

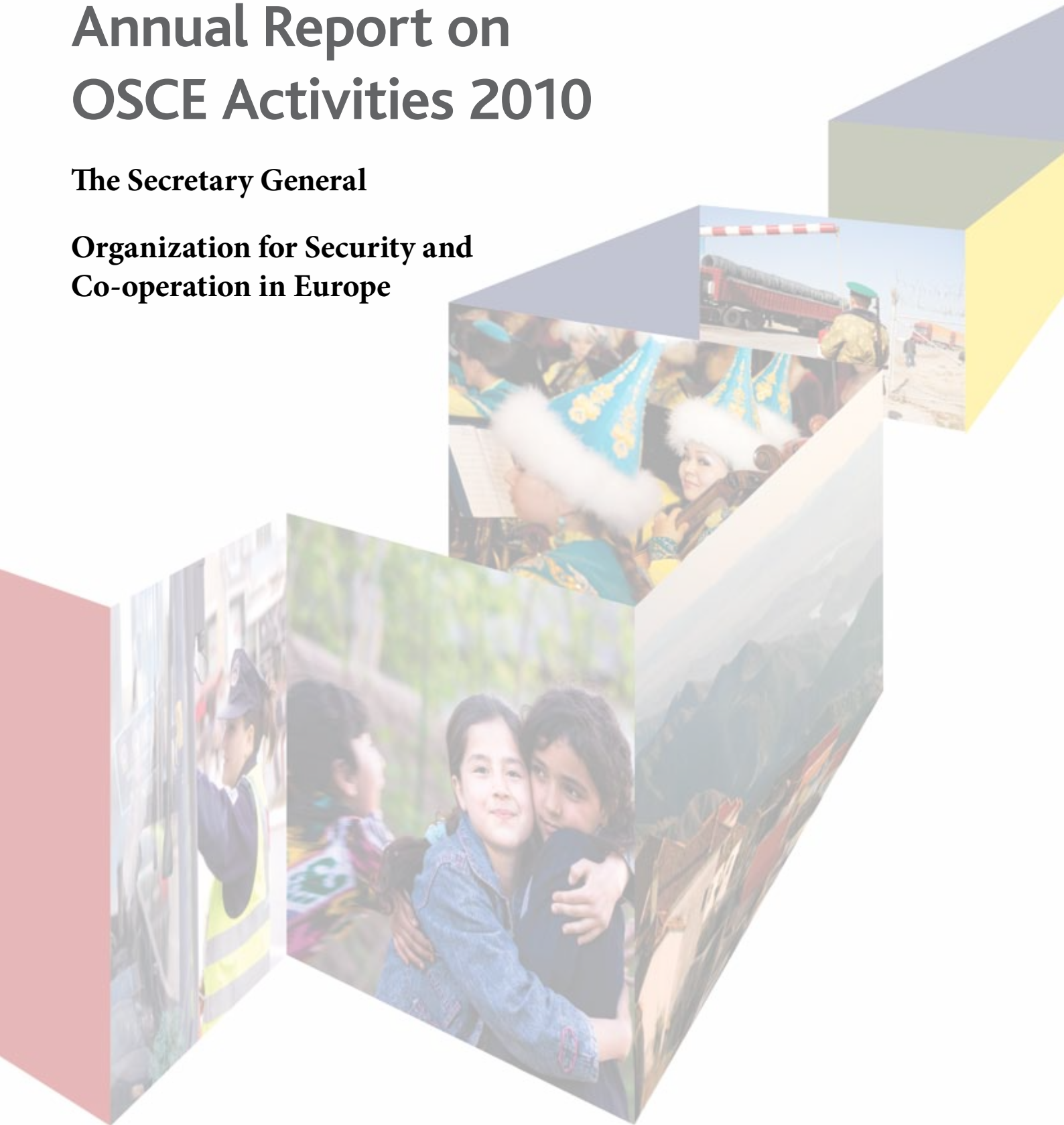
ANNUAL REPORT 2010



Annual Report on OSCE Activities 2010

The Secretary General

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



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Edited by Lisa Ernst
Designed by Nona Reuter
Cover, maps and graphics by Nona Reuter

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Contents

■ Message from the Secretary General	5	■ Institutions	75
■ Executive summary	7	Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights	76
■ Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office	11	High Commissioner on National Minorities	79
From Corfu to Astana	14	Representative on Freedom of the Media	82
Astana Commemorative Declaration:		■ Secretariat	85
Towards a Security Community	16	Office of the Secretary General	86
Crisis in Kyrgyzstan	19	Executive Management	87
Protracted conflicts	21	Press and Public Information Section	87
Chairmanship work across the dimensions	24	Section for External Co-operation	89
■ Permanent Council	27	Legal Services	90
■ Forum for Security Co-operation	29	Gender Section	90
■ OSCE Parliamentary Assembly	31	Security Management	91
■ Field operations	35	Strategic Police Matters Unit	91
South-Eastern Europe		Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings	92
Presence in Albania	36	Action against Terrorism Unit	93
Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	39	Office of Internal Oversight	94
Mission in Kosovo	42	■ Conflict Prevention Centre	95
Mission to Montenegro	45	■ Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE	
Mission to Serbia	47	Economic and Environmental Activities	98
Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje	49	■ Department of Human Resources	100
Office in Zagreb	51	■ Department of Management and Finance	101
Eastern Europe		■ Partnerships for security and co-operation	103
Office in Minsk	53	Interaction with other international, regional and sub-regional organizations	104
Mission to Moldova	55	Interaction with the Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation	113
Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine	57	■ Annexes	119
South Caucasus		The OSCE at a glance	121
Office in Baku	59	OSCE organigram	122
Office in Yerevan	61	OSCE unified budget 2010 by fund	123
Central Asia		OSCE extra-budgetary support	124
Centre in Ashgabat	63	Staff statistics	125
Centre in Astana	65	Contact information	126
Centre in Bishkek	67		
Office in Tajikistan	70		
Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan	72		
Assistance with Bilateral Agreements			
Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners	74		

Message from the Secretary General



OSCE/SARAH CROZIER

The OSCE has always been about inclusiveness, which means that security is best achieved by ironing out differences through open dialogue and equal co-operation, by building upon shared interests and values. In 2010, the OSCE demonstrated its role as a platform for equals, as Kazakhstan became the first Central Asian and former Soviet State to chair the Organization. The Summit in Astana, hosted by Kazakhstan, put the OSCE in the international spotlight and resulted in broad agreement on its core values and strategic priorities.

Central Asia came to the fore in 2010 for other reasons as well, when Kyrgyzstan faced difficult choices in April and June. In response to the crisis, the Chairmanship led the OSCE's co-ordinated response, working in partnership with the United Nations and the European Union. The OSCE Secretariat, the Centre in Bishkek, the Institutions — the High Commissioner on National Minorities, the Representative on Freedom of the Media and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights — as well as the Parliamentary Assembly pooled efforts that contributed to the stabilization of the situation by bringing it back on constitutional track. The OSCE participating States offered further assistance to Kyrgyzstan, upon its request, and by the end of the year we had launched a Community Security Initiative, providing advice and support to the country's police forces.

The Chairmanship made concerted efforts to revitalize the Organization by consolidating its political

agenda. At the Informal Ministerial Meeting in Almaty in July, momentum was built towards holding the first OSCE Summit in more than a decade, and the first in Central Asia. The Astana Summit on 1-2 December was preceded by a comprehensive three-week Review Conference, in Warsaw, Vienna and Astana, that was enriched through the participation of non-governmental organizations.

More than 500 non-governmental organizations actively participated in a Civil Society Forum prior to the Astana segment of the Review Conference. Their review of the OSCE's commitments and activities and their tangible recommendations for addressing gaps in implementation were a valuable and timely contribution to the Summit.

Chairmanship-led preparatory discussions for the Summit, which built on the Corfu Process security dialogue launched under the 2009 Greek Chairmanship, produced a rich set of ambitious ideas for the Summit agenda. Delegations worked tirelessly to adopt a Summit document that would pave the way for the OSCE's future work in the three dimensions. Though a full Framework for Action was not adopted, the 56 participating States did succeed in adopting a strong declaration that recommitted participating States to the vision of a free, democratic, common and indivisible security community, rooted in agreed principles, shared commitments and common goals.

The Declaration reaffirms all previous OSCE commitments, starting from the Helsinki Final Act and

OSCE Secretary General Marc Perrin de Brichambaut and OSCE Permanent Council Chairperson Ambassador Kairat Abdrakhmanov (*far right*) greet United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon outside the Hofburg in Vienna on 8 April 2010. (OSCE/Susanna Löff)



the Charter of Paris for a New Europe in 1990. Our 56 participating States committed to a “free, democratic, common and indivisible Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community” and once again put special emphasis on human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Protracted conflicts in our region remain a challenge. These are difficult processes that require our constant attention and continued resolve. Behind-the-scenes shifts in tone and language were in evidence during the Astana negotiations, and I am hopeful that they will provide a foundation for more tangible progress.

The Astana Commemorative Declaration also highlights some areas where progress is already within reach. It looks forward to an updating of the Vienna Document 1999 and supports ongoing efforts to re-start negotiations on the conventional arms control regime in Europe. It commits to greater unity of purpose in combating transnational threats and underscores the need to support international efforts to promote a stable and democratic Afghanistan.

Finally, the participating States have tasked the 2011 Lithuanian Chairmanship with organizing a follow-up process, taking into account ideas and proposals put

forward during the Corfu Process and the preparation of the Summit, and they have pledged their support to future Chairmanships — Ireland in 2012 and Ukraine in 2013 — in developing a concrete action plan based on the work done by Kazakhstan’s Chairmanship.

The OSCE has been strengthened by the common vision set forth in Astana. Our Secretariat, our field operations, our Institutions and our Parliamentary Assembly, which, as this report shows, all worked so diligently in 2010 to deliver the tasks assigned to them, can look forward to 2011 with the renewed political impetus given to their mission in Astana.

Marc Perrin de Brichambaut
Secretary General

Executive summary

In 2010, a year which marked the 20th anniversaries of the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the Copenhagen and the Bonn documents and the 35th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, the OSCE achieved progress in all dimensions of its work. This culminated in the Astana Summit and, ultimately, the Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community (SUM.DOC/1/10), a recommitment to the vision of a free, democratic, common and indivisible Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community stretching from Vancouver to Vladivostok, rooted in agreed principles, shared commitments and common goals. (See *Message from the Secretary General*, p. 5; *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 11.) The following are some brief highlights of 2010.

Almaty Informal Ministerial Meeting. The Chairmanship followed the example of the Greek Chairmanship in 2009 by hosting an Informal Ministerial Meeting, in Almaty. Discussions focused on how to draw practical conclusions from the Corfu Process, leading to an agreement to hold an OSCE Summit in Astana. (See *Message from the Secretary General*, p. 5; *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 11.)

Review Conference. In accordance with the 1992 Helsinki Document and the 1994 Budapest Document, a three-part Review Conference was held in the run-up to the Astana Summit. The meetings, which included the participation of non-governmental organizations, were held in Warsaw, focusing on the human dimension; in Vienna, dedicated to the politico-military dimension and the economic and environmental dimension as well as a review of OSCE structures and activities; and in Astana, focusing again on the human dimension. As part of efforts to increase participation by civil society organizations, the Chairmanship also invited representatives from more than 500 non-governmental organizations to a Civil Society Forum in Astana. (See *Message from the Secretary General*, p. 5; *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 11.)

Astana Summit. Almost 40 Heads of State or Government, more than a dozen government ministers and numerous other top officials and civil society representatives from the OSCE participating States attended the Organization's first top-level meeting since 1999, which culminated in the Astana Commemorative Declaration.

Approximately 1,000 international journalists covered the Summit, and a dedicated Summit website in all six official OSCE languages provided ongoing coverage of the event. (See *Message from the Secretary General*, p. 5; *Astana Summit*, below; *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 11; *Secretariat*, p. 86; *Office of the Secretary General*, p. 87.)

Vienna Experts Roundtable. As a follow-up to the Astana Summit, the first Vienna Experts Roundtable brought together leading experts from think tanks and academia and OSCE delegations and officials to assess the outcomes of the Summit and discuss the way forward. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 11; *Office of the Secretary General*, p. 87.)

