTATIVE ON FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA

Representative: **Dunja Mijatovic**

Budget: €1,482,000

Staff: 15

www.osce.org/fom

The Representative on Freedom of the Media is mandated to protect and promote media freedom across the OSCE region. In 2014 the office spoke out for journalists in and around Ukraine, continued to intervene on behalf of journalists elsewhere, and advocated for a free Internet.

2014 was an active year for the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media, an autonomous OSCE institution with a mandate to assist participating States in fulfilling their commitments to free media and free expression.

Overall, the Representative's activities can be divided into two distinct areas: observing media developments to provide early warning about potential challenges to freedom; and helping participating States honour their commitments to free

expression and free media. The safety of journalists, particularly in cases of physical violence, threats and harassment, is of great concern to Representative Dunja Mijatovic. She also encourages participating States to foster media pluralism, decriminalize defamation and combat hate speech while preserving freedom of expression. Finally, the Representative provides expert opinions on media regulation and legislation, promotes Internet freedom and assists participating States with the switchover from analogue to digital broadcasting.



Reporters approach the Representative on Freedom of the Media during a trip to southern Ukraine, in February.

FOCUS ON UKRAINE

60+

INTERVENTIONS ON MEDIA FREEDOM RELATED ISSUES

Visits to Kyiv, Odessa, Kharkiv, Simferopol

Roundtables with journalists from Russia and Ukraine:

- *Russian Union of Journalists*
- *Independent Media Trade Union of Ukraine*
- *The National Union of Journalists of Ukraine*



OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Dunja Mijatovic, at the Permanent Council in Vienna, 16 January 2014.

Journalists were among those caught in the crossfire of propaganda and misinformation amid the conflict in and around Ukraine, one of the greatest European crises in recent history. The Representative devoted a great deal of time to working in Ukraine in 2014, intervening over 60 times and denouncing the physical violence, bureaucratic obstacles and general disrespect for the profession in that region.

Recognizing how critical the situation was for journalists, the Representative traveled to Kyiv, Odessa, Kharkiv and Simferopol, where she worked closely with Ukrainian journalists and officials to gather first-hand information about the ongoing press freedom situation in Ukraine and to co-ordinate future activities in the country.

The Representative strove to improve co-operation and the dialogue between Russian and Ukrainian journalists. She organized a series of roundtables attended by senior representatives of the Russian Union of Journalists, the Independent Media Trade Union of Ukraine and the National Union of Journalists of Ukraine, where participants engaged in frank and open discussions about how to improve their professional standards and safety in Ukraine. Topics also included common monitoring of journalists' rights violations, promotion of respect of ethical standards and the issue of propaganda in the media. Representatives of the European Federation of Journalists, the International Press Institute and Reporters without Borders also attended the meetings.

The roundtables resulted in the successful adoption of three documents: a memorandum on the situation in and around Ukraine; an action plan to improve the country's media freedom; and a joint statement condemning the incidents of killing, beating and detention of journalists in the zone of armed conflict in eastern Ukraine. These were important on a symbolic

level as well as a practical one, demonstrating the willingness of these unions to co-operate with one another.

The Representative also provided critical analysis of new, web-based journalism, or "open journalism", in 2014. Seeing the continued evolution of news, moving beyond new platforms to new forms of news gathering, the Representative sought to explore the growing trend of crowdsourcing and participatory journalism.

In May and September, her office organized conferences to discuss legal, ethical and regulatory questions. The greatest strength of open journalism – the lack of regulation and established professional standards – is also its most glaring pitfall, and the Representative made it a priority to examine this issue. Debates focused on how traditional media laws should be applied or reinterpreted to protect innovative contributions and media plurality. Participants agreed that any regulations on open journalism must safeguard free expression so that the Internet remains an open platform for the unfettered flow of information and ideas.

The Representative also organized a workshop in Minsk to improve the interaction between law enforcement and the media. Approximately 20 members of Belarusian law enforcement agencies, state media and private media learned about the Belarusian legal framework and the specifics of each other's work, sharing experiences on international standards and best practices to prevent and resolve conflicts.

FIELD OPERATIONS

The OSCE created two new field operations in 2014 to add to its network of 2,000 employees based in 15 countries across Europe and Central Asia.



Field operations in 2014

Field operations assist governments, institutions, people and communities in transforming the commitments of the OSCE's participating States into practice. They may work on issues in support of early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and/or post-conflict rehabilitation. Activities vary with the context of the individual field operation and host country, and are governed by the mandate of the field operation. Some field operations conduct activities in all three dimensions; others focus on specific areas.

THE OSCE CURRENTLY HAS 17 FIELD OPERATIONS:

■ SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

Presence in Albania
Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mission in Kosovo
Mission to Montenegro
Mission to Serbia
Mission to Skopje

■ EASTERN EUROPE

Mission to Moldova
Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine
Observer Mission at the Russian
Checkpoints Gukovo and Donetsk

■ SOUTH CAUCASUS

Project Co-ordinator in Baku
Office in Yerevan

■ CENTRAL ASIA

Centre in Ashgabat
Centre in Astana
Centre in Bishkek
Office in Tajikistan
Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan



Previous page: OSCE monitors from the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine discuss their plans in Kharkiv, in July.
(Photo by Evgeniy Maloletka.)

Presence in Albania

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Florian Raunig**

Budget: €2,982,400

Staff: 20 international

64 local

www.osce.org/albania

The OSCE Presence in Albania in 2014 focused on judicial reform to bring greater efficiency to civil and criminal courtrooms while also working to fight corruption, expand environmental co-operation, provide electoral support, and support activities that inspire greater youth involvement.

A PRECIOUS PRESENCE FOR RULE OF LAW, DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS



JUSTICE WITHOUT DELAYS

Knowing that justice delayed is justice denied, Albanian judicial officials worked with the OSCE Presence in Albania in 2014 to modernize the slow and inefficient legal processes that had been feeding mistrust in the courts among Albanians.

Significant work was conducted to improve the efficiency of civil court proceedings, reducing delays in the handling of cases and expanding Albania’s use of probation versus imprisonment.

“The Justice Without Delays Project not only helps citizens to get timely justice, but also helps the judges, who feel more comfortable in their courtrooms,” said Alma Hoxha, Chair of the Kruja Court. “Parties now show better respect for the trial rules. All this increases their trust towards the court, towards the justice system in Albania.”

By developing an assessment tool for young offenders, the Presence helped encourage the use of alternatives to custody in line with the Ministry of Justice’s draft strategy on justice for minors, supporting a restorative justice and victim-offender mediation programme for young people.

The Presence also actively supported the fight against corruption, helping the country adopt a code of ethics for inspectors that was officially endorsed by the Central Inspectorate and integrated into the training programme for new state inspectors.

The Presence also supported the Government in drafting a new anti-corruption strategy, including measures to address corruption in the environmental sector. Adopting a cross-cutting approach, the Presence conducted a risk assessment to identify the corruption risks and related impacts on the environment and submitted recommendations to the Ministry of Environment.

PARLIAMENTARY CO-OPERATION

The focus on environmental issues also served as the basis for improved bilateral and regional co-operation, as seen at a December meeting between parliamentary committees from Albania and Montenegro co-organized by the Presence. The gathering, the first since 2009, focused on promoting bilateral co-operation and strengthening legislative oversight of environmental issues. Held in the border city of Shkodra, parliamentarians focused on pollution in a regional lake caused by illegal dumping of urban and construction waste and waste disposal from an aluminum plant.

The Presence assisted the Central Election Commission in identifying gaps in electoral legislation, specifically regarding media and political party financing. The Presence also held a roundtable on best practices for electoral commissioners and forums on increasing women’s participation in political and public life ahead of the 2015 local elections.

LESS PRISON, MORE PROBATION

Action:



540 STAKEHOLDERS TRAINED ON ALTERNATIVES TO CUSTODY AND ROLE OF PROBATION



30 PROBATION OFFICERS TRAINED ON THE OFFENDER ASSESSMENT SYSTEM FOR JUVENILES AND YOUNG ADULTS

Result:



25% INCREASE IN JUVENILE OFFENDERS SENTENCED TO PROBATION COMPARED TO 2013

REDUCING DELAYS



100+ LAWYERS AND JUDGES TRAINED ON ADMINISTRATIVE TRIAL PROCEDURES



100 NEW LAWYERS TRAINED ON TECHNIQUES FOR EFFECTIVE CIVIL PROCEEDINGS



1,500 COPIES OF MANUAL ON CIVIL PROCEEDINGS DISTRIBUTED



CONNECTING WITH YOUTH

From promoting active citizenship to combating domestic violence, the OSCE Presence in Albania involved local youth in substantive issues in 2014. One meeting brought 60 highschool students together with high-level state officials, including President Bujar Nishani. A similar initiative took place for a group of 90 children, who learned about the history and practical work of the OSCE and met face to face with OSCE Chair-in-Office and Foreign Minister of Switzerland Dider Burkhalter.

On the matters of child exploitation, abuse and trafficking, the Presence carried out strong awareness-raising efforts through targeted projects and publications aimed at helping identify and protect vulnerable children, build the capacity of social workers and police, and promote the work of centres that assist street children.

FEWER HEARINGS, MORE EFFICIENCY

Hearings per case on average

	CIVIL	CRIMINAL
February	14	9
August	4	4

Average number of days per case

	CIVIL	CRIMINAL
February	284	135
August	67	45

Percentage of non-productive hearings

(hearings in which nothing happened towards the solution of the case)

	CIVIL	CRIMINAL
February	35%	25%
August	2%	7%

All figures based on Korça District Court.



Albanian President Bujar Nishani meets with high-school students who participated in an OSCE project on active citizenship in Tirana, 2 December 2014.

Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Jonathan Moore**

Budget: €12,387,300

Staff: 32 international

309 local

www.osce.org/bih

2014 was a challenging year in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Anti-government protests shook the country in February, and devastating floods and landslides led to the largest post-war humanitarian crisis in May. On a positive note, general elections in October were held peacefully and in a competitive environment. The OSCE Mission remained flexible in its response to social and political developments by adjusting field office support and activities while continuing to promote the rule of law, human rights and good governance.



RESPONSE TO THE FLOODS

In May, more than 20 people died and 90,000 were displaced as unprecedented floods and landslides struck Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). In response, the Mission opened five temporary premises in affected areas to offer

targeted assistance to local institutions in restoring services, provide logistical support to relief and recovery agencies and strengthen OSCE monitoring of social and political developments. To encourage regional co-operation in water management and flood prevention, the Mission co-organized a regional conference on lessons learned from the disaster.



Severe flooding in Northern Bosnia and Herzegovina left streets filled with mud and debris in May.

Photo by Mirsad Tatarevic.



SAFE AND SECURE

On top of the Mission's efforts to promote security sector reform focused on the OSCE Code of Conduct and international commitments, the Mission also doubled the scope of

its work to upgrade security at BiH munitions storage sites, installing new fencing, gates, signage, and barrier ramps at four locations.

A NEW YOUTH VOICE IN THE OSCE

In July, the Mission established the region's first Youth Advisory Group in line with the Swiss Chairmanship priority on youth involvement. Aimed at empowering youth and stimulating new ideas within the Mission, the eight-member group has provided input into the Mission's current and future programmes and looks to serve as a model to be replicated elsewhere in the region.



600 INDIVIDUALS ENGAGED IN INTER-AGENCY AND CROSS-SECTORAL TRAINING AND DIALOGUE ON VITAL SECURITY SECTOR ISSUES



PROCESSING WAR CRIMES

The Mission continues to monitor all war crimes trials in BiH and the judicial system's ability to process cases effectively and expeditiously in line with human rights standards. At the end of

2014, 190 war crimes trials were ongoing. The Mission put extra emphasis on wartime sexual violence in 2014, releasing a report in April entitled *Combating Impunity for Conflict-Related Sexual Violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Progress and Challenges*.

Tackling the extensive backlog of war crimes cases (approximately 1,100 open investigations plus 190 ongoing trials) remains one of the Mission's priorities. Several projects were implemented in 2014 to bolster the judiciary's ability to address the backlog and deliver justice.

TACKLING THE BACKLOG OF WAR CRIMES CASES

2014 Trainings:



19 WITNESS SUPPORT STAFF



55 JUDGES



84 PROSECUTORS



97 EXPERT ASSOCIATES



130 WAR CRIMES INVESTIGATORS/
POLICE

HUMAN RIGHTS FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS

The Mission continued to provide technical support to the beneficiary selection commissions within the Regional Housing Programme (RHP) and the BiH Roma Housing Project. By December, the first 150 RHP beneficiaries were selected and more than 13,000 applications were reviewed, in close co-operation with the UNHCR, for subsequent project phases. Local authorities constructed 80 Roma housing units. In 2014, the Mission continued to strengthen the capacities of the BiH Ombudsman, which processed nearly 20 per cent more discrimination cases than in 2013. The Mission also supported the development of a National Minority Strategy, which is now pending adoption at the highest levels.

INTERACTIVE WAR CRIMES CASE MAP

<http://hatemonitor.oscebih.org>

In February 2014, the Mission launched the interactive BiH War Crimes Case Map to increase judicial transparency and display information on final decisions of war crimes proceedings by location of the crime and the court adjudicating them.



IMPROVING EDUCATION



The Mission continued to work with education authorities to increase inclusivity in schools. By the end of 2014, the majority of education jurisdictions had introduced the Index for Inclusion to help schools assess

themselves regarding inclusive educational practices. The Mission also assisted in developing common learning outcomes and standards for history teaching in 2014, which are awaiting endorsement by the country's 14 education authorities.

PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY

In 2014, the Mission took a more comprehensive approach to gender equality, due in part to the establishment of a Mission Gender Unit and the adoption of an Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality (2013-15).



133 WOMEN CANDIDATES FROM 11 POLITICAL PARTIES TRAINED BY THE BIH GENDER EQUALITY AGENCY WITH OSCE SUPPORT



8 NUMBER OF POLITICAL PARTIES SIGNED THE OSCE-SUPPORTED "GENDER EQUALITY PLEDGE FOR POLITICAL PARTIES"

Mission in Kosovo

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Jean-Claude Schlumberger**

Budget: €19,679,900

Staff: 133 international

419 local

www.osce.org/kosovo

In a year dominated by elections in Kosovo, the OSCE Mission played a leading role in facilitating electoral processes, training new public safety officers and building bridges between disparate communities.

In northern Kosovo, the Mission held tailor-made seminars for municipal councilors on matters ranging from developing a budget to principles of good governance; trained 372 newly integrated Kosovo police officers on the criminal code, hate crimes, and domestic violence; and helped establish the first public safety committees in the northern municipalities of Zubin Potok and Zvečan/Zveçan.

After years of building trust with Kosovo’s political parties, the Mission was again called upon to provide technical support for elections. The OSCE trained municipal election commissions for the Assembly of Kosovo election in the four northern municipalities.



