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**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe**

**Office of the Secretary General**  
*Section for External Co-operation*

**OSCE Seminar on Preventive Functions of the OSCE:  
Experience, Possibilities, Tasks**

*(Kyiv, 8 and 9 October 2001)*



Kyiv, 8-9 October 2001

**Consolidated Summary**

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## **I General Information**

### **1 Venue**

- 1.1 The Seminar was held from 8 to 9 October 2001, in the Conference Room at Hotel Rus, Kyiv, Ukraine.

### **2 Participation**

- 2.1 Forty-three OSCE participating States took part in the Seminar.
- 2.2 Four Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan and Morocco) were represented. Japan, Korea and Thailand, the Partners for Co-operation, were also represented.
- 2.3 The following international organizations and institutions were represented: United Nations, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Council of Europe, International Committee of the Red Cross; Black Sea Economic Co-operation, Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, Commonwealth of Independent States and Secretariat of the Council of Collective Security.
- 2.4 Representatives of non-governmental organizations were able to attend and contribute to the Seminar in accordance with the relevant OSCE provisions and practices. A number of NGOs and academic institutions were represented, after having given prior notification (see list of participants).

### **3 Timetable and Organizational Modalities**

- 3.1 The Seminar began at 9 a.m. (opening session) on 8 October 2001, and ended at 1 p.m. on 9 October 2001.
- 3.2 The Seminar was conducted in three sessions.
- 3.3 The opening session was chaired by H.E. Ambassador Ján Kubiš, OSCE Secretary General. The closing session was chaired by Ms. Paraschiva Bădescu, Romania/OSCE Chairmanship.
- 3.4 Each session had a moderator and rapporteur.
- 3.5 The working languages were English and Russian. Interpretation from and into Ukrainian was also provided.
- 3.6 Arrangements were made for press coverage.
- 3.7 Other rules of procedure and working methods of the OSCE were applied, *mutatis mutandis*, to the Seminar.
- 3.8 The seating arrangement is shown in the Annex.

## 4 Agenda

### Monday, 8 October 2001

9.30 a.m. **Opening session**

Chairperson: Ambassador Ján Kubiš, OSCE Secretary General

9.30-10 a.m. Address by H.E. Mr. Anatoliy Zlenko, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ukraine

Address by H.E. Mr. Mircea Dan Geoană, OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Romania, delivered by Ms. Paraschiva Bădescu, Senior Adviser, Romania/OSCE Chairmanship

10 a.m. **Session 1: The nature of conflict prevention**

Moderator: H.E. Mr. Ihor Kharchenko, Deputy State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Ukraine

Rapporteur: H.E. Ambassador Margit Wästfelt, Austria

- *What conflict prevention tools are available to the international community?*

- Dr. Gregory Austin, Director of Research, International Crisis Group

- *Human, politico-military, economic and environmental dimensions of conflict prevention in the OSCE*

- Prof. Cornel Codiță, Romanian-American University

- *Addressing instability factors linked to transition*

- Mr. Andreas Kahnert, Senior Economic Officer, Coordinating Unit for Operational Activities, UN/ECE

- *Understanding conflict risks and channelling them into policy: Does the OSCE possess adequate mechanisms?*

- Mr. Jean-Claude Meyer, Military Liaison Officer, Operations Centre, CPC, OSCE Secretariat

- H.E. Ambassador Henry Jacolin, Special Representative of the Chairman-in-Office for Negotiations under Article V of Annex 1-B of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina

- *Preventive functions of the OSCE: an outlook*

- H.E. Ambassador Dr. Heinrich Reimann, Switzerland

11.15 a.m. Discussion  
Coffee break

11.45 a.m. - 1 p.m. Discussion continues

3 p.m. **Session 2: Roles and specificities of international organizations**

Moderator: H.E. Ambassador Peter Burkhard, OSCE Project  
Co-ordinator, Ukraine

Rapporteur: Mr. Stefan Estermann, Switzerland

**Conflict prevention and peace-building in the OSCE area: roles of  
multilateral institutions**

- Mr. Douglas Gardner, UN Resident Co-ordinator and UNDP  
Resident Representative in Ukraine
- Mr. Ivan Koedjikov, Head of Division in the Directorate  
General of Political Affairs, Council of Europe
- Mr. Carl Hartzell, Principal Officer, Policy Unit, Secretariat  
of the Council of the European Union
- Mr. Erwan Fouéré, Head of OSCE and Council of Europe  
Division, European Commission
- Mr. Antonio Moniz, Counsellor, Portugal
- Mr. John Packer, Director, Office of the OSCE High  
Commission on National Minorities

4.15 p.m. Coffee break

4.45-5.30 p.m. Discussion

**Tuesday, 9 October 2001**

9.30 a.m.