High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination. The Chairmanship hosted a High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination in Astana that brought together more than 600 participants, including government officials, politicians, public figures and civil society representatives with the goal of advancing implementation of OSCE commitments in these areas. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 11; *Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*, p. 76.)

Crisis in Kyrgyzstan. Following unrest in April and June that left hundreds dead and led to the removal of Kyrgyzstan President Kurmanbek Bakiyev, the Permanent Council issued a Decision authorizing the deployment of an OSCE Police Advisory Group to assist the country's efforts to reduce inter-ethnic tensions and restore public order. A later Permanent Council Decision established a longer-term approach to police reform adapted to prevailing circumstances. The Community Security Initiative involves support for one year, comprising 31 international staff supported by 27 locally recruited staff working in three provinces in Kyrgyzstan to facilitate confidence-building between police and local communities. (See *OSCE Talks*, below; *Message of the Secretary General*, p. 5; *Report of the Chairmanship in Office*, p. 11; *Permanent Council*, p. 27; *Parliamentary Assembly*, p. 32; *Centre in Bishkek*, p. 67; *Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*, p. 76; *High Commissioner on National Minorities*, p.79; *Secretariat*, p. 86; *Office of the Secretary General*, p. 87; *Conflict Prevention Centre*, p. 97; *Interaction with other international, regional and sub-regional organizations*, p. 104.)

OSCE Talks. The Chairmanship launched the first OSCE Talks seminar, a one-day meeting bringing together experts on Central Asia, at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek in November. Students, academics and experts discussed the situation in Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan and regional challenges. A publication based on the seminar was distributed at the Astana Summit. (*See Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, p. 11.*)

Geneva Discussions. A further six rounds of the Geneva Discussions took place in 2010. The OSCE, together with the United Nations and the European Union, co-chaired the talks involving participants from Georgia, Russia and the United States as well as Tskhinvali and Sukhumi. Discussions continued on the key issues of non-use of force and international security arrangements. Progress on the non-use of force issue was acknowledged, opening new prospects for advancing the process. An important positive sign was the resumption of the Dvani/Ergneti Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM) on 28 October after a one-year hiatus. In addition, the OSCE negotiated an agreement on the implementation of a package of water projects in late 2010. (*See Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, p. 11; Conflict Prevention Centre, p. 95; Interaction with other international, regional and sub-regional organizations, p. 104.*)

Informal "5+2" meetings. Five informal "5+2" meetings focusing on freedom of movement and guarantee mechanisms were held, and the two political representatives (the Moldovan Deputy Prime Minister and his Transdniestrian counterpart) met on a regular basis to resolve issues affecting the daily lives of people on both banks of the Dniester/Nistru River. Two meetings between Moldovan Prime Minister Vlad Filat and Transdniestrian leader Igor Smirnov were instrumental in advancing concrete issues, such as the reopening of the Chisinau-Tiraspol-Odessa railway service in October. Other positive developments included the extension of a 2006 mechanism to allow Moldovan farmers access to their land on the Transdniestrian-controlled side, conclusion of an agreement on simplified regulations for the export of goods from Transdniestria by railway and the beginning of expert negotiations on the reconnection of fixed-line telecommunications between the sides. (*See Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, p. 11; Mission to Moldova, p. 55.*)

Dayton Article IV Agreement. The ownership process was given a substantial boost in 2010 with the approval of a comprehensive two-phase action plan for the transfer of responsibilities to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia. The first phase of the plan, to be concluded by the end of 2011, will reduce the international assistance to a minimum. The second phase, to be concluded by the end of 2014, involves the preparation of all necessary measures — legal, political, technical and organizational — for the transfer of full autonomy to the Parties. (*See Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, p. 11.*)

Annual Security Review Conference. The Annual Security Review Conference, held in Vienna, addressed a range of first-dimension challenges, including work to update the Vienna Document 1999. Working sessions focused on transnational threats; the role of the OSCE in early warning, conflict prevention and resolution, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation; arms control and confidence- and security-building mechanisms; threats and challenges in Afghanistan; and a review of OSCE police-related activities. (*See Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, p.11.*)

Mélange disposal. An OSCE project to safely remove stockpiles of the toxic rocket fuel component mélange from six sites in Ukraine entered its second phase in 2010, with the start of work to remove 2,600 tonnes of mélange from a third storage site in western Ukraine. At the launch of the project, Ukraine had 16,000 tonnes of mélange. Thus far, more than 3,000 tonnes have been removed in what is the largest donor-funded project in OSCE history. (*See Forum for Security Co-operation, p.29; Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, p. 57; Conflict Prevention Centre, p. 95.*)

Expert Conference on Terrorism. The Chairmanship hosted an Expert Conference in Astana, focusing on countering threats related to terrorism, including social, inter-ethnic and religious challenges, and on other transnational threats related to terrorism, such as trafficking in drugs, arms and human beings, organized crime and money laundering. (*See Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, p. 11.*)

Engagement with Afghanistan. The Secretariat continued to advance OSCE engagement with Afghanistan by increasing the

participation of Afghan counterparts in OSCE activities, including training in counter-narcotics, customs, land-mine disposal, travel document security, border management and anti-terrorism. As part of the OSCE's ongoing election support, an Election Support Team was deployed to Afghanistan's parliamentary elections in September. (*See Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, p. 11; Parliamentary Assembly, p. 32; Centre in Bishkek, p. 67; Office in Tajikistan, p. 70; Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, p. 76; Office of the Secretary General, p. 87; Conflict Prevention Centre, p. 95; Interaction with other international, regional and sub-regional organizations, p. 104; Interaction with the Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation, p. 113.*)

Border Management Staff College. Now in its second year, the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe conducted 11 seminars as well as its first Staff Course, training a total of 257 mid-level and high-ranking border, customs and drug control agency officers from 19 participating States and Afghanistan. (*See Centre in Astana, p. 65; Office in Tajikistan, p. 70; Conflict Prevention Centre, p. 95.*)

Gender and security. The annual High-Level Tripartite Meeting between the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the OSCE focused on the theme of gender and comprehensive security. Discussions focused on preventing and resolving conflict, in particular through the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on combating violence against women, including the girl-child, before, during and after armed conflicts. (*See Office of the Secretary General, p. 87; Interaction with other international, regional and sub-regional organizations, p. 104.*)

Economic and environmental dimension events. The 18th Economic and Environmental Forum process, held in Astana, Minsk, Vienna and Prague, focused on promoting good governance at border crossings, improving the security of land transportation and facilitating international transport by road and rail in the OSCE region. At a Special Expert Meeting in Vilnius, participants assessed the role of the OSCE in promoting international energy security co-operation. (*See Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office, p. 11; Centre in Astana, p. 65; Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, p. 98.*)

20th anniversary of Copenhagen Document.

A conference in Copenhagen marked the 20th anniversary of the Copenhagen Document, a key OSCE reference document that outlines commitments in the field of elections, rule of law and other fundamental rights and freedoms. Five working sessions examined the compliance of the participating States in the areas of elections and human rights, rule of law, national minorities and freedom of movement, as well as measures to improve implementation. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 11.)

Human dimension meetings. The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) hosted two Supplementary Human Dimension Meetings in Vienna: on challenges and best practices for improving gender balance and women's participation in political and public life and on freedom of religion or belief. The OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, with organizational support from ODIHR, hosted another, on education for persons belonging to national minorities. A Human Dimension Seminar organized by ODIHR in Warsaw focused on strengthening judicial independence. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 11, *Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*, p. 76; *High Commissioner on National Minorities*, p. 79.)

Election monitoring. Elections remained a primary focus for ODIHR in 2010, with observers from 51 participating States monitoring elections in 21 countries, including two vital votes in Kyrgyzstan. ODIHR also sent an election support team for parliamentary elections in Afghanistan. The Institution stepped up its efforts to follow up on recommendations made to improve election processes and refine and develop its observation methodology, publishing, for instance, the sixth edition of the *ODIHR Election Observation Handbook*. (See *Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights*, p. 76.)

High Commissioner on National Minorities.

The High Commissioner hosted a series of regional roundtables on the implementation of the Bolzano/Bozen Recommendations on National Minorities in Inter-State Relations. The High Commissioner also continued to address ethnic tensions within and between States, examining conditions for minority communities and advising participating States on how to improve legislation related to minorities and interethnic relations

in general. (See *High Commissioner on National Minorities*, p. 79.)

Freedom of the media. The Representative on Freedom of the Media worked to enhance free media and free expression across the OSCE region, advocating on behalf of journalists who have been persecuted or attacked, campaigning to end criminal libel legislation, providing legal assistance to participating States on media-related legislation, facilitating professional media training and hosting regional conferences to support the enhancement of journalism standards. (See *Representative on Freedom of the Media*, p. 82.)

Combating trafficking in human beings. The OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings worked to raise the political profile of this issue and advocated to improve the implementation of OSCE anti-trafficking commitments in all participating States. A high-level Alliance Against Trafficking in Persons conference in Vienna in June focused on trafficking for the purpose of domestic servitude, while a one-day regional meeting of national anti-trafficking co-ordinators in Vienna in October was dedicated to trafficking for labour exploitation. (See *Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings*, p. 92.)

19th Annual Session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly held its 19th Annual Session in Oslo under the theme "Rule of Law: Combating Transnational Crime and Corruption". The Assembly adopted the Oslo Declaration, which highlights the importance of a parliamentary dimension in the ongoing dialogue on security. (See *OSCE Parliamentary Assembly*, p. 31.)

Work with the Partners for Co-operation.

A Chairmanship workshop in Thailand on combating illicit crop cultivation and enhancing border security management offered participants an opportunity to exchange best practices and learn how Thailand addresses these issues. Another Chairmanship workshop, in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, focused on combating trafficking in human beings at the national, regional and international levels. At the OSCE-Republic of Korea Conference in Seoul, participants discussed multilateral security co-operation in Northeast Asia, economic development

and women's contribution to building security. This theme was also the subject of a side gathering of experts and civil society representatives on the margins of the conference. The OSCE Mediterranean Conference in Malta covered issues related to confidence- and security-building measures, economic and environmental challenges and tolerance and non-discrimination. (See *Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office*, p. 11; *Interaction with Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation*, p. 113.)

Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office



Above left: The opening session of the OSCE Informal Ministerial Meeting on 17 July 2010 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. (OSCE/Susanna Lööf)

Above right: Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan (*right*), and Kanat Saudabayev, OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, at the OSCE Summit in Astana on 1 December 2010. (OSCE)



In 2010, Kazakhstan became the first Central Asian State and former Soviet Republic with a predominantly Muslim population to chair the OSCE. Its impressive success under the leadership of President Nursultan Nazarbayev is objectively recognized by the international community, and it demonstrates Kazakhstan's significant contribution to regional and global security.

Consistent implementation of the guiding motto of Kazakhstan's OSCE Chairmanship — Trust, Tradition, Tolerance and Transparency — impartiality and respect of the views of all Partners expanded and strengthened consensus based on the fundamental aspects of the Organization's development on the basis of equal implementation of all three baskets.

Constructive engagement of all participating States in the Corfu Process breathed fresh life into the work of the Organization and restored its importance as a key platform for dialogue on security. We gave a new impetus to the overall effort to revitalize and strengthen the arms control regime and confidence-building measures, and we hope to adopt a modernized Vienna Document in 2011.

While fully understanding the complexity of protracted conflicts and the long-term nature of their resolution, we can be cautiously optimistic in assessing the work done in 2010 on negotiations within existing formats on protracted conflicts. We saw some positive dynamics in the Transdniestrian settlement process, including the holding of regular informal "5+2" meetings. The Minsk Group continued its intensive efforts to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and we hope that further progress can be achieved in 2011. A positive outcome of the Geneva Discussions was the resumption of the Dvani/Ergneti Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism in October, following a one-year hiatus.

Tragic events in Kyrgyzstan became a serious challenge for Kazakhstan, as the OSCE Chairmanship, and for the entire OSCE community. The OSCE played a key role in preventing a civil war in the country, reducing tensions and returning the country to a framework providing for the rule of law. I am looking forward to successful implementation of the OSCE's Community Security Initiative in Kyrgyzstan.