FACILITATING DIALOGUE ACROSS RELIGIONS

The OSCE helped establish new connections between communities by strengthening inter-faith dialogue and face-to-face visits. For example, the OSCE brought 30 local youth from Deçan/Decane to visit the Visoki Decani Monastery, a historic Serbian Orthodox monastery in their hometown, for the first time.

“Young people from different communities in Kosovo have very limited or no opportunities to visit sites associated with other communities, or to get together and learn more about each other. We organized these visits to give young people this chance,” said Silke Nebenführ from the Mission’s Property Section.



A voter casts a ballot in the 23 February 2014 mayoral elections in Mitrovica/Mitrovicë North.

CULTURAL SENSITIVITY



1,939 GOVERNMENT, CIVIL SOCIETY AND MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TRAINED ON PROPERTY, HOUSING AND CULTURAL HERITAGE ISSUES



Cross-cultural community visits

650 CHILDREN

10 SITES ALL OVER KOSOVO



70 RELIGIOUS LEADERS

22 INTER-FAITH FORUM DISCUSSIONS



65 NUMBER OF YOUNG PEOPLE CONNECTED AT 2 INTER-FAITH CAMPS

All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244.



PUBLIC SAFETY

On the security and public safety front, the Mission contributed to two important initiatives: a regional exercise on combating migrant smuggling for Kosovo police and prosecutors and a

community safety awareness programme designed for schools.

In addition, thanks to the Mission's assistance in recent years, the Bachelor's Programme at the Kosovo Academy for Public Safety was accredited, and in October the first cohort of 69 students commenced their academic year. The Mission also provided training on emergency communications for around 120 dispatchers to improve co-operation between all first responders and the Agency for Emergency Management.

GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY

 **3,000** PARTICIPANTS

 **120** WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS


 MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY OVERSIGHT OVER THE EXECUTIVE

 MUNICIPAL BUDGETING

 ACCESS TO PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

 ADMINISTRATIVE JUSTICE

Municipalities with transparency regulation

 February 2014 **1**
December 2014 **14**

OFF THE SHELF

In March, the OSCE Mission in Kosovo published *Challenges in the Protection of Immovable Tangible Cultural Heritage in Kosovo*, assessing whether international human rights standards are being met regarding community cemeteries and other cultural heritage sites.

LANGUAGE RIGHTS

Local communities also benefited from the Mission's action promoting language rights. The Mission produced a documentary on language rights that premiered on 26 September, European Languages Day, and continued to support the Office of the Language Commissioner to protect those rights.



A kiss on the cheek breaks the language barrier between an Albanian civil servant and a Roma child on the Day of European Languages in Prishtinë/Pristina, on 26 September.

Photo by: Edon Muhaxheri



DISPLACED PERSONS

A high-level conference in November, organized by the Mission, saw for the first time Kosovo officials along with representatives of governments in the region discussing lasting solutions for displaced persons from Kosovo.

Governmental leaders from Belgrade, Podgorica, Prishtinë/Priština, and Skopje agreed to establish technical working group meetings to focus on property rights, security, land allocation, and other housing and property claim information.

INCREASING RESOLUTION OF LANGUAGE RIGHTS COMPLAINTS

	2012	2013	2014
<i>Complaints submitted</i>	4	10	46
<i>Complaints resolved</i>	1	8	36

Mission to Montenegro

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Janina Hrebickova**

Budget: €2,183,900

Staff: 10 international

31 local

www.osce.org/montenegro

The Mission to Montenegro focused its work in 2014 on furthering the democratic transition of Montenegro with the main emphasis on strengthening the rule of law, building human rights to prevent discrimination, increasing government transparency, promoting freedom of the media and raising awareness of environmental issues.



EMPOWERING THE ROMA COMMUNITY

To better support the Roma community, the Mission opened an Office for Roma Issues in Bijelo Polje, which works to enroll children in school and promote access to health services. Montenegro has recognized that Roma are among the most vulnerable and marginalized members of society. The Mission also continued to support efforts towards resolving the legal status of displaced persons, many of whom are Roma, helping them obtain identification documents from their country of origin so they can access public services.



THE ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

Recognizing that the public trust is a major aspect for any democratic society, the Mission conducted activities to ensure public access to information and commenced efforts for greater openness in law enforcement and judicial institutions, by hosting a seminar on developing effective communication practices.



Marking International Roma Day, the OSCE Mission opened the Office for Roma Issues in Bijelo Polje focused on childhood health and education, on 7 April.



The OSCE joins volunteers for Let's Do It! - Montenegro's biggest voluntary clean-up of illegal dump sites, in Tivat, on 10 May.

However, transparency in a democracy not only requires open government for citizens to be informed, it also needs independent, objective journalists. To contribute to this, the Mission produced the first-ever survey on the employment status of journalists. The Mission also worked to strengthen the media trade union, trained journalists on investigative reporting, and supported improvements to the funding model and law governing public service broadcaster RTCG.

The Mission also worked to build the capacity of judges and prosecutors to address cybercrime and financial crime and hosted the 8th Regional Conference of the Heads of Financial Intelligence Units of South-East Europe to discuss regional information sharing to combat money laundering. A new law in 2014 appointed the first public bailiffs in Montenegro, and, with training by the OSCE, this led to more efficient court proceedings and better enforcement of judgments.



POLITICAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENTS OF GENDER EQUALITY

The Mission, in conjunction with the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and Podgorica authorities, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to promote gender equality throughout Montenegro. This step highlighted the OSCE's cooperation with officials to combat domestic violence, improve the representation of women in political and public life, and expand economic empowerment of women.

AN ENVIRO-EDUCATION



200 CIVIL SERVANTS TRAINED ON PROVIDING FREE ACCESS TO INFORMATION



3,000 STUDENTS EDUCATED ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AT 16 SCHOOLS

Mission to Serbia

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Peter Burkhard**

Budget: €6,578,500

Staff: 26 international

108 local

www.osce.org/serbia

The OSCE actively partnered with Serbia as the host nation prepared for its 2015 OSCE Chairmanship, conducting groundbreaking work on media freedom, judicial independence, minority rights, regional housing, and sports and community policing.



COMMUNITY POLICING

The OSCE may take a regional approach to collective security issues, but in the end so much of the work to promote real security comes down to the local level.

That's why the OSCE Mission to Serbia

helped officials finalize their action plan to implement Serbia's Community Policing Strategy and enhanced partnerships to help local police implement their own local plans. The Mission also held a regional workshop in November for police from Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Montenegro to help officers identify patterns that can help disrupt organized crime and a series of specialized events to address cybercrimes.

INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY

In a continuation of the OSCE's efforts to promote an independent judiciary in Serbia, the Mission supported working groups to develop rules for evaluating judges and prosecutors and held a conference in June for some 60 international and Serbian senior-level judicial officials. The UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers participated in the event, underlining how indispensable judicial independence is to the right to due process, rule of law, and democracy.

The Mission also worked with the Ministry of Health to help better protect the human rights of residents of mental institutions in Serbia. More than 400 medical professionals



A new generation of students during the opening ceremony of the first bilingual university faculty in south Serbia that provides instruction to ethnic Albanians in their mother tongue and also provides educational opportunities for young people of all communities.



Ambassador **Peter Burkhard**(r), Head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia, receives an award from the Commissioner for Information of Public Importance and Protection of Personal Data, **Rodoljub Sabic**, for the Mission's contribution to promoting the right of free access to information of public importance in Serbia, on 29 September.

took part in the Mission's seminars and awareness-raising activities, being trained on international and national standards related to the prevention of torture and inhuman treatment of patients in psychiatric care.

The Mission to Serbia helped 125 refugee families in Serbia gain housing assistance in 2014 as the Regional Housing Programme moved into its implementation phase. The project involved OSCE offices in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro helping people displaced from the conflict of the 1990s.



A HAND UP FOR MINORITIES

Ahead of the 2014 elections to the National Councils of National Minorities, the Mission helped local officials to translate election-related materials into 11 minority languages in use in Serbia.

The elections provided an opportunity for approximately half a million voters to exercise their rights by electing minority self-governing councils in the areas of education, culture, and language.

"I see the OSCE as the first partner of the National Council of Roma."

Dejan Zivkovic
Roma activist from Prokuplje



MEDIA INDEPENDENCE

Government officials and independent journalists honoured the OSCE Mission in September for its work promoting freedom of information in Serbia. For more than a decade, the Mission has supported efforts to enact a law on free access to information. In 2014, the Mission organized public debates on media reform laws designed to improve the media independence and reduce state ownership. Since 2004, the Mission has trained more than 300 journalists from the country on how to use the public information laws to produce quality investigative journalism.

GIVING HOOLIGANS THE BOOT

With increasing cases of hooligans taking fans' attention off the football pitch, the OSCE organized a conference on improving safety at sporting events in November in Belgrade.

Police, Serbian Football Association officials, and representatives of football clubs joined with experts from Italy, Serbia, Sweden, and the United Kingdom to address a range of issues related to hooliganism, including the role of police, intelligence gathering and sharing, and stadium design. Early in the year, the OSCE released a Serbian-language report on youth and hooliganism in sporting events based on a survey of 3,662 secondary school students throughout Serbia.

Mission to Skopje

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Ralf Breth**

Budget: €6,427,700

Staff: 47 international

107 local

www.osce.org/skopje

2014 saw the OSCE Mission to Skopje actively working around two national elections, furthering promotion of integrated education, and supporting the country’s reform agenda. Through the added value of the OSCE’s countrywide field presence, the Mission was able to fulfil its early-warning function, while continuing to work with the national authorities and civil society on its central goals: to promote stability and security, support the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement, and strengthen inter-ethnic relations.



THE OHRID AGREEMENT

A key priority for the Mission is to monitor and support the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement (OFA), which put an end to the 2001 armed conflict in the country. The OFA is meant to guarantee the participation of all ethnic communities in political, social and cultural life. It focuses on decentralization, non-discrimination, education, the equitable representation of all communities, and the use of their languages.

In 2014, the Mission continued advocating for the Government’s review process of the Framework Agreement structured in four phases to follow the first report of 2012. The Mission has contributed to keeping the review high on the Government’s political agenda, and has offered its continued support to assist the Government with moving the review process forward.

COMMUNITY RIGHTS AND ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

The Mission continued its work in 2014 to strengthen the capacity of the Commission for Protection from Discrimination, the judiciary and civil society. Focusing on the implementation of the Anti-discrimination Law and accommodations made by related legislation, the Mission provided analysis of the various forms of discrimination present in the education sector. The Mission provided training to legal professionals on how to identify and prosecute hate crimes. In the area of minority rights, the Mission helped evaluate the implementation of the Law on Communities, which protects the rights of communities that represent less than 20 per cent of the country’s population. This law aims to support all communities participate in decision-making, and promotes social cohesion so all communities have a sense of belonging.

IMPLEMENTING OF THE NEW CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

By the end of 2014 the Mission had phased out its legal capacity-building efforts, which provided extensive 11-day training programmes on the new Law on Criminal Procedure to more than 210 legal practitioners in 2014 alone. The Mission focused more on trial monitoring to observe the practical implementation of the new law and fair trial standards. Besides 93 sessions monitored by the Mission staff, the civil society coalition All for Fair Trials provided experts to monitor around 75 cases, and introduced a public monitoring activity with members of the public monitoring 102 trial sessions.



Local council members participate in a training session in Ohrid on decentralization, financing, and the roles of local elected officials.

Photo by Nevenka Longurova Girova

INDEPENDENCE AND EFFICIENCY OF THE JUDICIARY

In the course of 2014, the Mission focused on transparency within the judiciary, supporting the Public Prosecutor's Office in building its own press office in July, which later issued 87 statements and briefings over the course of the year.

SUPPORTING THE ELECTORAL REFORM PROCESS

Both presidential and early parliamentary elections took place in 2014. The Mission supported relevant stakeholders in further improving the electoral code, taking into account ODIHR's recommendations on the administration of elections facilitating political dialogue through high-level meetings with all political parties at the central and local level; and monitoring security prior to and during the elections.

A UNIQUE ROLE: EARLY WARNING AND SECURITY

Early warning is at the core of the Mission's mandate. This includes the Head of Mission's central co-ordination role and concrete field activities. The Mission remains the only international organization in the host country with the capacity and expertise to monitor developments in the field countrywide.



BUILDING AN INTEGRATED EDUCATION SYSTEM

One of the Mission's goals remains the promotion of education policies in line with the Government's Strategy towards Integrated Education (SIE). The Mission succeeded in promoting the official appointment of the Ministry of Education and Science-led Working Group to gather data on the status of integration programmes in the country. Additionally, specific extra-budgetary contributions focused on mediation in schools, promotion of grants for schools that engage in multi-ethnic activities, and a teacher training system.



A concert for Skopje youth was one of the multi-ethnic Building Bridges activities held across the country to connect communities

Photo by Aleksandar Jovanovski



JOINT EFFORTS TO FIGHT ORGANIZED CRIME

With a view towards strengthening and sustaining cross-border co-operation between the host country and its neighbours, the Mission built upon 2013's opening of Common Contact Centres between Serbian and Albanian institutions – under the initiative of the OSCE Presence in Albania – and supported the establishment of a contact centre between the host country and Kosovo institutions in 2014. To promote regional co-operation against transnational threats, the Mission supported a regional exercise between the host country and the Serbian police services to use special investigative measures to combat criminal drug trafficking.

The Mission also:

- Supported co-operation between the Government and young members of civil society on youth participation in public policy.
- Developed four analytical papers/assessments on sentencing policy, use of detention, and the independence and efficiency of the judiciary system.
- Promoted, in co-operation with the Helsinki Committee, a dedicated website to allow citizens to report hate-crime incidents.



Report Hate Crimes (zlostorstvaodomraza.com) invites citizens to report alleged incidents online.

- Supported good governance as the state authorities implemented the Common Assessment Framework to ensure quality control of management in the public administration.
- Published five qualitative analyses on the methodology behind the National Integrity System and three public opinion polls on citizens' perception of corruption in the country.
- Supported, with the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, the designing of a two-year strategy for the new Council on Media Ethics.
- Supported, with the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the building of the first trial courtroom in Stip, and one courtroom in Skopje, both complete with technology allowing for real-time transcription.
- Conducted a survey on police-public partnership.

* All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244.

Mission to Moldova

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Michael Scanlan**

Budget: €2,180,100

Staff: 14 international

42 local

www.osce.org/moldova

The primary mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova is to help achieve a lasting, comprehensive political settlement of the Transdniestrian conflict while respecting the territorial integrity of Moldova and providing a special status for Transdniestria. To this end, the Mission assists both sides of the Dniester/Nistru River to come together for varying levels of co-operation, ranging from cultural exchanges to working groups on economic, transportation, and other sector-level negotiations to higher-level political negotiations in the 5+2 format.