**Session 3: The need for a co-ordinated approach**

Moderator: H.E. Ambassador Åke Peterson, Sweden

Rapporteur: Mr. Marek Szczygieł, Poland

- *Co-operation between the OSCE and other international organizations*
  - H.E. Ambassador Danielle Del Marmol-Guilbert, Belgium/EU
- *Role of subregional co-operation*
  - H.E. Ambassador Valeri Chechelashvili, Secretary General, Black Sea Economic Co-operation
- *Co-operation with NGOs in conflict prevention*
  - Dr. Kevin Clements, Secretary General, International Alert

Discussion

10.45 a.m.

Coffee break

11.15 a.m.

Discussion continues

12.30 p.m.

**Conclusions and lessons learned**

Chairperson:

Ms. Paraschiva Bădescu, Romania/OSCE Chairmanship

- Summaries by session rapporteurs
- Closing remarks by:  
H.E. Mr. Ihor Kharchenko, Deputy State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Ukraine

1 p.m.

Closing of the Seminar

## **II Reports by Session Rapporteurs**

### **1 Opening session**

*Report by Elizabeth Abela, OSCE Secretariat*

The conflict prevention functions of the OSCE and its partner organizations were at the top of the agenda of the OSCE Seminar on Preventive Functions of the OSCE: Experience, Possibilities, Tasks which took place in Kyiv, Ukraine, on 8 and 9 October 2001. The event was hosted by the Ukrainian Government, and was officially opened by the Ukrainian Foreign Minister, H.E. Mr. Anatoliy Zlenko, OSCE Secretary General H.E. Ambassador Ján Kubiš, and a representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Romanian Foreign Minister Mircea Geoană.

In his message to the participants, the Ukrainian President, H.E. Mr. Leonid Kuchma, emphasized that it was an honour for his country that Kyiv had been chosen as the venue for the Seminar. Ukraine, in its ten years of independence, had been an active contributor to conflict prevention efforts in a variety of areas, he added.

Foreign Minister Zlenko underscored the need to move towards the culture of conflict prevention. He spoke of the need for proactive policies, and closer liaison between the OSCE and other actors. He emphasized the need to increase the OSCE's analytical potential. In this context, Ukraine's initiative to establish an Ethnic Research Centre under the auspices of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities was recalled. Ukraine suggested continuing to hold regularly OSCE seminars on preventive functions of the Organization, and proposed Kyiv as a possible venue for future Seminar meetings.

In his message, the OSCE Chairman-in-Office stated that strengthening conflict prevention would be central to the destiny of the OSCE in the new European security framework. "The moment has come for the OSCE to reconsider the concept of security against the backdrop of the recent terrorist attacks against the United States", he added. He highlighted the importance of the early warning and conflict prevention work that the OSCE Institutions were doing, and stressed the need for increased co-operation with other international organizations, such as the European Union, NATO and the United Nations.

Co-operation among international, sub-regional and non-governmental organizations, as well as with academic institutions, were the core theme of the ensuing deliberations. As the OSCE Secretary General stated, "the code-word is partnership, especially among main actors working together in specific situations in the 'Euro-Atlantic-Asiatic' area". He continued by stating that the complexity of situations that the OSCE was dealing with required not only expertise, but also sustained learning. There was a need for analysis of past experiences, of critical lessons learned, and the implementation of results.

More than 150 representatives from almost all the 55 OSCE participating States, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and academic institutions, as well as the OSCE Mediterranean and Asian Partners for Co-operation participated in the event, which was intended, in the words of Mr. Kubiš, to help the OSCE focus on what is essential in its work.