It was in our common interest to bring to a new level our multilateral co-operation in combating transnational threats and challenges, including international terrorism and extremism, organized crime, drug trafficking and challenges emanating from outside the Organization, especially from the territory of Afghanistan.

In the human dimension, we focused on issues of ethnic and religious tolerance. The main event in this area was the OSCE High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination, held on 29-30 June in Astana. We strongly promoted open and constructive co-operation with civil society, having ensured the wide and active participation of NGOs in numerous events before and during the OSCE Summit.

The first OSCE Summit in the new millennium, held on the initiative of President Nazarbayev, was an undeniable success for the Chairmanship and for the Organization as a whole. We were able to prove the vitality of the OSCE and demonstrate to the international community the Organization's evolution "from Helsinki to Astana" and give renewed impetus to the OSCE, which is very much needed today.

The quintessence of our joint work was the adoption of the Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community, in which participating States reaffirmed the OSCE's core norms, principles and commitments rooted in the Helsinki Final Act and the Paris Charter for a New Europe. The Astana Commemorative Declaration clearly identified new challenges and threats facing the Organization. It consolidated the general understanding that the traditional OSCE area of responsibility has undergone serious changes and today covers a vast Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian space.

In this regard, I sincerely look forward to continuing our constructive co-operation in achieving the venerable goals of the Astana Commemorative Declaration.

Kanat Saudabayev
2010 OSCE Chairperson

Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office



Heads of State and Government pose for a family photo before the opening of the OSCE Summit in Astana on 1 December 2010. (OSCE)

2010 was not business as usual at the OSCE. Kazakhstan — the first Central Asian country, the first country of the former Soviet Union and the first Muslim-majority country to lead the Organization — began its historic Chairmanship with a pledge to strengthen the Organization and concluded the year with the OSCE's first Summit in more than a decade.

As President Nursultan Nazarbayev emphasized, the Summit was a historic event for the entire OSCE community.

“We have reconfirmed our support for the comprehensive approach to security based on trust and transparency in the politico-military field, on rational economic and environmental policy and on the full-fledged observation of human rights, basic freedoms and the rule of law,” he said at the concluding session of the Summit. “We intend to raise the level and quality of security and understanding between our States and peoples.”

Thus in 2010 the OSCE marked the 20th anniversaries of the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Copenhagen Document and the 35th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, not only with conferences and commemorative events, but with a renewed commitment to the “vision of a free, democratic, common and

indivisible Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community”, as affirmed by the 56 participating States in the Astana Commemorative Declaration.

Reaching consensus on the Declaration was a remarkable achievement. A summit-level meeting had not been held since 1999 in Istanbul. The participating States of the OSCE were facing many urgent security challenges, including protracted conflicts, inter-ethnic tensions in Kyrgyzstan, continued fallout from the global financial and economic crisis and emerging transnational threats and challenges closely linked to instability in neighbouring regions, including Afghanistan.

The progress achieved in 2010 in all dimensions of the OSCE's work, culminating in the Astana Commemorative Declaration, represents a significant step toward addressing these and other common challenges, strengthening security, restoring trust and overcoming dividing lines to realize a common Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security space.

■ To a “T”

In his video address to the Permanent Council in January, President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev announced that the Chairmanship would be guided by

In 2010, *OSCE Magazine* marked the anniversaries of the Copenhagen Document, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Final Act.



Below left: OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Kazakhstan's Secretary of State and Foreign Minister Kanat Saudabayev, OSCE Secretary General Marc Perrin de Brichambaut and members of the Permanent Council pose for a family photo at the first meeting of the year on 14 January 2010. (OSCE)

Below right: OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Kanat Saudabayev (*foreground left*) meets with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (*foreground right*) at the United Nations in New York on 5 February 2010. (UN Photo/Mark Garten)



the “four T’s” — Trust, Tradition, Transparency and Tolerance — in its efforts to help strengthen the work of the Organization.

Following the President’s address, the Chairperson-in-Office, Kazakhstan’s Secretary of State and Foreign Minister Kanat Saudabayev, announced that Kazakhstan’s priorities for the year included addressing terrorism and other transnational threats, achieving progress towards resolution of the region’s protracted conflicts, contributing to the reconstruction of Afghanistan, promoting co-operation on transport and fostering tolerance — with the ultimate aim of tackling these many challenges at the highest level, at an OSCE Summit.

On visits to Brussels, Washington, Moscow, the United Nations Security Council, Vienna and Kabul as well as OSCE field operations, the Chairmanship sought consensus for its ambitious agenda. High-level conferences, on tolerance and non-discrimination and on anti-terrorism, encouraged international dialogue on cross-dimensional challenges that impact the entire OSCE region.

These efforts to promote engagement in the OSCE and enhance co-operation with international Partners came to the fore in addressing the crisis in Kyrgyzstan, with the OSCE, the UN and the European Union

working together to assist Kyrgyzstan’s government and people to restore peace.

The crisis in Kyrgyzstan underscored the urgency of meeting at the highest level to address common security challenges, and agreement on holding a Summit was reached at the Informal Ministerial Meeting in Almaty in July. This agreement was the start of an ambitious review exercise involving all participating States and civil society, encompassing the whole of the OSCE’s work.

Alongside the highly demanding process of working towards a Summit, the Chairmanship sought to move forward efforts to address the region’s protracted conflicts and to deepen the OSCE’s work in its priority areas in all three dimensions — the politico-military, the economic and environmental and the human aspects of security.

■ From Corfu to Astana

The OSCE-anchored dialogue on the future of European security, also known as the Corfu Process, provided a solid basis for a renewed debate at the highest political level. Therefore, at the December 2009 Athens Ministerial Council, Kazakhstan offered to host a Summit during its Chairmanship in 2010. The OSCE foreign ministers noted this proposal with interest.

In 2010, the 56 permanent representatives

to the OSCE, supported as needed by their capitals, met regularly at informal Corfu Process meetings, discussing the following topics:

- Implementation of all OSCE norms, principles and commitments;
- Role of the OSCE in early warning, conflict prevention and resolution, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation;
- Role of the arms control and confidence- and security-building regimes in building trust in the evolving security environment;
- Transnational and multidimensional threats and challenges;
- Economic and environmental challenges;
- Human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as democracy and the rule of law;
- Enhancing the OSCE’s effectiveness;
- Interaction with other organizations and institutions, on the basis of the 1999 Platform for Co-operative Security;
- Cross-dimensional approach to security; and
- General questions of Euro-Atlantic security.

The discussions aimed “to deepen the dialogue in order to promote understanding and enhance confidence” and “to extend the areas of agreement and contribute to consensus-building,” as outlined in

The venue of the OSCE Informal Ministerial Meeting in Ak-Bulak, near the city of Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 16 July 2010. (OSCE/Sarah Crozier)

French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner (*left*) in conversation with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov at the OSCE Informal Ministerial Meeting on 16 July 2010. (OSCE/Sarah Crozier)



the Athens Ministerial Council Decision on Furthering the Corfu Process (MC.DEC/1/09). Participants had been encouraged by the Ministerial Declaration on the Corfu Process (MC.DOC/1/09), also adopted in Athens, to address disagreements openly, honestly and in an unbiased manner and to acknowledge diversities and concerns in a spirit of mutual respect and understanding.

Three basic guidelines set the tone for the talks:

- Adherence to the concept of comprehensive, co-operative and indivisible security, as enshrined in the OSCE fundamental documents;
- Compliance with OSCE norms, principles and commitments in all three OSCE dimensions, in full and in good faith, and in a consistent manner by all;
- Determination to strengthen partnership and co-operation in the OSCE area, as well as to enhance the effectiveness of the OSCE and its contribution to security in our common space.

As mandated at the Athens Ministerial Council, the Chairmanship prepared an Interim Report (CIO.GAL/117/10), reflecting the Chairmanship's perception of the discussions and deliberations on proposals developed within the framework of the Corfu Process. The Interim Report was discussed

at the Almaty Informal Ministerial Meeting and contributed to building consensus on the decision to hold the Summit.

■ Informal Ministerial

Following the example of the Greek Chairmanship's initiative of hosting an informal meeting of foreign ministers, the 2010 Chairmanship invited the foreign ministers of the participating States and OSCE Partners to Ak-Bulak, a resort near Almaty in the foothills of the Zailisky Alatau Mountains, in July. Some 50 ministers and deputy ministers took part in the meeting, discussing how to draw practical conclusions from the Corfu Process. They heard calls for a strengthening of common resolve and spirit of community. President Nazarbayev told participants: "The OSCE must prove that it was effective not only in times of the Cold War, but that it remains an actively developing body, closely woven into the life of the modern global political and economic system."

Though the meeting's informal nature meant that no decisions were expected, the debate about whether the time was ripe for a Summit was intense among delegates strolling the pathways of Ak-Bulak on the margins of the meeting. The Chairmanship's satisfaction was palpable when it

became clear that Kazakhstan had managed to create the required consensus to hold a Summit. The Chairperson announced the news to journalists at the concluding press conference: "The forthcoming summit of OSCE leaders will be held after 11 years and will become a new and very important milestone in the life of our Organization. We are convinced it will give an important impetus for strengthening security and developing co-operation."

The idea of development of a single and indivisible area of security, free of dividing lines and zones with different security levels — a Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian Security Community, elaborated during the Corfu Process — found wide support among participants and laid the foundation for Summit discussions.

Achieving consensus among all OSCE participating States was just a start. Preparations had to begin immediately. On 29 July, the Permanent Council formalized the Summit plans by adopting PC.DEC/951, on the "Agenda, organizational framework, timetable and other modalities of the OSCE Summit in Astana on 1 and 2 December 2010". With the Summit just a few months away and little time to spare, the Chairmanship quickly launched plans for a Review Conference, to be held as required by the



Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community

1. We, the Heads of State or Government of the 56 participating States of the OSCE, have assembled in Astana, eleven years after the last OSCE Summit in Istanbul, to recommit ourselves to the vision of a free, democratic, common and indivisible Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community stretching from Vancouver to Vladivostok, rooted in agreed principles, shared commitments and common goals. As we mark the 35th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act and the 20th anniversary of the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, we reaffirm the relevance of, and our commitment to, the principles on which this Organization is based. While we have made much progress, we also acknowledge that more must be done to ensure full respect for, and implementation of, these core principles and commitments that we have undertaken in the politico-military dimension, the economic and environmental dimension, and the human dimension, notably in the areas of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

2. We reaffirm our full adherence to the Charter of the United Nations and to all OSCE norms, principles and commitments, starting from the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of Paris, the Charter for European Security and all other OSCE documents to which we have agreed, and our responsibility to implement them fully and in good faith. We reiterate our commitment to the concept, initiated in the Final Act, of comprehensive, co-operative, equal and indivisible security, which relates the maintenance of peace to the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and links economic and environmental co-operation with peaceful inter-State relations.

3. The security of each participating State is inseparably linked to that of all others. Each participating State has an equal right to security. We reaffirm the inherent right of each and every participating State to be free to choose or change its security arrangements, including treaties of alliance, as they evolve. Each State also has the right to neutrality. Each participating State will respect the rights of all others in these regards. They will not strengthen their security at the expense of the security of other States. Within the OSCE no State, group of States or organization can have any pre-eminent responsibility for maintaining peace and stability in the OSCE area or can consider any part of the OSCE area as its sphere of influence. We will maintain only those military capabilities that are commensurate with our legitimate individual or collective security needs, taking into account obligations under international law, as well as the legitimate security concerns of other States. We further reaffirm that all OSCE principles and commitments, without exception, apply equally to each participating State, and we emphasize that we are accountable to our citizens and responsible to each other for their full implementation. We regard these commitments as our common achievement, and therefore consider them to be matters of immediate and legitimate concern to all participating States.

4. These norms, principles and commitments have enabled us to make progress in putting old confrontations behind us and in moving us closer to democracy, peace and unity throughout the OSCE area. They must continue to guide us in the 21st century as we work together to make the ambitious vision of Helsinki and Paris a reality for all our peoples. These and all other OSCE documents establish clear standards for the participating States in their treatment of each other and of all individuals within their territories. Resolved to build further upon this strong foundation, we reaffirm our commitment to strengthen security, trust and good-neighbourly relations among our States and peoples. In this respect we are convinced that the role of the OSCE remains crucial, and should be further enhanced. We will

further work towards strengthening the OSCE's effectiveness and efficiency.