TRANSNIESTRIAN SETTLEMENT TALKS CONTINUED IN 2014

The Mission supported two rounds of the 5+2 talks in 2014, down from five such held annually in recent years. During the first round of talks in Vienna in February, the sides signed a protocol

decision allowing greater freedom of movement for permanent residents of Transdniestria. Towards the end of the year, there was an uptick in meetings of the chief negotiators from both sides and in the working groups, which resulted in some progress in technical areas that impact the daily lives of people on both banks. The Mission facilitates both formats, which are the backbone of the settlement process. The members of the working groups are experts in different areas, such as communications, transportation and social issues. The OSCE remained heavily engaged in the settlement process through six visits of Ambassador Radojko Bogojevic, the Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office for the Transdniestrian Settlement Process, and the Mission's support of the meetings of the chief negotiators and the working groups.

THE 5+2 PROCESS INCLUDES REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SIDES:

Moldova and Transdniestria, the mediators - the OSCE, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, and the observers - the US and the EU



WORKING WITH GAGAUZIA

Throughout 2014, the OSCE organized several activities involving civil society and youth from Gagauzia, an autonomous territorial unit in southern Moldova. The activities included master classes, internships, and debates,

designed to encourage active participation in public and political life. The OSCE also served as a resource on best practices for the joint Parliamentary and Gagauzian Peoples' Assembly Commission on the full implementation of the 1994 Gagauzian autonomy law.



In August, Ambassador Michael Scanlan took up his post as Head of Mission, succeeding Ambassador Jennifer Brush. Scanlan previously served 23 years in the United States Department of State, most recently as director for Eastern Europe affairs and charge d'affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Minsk.



Students perform during the closing ceremony of summer school Dniester 2014 in Molovata Noua on 20 July.

ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION

The OSCE designed and supported programmes, with a strong emphasis on youth, that help inhabitants from both sides of the Dniester/Nistru River promote strong connections with one another.

The OSCE-supported summer school *Dniester 2014* in Molovata Noua brought together 70 students in July from both banks of the river. The courses covered ecology, environmental protection, and civil society development, while giving the young people an opportunity to meet and have fun.



CONTINUED CO-OPERATION

On the education front, the OSCE, together with the mediators of the 5+2 process, put forward an agreement that allows the operation of Moldovan-administered Latin-script schools in Transnistria. The 5+2 process also led to the successful removal of a defunct industrial cable car network that spanned the river and had posed a risk to communities on both banks. The Russian Federation provided a heavy lift helicopter that made this complicated technical work possible. The project was completed by the Russian Federation's and Moldova's emergency service specialists, with full co-operation from Transnistria and financial assistance from the European Union.

In June, the Mission organized a high-level two-day conference in Freising, Germany, at which expert working groups discussed possible confidence-building steps in the fields of economy, trade and infrastructure development, as well as how to enhance the freedom of movement, or jointly manage ecological and environmental challenges. The conference was financed by Germany.

MODEL OSCE AND MUSIC

Thirty-four students from Tiraspol, Comrat and Chisinau participated in the second Model OSCE Conference in Vadul lui Voda in October. The three-day conference trained the students on negotiation skills and expanded their knowledge of OSCE structures and decision-making processes.

September brought the sounds of the 13th Ethno Jazz Festival, one of Moldova's largest cultural events. With stages in Chisinau, Balti and Tiraspol, the project, supported by the OSCE Mission to Moldova and other local and international partners, aims to build cultural bridges through music.

SECURE STORAGE TRAINING

44 Moldovan military personnel successfully completed OSCE training courses on how to safely handle and store small arms and light weapons



AMMUNITION DEPOT UPGRADES

PHASE 1: Completed refurbishing the Moldovan Army ammunition depots. Began in 2011

PHASE 2: Further improve security and safety conditions of the depots. Began in late 2014

Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Chief Monitor: **Ambassador Ertugrul Apakan**

Budget: €57,181,100 (21 March 2014 until 20 March 2015)

Staff: 403 international

141 local

www.osce.org/ukraine-smm

The Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, the highest-profile mission of the OSCE in 2014, played a vital role collecting and reporting facts on the crisis in and around Ukraine. Through its presence on the ground, the SMM served as the eyes and ears of the international community and helped facilitate dialogue on the ground.

After the Permanent Council, on 21 March, took the decision to deploy the Mission, it quickly grew to include 358 civilian observers from 42 participating States.

As the situation in eastern Ukraine deteriorated, the monitors found themselves operating in an increasingly high-risk environment.

MOBILIZING MONITORS

The decision to establish this mission, the first such created in more than ten years by the OSCE, came about late on a Friday evening. Within 24 hours, the first OSCE monitors arrived in the country. While the mission headquarters is in Kyiv, monitors were also deployed to Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Chernivtsi and Luhansk.



Monitors talk with a local police officer in Lviv.

ON THE GROUND AND IN THE AIR

The Chief Monitor, Ambassador Ertugrul Apakan, personally travelled to Odessa, Kharkiv, Donetsk and Lviv to meet with authorities and civil society, and to see firsthand effects of the conflict and the human rights situation in the various regions. In a November speech to the United Nations Security Council, Chief Monitor Apakan reported that the movement of monitors remained obstructed, particularly in Horlivka, Kramatorsk, Slavyansk, south of Debaltseve and locations near the Ukrainian-Russian border. Such obstruction from armed groups inside Ukraine was most visible during the detention of two SMM teams of observers.

Two four-person teams of SMM monitors were abducted in the Donetsk region in late May and were out of contact for more than a month before being released. A month earlier a German-led multinational team of 12 military observers, who had been invited to Ukraine to conduct a military verification activity under Chapter III of the Vienna Document, were also held for more than a week before their release.

To increase its monitoring capabilities, the mission took to the skies in October with the OSCE's first-ever unarmed/unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). The UAVs provided aerial images and video, but suffered their own challenges as well. Some UAVs were shot at and others were subject to electronic jamming that precluded flight at times.

In September, the Mission's mandate was extended for a further six months.



OSCE monitors secure access to the MH17 debris field near Donetsk.
Photo by: Evgeniy Maloletka

THE OSCE AND THE MH17 CRASH SITE



SMM monitors on site within 24 hours



Secured access for experts from Malaysia, the Netherlands, Australia and Ukraine.



160 experts/investigators on site at one time during peak of investigation

MISSION FOR MH17 CRASH

On 17 July, the downing of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 near Donetsk killed all 298 people on board. The flight, originating in the Netherlands and bound for Kuala Lumpur, brought renewed international attention to the violence in eastern Ukraine and posed new challenges for the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission. In emergency talks after the crash, Ukraine, the Russian Federation and the OSCE agreed that the SMM should take the lead in providing access for other international experts to the crash site.

Despite the agreement and the fact that the OSCE monitors arrived at the site within 24 hours, it would take nearly three days of discussions with the rebels to gain complete access to the site and to properly secure the debris field. On 21 July, the OSCE facilitated access for Dutch forensic experts and recovery teams to the site to supervise the investigation and the transfer of bodily remains. The SMM continues to provide access to the debris field.



SMM monitors discuss the area surrounding the MH17 debris field with local groups. Photo by: Evgeniy Maloletka

RAPID, REGULAR REPORTING









Developments on the ground in Ukraine drove international interest in the region’s security, but it was the SMM’s daily dispatches that often authenticated facts for reporters and helped the international community to analyse the situation. From state media to social media, the SMM was frequently the definitive source of information on the crisis.

Weekly briefings for participating States and biweekly ambassador-level briefings ensured that the OSCE’s decision makers remained up to date with the facts, and thematic reports issued on internally displaced persons served as early warning about potential further challenges to security in the region. Ukraine had more than 508,000 IDPs by year end and numerous villages cut off from basic services, issues the SMM continued to raise with the UN and NGOs providing humanitarian assistance. The SMM shared information on IDPs regularly with the UN High Commissioner on Refugees and worked with UNHCR and UNICEF to train monitors.

AT THE UN

In his speech before the UN Security Council in November, Chief Monitor Apakan credited Ukraine’s 26 October parliamentary elections with bringing about a new atmosphere in the country, but he also laid out ongoing observations of military activity in Ukraine, including convoys of unmarked trucks, heavy weapons and tanks rolling in areas controlled by armed groups. Ambassador Apakan called for the SMM to be expanded to include 500 monitors, the maximum allowed under its mandate.

SMM REPORTING IN NUMBERS

-  **224** DAILY REPORTS
-  **37** WEEKLY REPORTS
-  **51** SPOT REPORTS
-  **3** THEMATIC REPORTS
-  **3** SPEECHES *before the UN Security Council*
-  **THOUSANDS** of media clips
-  **9,675** *Twitter followers @OSCE_SMM*
-  **2,966** *Facebook likes*



“While the Special Monitoring Mission continues to facilitate initiatives put forward to reduce tensions

and foster peace, a sustainable ceasefire can be reached only by all involved.”

Ertugrul Apakan

Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, speaking at the UN Security Council on 12 November



*OSCE SMM Officials brief reports near the MH17 crash site.
Photo by: Evgeniy Maloletka*

Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

Project Co-ordinator: **Ambassador Vaidotas Verba**

Budget: €2,873,000

Staff: 3 international

41 local

www.osce.org/ukraine

In a year of crisis and conflict, the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine sought to strengthen institutions and practices that foster the Organization's principles and are crucial for restoring and maintaining the country's stability.

With tensions running high and amid the threat of a wider conflict, the OSCE provided strong support for national dialogue platforms. The ever-changing security environment did not disrupt OSCE training regimens, which continued to provide officials, legal professionals, law enforcement officers, journalists and civil society activists with help to maintain democratic progress in various regions.

Meeting new challenges, the OSCE enhanced the capabilities of emergency personnel to ensure the safety of people while clearing areas from unexploded shells and mortars. The Project Co-ordinator also launched a project to address the needs of people displaced by the conflict, training over 100 social workers to provide psychological help to those forced from their homes. The PC also helped authorities and civil society to address threats the conflict posed to women and worked to prevent human trafficking and domestic violence in conflict-affected communities.



PROMOTING NATIONAL DIALOGUE

In March, the Co-ordinator answered the Government's call to launch a National Dialogue Project to help rebuild social cohesion in the country. Experts were deployed to eight regions to speak to a range of people from State institutions and civil society to assess their views and concerns and identify ways the OSCE could provide assistance.

The Ukrainian Government organized three national unity roundtables in Kyiv, Kharkiv, and Mykolaiv with the support of the OSCE Chairmanship and the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine. The OSCE held a conference on mediation examining how to support local and international dialogue initiatives to ease tensions and foster reforms based on lessons learned from conflicts elsewhere in the OSCE region, including the Western Balkans and Northern Ireland.

"I am convinced that stability, progress and prosperity in Ukraine can only be enhanced by the willingness of people to listen and to talk to each other."

Assador Hido Bišević

Team Leader of the OSCE's National Dialogue Project in Ukraine



ADDRESSING A NEW THREAT OF CONFLICT LEGACY

With military hostilities in Donbas leaving huge territories contaminated by unexploded shells and mortars, the Co-ordinator ensured Ukraine's civilian demining services were better positioned to clear affected areas and protect people from accidents. The OSCE provided the State Emergency Service with 50 sets of protective equipment, and an ad campaign alerted people to the threat. Schools in the Luhansk region received 7,000 workbooks with safety instructions for children should they find a dangerous military item.



Roman Abramov, a pyrotechnic team leader of the Poltava Regional Emergency Department, teaches children about the dangers from unexploded weapons during an awareness-raising exercise conducted with OSCE support in a school in the Poltava region, central Ukraine.

THE PRESS IN CONFLICT

Given the critical role news and media can play in de-escalating a conflict, the Project Co-ordinator put a premium on journalists' safety and media ethics. With bitter lessons from early 2014, when scores of media professionals were injured, the OSCE brought together law enforcement officers and journalists to talk and jointly develop a guidebook entitled *Interaction Between Journalists and Police Officers during Mass Events and Crisis Situations*. The publication provides recommendations for co-operation at mass events, touching on safety and legal issues.



CRISIS LESSONS FOR LEGAL COMMUNITY

In addition to educating 911 judges on revised election laws, the OSCE helped the legal community to meet other challenges by providing crisis-focused training to 750 legal professionals to cover issues ranging from unlawful detention to problems of displaced persons.

ELECTION SUPPORT

With two snap elections (presidential in May and parliamentary in October), the Co-ordinator focused on ensuring that election commissioners were well-trained to administer the process. A new web-based training platform was made available, and over 500,000 copies of election administration manuals were delivered to regions throughout the country. To rebuild public trust in elections as a tool to influence the Government, the Co-ordinator also ran awareness campaigns on TV, radio and the web so that voters could become familiar with their rights and ensure that they were on voter lists to be able to vote. This was especially important for those voters who became displaced from their places of origin.



To prevent fraud during the early presidential election in Ukraine on 25 May, every ballot was individually numbered and hand-stamped.

Observer Mission at the Russian Checkpoints Gukovo and Donetsk

Chief Observer: **Paul Picard**

Budget: €592,100

Staff: 17 (as of 31 December 2014)

www.osce.org/om

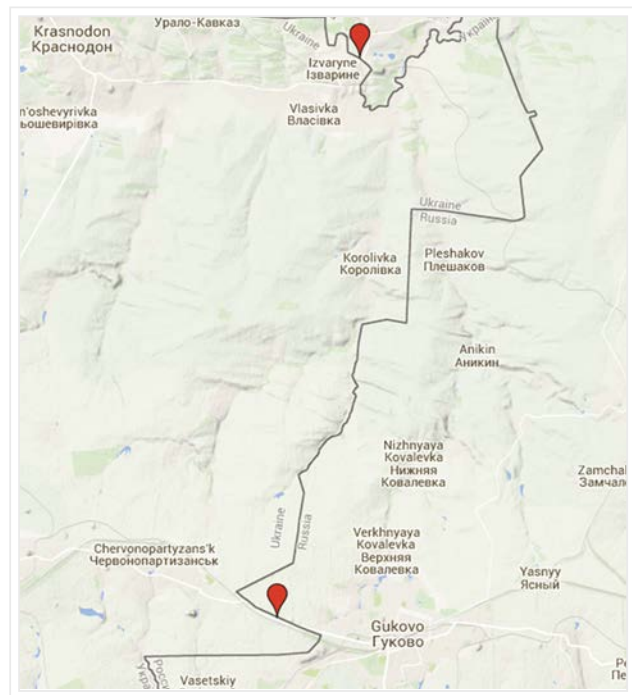
In July, following continued unrest in eastern Ukraine, the foreign ministers of France, Germany, Russia, and Ukraine, gathered in Berlin, called on the OSCE to deploy OSCE observers at the Russian checkpoints of Gukovo and Donetsk. The Ministers also called for a regular and expeditious exchange of relevant information between Russia, Ukraine and the OSCE.

On 24 July, the Permanent Council, following an invitation from the Russian Federation, adopted a decision on the deployment of an Observer Mission at two Russian checkpoints, Gukovo and Donetsk. The Observer Mission began its operations within days and grew to include 16 observers. In December, the OSCE Permanent Council extended the mission to 23 March 2015 and authorized an increase from 16 to 22 observers.