## **2 Session 1: The nature of conflict prevention**

*Report by H.E. Ambassador Margit Wüstfeldt, Austria*

### Summary:

Conflict prevention, which has been practised by the OSCE for about a decade, is a relatively new way of addressing modern security threats. The United Nations Secretary General raised the subject in a report to the Security Council in 2000.

Practices and tools have been developed and improved over the years. Yet, much remains to be done to adapt them to each individual conflict situation and to new challenges. The provisions in OSCE documents that were originally developed to respond to conflicts between States do not always afford adequate means to deal with new challenges.

Several participants stressed the importance of tackling the root causes of conflicts that are to be addressed in a comprehensive way by taking into account all three dimensions of the OSCE. As conflicts do not start as military confrontation, but commence in people's minds, it is essential to convince all parties that violent action will not bring about satisfactory solutions.

The OSCE is an appropriate organization to address these issues, while other international organizations and institutions have greater leverage for conflict management. The experiences of the past should help to avoid future mistakes.

### The speakers mentioned the following points in particular:

All parties involved have to understand the meaning and aims of conflict prevention. It must be applied in an effective, timely and affordable way. As conflict prevention is never apolitical, OSCE, with its political bodies, has the appropriate means to handle it and should concentrate on this function.

The nature of conflict prevention is different in every single case. Before prevention measures are undertaken, the conflict-generating situation has to be identified. This phase of an emerging conflict is influenced by a variety of types of human behaviour, which makes it difficult to predict how the conflict will develop. OSCE has the means to spot trouble and share its knowledge with other organizations (“a barometer of violence,” at the disposal of other players).

It is essential to identify all kinds of conflict-generating situations. Risks also lie in the exploitation of resources and in environmental degradation. Roots can be found in past practices; new management methods have to be introduced and rehabilitation measures are to be taken. Greater attention should be paid to NGOs engaging in awareness raising in this field. It is also important to explore possibilities for peaceful change, which will prevent a re-eruption of crises.

The OSCE has developed a set of sophisticated tools to identify and address conflict situations. Their adequacy needs to be checked in every single case. For action to take place, political will has to be generated in order to arrive at a consensus among the participating States. The OSCE, however, has its limits, as it is working in traditional societies and is equipped for



dealing with conflicts between States. It lacks the tools to address new challenges, in particular, if they stem from outside the OSCE area.

The two examples of conflicts in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia illustrate that the OSCE, which was not able to prevent the first one, is now able to develop its capacity for dealing with conflicts by using its experience from the past.

The preventive functions of the OSCE can be efficiently applied only when all possibilities are exploited and when the idea of collective ownership by the participating States is reinforced.

During the discussion, remarks were made on the present situation in Central Asia, where early warning signals had not been heard and had not generated action. New challenges, in particular terrorism, demanded international co-operation of States as well as international organizations making use of the Platform for Co-operation, adopted at the 1999 Istanbul Summit of the OSCE.

Long-term missions were an asset for monitoring and reporting about particular situations due to their flexibility and adaptability. Thus, they provided for early warning of risks. Increased attention to OSCE commitments in all the participating States should be envisaged and could be implemented by the HCNM, for instance, in examining the problem of migrant labour in Western Europe.

The international community must seek new tools for addressing domestic conflicts. An appropriate reaction to ethnic and religious tensions needed to be carefully developed in each case. With respect to the events of 11 September, one participant suggested a review of the basic concept of activities and the principles of the work of the OSCE. A reaction to new challenges, such as international terrorism, might prove to be inadequate if filtered through old standards.

### **3 Session 2: Roles and specificities of international organizations**

*Report by Stefan Estermann, Switzerland*

The session on the roles of international institutions in conflict prevention and peace building in the OSCE area was introduced by keynote speakers from the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the Secretariat of the Council of the European Union and the European Commission, and by representatives of the incoming OSCE Chairman-in-Office and of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities. The speakers offered specific perspectives on conflict prevention from the points of view of their organizations.

Different concepts of conflict prevention, both in scope and in terms of the instruments and mechanisms used, underlay the presentations. The idea of a comprehensive, integrated approach to conflict prevention appeared to be a central element in most of the statements, and the need for close co-operation and co-ordination between all the organizations involved was frequently mentioned. It was generally noted that there was no shortage of instruments available for conflict prevention; however, many keynote speakers and a number of participants in the subsequent discussion highlighted the *political will to act* as the foremost precondition for successful conflict prevention.

