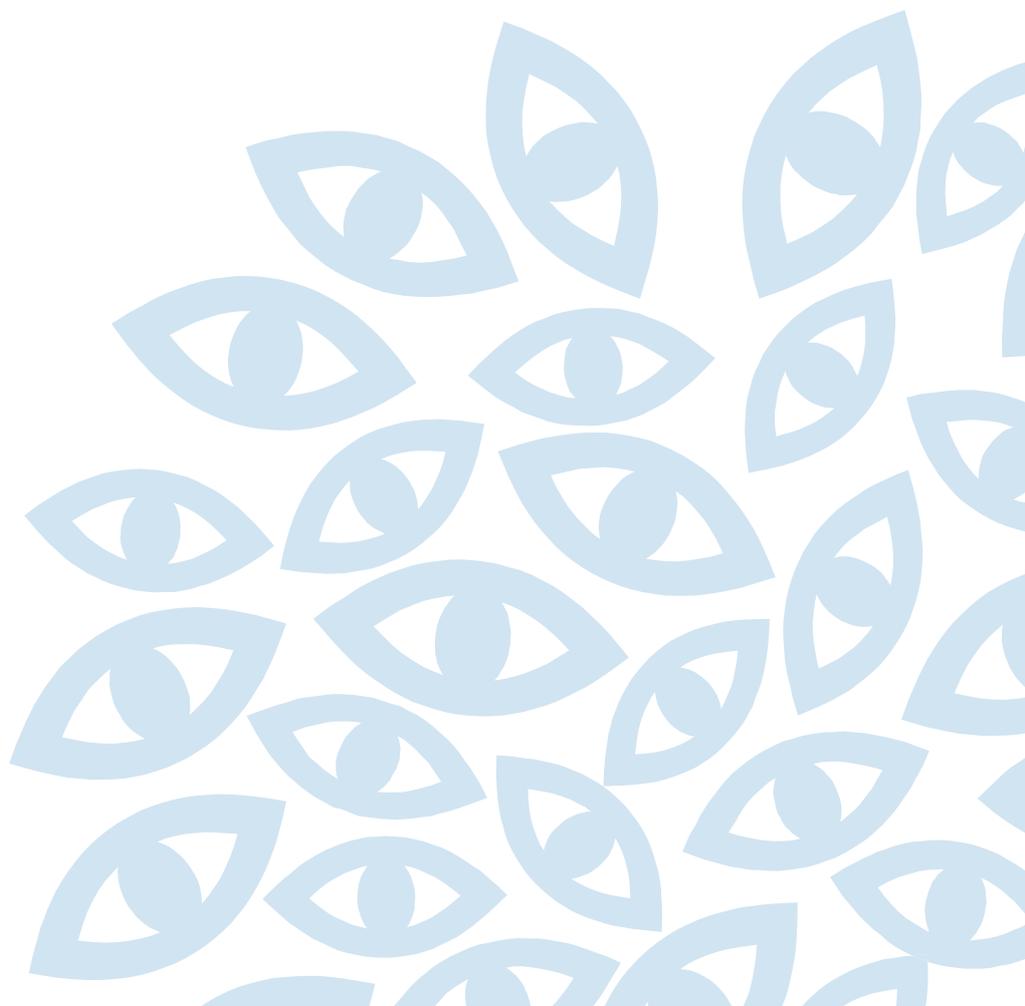


Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights



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Overview by the ODIHR Director

During 2010, two important OSCE events served to underscore the importance of human rights and democracy for the promotion of sustainable security in the region.

In June, ODIHR and the OSCE's Kazakh chairmanship organized a conference in the Danish capital to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the landmark 1990 Copenhagen Document. The Document has become one of the fundamental texts of the Organization when it comes to human rights and democracy, and continues to be the basis for many of ODIHR's activities in assisting participating States with implementing their human dimension commitments.

Then, in December, the OSCE Summit in Astana adopted a declaration reaffirming in clear and strong terms the existing *acquis* in the human dimension. Participating States reaffirmed the relevance of OSCE principles and acknowledged that more must be done to ensure the implementation of commitments, including in the field of the human dimension. Throughout the year, ODIHR continued to support participating States in this endeavor.

The emphasis placed by participating States in Astana on "the important role played by civil society and free media in helping ... to ensure full respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms, democracy, including free and fair elections, and the rule of law" reinforced the significance the OSCE attaches to engaging the non-governmental sector. This approach has been reflected in the numerous activities ODIHR conducted in co-operation with civil society actors across the region.

In the autumn, ODIHR and the Kazakh chairmanship organized the human dimension component of the OSCE Review Conference, in Warsaw and Astana. The Review Conference, the largest human rights event in Europe in 2010, provided a forum for governments and civil society to review the progress states have made in putting their commitments into practice and identifying ways to close existing implementation gaps. This contributed significantly to the preparations for the Summit.

Throughout 2010, the Office reacted to emerging human rights crises in accordance with its

mandate. For example, in the aftermath of the violent events of April and June in Kyrgyzstan, ODIHR provided advice to the OSCE Centre in Bishkek, monitored the trial of a prominent human rights defender, supported the process of constitutional reform, and observed the constitutional referendum in June and the parliamentary elections in October.

In the field of elections, ODIHR observed or assessed a total of 21 elections in 2010. This included elections in two countries assessed for the first time, bringing the total number of participating States in which ODIHR has conducted some form of observation activity to 52. More than 3,700 observers from 52 participating States and two OSCE Partners for Co-operation were deployed during the year. Increased attention was paid to follow-up on recommendations included in the Office's election reports. ODIHR also increased its capacity to assess and advise on new voting technologies by hiring a senior advisor on the issue. The publication in June of the 6th edition of ODIHR's *Election Observation Handbook* marked another milestone in the continued development of the Office's comprehensive methodology for election monitoring.

Promoting tolerance and non-discrimination remained high on ODIHR's agenda in 2010. The Office supported the organization of the High Level Conference on Tolerance in Astana in June. The conference, attended by over 400 participants from across the region, served to review and assess progress in the sphere of tolerance and non-discrimination and a chance to discuss problems and how they might be addressed. In implementing OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 9/09, ODIHR convened a series of expert meetings to develop recommendations on how to address manifestations of hatred on the Internet.

The year 2010 also saw the launch of a major project aimed at strengthening the capacity of national judiciaries in dealing with war crimes, ahead of the approaching closure of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY). The four-million-euro War Crimes Justice Project is carried out jointly with the ICTY, the UN Interregional Crime and



ODIHR Director Ambassador Janez Lenarčič addresses a session of NATO's Parliamentary Assembly at the Sejm, Poland's parliament, in Warsaw on 16 November. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)

Justice Research Institute and OSCE field operations in the region, with funding coming from the European Union.

A comprehensive set of recommendations on how governments can advance the independence of their judiciaries was developed at an ODIHR-organized meeting in Kyiv in June, which was attended by experts from 19 participating States. The *Kyiv Recommendations on Judicial Independence* have since been used as a basis for several country-specific discussions on relevant reform initiatives.

The publication of ODIHR's report on the trials that were held after the post-election violence in Armenia in 2008 was followed by a series of workshops to discuss the recommendations included in the report and integrate them into the work on Armenia's new criminal procedure code. This is just one example of how ODIHR's monitoring and assessment activities can lead to concrete co-operation with authorities in strengthening the rule of law and democratic processes.

Gender equality and the participation of women in public life continued to be a priority in ODIHR's work during the year. One of the special OSCE human dimension meetings organized by ODIHR and the chairmanship in 2010 focused on sharing good practices and experiences for promoting women's political participation.

With regard to improving the situation of Roma and Sinti in the OSCE area, ODIHR's Contact Point focused on promoting the implementation of the 2003 OSCE Action Plan, as well as follow-up to recent Ministerial Council decisions. ODIHR also reacted to troubling developments affecting both migrant and resident Roma in a number of participating States by drawing public attention not only to particular incidents but also to the need for concrete steps to promote integration.

The strong reaffirmation of OSCE commitments, including those related to human rights and democracy, at the Astana Summit at the end of the year and the acknowledgement by the heads of state and government of the existing gaps in implementation provide a good basis for ODIHR to continue its work in supporting democratic reform in the future.

ODIHR is grateful to participating States for their support and co-operation during the past year and we are looking forward to deepening our engagement with governments and civil society with the aim of turning the promises of the OSCE human dimension commitments into reality everywhere in the OSCE region.

Ambassador Janez Lenarčič
Director, OSCE Office for Democratic
Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

A voter at a polling station in a village near Chisinau takes a look at the long ballot paper for early parliamentary elections in Moldova, 28 November. (OSCE/Jens Eschenbaecher)



Elections



Elections

Given their fundamental importance to the development and maintenance of democratic institutions, elections continued to be a major focus of ODIHR's work in 2010.

The year saw the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the OSCE Copenhagen Document, which set out clearly the commitments undertaken by the 56 participating States to conduct democratic elections. ODIHR is explicitly mandated to assist them in meeting this obligation, and the observation or assessment of elections forms a key element of this work across the OSCE region, as does crucial follow-up with individual states to help promote the implementation of recommendations contained in ODIHR observation mission reports. ODIHR continues to work actively in a number of other election-related areas as well, such as carrying out reviews of electoral legislation, publishing guidelines and handbooks on a variety of election-related issues, and providing training for election observers.

A comprehensive observation methodology comprising a long-term approach lies at the core of ODIHR's election work. This methodology continued to be honed in 2010 with the launch of the updated, 6th edition of the *Election Observation Handbook*. The fundamental tenet of the methodology is that a comprehensive, in-depth assessment of an election process must examine not only election day, but also the circumstances that precede and follow it. Systematic scrutiny is, therefore, applied to crucial elements of the election process, such as the legal framework, the work of the election administration, the conduct of the election campaign, contestants' access to the media, election-day procedures, and the adjudication of election-related complaints. A broad geographical range is covered by ODIHR's election observation activities: To date, election observation activity has been conducted in some format in 52 of the 56 participating States.

Encouraging and supporting the implementation of recommendations by participating States remains one of the primary challenges in ODIHR's work, particularly where electoral processes are not yet in line with OSCE commitments. As a result, follow-up remained a key feature of the Office's activities in 2010, with increasingly close co-ordination among activities specifically related to elections and those aimed at supporting broader democratization objectives.

MAIN ISSUES

Promoting Democratic Standards

The commitments contained in the OSCE Copenhagen Document remained as relevant in 2010 as at their adoption. The tenets it espoused in 1990 formed the principal yardstick by which election processes are evaluated by ODIHR. Twenty years on, the progress in the implementation of election-related commitments is undeniable, but challenges remain. A number of participating States continue to conduct elections not in conformity with the standards in the Copenhagen commitments. While the content of laws may have improved, their implementation remains incomplete. The Copenhagen Document stated clearly that rule of law cannot mean mere formal legality, and a key element of ODIHR's work comprises assessing the actual implementation of election-related laws. Significant shortcomings continue to be noted and reported in a number of OSCE participating States. These include, but are not limited to: restrictions of fundamental rights and freedoms; unwarranted constraints on candidates and campaigning; structural media bias; systems of voter registration that do not accurately reflect the voting population; limitations to effective election observation, by both domestic and international observers; the misuse of state resources to the advantage of particular contestants; a lack of separation between state structures and certain political parties; the pressuring and intimidation of voters; a lack of effective legal avenues of redress; and, often, blatant fraud during the voting, counting and tabulation of votes.

Recommendations and Their Implementation

Following on from its election observation activities, ODIHR has increasingly worked closely with participating States to assist them in implementing election-related recommendations. The concrete recommendations included in final reports on observation activities that are published and shared with all participating States flag critical problems and issues during



Ambassador Geert-Hinrich Ahrens, the head of ODIHR's election observation mission to the presidential election in Belarus on 19 December, answers questions following a press conference in Minsk, 15 November. (OSCE/Robert Lech)

the election in question and suggest measures that can be taken. This approach offers a constructive means to help participating States bring their election processes closer in line with their OSCE commitments. Open post-election dialogue with participating States is, therefore, key to this process of evaluation and improvement. Final reports are translated into local languages, so that domestic stakeholders are able to access them and utilize them in their further work.

New Voting Technologies

Many OSCE participating States continue to explore the possibilities that new technological advancements offer in terms of voter participation and the administration of elections. At the same time, awareness has grown of the possible limitations and risks associated with these technologies and the overly rapid introduction of electronic voting. Strong arguments have been raised in favour of such technologies, based on considerations such as increased efficiency, potential cost savings and the encouragement of greater voter turnout, while counter-arguments stress that safeguards are needed to ensure adequate transparency, security and accountability in the use of these voting systems. Electronic

voting methods must meet the same international standards and carry the same guarantees of reliability, transparency and secrecy as traditional means in order to maintain citizens' trust and confidence in electoral processes and their results. Key challenges in this area include end-to-end verifiability of the electronic-voting process and measures to make it impossible to trace individual ballots to particular voters. Experts on electronic voting have played an increasing role in missions to elections where these technologies have been used, and the Office's expertise in this area was strengthened further in 2010 with the addition of a Senior Election Adviser on New Voting Technologies, whose activities have included active participation in international forums on this topic.

ACTIVITIES

While ODIHR's mandate to observe elections forms the primary impetus of its work, findings in election reports also serve as a basis for the Office's work in other areas, as well as with other OSCE institutions and field operations, and other organizations promoting democratic processes through their own work. In 2010,



Members of the electoral commission counting ballots at a polling station in Vienna following the close of polls in Austria's presidential election, 25 April. (OSCE/Ron Laufer)

ODIHR's activities in the area of elections continued to focus on:

- » Election observation;
- » Follow-up to observation missions;
- » Electoral legislation reform;
- » Election observation methodology development;
- » Training of observers; and
- » Support for OSCE Partners for Co-operation.

Election Observation

ODIHR deployed missions or expert teams to 21 elections in 2010. As per ODIHR's developed methodology, updated in 2010 with the launch of the 6th edition of the *Election Observation Handbook*, an election observation process begins with the deployment of a Needs Assessment Mission (NAM). This assesses the pre-election environment and preparations in order to produce a recommendation for the nature and scope of activity required, based on the needs identified. Some elements taken into consideration during the course of a NAM are whether the electoral legal framework is in line with OSCE commitments, what the level of public confidence is in the conduct of elections, and whether tested electoral practices, respect for fundamental rights and freedoms, proven checks and balances, an open civil society and

a pluralistic media environment are in place. The added value in a particular country context is another element assessed, and the potential usefulness of an ODIHR election activity is discussed with all interlocutors. Due to limited resources in terms of funding and staff, a NAM to every participating State holding an election is not possible, although all due efforts are made to cover as many as possible. In 2010, 15 NAMs were conducted throughout the OSCE area.

In 8 of the 21 elections for which it carried out observation activities, ODIHR deployed full-scale election observation missions (EOMs), which include a core teams of experts, as well as long and short-term observers that are seconded by individual OSCE participating States. Two limited election observation missions (LEOMs) and one Limited Referendum Observation Mission (LROM) were deployed in 2010. These limited missions are deployed to states where long-term observers are deemed necessary, but where election-day issues are expected to be unproblematic.¹ Six election assessment missions (EAMs), comprising only a core team of experts, were also deployed in 2010. These

¹ In one of these cases, that of the constitutional referendum in Kyrgyzstan in June, a full mission was initially anticipated, but this was downgraded to a limited mission due to security considerations on the ground.

The 6th edition of ODIHR's Election Observation Handbook





ODIHR expert Jonathan Stonestreet (right) addresses a roundtable in Baku on the recommendations of the 2008 ODIHR Election Observation Mission to Azerbaijan, 8 April. (OSCE/Oliver Jinks)

were deployed in cases where the involvement of long- and short-term election observers was deemed unnecessary, due to the existence of effective checks and balances and the high level of confidence in the electoral process.² ODIHR also deployed three election expert teams — two to states holding local elections and the other for a referendum — to look at specific issues. Finally, the Office deployed one election support team to Afghanistan, under a special OSCE Permanent Council mandate. This mission is described in greater detail below.

Two OSCE participating States were visited for the first time in an election context in 2010, as the Office continued to widen the scope of its observation activities and promote greater scrutiny across the OSCE region. This trend will continue in the future. Over the course of 2010, ODIHR published 74 election-related reports (needs assessment mission reports, interim reports, preliminary statements, final reports, and various legal reviews).

These observation activities evaluated the extent to which the participating States visited

met OSCE commitments and other international standards for democratic elections, with a focus on measures that could be taken by participating States to bring future election processes into greater conformity with the requirements of the 1990 OSCE Copenhagen Document.

More than 3,700 observers from 52 participating States and two OSCE Partners for Co-operation were deployed by ODIHR in 2010. The Office also continues to make good use of its “Fund for Diversification”, an extra-budgetary programme that allows ODIHR to more effectively include observers from a wide variety of participating States in its activities, and particularly from those that do not generally second observers. This mechanism was used to fund the participation of 22 long-term observers and 98 short-term observers to nine election missions over the course of 2010. The continued funding and support for this programme on the part of certain participating States is very much appreciated, allowing ODIHR to draw upon a broader range of expertise.

The basis for ODIHR’s co-operation with other international organizations is outlined in OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 19/06, adopted in 2006. The Office worked actively

² EOMS can also be deployed in cases where fundamental shortcomings are so significant as to render election-day observation inconsequential.

with the Council of Europe's Venice Commission on legal reviews and maintained strong partnerships with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (on the basis of a 1997 co-operation agreement and Ministerial Council Decision 19/06), the parliamentary assemblies of the Council of Europe and NATO, and the European Parliament on election observation. It works regularly in the field of elections with other international governmental and non-governmental organizations, such as the Electoral Assistance Division of the United Nations, the European Commission, the Carter Center, the National Democratic Institute and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems, to promote common principles on international election observation. ODIHR has strengthened its co-operation with the Organization of American States and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to share ODIHR election observation experience and methodology.