The mission is part of the OSCE's larger efforts to provide objective and accurate information on the security situation in Ukraine, facilitate contacts between parties to the conflict and maintain inclusive dialogue. The observers are unarmed and mandated to act impartially and transparently, providing frequent reports to the participating States and the public.

Under their mandate, observers do not check IDs, inspect cargo or intervene in any way at the checkpoints, but they note and report on patterns of movement, including military movements, Ukrainian refugees fleeing and subsequently returning to eastern Ukraine, as well as Russian convoys moving through the checkpoints. The Observer Mission's reports have been a very valuable source of neutral, impartial and detailed information for the OSCE Chairmanship and participating States, providing a picture of the changing dynamics at the two checkpoints.

After the 5 September ceasefire was declared, observers noticed a markedly improved security situation and saw numerous families returning to Ukraine. Amid changes in the levels of activity and violence in the region, citizens continued to take notice of the OSCE presence at the border.



The OSCE Observer Mission is present at two Russian checkpoints: Gukovo and Donetsk.

The Observer Mission also contributed to profiling the OSCE in Russian media, as the mission's weekly press conferences were well attended and covered in the news.

BORDER OBSERVATION IN NUMBERS



20 WEEKLY REPORTS FILED



13 SPOT REPORTS FILED



14,500+
HOURS SPENT AT THE BORDER



1,130,000
PEOPLE OBSERVED TRANSITING



100,000+
KILOMETRES DRIVEN

(Figures include activity from 29 July through 31 December)

BORDER STORIES:

HELPING SECURE A SAFE RETURN

On 1 August, families of Ukrainian soldiers surrounded and under attack by armed groups asked the OSCE Observer Mission to assist more than 400 Ukrainian servicemen to cross through the Gukovo Border crossing point and ensure their safe return back to the Government-controlled territory of Ukraine. These men had been cut off from their logistics line and left without supplies.

On 4 August, 437 Ukrainian servicemen crossed the border through the border crossing point and were subsequently escorted by the Russian authorities back to Ukraine through Ukrainian Government-controlled border crossing points.

The OSCE mediated between Russian and Ukrainian defence officials to secure the crossing of the Ukrainian servicemen, which began in waves on 2 August and lasted until the early morning of 4 August. In the following days, all the Ukrainian servicemen were shuttled back to Ukraine through a safe route.

As the first wave of Ukrainians returned home without harm, the mother of one of the returning servicemen sent this text message to thank Mr. Ion Savciuc, a first responder with the Observer Mission, for the OSCE's help: "Ion, thank you very much, for saving our children! I will pray for you all my life! Mother of Alexander." Alexander was the officer who led the first 11 Ukrainians through the Gukovo crossing point on Saturday, 2 August.

TIMELINE OF ACTIVITY:

July 2: Berlin Declaration calls for OSCE observers to be sent to the Russia-Ukraine border

July 14: Foreign Minister Lavrov of Russia invites OSCE observers to Gukovo and Donetsk checkpoints

July 24: Permanent Council Decision No. 1130 creates the Observer Mission

July 29: Five observers arrive to launch the Mission

Aug. 15: 24-hour monitoring of the checkpoints begins

Sept. 5: Ceasefire declared

"We saw a reverse movement, refugees returning. Constant gunfire stopped literally."



Chief Observer **Paul Picard**
on trends shortly after the ceasefire

Aug. 1-4: Observer Mission intercedes to secure safe return of some 437 Ukrainian border guards who had been surrounded by armed men



AVERAGE **100** CROSSINGS PER DAY BY MEN AND WOMEN DRESSED IN MILITARY-STYLE UNIFORMS

In reporting the communication from the mother and how the OSCE facilitated the transfer of hundreds of other Ukrainian soldiers back home that weekend, Chief Observer Paul Picard wrote: "We feel today that our work brought good fruits and despite the OM's very limited mandate, the OSCE was able to make a difference and surely saved many lives over the weekend."

Project Co-ordinator in Baku

Project Co-ordinator: **Ambassador Alexis Chahtahtinsky**

Budget: €1,800,000

Staff: 5 international

13 local

www.osce.org/baku

In its first year as Project Co-ordinator in Baku, the OSCE undertook significant work to promote tolerance and dialogue among religions, signed a longer term agreement to further co-operative efforts aimed at combating trafficking in human beings, provided good governance assistance to help promote transparency and anti-corruption measures, and trained local officials to take on domestic violence.

TRANSFORMING A MISSION

New Year's Day 2014 marked a new beginning for the OSCE in Azerbaijan, as the OSCE Office in Baku officially became the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Baku. The Project Co-ordinator's mandate includes supporting co-operation between the Government of Azerbaijan and the OSCE aimed at implementing OSCE principles and commitments; planning and implementing projects that cover all three aspects of the OSCE's comprehensive security concept; and to that end, maintaining contacts with governmental and non-governmental bodies, local authorities, universities, research institutions and NGOs in Azerbaijan.



PROMOTING TOLERANCE AND DIALOGUE AMONG RELIGIONS

In November 2014, the OSCE, the Government of Azerbaijan, the Caucasus Muslims Board and UNESCO, hosted an international conference on promoting religious tolerance. Representatives from government agencies, international organizations, religious communities and civil society organizations joined international experts from 11 participating States to discuss the connection between inter-faith dialogue, security and democracy. Participants at the conference also brainstormed on ways to prevent radicalization, and to promote tolerance and multiculturalism as central factors to peace, progress and development.

The Project Co-ordinator also worked with the Ministry of Education to review and improve education about the Holocaust in the national education curriculum.



*OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and Head of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs **Didier Burkhalter** (l), shaking hands with Azerbaijani President **Ilham Aliyev**, welcomes the establishment of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator's Office in Baku, on 2 June 2014.*



Representatives of various religious faiths attend the International Conference on Strengthening Religious Tolerance in Baku, 17 November 2014.



COMMITTING TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN AZERBAIJAN

The OSCE and USAID agreed to support efforts by the Government of Azerbaijan in stepping up the fight against human trafficking and forced labour by providing shelters for victims of trafficking, increasing public awareness and helping strengthen civil society organizations active in this field. The OSCE also supported a study visit to Hungary for nine Azerbaijani experts on this topic.

GOOD-GOVERNANCE ASSISTANCE

In continued support of the Azerbaijan State Agency for Public Services and Social Innovation in the areas of good governance, transparency and anti-corruption measures, the OSCE conducted management training for 200 incoming staff from ASAN Service Centres, the new one-stop shop for government services. The OSCE also supported the centres in preparing for certification from the International Organization for Standardization and accreditation from an international occupational health and safety management system.



Ambassador Alexis Chahtahinsky (left), the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Baku, and Dereck Hogan, the United States Chargé d'Affaires in Baku, signed a three-year agreement in November 2014 in support of Azerbaijan's efforts to fight human trafficking.



ASAN Centres serve as a one-stop shop for public services.



TAKING ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Project Co-ordinator organized train-the-trainers courses for members of the judiciary, police officers, regional officials, and social workers on how to effectively apply existing legislation to prevent domestic violence. The OSCE also supported a study visit to Austria for 12 representatives of Azerbaijani State agencies and civil society to see best practices on managing shelters and providing services to victims of domestic violence.

Office in Yerevan

Head of Office: **Ambassador Andrey Sorokin**

Budget: €2,862,000

Staff: 7 international

40 local

www.osce.org/yerevan

The Office in Yerevan continued to be active across all dimensions of security but in 2014 put an added emphasis on youth engagement in line with priorities of the Swiss Chairmanship. The Office also promoted security sector reforms, supported NGOs in the field of disaster risk management, and promoted new efforts to expand local democracy through the use citizen referendums.

ENGAGING YOUTH ON A LARGE-SCALE

The OSCE Office in Yerevan worked throughout the year to engage Armenia's youth in a variety of ways from journalism practices to model trial and OSCE events.

The Office hosted a Model OSCE exercise that helped about 60 young ambassadors practise international relations and negotiation skills. With the help of the OSCE, the Office in Yerevan held a national debate contest among university students from six Armenian regions related to how vulnerable men, women, and children can be to trafficking. High school students from Idjevan participated in a model court competition aimed at promoting their awareness on legislation and judicial procedures. Twenty-five young people learned investigative journalism and photo reporting while participating in interactive games and debates in a four-day workshop on anti-corruption organized by the Office. Youth from national minorities of Armenia learned about human rights, volunteerism principles, and shared experiences in a one-week camp facilitated by the OSCE. Workshops in different regions helped to ensure better co-ordination and closer working arrangements among different state and non-state agencies dealing with juvenile offenders and rights of the child.



“REGULATORY GUILLOTINE”

In 2014, the regulatory review focused on taxes, customs, foreign affairs, transport, and health care. The goal of the reform is to reduce the cost of doing business in Armenia by at least 50 per cent. Aside from benefiting the business

and investment communities, in the long run if all the reforms are fully implemented they could represent as much as a 0.6 percent boost to Armenian GDP. The National Centre for Legislative Regulation reported in September that the recommended reforms were achieving the 50% cost reduction.

PROMOTING LOCAL DIRECT DEMOCRACY

In co-ordination with the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Territorial Administration, and the Central Election Commission, the Office commissioned two experts to assist officials in amending Armenia's local referenda laws. Members of this working group, as well a member of parliament and a civil society expert, travelled to Switzerland and Germany to share good practices of citizen ballot initiatives and public referendums.



Participants during an OSCE-supported training course for young people in Armenia on anti-corruption, Tsaghkadzor, on 3 December 2014.



UNIVERSAL RIGHTS AWARD

In June, the OSCE and international partners honoured individuals working to promote human rights, good governance, and civic activism in Armenia at the third Universal Rights Awards Ceremony in Yerevan. Davit Tonoyan, the First Deputy Minister of Defence, was recognized for his efforts to promote human rights in the army. Other awardees included lawyers Artak Zeynalyan and Ara Ghazaryan (Freedom Defender), “We are not paying 150 Drams” initiative (Civic Activism); Lara Aharonian from the Women’s Resource Centre (Woman of Courage); Hetq.am (Media Excellence); head of Karahunj Community, Lusine Avetyan (Local Government Reformer); and Laura Movsisian, the Director of the Paediatric Rehabilitation Centre (Community Service).



William Hanlon, Deputy Head of the OSCE Office in Yerevan (right), presenting the Government Reformer Award to Davit Tonoyan, Armenian First Deputy Minister of Defence at the Universal Rights Awards Ceremony held in Yerevan, Armenia, on 19 June 2014 (UK Embassy).

SECURITY SECTOR REFORM

In 2014, several international seminars and round tables were organized to promote civil-military and police-public relations, defence sector management, and financial oversight of the security sector. The Office helped translate key security sector legal documents into Armenian.

Co-operation with the Ministry of Defence continued focusing on improving professionalism of military personnel, promoting human rights in the armed forces, and decreasing criminal cases. An international workshop organized by the Office and the host Government on the OSCE Code of Conduct helped to share knowledge, experience, and best practices on security sector governance and reforms.

NATIONAL PREVENTIVE MECHANISM

The Office supported the visits of members of the National Preventive Mechanism for the prevention of torture, consisting of representatives of civil society organizations and staff from the Human Rights Defender’s Institute, to prisons throughout the country. The visits resulted in recommendations to relevant state institutions regarding treatment of detainees, including health care and conditions in detention facilities.



DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

As part of its environmental security work, the Office supported two local NGOs in drafting a national wildfire management policy, sent emergency managers for fire management training in Turkey, and trained representatives of 15 Aarhus Centres on disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation.

Centre in Ashgabat

Head of Centre: **Ambassador Ivo Petrov**

Budget: €1,526,900

Staff: 6 international

19 local

www.osce.org/ashgabat

In 2014, the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, celebrated its 15th anniversary with a record number of projects. In a year that saw international forces begin to withdraw from neighbouring Afghanistan, the Centre put a heavy emphasis on border security training, democratization assistance and good-governance work that contributed to the host country’s efforts to improve border management, broaden its economic portfolio and implement legal reforms.

SECURING BORDERS

In 2014, the Centre launched a project to strengthen border guard capacities in Turkmenistan. The first phase, held at the Imamnazar border crossing point on the Turkmen-Afghan border, trained 22 border guards from Turkmenistan in border security techniques and medical skills.

Two-hundred cadets from the Border Management Institute in Ashgabat and the Naval Institute in Turkmenbashi gained technical expertise from OSCE courses on land and maritime border security and management procedures.

The Centre addressed container shipment and aviation security by organizing training and study visits to Munich and Montreal for aviation and law enforcement officials.



Turkmen border guards enhance their skills in tactical combat casualty care during the General Patrol Training Course at the Imamnazar border crossing point on the Turkmen-Afghan border.



ARMS CONTROL CONFIDENCE- AND SECURITY-BUILDING MEASURES

The Centre continued its cooperation with the host Government in improving the management of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and conventional ammunition through training courses, and study visits exposing military and law enforcement officials to international and national best practices.

The Centre also enhanced the capacity of defence and security officials to implement confidence- and security-building measures and raised awareness among relevant officials on combating the illicit trafficking of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials.

BUILDING CAPACITY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS

The Centre trained 23 law enforcement officials in interdicting the cross-border movement of drugs and chemical precursors and facilitated the exchange of traffic law enforcement practices by organizing a study visit to Turkey for Turkmenistan’s senior traffic safety officials.

AIMING FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE

The OSCE Centre in Ashgabat supported the creation of the Good Governance Resource Centre (GGRC) in the premises of Turkmenistan’s Ministry of Finance. The GGRC supports the ministry in combating corruption and money laundering and serves as a central place to raise awareness about good-governance practices and connect with various stakeholders. A study visit to Latvia familiarized relevant specialists from Turkmenistan with Latvian good-governance practices.



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL WORK

In an effort to assist oil- and gas-rich Turkmenistan to diversify and strengthen its energy portfolio, the Centre continued a series of Energy Diplomacy Workshops by facilitating a discussion on gas-pricing mechanisms among relevant government officials and specialists. The Centre also organized a seminar to boost professional contacts and exchange best practices with the aim of establishing a national Centre of Excellence on Renewable Energy in the premises of the Mary State Energy Institute of Turkmenistan.

The OSCE Centre also expanded the Aarhus Convention network in Turkmenistan in 2014 by opening Public Environmental Information Centers in Turkmenbashi and Turkmenabat to promote greater citizen engagement and broader transfer of knowledge on environmental issues. More than 180 people participated in the related training programmes across the country.



MEDIA DEVELOPMENT

The Centre provided expertise on legal regulation of the Internet, online media and broadcasting. It trained journalists on the use of new technologies and analytical writing and interview skills, and helped government agency content managers gain expertise on how to launch and effectively manage websites.