Mr. Douglas Gardner, United Nations Resident Co-ordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Ukraine, presented the situation in Crimea as a case study for successful conflict prevention. Following the return of the deported people more than 10 years ago, many factors had been present that had led to violent conflict elsewhere, including problems of housing, access to jobs, income and health care and legal and citizenship issues, compounded by the general problems of transition. The success achieved had been attributable mainly to the sensitive handling of the situation by the Ukrainian authorities and the concerted effort of UNHCR (focussing on citizenship issues) and UNDP (focussing on development). As a result, more than 90% of the former deported people were now holders of Ukrainian passports. One of the main challenges, according to Mr. Gardner, was to avoid the creation of a new privileged minority by focussing assistance on entire communities. He also pointed out the symbolic value of assistance provided, and said that small interventions could have a powerful impact that was far greater than might be expected, given the resources invested. Although it was difficult to find a formula for conflict prevention and peace building, focussing on human dignity, combined with basic poverty reduction, had been a rather successful approach, at least in the Crimean case.

Mr. Ivan Koedjikov, Head of Division in the Directorate General of Political Affairs of the Council of Europe (CoE), pointed out that the concept of conflict prevention had developed very quickly in the past 10 years. He noted that different concepts of conflict prevention were reflected in the statements of previous speakers. The Council of Europe was not putting the notion of conflict prevention in the foreground, but rather, other notions, such as human rights, democracy and the rule of law. That having been said, most of what the Council of Europe did could be categorized as conflict prevention. According to Mr. Koedjikov, a broad understanding of conflict prevention was needed. However, within a *very broad* definition, anything good an organization did could be looked upon as conflict prevention, whereas adopting a narrow, more technical approach might lead to losing sight of the broader picture. He also pointed out that the

terminology of "conflict prevention" might not always be appropriate given the potential that "conflict" could become a self-fulfilling prophecy in certain situations. An important lesson learned from past experience was that conflict prevention was almost always political and never purely technical.

Mr. Carl Hartzell, Principal Officer in the Policy Unit of the Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, elaborated on the role and specificities of the European Union in conflict prevention. He pointed out that the concept of conflict prevention was not new, but that there was a new sense of urgency about making it an integral part of the Union's security policy. Based on the broad and developing relationship the EU enjoyed with most of the countries in the OSCE area, the EU was well placed to make a comprehensive contribution to stability and security. According to Mr. Hartzell, there was no shortage of EU instruments, but the challenge was to make them work more concertedly and effectively to achieve the desired objectives. Two major projects would profoundly change the nature of the Union: EU enlargement and the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP). The enlargement process had been a driving force for moving some countries from division to unity. The development of ESDP implied the ability of the EU to work in real-time and to create the institutional prerequisites for taking *early action* in response to *early warning*. The EU representative also mentioned the EU Programme for Preventing Violent Conflicts. All assistance programmes would in the future systematically include a conflict prevention dimension.

Mr. Erwan Fouéré, Head of the OSCE and Council of Europe Division of the European Commission, focused in his contribution on the building of *structural stability* as an approach to conflict prevention. The elements covered by structural stability included sustainable economic development, democracy and respect for human rights, viable political structures and healthy environmental and social conditions. Since the mid-1990s, the EU had sought to address conflict prevention in a comprehensive manner through *integrated* development strategies, which had been developed and implemented in various regions. The key practical instrument for "mainstreaming" conflict prevention was the Country Strategy Papers. Mr. Fouéré in his speech identified three basic factors for successful conflict prevention: clear objectives, the capacity to act and the mobilization of political will.

Mr. Antonio Moniz, representing Portugal, a member of the OSCE Troika, recalled the rapid development of the OSCE into an active organization with more than 20 field missions and over 4,000 national and international staff members, and noted its increasing co-operation with NATO and the European Union on the basis of commonly shared principles, values and commitments. In his view, the strengthening of the OSCE's operational capabilities was of great importance, including the implementation of the REACT programme for the rapid deployment of civilian experts. He also underlined the current discussion on enhancing the OSCE's activities in the economic and environmental fields and the work of the OSCE working group on police-related activities. He mentioned the issue of small arms and light weapons as a matter of particular priority for Portugal, the OSCE Document on the subject being an important element of conflict prevention.