Key Findings

2010 showed certain positive developments in the context of election observation missions. Shortcomings, however, continue in a number of participating States. Problems encountered include:

- » **Limitations on candidacy:** OSCE commitments require that all citizens have equal rights to stand for office and to be elected, yet many states employ undue administrative measures that effectively bar individuals from standing. Others employ such measures to de-register candidates on spurious administrative grounds, thus limiting the right to seek political or public office.
- » **Obstacles to free campaigning:** Parties and candidates should be able to exercise the fundamental freedom of association, peaceful assembly and expression that lie at the heart of a free and fair campaign. In some cases, candidates and parties face harassment, intimidation, pressure, a lack of resources, de-registration or other problems. In other cases, some candidates gain undue advantage through the abuse of official positions and state resources. This leads to an uneven playing field. The responsibility to ensure equal protection for all parties and candidates lies squarely with state authorities.
- » **Media access:** Electronic broadcast media are the main source of information in all OSCE states. It is generally recognized that



Polling station commission members put the minutes of the closing procedures on the polling station door after the close of voting in the second round of the presidential election, Svitlovodsk, Kirovohrad region, Ukraine, 2 February. (OSCE/Adam Adamus)



Limited Election Observation Mission Head Daan Everts in a polling station in Zagreb during the second round of the Croatian presidential election, 10 January 2010. (OSCE/Thomas Rymer)

state-funded broadcast media have particular obligations and responsibilities during election periods vis-à-vis candidates and voters. These obligations derive from the fact that they use public commodities (i.e., frequencies) and that their funding comes from taxpayers. The outcome of an election is often influenced by the amount and quality of information voters receive through the media. In many cases, however, certain parties or candidates are denied access to certain media sources or are granted access in a manner that is inequitable.

- » **Administration of elections:** Parties and candidates in some cases lack confidence in the impartiality of election administration and are sometimes treated in a biased manner. Moreover, election commissions are not always truly independent or free from government influence. Transparency, impartiality, professionalism, efficiency and accountability are key features that any election administration mechanism must meet to gain and retain confidence in the election process among both voters and those contesting the vote.
- » **Voting, counting and tabulation procedures:** There are often insufficient safeguards

in place for voting, counting and tabulation to discount the possibility of electoral malfeasance. This leads to the observation of dubious or, at times, openly fraudulent behaviour during the voting, counting of votes and tabulation of results. For there to be proper confidence in an election, OSCE commitments require the honest counting of votes and public reporting of election results to ensure transparency.

- » **Complaints and appeals systems:** Procedures and relevant bodies for the handling of election-related complaints are not always sufficiently developed to allow citizens adequate legal redress. A key element of the rule of law is that disputes can be channelled through appropriately designated and independent courts of law that can provide effective remedy. The timing of dispute adjudication is also crucial — decisions should be made quickly enough to have an impact on the election process. Such a right to redress should be available to citizens and to those standing for office, and at all stages of the process, from the moment of registration, through the course of the campaign, during the counting of votes, and to the determination of election results.

LEGAL REVIEWS 2010

Country	Title of Document	Date of Issue
Belarus	Joint Opinion on the Amendments to the Electoral Code of the Republic of Belarus as of 17 December 2009	4 June
Moldova	Joint Opinion on the Draft Working Text on Amending the Election Code of Moldova	7 June
Montenegro	Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on the Election of Councillors and Members of Parliament of Montenegro as Amended through July 2006	8 June
Georgia	Joint Opinion on the Election Code of Georgia as Amended through March 2010	9 June
Norway	Joint Opinion on the Electoral Legislation of Norway	22 December

Field Operation Support

Part of ODIHR's work also involves providing active and continued support to OSCE field operations. Such support includes following electoral events (referenda, local elections and by-elections) and advising field operations on a variety of election-related issues, from legal amendments to constituency delimitation. ODIHR also regularly sends its staff and independent experts to participate in key election-related events, including official working groups on issues such as electoral-law reform.

ODIHR recognizes that OSCE field operations can play a longer-term role in the area of election-related technical assistance. Targeted technical assistance programmes delivered by OSCE field missions, if designed in a manner that effectively addresses previous ODIHR recommendations, can represent an important complement to ODIHR's work.

Election Observation Mission Dialogue and Follow-up

As a natural continuation of the work done under its observation mandate, ODIHR consistently offers to assist participating States in implementing the recommendations made in its election reports, with the aim of strengthening and improving compliance with OSCE commitments. Such follow-up activities were conducted in a range of OSCE countries in 2010. They included Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Ukraine, where the ODIHR final reports were formally presented to the authorities and discussions on the recommendations they contained took place among a wide variety of stakeholders. Specific aspects of the electoral process, such as the formation and composition of election commissions, the use of new voting technologies, and access for international election observers, were subjects for further

dialogue with the authorities of Azerbaijan, Belgium, Norway, the Russian Federation and the United States. ODIHR staff and experts also participated in discussions on electoral-law reform in, for example, Armenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Turkmenistan and Ukraine.

Political will was, once again, a vital factor for effective follow-up in 2010. Kyrgyzstan, for example, showed that such political will is indispensable to achieving progress in holding elections that are more in line with OSCE commitments; despite a short time period and limited resources, recommendations made by ODIHR were implemented. Where sufficient political will exists, the period after an election is an excellent opportunity for a participating State to benefit from the related recommendations, and ODIHR continues to encourage such timely efforts. After parliamentary elections in Tajikistan in February, it was pointed out during a major follow-up event in Dushanbe, attended by some 100 participants from across a wide political spectrum, that the time to act on recommendations is immediately following an election process; sufficient time is necessary to deal with fundamental issues in a meaningful manner.

Electoral Legislation Reform

Legal frameworks are crucial to holding elections in line with OSCE commitments. Such a framework should ensure that crucial rights are protected and standards adhered to in a structured manner. The review of electoral legislation and legal frameworks, therefore, continues to be a key element of ODIHR follow-up activities.

In 2010, ODIHR published five legal reviews, jointly with the Council of Europe's Venice Commission, on draft or final amendments to election laws in Belarus, Moldova, Montenegro,



ODIHR Director Ambassador Janez Lenarčič (right) and the Chairman of the Russian Central Election Commission, Vladimir Churov, at the ODIHR offices, Warsaw, 1 February. (OSCE/Jens Eschenbaeher)

Georgia and Norway. These reviews all provided recommendations for bringing legislation more closely into line with OSCE commitments.

Development of Election Observation Methodology

The publication of the sixth edition of the ODIHR *Election Observation Handbook* marked another milestone in the continued development of ODIHR's comprehensive methodology for election observation. The last update of the handbook was released in April 2005 and, since then, certain developments have taken place. Launched in June to mark the 20th anniversary of the Copenhagen Document, the sixth edition builds on the extensive experience gained by ODIHR over the last five years. It also expands the coverage of some areas, such as the conduct of needs assessment missions, the distinction between different mission formats, the inclusion of analysts on new voting technologies or campaign financing, post-election observation, and follow-up. Since 2005, ODIHR has observed nearly 90 election processes throughout the OSCE area.

The newest edition of the handbook continues to address various facets of an election process, from review of the legal framework to assessment of the performance of election

administration bodies. It examines the conduct of an election campaign, whether there is equitable access to the media and the media environment, and the procedures in place for adjudicating election-related complaints and appeals. Election-day activities, such as voting, counting and tabulation, as well as the announcement of election results, are also crucial elements addressed by this methodology.

ODIHR also continues to identify new areas of development and concern and areas where its observation methodology could be improved. Among other things, the Office continues to look at challenges faced in the observation of new voter technologies, specific elements of voter registration, and issues related to the financing of election campaigns. ODIHR continues to publish guidelines and handbooks on a variety of election-related subjects to provide additional guidance to election observers. At the end of 2010, work continued on the updating or development of publications on a wide variety of issues.

Observer Training

In recent years, ODIHR has contributed significantly to the training of short-term observers. OSCE participating States, however, rightly continue to take the leading role in ensuring



A polling station near Karakol in eastern Kyrgyzstan just a few days before a constitutional referendum scheduled for 27 June. (OSCE/Barbara Smith)

that their seconded observers are equipped with the proper knowledge and background to perform their tasks as observers. The aim of training these individuals is to broaden the pool of observers from participating States eligible under the “Fund for Diversification”: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

In 2010, extra-budgetary funding allowed ODIHR to continue to conduct training programmes for short-term election observers. Two such events were held in Sarajevo in April and October, respectively, with significant co-operation from the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities. Six such events been held over the preceding four years. With generous extra-budgetary funding, ODIHR was also able to offer its first training event for long-term observers from diversification fund countries. The training was also conducted in Sarajevo, in November. Overall, 79 individuals participated in the 2010 training events: Forty of these were representatives of their respective governments, while 39 came from the NGO sector. The participants comprised 40 men and 39 women.

Issues dealt with during the course of the training events included an introduction to ODIHR’s election observation methodology, OSCE commitments and other international standards for election observation, principles of working together as a multi-national team, the daily life of an observer, and election-day procedures and reporting mechanisms. Trainees also practiced their new observation skills in a mock polling station and in various interactive scenarios.

In another observer-training capacity, ODIHR continued its co-operation with a number of long-standing partners. These include the Austrian Study Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution, the Diplomatic Academy of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the United Kingdom’s Electoral Reform International Services, the European Commission’s Network of Europeans for Electoral and Democracy Support, the German Centre for International Peace Operations, and Memo-98 of Slovakia. To better inform participants of ODIHR’s methodology and its role in election observation, the Office sent international staff to participate in training events held by these organizations.

In 2010, the Office also extended its co-operation with the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), which wanted to further

ODIHR Election Activities, 2010

Country	Election	Date	Mission
1 Croatia	Presidential, 2nd round	10 January	LEOM
2 Ukraine	Presidential	17 January & 7 February	EOM
3 Tajikistan	Parliamentary	28 February	EOM
4 Hungary	Parliamentary	11 April	EAM
5 Austria	Presidential	25 April	EAM
6 United Kingdom	General	6 May	EAM
7 Georgia	Local	30 May	EOM
8 Netherlands	Early parliamentary	9 June	EAM
9 Slovakia	Parliamentary	12 June	EAM
10 Kyrgyzstan	Constitutional referendum	27 June	LROM
11 Moldova	Constitutional referendum	5 September	EET
12 Afghanistan	Parliamentary	18 September	EST
13 Latvia	Parliamentary	2 October	LEOM
14 Bosnia and Herzegovina	General	3 October	EOM
15 Kyrgyzstan	Parliamentary	10 October	EOM
16 Ukraine (Crimea)	Local	31 October	EET
17 United States of America	Congressional mid-term	2 November	EAM
18 Azerbaijan	Parliamentary	7 November	EOM
19 Moldova	Early parliamentary	28 November	EOM
20 Turkmenistan	Local	5 December	EET
21 Belarus	Presidential	19 December	EOM

develop its own election observation methodology and expressed interest in knowing more about ODIHR's approach. As a result, a first training event was carried out for the OIC in Jeddah in July 2010. Further co-operation in this area is envisaged for 2011.

Support for OSCE Partners for Co-operation

In 2010, ODIHR continued its involvement in Afghan elections with the deployment of an Election Support Team (EST) to the 18 September parliamentary elections. ODIHR was tasked by the OSCE Permanent Council to deploy to Afghanistan, an OSCE Partner for Co-operation, following an invitation from the Afghan Foreign Minister.

ODIHR has had a presence for all Afghan elections since 2004, issuing reports in 2004, 2005 and 2009 with recommendations for the improvement of future electoral processes. During the course of the 2010 elections, the ODIHR EST reviewed the large body of existing recommendations and identified priority areas that

could form the basis for future electoral reform. ODIHR released a report focusing on six areas for long-term electoral reform: the legal framework, the protection of electoral rights, the election administration, voter registration, delimitation of electoral boundaries, political parties and domestic observation.

The EST was composed of eight experts from six OSCE participating States, and was deployed for five weeks, from 9 September to 15 October. The EST presented its findings to the Permanent Council on 9 December. It was generously funded through extra-budgetary contributions from 15 participating States and one Partner for Co-operation.

Romana Schweiger (left), Regional Project Co-ordinator for the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights with Ambassador Vincent Degert, Head of the European Commission in Serbia, at a War Crimes Justice Project press conference in Belgrade, 22 November. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)



Democratization



Democratization

Democracy is not just a system of modern political governance, but also a process.

The Commemorative Declaration adopted by participating States at the Astana Summit in December reaffirms the commitment to democracy that applies equally to all. And, while progress has been made, participating States remain at various stages of the process of democracy-building and consolidation. ODIHR's democratization work is aimed at assisting participating States in meeting their commitments in this fundamental area. Programmes are constructed to reflect the understanding that democracy is a participatory process, requiring long-term commitment and vigilance to ensure that a state of mediocrity and complacency does not persist where evident improvements can and should continue to be made.

ODIHR's democratization work is multi-faceted, with a central focus on ensuring that participation in democracy is not merely theoretical. ODIHR provides technical assistance to various players in the process of democratization, either directly or with the support of OSCE field operations. ODIHR's democratization programmes underscore the fact that democratic reform must involve not only the strengthening and empowering of state institutions but also men and women in an equal manner, as well as of political parties, non-governmental organizations, migrants and other groups.

MAIN ISSUES

Rule of Law and Legal Reform

The commitment of the OSCE participating States to the rule of law requires the creation and maintenance of a framework of laws and institutions that ensures this principle is implemented in practice. This framework should prevent abuses and contain sufficient safeguards to ensure the proper exercise and protection of human rights. In this context, the rule of law should not be reduced to mere legality, where rules are created and enforced without regard for human rights and democratic values. Such a "rule by law" does not foster trust between the state and society and will not result in the delivery of justice.

Legal reform is a regular process in any developing or thriving democracy, and is undertaken by participating States for a plethora of important, although sometimes very different reasons, including to ensure compliance of laws with existing or new human rights standards or commitments, to address new challenges, to find new solutions to old problems, or as part of a regular process of monitoring already adopted laws.

Whatever the subject matter and whatever the reason for legal reform, lawmakers need access to international experience, good practices, standards and expertise, including the legal opinions and commentaries offered by ODIHR. These opinions and commentaries indicate the degree to which draft legislation or legislation already in place meets international standards and new challenges faced.

Democratic Institutions and Practices for Democratic Governance

Ensuring political pluralism, strengthening participation and increasing representation are aims that cannot be achieved without looking at the institutions and practices that shape democratic governance. In some parts of the OSCE area, democratic institutions, such as political parties and parliaments, need continued and targeted strengthening and reform.



Armenian Prosecutor General Aghvan Hovsepian, Head of the OSCE Office in Yerevan Sergey Kapinos, Armenian Justice Minister Gevorg Danielyan and Deputy Chief of OSCE/ODIHR's Rule of Law Unit Vasil Vashchanka (left to right), at a workshop in Yerevan on reform of criminal procedure, 19 November. (OSCE/Gayane Ter-Stepanyan)

Gender Equality and Women's Participation in Politics

OSCE participating states have committed themselves to the promotion of gender equality as a basic tenet of democratic societies. Across the OSCE region, however, women's participation in political and public life is hindered by institutional and social barriers that undermine women's rights to full and equal political engagement. Transforming gender equality into a reality requires that states strengthen legal frameworks, national mechanisms and political processes to promote women's participation and protect their rights.

Migration and Freedom of Movement

The fact that modern populations are more mobile than at any point in history poses a number of challenges, including the integration of migrants into the societies to which they move, the development of population-registration systems that respect freedom of movement and comply with international human rights standards, and in relation to cross-border crime, such as trafficking and terrorism. Numerous OSCE commitments call on the participating

States to facilitate the movement of people and to protect the human rights of all migrants.

ACTIVITIES

ODIHR's democratization activities can be divided into three basic areas:

- » Rule of Law and Legal Reform
- » Democratic Governance and Participation in Public Affairs: and
- » Migration and Freedom of Movement

Rule of Law and Legal Reform

The challenges faced by countries working to strengthen the rule of law in the OSCE area are formidable, including poor infrastructure, underfunded and insufficiently trained judicial and legal personnel, and lack of awareness of existing legislation. These challenges highlight the importance of setting proper priorities for governments genuinely interested in advancing the rule of law and its underlying values. Progress depends on their political will and ability to lead by example in preserving a culture where no one is above the law, the government serves



A training session for legal support staff in Belgrade on 22 November, conducted as part of the War Crimes Justice Project. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)

society, and officials are accountable to the public.

Understanding the links and inter-dependence between democracy and the rule of law, ODIHR focuses through its programmatic activities on processes in participating States vital to maintaining these values in practice, from democratic law-making to the independent and impartial administration of justice. This work is carried out in partnerships with parliaments, political parties, judiciaries, government agencies, legal communities, international organizations and civil society actors.

Independence of the Judiciary

An independent judiciary is one of the key institutions for maintaining the rule of law. The challenges faced in strengthening judicial independence were at the forefront of the discussion at the 2010 Human Dimension Seminar, held in Warsaw from 17 to 19 May. Its participants called on the participating States and OSCE to increase efforts in this area.

In 2010, ODIHR convened an international expert seminar on judicial independence in Kyiv, from 23 to 25 June, bringing together nearly 40 experts from 19 participating States to identify the main challenges and offer solutions for improving judicial independence in Eastern

Europe, the South Caucasus and Central Asia. The resulting “*Kyiv Recommendations on Judicial Independence*” comprise a set of concrete policy suggestions that formed the basis for country-specific discussions with decision makers, analysts and legal communities in Chisinau on 27 and 28 October and in Moscow on 14 December. In Moldova, the meeting produced input for the legislative-reform initiatives led by the Superior Council of Magistrates.