5. We recognize that the OSCE, as the most inclusive and comprehensive regional security organization in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian area, continues to provide a unique forum, operating on the basis of consensus and the sovereign equality of States, for promoting open dialogue, preventing and settling conflicts, building mutual understanding and fostering co-operation. We stress the importance of the work carried out by the OSCE Secretariat, High Commissioner on National Minorities, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and Representative on Freedom of the Media, as well as the OSCE field operations, in accordance with their respective mandates, in assisting participating States with implementing their OSCE commitments. We are determined to intensify co-operation with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, and encourage its efforts to promote security, democracy and prosperity throughout the OSCE area and within participating States and to increase confidence among participating States. We also acknowledge the Organization's significant role in establishing effective confidence- and security-building measures. We reaffirm our commitment to their full implementation and our determination to ensure that they continue to make a substantial contribution to our common and indivisible security.

6. The OSCE's comprehensive and co-operative approach to security, which addresses the human, economic and environmental, political and military dimensions of security as an integral whole, remains indispensable. Convinced that the inherent dignity of the individual is at the core of comprehensive security, we reiterate that human rights and fundamental freedoms are inalienable, and that their protection and promotion is our first responsibility. We reaffirm categorically and irrevocably that the commitments undertaken in the field of the human dimension are matters of direct and legitimate concern to all participating States and do not belong exclusively to the internal affairs of the State concerned. We value the important role played by civil society and free media in helping us to ensure full respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms, democracy, including free and fair elections, and the rule of law.

7. Serious threats and challenges remain. Mistrust and divergent security perceptions must be overcome. Our commitments in the politico-military, economic and environmental, and human dimensions need to be fully implemented. Respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law must be safeguarded and strengthened. Greater efforts must be made to promote freedom of religion or belief and to combat intolerance and discrimination. Mutually beneficial co-operation aimed at addressing the impact on our region's security of economic and environmental challenges must be further developed. Our energy security dialogue, including on agreed principles of our co-operation, must be enhanced. Increased efforts should be made to resolve existing conflicts in the OSCE area in a peaceful and negotiated manner, within agreed formats, fully respecting the norms and principles of international law enshrined in the United Nations Charter, as well as the Helsinki Final Act. New crises must be prevented. We pledge to refrain from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations or with the ten Principles of the Helsinki Final Act.

8. Conventional arms control and confidence- and security-building regimes remain major instruments for ensuring military stability, predictability and transparency, and should be revitalized, updated and modernized. We value the work of the Forum for Security



Flags with the logos of the OSCE and the 2010 Kazakhstan Chairmanship, which hosted the High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination in Astana on 28 June 2010. (OSCE/Velimir Alic)

The Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community also includes Interpretive Statements by:

Belgium (on behalf of the European Union)
Canada
Moldova
Romania
Czech Republic

A full text of the Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community that includes the Interpretive Statements is available at: www.osce.org/mc/73962.

Participants in discussion at the OSCE Review Conference in Astana on 26 November 2010. (OSCE/Vladimir Trofimchuk)



Below: The plenary room during the first session of the OSCE Review Conference in Astana on 26 November 2010. (OSCE/Vladimir Trofimchuk)



1992 Helsinki Document and the 1994 Budapest Document, which mandate the OSCE to hold a Review Conference before meetings of OSCE Heads of State and Government to “review the entire range of activities within the CSCE [now OSCE], including a thorough implementation debate, and consider further steps to strengthen the CSCE process.”

The three-part Review Conference was held over 17 days: the first session (Warsaw, 30 September-8 October) focused on the human dimension of security. The second (Vienna, 18-26 October) was dedicated to commitments in the politico-military dimension, such as promoting transparency and co-operation, and in the economic-environmental dimension, such as promoting sound economic and environmental governance, as well as a review of the OSCE’s structures and activities. The third meeting (Astana, 26-28 November) again put the spotlight on the human dimension.

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) actively participated in the debates throughout the Review Conference. In addition, on the afternoon of 26 November, prior to the start of the Astana segment, the

Chairmanship hosted a Civil Society Forum. More than 500 NGOs attended the Forum. Konstantin Zhigalov, Kazakhstan’s Deputy Foreign Minister and Special Envoy of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, said the active participation of civil society organizations brought “great value”, to the meeting, while OSCE Secretary General Ambassador Marc Perrin de Brichambaut expressed gratitude to civil society groups, saying their participation “helps keep States vigilant about their commitments to other States and to their own citizens.”

■ Astana Summit

Flags and posters with the OSCE Chairmanship logo were on every corner in the capital city of Astana as officials began arriving ahead of the Summit. Almost 40 Heads of State or Government, more than a dozen government ministers and numerous other top officials from OSCE participating States, international and regional organizations took part in the Summit, the OSCE’s first since 1999.

Opening the Summit on 1 December at the Palace of Independence, President Nazarbayev outlined the importance of the

occasion in his welcome address: “The Astana Summit revives a tradition interrupted since the Istanbul Summit 11 years ago of holding meetings at the highest level. This is also a sign of the renaissance of the Organization. We are seeing the start today in Astana of a Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian community of common and indivisible security.

“This Summit is taking place for the first time in a new country that gained its independence to a large extent thanks to the provisions and principles contained in the Helsinki Final Act. I am talking about the right of States and nations to freely choose their development path, and about sovereignty and territorial integrity. We are creating democracy in a part of the world where it has never been before. [...]

Eurasian security is not a metaphor but a real geopolitical fact. The Summit in Astana therefore offers a good opportunity to analyse the OSCE’s perspectives for global security. In our opinion the main task facing the OSCE in the next decades is to systematically settle conflicts and foster confidence and integration, particularly within the framework of existing inter-State bodies.”

Long before presidents and other top

Heads of State and Government listen to proceedings during the first day of the OSCE Summit in Astana on 1 December 2010. (OSCE/Vladimir Trofimchuk)



officials, including UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, delivered their speeches in the plenary hall, other diplomats had begun meeting in a nearby room to continue negotiations about the content of a Summit declaration. These talks, which had started in Vienna, continued late into the night and grew in intensity as time passed. Even after the speeches in the plenary hall ended in the late afternoon of 2 December, the negotiators were still working hard, persistently trying to find a way to formulate a declaration that would reach consensus. Finally, just before midnight on 2 December, the diplomats agreed on a draft that was forwarded to the Summit, which adopted The Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community (see page 14). The final press conference with President Nazarbayev, which had been scheduled to begin at 12:30 p.m., started only after midnight. Hundreds of journalists attended.

That press conference, like most press conferences at the Summit, was held in the press centre, located in the University of Arts, a short walk from the Palace of Independence. Almost 1,000 journalists covered the Summit from the press centre, watching

proceedings from the plenary on closed-circuit television, participating in numerous press conferences and interviewing diplomats and OSCE officials. A special website in all six OSCE official languages kept journalists and others informed about the latest developments.

Top officials also used the Summit as an opportunity to meet bilaterally or in smaller constellations, concurrently with plenary speeches and declaration negotiations. The Heads of Delegation of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries — Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, French Prime Minister François Fillon, United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton — and Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev as well as Armenian President Serge Sargsyan agreed on a statement that the time had come for more decisive efforts to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. They further agreed that a peaceful, negotiated settlement would bring stability and security and is the only way to bring real reconciliation to the peoples of the region.

■ Crisis in Kyrgyzstan

Regardless of priorities, strategies and work plans, all OSCE Chairmanships must be

prepared to react to whatever events unfold on the regional and global stage. In 2010, the crisis in Kyrgyzstan demanded much attention and action from the OSCE and its Chairmanship.

Demonstrations began on the evening of 6 April in the north-western city of Talas. The following day, the demonstrations spread across Kyrgyzstan. By the end of 7 April, President Kurmanbek Bakiyev had fled the capital, a new interim “government of national confidence” led by Roza Otunbayeva had been established, and significant violence and looting had taken place in Bishkek and in other provinces.

The OSCE Chairperson-in-Office expressed deep concern about the unrest in a phone conversation with Kyrgyzstan’s Foreign Minister Kadyrbek Sarbayev. On 8 April, the Chairperson-in-Office dispatched his Special Envoy, Zhanybek Karibzhanov, to Kyrgyzstan to support efforts to stabilize the situation. He also expressed condolences over the loss of life.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who was making a planned visit to the OSCE Permanent Council on 8 April, used his speech to express concern about the situation. Ban

Voters at a polling station in Bishkek during Kyrgyzstan's constitutional referendum on 27 June 2010. (OSCE/Alimjan Jorobaev)



Below left: Kyrgyzstan's Interim Deputy Foreign Minister Roza Otunbayeva in discussion with Zhanybek Karibzhanov, Special Envoy of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office in Bishkek on 9 April 2010. (OSCE/Malik Alymkulov)

Below right: Ambassador Kairat Abdrakhmanov, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon at the OSCE Permanent Council meeting on 8 April 2010. (OSCE/Susanna Lööf)



Ki-Moon and Kanat Saudabayev agreed that co-operation was needed. In Kyrgyzstan, Karibzhanov worked with UN Special Envoy Jan Kubiš (later Miroslav Jenča) and the EU Special Representative for Central Asia, Pierre Morel. The Envoys visited Kyrgyzstan four times together — 8-15 April, 13-16 June, 13-15 September and 21-23 November.

During his first visit, on the evening of 9 April, Karibzhanov met with Roza Otunbayeva, then the leader of the interim administration. He offered the OSCE's support for measures to restore stability, and he called for dialogue between the parties. "Every conflict situation has two sides, and unless these sides make steps towards each other, no third party can successfully resolve it," he told journalists after the meeting. He met again with Otunbayeva on 15 April, reiterating the need to restore the rule of law, establish order and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as co-operate closely with the international community.

Later that same day, the Chairperson-in-Office announced that efforts by Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev, United States President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, as well as active mediation by the OSCE, the UN and the EU, had led to an agreement with the

interim government and President Bakiyev on his departure from the country. "This development is an important step towards the stabilization of the situation, a return to a framework providing for the rule of law, and the prevention of a civil war in Kyrgyzstan," Saudabayev said in a statement.

Less than a week later — on 20 April — the Chairperson-in-Office was in Bishkek, reiterating the OSCE's readiness to further support efforts to restore public order and the rule of law in the country in a meeting with Otunbayeva. Concurrently, the OSCE Centre in Bishkek was strengthened and worked to assist Kyrgyzstan in its efforts to return to stability, security and the rule of law through emergency assistance activities. The Centre monitored the situation, maintained contact with interlocutors in Kyrgyzstan and reported to the Chairmanship and OSCE participating States.

But the situation, particularly in the south of the country, remained tense. Between 10 and 14 June, deadly inter-ethnic violence raged in the Osh and Jalal Abad provinces. More than 400 people were killed. This new crisis resulted in a second visit by the OSCE envoy and his counterparts.

On 15 June, the Permanent Council adopted a Statement on the Situation in Kyrgyzstan (PC.DOC/1/10), which expressed

deep concern about the recent developments in the southern regions of Kyrgyzstan. The Statement also offered assistance to Kyrgyzstan upon request in resolving the situation and in promoting post-conflict rehabilitation. Kyrgyzstan had made such a request, and after discussions about how the OSCE could best help, the Permanent Council on 22 July adopted a Decision that authorized the deployment of an OSCE Police Advisory Group (PAG) to Kyrgyzstan (PC.DEC/947). The group, comprising unarmed international police officers and local community mediators under the leadership of Swiss diplomat Markus Mueller, would assist the country's efforts to reduce inter-ethnic tensions, restore public order and strengthen the capacities of the territorial units of the Interior Ministry. The head of the PAG and an advance team led by Ambassador Mueller were deployed to Bishkek at the end of August. The deputy head and most of the team leaders arrived in December as part of the Community Security Initiative (CSI, see below).