Mr. John Packer, Director of the Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM), spoke on behalf of the newly appointed High Commissioner, Ambassador Rolf Ekéus. From the beginning, in carrying out his mandate, the HCNM had adopted an approach designed to tackle root causes, relying on shared values and a normative framework agreed by consensus by all the OSCE participating States. The HCNM was convinced that the

overwhelming majority of governments had the honest intention to seek appropriate solutions to existing disputes or difficulties. The relevant international obligations and commitments were already reflected in the constitutional order of most States. The problems lay more in the implementation of standards in the context of specific situations. Mr. Packer pointed to the set of formal and informal recommendations that the HCNM had developed over time as a reference tool for the management of inter-ethnic relations. The HCNM shared the need for enhanced co-operation and co-ordination. That should not, however, undermine any specific mandate or detract from the capacity to deliver results. Resources should not be wasted in added bureaucracy or meetings. He pointed out that in the OSCE, the gap between the stated intentions and the available resources was still too wide. Finally, he made the point that there was an increasing amount of information and analysis available, whereas the problem often lay in the link between analysis and adequate action. If real action at the highest level bringing substantial engagement was lacking, the most efficient institutions of conflict prevention would fail.

During the discussion, several speakers offered views on the role of the OSCE in conflict prevention. According to one delegation, although the OSCE was not meant to be a "fire brigade", it often acted like one: it *reacted* instead of *acting*. The question was asked whether the OSCE had adequate tools for conflict prevention. It was noted that advantage should be taken of existing instruments such as the HCNM, the ODIHR, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media and above all, the field missions. However, the problem lay in a lack of capacity to follow up with the appropriate action: "We have bells, they are even ringing, but we are not listening enough", as one representative put it. Other speakers supported the creation of an analytical section within the OSCE Secretariat to enhance its capability for conflict prevention. In general, preventive action should be placed much higher on the OSCE agenda.

One delegation pointed out that governments of Central Asia had long been voicing their concern about the threats posed by religious extremism and drug smuggling in Afghanistan, but regretted that those signals had not been taken seriously by the OSCE. The question was raised whether, with an adequate policy of prevention, the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, as well as the current counter-terrorist operation, could have been avoided. Further, the question was asked what the OSCE could do to prevent terrorist activities in Europe.

A discussion evolved on the relationship between short-term and long-term conflict prevention, between "fire fighting" and "building of safe houses". It was clear during the discussion that both were needed and should go hand in hand. In that context, the activities of UNHCR were mentioned as an example. Often meant to be "fire-fighters" *par excellence*, this Organization, through its support to refugee return, also contributed in a significant way to "building houses" in a such a way that fires did not reoccur.

Finally, the importance of reducing statelessness was recognized as a key issue in several statements during the discussion.

#### **4 Session 3: The need for a co-ordinated approach**

*Report by Marek Szczygiel, Poland*

The third session was devoted to co-operation between different organizations and the need for a co-ordinated approach to conflict prevention. The session started with a presentation by the Ambassador of Belgium to the OSCE, Madame Danielle del Marmol-Guilbert. She stressed that conflict prevention should be the primary goal of anyone who considered himself to be devoted to the cause of peace. But peace had a price – it required substantial intellectual and material resources. She mentioned a number of international organizations that together with NGOs tried to prevent conflicts and mobilize resources. She pointed to the importance of post-conflict rehabilitation and said how essential it was, in order to prevent a relapse into new conflicts. The Ambassador listed several potential causes for conflicts and particularly focused her attention on crosscutting issues contributing to conflict, such as transnational organized crime. She stressed that conflict prevention and conflict management were the OSCE's main *raison d'être*. She expressed the wish that, at the next OSCE Ministerial Council Meeting, in December 2001, the OSCE would adopt some conclusions on the role and working methods of the Organization in conflict prevention.