Trial Monitoring

OSCE commitments identify the value of fair trials in building confidence in democratic systems. ODIHR and OSCE field operations monitor trials to receive first-hand information about fair-trial issues in individual cases and to obtain data about general trends in justice systems.

In 2010, ODIHR launched a project to support OSCE trial-monitoring activities through the development of an information- and knowledge-management system and legal database. The repository of documents, digest of fair-trial standards and methodological guidelines created will facilitate better informed and more reliable trial-monitoring operations. The project is steered by a board composed of ODIHR and OSCE field operations staff. The board

comments on the tools developed and reviews the project's progress during regular exchanges, the last of which in 2010 took place on the margins of the annual co-ordination meeting for trial monitoring. The meeting was organized in 2010 jointly by ODIHR and the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, in Budva from 29 November to 1 December.

ODIHR also embarked, in co-operation with Sweden's Folke Bernadotte Academy, on a project to develop guidelines on monitoring administrative justice before courts and is currently in the process of compiling and analyzing existing fair-trial standards applicable in this field.

In March, ODIHR published its final report on the trial monitoring project in Armenia carried out in 2008 and 2009. The report identified a number of shortcomings in the administration of justice, including the ill-treatment of individuals in custody and undue restrictions of the right to defence. The recommendations made to the Armenian authorities were discussed by ODIHR experts with the Ministry of Justice, the Prosecutor General's Office, the Court of Cassation and other stakeholders at three subsequent workshops held in Yerevan in April, July and November, respectively. A presidential decree was issued to set up a working group to draft a new Code of Criminal Procedure in light of the ODIHR recommendations.

Criminal Justice Reform

ODIHR continued to facilitate the exchange of expertise and provide assistance to participating States in the field of criminal-justice reform.

The 2010 Expert Forum on Criminal Justice for Central Asia, held in Dushanbe on 17 and 18 June, was devoted to issues faced by the criminal-justice systems in the region. These issues included the authorization of pre-trial detention, judicial oversight of criminal investigation, evidentiary rules and adversarial procedure, jury trials, reform of legislation on administrative offences, abbreviated and simplified criminal procedures, and alternatives to criminal prosecution. Prominent international experts shared their experience with more than 120 policymakers, researchers and criminal-justice professionals from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

At the Expert Forum, ODIHR also presented preliminary results from two research projects it carried out in Kazakhstan in 2010 – on judicial authorization of pre-trial detention and on jury

trials. The reports contain analysis of current legislation and practice, as well as recommendations for improvements. These will be published in early 2011.

In Moldova, ODIHR worked with the Prosecutor General's office to strengthen the capacity of the recently created Superior Council of Prosecutors (SCP). An ODIHR expert spent four weeks with the Council in October to assess its institutional strengths and weaknesses and share experiences from other countries. The results were presented at a roundtable with the Prosecutor General and other high-ranking justice officials in Chisinau on 6 December. Future discussions are expected to focus on addressing the problems that the close institutional relationship between the SCP and the office of the Prosecutor General creates for public perceptions of the SCP as a guarantor of the independence, objectivity and impartiality of prosecutors, as required by the organic law creating it.

Electoral Disputes

ODIHR continued to develop capacity to provide assistance to participating States in resolving election-related disputes. Two expert meetings held in Warsaw, in February and December, respectively, served to identify the main challenges in the OSCE region and prioritize potential areas of engagement for ODIHR. Their conclusions will guide ODIHR efforts in this area in 2011, including the development of policy guidelines on electoral-dispute resolution at the administrative and judicial levels.

Supporting the Adjudication of War Crimes

Since May 2010, ODIHR has been implementing the War Crimes Justice Project (WCJP), aimed at strengthening the capacity of national legal systems of countries in South-Eastern Europe in dealing with war crimes cases. The 18-month project is supported by 4 million euros in funding from the European Union and implemented in partnership with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), as well as the OSCE field operations in the region. The project prioritizes the transfer of knowledge and materials from the ICTY to legal professionals in national jurisdictions and, in so doing, addresses identified gaps in the professional capacities of practitioners and their resources in

a manner that is both sustainable and appropriate in the local legal context.

With the goal of facilitating the professional development of legal professionals working on war crimes cases in the region, ODIHR delivers targeted training to judges, prosecutors, investigators and their support staff on specific war-crimes-related matters. In a similar vein, ODIHR also provides training and legal and other support staff to selected legal institutions throughout the region. Overall, the project has ensured the hiring of 32 support staff working on war crimes in legal institutions in Croatia, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. These institutions have expressed their commitment to retain the maximum number of these support staff beyond the project's time span.

The project also facilitates development of the training capacities of professionals in the region on international humanitarian and criminal law, by increasing their direct access to war-crimes-related knowledge, expertise and information existing at the ICTY and elsewhere in the region. In the course of 2011, a comprehensive international criminal law training curriculum will be published and an e-learning portal allowing for web-based self-learning for professionals dealing with war crimes will go online. Furthermore, the capacity of war crimes defence counsel is being strengthened through the development of a manual on most effective and innovative practices utilized by the Association of Defence Counsel practicing before the ICTY and training on an array of war-crimes-relevant topics.

The project also transcribes recordings of ICTY proceedings in selected cases and translates the transcripts into the languages of the region and has also undertaken to translate a research tool on case law of the ICTY Appeals Chamber. More than 15,000 pages were transcribed in 2010. By the end of the project, more than 140,000 transcript pages are to be completed.

Strengthening Capacity for Legislative Reform

Decisions to conduct legal reform are ordinarily taken at higher levels of government and legislatures. At the working level, it is the drafters of legislation who must reflect political undertakings and decisions in law, often in the face of new and complex legislative issues, and sometimes lacking the relevant expertise to complete the task. ODIHR provides the necessary

expertise to bridge this gap by assessing compliance of draft laws with relevant standards, making recommendations for improvement, and sharing good practices to help lawmakers explore other options. This process is often followed by roundtable consultations with legislators and civil society on draft laws.

Often, work on one review will lead to further reviews on related issues. A good example of this in 2010 was ODIHR's assessment of the draft Amendments to the Moldovan Criminal Code Related to Hate Crimes. The recommendations were aimed at ensuring the compliance of the draft legislation with international standards and OSCE commitments and were discussed at a roundtable in Chisinau in June 2010. This roundtable, organized by ODIHR and the OSCE Mission to Moldova, brought together Moldovan authorities and prosecutors and law-enforcement officials from the United Kingdom and France, and explored how to investigate hate crimes in practice. Due to the proximity of the issues, the Moldovan Ministry of Justice also requested ODIHR's review of the draft Law on the Prevention and Fight against Discrimination once the hate-crimes related review had been completed. This review was submitted in October.

ODIHR's work in the area of legislative reform sometimes follows up on other activities of the Office. For example, following the publication of ODIHR's Final Report on its Trial Monitoring Project in Armenia, ODIHR received a number of requests from other public institutions in Armenia to review amendments to criminal procedure drafted in response to the Final Report. These included the review of the "Concept Paper on the Reform of Criminal Procedure Legislation", as well as reviews of the Armenian Criminal Procedure Code and of modifications to Armenian criminal legislation related to acts of contempt of court. Both the Concept Paper and the reform of the Criminal Procedure Code were discussed at an expert meeting organized by ODIHR and the OSCE Office in Yerevan, in co-operation with the Armenian Ministry of Justice, in November.

ODIHR reviews were also conducted on legislation or draft legislation dealing with the following issues: freedom of assembly, domestic violence, combating trafficking in human beings, freedom of association, financing of political parties, freedom of religion, criminal sanctions and disciplinary procedures against members of the armed forces, and

Constitutional Reform

ODIHR assistance in legal reform also extends to assistance in the field of constitutional reform. Following the events of April 2010 in Kyrgyzstan, ODIHR, together with the OSCE Centre in Bishkek and the Council of Europe's Venice Commission, and with the support of the European Commission and the United Nations Development Programme, organized a roundtable on constitutional reform in Bishkek on 13 May, ahead of the constitutional referendum that took place in the country on 27 June. During the roundtable, opened by interim President Roza Otunbayeva, more than 160 invited officials, international experts, academics and civil society representatives reviewed proposed changes to provisions on the powers of the parliament, the president and the judiciary, as well as to the electoral system. Participants also discussed provisions in the Constitution related to fundamental rights and freedoms, constitutional review by the competent court, the role of the prosecutor and the rights of minorities.

administrative procedure. Some of the reviews were undertaken in co-operation with relevant groups of experts working with ODIHR, i.e., the Panel of Experts on Freedom of Assembly and the Core Group of Experts on Political Parties.

Improving Legislative Efficiency and Transparency

The development of standards, legislation and regulations continues to play an important role in society, by providing it with a framework and structure. In establishing this order, regulations directly affect core human rights and freedoms and the ability of members of society to exercise them. A well-established framework of rules and regulations conceived through a transparent, participatory and efficient process makes for predictable government and can help bring prosperity and strengthen democracy.

OSCE commitments have long recognized the importance of an open and transparent legislative process. Such a process should include a number of key stages: policy analysis, regulatory-impact assessments, evaluations of draft legislation and expert and public consultations. In the provision of assistance to participating States on individual pieces of legislation, ODIHR works to help address shortcomings that occur in cases where some or all of these stages are missing or do not function adequately.

For these reasons, an ODIHR focus over the past five years has been on providing states with assistance in the improvement of the legislative process. Technical assistance is provided following a comprehensive assessment of the legislative process in the participating State concerned in order to gain a detailed understanding of the specifics of the legislative system, and thus to design assistance tailored to the particular states.

In 2010, ODIHR, together with the OSCE Mission to Serbia, officially presented to the Serbian authorities the ODIHR Preliminary Assessment Report on the Legislative System of the Republic of Serbia. The presentation brought together international experts and representatives of various governmental and parliamentary bodies and agencies. Discussions were primarily aimed at stimulating interest in the improvement of the lawmaking process in the country.

In 2010, following a request by the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Moldova, ODIHR also prepared the "Assessment of the Legislative Process in the Republic of Moldova", a comprehensive report that was presented and discussed at a roundtable held in Chisinau on 3 November. The roundtable brought together representatives of the Moldovan authorities and practitioners and academics familiar with Moldovan legislative practice and provided an illustration of the process of lawmaking in the country, as well as recommendations on improving its efficiency and transparency.

Guidelines for Legislators

ODIHR assists legislators from OSCE participating States by developing guidelines on specific and, often, complex legislative issues. ODIHR guidelines on legislation offer advice and expertise on the regulation of specific matters, and are based on universal and regional treaties relating to the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, evolving state practice (as reflected, *inter alia*, in the judgments of domestic courts and commitments of intergovernmental bodies), and the general principles of law, all of which are recognized by OSCE participating States in their human dimension commitments.



Jumakhon Davlatov (2nd left), Advisor to the President of the Republic of Tajikistan on legal issues, speaks at a session of the Third Annual Expert Forum on Criminal Justice for Central Asia, 17 June. (OSCE)

Each set of guidelines is drafted through an extensive consultative process involving expert discussions and thematic roundtables with key stakeholders from various OSCE participating States. Recognizing the great diversity of legal traditions across the OSCE area, the guidelines do not seek to provide blanket solutions or to aid in the development of a single model for all OSCE states. Rather, they are intended to clarify key issues related to the respective subject matter and provide examples of potential good practices for states. The guidelines have been prepared in co-ordination with the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe.

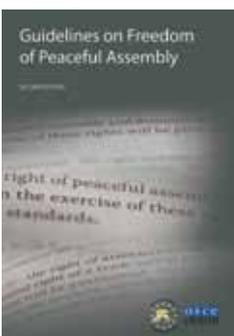
In 2010, ODIHR worked on three such sets of guidelines. A revised edition of the ODIHR-Venice Commission *Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly* was published, and the ODIHR-Venice Commission *Guidelines on Political Party Regulations* were finalized. Additionally, the process of revising the ODIHR-Venice Commission *Guidelines for Review of Legislation Pertaining to Religion or Belief* was also commenced in 2010 (for more information, see also the section on Tolerance and Non-discrimination).

The second edition of the ODIHR-Venice Commission *Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly* was published in 2010 in order to reflect the changing nature of assemblies since

the publication of the first edition in 2007, as well as recent case law of the European Court of Human Rights. The second edition of the *Guidelines* continues to be a practical toolkit for legislators and practitioners responsible for implementing laws, by drawing on good-practice examples from national legislation in OSCE participating States and other European countries, and on case law of the European Court of Human Rights.

Work on the *Guidelines on Political Party Regulation*, developed over the course of a comprehensive and inclusive process of drafting, was completed in 2010, ahead of publication in 2011. The Guidelines demarcate parameters for implementation consistent with international standards and illustrate key principles in adopting regulations that may affect political parties. They touch upon a variety of issues, including registration requirements, public and private funding, women's participation in politics and party participation in election campaigns. The Guidelines are written for lawmakers engaged in framing political party legislation and all others involved in drafting, implementing and monitoring laws and regulations on political parties and will be the basis for ODIHR assistance activities in 2011 and beyond. These Guidelines build on ODIHR's experience in the area of democratic governance, particularly

The ODIHR - Venice Commission Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly



Legal Reviews 2010		
Country	Title of Document	Date of Issue
Armenia	Note on Modifications to Armenian Criminal Legislation Related to Acts of Contempt of Court	23 September
	Note on the Application of Sanctions and Enforcement Measures towards Members of the Armed Forces in Armenia	23 September
	Note on the Concept Paper on the Reform of Criminal Procedure Legislation in Armenia	4 November
	Opinion on Draft Amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia	12 November
	Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Draft Law on Assemblies of Armenia	22 December
	Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Law on Making Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations and on the Laws on Amending the Criminal Code, the Administrative Offences Code and the Law on Charity	22 December
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on The Act on Public Assembly of The Sarajevo Canton (Bosnia and Herzegovina)	8 June
Kazakhstan	Comments on Article 99 of the Criminal Execution Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan	2 June
	Opinion on the Draft Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Access to Public Information	16 November
Kyrgyzstan	Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Draft Law on Peaceful Assemblies of the Kyrgyz Republic	22 December
Moldova	Opinion on Draft Amendments to the Moldovan Criminal Code Related to Hate Crimes	7 June
	Opinion on the proposed exclusion of the heading regarding ethnic identity from civil-status documents in Moldova	30 July
	Opinion on the Draft Law on Preventing and Combating Discrimination of the Republic of Moldova	29 October
Montenegro	Comments on the Draft Amendments to the Law on the Prohibition of Discrimination in Montenegro	27 January
	Comments on the Draft Law on the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro	1 October
Serbia	Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Draft Law of Serbia on Financing of Political Parties	20 December
	Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Public Assembly Act of the Republic of Serbia	18 October
Turkmenistan	Comments on the Law of Turkmenistan on Public Associations	22 June
	ODIHR Advisory Panel on Freedom of Religion and Belief Comments on the Law of Turkmenistan on Religious Freedom and Religious Organizations	25 June
	Comments on the Law of Turkmenistan on Combating Trafficking in Persons	6 August
Ukraine	Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Law of Ukraine on Peaceful Assemblies	19 October

its activities to support political pluralism and increased women's participation in public affairs.

Access to Law

Legislators often operate in a narrow legal space, and their work is sometimes impeded by a scarcity of locally available legal resources. ODIHR's legislative database, www.legislationline.org, facilitates better access to laws and the sharing

of good practices and precedents from other jurisdictions, by providing online access to a thematically structured compilation of international standards related to the OSCE's human dimension. The website has interfaces in English and Russian, but collects legislation in all official OSCE languages.

In 2010, the database was expanded to include more legal information, under such topics as freedom of assembly, freedom of association,

freedom of religion and belief, hate crime and counter-terrorism.

Democratic Governance and Participation in Public Affairs

ODIHR's work in the area of democratic governance and participation builds on the standards expressed in the OSCE commitments. Participating States have repeatedly reaffirmed that democratic governance involves the effective participation of individuals and groups in pluralistic and democratic institutions. These institutions must, therefore, function in a transparent and accountable manner in order to produce representative government.

OSCE commitments underscore the priority given by participating States to encouraging and ensuring the equal and effective participation of women and men in political and public life. Nevertheless, social, cultural, legal and institutional barriers continue to hinder women's full participation in the political sphere across the OSCE region. Recognizing that women's participation is a critical component of democratic society, ODIHR promotes gender equality by supporting the increased participation of women in political life and strengthening national mechanisms to protect women's rights.

ODIHR democratic governance programmes are designed and implemented to assist participating States to strengthen laws, institutions and democratic processes. In 2010, ODIHR promoted the better understanding and awareness of OSCE commitments in this realm by targeting three major areas: increasing women's political participation, strengthening parliaments and ensuring a pluralist political party system.

In connection with the anniversaries of the Copenhagen and Moscow Documents, in 2010 and 2011, respectively, ODIHR also commissioned research publications aimed at underscoring the key contribution of the OSCE commitments to the body of international standards on democratic governance.

Increasing Women's Participation in Politics

Participating States have committed themselves to promoting gender equality as a fundamental value and critical component of democratic, representative societies. Across the OSCE region, however, women continue to face many obstacles to participating effectively in political and public life. As of November 2010, the

OSCE-wide average of women's representation in national parliaments was 22 per cent, according to the Inter-Parliamentary Union, with large variations between participating States. The percentage of women's representation at decision-making levels in public office is even lower.