A constitutional referendum was held on 27 June 2010, in a relatively peaceful, transparent and successful manner. The result supported the constitutional amendments favouring a parliamentary system and Otunbayeva remaining as interim president. The

ODIHR Director Janez Lenarčič and Ambassador Boris Frlec, head of the ODIHR observation mission, speak with an election official at a polling station in Mayeva, near Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, during the constitutional referendum on 27 June 2010. (OSCE/Jens Eschenbaecher)

Ambassador Bolat Nurgaliyev, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson for Protracted Conflicts, at a news conference in Geneva on 27 July 2010. (OSCE/Frane Maroevic)



OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) sent a Limited Referendum Observation Mission. It did not deploy short-term observers due to the security situation.

However, the situation in Kyrgyzstan remained in flux. Following extensive consultations between OSCE police experts and the government of Kyrgyzstan, the Permanent Council on 18 November adopted a Decision (PC.DEC/961) that adapted the support to Kyrgyzstan's police, taking into account the changed circumstances and implementing the PAG on the basis of the Concept for Community Security Initiative (CSI). The new Decision provided for a longer-term approach to police reform in Kyrgyzstan under the CSI, a project that comprises support for one year with up to 31 international staff, supported by 27 locally recruited staff, working mainly in three provinces of Kyrgyzstan. The CSI would facilitate confidence-building between the police and local communities and, when appropriate, together with local NGOs mediate to facilitate, enhance and encourage dialogue and co-operation between the police and the population, and between the different ethnic communities.

Parliamentary elections were held on 10 October 2010. Representatives from ODIHR and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

(PA) observed the elections. ODIHR noted that the campaign was relatively calm and free and fair. Due to legal challenges, the results were not formally announced until 1 November and Parliament only was seated on 10 November. Five parties entered Parliament. In descending order they were: Ata Jurt, SDPK, Ar Namys, Respublika and Ata Meken.

A coalition government was established between Ata Jurt, Respublika and the SDPK on 17 December.

■ Protracted conflicts

The Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community, adopted by the 56 OSCE participating States at the Astana Summit, states that "Increased efforts should be made to resolve existing conflicts in the OSCE area in a peaceful and negotiated manner, within agreed formats, fully respecting the norms and principles of international law enshrined in the United Nations Charter, as well as the Helsinki Final Act. New crises must be prevented. We pledge to refrain from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations or with the ten Principles of the Helsinki Final Act."

Geneva Discussions. The OSCE continued its work for the benefit of all through multiple platforms, including the Geneva Discussions, which started in October 2008. Throughout the year the Chairmanship worked closely with the UN and the EU, co-chairing the Geneva Discussions, involving participants from Georgia, Russia and the United States as well as from Tskhinvali and Sukhumi. The Discussions take place in two parallel working groups, one dealing with security and stability and the other with humanitarian questions, including internally displaced persons and refugees.

Ambassador Bolat Nurgaliyev, the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson for Protracted Conflicts, together with Ambassador Pierre Morel, the EU Special Representative for Central Asia, and Ambassador Antti Turunen, the UN Representative, co-chaired six rounds of the Geneva Discussions in 2010: 28 January, 30 March, 8 June, 27 July, 14 October and 15 December. Prior to each round the Co-Chairs travelled together, holding preparatory consultations in Tbilisi, Tskhinvali and Sukhumi.

The Co-Chairs noted that during 2010 progress has been made. On 23 November, the President of Georgia Mikheil Saakashvili made a unilateral commitment on non-use of force, formalized in official letters to the

A session on arms control and confidence- and security-building measures during the OSCE Review Conference in Vienna on 21 October 2010. (OSCE/Susanna Lööf)

Passenger trains on the Chisinau-Tiraspol-Odessa railway resumed operation in October 2010 after a four-year hiatus. (OSCE/Igor Schimbator)



UN, OSCE, EU, NATO and the President of the United States. This was succeeded by statements from Sukhumi and Tskhinvali. The participants at the last Geneva round on 16 December considered this as a major step forward.

One of the early results of the Geneva Discussions, in February 2009, was the creation of two Incident Prevention and Response Mechanisms (IPRMs) to discuss, among other issues: identification of potential risks, follow-up on incidents and exchange of information, as well as problems affecting the communities on a daily basis. While the Gali IPRM has functioned since its inception, regrettably regular meetings of the Dvani/Ergneti mechanism broke down in October 2009. Following talks and frequent appeals, including by the OSCE Chairperson, the meetings resumed on 28 October 2010. The Chairperson welcomed the resumption and underscored the importance of the Dvani/Ergneti IPRM. Proper functioning of both mechanisms will help increase the level of trust and expand the opportunities for resolving security and humanitarian questions within the framework of the Geneva Discussions.

To improve the quality of life for the affected people, significant steps have been taken to resolve the supply of gas and water to the communities. In late 2010, the OSCE negotiated an agreement

on the implementation of a package of water projects.

Moldova. During the year, there were some positive dynamics in the Transdniestrian settlement process: five informal “5+2” meetings focusing on freedom of movement and guarantee mechanisms were held, and the two political representatives (Moldovan Deputy Prime Minister Victor Osipov and his Transdniestrian counterpart Vladimir Yastrebchak) met on a regular basis, to resolve problems that affect the daily lives of people on both banks of the Dniester/Nistru River and that erode confidence between the sides.

The “football diplomacy” led to two meetings between Moldovan Prime Minister Vlad Filat and Transdniestrian leader Igor Smirnov, which were instrumental in advancing concrete issues such as the reopening of the Chisinau-Tiraspol-Odessa railway service in October 2010. The work of the joint expert groups on confidence-building measures (CBMs), which held 17 meetings in 2010, also helped boost confidence between the two sides.

In addition to the five informal “5+2” meetings, a “3+2” (mediators and observers) visit to Moldova took place in September, during which the “3+2” discussed CBMs with the heads of the joint expert groups. In November, the OSCE Mission to Moldova

organized a two-day Review Conference in Garmisch-Partenkirchen in southern Germany, aimed at assessing progress made by the joint expert groups.

Examples of concrete progress are the resumption of rail passenger traffic on the Chisinau-Tiraspol-Odessa route, extension of a 2006 mechanism to allow Moldovan farmers access to their land on the Transdniestrian-controlled side, conclusion of an agreement on simplified regulations for the export of goods from Transdniestria by railway, and the beginning of expert negotiations on the reconnection of fixed-line telecommunications between the sides.

Upon taking office, the Chairmanship engaged immediately, with the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson for Protracted Conflicts visiting Moldova on 3 February. During the visit, the Special Representative met with the acting president of the Republic of Moldova Mihai Ghimpu, Prime Minister Filat, Deputy Prime Minister Osipov, the Moldovan chief negotiator for Transdniestrian conflict resolution and with the leaders of the parliamentary groups, including the opposition. In Tiraspol the Special Representative met Transdniestrian leader Igor Smirnov, Speaker of the Supreme Soviet Anatol Kaminski and chief negotiator Vladimir Yastrebchak.

On 1 April, the Chairperson travelled to Moldova to meet with the Moldovan

The Heads of Delegation of the Minsk Group Co-Chair countries met on the margins of the OSCE Informal Ministerial Meeting in Almaty on 17 July 2010. (OSCE/ Frane Maroevic)



Government in Chisinau and the Transdnestrian leadership in Tiraspol. He urged the sides to continue their dialogue and work towards renewing official talks on a comprehensive political solution to the Transdnestrian conflict. The Chairperson praised the constructive role played by the OSCE Mission to Moldova in the Transdnestrian settlement process and emphasized that the OSCE, through the Mission and its Institutions, including the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, remained an important resource at the disposal of the country to support its democratic development.

The conflict dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference. In February the OSCE Chairperson visited Azerbaijan and Armenia, where he reiterated the Organization's readiness to give new impetus to the settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and support the mediation process. He offered his unconditional support for the efforts undertaken within the Minsk Group framework to channel the negotiations into constructive dialogue. Following a fatal incident that took place during the night of 18-19 June at the Line of Contact in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone, the Chairperson expressed serious concern and called for measures to

High-Level Planning Group

The Group, in accordance with its mandate, supported the Chairmanship by preparing for the establishment and deployment of a multinational OSCE peacekeeping operation in the area of conflict dealt with by the Minsk Conference. The Group provided advice to the Chairmanship on several military aspects of a possible OSCE-led peacekeeping mission to the area and continued to review the four existing peacekeeping options and related supporting documents.

The Group also provided assessments to the Chairmanship and the Secretariat on the key challenges involved in the planning, establishment and deployment of an OSCE-led peacekeeping mission to the area of conflict.

Office of the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference

Throughout 2010, the Personal Representative, Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk, continued to support the Chairperson and the Minsk Group Co-Chairs in their efforts to help negotiate a settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. He remained in close contact with representatives of the sides and kept the Chairperson and Co-Chairs informed of relevant developments.

The Personal Representative supported the Co-Chairs in a series of meetings with the foreign ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan and helped them prepare for meetings of the presidents held in January, June and October and hosted by the President of Russia. The last of these meetings resulted in an agreement to exchange prisoners of war (POWs) and return human remains, and on the need for further efforts to strengthen the cease-fire agreement and confidence-building measures.

The Personal Representative and his team supported the Chairperson's visit to the region in February and seven such visits by the Co-Chairs in the course of the year. In September, he led the Co-Chairs across the Line of Contact (LOC) and, in October, he and his team facilitated their field assessment mission. On more than 20 occasions, they conducted monitoring missions on the LOC and Armenian-Azerbaijani border. Through this activity, and through interventions at the highest military and political levels, the Personal Representative was able to help reduce tensions, including those arising following serious cease-fire violations.

Throughout the year, he maintained contact with representatives of the Minsk Group countries and with several multilateral organizations, working particularly closely with:

- the International Committee of the Red Cross, on issues relating to POWs, civilians and human remains; and
- the United Nations, facilitating the involvement of experts from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the Co-Chairs' field assessment mission.

The Personal Representative also briefed representatives of the OSCE and of the participating States, as well as other individuals and organizations with an interest in resolution of the conflict.

Assuming national ownership: Dayton Article IV Agreement

Fifteen years after the signing of the Dayton Peace Accords, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to show full compliance with the spirit of the Dayton Article IV Agreement (Sub-Regional Arms Control in South-Eastern Europe) and continue to conduct all activities in an atmosphere of trust, friendship, transparency and co-operation.

In 2010, 18 inspections were carried out. In all, 643 missions have been conducted, involving 1,171 international assistants and resulting in the impressive reduction of 9,742 heavy weapons.

The meetings, visits and inspections conducted by the Parties in the course of so many years were important, not only to fulfil the aim of Article IV, namely a balanced and controlled arms situation in the sub-region, but also because they have been an invaluable tool to develop confidence between their political and military representatives. Today's stability in the sub-region is also the result of an arms control agreement that has proved its worth over the last 14 years, producing real outcomes and contributing to the improvement of a military situation to such an extent that it can no longer be compared with conditions in the late 1990s.

Moreover, the Agreement continues to represent a fundamental contribution towards the integration of the countries of the region into the European and/or Euro-Atlantic institutions. In fact, all Parties to the Agreement are moving ahead — although at different speeds — in attaining these important goals.

The year 2010 was intense and challenging, especially with regard to the preparation and conduct of the Seventh Review Conference in Vienna in July. At the meeting the Parties reinforced their political commitment to continue implementation of the Agreement, and a Corresponding Statement of the Contact Group was delivered.

The ownership process was also given a substantial boost in 2010 with the approval of a comprehensive two-phase action plan for the transfer of responsibilities. The first phase of the plan, to be concluded by the end of 2011, will reduce international assistance to a minimum. The second phase, which is planned to be concluded by the end of 2014, involves the preparation of all necessary measures — legal, political, technical and organizational — for the transfer of full autonomy to the Parties. Once the second phase is concluded, the Office of the Personal Representative may be closed. The role of the OSCE will definitely shift from assistance to support.

The ownership process is supported by the OSCE community, the European Union, the Contact Group countries and by the Parties themselves with the recommendation to proceed gradually. This evolution in the direction of full autonomy should not be interpreted as the international community withdrawing its support. On the contrary, the international community will remain engaged as the countries of the region progressively assume political ownership of the process.

prevent similar incidents in future.