Ambassador Valeri Chechalashvili, Secretary General of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation (BSEC), presented views on the role of sub-regional initiatives in enhancing dialogue and stability. He described the development of the BSEC during the past decade from a political initiative to a full-fledged economic organization, which was regarded by its member States as a significant contributor to peace and stability in the Black Sea area. During its years of existence, the BSEC had been applying a pragmatic concept of economic co-operation as a powerful confidence-building measure. It had succeeded in bringing together countries with differing historical experiences, different economic potentials and diverse mentalities by focusing on questions of common interests. Ambassador Chechalashvili also mentioned a number of problems that the BSEC was facing. One of them was the lack of financial resources. The second one related to the need for sufficient co-ordination, or as he called it, "co-ordination enforcement mechanisms and instruments". The third issue was how to increase the Member States' interest. He stressed that the challenges posed by the 21st century required an updated regional partnership rather than simply co-operation. Due to its dynamism and evident achievements, the BSEC was widely recognized as an important institution, facilitating an atmosphere of confidence and trust, and thus contributing to peace and security in the region.

Mr. Kevin Clements, Secretary General of International Alert, devoted his contribution to the role of non-governmental organizations in conflict prevention. He pointed out that, after the terrorist attacks of 11 September, it was necessary for all concerned to reconsider their views on civil liberties, on national and individual security and their thinking about conflicts. He formulated the idea of partnership between States, international organizations and the NGO community in dealing with conflicts. He stressed also the need to develop a higher level of analytic and conceptual coherence in the understanding of violent conflicts, as well as more integrated and co-ordinated responses to those conflicts. Conflict prevention and resolution should engage the energies of all actors, both official and unofficial. Politicians and the non-governmental sector should be aware of the limits of their expertise and competence. Mr. Clements emphasized the enormous expansion of civil society organizations during past century. International NGOs had assumed greater importance in advancing human rights, in organizing and providing humanitarian assistance, in promoting adherence to humanitarian law, in fostering

economic and social development and in promoting peace and justice. Mr. Clements introduced a definition of "Conflict Transformation NGOs", which were national or international non-profit organizations committed to working with local and international actors in analysing, understanding and responding to violent conflicts in constructive and creative ways. Mr. Clements pointed to a number of issues which should guide analytic work and design processes for intervention: (1) the uniqueness of each conflict; (2) the need to apply multidisciplinary and multilevel analysis to conflicts; (3) the need to understand the linkages between political complexes; (4) the importance of the political economy of war; (5) attention to conflict dynamics; (6) division of labour in the field; (7) the linkage between peace-building / conflict resolution and issues of justice / democratization; (8) empowerment of parties to solve their own problems; (9) the limitations of resources; (10) establishment of empowering and emancipatory partnerships; (11) sustainability and need for long-term solutions; and (12) theories of social and political change.

During the discussion which followed, one of the participants called for more attention to be devoted to the human sphere and rejected the idea of a clash between civilizations. It was rather a matter of a clash of interests. The idea of the supremacy of European civilization should be rejected. One participant stressed the need to establish international police. Another representative emphasized the importance of the human element in conflict prevention. He called for greater attention to be paid to lessons learned from the past and supported a regional approach to dealing with conflicts.

Next, a representative made several comments regarding the current situation. He stressed the importance of political will. According to him, OSCE was well equipped with various instruments, such as its permanent institutions (ODIHR, HCNM, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media), presences in the field and personal representatives of the Chairman-in-Office. Work should be done to improve the interrelations between institutions and to enhance communication. There was a tendency to hide the OSCE's obvious successes, they should be better known. He pointed out that the terrorist attacks of 11 September had been attacks on the very principles of the OSCE. Military action was only one component of dealing with international terrorism.

A representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine emphasized the need for a co-ordinated approach to conflict prevention. The competence of every particular structure should be put to use and all dimensions of conflict prevention explored. Co-ordination should take place both at the headquarters level and in the field. From the point of view of Ukraine, the implementation of the EU's Common European Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) concept opened up a wide range of possibilities for co-operation, also in conflict prevention. Some participants looked at the constraints, which OSCE was facing in addressing threats of a new kind, such as terrorism.

Another participant called for more developed forms of dialogue between the OSCE's institutions. The opening of an OSCE liaison office in Brussels could facilitate better co-ordination with NATO and the EU.

A representative of an NGO stressed the need for long-term co-operation between governments and NGOs in the field of conflict prevention. She recalled the positive example of Sweden, where such co-operation had proved to be very fruitful and effective.