In 2010, ODIHR focused its activities on sharing good practices and experiences for promoting women's political participation. On 6 and 7 May, a Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting was held in Vienna on "Gender Balance and Women's Participation in Public and Political Life." The meeting convened more than 200 participants, including delegates from 47 OSCE participating States and representatives from non-governmental and international organizations. Participants developed a set of recommendations to further strengthen national mechanisms for the advancement of women and adopt measures to achieve gender balance in political parties. In addition, challenges and opportunities for women in Kyrgyzstan were discussed during a side event focusing on the role of civil society in increasing women's representation. The importance of effective knowledge resources for women in politics was also highlighted at a side event co-hosted by ODIHR and iKNOWpolitics. The summary of the Meeting discussions is available on the ODIHR website.

Women's political participation at the national level is often directly linked to women's opportunities for political and public engagement at the local level. In 2010, ODIHR promoted the participation of women in local governance within the framework of a project on "Promoting Democratization and Human Rights in Eastern Europe." The activities reflect ODIHR's strategic approach to women's empowerment: local capacity building, networking and knowledge sharing among advocates for gender balance and political actors. In Ukraine, ODIHR organized capacity-building training for local officials on integrating a gender perspective into local governance. This transfer of knowledge and skills was enhanced by the organization of a study visit to Vienna in May, where women politicians and gender activists from Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine met with their Austrian counterparts in government, political parties, parliament and civil society.

ODIHR also promotes networking as a powerful tool for building a "critical mass" among women to influence policies, political agendas and institutions. To this end, ODIHR

facilitated the establishment of local networks of women councillors in three regions in Ukraine, resulting in increased capacity of women to participate in policy and budgeting processes. Networking opportunities were further consolidated through a high-level forum on “Promoting Women’s Political Participation and Representation,” organized in May by ODIHR and the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine. The Forum gathered representatives of ministries, parliament, local government and civil society, as well as international experts and participants from Belarus, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, the Russian Federation and Switzerland. Participants discussed trends and challenges in women’s political participation in the region, strategies to empower women as political party members and elected officials, and measures to promote gender equality through local councils.

In 2010, ODIHR also commissioned a baseline study to identify measures to promote women’s political participation, with a specific focus on political parties and voluntary measures. The study proposed a detailed, six-step action plan as a practical tool for guiding government and political party efforts to enhance women’s political participation. The steps proposed in the plan highlight the necessity of a constitutional framework to protect women’s rights, gender-sensitive electoral systems and party laws, the introduction of legal and/or voluntary measures to enhance women’s participation, gender-sensitive political-party rules, capacity development and awareness raising, and gender-sensitive rules of procedure in parliaments and public office. The recommendations in the study are being used to inform activities within the framework of the Fostering Women’s Participation in Political Parties project, to be implemented in 2011 and 2012.

Strengthening National Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women

Throughout the OSCE region, national gender-equality mechanisms play a critical role in promoting gender equality, protecting women’s rights and monitoring state compliance with international and national obligations. Such mechanisms are a direct reflection of a state’s commitment to ensuring that gender-equality commitments are implemented in practice.

In 2010, ODIHR commissioned a comparative review on the role of national human rights institutions (NHRI) in the OSCE region in

protecting women’s rights and promoting gender equality. This initiative highlights the fact that, while national human rights institutions may vary in structure, they face many common procedural, functional and structural challenges in promoting gender equality and protecting women’s rights. The review also proposed measures to address these shortcomings and challenges to be discussed during the “Workshop on the Role of National Human Rights Institutions in the Promotion and Protection of Women’s Rights and Gender Equality,” in March 2011, in Prague.

As tasked by the OSCE Gender Action Plan, ODIHR also continues to support participating States in the development of gender-equality legislation and strategies, and action plans on gender and women’s political and public participation.

Combating Violence against Women

Violence against women is a persistent problem across the OSCE region. It can manifest itself in psychological, physical, sexual and economic abuse, both in the home and in the public sphere. As one of the most widespread and traumatic violations of human rights, violence against women has far-reaching implications for women’s participation in all aspects of social, political, economic and cultural life. Accordingly, ODIHR considers work on the prevention and combating of violence against women as a necessary precursor to activities in the field of women’s participation in public life described above.

ODIHR assists participating States in improving the legal framework to combat domestic violence. Strengthening the capacities of law-enforcement agencies, state authorities and civil society to provide adequate and effective responses to cases of violence against women is instrumental to combating this phenomenon.

In May, ODIHR organized a study visit to Austria, with the aim of strengthening the capacities of elected officials, civil servants and women’s-rights activists from Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine to combat domestic violence. During the visit, members of the Austrian Parliament, the Women’s Department of Vienna and the Austrian Women’s Shelter Network shared their first-hand experiences and practices in preventing and combating domestic violence. In turn, ODIHR held consultations with Austrian police experts in July, discussing the joint development of a manual on domestic



Sergei Ostav, a member of ODIHR's Panel on Freedom of Assembly, is interviewed during a roundtable in Tashkent, 15 July. (OSCE/Murad Makhmudov)

violence interventions for first-line police officers, planned for 2011.

Strengthening Parliaments

Democratic governance requires effective, pluralistic and representative parliaments. In recognition of this, a key priority for ODIHR in 2010 was providing assistance to parliaments in OSCE participating States based on expressed needs. Such assistance typically works to increase the capacity of legislators to carry out their functions, using adequate rules and procedures, and supported by a professional and modern parliamentary secretariat. Assistance provided is based on know-how collected, including by OSCE field operations, which have been implementing effective programmes in this area.

The ODIHR programme in this realm recognizes that networking and sharing ideas and knowledge on how to best strengthen parliaments is crucial for the delivery of effective assistance. The OSCE's field operations have accumulated considerable experience and expertise in this area, and ODIHR is working to increase synergies and knowledge-sharing among these programmes by supporting meetings among participants and conducting research based on ad hoc queries for

information. In 2010, ODIHR partnered with a new international, multi-organization project to develop an interactive website for parliamentary strengthening, Agora (www.agora-parl.org), which contains a library of documents, calendars, an expert roster and practice notes on the issue of parliamentary development. In so doing, ODIHR will highlight and share the work done by the OSCE in this area, as well as maximize the website's usefulness and relevance for OSCE staff and officials and others working in OSCE participating States. Over the year, ODIHR assisted Agora in developing a Russian version of the site, and will be using Agora's networking tools to connect the different OSCE field operations working to strengthen parliaments by building up an online community of practice and expertise.

ODIHR also worked in co-operation with the OSCE field operations to train parliamentary staff, adding value to OSCE regional training initiatives. In South-Eastern Europe, ODIHR contributed its own expertise to a regional seminar of parliamentary staffers on Parliamentary Oversight and Independent Institutions in Tirana, Albania, on 21 and 22 December, during which staff at parliaments from across South-Eastern Europe discussed how parliaments'

oversight roles can be balanced with the work of independent institutions that report to them.

In addition to regional and cross-OSCE initiatives, in 2010 ODIHR began to develop and design a parliamentary strengthening and development programme of its own, based on a request from the Parliament of Georgia. Implementation of the programme is foreseen in 2011.

Ensuring Pluralistic Political Party Systems

Political parties are essential building blocks of democracy. A political-party system that offers real choice and works with fair rules can help to ensure that citizens are represented, policy debates are vibrant, and democratic renewal takes place. The key to ensuring this level of political pluralism is developing “rules of the game”, i.e., a legal and regulatory framework that can guarantee the basic conditions in which such a political party system can thrive, in accordance with OSCE commitments.

In 2010, ODIHR began to deliver its assistance to strengthen political party systems based on the development and adoption of the ODIHR–Venice Commission *Guidelines on Political Party Regulation*, which constitute a comprehensive guide to how such rules of the game can be designed and improved, according to OSCE and international principles and best practices from the participating States. In 2011, ODIHR will be working with participating States and OSCE field operations, as well as with leading actors in the field of democratic governance assistance, to raise awareness of the Guidelines.

ODIHR has developed a methodology that aims to support local think tanks in conducting comprehensive analytical assessments of the legal framework governing political parties in their country in order to advocate its improvement, with the ultimate goal of buttressing a level playing field for all political parties. In 2010, ODIHR applied this approach in three OSCE participating states: Moldova, Tajikistan and Ukraine. The Office partnered with prominent research centres and think tanks, sharing ODIHR know-how and tools, such as the Guidelines mentioned above, and assisted them in developing a process of consultation, discussion and analysis that culminated in the publication of analytical reports. Subsequently, ODIHR and the local think tanks co-hosted expert workshops, seminars and focus groups involving key stakeholders: members of parliaments, government officials, political-party staffers,

civil society and international assistance foundations, during which participants considered key aspects of local political-party legislation in detail.

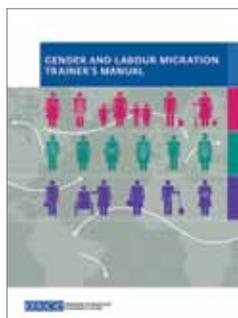
The published analytical reports - *Regulation of Political Parties in Ukraine; The Current State and Direction of Reforms* and *Political Parties Legislation in Moldova*; and *Review and Recommendations for Reform* - are unique resources for all those working on the reform of political-party legislation. The ensuing debates on the reports raised issues that had not before been considered in depth, such as how to foster the increased participation of women in politics and the importance of securing transparent funding through political-party regulation. Building on the success of these projects, which connect local expertise with tools and methods developed by ODIHR, the Office plans to adapt the methodology to other participating States in 2011.

Based on its work on political parties, ODIHR also contributed to international consultations in 2010, organized by the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and the International Institute of Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), designed to develop a greater understanding among donors of effective assistance to the development of political parties.

Migration and Freedom of Movement

OSCE participating States have committed themselves to the protection of the human rights of all persons legally residing on their territories, including international migrants. International migrants include persons living outside their country of birth or citizenship for at least one year, temporary or seasonal migrants, and refugees. In the absence of adequate access to human rights-protection measures, migrants can become victims of negative stereotyping, intolerance and discrimination. ODIHR assists OSCE participating States in developing migrant-integration policies. In addition, it raises the importance of including gender-sensitive measures in migration policies.

In search of better living opportunities, people also increasingly move within state borders, particularly from underdeveloped rural areas into urban ones. The residency registration systems of some OSCE participating States still, however, retain remnants of the Soviet era *propiska* system, often posing a significant barrier to



The Gender and Migration Trainer's Manual

freedom of movement and failing to reflect the realities of internal movement. This results in the deprivation of basic civil rights and a lack of access to social protection. Failure to effectively address restrictions to freedom of movement is often triggered by a lack of awareness of good practices based on the experience of other participating States. ODIHR consolidates this knowledge and shares it with participating States in order to assist them to ensure that rights of internal migrants are protected.

Migrant Integration

Given the growth of migrant populations in the OSCE region, as well as their increasingly diverse backgrounds and life experiences, participating States face challenges related to migrant integration. One key to integration is removing limitations to the opportunities migrants have to work and participate in public life. In an attempt to assist participating States in meeting their commitments on migrant integration, in 2010 ODIHR developed a new programme to assess integration policies, identify good migrant-integration practices, and to match these with needs identified in participating States.

In 2010, ODIHR, in co-operation with the International Organization for Migration Mission in Ukraine, the Council of Europe and the East European Development Institute, undertook research to assess migrant integration needs in Ukraine. This resulted in the publication of a report on the extent to which migrant integration is supported by adequate policies and institutions and providing an analysis of migrants' access to rights, with concrete recommendations on how to tackle identified shortcomings. These recommendations will be used by ODIHR to formulate appropriate follow-up activities.

In Kazakhstan, in co-operation with the Migration Policy Group, ODIHR carried out an assessment of migrant-integration measures in Kazakhstan. The results of the assessment will be presented to the authorities in 2011, ahead of consultations to enhance the capacity of policy actors to apply integration measures.

Gender-Mainstreaming Migration Policies

More women migrate independently to find work than ever before. Labour migration provides new opportunities for women, but it also places them at risk of exploitation, as women make up a large part of those migrants involved

in unskilled and undeclared work. To protect their rights, receiving states are attempting to introduce gender-sensitive migration policies.

ODIHR supported the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities in conducting regional training courses in Helsinki, in April, and in Astana, in September, based on the *Training Manual on Gender and Labour Migration*, published in the first quarter of 2010 by ODIHR and the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities. The training for government officials, employers and workers associations from Eastern and Northern Europe and Central Asia provided much-needed information on practical steps to make gender issues an important part of existing migration policies.

Population Registration

In assisting OSCE participating States to eliminate barriers to freedom of movement, ODIHR utilizes its *Guidelines on Population Registration*, published in 2009. The Guidelines provide a tool for political decision makers, practitioners and relevant authorities when assessing the appropriateness and efficiency of their national systems of population registration and, as appropriate, reforming them.

ODIHR assisted the State Registration Service of Kyrgyzstan in identifying shortcomings in its current population-registration system and developing a strategy document for its reform. The document is based on the principles enunciated in the Guidelines, and outlines legislative changes required to eliminate remaining barriers to freedom of movement, simplify registration procedures and increase the accuracy of stored data. In its comprehensive approach to reforms ODIHR also presented Kyrgyz officials with measures that have been successfully implemented in other OSCE participating States, including through a visit in December for Kyrgyz State Registration Service officials to Vilnius, where officials from the Lithuanian Interior Ministry shared information with them on the manner in which the registration system there was reformed to meet OSCE commitments.

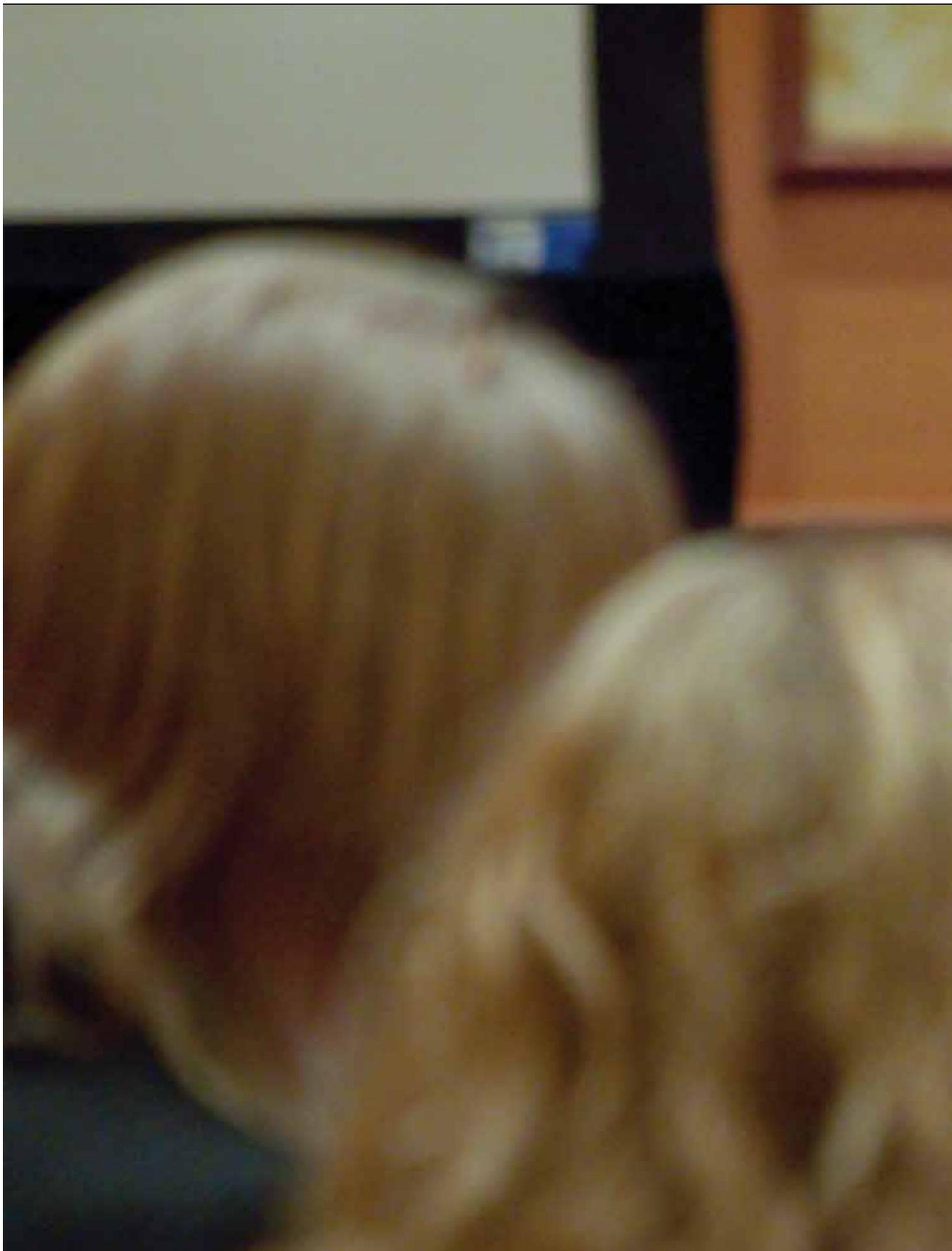
Voter Registration

In many OSCE participating States, voter registers are linked to or produced from the population register and, therefore, the quality of the latter directly affects the exercise of universal and equal suffrage. In those participating

States where population registration is part of the administrative tradition, voter lists tend to be more accurate if they are based on data from the population register, assuming that the register is updated in a timely manner. By helping them bring their registration systems into conformity with international standards, ODIHR supports participating States in building sustainable, accurate and transparent voter-registration systems.

ODIHR shared its expertise in this area at two important events in 2010: the 19th Annual Conference of European Election Officials, held in Tbilisi from 9 to 11 September, and “New Technologies in the Compilation and Use of Voter Lists: Evolutions and Prospects”, a conference organized by the Moldovan Central Election Commission in Chisinau on 21 April.