A trainer and participants during a training course on the use of new technologies in journalism.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS:

LAUNCHING TURKMENISTAN'S FIRST WOMEN'S SHELTER AND HOTLINE



"In 2014, the public organization Keik Okara, with support from the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat,

continued its work on domestic violence prevention by running a domestic violence hotline and a support centre for victims. Three events that raised public awareness on gender issues and domestic violence were organized. Our organization highly values co-operation with the OSCE Centre, which results in targeted legal, psychological and social assistance to persons facing difficult situations in their families."

Sabir Agabalayev

Deputy Chairperson of public organization Keik Okara, which aims to strengthen the role of family in society

LEGAL SUPPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The OSCE supported legal counsel for:



Training in 2014:



PROMOTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

The OSCE Centre gathered 23 parliamentarians, governmental representatives, and law enforcement officials to discuss freedom of religion and belief. A study visit to Belgium introduced four officials from Turkmenistan to national practices in the area of enjoyment of the right of religion and belief.

PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT

With a new parliament seated in 2014, the OSCE focused on parliamentary support, training 25 MPs on drafting legislation.

AWARENESS RAISING ABOUT PRISONERS' RIGHTS

The Centre trained 25 prison guards on rights of prisoners and supported a study visit on prison management to the United Kingdom. The Centre also consulted on Turkmenistan's amended criminal code, which includes a conditional release programme for inmates who submit to electronic monitoring.

Centre in Astana

Head of Centre: **Ambassador Natalia Zarudna**

Budget: €2,237,000

Staff: 4 international

22 local

www.osce.org/astana

The OSCE Centre in Astana worked closely with the host authorities and civil society in 2014 to address transnational threats, strengthen regional security, promote good governance and fundamental freedoms, combat corruption and money laundering, contribute to energy and water security, facilitate criminal justice and penitentiary reforms, and promote a culture of youth participation. The Centre expanded the geography of its activities, including a regional perspective, and added new topics to its project portfolio responding to the host country’s needs and emerging security threats.



STRENGTHENING REGIONAL SECURITY

Through 19 seminars involving international experts, the Centre helped build the capacity of some 940 law enforcement officers from across the country to combat organized crime, trafficking in drugs, arms and human

beings as well as domestic violence. It launched projects on countering illicit trade and using dogs and state-of-the-art technology to detect explosives, drugs and counterfeit goods. It helped generate expertise in cybercrime, public assembly management, border and document security, and, together with its partners, intensified efforts to counter violent extremism and terrorism, particularly their impact on youth. The Centre further promoted the implementation of documents on confidence- and security-building measures at the regional level.



A dog handler works with a Labrador to identify concealed explosives in a minivan during a practical exercise at the Customs Control Committee Cynology Centre, Almaty, 31 October 2014.



Students and alumni from the OSCE's Central Asian Youth Network (CAYN) 2014 pose with some of the expert speakers and facilitators of this year's seminar. 2014 marked the 10-year anniversary of CAYN, Almaty, 26 August 2014.



ENHANCING YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

In line with the Chairmanship's priority on youth involvement, the Centre engaged some 720 young participants in its events. To mark the 10th anniversary of the Central Asian Youth Network, the Centre organized,

with financial support from the United States, a seminar for university students and network alumni from all Central Asian countries, Mongolia, and Afghanistan. The Centre also supported the Central Asian Leadership Programme for young environmentalists and put human rights and fundamental freedoms issues high on the agenda of the annual Zhas (Youth) Camp event and Law Students' Forum.



GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Within its good-governance portfolio, the Centre assisted Kazakhstan in promoting local self-governance standards and best practices at nine seminars and training events throughout the country for 785 participants. Combating corruption, tackling money laundering and the financing of terrorism remained among the Centre's priorities. Jointly with national and international stakeholders, it helped the Government, judiciary, banking sector, and civil society generate knowledge about advanced techniques and methods to address these challenges.

The transition to a green economy was strongly advocated by the Centre at various national and international events with a focus on energy efficiency, rational use of natural resources, and the promotion of green growth principles in the domains of organic farming and fisheries. To enhance public participation in decision-making, it encouraged the implementation of the Aarhus Convention and supported the activities of 16 Aarhus Centres across the country. The Centre promoted an ecosystem-based approach to water resources management with a focus on the Aral Sea and Balkhash Lake Water Basins and assisted in disaster risk reduction by helping enhance the safety of hydraulic structures and developing regional action plans to counter oil spills.



PROMOTING FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

In promoting fundamental freedoms and human rights, the Centre focused on Kazakhstan's major reforms of the criminal justice and penitentiary systems. Some 2,400 government officials, prosecutors, law enforcement officers, media and legal experts took part in 15 capacity-building events focusing on the transition to a new model of criminal justice. The Centre continued supporting penitentiary reform efforts and the implementation of the National Preventive Mechanism against torture and ill-treatment through training events for officials and civil society activists from across the country.

The Centre engaged 400 media representatives, parliamentarians, government officials and international experts in dialogue on issues related to freedom of expression. With its support, 100 media experts, officials and journalists from the wider region took part in the fifth annual Central Asian Internet Development Forum. The Centre facilitated a series of training seminars aimed at enhancing the efficiency of the courts in applying international standards on freedom of expression and access to information. By reaching out to the country's regions, it contributed to civil society and the development of parliament and political parties through a series of seminars on parliamentarianism, party building, public and media relations.



JUSTICE REFORM **1470**



TRANSNATIONAL THREATS

663



GOOD GOVERNANCE

550



COUNTERING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

390



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND GREEN ECONOMY

370



ASTANA TRAINING ACTIVITIES 2014

TOTAL TRAINED

4,911

Centre in Bishkek

Head of Centre: **Ambassador Sergey Kapinos**

Budget: €6,909,600

Staff: 34 international

122 local

www.osce.org/bishkek

The Centre in Bishkek is primarily focused on helping to improve security for all the people of Kyrgyzstan, irrespective of ethnicity, as the country seeks to overcome tensions that came to a violent head in June 2010. The Centre’s support for improved law enforcement training, human rights monitoring, and transparency in governance all played a major part in the country’s stability in 2014, and as Kyrgyzstan looked ahead to parliamentary elections in 2015, the OSCE Centre supported election preparations in close co-ordination with the host country.



BUILDING MECHANISMS TO ENSURE TRUST

To strengthen public trust in the police and ensure transparency and openness, the OSCE invested in professional training and facilitated the drafting of a new law on co-operation between police and civil society. The Centre helped organize public hearings in all regions of Kyrgyzstan to discuss this legislation, which calls for an annual public opinion survey on the police. Training events focused on public order management, and crime scene investigation, among other topics.

For police agencies to be most effective, they need the trust of the people they serve, so 2014 saw a major effort to increase community policing. Police-public partnership events organized by the Community Security Initiative were held in 15 districts involving over 400 local police officers.

Law enforcement must operate within a fair and transparent system of laws. The OSCE helped Kyrgyzstan revise its Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, and Criminal

Execution Code, which were publicly discussed in 2014 and are currently under consideration by the Parliament. Highlighting the importance of civilian oversight, the OSCE provided unprecedented support in 2014 to national human rights institutions and civil society groups to jointly monitor detention facilities. Newly recruited staff of the National Preventive Mechanism on torture started practising unannounced (including night) visits to police units in Bishkek. The OSCE continued monitoring trials and judicial hearings related to measures of restraint as part of its efforts to monitor compliance with national and international rule of law standards.

COMMUNITY POLICING



27,925

POLICE-PUBLIC INTERACTIONS



The OSCE funded a study visit for 15 representatives of Kyrgyzstan’s key state agencies to Mongolia on 24 to 27 June 2014 to exchange information relevant to ongoing reforms that Kyrgyzstan is undertaking ahead of parliamentary and presidential elections in 2015 and 2017.



PROGRESS ON GENDER ISSUES

The Women’s Initiative Groups network expanded from Osh and Jalal-Abad provinces to Batken as well, where they provide community-level support to the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, a landmark international legal framework addressing the inordinate impact of war on women and the pivotal role they play in conflict management, conflict resolution and sustainable peace.

The OSCE Centre also organized roundtables with religious leaders to discuss gender-based violence and the impact of gender discrimination on women’s radicalization. The Ministry of Defence was engaged to build the capacity of military officers on understanding gender aspects of security.



PREVENTING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

In order to support the Kyrgyz police in stepping up its efforts to combat trafficking in human beings, the Centre, in co-ordination with the Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, trained police officers at the Main Investigation Department on proactive investigation techniques. The Centre also organized a roundtable about human trafficking routes and patterns with consulates in Kyrgyzstan, many of which represent countries where Kyrgyz labour migrants travel and end up being exploited as part of a trafficking scheme. Religious leaders also received information to be channelled to the local population. School pupils in three southern regions learned about the risks connected with migration and how to protect themselves from exploitation.



Religious leaders engage in a group conversation about factors of vulnerability leading to exploitation and human trafficking in Osh within the framework of the project "Preventing human trafficking by enhancing multi-agency co-operation in Kyrgyzstan."

WITNESS PROTECTION PROGRAMME LAUNCHED

Kyrgyzstan established Central Asia's first witness protection programme in December with the support of the OSCE. The Centre provided expertise and technical equipment to ensure information security during criminal investigations for the unit that is to prioritize cases linked to organized crime.



PEOPLE, PROGRAMMES, PRIDE

Kyrgyzstan, with OSCE support, opened, in Bishkek, the second Aarhus Centre in the country in December. These centres are created under the UN Economic Commission for Europe Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, which broke new ground in securing citizens' environmental rights. In Kyrgyzstan, the Aarhus Centres strengthen access to environmental information, access to justice, and public participation in all environmental matters, including the key mining sector in the northern provinces.

In the first major recycling programme in Kyrgyzstan, the OSCE was involved with 12 secondary schools in a campaign in Osh called "My Clean Town" to promote environmental awareness

and build civic pride. With the support of the mayor, interested business leaders, and educators, youth collected more than 1.5 tonnes of plastic (21,000 bottles).

In 2014, the OSCE launched the Regulatory Reform Project, which will run for two years and aims to make the laws and regulations in Kyrgyzstan much more transparent and consistent, better enabling citizens and businesses to understand and observe the country's legal and regulatory system.

LIFE-SAVING LESSONS

The OSCE team in Batken in north-east Kyrgyzstan joined with the Ministry of Defence and Juvenile Delinquency Inspectors to run mine awareness training for students about the dangers of unexploded ordnance in the region.

Over 160 students have received this training, and it paid off in a very real way during the first course. One student, after being shown various explosive devices in an OSCE booklet, said he had seen a similar device on a local cattle ranch.

A demining expert and authorities asked the child to show them where the unexploded ordnance was located. Two unexploded mines were discovered near the boy's village, which were then safely defused.



A member of the Kyrgyz National Guard trains on how to protect critical energy infrastructure from possible terrorist attacks during a two-day tactical simulation exercise at the Uch-Kurgan hydro power station in the province of Jalal-Abad, Kyrgyzstan, 24 October 2014.

Office in Tajikistan

Head of Office: **Ambassador Markus Mueller**

Budget: €7,218,200

Staff: 32 international

185 local

www.osce.org/dushanbe

The Office in Tajikistan took major strides in its work in 2014 to address some of the region’s most challenging issues related to human rights, good governance, and radicalization that leads to terrorism. Meanwhile, the Border Management Staff College broke new ground as well, offering its first distance learning courses for senior leaders and its first course designed exclusively for female border security leaders.



COUNTERING RADICALIZATION

The Office in Tajikistan is working closely with the Government and local NGOs to counter violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism (VERLT) while promoting the rule of

law, protecting human rights, and developing active, civic and democratic engagement across all segments of Tajik society.

Regional training events gave parents the knowledge and skills to recognize early warning signs of violent radicalization. Around 140 individuals were trained on extremism, radicalization, drivers of radicalization, and ways to counter the process.

The Office also conducted field research in the regions in order to identify root causes and early warning signs of violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism. This information will be used to design and implement effective strategies and policies to counter this phenomenon and promote peace, human rights, and tolerance.



GOOD GOVERNANCE

At a two-day workshop in March, government officials, non-governmental actors and representatives from international organizations gathered for the first time at one table to discuss concrete actions to tackle corruption.

Led and organized by experts from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime and the OSCE, the workshop focused on some of the best practises in the field and encouraged participants to consider the role civil society should play in helping prevent corruption. Representatives from six State agencies, 19 civil society organizations and five international organizations participated in the meeting.

Participants discussed conflicts of interest and asset declarations, access to information, and transparency in public administration. As a result of this workshop, participants identified joint measures that can be taken by State structures and civil society. The Office will help tailor anti-corruption initiatives in line with the interests of stakeholders in Tajikistan.



Citizens gather to participate in an OSCE-sponsored “Parents against Terrorism” training of trainers in Kuylab, Tajikistan.



Officers from border agencies of Afghanistan and Tajikistan participate in a first aid exercise during a border management awareness course in Dushanbe in April.

Photo by Farhodjon Nabiyulloev (OSCE BMSC)



TRAINING AFGHAN POLICE

As Tajikistan shares the longest border with Afghanistan of any OSCE participating State, the OSCE Office in Dushanbe continued to lead in 2014 in hosting and organizing events that strengthen the

readiness of Afghan police and border guards.

In May, 20 Afghan border police officers completed a five-week training course on patrolling and leadership organized by the Office – the 12th such course organized by the Office. Participants learned how to plan and conduct observation missions to detect and interdict illegal cross-border movements. Participants also improved their mountaineering and first-aid skills.

In a week-long session, another 26 officers completed a training course organized by the OSCE and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on asylum procedures, principles of international protection, determining refugee status and procedural standards, countering transborder crimes, and border management in emergencies.



SUPPORT FOR ANTI-TORTURE WORK

In 2014, the OSCE Office in Tajikistan supported the NGO Coalition Against Torture, a group of 13 human rights organizations that joined together to prevent and respond to cases of torture and mistreatment in prisons, pre-trial

detention centres, and military facilities.

The Office financed the coalition’s work to document torture, coordinate legal aid to alleged victims and families, and promote awareness of torture in part through the website notorture.tj.



Notorture.tj uses news, reports, documents, and interviews in Tajik, Russian and English to provide information on torture for lawyers, activists, journalists, state officials, victims, their relatives, as well as the general public.

Documentation not only assists victims and their relatives in seeking justice, it also helps NGOs and authorities analyse the current state of prisons and how conditions may be improved.

THE BORDER MANAGEMENT STAFF COLLEGE: A PLATFORM FOR DIALOGUE & CO-OPERATION

www.oscebmsc.org

The Border Management Staff College organized 21 educational events in 2014 for 464 participants from 25 participating States and seven Partners for Co-operation. More than 85 women attended courses at the college, contributing to increased inclusion of women in border management training activities.

This year, the college broadened its course offerings by adding the first one-year distance learning course for senior leaders. A Border Management Staff Course for Female Leaders was also organized for the first time.