On 26 June, on the margins of the G8 Summit in Canada, the presidents of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries, Russia, the United States and France, welcomed as a significant step the recognition by both sides that a lasting settlement must be based upon the Helsinki Principles and the elements that were proposed in connection with their statement at the L'Aquila Summit of the G8 on 10 July 2009.

During the Informal Ministerial Meeting in Almaty on 17 July, the Heads of Delegation of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries, the Foreign Ministers of Russia and France and the Deputy Secretary of State of the United States, met with the Foreign Ministers of Azerbaijan and Armenia. The Heads of Delegation of Russia, France and the United States stressed that the efforts made by the parties to the conflict thus far had not been sufficient to overcome their differences.

At the OSCE Summit in Astana on 1-2 December, the Heads of Delegation of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries, the President of Russia, the Prime Minister of France, the Secretary of State of the United States, and the Presidents of Azerbaijan and Armenia agreed that the time had come for more decisive efforts to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The Presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan reaffirmed their commitment to

seek a final settlement of the conflict, based upon the principles and norms of international law, the United Nations Charter, the Helsinki Final Act, as well as the statements of the Presidents of Russia, France and the United States in 2009 and 2010.

■ Chairmanship work across the dimensions

The Annual Security Review Conference, in Vienna (14-16 June), addressed a range of first-dimension challenges, including work to update the Vienna Document 1999, a key confidence- and security-building measure requiring participating States to share information on armed forces and military activities. The conference's working sessions focused on transnational threats and challenges; the role of the OSCE in early warning, conflict prevention and resolution, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation; the role and perspectives of arms control and confidence- and security-building regimes in building trust in the evolving security environment; threats and challenges stemming from the territory of Afghanistan and the OSCE's contribution to stability in the region; and a review of OSCE police-related activities. With the agreement of the 56 participating States, the Conference was extended by one day to accommodate additional sessions on Afghanistan and police-related issues.

The Chairmanship, with support of the Secretariat's Strategic Police Matters Unit and in partnership with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), organized a Conference on Combating the Threat of Illicit Drugs and Strengthening Control of Precursor Chemicals (8-10 July). Approximately 120 participants from 53 OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation as well as eight international organizations took part in the Conference, which was aimed at enhancing the OSCE's role and assistance to participating States in combating illicit trafficking in drugs and psychotropic substances, one of the most profitable and dangerous forms of transnational organized crime. The conference promoted information exchange on the production and trafficking of illicit drugs and co-ordination of anti-drug activities among key international and regional institutions. Participants also discussed the implementation of relevant OSCE commitments and how to improve international co-operation in the fight against illicit drugs and chemical precursors.

On 14-15 October, the Chairmanship, with the assistance of the Secretariat's Action against Terrorism Unit (ATU), organized an Expert Conference on Successful Strategies, Effective Policies and Best Practices to Prevent Terrorism. The Conference in Astana was attended by approximately

Mevlut Cavusoglu, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe; Knut Vollebaek, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities; and Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, at the High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination in Astana on 29 June 2010. (OSCE/Velimir Alic)

Members of the panel at the Second Preparatory Conference for the 18th Economic and Environmental Forum, in Minsk on 15 March 2010. (OSCE/Vitaly Golovenko)



140 participants from 39 OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation, as well as 13 international organizations and academia. The Conference took place pursuant to OSCE MC.DEC/03/09 on Further Measures to Support and Promote the International Legal Framework against Terrorism. Sessions focused on strategies and policies to prevent and combat terrorism as a transnational threat; the implementation of the international legal framework related to terrorism; the role of national capacity and institution-building; public-private partnerships (PPPs) and the role of regional organizations; and the identification and sharing of effective policies and good practices to counter violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism. The event resulted in a Chairmanship Declaration, with a set of recommendations (CIO.GAL/174/10).

In the second dimension of security, the 18th Economic and Environmental Forum process — which included preparatory conferences in Astana (12-13 October 2009) and Minsk (15-16 March) and meetings in Vienna (1-2 February) and Prague (24-26 May) — focused on promoting good governance at border crossings, improving the security of land transportation and facilitating international road and rail transport in the OSCE region. High-level representatives from the governments of OSCE participating States, international organizations, civil

society, academia and the private sector addressed topics including international legal instruments and new technologies for efficient border crossing and customs procedures, good governance and anti-corruption, the transit needs of landlocked developing countries, public-private partnerships in road transport and best practices in combating illegal trafficking and ensuring the security of inland transport, with the aim of enhancing cross-border partnership and facilitating economic development and security in the OSCE region.

The OSCE's role in promoting energy security co-operation — as the only regional security organization bringing together key energy producers, consumers and transit countries in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian area — was the focus of an OSCE Special Expert Meeting on “Assessing the OSCE's Future Contribution to International Energy Security Co-operation”, in Vilnius (13-14 September). Organized by the Chairmanship in co-operation with the incoming 2011 Lithuanian Chairmanship and the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, the meeting recommendations were presented in a report by the Secretary General ahead of the Astana Summit.

The continued relevance of OSCE commitments in the third dimension was underscored at a conference in Copenhagen (10-11

June) marking the 20th anniversary of the Copenhagen Document, a key reference document that outlines commitments in the field of elections, rule of law and other fundamental rights and freedoms. Five working sessions examined the participating States' compliance with Copenhagen commitments in the areas of elections and human rights, rule of law, national minorities and freedom of movement, as well as measures to improve implementation.

The discussions in Copenhagen were followed by a High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination in Astana (29-30 June). As a country with 136 ethnic groups and 46 confessions, Kazakhstan has played an important role in promoting tolerance, non-discrimination and inter-cultural dialogue in the international arena. The conference brought together more than 600 participants, including government officials, politicians, public figures and civil society representatives, with the goal of advancing implementation of OSCE commitments in these areas. A preparatory meeting for NGO representatives was held on 28 June.

■ Work with Partners for Co-operation

The Chairmanship made substantial efforts to further develop close co-operation between the OSCE and other international, regional and sub-regional organizations and

Goran Svilanović, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities; Abalgazy Kusainov, Kazakhstan's Minister of Transport; and OSCE Secretary General Marc Perrin de Brichambaut at the OSCE 18th Economic and Environmental Forum, in Prague on 24 May 2010. (OSCE/Lubomir Kotek)



The Chairmanship launched the OSCE Talks seminar and publication in 2010.



institutions, on the basis of the 1999 Platform for Co-operative Security. A detailed overview of OSCE interaction with other organizations and Partner States in 2010 can be found in the chapter on Partnerships for Security and Co-operation, which begins on page 101.

Work with the OSCE's Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation also gained new significance. A Chairmanship-supported workshop in Partner country Thailand (24-28 January) highlighted the unique advantages the OSCE's model of co-operation can bring to efforts to address transnational threats such as drug trafficking. The hands-on workshop, held in Thailand's Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai provinces, brought together officials from OSCE and Partner countries, including Afghanistan, to study Thailand's strategies for combating illicit crop cultivation and managing border security. Another Chairmanship workshop, in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia (9-10 February), focused on combating trafficking in human beings at the national, regional and international levels. This expert workshop aimed to promote deeper understanding of the existing problems and encourage the exchange of information and best practices.

The 2010 OSCE Mediterranean Conference, which took place in Valletta, Malta (14-15 October), highlighted projects with the OSCE's Mediterranean Partners. Exchanges covered issues related to confidence- and

security-building measures, migration management, environmental threats and tolerance and discrimination, including the role of civil society in fostering peace and security.

In November, the Chairmanship organized a counter-narcotics training course for Afghan police officers. The project was developed in response to MC.DEC/0004/07, on enhancing engagement with Afghanistan, an OSCE Partner for Co-operation. Ten Afghan police officers were trained by instructors from Kazakhstan at the Police Academy in Almaty. Participants in the two-week "train-the-trainers" course learned how to plan and organize drugs search operations and how to employ modern training methods in their work. The programme was developed with the help of experts from the All-Russian Advance Police Academy in Domodedovo, which also provided a refresher course to instructors.

■ Work with civil society and academia

The OSCE security dialogue does not only take place in meeting rooms and between States, but with key partners in civil society. The Chairmanship sought to promote the active participation of civil society in the Summit process. Further recognizing that the participating States would stand to benefit from the insights of academics and experts, the Chairmanship also launched

the first OSCE Talks seminar and publication. The one-day seminar brought experts on Central Asia to the OSCE Academy in Bishkek in November, where they engaged with students and discussed challenges facing the region, including developments in Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan. A publication based on the seminar was distributed at the Astana Summit.

The Summit and the Astana Commemorative Declaration did not signify the end of Kazakhstan's efforts to enrich the work of the OSCE: the first Vienna Experts Roundtable, bringing together leading experts from think tanks and academia with OSCE delegations and officials, was convened in Vienna on 13 December to assess the outcomes of the Summit and discuss the way forward.

■ Looking ahead

As 2010 drew to a close, the participating States agreed on Ukraine's chairmanship in 2013, following Lithuania (2011) and Ireland (2012). At the end of December the Chairmanship was also able to secure timely agreement on the Organization's 2011 budget, a concrete signal of the participating States' willingness to put their renewed commitment to strengthen the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of the Organization into action.

Permanent Council



The Permanent Council of the OSCE, which convenes weekly at the Hofburg in Vienna, is a regular body for political consultation and decision-making. In 2010, Ambassador Kairat Abdrakhmanov of Kazakhstan presided over the Permanent Council, which met 56 times and welcomed 42 guest speakers. On 8 April, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon addressed the Permanent Council, the first address by a UN Secretary General to the Permanent Council in 11 years.

In his opening address to the Permanent Council on 14 January, Chairperson Kanat Saudabayev outlined a road map for work in the three dimensions, prioritizing concerns such as terrorism and other transnational threats, protracted conflicts, Afghanistan, environmental and energy security, rule of law and tolerance.

With the guidance of the Chairmanship, the three committees spearheaded these efforts. The Security

Committee worked under the direction of Ambassador Heiner Horsten, Permanent Representative of Germany; the Economic and Environmental Committee was led by Ambassador Alyaksandr Sychoy, Permanent Representative of Belarus; and the Human Dimension Committee was chaired by Ambassador Ana Martinho, Permanent Representative of Portugal. These committees, as well as the Special and Personal Representatives of the Chairperson-in-Office, Heads of Institutions, field operations and other working groups, helped to inform the debates, conclusions and decisions reached by the Permanent Council in 2010.

It was an intense year for the Permanent Council, which adopted 53 decisions, including:

- recommending the appointment of a new Representative on Freedom of the Media;
- recommending the extension of the mandate of the High Commissioner on National Minorities;
- deploying a Police Advisory Group to support Kyrgyzstan's efforts to calm inter-ethnic tension and restore public order;
- strengthening the OSCE Centre in Bishkek;
- laying the groundwork for the OSCE Summit in Astana;
- implementing the Police Advisory Group on the basis of the Community Security Initiative in Kyrgyzstan to improve police-public relations and enhance inter-ethnic dialogue;

Above left, from left: Co-chairs of the Minsk Group, Ambassadors Bernard Fassier of France, Robert Bradtke of the United States and Igor Popov of the Russian Federation, in discussion before presenting their report to the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna on 11 November 2010. (OSCE/Sarah Crozier)

Above right: Secretary General of the Council of Europe Thorbjorn Jagland (*right*) addresses the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna on 1 July 2010. (OSCE/Sarah Crozier)

- recommending adoption of a decision on the 2013 OSCE Chairmanship (Ukraine); and
- approving the Unified Budget, on time for the second consecutive year.

In addition to regular meetings, there were five Joint meetings of the Permanent Council and the Forum for Security Co-operation in 2010 (10 March, 15 April, 1 June, 2 June and 5 July), focusing on conflict prevention

and crisis management, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, cyber security and the Interim Report on the Corfu Process.