ODIHR's Senior Anti-Trafficking Adviser, Shivaun Scanlan, addresses participants at a meeting on human rights protection in the return of trafficking victims to their country of origin in Warsaw, Poland, 14 April. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)



Human Rights



Human Rights

Participating States have made extensive and detailed commitments in the area of human rights, and the monitoring and assessment of compliance with these commitments is a core activity for ODIHR. The effective implementation of these commitments remains a challenge in many areas, and for all participating States, so the Office, in co-operation with numerous partners, including governments and civil society and international organizations, has developed specific tools to fulfil its mandate to support participating States in the implementation of their human dimension commitments.

ODIHR's human rights programmes addressing key issues in the OSCE region combine a thematic focus with a common approach, to provide monitoring and reporting on the implementation of commitment, to support their implementation, and to address key human rights issues.

The effective implementation of human dimension commitments in participating States depends on a combination of strong institutions, guarantees for a vigorous civil society, understanding the nature and importance of these commitments and, not least of all, political will.

MAIN ISSUES

Support for Human Rights Defenders and National Human Rights Institutions

In the Helsinki Final Act, in 1975, participating States confirmed “the right of the individual to know and act upon his rights and duties” regarding respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. In the Copenhagen Document, in 1990, OSCE participating States committed themselves to respect the rights of everyone, whether individually or in association with others, to study and discuss human rights, and to develop ideas for their improved protection and means for ensuring compliance. They also promised to “facilitate the establishment and strengthening of independent national institutions in the area of human rights and the rule of law, which may also serve as focal points for co-ordination and collaboration between such institutions in the participating States” (OSCE Copenhagen Document, 1990, para. 27). ODIHR works to assist participating States in implementing these commitments by improving the protection of human rights defenders and building the capacity of national human rights institutions.

Human Rights Training and Education

Human rights education is often associated with teaching human rights in schools, but human rights education is for everyone, both for young people and adults. It can take place in a variety of environments, both in formal educational settings, such as schools, universities and pre-service and in-service training courses for officials, as well as in non-formal educational settings, where it is usually provided by civil society organizations and professional groups. ODIHR is involved in promoting high quality human rights education for many target groups, including staff members of OSCE field operations.

Protecting Human Rights in the Fight against Terrorism

Participating States have reaffirmed in their OSCE commitments that responses to the threat of terrorism must not unlawfully infringe upon,



Jacqueline Carpenter (l), Democratization Officer at the OSCE Office in Baku, speaks with ODIHR Human Rights Adviser Benjamin Moreau during the OSCE's Review Conference in Warsaw, Poland, 30 September 2010. (OSCE/Piotr Markowski)

damage or destroy the standards, principles and values of human rights, the rule of law and pluralistic democracy. However, national and international efforts to combat terrorism across the OSCE region are, in some cases, jeopardizing human rights for the presumed benefit of security and are cited to justify unlawful practices on the part of participating States. Counter-terrorism measures need to comply with human rights standards to ensure that their implementation does not undermine their very purpose, which is to protect and maintain democratic societies. The respect and promotion of human rights are, in themselves, two of the most effective tools for preventing terrorism. ODIHR assists participating States in addressing the need to protect human rights in the context of all counter-terrorism measures. The Office also provides support in developing effective counter-terrorism measures that are multi-dimensional and human rights compliant, in line with the OSCE's comprehensive concept of security.

Human Rights and the Armed Forces

Protecting the human rights of armed forces personnel is a key obligation undertaken by OSCE participating States in the *OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of*

Security. Key problems faced throughout the OSCE region include: the mistreatment or bullying of armed forces personnel by superiors or fellow soldiers; official discrimination in both recruitment and active service on the basis of gender, sexual orientation or other characteristics; excessive restrictions on civil and political rights and on the right to form military associations; and the absence of adequate oversight and complaint mechanisms, such as independent military ombudsperson institutions. ODIHR continues to provide participating States with help in dealing with these issues, often in line with good practices and recommendations based on information received from OSCE participating States and originally collected for the *Handbook on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Armed Forces Personnel*, published by the Office in co-operation with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) in 2008.

Trafficking in Human Beings

Many key challenges continue to exist in this area across the OSCE region, such as non-inclusion or inadequate inclusion of civil society actors in victim identification and National Referral Mechanisms; lack of access to justice, including compensation, for trafficked persons;



Thomas Moore, Deputy Head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia, holds up a copy of ODIHR's Handbook on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Armed Forces Personnel at a roundtable for military attachés in Belgrade, May 20. (OSCE/Milan Obradovic)

and inadequate prevention and victim identification and assistance, particularly with regard to labour trafficking. Human rights protection for victims and vulnerable groups is still largely absent from participating States' responses to trafficking, as they encounter significant challenges in translating their commitments on human trafficking for labour exploitation into practice. The result is reminiscent of action against the trafficking of human beings for sexual exploitation more than a decade ago, with victims not being identified and assisted but, instead, punished, criminalized and stigmatized as "irregulars" or even "illegals", with no justice being delivered. In some countries, adequate protection of the rights of trafficked persons is also hindered by the absence of a general victim's rights culture among state authorities and the lack of victim-sensitive support mechanisms.

Human Rights, Women and Security

Men and women have both the right and the responsibility to contribute to maintaining security and stability in their communities. This can be ensured through equal participation and advancement of women in security-sector institutions and peacekeeping efforts. Furthermore, all security programmes and policies must take into account the different needs and

vulnerabilities of men and women before, during and after conflicts. United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security was the first to take such matters into account. Subsequent UN Security Council resolutions reaffirm the international community's resolve to promote women within the security sector and address violence against women in conflict. The participating States have built on this body of work, with the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality and OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 14/05, "Women in Conflict Prevention, Crisis Management, and Post-Conflict Rehabilitation". ODIHR works to demonstrate the impact of gender mainstreaming in security policy and programmes and to help ensure that the day-to-day decision-making process in the security sector benefits men and women equally.

ACTIVITIES

Support for Human Rights Defenders and National Human Rights Institutions

ODIHR continued its activities in 2010 aimed at strengthening national human rights institutions and civil society, and their co-operation with governments. Following up on the 2009 Regional Roundtable on Freedom of Association



A representative of the Kazakh NGO Sana Sezina providing information to migrant workers of their rights at a border point with Uzbekistan. (Sana Sezin)

in Central Asia, a second regional roundtable, in Almaty on 16 and 17 November, featured the exchange of good practices and experiences of government-NGO co-operation. More than 80 participants attended, including government officials, parliamentarians, experts and representatives of civil society organizations from the five Central Asian countries. The roundtable provided a peer-to-peer review of practices, mechanisms and laws that facilitate or impede government-NGO relations, and enabled participants to learn about best practices from international experience. The event concluded with the development of specific action plans by each country delegation geared toward improving mechanisms for co-operation. Participants committed themselves to follow-up at the national levels on the implementation of the action plans.

ODIHR also provided support and advice to the OSCE Centre in Bishkek in the aftermath of the April and June events in Kyrgyzstan. ODIHR monitored the trial of the human rights defender Azimjan Askarov, who remained in detention at year's end, charged with organizing mass disturbances and inciting interethnic hatred. ODIHR officials also visited imprisoned human rights defender Yevgeniy Zhovtis in Kazakhstan, a member of ODIHR's Panel of Experts on Freedom of Assembly, who was

convicted of involuntary manslaughter in 2009 for his role in an automobile accident that led to the death of a pedestrian.

One focus of ODIHR's activities was to build strong relationships with other international actors working on the creation and development of national human rights institutions. To reinforce this collaboration, an inter-institutional meeting was organized with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Council of Europe and the European Group of the International Coordination Committee of NHRIs.

Acknowledging the importance for national human rights institutions in building close relationships with civil society, ODIHR undertook a survey to review the current state of affairs of the existing level of co-operation. The survey results were presented to various NHRIs at events in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Various legislative reviews of NHRI laws were undertaken with the aim of securing a strong legislative basis for the inclusion of civil society in the work of NHRIs.

In cases where the NHRI has been designated as a National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) under the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention against Torture (OPCAT), ODIHR offered assistance and expertise in developing legislation related to NPMs



Yoshie Noguchi, Senior Legal Officer of the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour at the International Labour Organization, speaking at the working session on trafficking in human beings during the Warsaw part of the Review Conference, 8 October. (OSCE)

and building their capacity. In Azerbaijan, a conference and a number of workshops were co-organized with the OSCE Centre in Baku, and direct technical assistance was provided to the NPM. These efforts led, in December, to the adoption of legislation more compliant with OPCAT and an improvement in the capacity of the NPM to perform its functions. ODIHR presented the results of its activities in support of the operations of NPMs in the OSCE area on 24 June, at the 11th session of the UN Sub-Committee on Prevention of Torture, where its efforts were strongly welcomed.

In the area of international co-operation, ODIHR also hosted the third annual meeting of instruments and mechanisms for the protection of human rights defenders in December in Warsaw, organized by the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, a joint programme of the International Federation for Human Rights and the World Organisation Against Torture.

ODIHR also continued to support projects in participating States in the area of freedom of peaceful assembly, through building the capacity of civil society actors to monitor assemblies. The implementation of a freedom of assembly monitoring project continued in Kazakhstan. In Georgia, ODIHR, jointly with the Council of Europe and the local NGO Human

Rights Centre, trained assembly monitors in December. Monitoring activities there are currently ongoing.

In addition, ODIHR continued to engage with the authorities of participating States to support them in addressing any gaps in the effective management and policing of assemblies in line with their OSCE commitments. In August, a delegation of Moldovan police officers took part in a study trip to Poland. The event was organized jointly with the OSCE Mission to Moldova, and gave members of the Moldovan police the opportunity to discuss their experiences with Polish colleagues and learn good practices in the policing of assemblies.

Human Rights Training and Education

On 14 and 15 September 2010, ODIHR brought staff working in Human Rights Education fields at OSCE missions together in Istanbul for the “Building the Capacity of the OSCE to carry out Quality Human Rights Education and Training” workshop. Participants learned about the basics of human rights education programming. The workshop strengthened links among the missions and between the missions and ODIHR.

The Regional Forum “Human Rights Education: Achievements, Lessons Learned and Perspectives”, conducted by ODIHR and the Lithuanian Ministry of Education in 2009 in

Vilnius, called for the development of competencies and related standards for the implementation of human rights education. To start the development of human rights education standards, ODIHR conducted the “Moving Towards Human Rights Education Standards” workshop in Istanbul on 16 and 17 September. The workshop focused on standards for human rights training for police, civil servants and human rights activists, and marked the first time an attempt was made to develop international standards in this area. This review process of existing practices in human rights education programming is ongoing and will result in the establishment of core human rights education programme standards.

Human Rights and Anti-Terrorism

ODIHR continued its work in 2010 to raise awareness and understanding of human rights issues and obligations related to the fight against terrorism. Training courses for law-enforcement officers and police students on the protection of human rights while countering terrorism were carried out in Ashgabat and Skopje. The training module used was developed by ODIHR and is aimed at providing public officials and counter-terrorism practitioners with a better understanding of the main human rights issues that arise while addressing terrorism and ways to ensure the protection of human rights in line with international standards and OSCE commitments. Since its introduction in 2005, the course has been delivered in 11 participating States: Austria, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

Two training courses on human rights and border control were also delivered in co-operation with the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Tajikistan. The courses aimed at providing officials within the border patrols, customs services and anti-drug-trafficking agencies with a solid understanding of human rights law, policies and practices and their application to border control, with a view toward ensuring efficient and successful border-control regimes.

ODIHR also delivered presentations at a number of international and regional conferences and seminars on violent extremism and radicalization leading to terrorism, highlighting that policies and practices to counter these can only

be effective if they respect international human rights standards.

Human Rights and the Armed Forces

ODIHR continued to organize roundtable events to publicize the recommendations and good practices contained in the ODIHR/DCAF *Handbook on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedom of Armed Forces Personnel*. A Serbian-language version of the Handbook was launched in Belgrade on 20 May, in co-operation with DCAF and the OSCE Mission to Serbia. An event discussing the implementation of the Georgian military disciplinary code was held on 29 June in Tblisi, in co-operation with the Georgian NGO Justice and Liberty. An Albanian-language version of the Handbook was launched on 15 November in Tirana, in co-operation with DCAF and the OSCE Presence in Albania. The Handbook was also presented to the Turkmen authorities on 30 November in Ashgabat, in co-operation with the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat. These events raised awareness of the need for improvements in the protection of the human rights of armed forces personnel, and government and civil society actors at all events recognized the value of ODIHR’s policy advice in this area. Albania became the second participating State, after Armenia, to commit to including the Handbook in the curriculum of its military academy.

On 14 October, ODIHR representatives, including two members of the OSCE Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief, provided advice to the government of Belarus in the consideration of a law on alternative service, at an event organized by the OSCE Office in Minsk. At the invitation of the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation, the Handbook was also presented at the annual Regional Seminar on the *Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security* for Eastern European participating States, from 21 to 23 September in Minsk.

Anti-trafficking

In 2010, ODIHR continued to focus on strengthening respect for the rights of trafficked persons and the prevention of human trafficking through human rights protection. Particular attention was paid to trafficking for labour exploitation, which is only slowly being addressed throughout the OSCE region. In particular, the Office’s activities continued to support effective access to justice and remedies,

including compensation through criminal, civil and labour proceedings.

ODIHR again supported efforts by state authorities and civil society actors to prevent human trafficking and enhance trafficked persons' access to justice and protection of their rights. Activities in this area included the provision of legal assistance to trafficked persons and outreach work to vulnerable groups in a number of countries of destination and origin throughout the OSCE region.

The Office also continued to conduct and support training seminars and expert meetings for criminal-justice actors and support organizations on providing effective access to justice and compensation, including in Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Uzbekistan. In December, the Albanian version of ODIHR's *Compensation for Trafficked and Exploited Persons in the OSCE Region* was published by the OSCE Presence in Albania with the Office's support, and the book has since been used for training and teaching purposes by state and civil society actors. ODIHR also continued its support for the European Action for Compensation for Trafficked Persons (Comp. Act), both as member of its Advisory Board and by supporting activities on access to remedies in some of the countries participating in the initiative. This included research on access to compensation in Austria, as well as legal assistance to victims and vulnerable groups in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, Ireland, Moldova and Poland.

The Office again worked to strengthen ties and co-operation between countries of origin and destination through the exchange of expertise and information to enhance the protection of the human rights of trafficked persons in cross-border cases. It supported international expert meetings and workshops, as well as study trips for state authorities, civil society organizations and legal practitioners to allow for an exchange of expertise, challenges and good practices.

ODIHR extended its work on human rights protection in the return of trafficked persons to countries of origin by inviting government and civil society representatives to an expert meeting on 14 and 15 April in Warsaw. The good practices and key challenges identified will contribute to the development of a guide on human rights protection in the return of trafficked persons for policymakers and practitioners.

Throughout 2010, ODIHR worked with the OSCE Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and OSCE field missions to ensure that the human dimension is adequately reflected in OSCE events and policy documents, as well as in support provided to participating States. The trafficking sessions, including a side event during the human dimension sessions of the 2010 OSCE Review Conference, successfully highlighted two key issues in the fight against child trafficking: the need to effectively address child labour exploitation, including trafficking, and the need to better reach out to vulnerable groups, such as migrant children, unaccompanied children, children in institutions and children from marginalized groups in society

Human Rights, Women and Security

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, ODIHR focused on taking stock of participating States' efforts to integrate gender issues into security-sector policies and institutions. Efforts of this kind are the key to operational effectiveness, local ownership and strengthened oversight of security actors. A well-attended event during the Warsaw sessions of the 2010 OSCE Review Conference was opened by the newly appointed Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Gender Issues and served as a platform for presenting the Russian translation of the ODIHR/DCAF/UN-INSTRAW Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit. The Toolkit is a comprehensive educational tool that is used to strengthen the capacity of national security institutions (e.g., law-enforcement, armed forces and border-management agencies), policymakers and civil society organizations to better address the role of women in conflict prevention, conflict management and post-conflict reconstruction. Training based on the Toolkit was conducted for the first time on 6 December at the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe, where mid-level and senior border-management officials were introduced to the concepts of gender mainstreaming and developing sensitivity to gender issues among their staff.

Aghavni Harutyunyan, editor-in-chief of Armenia's Azg daily, speaking at an ODIHR-organized capacity-building seminar on freedom of religion or belief in Vienna, 8 December. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)



Tolerance and Non-discrimination



Tolerance and Non-discrimination

OSCE participating States have undertaken an extensive range of commitments to combat racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance, including against Muslims, Christians and followers of other religions.

Despite this, violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms continue to threaten stability and security throughout the OSCE region. Accordingly, ODIHR works with participating States and a broad network of non-governmental bodies to defend freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief and to eliminate manifestations of intolerance, in order to build cohesive communities in which diversity and pluralism are seen as assets to democratic and pluralistic societies.

MAIN ISSUES

Hate-Motivated Crimes and Violent Manifestations of Intolerance

According to the annual ODIHR report on hate crime published in 2010, there continued to be numerous instances of hate-motivated intimidation, threats, vandalism, assault, arson and murder throughout the OSCE region in 2009. As in previous years, the report also stressed that the full extent of hate crimes remains obscured by a lack of reliable data.

Hate on the Internet

The prevalence of manifestations of hate on the Internet and its potential impact on behaviour and attitudes is a matter of concern throughout the OSCE region. ODIHR has convened a series of expert meetings bringing together government officials and representatives from civil society and social-network providers to explore ways to address this issue.