The college placed a stronger focus on research and analysis in 2014, hosting the second annual Cross-Border Research Conference on Migration and Border Security.



Virginia Moraru, a graduate of the OSCE Border Management Staff College, representing Moldova’s Anti-corruption Centre, delivers a training session on types of corruption, Dushanbe, 15 July 2014

Photo by Farhodjon Nabiyulloev (OSCE BMS)

TORTURE IN TAJIKISTAN IN 2014

 **26** DOCUMENTED CASES

 **2** DEATHS FROM ALLEGED MILITARY HAZING

Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

Project Co-ordinator: **Ambassador Gyorgy Szabo**

Budget: €1,980,000

Staff: 2 international

20 local

www.osce.org/uzbekistan

In 2014, the OSCE Mission in Uzbekistan played a leading role training lawyers, media and governmental officials; combating trafficking in human beings and illegal drugs; and promoting democracy and good governance.



PROMOTING RULE OF LAW

The Project Co-ordinator put an emphasis on the prevention of torture by assisting Uzbekistan to fully implement and respect its human rights commitments.

In July, 35 people from varying state agencies participated in a three-day workshop in Tashkent that culminated in the drafting of a national torture prevention mechanism in line with international human rights standards. The Project Co-ordinator also worked to empower legal practitioners to effectively promote the rule of law in line with international human rights standards through the Lawyers' Training Centre under the Ministry of Justice.

FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Recognizing that the response to human trafficking must be comprehensive and multidimensional, the Project Co-ordinator identified areas where further joint efforts were needed to strengthen the host country's response to trafficking.

One of these areas is better identification of victims and responding to their needs by training police investigators and anti-trafficking specialized units. In November, a series of training courses on combating human trafficking for investigators and operative agents in Uzbekistan was launched. Some 35 law-enforcement professionals participated in the first training course.



Ms. Feruza Khaytmuratova (l) from the Ombudsman's Central Office; Ms. Lola Saidmukhamedova (c), member of the Expert Group under the Ombudsman's Representative in Tashkent; and Mr. Sardor Muminov (r), an officer at the Human Rights Protection Department of the Ministry of Interior at a training course on torture prevention in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 24 July 2014.

ARMS CONTROL

In 2014, the Project Co-ordinator assisted the Government of Uzbekistan with the development of a National Action Plan to implement UN Security Council Resolution 1540, which provides a comprehensive approach to countering the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their spread to terrorist organizations.



MASS MEDIA

Given the critical role of the press in helping voters make informed decisions, the Project Co-ordinator provided expert advice on professional standards for the media and information agencies in Uzbekistan, particularly focused on coverage of politics, elections and economic processes.

ECONOMIC PROGRAMMES 'TAILORED' TO WOMEN

In recognition of the important role women play in economic development, the Project Co-ordinator continued to support initiatives to help female entrepreneurs. As a follow-up to workshops held in 2013, the OSCE supported three-day training events for recent female college graduates to further their potential to establish their own business. In 2014, participants in various regions also met with relevant public authorities to learn about the best ways to pursue goals of self-employment.



College graduates in the region of Namangan visit a centre specializing in tailoring and selling clothing as part of an effort to promote women as business leaders in July.



COMBATING ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING

The Project Co-ordinator supported the National Center for Drug Control, whose field representatives, as well as middle level officers of law enforcement agencies, were trained in effective techniques to prevent and address threats of drug trafficking.



PROMOTING GOOD GOVERNANCE

The Project Co-ordinator continued efforts in 2014 to strengthen good governance and democracy in Uzbekistan. In September, 60 leaders from 15 various Government ministries, committees, law enforcement agencies and financial supervisory authorities in Uzbekistan discussed how to implement Financial Action Task Force recommendations to reduce the risk of money laundering and financing of terrorism. The OSCE organized a two-day seminar with the Financial Intelligence Unit of Uzbekistan and the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism.

Together with Prosecutor-General's Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Project Co-ordinator also organized seminars to support the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Uzbekistan. This cooperation resulted in joint training courses on anti-corruption measures tailored to the needs of public health and education sectors, which are perceived to be the sectors most exposed to corruption in Uzbekistan.

TRAINING FOR EVERYONE

	EVENTS	PARTICIPANTS
<i>Economic-Environmental</i>	19 events	1,400 people
<i>Humanitarian</i>	19 events	778 people
<i>Politico-Military</i>	30 events	661 people



Uzbekistan police burn 1,270 kilograms of seized illicit drugs in Tashkent on 26 June 2014 for a ceremony to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

Representative to the Latvian–Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners

Representative: **Helmut Napiontek**

Budget: **€9,300**

www.osce.org/lrmpc

The Representative to the Latvian–Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners continued in 2014 to assist in implementing the 1994 bilateral agreement between the Latvian and Russian Governments on social guarantees for military pensioners of the Russian Federation and their families residing in Latvia. 2014 marked the sixth year in a row in which there was not a single request or appeal from a military pensioner brought to the commission. Approximately 10,000 people are covered by the bilateral agreement, which stems from the withdrawal of Russian military personnel from Latvia in the mid-1990s.

ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPMENTS



PROGRESS ON INTERPRETATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The sides made progress on their varying interpretations of the agreement in 2014 through unofficial meetings. The difference of opinion as to who is subject to the agreement and how an individual might be considered an eligible military pensioner now appears to be resolved.

The Russian Federation has clarified how many military pensioners it is being called on to compensate and started to pay the reimbursement fees for 10,000 pensioners instead of 12,000 as before. Speaking to the Permanent Council in November, Representative Helmut Napiontek called for a review of the OSCE's role in the joint commission and suggested that most challenges could be resolved on a bilateral basis between Latvia and the Russian Federation.

DISCUSSION ON COMPENSATION OF COSTS FOR MEDICAL SERVICES

Under the agreement, the Russian Federation is to cover medical expenses for its military pensioners. The Latvian authorities have requested an increase in Russian reimbursement levels, given that the current compensation does not reflect the actual costs for medical care of aging military pensioners and their family members. It will take further discussions to agree on an increase in the amount of the Russian compensation.





ADVANCING SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

The OSCE's efforts at inclusive dialogue and regional co-operation extend beyond the borders of its 57 participating States to include 11 partner states in the Mediterranean and Asia, as well as many international, regional and subregional institutions.

www.osce.org/networks



Asian and Mediterranean Partners

The Mediterranean and Asian Partnership saw increased ownership and active participation by the Partners in 2014, leading to more practical and results-oriented co-operation on a number of issues.

CHAIRMANSHIP'S REPORT

The Swiss Chairmanship fostered deeper engagement with the Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation by promoting their involvement in OSCE activities, encouraging dialogue through participation in relevant meetings, and seeking ways for the Partners to contribute to the Helsinki +40 process.

At the 2014 Ministerial Council in Basel, the Swiss Chairmanship set aside a special plenary session on the second day for an informal discussion with the Partners for Co-operation focusing on counter-terrorism. Switzerland also successfully promoted the adoption of two declarations reaffirming the commitment of the participating States to the partnerships in Asia and the Mediterranean to that Partnership.

SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT



The Partners for Co-operation did not only actively contribute to the OSCE dialogue, they also provided significant financial and human resources to the Organization's activities. In particular the support by Australia, Israel, Japan, Korea and Thailand for the establishment of the SMM visibly demonstrated their willingness to support the OSCE's response to the crisis in and around Ukraine.

The Secretary General remained very engaged with the Mediterranean Partners. Their discussions led to the identification of preferred areas of engagement and ongoing efforts to implement projects on counter-terrorism, kidnapping for ransom, small arms and light weapons (SALW), environment and security issues in the Southern Mediterranean region, and economic empowerment of women. A national roundtable on SALW took place in Tunis on 20-21 October to assess the needs of Tunisia in the area of SALW and counter-terrorism. Following the Secretary General's February 2014 visit to Cairo, the OSCE has been coordinating with Egypt on counter-terrorism, and an expert delegation from Egypt was invited to take part in a roundtable in Vienna in early 2015.

The joint workshop with the League of Arab States, in Cairo on 3 February, offered a good opportunity to share OSCE expertise. A brochure on the OSCE Mediterranean Partnership was issued in December 2014, in parallel with the 20th anniversary of the Mediterranean Contact Group. The year 2014 also saw two Mediterranean Chairs of the Forum for Security Co-operation (Malta and Monaco), which added emphasis to co-operation in the Mediterranean region. The Secretary General also welcomed Israel's contribution to the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM).

A New-Med Network was launched with academia and think tanks across the Mediterranean in Rome in September to increase OSCE visibility and inject new ideas and momentum into the Mediterranean Partnership.

Political dialogue between the Secretary General and the Asian Partners was marked by intense informal consultations and high-level meetings to identify possible areas of stronger co-operation. The Secretary General met senior government officials from Afghanistan, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Thailand. He also gave a keynote speech at the 2014 OSCE-Asian Partners Conference in Tokyo and discussed the role of the OSCE in providing a permanent forum for dialogue engaging all players to address the crisis in and around Ukraine. At the UN General Assembly in New York, the Secretary General met with the Secretary General of ASEAN and they agreed to further develop relations between both organizations.

The Director of the Office of the Secretary General participated in the Heart of Asia Ministerial meeting in Beijing, where he expressed the OSCE's readiness to enhance its role as a platform for practical, forward-looking regional co-operation and dialogue among all stakeholders. At the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia Summit in Shanghai, he shared the OSCE's experience as a model for regional security co-operation and highlighted the Organization's targeted support to promote regional security, stability and economic development

In addition, 2014 witnessed active participation of Afghan nationals in OSCE events, including at the OSCE Gender Review Conference in Vienna in July, the OSCE Counterterrorism Conference in Interlaken, Switzerland in April, and the

“Border Security: Globalization and the Challenges of Migration” conference in Dushanbe in November. The OSCE Annual Security Review Conference, which took place in June in Vienna, devoted its fourth session to assistance to Afghanistan during its “decade of transformation”. The OSCE continued to provide training for Afghan experts in the areas of border management, customs security and counter-terrorism. In addition, new projects were launched to study the impact the withdrawal of international forces from Afghanistan will have on countries in Central Asia and explore the role of women in Afghanistan’s reconciliation process. The OSCE also continued to support the Heart of Asia process, which brings Afghanistan’s neighbours, near-neighbours and regional organization together to co-operate for a peaceful and stable Afghanistan.



“There is still need for continued support by the international community in the form of advice, training, equipment and financial assistance in the coming years.”

Afghanistan’s Minister of Counter Narcotics, **Mobarez Rashedi**, at the OSCE’s Permanent Council in Vienna, 13 March 2014, referring to his country’s needs after the withdrawal of international forces from Afghanistan

THE PARTNERSHIP FUND

The Partnership Fund was established to finance joint activities and sponsor the participation of representatives from Partner States in OSCE events.

Pledges since creation in 2007: **€1,789,799**

Pledges in 2014: **€114,113**

Sponsored participants from Partner States in OSCE activities in 2013: **26**

PROJECTS DEVELOPED SINCE CREATION: 35



PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN 2014: 4

2 new projects

2 multi-year projects

REPORTS OF THE CONTACT GROUPS

ASIAN CONTACT GROUP

Asian Partners for Co-operation: Afghanistan, Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Thailand

Chair: **Ukraine**

Ukraine, as Chair of the Asian Contact Group, assisted the Swiss Chairmanship in fostering an open and interactive dialogue with the Asian Partners for Co-operation, based on their priorities and requests. The Contact Group met five times in 2014 and discussed a number of topics of mutual interest:

- Japanese Security Policy
- The Helsinki +40 process
- The work of the FSC and the CPC in the field of confidence- and security-building measures
- Afghanistan presidential and provincial elections
- The illicit economy of drugs in Afghanistan
- OSCE/ODIHR’s Election Support Team to Afghanistan
- Protection and empowerment of women
- Foreign terrorist fighters (FTF)
- Combating terrorism
- Lessons learned from the European experience that could help shape Asian multilateral security co-operation

The Asian Partners’ representatives regularly briefed participants at these meetings on security-related activities in their countries and possible areas for further co-operation.

Together with Serbia, which chaired the Mediterranean Contact Group in 2014, Ukraine organized the annual joint meeting of both Contact Groups, which focused on the role of women in building democracy.

ODIHR sent an Election Support Team to Afghanistan in 2014 and published a report on the 5 April presidential and provincial council elections. The report contains recommendations for future improvement of the electoral processes in Afghanistan.

SHARING EXPERIENCES AND LESSONS LEARNED BETWEEN THE OSCE AND ASIAN PARTNERS FOR CO-OPERATION

The 2014 OSCE-Asian Partners Conference, held in Tokyo, Japan, on 16-17 June, focused on sharing experiences and lessons learned to create a safer, more interconnected and fair world in the face of emerging challenges.

Participants discussed collaboration between the OSCE and the Asia-Pacific region in regard to global security and to encourage women to play a greater role in creating a fairer world.



“The security environments of Asia and Europe have become more inseparable and increasingly severe. Any actions to unilaterally change the status quo by force or coercion or any attempts to do so are the grave common challenges related to the international order.”

Fumio Kishida
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

MEDITERRANEAN CONTACT GROUP

Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation:
Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia

Chair: **Serbia**

Serbia, as Chair of the Mediterranean Contact Group in 2014, worked together with the Mediterranean Partners to foster an open and interactive dialogue within the group and followed a demand-driven approach by responding to the interests and priorities of the Mediterranean Partners. Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Israel, and Tunisia made presentations. Discussion topics covered:

- Strengthening the dialogue with the Mediterranean Partners to promote security in the Mediterranean region
- The significance of Tunisia’s new democratic constitution and the role of the ODIHR in election observation
- The Helsinki +40 process
- The impact of Syrian refugees on Jordan
- Combating trafficking in human beings
- Kidnapping for ransom
- The results of the “Helsinki +40: OSCE, the Global Mediterranean, and the Future of Co-operative Security” seminar, which also launched the Track II New-Med Network
- Migration
- Combating terrorism

To mark the 20th anniversary of the Contact Group, the Secretariat published a brochure: *The OSCE Mediterranean Partnership for Co-operation in 2014* which gives an in-depth overview of the relationship between the OSCE and its Mediterranean Partners.

The Mediterranean Conference, held in Neum, Bosnia and Herzegovina, on 27-28 October, focused on illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons and the fight against terrorism in the Mediterranean region, including the issue of foreign terrorist fighters. The event also touched on the topic of enhancing the role of women in public, political and economic life as a follow-up to the 2013 Mediterranean Conference. The office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees held a side event on “Protection at Sea” at the conference.

ODIHR AND THE MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERS



To promote democratic structures in the OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation, ODIHR provided legislative assistance in the fields of freedom of assembly, national human rights institutions, and anti-terrorism, and completed three reviews of legislation.

After issuing its opinions, ODIHR held consultative meetings with key Tunisian Government authorities.