## 5 Concluding session

*Report by Elizabeth Abela, OSCE Secretariat*

H.E. Mr. Ihor Kharchenko, Deputy State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Ukraine, addressed the concluding session, which was chaired by Mrs. Paraschiva Bădescu, Romania/OSCE Chairmanship. He stated that an overview of the discussions in the Seminar confirmed that the preventive factor was coming to be the basic one in the consolidation of peacekeeping and security. While various achievements in the conflict prevention field were discussed, a number of weak points were also revealed that called for improvement. Speaking on the struggle against international terrorism, he felt that everyone agreed that this problem was the most important one on the Organization's agenda.

The approach of preventive action should actively promote the settlement of so-called “frozen conflicts” in the post-Soviet area, including existing conflict problems and situations in the Balkans.

The discussion had demonstrated the need for the practical realization of the obligation, as set forth in the Charter for European Security, to treat each security component as an interdependent part of the whole. That demanded the consolidation of preventive activity, and first and foremost, the economic and environmental dimension.

The conclusions of the Seminar confirmed that the main way to fulfil the imperative of a universal approach to preventive activity was through the further co-ordination of preventive efforts, both within the OSCE and more important - between the OSCE and partner organizations. In that context, the further development of practical co-operation and co-ordination of the OSCE's preventive activity with the preventive activity of the UN, EU, CoE and NATO, and the consolidation of the co-operation with subregional structures was of great importance.

The preventive strategy developed by the UN and the implementation of “the Programme for the Prevention of Violent Conflicts,” developed by the EU, provided the OSCE with ample opportunities for improving and building up its preventive activities. Consolidation of the co-operation between all the partner organizations in the area of prevention would promote quicker solution of existing conflicts and effective prevention of potential conflicts. It would also provide an opportunity to take an important step forward in the further consolidation of security and stability in the OSCE region.

Mr. Kharchenko stated that the proposals and recommendations made by participants should be thoroughly discussed at a session of the OSCE Permanent Council with a view to working out the complexities inherent in the implementation of measures. In his opinion, the problems touched upon at the Seminar, and the tasks involved in consolidating the OSCE's preventive activities deserved to be discussed at the Ninth OSCE Ministerial Council Meeting in Bucharest.

The Chairperson, Mrs. Bădescu, underlined that during the debates the participants focussed on the OSCE's capabilities, instruments and mechanisms in early warning, conflict prevention and crisis management, and co-operation with different institutions. The overview of the OSCE *acquis* in this field clearly showed the important role it has played in the past, as well as the role it could and should continue to play in stabilizing and improving the situation in the

OSCE area. A fruitful discussion took place, some key issues were looked at in depth and a number of interesting proposals and thought provoking ideas were presented, she said. This led to the conclusion that the goal of the Seminar had been achieved. She expressed the hope that these proposals would be retained and considered further. Participants expressed their gratitude to the Ukrainian Government for organizing and hosting this Seminar, to the OSCE Secretariat, as well as the moderators, keynote speakers and rapporteurs, whose substantial involvement contributed to the success of this Seminar.



### III List of documents circulated during the Seminar

#	Date	Author/Institution	Title	Language
001	8 Oct.	OSCE Secretariat	Annotated agenda	English
002	8 Oct.	OSCE Secretariat	List of participants	English
003	8 Oct.	H.E. Ambassador Ján Kubiš, OSCE Secretary General	Speaking points	English
004	8 Oct.	H.E. Mr. Anatoliy Zlenko, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine	Opening address	Russian
005	8 Oct.	H.E. Mr. Anatoliy Zlenko, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine	Opening address	Ukrainian
006	8 Oct.	H.E. Mr. Mircea Dan Geoană, OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania	Address	English
007	8 Oct.	Dr. Gregory Austin, International Crisis Group, NGO	Using the Conflict Prevention Toolbox: Politics, Priorities and Pressure Points	English
008	8 Oct.	Dr. Cornel Codită, Romanian - American University	Keynote speech: Human, Politico-Military, Economic and Environmental Dimensions of Conflict Prevention in the OSCE	English
009	8 Oct.	Mr. Andreas Kahnert, UN/ECE	Keynote speech: Environmental and associated risk prevention – seen from UN/ECE perspectives	English
010	8 Oct.	Mr. Jean-Claude Meyer, Operations Centre, Conflict Prevention Centre, OSCE Secretariat	Keynote speech: The nature of conflict prevention "Understanding conflict risks and channelling them into policy. Does the OSCE possess adequate mechanisms?"	English
011	8 Oct.	H.E. Ambassador Henry Special Representative of the Chairman-in-Office for Negotiations under Article V of Annex 1-B of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Keynote speech: The nature of conflict prevention "Understanding conflict risks and channelling them into policy. Does the OSCE possess adequate mechanisms?"	English
012	8 Oct.	H.E. Ambassador Dr. Heinrich Reimann, Switzerland	Statement: Preventive Functions of the OSCE: an outlook	English