Guest speakers at the Permanent Council in 2010

14 January: (Special PC) President of Kazakhstan **Nursultan Nazarbayev** (video address); Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE, Secretary of State and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan **Kanat Saudabayev**

19 January: (Special PC) Minister for Foreign Affairs and Co-operation of Spain **Miguel Ángel Moratinos Cuyaubé**

19 March: (Special PC) Vice-Prime Minister and State Minister for Reintegration of Georgia **Temuri Yakobashvili**

8 April: (Special PC) UN Secretary-General **Ban Ki-moon**

15 April: (Joint meeting with the Forum for Security Co-operation) Secretary General of the Collective Security Treaty Organization **Nikolay Bordyuzha**

6 May: Organization of the Islamic Conference Secretary General **Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu**

20 May: Minister of State for European Affairs of France **Pierre Lellouche**; Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia **Miroslav Jenca**

27 May: Diplomat-in-Residence at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy and former head of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Conflict in Georgia Ambassador **Heidi Tagliavini**

1 June: (Joint meeting with the Forum for Security Co-operation) Assistant Secretary of State for Verification, Compliance and Implementation, United States Department of State **Rose Gottemoeller**; Director of the Department of Security and Disarmament Affairs, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation **Anatoly Antonov**

2 June: (Joint meeting with the Forum for Security Co-operation) Special Advisor, Office of Cyber Affairs, US Department of State **Deborah Schneider**

10 June: Minister for Foreign Affairs of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia **Antonio Milošoski**

17 June: UN High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations **Jorge Sampaio**

21 June: (Special PC) Minister for Foreign Affairs of Serbia **Vuk Jeremić**

22 June: (Special PC) Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine **Kostyantyn Gryshchenko**

24 June: Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand **Kasit Piromya**; Deputy Prime Minister of Moldova **Victor Osipov**

25 June: (Special PC) Special Envoy of the Chairperson-in-Office, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan **Konstantin Zhigalov**

1 July: Secretary General of the Council of Europe **Thorbjorn Jagland**. Separately, the Co-Chairs of the Geneva Discussions: **Bolat Nurgaliyev**, Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office; **Antti Turunen**, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Georgia and **Pierre Morel**, EU Special Representative for the Crisis in Georgia

8 July: EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus **Peter Semneby**

22 July: Executive Secretary of the Commonwealth of Independent States **Sergey Lebedev**

29 July: Chairman of the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea **Sagit Ibatullin**

9 September: Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV of Annex 1-B of the Dayton Peace Accords **Brigadier General Costanzo Periotto**

23 September: EU Special Representative for the Republic of Moldova **Kálmán Mizsei**

28 October: Secretary General of the Organization of American States **Jose Miguel Insulza**

4 November: Deputy Minister of the Interior for Kyrgyzstan **Nikolai Soldashenko**. Separately, Personal Representatives of the Chairperson-in-Office on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, also focusing on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians and Members of Other Religions **Mario Mauro**; on Combating Anti-Semitism **Rabbi Andrew Baker**; and on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims **Ambassador Adil Akhmetov**. (Mario Mauro could not attend the PC due to extenuating circumstances and submitted his report in writing.) Separately, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Gender Issues **Wendy Patten**.

11 November: Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine **Pavlo Klimkin**. Separately, Minsk Group Co-Chairs Russian Ambassador **Igor Popov**; French Ambassador **Bernard Fassier** and United States Ambassador **Robert Bradtke** and Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office **Andrej Kasprzyk**

15 November: (Special PC) Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE, Secretary of State and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan **Kanat Saudabayev**

18 November: Director of the Central Asian Regional Informational and Co-ordination Centre **Beksultan Sarsekov**

Forum for Security Co-operation



The three Chairs of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC), Greece, Hungary and Ireland, made best use of the regular security dialogue to highlight topical and significant issues relating to the politico-military security of all participating States. Issues discussed included developments in military doctrine, small arms and light weapons, non-proliferation, regional approaches and United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. The Forum continued its close co-operation with the Permanent Council by organizing joint meetings on matters such as the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, the Collective Security Treaty Organisation, cyber security and the *Interim Report on the Corfu Process*.

The 2010 Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (AIAM) was characterized by renewed engagement, active participation, interesting proposals and genuine willingness for better mutual understanding. The Forum also contributed to the Annual Security Review Conference, with the Chair of the FSC delivering a report at the opening session. Participating States also agreed to hold a high-level military doctrine seminar in 2011 to discuss doctrinal and technological changes and their impacts on defence structures and armed forces.

Above left: Journalists photograph work carried out as part of an OSCE-Ukraine project to safely remove stockpiles of m \acute{e} lange, a highly toxic rocket fuel component, in Tsenzliv, western Ukraine, on 24 June 2010. (OSCE/Alexander Savelyev)

Above right: A member of the Ukrainian military takes a m \acute{e} lange sample at the depot in Radekhiv, in the Ivano-Frankivsk region of Ukraine, before the toxic substance is shipped for disposal, on 17 February 2010. (OSCE/Leonid Kalashnyk)

Very significant progress was made on updating and modernizing the Vienna Document 1999. In FSC.DEC/1/10, the Forum agreed a procedure for regularly updating the Vienna Document, including organizing a meeting in 2011 to reissue an updated version of the Document. In FSC.DEC/7/10, the Forum agreed to pay particular attention to Chapters V and IX, and in FSC.DEC/10/10, the Forum agreed to make its first change to the Document in 11 years. Four more decisions to change parts of the Document were taken before the end of the year, and a large number of additional proposals remain under consideration for further discussion in 2011. In the Astana Commemorative Declaration, Heads of State and Government looked forward to the updating of the Document.

Significant progress was also made in the area of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and on stockpiles of conventional ammunition (SCA), both in terms of the normative aspects as well as practical projects. The Forum adopted the OSCE Plan of Action on SALW, which

Irish Foreign Minister Micheál Martin (*left*) addresses the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation in Vienna on 8 September 2010. (OSCE/Sarah Crozier)



Ambassador Anatoly Antonov, Director of the Department of Security and Disarmament Affairs at the Russian Foreign Ministry, and Rose Gottemoeller, United States Assistant Secretary of State for Verification, Compliance and Implementation, at the Forum for Security Co-operation in Vienna on 1 June 2010. (OSCE/Susanna Löf)



foresees the full implementation of agreed commitments as well as a review of the implementation of principles, norms and measures in order to improve capacity and efficiency over the course of the next two years. A follow-up decision (FSC.DEC/17/10) providing for a one-off information exchange between participating States in the area of arms brokering was adopted by the Forum towards the end of the year.

The Forum also played an active role in preparing the OSCE's input to the Fourth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (BMS4), held in New York in June.

The provision of practical assistance to participating States in ensuring and enhancing safe and secure storage conditions for SALW and SCA, as well as the destruction of surpluses, remained high on the FSC's agenda. Over 7.5 million euros were spent during 2010 on practical projects, ranging from a rocket fuel (*mélange*) elimination project in the Ukraine to a SALW stockpile management project in Belarus. In spite of successes in this area, funding continues to be one of

the challenges the OSCE and the participating States will face in the future.

Work on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security focused mainly on developing a reference guide on the questionnaire, which, it is hoped, will be adopted by the Forum in 2011. A number of participating States sponsored an academic study that provided major input to the draft reference guide.

The OSCE Summit in Astana and the preceding Vienna segment of the Review Conference, devoted to the first dimension, became a major focus for the Forum in the second half of the year. The FSC Chair delivered a comprehensive report on developments in the Forum since the last Summit in Istanbul, while three of the Review Conference sessions focused entirely on areas of FSC work. These sessions provided extremely useful impetus for the work that followed in preparing an FSC input to the Summit.

In the run-up to the Summit, delegations engaged in very intensive discussions to agree an appropriate input that reflected the vital contribution of the FSC. The valuable work of the FSC was noted by Heads of State and Government in the Astana Commemorative Declaration, in which they

also reaffirmed their commitment to the full implementation of the Organization's confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs) and undertook to ensure that these CSBMs continue to make a substantial contribution to security in the OSCE area.

OSCE Parliamentary Assembly



Above left: OSCE Parliamentary Assembly President Petros Efthymiou (*left*) at the opening session of the Fall Meetings in Palermo on 8 October 2010. (OSCEPA/Klas Bergman)

Above right: Plenary voting at the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Annual Session in Oslo on 10 July 2010. (OSCEPA/Nat Parry)

OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Secretary General: **R. Spencer Oliver**, re-elected in 2010

Budget: €2,856,000

www.oscepa.org

Over the past year, the Parliamentary Assembly (PA) continued to provide a vital forum for inter-parliamentary dialogue on topical issues. The crisis in Kyrgyzstan, transnational crime and corruption, the OSCE Eurasian dimension and the situation in Afghanistan have been debated by OSCE Parliamentarians at Assembly meetings in Oslo, Palermo, Almaty and Vienna. The PA led short-term observation missions for ten elections across the OSCE area in 2010.

■ International Secretariat

The OSCE PA Secretariat, with offices in Copenhagen and Vienna, has a multilingual, multinational staff. It manages the affairs and ongoing activities of the Assembly and provides support to the work of the President and the Bureau. For the 18th consecutive year, the PA has operated within its annual budget, continued to build its reserves and received a clean bill of health from outside independent professional auditors.

■ Presidency

Petros Efthymiou of Greece was elected President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly at the Annual Session on 10 July, succeeding João Soares of Portugal, who had served since 2008. In his final address as President, Soares called for reviving the OSCE. “The OSCE’s flexibility has been its strongest asset, but unfortunately, I have noticed an increasing tendency for OSCE activities to get bogged down in bureaucracy and in the cumbersome decision-making process in Vienna,” he said. “I am concerned with the lack of political relevance of the OSCE, which is largely due to the current decision-making processes.”

Upon being elected, Efthymiou called for a stronger role for the Assembly, “both within the OSCE and in relation to our governments and other international organizations”, emphasizing his strong will to promote the OSCE’s principles, commitments and goals. Addressing the Astana Summit on 1 December, he called for more effective and continual review of implementation of OSCE commitments by participating States and greater transparency and accountability in the management of the Organization.

In October, Efthymiou held high-level talks in Vilnius regarding the 2011 Lithuanian OSCE Chairmanship, including discussions with President Dalia Grybauskaitė and Foreign Minister Audronius Ažubalis. He also emphasized the importance of raising the level of political dialogue in the OSCE, including through the appointment of people with high political profiles to senior positions in the Organization.

■ Crisis in Kyrgyzstan

The Assembly has been highly engaged in Kyrgyzstan since the outbreak of unrest in April. Soares appointed Adil Akhmetov, a member of the Kazakhstan delegation to the OSCE PA, as Special Envoy to Kyrgyzstan on 9 April. Ambassador Akhmetov travelled to Bishkek and worked closely with representatives of other international organizations, reporting back to the PA President. He returned to Bishkek on 20 April with the OSCE Chairperson Kanat Saudabayev to further assess the situation and explore ways to overcome the political crisis.

A group of senior OSCE Parliamentarians visited Kyrgyzstan in mid-May, led by Soares. The delegation met with the leader of the then-provisional government, Roza Otunbayeva, and hosted a roundtable discussion in Bishkek that focused on exchanging experiences across the OSCE area in developing political systems and their potential applicability in Kyrgyzstan.

The OSCE PA’s Special Representative for Central Asia, Kimmo Kiljunen, also conducted regular visits to Kyrgyzstan, meeting with a range of political interlocutors across the country. Kiljunen is leading the International Independent Commission for Inquiry into the June events, with a report expected in early 2011.

■ Parliamentary dialogue

19th Annual Session, Oslo, 6-10 July. The PA held its 19th Annual Session under the theme “Rule of Law: Combating Transnational Crime and Corruption”. Hosted by the Norwegian Parliament, the Assembly elected Petros Efthymiou (Greece) as the new President. OSCE PA Secretary General Spencer Oliver was re-elected for a five-year term at the Standing Committee of Heads of National Delegations.

The Assembly adopted the Oslo Declaration, which contained a resolution on the PA’s involvement in the OSCE Corfu Process. This resolution highlighted the importance of a parliamentary dimension in the ongoing dialogue on security issues and again called on OSCE participating States to make better use of the Parliamentary Assembly as a key element in the Organization’s efforts in promoting democracy.