ODIHR also contributed expertise to events organized by international organizations, governments and civil society in Tunisia and other Mediterranean Partner countries that focused on women and youth participation in politics, capacity-building of women candidates and youth leaders, and political party regulation. Participants from the Mediterranean Partners took part in ODIHR training activities, such as courses related to serving as an election observer and expert workshops. In all, ODIHR organized 52 activities with Mediterranean Partners for 806 government officials and civil society representatives in 2014.

At a workshop in Tunisia, ODIHR provided expertise on election observation reporting to representatives of more than 20 citizen observer groups. The Office also published a factsheet called *ODIHR – Enhancing co-operation with the OSCE’s Mediterranean Partners in the Human Dimension* in May 2014.

In its engagement with the Mediterranean Partners, ODIHR partnered with UN agencies, the Union for the Mediterranean, the National Democratic Institute, the International Foundation for Electoral Systems, the National Constituent Assembly of Tunisia and the Tunisian School of Politics.

International and regional organizations

UNITED NATIONS

Challenges to security are becoming increasingly complex, intertwined and transnational. Threats to regional security often have an impact on global security. This is why working towards greater security requires greater co-operation and co-ordination between regional organizations and the United Nations, as well as with other regional organizations. The OSCE is the largest regional arrangement under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter and therefore attributes particular importance to its co-operation with the UN.

UN-OSCE exchanges at senior and working levels are frequent, and there is considerable cross-cutting work, including mutual briefings, joint training and staff exchanges between the two organizations.

The OSCE Secretary General and the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon met twice this year, once on the margins of the UN General Assembly on 21 September, and on 4 November when the UN Secretary-General visited Vienna and addressed a special meeting of the Permanent Council. On both occasions, they spoke about regional issues, in particular the crisis in and around Ukraine, and reviewed the state of co-operation between the two organizations in addressing key contemporary challenges. The Secretary General also met with a number of high-level United Nations officials to promote closer co-operation in many areas of interest to both organizations.

A strategic partnership was also established between the OSCE Secretariat and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime in the area of organized crime and counter-terrorism. The OSCE supports the implementation of the UN anti-terrorism instruments and collaborates closely with the UNODC in the field of combating corruption and money laundering. To strengthen co-operation with the United Nations on mediation, the OSCE completed a work plan with the United Nations Mediation Support Unit in June. Finally, close co-operation between the OSCE, the UN Economic Commission for Europe and UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction is taking place on issues such as water management and disaster risk reduction.

SECURITY DAYS: THE OSCE AND THE UN

On 27 May, the Secretary General hosted an OSCE Security Days event entitled *The OSCE and Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter: Confronting Emerging Security Challenges in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian Space*. The event sought to identify innovative ways for the OSCE to strengthen its co-operation with the United Nations and with other regional organizations, particularly in conflict prevention and resolution. More than 300 government officials, high-level UN representatives, experts and journalists participated in the discussion. Young leaders from the Next Generation Euro-Atlantic Security Initiative, sponsored by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, also contributed to the debate.



OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, New York, 21 September 2014.



OTHER SENIOR UN OFFICIALS WHOM THE SECRETARY GENERAL MET IN 2014

UN Deputy Secretary-General

High Representative for the UN Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)

Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs

High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

Under-Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations

Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women

Executive Director of the UN Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED)

Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions

Executive Director of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Director-General of the UN Office in Vienna

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Director of the UNHCR Bureau for Europe

Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and Director of the Bureau for Europe

Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia

Assistant Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction

EUROPEAN UNION

The European Union and OSCE have close institutional relations that range from political dialogue to staff-level talks and practical co-operation on the ground. In 2014, Secretary General Zannier held numerous high-level meetings with the EU to discuss the crisis in and around Ukraine and broader security issues. He met the new High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission, Federica Mogherini, as well as the President of the European Parliament, Martin Schulz. He also addressed the EU Political and Security Committee and the Foreign Affairs Committee of the European Parliament. On two occasions, OSCE and EU staff met to exchange information, lessons learned and best practices.



*OSCE Secretary General **Lamberto Zannier** meets with European Parliament President **Martin Schulz**, Brussels, 12 November 2014.*

NATO

The OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and Secretary General took part in the meeting of Foreign Ministers with the Heads of Euro-Atlantic International Organizations, which was held on the margins of the NATO Summit in Wales in September. On 12 November, Secretary General Zannier met the new NATO Secretary General, Jens Stoltenberg, and addressed a meeting of the North Atlantic Council.

Throughout the year, the Secretariats' staff participated in events organized by either of the two organizations, which provided regular opportunities to share information and ideas. Separately, the organizations held two staff-level meetings in 2014.



OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier meets with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, Brussels, 12 November 2014.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Throughout the year, the Secretary General held bilateral meetings with heads and senior officials from a number of international, regional and subregional organizations and attended some of their high-level events. Those organizations included:

- Council of Europe
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO)
- Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia
- Cooperation Council of Turkish Speaking States
- League of Arab States
- Organisation of Islamic Cooperation
- Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)
- Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI)
- UN Alliance of Civilisations
- Central European Initiative
- INTERPOL

SECRETARIAT

CONFLICT PREVENTION CENTRE

The Conflict Prevent Centre (CPC) played a key role in facilitating the sharing of information among international organizations involved in Ukraine in 2014.

In February, the CPC and the UNHCR launched a protection checklist to address the needs of people at risk of, or affected by, forced displacement during all phases of the conflict cycle. The checklist identifies the actions that OSCE field operations can and should take, within their mandates, in displacement situations. As a follow-up, the CPC co-ordinated a series of joint UNHCR-OSCE training events on displacement issues for monitors from the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine.

The CPC participated in an information exchange with the EU in Brussels on the work of the respective organizations in the area of security sector reform in Ukraine to help ensure mutually reinforcing activities.

In 2014, the OSCE, together with the UN and the EU, co-chaired four rounds of the Geneva international discussions dealing with consequences of the 2008 conflict in Georgia. The OSCE also continued to co-facilitate, together with the EU

Monitoring Mission to Georgia, the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism in Ergneti, which held 10 meetings in 2014.

In South-Eastern Europe, the CPC continued to work with the UNHCR, the Council of Europe Development Bank, the European Commission and U.S. State Department supporting implementation of the Regional Housing Programme to provide durable solutions for approximately 74,000 of the most vulnerable refugees and displaced people from the 1991-1995 conflict.

Following proposals made during the 2013 Inaugural Conference on Tracing Illicit SALW, the CPC and Transnational Threats Department collaborated with the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, UN Office on Drugs and Crime and INTERPOL to organize the OSCE-UN-INTERPOL Expert Workshop on Tracing Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, which was held on 12-13 May in Istanbul.

The CPC and the Security Sector Reform Unit of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations organized a joint OSCE-UN conference on the topic of security sector governance and reform in Vienna on 7 July. The conference focused on each organization's experiences with reform and measures that could enhance their collaboration in the field.

The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus, Ambassador Lisa Buitenheim, participated in the OSCE High-Level Retreat on Gender and Inclusive Mediation organized by the CPC with the OSCE Gender Section.

TRANSNATIONAL THREATS DEPARTMENT

The Transnational Threats Department worked with the International Organization for Migration and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to hold a regional workshop about the link between irregular migration and transnational crimes that impact irregular migrants.

In June, the department's national focal points meeting on border security management brought together experts from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Border Guard Commanders Council, Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), INTERPOL, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNODC, and the World Customs Organization (WCO).

A one-week regional cyber crime training conference in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, relied on materials and experts trained by the European Cybercrime Training Education Group. The UN Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate and UNODC provided substantive support to a regional conference on international judicial co-operation in terrorism cases held in Vilnius, Lithuania.

In April the Anti-Terrorism Unit and the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan supported the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to organize a regional seminar in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on traveller identification management.

OFFICE OF THE CO-ORDINATOR OF ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES (OCEEA)

In the economic field, the OCEEA partnered with the following organizations to promote good governance and combat corruption, money laundering, and the financing of terrorism:

- UNODC
- OECD's Anti-Corruption Network
- Council of Europe
- World Bank
- Financial Action Task Force
- EAG (the Eurasian Group on combating money laundering and financing of terrorism)

and others to promote good governance and combat corruption, money laundering and the financing of terrorism.

The OCEEA also worked with the UN Economic Commission for Europe on transport issues, the World Customs Organization (WCO) on customs issues, and the International Organization for Migration and International Labor Organization on migration management issues.



In the environmental field, the office furthered the OSCE's Environment and Security Initiative, which includes partnering with the UN Development Programme, UN Environment Programme and others on water, waste, disasters, and climate change issues.

The OCEEA also worked with UNECE to promote implementation of environmental conventions; with the

Global Fire Monitoring Centre to strengthen national fire management capacities; INTERPOL, WCO and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization to detect and prevent environmental crimes; and the European Commission to address security implications of climate change.

COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

The Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings strengthened the Alliance Against Trafficking in Persons by convening the group of senior government officials, national anti-trafficking co-ordinators, representatives from international and non-governmental organizations, business groups and trade unions, as well as employers' organizations and human rights groups. Speakers at this year's conference included Ambassador Thomas Greminger, Chair of the OSCE Permanent Council; Aleksandar Nikolic, State Secretary of Serbia's Interior Ministry; Prince Zeid Ben Ra'ad Al Hussein, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights; Vladimir Garkun, Deputy Chairman of the CIS Executive Committee; and William Lacy Swing, Director General of the International Organization for Migration.



GENDER SECTION

The OSCE Senior Adviser on Gender Issues, Ambassador Miroslava Beham, attended the UN Security Council debate on Women, Peace and Security on 28 October, where she presented an outline of the OSCE's activities on UNSCR 1325, ranging from supporting OSCE participating States in their implementation of national action plans to providing gender-enhanced mediation support.

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly continued its active dialogue with other international organizations in 2014, particularly on advancing co-operation in election monitoring, the ongoing crisis in and around Ukraine, and the importance of parliamentary oversight. In March, OSCE PA President Ranko Krivokapic addressed the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) in Paris and met with the PACE president and the Council of Europe secretary general. Krivokapic's successor, President Ilkka Kanerva, met with the PACE president in September in Oslo after addressing the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament. In November, Kanerva addressed the NATO Parliamentary Assembly's Annual Session at The Hague. Secretary General Spencer Oliver met twice in 2014 with his counterparts from the PACE, the NATO PA and the European Parliament to continue ongoing consultations launched by Oliver in 2013.

ODIHR

ODIHR collaborates with international partners in election observation within the framework of the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation, as well as with the Global Network of Domestic Election Monitors, the Association of European Election Officials, and the Association of World Electoral Bodies.

HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING PARTICIPATION

4 Partners:

- Egypt (1)
- Israel (1)
- Thailand (2)
- Tunisia (1)



26 Representatives:

- Community of Democracies (4)
- Council of Europe (12)
- International Organization for Migration (1)
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (5)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2)
- Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (1)
- Regional Cooperation Council (1)

The Representative also spoke on a high-level panel on journalists' safety at the 26th Session of the UN Human Rights Council in June; subsequently, in September, the Council voted in favour of a resolution sponsored by Austria which called on states to promote safe and enabling environments for journalist to perform their work independently and to fight impunity by ensuring impartial, speedy and effective investigations into violence against media.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD

SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

The **Presence in Albania** co-operated with numerous international partners, including several UN agencies, the European Assistance Mission to the Albanian Justice System (EURALIUS), and the Council of Europe. The Presence partnered with the European Broadcasting Union, UNESCO and the Albanian public broadcaster towards establishing an independent public broadcaster in Albania.

The **Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina** partnered with the UN Development Programme (UNDP) to upgrade security of weapons and ammunition storage sites (with SEESAC), organize a regional conference on lessons learned from the 2014 floods (along with the RACVIAC Centre for Security Co-operation in South East Europe), and organize a Review Conference on Compliance with UN and OSCE Security Commitments to recognize the progress BiH has achieved in meeting its politico-military commitments.

The **Mission to Kosovo** co-operated with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces to implement a two-year project on enhancing operational criminal intelligence to increase the capacity of police from Kosovo and Albania to tackle serious organized crime.

The **Mission to Montenegro** worked in partnership with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces on security matters and the NGOs Institute Alternativa and SOS Niksic to establish a phone help line for victims of domestic violence.

The **Mission to Serbia** worked in close co-operation with the EU Law Enforcement Agency (EUROPOL) to introduce Serbian, Montenegrin and Macedonian police units to EUROPOL standards for analysing threats from organized crime. In the area of the Regional Housing Programme, the Mission's main co-operating partners included: the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Serbian Commissariat for Refugees, the European Commission, and the U.S. Embassy.

The **Mission to Skopje** partnered with the UNODC and UN Development Programme for an international anti-corruption conference on implementing the UN Convention against Corruption. More than 50 people from State institutions, civil society, media, and international anti-corruption bodies participated in the event.



HIGH COMMISSIONER ON NATIONAL MINORITIES

The High Commissioner on National Minorities co-operated closely with relevant bodies and experts from the UN, the Council of Europe, and the EU with respect to confidentiality requirements.

Cross-institutional staff participation in relevant events and expert dialogue continued. Civil society organizations, particularly those representing minority communities, served as important interlocutors for the High Commissioner during country visits. In several countries, the High Commissioner also worked with NGOs as implementing partners.

REPRESENTATIVE ON FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA

The Representative on Freedom of the Media participated in World Press Freedom Day events in Paris in May organized by UNESCO reinforcing the media's importance in development, the rule of law, and the sustainability and integrity of journalism. The Representative also co-operated with special rapporteurs on free speech from the UN, the Organization of American States and the African Commission on Human and People's Rights to produce a joint declaration on the universality of the right to freedom of expression. In September the Representative also collaborated with the special rapporteurs on a joint statement on the need for stronger protection of journalists covering conflicts, focusing on the need to provide adequate safeguards in the field.

The Office participated in several events with the UN and the Council of Europe on an array of issues. These included four specifically addressing journalists' safety, and others on strengthening the protection of free expression and human rights of Internet users and on improving access to information in order to fight corruption.

EASTERN EUROPE

The **Mission to Moldova** worked on anti-trafficking issues with the International Organization for Migration to train approximately 170 Moldovan legal professionals and psychologists on child interviewing techniques to be used in investigating cases of child sexual abuse, trafficking in children and child pornography.

The **Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine** co-operated with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, the Council of Europe, the International Organization for Migration, the UN Population Fund, UN Women, and La Strada International to address human trafficking, cybercrime, and gender issues. The Project Co-ordinator also worked with various UN and EU entities on environmental, border security and police reform issues.

The **Observer Mission at the Russian Checkpoints at Gukovo and Donetsk** has co-operated and shared information with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the UNHCR related to refugees crossing the border at the border crossing points.

The **Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine** consistently shared information with the UNHCR on the status of internally displaced persons. UNHCR and UNICEF staff trained OSCE monitors, and the Mission monitored the ceasefire in collaboration with the Joint Centre for Control and Co-ordination, which includes representatives from the Russian and Ukrainian militaries who monitor the Minsk Protocol of 5 September.