Freedom of Religion or Belief

In the OSCE area, freedom of religion or belief is connected to a wide range of complex issues, such as the status of religious or belief communities, the relationship between these communities and states, the autonomy of religious or belief communities, and the transposition of international norms and standards into domestic legal and administrative frameworks. It is also tied to other questions, such as those relating to religious education, to the right to express and disseminate religious beliefs, the relationship between freedom of expression and freedom of religion or belief, and the issue of religious symbols.

Challenging Biases and Prejudices through Education

Since negative stereotypes are frequently the cause of hate-motivated crime, educational efforts that combat racism and intolerance, promote mutual respect and understanding, and foster an appreciation of cultural, religious



Sukrat Ganiev, Director of the Humanitarian Legal Centre in Uzbekistan, speaks during a ODIHR-organized capacity-building seminar on freedom of religion or belief in Vienna, 8 December. OSCE/Curtis Budden

and ethnic diversity, as well as those that reinforce remembrance of the Holocaust, can help eliminate such attitudes. While a number of participating States have undertaken such efforts, longer-term and more coherent approaches are necessary if there is to be a real impact.

ACTIVITIES

ODIHR supports OSCE participating States and civil society in their efforts to effectively respond to hate-motivated crimes, to promote freedom of religion, and to facilitate mutual respect and understanding. ODIHR's work is focused on addressing specific forms of intolerance through multi-faceted programmes that address education, law enforcement, legislation, civil society capacity-building, and monitoring, as well as the collection and dissemination of information.

ODIHR supported the organization of the OSCE High Level Conference on Tolerance in Astana on June 29 and 30. The event was attended by more than 400 participants from participating States, OSCE Partners for Co-operation, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and OSCE institutions and field operations. The conference

provided an important opportunity to review and assess progress in the sphere of tolerance and non-discrimination, as well as a chance to discuss current problems and ways in which they might be addressed.

In 2010, activities were conducted in the following fields:

- » Collecting and disseminating information about hate crime;
- » Awareness raising;
- » Reviewing legislation;
- » Supporting law enforcement agencies;
- » Supporting civil society;
- » Addressing hate on the Internet;
- » Responding to intolerance against Muslims
- » Responding to anti-Semitism; and
- » Promoting freedom of religion or belief.

Collecting and Disseminating Information about Hate Crime

Despite increased efforts in recent years by many participating States to combat hate crime, the lack of reliable information on the nature and extent of hate crimes across the OSCE region and within individual states remains a serious obstacle for governments and law-enforcement agencies. The dearth of information about perpetrators and victims or the extent and type of crimes being committed makes it difficult to formulate



ODIHR Director Ambassador Janez Lenarčič (left) and Kazakhstan's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Konstantin Zhigalov at the High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination, Astana, 29 June. (OSCE/Velimir Alic)

effective responses and strategies or to target resources properly.

To help address this dearth of information, in 2010 ODIHR continued its activities as a collection point for hate crime data. As in previous years, the main activity in this area was the publication of the annual report on hate crime, and the report published in 2010 showed that there are significant gaps in data collection in most participating States. For the years 2008 and 2009, a total of 47 participating States indicated that they collect some data on hate crimes. Only 31 of those states, however, submitted data on hate crimes committed within their jurisdiction in 2009. The report also emphasizes the need to record, investigate, and prosecute hate crimes and to strengthen co-operation with civil society to complement government efforts.

The third annual meeting of the National Points of Contact on hate crime was held in Warsaw on 16 and 17 November, on the occasion of International Tolerance Day. The National Points of Contact are responsible for providing information on hate crimes, such as the number of these crimes reported and updates on relevant legislation and policies designed to combat and prevent such crimes. Participants exchanged experiences on ways to improve data-collection methods and the tracking of hate crime cases at all stages of the

criminal justice process, from policing to prosecution and on to sentencing.

While the lack of information remains a significant barrier for efforts to combat hate crime, ODIHR continues to seek other ways to help compile information. In March, for example, ODIHR organized its second training event on hate crimes and methods of reporting for the staff of OSCE field operations, the International Organization for Migration and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. As a result of this initiative, ODIHR gained access to greater and more detailed information about hate-related incidents from its international partners. Additionally, ODIHR received a request from the UNHCR to prepare guidelines for its staff on how to monitor and report on hate crimes and incidents.

Awareness Raising

In 2010, ODIHR conducted hate crime workshops in Ankara, Belgrade, Chisinau and Sarajevo, for a wide range of participants, including OSCE field staff, state officials, and law-enforcement and civil society representatives. ODIHR also made presentations in Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands to raise the awareness of civil society on hate crime and to encourage a variety of approaches to addressing the problem.



The Director of the Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, Amb. Brendan Moran, moderates a session on tolerance and non-discrimination at the OSCE's Review Conference in Warsaw, 6 October, as ODIHR's Larry Olomofe listens in. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)

Participants were also encouraged to identify ways that the various tools ODIHR has established to combat hate crime can be used to support states' ongoing efforts in this area.

Reviewing Legislation

ODIHR provides reviews of anti-discrimination and hate crime legislation and of laws related to freedom of religion or belief upon the request of participating States. The aim of this activity is to help lawmakers ensure that legislation is in line with OSCE commitments and other international standards and to identify potential areas of concern and provide constructive comments on how these might be addressed.

ODIHR bases these reviews on *Hate Crime Laws: A Practical Guide*, published by the office in 2009. The Practical Guide is available in English, German, Romanian and Russian. ODIHR was invited by the Russian Ombudsman's Office for a one-day presentation and discussion of the Guide in Moscow on 10 March, in which representatives from the Prosecutor General's Office, the Interior Ministry and civil society also took part.

In 2010, ODIHR reviewed draft anti-discrimination legislation and draft amendments to the Criminal Code of Moldova related to hate crime. ODIHR's recommendations were discussed during a workshop attended by

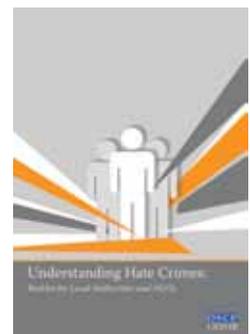
prosecutors and representatives from the Ministry of Justice and civil society in Chisinau on 23 June. Additionally, ODIHR provided comments on the draft law on the prohibition of discrimination in Montenegro.

ODIHR also responded to requests for legislative reviews related to freedom of religion or belief. In June, at the request of the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat, ODIHR completed its Comments on the Law of Turkmenistan on Religious Freedom and Religious Organizations. In December, an interim joint opinion was prepared with the Council of Europe's Venice Commission on amendments and supplements to Armenia's Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations, Criminal Code, Administrative Offenses Code and Law on Charity.

Supporting Law-Enforcement Agencies in Their Efforts to Tackle Hate Crimes

ODIHR also continued to develop its guides and tools to help address hate crime. In addition to a factsheet outlining the concept of hate crime and the resources ODIHR can provide, (*ODIHR and the Battle Against Hate Crime*), the Office developed a series of country-specific versions of the booklet *Understanding Hate Crimes*. The booklet is aimed at helping police, prosecutors, government officials and NGOs better

Understanding Hate Crimes, a series of country-specific handbooks





A representative from a Belarusian NGO makes a presentation at a session on training on freedom of religion or belief in Vienna, 8 December. (OSCE)

understand the concept of hate crimes and associated issues within the local context. The first in the series was designed for Bosnia and Herzegovina, with versions printed in English, Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian.

After a one-year period of review and updating, ODIHR relaunched its Training Against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme. The initiative, formerly the Law Enforcement Officer Programme, was designed to increase the capacity of law-enforcement agencies to recognize, record, report and respond to hate crimes, as well as to engage effectively with the affected communities. The updated workshop was offered for the first time in the form of training for Georgian police in Tbilisi on 22 and 23 November, organized in collaboration with the European Commission Technical Assistance and Information Exchange (TAIEX) and the Italian Carabinieri Police Force. The workshop was attended by 32 police officers, mostly mid- and senior-level commanders and investigators, from different regions across Georgia.

Participants in the workshop learned the basic concepts related to hate crimes and how to identify them, and were provided with an overview of applicable legislation in Georgia. ODIHR plans to follow up on this event with

similar workshops in other participating States in 2011.

ODIHR provided ongoing training to Polish police officers on responding to hate crimes as part of another programme in 2010. The Polish Interior Ministry has incorporated elements of the hate crimes training for police programme into its training curriculum for new recruits and into in-service training for already-serving officers. The Interior Ministry has also produced a booklet of translated ODIHR materials providing detailed explanations of hate crime, and have made the booklet available on CD. ODIHR and the Ministry were in the process of finalizing a pocket-sized booklet on hate crimes, including definitions and potential responses, which will be distributed to all police officers in Poland.

Supporting Civil Society

Providing civil society organizations with the skills and knowledge they need to prevent and respond to hate crimes is an important part of ODIHR's activities. This support can take a variety of forms, and includes the provision of training, organization of workshops, and publication of handbooks and other resources.

ODIHR also works to ensure the presence and participation of civil society groups at OSCE meetings, where they have the opportunity to



Representatives of NGOs participate in the expert meeting “Incitement to Hatred vs. Freedom of Expression: Challenges of Combating Hate Crimes Motivated by Hate on the Internet”, 22 March in Warsaw. (OSCE)

engage in discussions with government representatives from participating States and develop contacts and co-operation with representatives of organizations from other parts of the OSCE region. In June, ODIHR organized a meeting of civil society representatives in Astana in preparation for the High Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-discrimination held in the Kazakh capital. The aim of the meeting was to foster civil society engagement, facilitate an exchange of good practices and support coalition-building across the OSCE region. The representatives from more than 100 civil society organizations that attended used the meeting to produce a set of concrete recommendations, which was presented at the High Level Conference.

Members of ODIHR’s Advisory Council on Freedom of Religion or Belief and ODIHR staff also conducted a one-day training session on 8 December in Vienna for 23 participants from non-governmental organizations and religious or belief communities from across the OSCE region. The training focused on international standards and their practical application in the field, particularly in relation to issues such as the registration of religious associations, access to places of worship, religious symbols, religious education and freedom of religion.

Addressing Hate on the Internet

Since 2003, the OSCE has made specific reference to the role racist, xenophobic, anti-Semitic and other hateful content on the Internet can play in fuelling hate crime. OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 9/09, adopted in Athens in December 2009, tasked ODIHR “to explore, in consultations with the participating States and in co-operation with relevant international organizations and civil society partners, the potential link between the use of the Internet and bias-motivated violence and the harm it causes as well as eventual practical steps to be taken”.

In this regard, ODIHR convened the expert meeting “Incitement to Hatred vs. Freedom of Expression: Challenges of Combating Hate Crimes Motivated by Hate on the Internet” in Warsaw on 22 March. The meeting generated significant interest, drawing 97 participants from 31 participating States and one OSCE Partner for Co-operation. These included representatives from governments, international organizations, law-enforcement agencies, prosecutors’ offices, civil society organizations and national minority groups. At follow-up meetings in Amsterdam on 10 May and Vienna on 22 November, ODIHR engaged with representatives from social-network providers in discussions of the issue.

Further work with social-network providers is planned in 2011 to assess the occurrence of hate-motivated discourse on the Internet and to identify concrete measures governments, civil society and those who run social-network sites can take to tackle the problem without infringing on freedom of expression.

Responding to Anti-Semitism

ODIHR works to fight anti-Semitism in the OSCE region in co-operation with individual governments, as well as with NGOs and intergovernmental organizations. Educational initiatives, such as country-specific teaching materials ODIHR has helped develop on historical and contemporary anti-Semitism, including the history of the persecution of Jews in Europe, are an important element in ODIHR's activities in this area.

Fourteen participating States have produced country-specific versions of these materials to date, and 48 training sessions have been conducted for teachers on how best to use them in the classroom. The national experts responsible for developing the teaching materials for 12 of the participating States involved in the project met in Berlin from 26 to 28 May to assess experiences from the programme, share good practices, and plan strategies for the further implementation of the materials.

ODIHR also organized a meeting on 7 and 8 November for representatives of ministries of education across the OSCE region to discuss their experiences in the field of combating anti-Semitism through education. The aim of the meeting was to identify successful approaches, share good practices, and discuss challenges in this field, as well as to raise awareness of ODIHR's teaching materials.

The Office also participated in a training-of-trainers event in Vilnius on 3 December, organized jointly by the United States Embassy in Lithuania, the Jewish Museum of Lithuania and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, under the auspices of the Lithuanian Ministry of Education. The event provided insights into combating anti-Semitism in schools for teacher trainers in Lithuania.

Responding to Intolerance against Muslims

ODIHR initiated a partnership in 2010 with UNESCO and the Council of Europe, aimed at developing guidelines for educators on intolerance and discrimination against Muslims. The purpose of this project is to assist educators in

identifying stereotypes and prejudices against Muslims and to provide guidance on how to confront them in schools. These guidelines, to be published in 2011, will be complemented by country-specific teaching materials, which will be developed in upcoming years.

Following a referendum in Switzerland in 2009 on the banning of minarets there, ODIHR and the Swiss Federal Commission against Racism (FCR) explored ways to promote dialogue and co-operation between civil society representatives and government in order to combat intolerance and discrimination against Muslims in Switzerland. One outcome of these discussions was a roundtable event in Bern on 23 October, organized by ODIHR and FCR, at which community leaders and representatives of Muslim NGOs explored the possibility of creating of a Muslim umbrella organization for Switzerland.