013	8 Oct.	Mr. Antonio Moniz, Portugal	Keynote speech: Roles and specificities of international organizations – conflict prevention and peace-building in the OSCE area: Role of multilateral institutions	English
014	8 Oct.	Mr. Ivan Koedjikov, Council of Europe	Keynote speech: The Preventive functions of the Council of Europe	English
015	8 Oct.	Mr. Carl Hartzell, Council of the European Union, Secretariat, Policy Unit	Keynote speech: Roles and specificities of international organizations: The European Union	English
016	8 Oct.	Mr. Erwan Fouéré, European Commission	Keynote speech: Conflict Prevention and peace-building in the OSCE area: Roles of multilateral institutions	English
017	8 Oct.	Mr. John Packer, Director, Office of the OSCE HCNM	Remarks: Roles and specificities of international organizations	English
018	8 Oct.	H.E. Mr. Valery Nikolaenko, Council of Collective Security, Secretariat	Statement: The contribution of the Council of Collective Security to maintaining peace and stability in the OSCE area	Russian
019	8 Oct.	H.E. Ambassador Volodymyr Ohrysko, Ukraine	Statement	Ukrainian
020	8 Oct.	H.E. Mr. Abdunabi Sattorov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tajikistan	Statement	Russian
021	9 Oct.	H.E. Ambassador Danielle del Marmol-Guilbert, Belgium/EU	Remarks: The need for a co-ordinated approach	English
022	9 Oct.	H.E. Ambassador Valeri Chechelashvili, BSEC, Permanent International Secretariat	Statement	English
023	9 Oct.	Dr. Kevin P. Clements, International Alert, NGO	Keynote speech: Co-operation with NGOs in conflict prevention	English
024	9 Oct.	Mr. Viktor Nikitiuk, Ukraine, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Contribution to the discussion under session 3	Ukrainian
025	9 Oct.	H.E. Mr. Ihor Kharchenko, Deputy State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Ukraine	Closing remarks	English

## IV List of participants

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<b>Latvia</b>	
H.E. Ambassador Andris Vilkans	Ambassador to Ukraine

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Mr. Igor Savchenko	Member of the Secretariat of the Council of Collective Security

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**Seating arrangement**

	Sessions	Moderator Rapporteur	
Opening session	Rep. of the OSCE/CIO	OSCE SG MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, UKRAINE	
Germany USA Austria Azerbaijan Belarus Belgium/EU <i>European Commission</i> Bulgaria Canada Croatia Denmark Spain Estonia Finland France Georgia United Kingdom Greece Hungary Italy Kazakhstan Kyrgyzstan Latvia the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Lithuania Malta Moldova Norway Uzbekistan Netherlands Poland Portugal Romania/OSCE CIO		OSCE Secretariat Special Rep. of the CiO Office of the HCNM OSCE PC in Ukraine OSCE Mission to Estonia OSCE Mission to Latvia OSCE AMG in Belarus International Crisis Group International Alert Secretariat of the Council of Collective Security CIS Secretariat of the Council of the EU BSEC ICRC Council of Europe UN/ECE UNHCR Morocco Jordan Egypt Algeria Thailand Korea Japan Yugoslavia Ukraine Turkey Czech Republic Tajikistan Switzerland	NGOs, Scientific Institutions, Guests of the Host Country
	Russian Federation Holy See Slovakia Slovenia Sweden		