SOUTH CAUCASUS

The **Project Co-ordinator in Baku** co-operated with the National Commission of Azerbaijan for UNESCO to implement a project on tolerance and non-discrimination. The Project Co-ordinator also chaired the donors' co-

ordination meetings in the field of environment and energy in Azerbaijan, which involves the participation of international organizations such as the Asian Development Bank, the EU Delegation to Azerbaijan, the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the UNDP.

The **Office in Yerevan** joined the UN, Counterpart International, the Council of Europe, the European Union, and other bilateral partners to honour Armenian human rights activists at the Universal Rights Awards Ceremony on 19 June in Yerevan.



CENTRAL ASIA

The **Centre in Ashgabat** worked with the UNODC and the EU for an event in April that focused on border management issues related to transshipments, dual-use technology, export control, and radiological, chemical and biological

weapons. The Centre also held a two-day seminar with experts from the International Civil Aviation Organization focused on security in the air travel sector.

The **Centre in Astana** co-operated with the EU-UNDP Border Management Programme in Central Asia and the UNODC to organize and support training seminars and regional workshops on combating drug trafficking, including to build capacity of customs officials and strengthen their interaction with financial monitoring bodies. The Centre also worked with the Central Asia Regional Information and Co-ordination Centre for Combating Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs on issues related to controlling psychotropic substances and their precursors.

The **Centre in Bishkek** joined the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights for work related to legal reforms, support for the national preventive mechanism against torture, and advocacy on fundamental freedoms. The UNODC, the UNDP and the Soros Foundation also partnered with the Centre on legal reform efforts. The Centre also co-operated with the Eurasian Group on Combatting Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism and the UN World Food Programme and Germany-based GIZ on disaster risk reduction efforts, including the building of a drinking-water pipeline.

The **Office in Tajikistan** co-operated with the Council of Europe to host the "Not for Sale – Joining Forces against Trafficking in Human Beings" conference and worked with the UNODC to hold the Central Asia Criminal Justice Forum, which focused on judicial developments in the region. The Office also partnered with the World Customs Organization for workshops on economic issues and risk management for customs officials.

The **Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan** joined the Eurasian Group on Combatting Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism to organize several activities to develop public officials' skills to assess the risks of money laundering and terrorism financing in their institutions. The Project Co-ordinator worked with UNICEF and USAID for specialized training related to trafficking in human beings and with the International Civil Aviation Organization for an event aimed at preventing the use of fraudulent travel documents.

ANNEXES

Unified Budget

FUNDS RELATED TO THE SECRETARIAT AND INSTITUTIONS	UNIFIED BUDGET (€)	% OF TOTAL
Secretariat	39,257,400	28%
Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights	16,039,300	11%
High Commissioner on National Minorities	3,407,600	2%
Representative on Freedom of the Media	1,481,600	1%
TOTAL FOR FUNDS RELATED TO THE SECRETARIAT AND INSTITUTIONS	60,185,900	42%
FUNDS RELATED TO OSCE FIELD OPERATIONS		
South-eastern Europe		
Mission in Kosovo	19,679,900	14%
Tasks in Bosnia and Herzegovina	12,387,300	9%
Mission to Serbia	6,578,500	5%
Presence in Albania	2,982,400	2%
Mission to Skopje	6,427,700	5%
Mission to Montenegro	2,183,900	2%
Total for South-eastern Europe	50,239,700	35%
Eastern Europe		
Mission to Moldova	2,180,000	2%
Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine	2,873,000	2%
Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners	9,300	0%
Total for Eastern Europe	5,062,300	4%
South Caucasus		
Office in Yerevan	2,862,000	2%
Project Co-ordinator in Baku	1,800,000	1%
High-Level Planning Group	250,600	0%
The Minsk Process	927,500	1%
Personal Representative of the CiO on the Conflict Dealt with by the Minsk Conference	1,193,000	1%
Total for South Caucasus	7,033,100	5%
Central Asia		
Centre in Astana	2,148,400	2%
Centre in Ashgabat	1,526,900	1%
Centre in Bishkek	6,909,600	5%
Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan	1,980,000	1%
Office in Tajikistan	7,218,200	5%
Total for Central Asia	19,783,100	14%
TOTAL FOR OSCE FIELD OPERATIONS	82,118,200	58%
GRAND TOTAL	€142,304,100	100%

Contributions by participating States

PARTICIPATING STATE	TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS 2014 UNIFIED BUDGET (€)	% OF TOTAL
Albania	85,965	0.1%
Andorra	85,965	0.1%
Armenia	44,891	0.0%
Austria	3,265,448	2.3%
Azerbaijan	44,891	0.0%
Belarus	188,359	0.1%
Belgium	4,768,222	3.4%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	85,965	0.1%
Bulgaria	344,980	0.2%
Canada	7,703,094	5.4%
Croatia	200,347	0.1%
Cyprus	200,347	0.1%
Czech Republic	679,826	0.5%
Denmark	2,944,617	2.1%
Estonia	121,562	0.1%
Finland	2,746,426	1.9%
France	14,828,603	10.4%
Georgia	44,891	0.0%
Germany	15,677,727	11.0%
Greece	1,175,734	0.8%
Holy See	85,965	0.1%
Hungary	661,240	0.5%
Iceland	182,839	0.1%
Ireland	1,102,296	0.8%
Italy	14,828,603	10.4%
Kazakhstan	249,679	0.2%
Kyrgyzstan	44,891	0.0%
Latvia	125,939	0.1%
Liechtenstein	85,965	0.1%
Lithuania	125,939	0.1%
Luxembourg	476,245	0.3%
Malta	90,342	0.1%
Moldova	44,891	0.0%
Monaco	85,965	0.1%
Mongolia	44,891	0.0%
Montenegro	44,891	0.0%
Netherlands	5,512,905	3.9%
Norway	2,934,742	2.1%
Poland	1,658,490	1.2%
Portugal	1,026,918	0.7%
Romania	433,640	0.3%
Russian Federation	5,474,399	3.8%
San Marino	85,965	0.1%
Serbia	94,180	0.1%
Slovak Republic	284,651	0.2%
Slovenia	273,677	0.2%
Spain	6,885,190	4.8%
Sweden	4,759,468	3.3%
Switzerland	3,919,961	2.8%
Tajikistan	44,891	0.0%
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	85,965	0.1%
Turkey	1,209,671	0.9%
Turkmenistan	44,891	0.0%
Ukraine	494,960	0.3%
United Kingdom	14,828,603	10.4%
United States of America	18,553,434	13.0%
Uzbekistan	235,449	0.2%
Gap in Scales	-56,383	-0.0%
TOTAL	€ 142,304,100	100%

Pledges and expenditures

DONOR	APPROVED PLEDGE AMOUNT (€)	%
Albania	12,000	0.02%
Andorra	20,000	0.03%
Australia	201,206	0.33%
Austria	439,500	0.72%
Austrian Development Agency	50,042	0.08%
Bulgaria	50,000	0.08%
Canada	4,101,781	6.76%
Center for Energy Systems (Slovakia)	2,000	0.00%
Croatia	10,000	0.02%
Czech Republic	149,881	0.25%
Denmark	2,161,819	3.56%
Estonia	110,000	0.18%
European Commission	6,500,000	10.71%
European Union	2,200,000	3.62%
Finland	2,249,956	3.71%
Folke Bernadotte Academy (Sweden)	30,000	0.05%
France	883,000	1.45%
Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces	564,719	0.93%
Georgia	39,950	0.07%
Germany	8,950,693	14.75%
Hungary	120,000	0.20%
Iceland	85,000	0.14%
International Organization for Migration	2,031,294	3.35%
Ireland	355,000	0.58%
Israel	20,000	0.03%
Italy	300,690	0.50%
Japan	1,371,535	2.26%
Kazakhstan	31,278	0.05%
Latvia	45,000	0.07%
Liechtenstein	153,046	0.25%
Lithuania	90,000	0.15%
Luxembourg	230,000	0.38%
Monaco	10,000	0.02%
Netherlands	3,708,491	6.11%
Norway	1,409,764	2.32%
Poland	205,633	0.34%
Russian Federation	630,000	1.04%
San Marino	5,000	0.01%
Serbia	44,000	0.07%
Slovakia	70,000	0.12%
South Korea	115,263	0.19%
Stiftung EVZ	24,462	0.04%
Sweden	4,410,529	7.27%
Switzerland	4,368,236	7.20%
Thailand	50,000	0.08%
Trust Fund ENVSEC	485,895	0.80%
Turkey	498,450	0.82%
United Kingdom	2,060,395	3.39%
United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs	47,817	0.08%
United States	7,812,135	12.87%
United States Agency for International Development	1,113,020	1.83%
World Customs Organization	70,000	0.12%
GRAND TOTAL	€60,698,479	100%

APPROVED PLEDGES

Total of approved pledges in 2014:
€60,698,479

Total number of pledges:
302

Total expenditures::
€42,090,207

DONOR	EXPENDITURE (€)	%
Albania	17,104	0.04%
Andorra	19,880	0.05%
Australia	110,402	0.26%
Australian Agency for International Development	137,876	0.33%
Austria	148,541	0.35%
Austrian Development Agency	29,264	0.07%
Azerbaijan	577	0.00%
Belgium	9,927	0.02%
Bulgaria	45,431	0.11%
Canada	1,478,034	3.51%
Charity Ball	64,607	0.15%
Charity Commission for England and Wales	2,095	0.00%
Czech Republic	93,505	0.22%
Denmark	1,112,667	2.64%
Estonia	70777	0.17%
European Agency for Reconstruction	4,422	0.01%
European Commission	4,915,457	11.68%
European Union	2,436,246	5.79%
Finland	1,346,730	3.20%
Folke Bernadotte Academy (Sweden)	28,245	0.07%
France	390,542	0.93%
Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces	180,879	0.43%
Germany	4,351,779	10.34%
Hungary	113,494	0.27%
Iceland	24,945	0.06%
International Organization for Migration	70,401	0.17%
Ireland	224,687	0.53%
Israel	173	0.00%
Italy	481,648	1.14%
Japan	1,485,699	3.53%
Kazakhstan	26,623	0.06%
Kosovo Consolidated Budget	9,054	0.02%
Latvia	18,509	0.04%
Liechtenstein	205,889	0.49%
Lithuania	49,193	0.12%
Luxembourg	165,171	0.39%
Monaco	108,466	0.26%
Netherlands	2,644,254	6.28%
Norway	2,553,568	6.07%
Norwegian Institute of International Affairs	35,461	0.08%
Open Society Fund - Bosnia and Herzegovina	155	0.00%
Poland	89,546	0.21%
Russian Federation	153,154	0.36%
Serbia	10,953	0.03%
Slovakia	35,262	0.08%
South Korea	97,562	0.23%
Spain	150,117	0.36%
Stiftung EVZ	22,561	0.05%
Sweden	2,715,194	6.45%
Switzerland	1,862,057	4.42%
Trust Fund ENVSEC	307,168	0.73%
Turkey	239,256	0.57%
United Kingdom	2,352,200	5.59%
United Nations Office for Project Services	178,966	0.43%
United States	7,571,011	17.99%
United States Agency for International Development	1,092,824	2.60%
GRAND TOTAL	€42,090,207	100%

Staff

NATIONALITY	Kosovo	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Skopje	Serbia	Montenegro	Albania	Baku	Yerevan	PR CiO Minsk Conference	Moldova	Ukraine	Astana	Ashgabat	Bishkek	Tajikistan	Uzbekistan	Totals for Field Operations	Secretariat	RFOM	HCNM	ODIHR	Totals for Secretariat and Institutions	GRAND TOTALS
Armenia														1			1	1			2	3	4
Austria	5		3	4		3									1		16	11	1		3	15	31
Azerbaijan																1	1	1				1	2
Belarus													1				1	1			3	4	5
Belgium																		2			1	3	3
Bosnia and Herzegovina	13			2											1		16	4	1		4	9	25
Bulgaria	2							1				1	1	2	1		8	2			1	3	11
Canada	6					2								2			10	10			3	13	23
Croatia	5																5	1	1			2	7
Cyprus																		1				1	1
Czech Republic	1	1			1			1	1	1							6			1	1	2	8
Denmark	1														2		3			1		1	4
Estonia										1							1			1		1	2
Finland	2	1													1		4	4		2		6	10
France	5		2	1			2			1			1		2		14	13	1	2	4	20	34
Georgia	3														2		5	3			3	6	11
Germany	5	3	1	2		1				1			1	3	2		19	21	2	2	9	34	53
Greece	4		1														5	2				2	7
Hungary	4		6		1		1										13	3	1		2	6	19
Iceland	1																1	1				1	2
Ireland	6	5	3	1											2		17	2				2	19
Italy	11	8	3	6	1	3								2	1		35	11		1	4	16	51
Kazakhstan														1			1	5	1		2	8	9
Kyrgyzstan	1						1			1							3				1	1	4
Latvia	1																1				1	1	2
Lithuania											1				1		2	1				1	3
Luxembourg																		1				1	1
Moldova			1					1						3	1		6	1		1		2	8
Montenegro	1					2											3					3	3
Netherlands			1														1	2		2	1	5	6
Norway				1											1		2	3	1		3	7	9
Poland	3	1	3		1			1	1	1				2	2		15	2			6	8	23
Portugal	2																2	3				3	5
Romania	1		1														2				1	1	3
Russian Federation	1	2	1	1	1			1						8	2		17	9	1	1	3	14	31
San Marino																		1				1	1
Serbia					1							1		2			4	4			2	6	10
Slovakia	2	1	1												1		5	2				2	7
Slovenia						1									1		2	1			1	2	4
Spain	1	1				2				1							5	4	1		1	6	11
Sweden	2			2	1			1	2								8	2	1		1	4	12
Switzerland	1		1	2		1				1					1		7	6				6	13
Tajikistan			1														1	1				1	2
FYR of Macedonia	20					1	1								2		24				1	1	25
Turkey	4		1										1				6	5			1	6	12
Turkmenistan															1		1	1				1	2
Ukraine			1		1			1				1		1			5	4			2	6	11
United Kingdom	14	3	5	3	1	3			1	1				1	1		33	13		1	6	20	53
United States	5	6	3	4	1	1		2		3		1	1	6	3		37	11	1	3	5	20	57
Uzbekistan								1			1						2	2				2	4
Internationally recruited staff	133	32	39	29	10	20	5	7	6	14	3	4	6	34	32	2	376	178	13	18	78	287	663
Locally recruited staff	419	309	105	135	31	59	13	42	11	42	58	22	20	122	185	20	1,593	200	3	12	66	281	1,874
Total number of staff	552	341	144	164	41	79	18	49	17	56	61	26	26	156	217	22	1,969	378	16	30	144	568	2,537

Includes staff in posts as of 31 December 2014 financed from Unified Budget and extra-budgetary contributions.



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