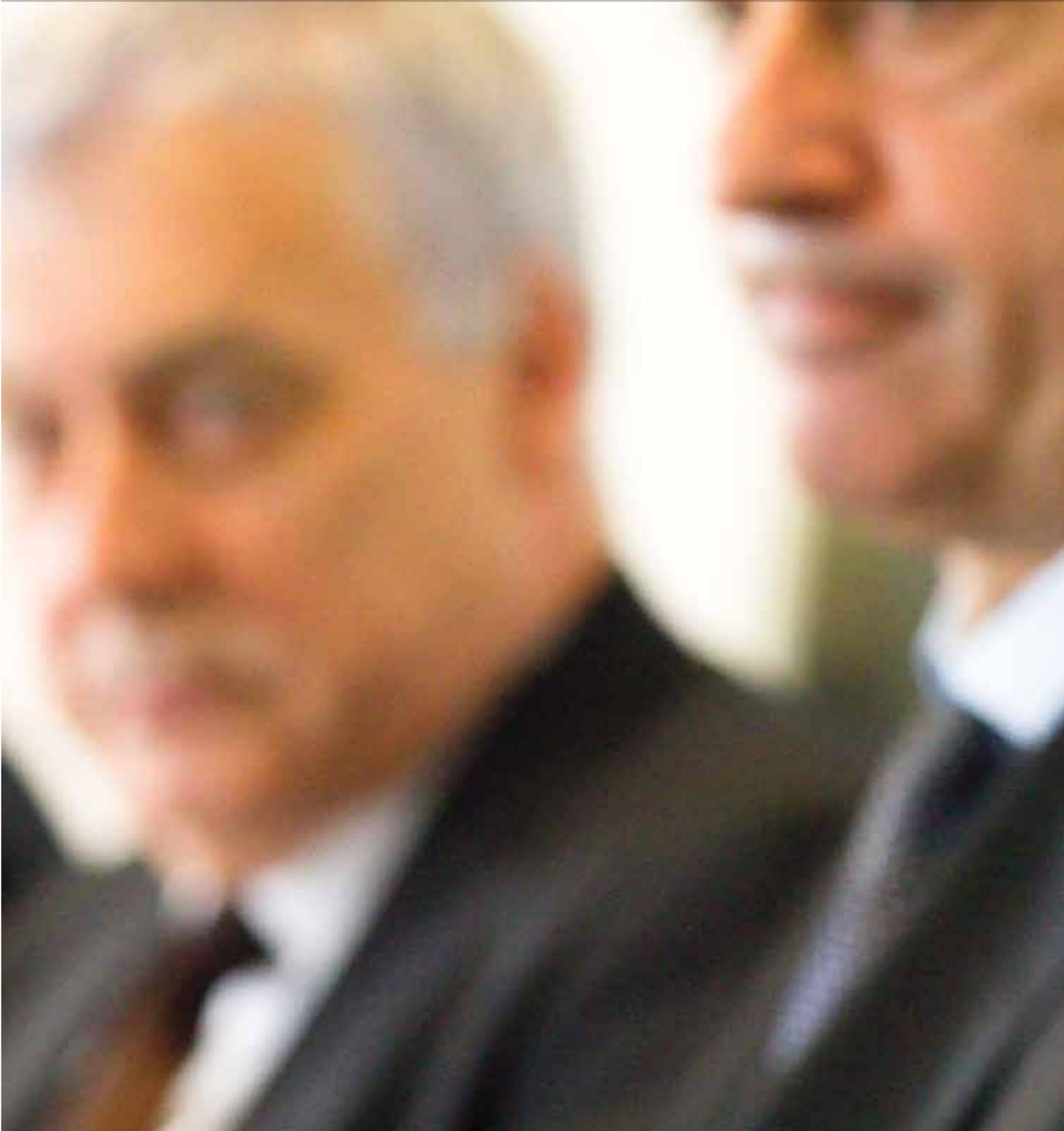
Promoting Freedom of Religion or Belief

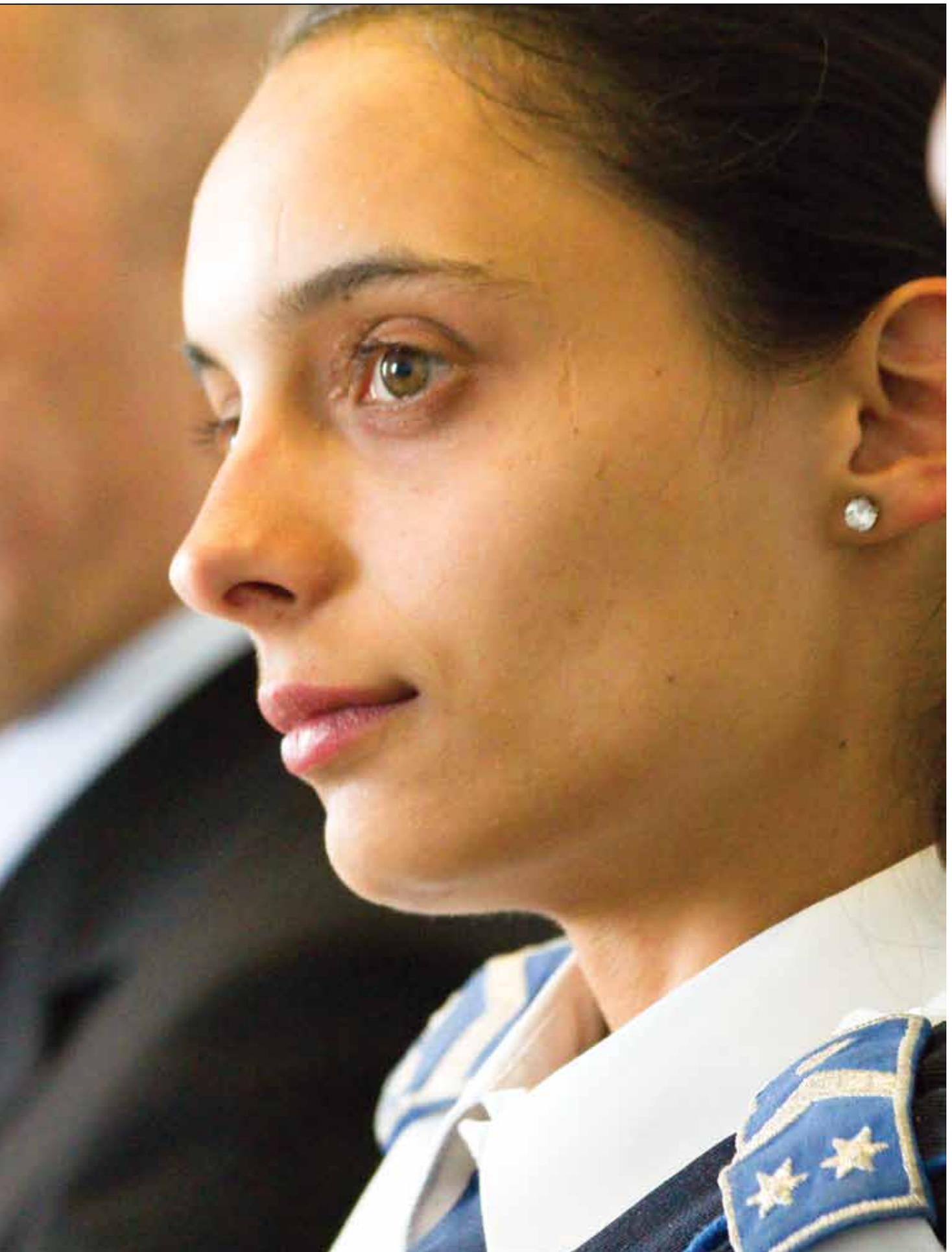
Freedom of religion or belief was the topic at one Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting held in 2010. The event in Vienna, on 9 and 10 December, provided an opportunity for 250 participants, including representatives of 90 civil society organizations, to exchange views and experiences on local and national policies and practices related to the implementation of OSCE commitments in this area. In addition to discussing a number of emerging issues and challenges, participants also made recommendations aimed at protecting the freedom of religion or belief.

The Warsaw segment of the 2010 OSCE Review Conference also provided an important forum for the discussion of freedom-of-religion issues. In addition to the official session on the topic, on 1 October, ODIHR's Advisory Council on Freedom of Religion or Belief held a side event that included an informal and open discussion on the current situation in the OSCE area related to this freedom.

Hungarian police officer Gabriella Bajn (right) at a press conference in Vienna on the launch of a guide on building trust and understanding between police and Roma and Sinti, 21 May. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)

Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues





Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues

The OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti Within the OSCE Area, which forms the foundation of ODIHR's activities on issues related to Roma and Sinti, has been reinforced in recent years, including by Ministerial Council Decision No. 8/09, adopted in Athens in December 2009.

This decision, on "Enhancing OSCE Efforts to Ensure Roma and Sinti Sustainable Integration", reinforced the need to bolster the Organization's work in this area. The Ministerial Council has tasked ODIHR, in co-operation and co-ordination with the High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM), the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media and other relevant OSCE executive structures, to continue to assist participating States in combating acts of discrimination and violence against Roma and Sinti, and to counter negative stereotyping of Roma and Sinti in the media.

The need for such assistance has grown over the past two years, due in part to the fallout from the global economic crisis. The negative impact on labour markets has led to the scapegoating of Roma and Sinti in a number of OSCE participating States, fuelling racism, intolerance and violence against these communities. This has been most severe in countries where little progress has been made in the integration of Roma and Sinti and has, in some cases, seen the disturbing rise of far-right political parties that have made anti-Roma rhetoric a central part of their platforms, further fanning hostility toward these groups

ACTIVITIES

Based on the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti Within the OSCE Area, which was adopted in 2003, and Ministerial Council Decisions in subsequent years, ODIHR's activities in this sphere in 2010 concentrated on:

- » Combating racism and discrimination;
- » Roma and Sinti migration;
- » Roma and Sinti in crisis and post-crisis situations;
- » Improving access to education;
- » Police and Roma;
- » Enhancing participation in public and political life; and
- » Empowerment of Roma and Sinti representatives

Combating Racism and Discrimination

The publication in 2010 of a field assessment report, following a visit to Hungary in 2009 to investigate a string of fatal attacks against Roma and Sinti there in 2008 and 2009, led to a roundtable discussion on the report's findings in Budapest on 23 November. The identification and proper investigation of and responses to such hate crimes by law-enforcement bodies were at the forefront of the discussions, organized jointly with the Hungarian government. Participants in the discussion acknowledged the need for further training of police and prosecutors to identify possible racial or ethnic bias in crimes targeting members of minority groups, including Roma and Sinti, and further follow-up work in co-operation with the Hungarian authorities is planned by ODIHR in 2011.

An important part of addressing racism and discrimination is providing education on the tragic results of such attitudes in the past. ODIHR, together with the Council of Europe's Education Division, continued an educational initiative launched in 2008 for the development of a website dedicated to information about the Roma genocide in World War II. New materials



Andrzej Mirga, ODIHR's Senior Adviser on Roma and Sinti Issues, speaks at a UN event to commemorate the 65th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, 27 January in New York. (UN Photo/Mark Garten)

and information were added to the website, and a French-language section is being developed. The website will be launched officially in 2011. A draft version of the website, designed to provide schools, universities, civil society groups, relevant state authorities and the general public with easier access to information about the Roma and Sinti wartime experience, can be accessed at www.romagenocide.org.

A commemorative event was co-organized by ODIHR, the Polish Government Plenipotentiary for Equal Treatment and regional authorities on 2 August in Oswiecim, where some 80 participants, including representatives of a European Roma youth network took part in commemorating the victims of the “Zigeunerlager”, or “Gypsy Camp”, at the former Nazi concentration camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau. The event aimed to raise awareness among and teach young Roma about the origins of the Roma genocide and discuss the manifestations of racism and intolerance experienced by Roma today across Europe.

Remembrance of the genocide against Roma and Sinti was highlighted at an event at the United Nations General Assembly earlier in the year, on 27 January, on the occasion of the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust. Andrzej Mirga, Senior Advisor at the ODIHR Contact Point for

Roma and Sinti Issues participated in the event, delivering an address entitled “The Legacy of the Survivors: Remembering the Nazi Persecution of Roma and Sinti – A Key to Fighting Modern-Day Racism”. The address was incorporated into a collection of discussion papers entitled “The Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Programme”.

Roma and Sinti Migration

ODIHR has been following closely issues and events related to the migration of Roma and Sinti, and particularly the return — both voluntary and forced — of migrants to countries of origin.

The return of Roma and Sinti migrants to Romania from France in summer 2010, coupled with comments by public officials there, raised concerns that such actions could encourage anti-Roma public discourse and prejudice and, ultimately, fuel intolerance, discrimination and acts of violence against these communities. A statement by ODIHR in August to this effect was followed by another at the High Level Conference on Roma, on 20 October in Strasbourg, reiterating these concerns.

The Office also financed the production and publication in 2010 of a study conducted locally on the situation of Roma migrants in Spain, assessing the government policies and efforts



A Roma teacher leading students in a role-playing exercise at an integrated school in Bucharest, 12 November. (OSCE/Dan Doghi)

aimed at promoting their integration and preventing racism and discrimination against them. The study illustrated a number of positive measures and policies introduced by the Spanish government that could be adopted as good practices by other States with substantial migrant Roma populations.

On 5 October, during the Warsaw segment of the 2010 OSCE Review Conference, ODIHR co-organized with the European Roma Rights Centre and Amnesty International a side event focusing on the issue of Roma and Sinti migration and freedom of movement. Concerns were raised at the event about the portrayal of Roma and Sinti migrants as “threats to security and public order” and the degree to which such portrayals underpin prejudice against these communities.

ODIHR representatives also made a number of visits to Italy in 2010 to follow up on and encourage the adoption of recommendations, including on integration and housing policies for Roma and Sinti, contained in the Office’s report on a field assessment visit there in 2008.

Roma and Sinti in Crisis and Post-crisis Situations

ODIHR organized a roundtable, in co-operation with the Serbian Ministry of Human and Minority Rights, on 16 April in Belgrade,

on the situation of Roma internally displaced persons, refugees and returnees in crisis and post-crisis situations. The meeting addressed challenges and promoted durable solutions for Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian persons displaced by the conflict in Kosovo, including those forcibly repatriated, largely by EU Member States. One of the roundtable’s main conclusions was that, despite efforts to support the return or local integration of these communities, much remains to be done on the ground to ensure viable conditions for sustainable return and integration. Other recommendations related to the need for universal access to civil-registration documents, for residence-registration solutions for Roma living in informal settlements, and for the legalization and improvement of the infrastructure of these settlements. The concluding report and recommendations from the roundtable are available on the ODIHR website.

Improving Access to Education

One of the focuses of Ministerial Council Decision No. 6/08, which was adopted in Helsinki in 2008 and called on OSCE participating States to enhance their activities to implement the Action Plan, was on promoting access to education for Roma and Sinti children, and early-childhood education in particular. To provide support for such efforts, ODIHR prepared a report on the

enrolment and participation of Roma and Sinti in early education programmes, based on replies by participating States and civil society organizations to a questionnaire created and circulated by the Office. The report was published in December.

ODIHR also actively engaged in the establishment of the International Task Force for the Education of Roma, in co-operation with the Council of Europe, UNESCO, UNICEF, the European Commission, the Roma Education Fund and the International Step by Step Association. The Task Force will foster co-ordination in the promotion of early childhood care and education, regular and out-of-school education, vocational training and adult education.

Police and Roma

ODIHR worked with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU) to produce and publish *Police and Roma and Sinti: Good Practices in Building Trust and Understanding*, a comprehensive manual that was launched on 21 May at the Annual Police Experts Meetings in Vienna. Two police officers from Hungary and one from the United Kingdom participated in the launch event for the manual, which is the product of more than two years' work by ODIHR and the OSCE SPMU to collect examples of good practices for breaking down barriers and building trust and understanding between police and Roma and Sinti. The manual was translated into Hungarian, Romanian and Russian, and a Hungarian translation will be produced in 2011. Editions in further languages are possible in the future.

The manual was also the subject of discussion during the roundtable organized by ODIHR and the Hungarian government mentioned above, in Budapest on 23 November.

Enhancing Participation in Public and Political life

ODIHR provided financial support to a Roma NGO in Ukraine to carry out awareness-raising activities on the right to vote for Roma prior to the 31 October local elections. The project targeted Roma communities in Odessa, Koncovo and Beregovo, and provided information about the right to vote and on the process of voter registration. The campaign involved holding public meetings in schools and community centres for the targeted Roma communities with follow-up by local contact points in smaller meetings and

direct outreach and consultations with community members.

ODIHR also provided financial support to a Roma news agency in Slovakia for monitoring and analysis of the portrayal and representation of Roma and Sinti in electronic and print media in the campaign period leading up to the 12 June Slovak parliamentary elections.

Empowerment of Roma and Sinti Representatives

A Roma consultation meeting organized by ODIHR on 5 October, during the Warsaw segment of the 2010 OSCE Review Conference, involved the participation of representatives from about 40 Roma and Sinti organizations to discuss the current developments, challenges and trends affecting Roma throughout Europe. The consultation led to the adoption of the "Roma Warsaw Declaration", which was addressed to OSCE participating States and intergovernmental organizations and delivered in the plenary of the working session devoted to Roma and Sinti issues at the Review Conference.

As in previous years, ODIHR supported the participation of Roma activists at OSCE human dimension meetings and events organized by other international organizations, providing them the opportunity to actively contribute to discussions, share information about their work and raise awareness about the challenges faced by Roma and Sinti. This was the case for the High Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-discrimination in Astana on 30 June, where ODIHR supported the participation of a number of Roma civil society representatives.

Annexes

Programmes and Projects

Elections

Programmes/Fund	Region/country	Included work on:
Fund for Enhancing the Diversification of Election Observation Missions	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deploying experts and nominees from eligible participating States as long-term and short-term election observers (LTOs and STOs) within OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Missions (EOMs) in Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Moldova, Tajikistan and Ukraine, and a Referendum Observation Mission in Kyrgyzstan
Election Observer Training	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training of STOs and LTOs from participating States eligible for the Fund for Enhancing the Diversification of Election Observation Missions Developing an e-learning module for STOs
Election Technical Assistance	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expert reviews of electoral legislation (Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro and Norway)
Election Observation Development	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ODIHR Election Observation Handbooks on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observing voter registration; Observing electronic voting; Media analysis during EOMs; and Observing election-campaign financing Work on <i>Guidelines to Assist National Minority Participation in the Electoral Process</i> Enabling contributions from non-partisan domestic observers in OSCE mandated and expert meetings

Projects

Election Support Team to Afghanistan	Afghanistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presenting the final report to stakeholders by the 2009 Election Support Team (EST) EST to the Wolesi Jirga elections of 18 September 2010
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Rule of Law

Programme	Region/Country	Included work on:
Rule of Law	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trial-monitoring database Criminal procedure reform in Armenia Prosecutorial reform in Moldova “Kyiv Recommendations on Judicial Independence in Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia” Criminal justice reform in Central Asia War crimes (South-Eastern Europe) Electoral-dispute resolution

Democratic Governance and Civil Society

Programme	Region/Country	Included work on:
Democratic Governance	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal framework of political parties and <i>Guidelines on Political Party Regulation</i> OSCE Parliamentary Strengthening Practice Repository Explaining OSCE commitments on democracy

Gender Equality

Programmes	Region/Country	Included work on:
Increased Participation of Women in Democratic Governance	Eastern Europe Kosovo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for representatives of local self-government bodies on integrating a gender perspective in local policy-making processes (Zaporizhe, Chernovtsy and Kirovograd regions of Ukraine) • Forum on Promoting Women's Political Participation and Representation in Kyiv (Ukraine) • Integrating a gender perspective into the <i>Guidelines on Political Party Regulation</i> • Assistance to strengthen Kosovo's legislative framework on protection against domestic violence
Human Rights, Women and Security	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of the <i>Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit</i> (Russian-language version) • Training on the international framework to combat violence against women, including gender-sensitivity training for the OSCE Border Management Staff College • Research into the situation of women in the security sector in Georgia • Awareness-raising on integrating a gender perspective into conflict prevention/early warning-programmes

Migration/Freedom of Movement

Programme	Region/Country	Included work on:
Migration and Freedom of Movement	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of migrant integration policies and needs: pilot projects (Kazakhstan and Ukraine) • "<i>Gender and Labour Migration</i>" • Assistance on policy formation to remove obstacles to freedom of movement and free choice of place of residence (Kyrgyzstan) • Supporting regional training on gender and labour migration (Finland and Kazakhstan)

Legislative Support

Programme/Fund	Region/Country	Included work on:
Legislation Review Fund	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert reviews of legislation on anti-trafficking, freedom of information, constitutional reform, freedom of assembly, prohibition of discrimination, hate crime and freedom of religion or belief (Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo under UNSCR 1244, Turkmenistan and Ukraine) • <i>Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly</i> • <i>Guidelines on Political Party Regulation</i>
Democratic Law-Making and Access to Law	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive assessment of the legislative system to promote legislative efficiency and transparency (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova and Serbia) • Providing greater access to law through an improved database, including a Russian-language interface (www.legislationline.org)

Human Rights

Programmes	Region/Country	Included work on:
Human Rights and Anti-Terrorism	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting <i>Countering Terrorism and Protecting Human Rights: A Manual</i> (English- and Russian-language versions) • Training for public officials and counter-terrorism practitioners (Turkmenistan and Tajikistan) • Training on human rights and counter-terrorism for the OSCE Border Management Staff College
Human Rights Education and Training	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Promoting Human Rights Education in the School Systems of Europe, Central Asia and North America: A Compendium of Good Practice</i> (Russian-language version) • Field testing the handbook <i>Promoting and Protecting Human Rights Through Civic Participation</i> and updating the manual <i>Teaching Human Rights in School and Beyond</i> (Belarus) • Training for civil society
Support to Human Rights Defenders and National Human Rights Institutions	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach to civil society and co-ordination with other international organizations • Survey on co-operation between civil society and national human rights institutions (NHRIs) in OSCE participating States • Capacity building for government officials, human rights defenders and NHRIs (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan) • Training on monitoring places of detention, assembly monitoring and effective communication (Azerbaijan and Georgia) • Monitoring freedom of assembly (Kazakhstan) • Peer-to-peer review of practices, mechanisms and laws that facilitate government-NGO relations (Central Asia)
Human Rights and Armed Forces	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting the <i>Handbook on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Armed Forces Personnel</i> (Albania, Eastern Europe, Georgia, Serbia and Turkmenistan) • Assistance on alternatives to military service (Belarus)
Anti-Torture	Azerbaijan Kazakhstan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance on the legal frameworks for national preventive mechanisms • Promoting dialogue between civil society and government to implement commitments on the prevention of torture
Anti-Trafficking	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting human rights-compliant approaches to trafficking (Azerbaijan, Serbia, Turkey and Turkmenistan) • Analysis of the impact of social-integration policies on vulnerable groups • Human rights protection in the return of trafficked persons; promoting human rights safeguards in the return of trafficked persons (Albania, Germany, Italy, Spain, Ukraine and the United Kingdom) • Written guidelines for criminal justice actors on the rights of victims of crimes, including trafficked persons (Albania) • Co-ordination between the politico-military, economic and environmental, and human dimensions of security in OSCE anti-trafficking efforts • Outreach to trafficked and vulnerable persons in immigration detention (Poland); to marginalized communities; to migrants and migrant workers (Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Poland and Serbia); and peer education (Albania) • Capacity building and exchange of practices between OSCE participating States

Programmes (cont.)	Region/Country	Included work on:
Anti-Trafficking (cont.)	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building for civil society actors (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Poland and Serbia) • Support in pursuit of justice and remedies for trafficked persons (Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Poland, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) • Increasing the rights awareness of migrants at border crossings (Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan) • Active membership of European Action for Compensation for Trafficked Persons (COMP.ACT) • Training modules from <i>Compensation for Trafficked and Exploited Persons in the OSCE Region</i>

Tolerance and Non-discrimination

Programmes	Region/Country	Included work on:
Educational and Public Awareness-Raising Activities to Promote Tolerance, Respect and Mutual Understanding and Remembrance of the Holocaust	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminars for teachers (Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine) • New country versions of the teaching materials on anti-Semitism (Austria, Latvia and Hungary) • Sharing good practices and challenges in combating anti-Semitism among ministries of education • Educational materials and programmes to combat intolerance against Muslims with the Council of Europe and UNESCO
Combating Hate Crime	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web-based news platform on hate-motivated incidents reported in the media • Training manual for front-line police officers, with detailed explanations of the hate crimes phenomenon (Poland) • Hate crime curricula for police academies (Bosnia and Herzegovina) • ODIHR's hate symbols database • Promoting <i>Preventing and Responding to Hate Crime: A Resource Guide for NGOs in the OSCE Region</i>, and producing a French-language version
Freedom of Religion or Belief	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second edition of the <i>Guidelines for Review of Legislation Pertaining to Religion or Belief</i> • Training on international standards on freedom of religion or belief and their practical application for non-governmental organizations and religious or belief communities

Roma and Sinti Issues

Programme	Region/Country	Included work on:
Assistance to Improve the Situation of Roma and Sinti	OSCE Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The manual <i>Police and Roma and Sinti: Good Practices in Building Trust and Understanding</i> (Russian-, Hungarian- and Romanian-language versions) • Raising awareness of visa liberalization and applying for asylum within EU Member States (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) • Raising awareness among Roma parents and communities of the importance and benefits of early education • Research on the impact of the municipality of Rome's integration policies on Roma and Sinti

Legislative Reviews

Elections

In 2010, ODIHR published five opinions on election legislation, conducted jointly with the Council of Europe's Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission):

Country	Title of Document
BELARUS	Joint Opinion on the Amendments to the Electoral Code of the Republic of Belarus as of 17 December 2009
MOLDOVA	Joint Opinion on the Draft Working Text on Amending the Election Code of Moldova
MONTENEGRO	Joint Opinion on the Draft Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on the Election of Councillors and Members of Parliament of Montenegro as Amended through July 2006
GEORGIA	Joint Opinion on the Election Code of Georgia as amended through March 2010
NORWAY	Joint Opinion on the Electoral Legislation of Norway

Legislative Support

LEGAL REVIEWS 2010¹

Participating State	Title of Document
ARMENIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note on Modifications to Armenian Criminal Legislation Related to Acts of Contempt of Court Note on the Application of Sanctions and Enforcement Measures towards Members of the Armed Forces in Armenia Note on the Concept Paper on the Reform of Criminal Procedure Legislation in Armenia Opinion on Draft Amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Draft Law on Assemblies of Armenia Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Law on Making Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations and on the Laws on amending the Criminal Code, the Administrative Offences Code and the Law on Charity
BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on The Act on Public Assembly of The Sarajevo Canton (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
KAZAKHSTAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comments on Article 99 of the Criminal Execution Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan Opinion on the Draft Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Access to Public Information
KYRGYZSTAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Draft Law on Peaceful Assemblies of the Kyrgyz Republic
MOLDOVA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opinion on draft Amendments to the Moldovan Criminal Code Related to Hate Crimes Opinion on the Proposed Exclusion of the Heading Regarding Ethnic Identity from Civil Status in Moldova Opinion on the Draft Law on Preventing and Combating Discrimination of the Republic of Moldova
MONTENEGRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comments on the Draft Amendments to the Law on the Prohibition of Discrimination in Montenegro Comments on the Draft Law on the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro
SERBIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Draft Law of Serbia on Financing of Political Parties Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Public Assembly Act of the Republic of Serbia
TURKMENISTAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comments on the Law of Turkmenistan on Public Associations ODIHR Advisory Panel on Freedom of Religion and Belief Comments on the Law of Turkmenistan on Religious Freedom and Religious Organizations Comments on the Law of Turkmenistan on Combating Trafficking in Persons
UKRAINE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint ODIHR-Venice Commission Opinion on the Law of Ukraine on Peaceful Assemblies

¹ At the request of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo, Comments on the Draft Law on Protection against Domestic Violence of Kosovo were issued by ODIHR, on 11 March, and on the Draft Law on the Ombudsperson of Kosovo on 13 April.

Selected 2010 Conferences and Meetings

Name	Location	Date	No. of Participants
Human Dimension Events			
Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Gender Balance and Women's Participation in Political and Public Life	Vienna	6-7 May	227
Human Dimension Seminar on Strengthening Judicial Independence and Public Access to Justice	Warsaw	17-19 May	166
Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Education of Persons Belonging to National Minorities: Integration and Equality	Vienna	22-23 July	141
OSCE Review Conference – Warsaw part	Warsaw	30 September – 8 October	470
OSCE Review Conference – Astana part	Astana	26-28 November	500
Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Freedom of Religion or Belief	Vienna	9-10 December	233
Elections			
OSCE Kazakh Chairmanship expert seminar on e-voting	Vienna	16-17 September	166
Democratization			
Roundtable on ODIHR's "Preliminary Assessment of the Legislative Process in Serbia"	Belgrade	2 February	35
Expert Roundtable on "Regulation of Political Parties in Ukraine: The Current State and Direction of Reforms"	Kyiv	30 March	30
Regional seminar on gender and labour migration	Helsinki	15-16 April	30
Workshop on reform of criminal procedure, follow-up to trial monitoring report (pre-trial proceedings)	Yerevan	27 April	35
International Conference "Regulation of Political Parties in Moldova: Critical Remarks and Policy Recommendations"	Chisinau	27-28 April	54
Roundtable and expert consultations on constitutional reform in Kyrgyzstan	Bishkek	13-14 May	120
Roundtable on lawmaking practices	Tirana	14 May	23
International Conference, "Regulation of Political Parties in Ukraine: The Current State and Direction of Reforms"	Kyiv	21 May	84
Forum on promoting women's political participation and representation in Eastern Europe	Kyiv	28 May	100
Annual OSCE/ODIHR Expert Forum on Criminal Justice for Central Asia	Dushanbe	17-18 June	165
Expert meeting on judicial independence in Eastern Europe	Kyiv	23-26 June	100
Workshop on reform of criminal procedure, follow-up to trial monitoring report (judicial conduct, court security)	Yerevan	6 July	35
Roundtable on freedom of association issues	Tashkent	15 July	45
Regional seminar on gender and labour migration	Astana	14-15 September	50
Roundtable to discuss the "Kyiv Expert Recommendations on Judicial Independence in Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia" and their relevance for Moldova	Chisinau	27-28 October	35

SELECTED 2010 CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

War Crimes Justice Project: Project launch event	Belgrade	28 September	150
War Crimes Justice Project Regional peer-to-peer meeting for judges	Belgrade	28 September	20
War Crimes Justice Project national prosecutor peer-to-peer meeting in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Neum	27-29 October	30
Regional roundtable "Regulation of Political Parties in Ukraine"	Lviv	18 November	36
Workshop on reform of criminal procedure, follow-up to trial monitoring report (amendments to the existing Code of Criminal Procedure (CPC)/Concept for new CPC)	Yerevan	19 November	35
Roundtable on the ODIHR "Comments on the Law of Turkmenistan on Trafficking in Persons"	Ashgabat	23 November	20
Annual trial-monitoring conference	Budva	29 November – 1 January	40
NGO roundtable on availability of and access to effective legal remedies in electoral disputes	Warsaw	6-7 December	25
Expert seminar on political party regulations and women's political participation	Dushanbe	8-9 December	90
War Crimes Justice Project national peer-to-peer meeting for judges in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Sarajevo	9-10 December	30
Regional seminar for parliamentary staffers on parliamentary oversight and independent institutions (with the OSCE Presence in Albania)	Tirana	20-21 December	35
Human Rights			
Expert meeting on human rights protection in the return of trafficked persons to their countries of origin	Warsaw	14 -15 April	25
Roundtable event on human rights of armed forces personnel in Serbia	Belgrade	20 May	53
Conference on "Strengthening the Role of the Ombudsperson of Azerbaijan as a National Preventive Mechanism"	Baku	25 May	75
Roundtable conference on the Georgian Military Disciplinary Code	Tbilisi	28 June	30
Meeting on moving towards human rights education standards	Istanbul	16-17 September	40
National co-ordinators meeting on trafficking	Vienna	29 October	30
Roundtable event on human rights of armed forces personnel in Albania	Tirana	15 November	82
Regional Roundtable on "Exchange of Good Practices and Experiences on Government-NGO Cooperation in Central Asia"	Almaty	16-17 November	80
Roundtable to present the Handbook on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Armed Forces Personnel	Ashgabat	30 November	26
Inter-mechanism meeting on human rights defenders	Warsaw	8-9 December	25
Training of assembly monitors taking part in a freedom of assembly monitoring project	Tbilisi	9-12 December	25
Tolerance and Non-Discrimination			
Roundtable meeting "Incitement to Hatred vs. Freedom of Expression: Challenges of Combating Hate Crimes Motivated by Hate on the Internet"	Warsaw	22 March	97
Briefing on hate crimes for the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Sarajevo	14-16 June	40
Seminar on hate crimes legislation for government officials and civil society in Moldova	Chisinau	21-24 June	22
OSCE High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-discrimination	Astana	29-30 June	553
Conference on Muslim umbrella organizations	Bern	23 October	30
Meeting for representatives of ministries of education: "Combating Anti-Semitism through Education"	Vienna	7-8 November	27

Teacher training on the <i>ODIHR Teaching Materials to Combat Anti-Semitism</i> for Lithuanian teachers	Rokiskis, Birzai, Alytus	16-17 November	40
Third Annual Meeting of the National Points of Contact on Hate Crime	Warsaw	16-17 November	60
Hate crime workshop for law-enforcement officers in Georgia	Tbilisi	22-23 November	22
Hate crime seminar for law enforcement in Brcko district (Bosnia and Herzegovina)	Brcko	29-30 November	22
Teacher training on the <i>ODIHR Teaching Materials to Combat Anti-Semitism</i> for Polish teachers	Oswiecim, Cracow	3-4 December	30
Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues			
Academic meeting on Roma and the media: "Countering Prejudices and Promoting Tolerance"	Warsaw	16-17 March	17
Roundtable on sustainable solutions for displaced Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians, and policies to improve the reintegration of repatriated Roma	Belgrade	16 April	80
Consultation meeting "Roma and Sinti in Times of Crisis"	Warsaw	5 October	40

2010 Publications

Holocaust Memorial Days in the OSCE Region	English
Resource Guide for NGOs on How to Address Hate-Motivated Crimes and Incidents	Russian
2009 Annual Report	English, Russian
Understanding Hate Crimes: Booklet for Local Authorities and NGOs	Bosnian, English
Election Observation Handbook – Sixth Edition	English, Russian
Factsheet on Hate Crime-Related Activities	English, Russian
The Death Penalty in the OSCE Area – Background Paper 2010	English, Russian
Gender and Security Reform Toolkit	Russian
OSCE/ODIHR – Venice Commission Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly (2nd Edition)	English
2009 Hate Crimes Report	English
Human Rights Education in the School Systems of Europe, Central Asia and North America: A Compendium of Good Practice	Russian
Teaching Human Rights in School and Beyond	Belarusian, Russian
Police and Roma and Sinti: Good Practices in Building Trust and Understanding	English, Russian

Election Reports and Statements Released in 2010

› **Presidential election in Romania, 22 November and 6 December 2009**

1. OSCE/ODIHR Limited Election Observation Mission Final Report

› **Parliamentary elections in Uzbekistan, 27 December 2009**

2. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Report

› **Presidential election in Croatia, 27 December 2009 and 10 January 2010**

3. Preliminary Statement on the 2nd round by the LEOM
4. OSCE/ODIHR Limited Election Observation Mission Report

› **Presidential election in Ukraine, 17 January 2010**

5. EOM Interim Report 3
6. Preliminary Statement on the 1st round by the International EOM
7. EOM Interim Report 4
8. Preliminary Statement on the 2nd round by the International EOM
9. EOM Post-election Interim Report
10. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

› **Parliamentary elections in Tajikistan, 28 February 2010**

11. EOM Interim Report 1
12. EOM Interim Report 2
13. Preliminary Statement by the International EOM
14. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

› **Parliamentary elections in Hungary, 11 April 2010**

15. Needs Assessment Mission Report
16. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Report

› **Presidential election in Austria, 25 April 2010**

17. Needs Assessment Mission Report
18. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Report

› **General election in the United Kingdom, 6 May 2010**

19. Needs Assessment Mission Report
20. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Report

› **Parliamentary elections in the Czech Republic, 28 & 29 May 2010**

21. Needs Assessment Mission Report

› **Municipal elections in Georgia, 30 May 2010**

22. Needs Assessment Mission Report
23. EOM Interim Report 1
24. EOM Interim Report 2
25. Preliminary Statement by the International EOM
26. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

- › **Early parliamentary elections in the Netherlands, 9 June 2010**
 - 27. Needs Assessment Mission Report
 - 28. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Report

- › **Parliamentary elections in Slovakia, 12 June 2010**
 - 29. Needs Assessment Mission Report
 - 30. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Report

- › **Constitutional referendum in the Kyrgyz Republic, 27 June 2010**
 - 31. Needs Assessment Mission Report
 - 32. ROM Interim Report 1
 - 33. Preliminary Statement by the LROM
 - 34. OSCE/ODIHR Referendum Observation Mission Report

- › **Parliamentary elections in Afghanistan, 18 September 2010**
 - 35. OSCE/ODIHR Election Support Team Report

- › **General elections in Sweden, 19 September 2010**
 - 36. Needs Assessment Mission Report

- › **Parliamentary elections in Latvia, 2 October 2010**
 - 37. Needs Assessment Mission Report
 - 38. LEOM Interim Report
 - 39. Preliminary Statement by the LEOM
 - 40. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

- › **General elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 3 October 2010**
 - 41. Needs Assessment Mission Report
 - 42. EOM Interim Report 1
 - 43. EOM Interim Report 2
 - 44. Preliminary Statement by the International EOM
 - 45. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

- › **Parliamentary elections in the Kyrgyz Republic, 10 October 2010**
 - 46. EOM Interim Report 1
 - 47. EOM Interim Report 2
 - 48. Preliminary Statement by the International EOM
 - 49. OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission Final Report

- › **Mid-term elections in the United States of America, 2 November 2010**
 - 50. Needs Assessment Mission Report
 - 51. OSCE/ODIHR Election Assessment Mission Final Report

- › **Parliamentary elections in the Republic of Azerbaijan, 7 November 2010**
 - 52. Needs Assessment Mission Report
 - 53. EOM Interim Report 1
 - 54. Preliminary Statement by the International EOM

- › **Early parliamentary elections in Moldova, 28 November 2010**
 - 55. Needs Assessment Mission Report
 - 56. EOM Interim Report 1
 - 57. EOM Interim Report 2
 - 58. Preliminary Statement by the International EOM

› **Presidential election in Belarus, 19 December 2010**

- 59. Needs Assessment Mission Report
- 60. EOM Interim Report 1
- 61. EOM Interim Report 2
- 62. Preliminary Statement by the International EOM

ODIHR Structure and Budget



ODIHR Programmes: 2010 Budget (all figures in euros)

Direction and Policy	1 240 600
Fund Administration Unit	1 791 700
Common Operational Costs	951 400
Human Dimension Meetings	736 000
Democratization	1 341 500
Human Rights	1 094 600
Elections	6 532 200
Tolerance and Non-discrimination	1 240 800
Roma and Sinti Issues	524 400
TOTAL	15 453 200