Right: Riccardo Migliori, Vice-President of the Parliamentary Assembly, in discussion with Canan Kalsin, Vice-Chair of the Parliamentary Assembly's General Committee on Political Affairs and Security, at the Winter Meeting in Vienna on 18 February 2010. (OSCEPA/Klas Bergman)



Below left: The Joint Session of the General Committees meeting at the OSCEPA Winter Meeting in Vienna on 19 February 2010. (OSCEPA/Klas Bergman)

Below right: OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Vice-President Pia Christman-Møller addresses the Trans-Asian Parliamentary Forum in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 15 May 2010. (OSCEPA/Klas Bergman)



Fall Meetings, Palermo, 8-11 October. More than 200 OSCE Parliamentarians from 50 OSCE countries participated in the OSCE PA's Ninth Fall Meetings. Taking place at the Sicilian Regional Assembly, the Fall Meetings included a conference on the fight against transnational organized crime and corruption and a Mediterranean Forum. Participants included representatives of the National Anti-Mafia Bureau, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, Transparency International and Interpol. The meeting was also addressed by the OSCE Chairperson Kanat Saudabayev, Lithuanian Interior Minister Raimundas Palaitis and Renato Schifani, President of the Italian Senate.

Trans-Asian Parliamentary Forum, Almaty, 14-16 May. Under the theme "The OSCE Eurasian Dimension", the Second Trans-Asian Parliamentary Forum, organized jointly by the OSCE PA and the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan, included more than 100 Parliamentarians from 35 OSCE participating and Mediterranean Partner States. Parliamentarians from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Qatar also participated in the Forum, which included two special sessions with discussions on Afghanistan and Kyrgyzstan.

Winter Meeting, Vienna, 18-19 February. The Winter Meeting included sessions of the three General Committees and a meeting of the Standing Committee. A highlight of the two-day meeting was a special debate on the situation in Afghanistan. Assembly Vice-President and Head of the Kazakh Delegation Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, and Michel Voisin, who serves as the Assembly's Special Representative on Afghanistan, introduced the debate. The Vice-President noted that the Chairmanship has made stabilizing Afghanistan one of its top priorities, while the Special Representative emphasized the importance of fighting corruption and tackling poverty.

■ Oversight and accountability

One of the Assembly's most important tasks is to promote transparency and accountability within the OSCE, and to this end, President João Soares extended the mandate of the PA's Ad Hoc Committee on Transparency and Accountability in the OSCE in April 2010. In a note to Committee members, Soares emphasized that it is time to reinvigorate the work of the Committee in order to ensure "better oversight of the expenditure of taxpayers' money within this Organization, to ensure that it remains as

effective as possible and has the support of our public."

Johannes Koskinen, of Finland, chairs the Committee, which met three times in 2010. Meeting in Vienna in September, Committee members discussed the PA's involvement in the Corfu Process with the Chairperson of the Permanent Council, the ten ambassadorial Co-ordinators of the Corfu Process and the OSCE Secretary General. In Palermo, the Committee agreed to forward a series of previous OSCE PA recommendations as input to the Corfu Process to parliaments and governments. These recommendations were also sent to the Chairmanship.

The PA also appointed a new Special Representative on Gender Issues, a post established in 2003 to promote gender equality in OSCE field operations and Institutions, including the Parliamentary Assembly itself. Hedy Fry, of the Canadian Parliament, was appointed in October. She succeeds Tone Tingsgaard, who had retired from the Swedish Parliament. Tingsgaard presented her final report at the Annual Session in Oslo. While welcoming the appointment of a woman — Dunja Mijatović — as the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Tingsgaard noted that "the OSCE has a long way to go before it reaches the status of a

Parliamentarians Suzana Grubješić (left) and Gordana Čomić of Serbia at the 2010 Fall Meetings in Palermo on 9 October 2010. (OSCEPA/Klas Bergman)

OSCE Parliamentary Assembly President Petros Efthymiou (second from right) addresses the opening plenary session of the OSCE Review Conference in Warsaw on 30 September 2010. (OSCE/Piotr Markowski)



gender equal Organization which properly mainstreams its work.”

■ Election observation

It was a busy year for election observation activities, with the Assembly leading a total of ten short-term observation missions in 2010. The PA deployed independent missions to the United States and to the United Kingdom and worked with other parliamentary assemblies and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights in missions to Ukraine, Tajikistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova and Belarus. In accordance with practice established by a Co-operation Agreement from 1997, the OSCE Chairperson appointed the following Parliamentarians to lead these missions:

- João Soares (Portugal), presidential election in Ukraine (17 January and 7 February), parliamentary elections in the United Kingdom (6 May) and mid-term elections in the United States (2 November);
- Pia Christmas-Møller (Denmark), parliamentary elections in Tajikistan, 28 February;
- Roberto Battelli (Slovenia), general elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 3 October;
- Morten Høglund (Norway), parliamentary elections in Kyrgyzstan, 10 October;

- Wolfgang Grossruck (Austria), parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan, 7 November;
- Tonino Picula (Croatia), parliamentary elections in Moldova, 28 November; and
- Tony Lloyd (United Kingdom), presidential election in Belarus, 19 December.

■ Field work

The Parliamentary Assembly has always insisted that the most important work of the OSCE is done in the field. In support of this vital work, several of the PA's Ad Hoc Committees and Special Representatives have paid official visits this year to Moldova, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the countries of the South Caucasus. Working closely with the field operations in these countries, the parliamentary delegations have brought added attention to their essential projects and initiatives.

Field operations



Above left: The Drug Prevention Team of Tajikistan's Drug Control Agency en route to Tojikabat in July 2010. (OSCE/Oliver Janser)

Above right: Students of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek on 12 March 2010. (Public Fund "Camp Ala-Too"/ Adilet Bekboev)

Presence in Albania

Head of Presence: **Ambassador Eugen Wollfarth**
Budget (2010): **€3,296,200**
www.osce.org/albania

The Presence in Albania and its four Project Offices supported the strengthening of the country's public institutions, focusing on judicial, legislative and electoral reform, parliamentary capacity-building, anti-trafficking, police training, destruction of surplus arms, good governance and property reform. It worked to advance media independence and to strengthen gender and civil society structures. A highlight was a major technical assistance project supporting the modernization of Albania's civil registration and address systems, which resulted in providing the population with postal addresses.



■ Politico-military dimension activities

Strengthening the police. The Presence delivered training to the State Police on police defensive tactics, police-public partnership, internal control service investigation techniques, gender recruitment, covert monitoring of organized crime and crowd management. It also produced publications on police-public partnership and on good practices for Roma and Sinti. To assist the border and migration police in implementing their Integrated Border Management Strategy, the Presence supported joint border co-operation meetings, training and the development of cross-border agreements with neighbouring countries. In support of the visa liberalization process, the Presence facilitated the installation of solar generator systems, biometric passport readers and universal power supplies at border crossing points, all of which are integral to Albania's Total Information Management System, which tracks all people entering and leaving the country.

Destruction of surplus arms. In conjunction with the Forum for Security Co-operation, the Presence worked with the Ministry of Defence in providing six industrial band saws to be used in the cutting of large-calibre ammunition. The Presence also assisted in the management of centralized disposal sites, provided three Shrike electronic detonating machines and helped in the disposal of toxic substances.

■ Economic and environmental dimension activities

Supporting decentralization. The Presence continued its co-operation with local government associations, providing support for a project on the transfer of public properties from State to local governments and subsequent local management of public properties as a means to increase local revenue and enhance public services.

Promoting good governance. In supporting the High Inspectorate for the Declaration and Audit of Assets, the

Presence provided conflict-of-interest training to 480 ministry officials. The Presence also helped non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in five municipalities to strengthen their ability to network and lobby for the promotion of good governance principles.

Supporting property reform. The Presence started a project to help build capacities in the Immovable Property Registration Office and register some 55,000 properties in priority coastal areas. The Property Restitution and Compensation Agency was also supported to better manage the claims process and data.

Fighting trafficking in human beings. In support of the Office of the National Anti-Trafficking Co-ordinator, the Presence provided expertise in drafting legal recommendations to ensure compliance with Council of Europe Conventions. The Presence also offered training to regional anti-trafficking committees to promote the involvement of local authorities in the prevention of trafficking of human beings and the management of trafficking cases.

Promoting better environmental management. In line with Aarhus Convention recommendations on strengthening citizen participation, the Presence provided support to the Aarhus Information Centres in Vlorë and Shkodra. Regular meetings were conducted with NGO and Government partners on matters including waste management and deforestation. Seven hundred NGO representatives and Government officials participated in training on good governance approaches to local planning and in public consultation events. The Presence presented recommendations to the Government on draft laws to align national legislation with EU law.

■ Human dimension activities

Electoral reform. The Presence provided support to the Central Election Commission in its preparations for local government elections in 2011 by establishing a

A promotional announcement for Albania's National Register of Addresses, a standardized, electronic postal address system implemented by the Government with assistance from the OSCE Presence in Albania in October 2010.



An Albanian Army expert labels one of 459 barrels containing 110 tonnes of the hazardous chemical dichloro-ethane before it is shipped to Belgium and incinerated, on 28 July 2010. (OSCE/Klaas Los)

Jozefina Topalli, Speaker of the Albanian Parliament, and Ambassador Eugen Wollfarth, Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania, address a conference on increasing women's participation in political and public life, in Tirana on 9 November 2010. (OSCE)



database of former election commissioners and by co-hosting a meeting where former election commissioners shared experiences from the 2009 parliamentary elections. It also organized a study visit to the United Kingdom for Albanian election officials to observe local elections and facilitated the participation of Albanian experts in an OSCE seminar on electronic voting in Austria.

The Presence also assisted the Government in establishing an electronic National Register of Addresses, providing citizens from 260 out of 373 local government units with a full postal address. It provided support to digitalize the civil status source documentation as archived in regional Civil Status Offices.

Justice reform. A Fair Trial Development Project aimed at improving fair-trial standards in civil proceedings continued, with assessments of civil proceedings and a survey on public access to five district courts being undertaken. In terms of providing legislative support, written comments were provided on the Criminal Code, construction inspection legislation, the administrative courts, the prevention of

money-laundering and financing of terrorism, mediation and environmental legislation. As part of its ongoing support to the Civil Service Commission, the Presence provided training on civil servants' rights and civil service legislation for local officials in six regions. The Presence also conducted training for newly appointed probation officers and for social workers and published a manual on the probation service for judges and prosecutors.

Human rights. The Presence provided support to the drafting of the Law on Protection from Discrimination and secondary legislation regarding the mandate of the Commissioner for the Protection from Discrimination. The Presence supported the Commissioner by creating a website and public information materials. It also presented a manual focusing on the rights of minors and helped organize the Fifth International Human Rights Film Festival.

Parliamentary strengthening. The Presence supported the National Security Committee in the drafting of a bill on parliamentary oversight of information services. OSCE missions in the region helped organize a

regional workshop on parliamentary oversight for Assembly staff. A joint meeting of the Albanian and Montenegrin European Integration Committees strengthened their commitment to increase the role of the Committee in the integration process. In cooperation with the Portuguese Parliament, the Presence carried out an assessment of the workflow on European integration issues within the Assembly. It also worked with the Hungarian Parliament to host a seminar to provide expertise on the Assembly's role in the integration process. Support to the Assembly's administration focused on developing its communication and archiving capacities and improving workflow procedures. Furthermore, the Presence organized induction courses for parliamentarians, produced a handbook for parliamentarians and their staff, trained public relations staff, provided IT and English language training to the technical and administrative staff, installed an IT network and upgraded the library and archiving premises.

Supporting the media. The Presence worked with media professionals to establish a self-regulatory media body: the Albanian Media Club. The club was officially registered,

Awareness-raising activities at the OSCE-supported Vlora Child Protection Unit on 21 April 2010. (Terre des Hommes)

Representatives of Albania's Media Club meet with the Romanian Press Council in Bucharest on 18 May 2010. (OSCE)



offices were established and personnel were hired. The Presence also facilitated a study tour for club officials to Romania, where members of the Romanian media community shared their experiences with regard to self-regulation.

Advancing gender equality. In co-operation with the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, the Presence helped organize a national conference on challenging gender stereotypes, aimed at increasing women's participation in governance. A national platform for women was launched at a second conference, marking the tenth anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. The Presence helped provide networking opportunities for women through regional forums, and 12 regional television programmes on women's participation in public life also helped to raise awareness. The Presence carried out an assessment of the work of the National Council for Gender Equality and offered recommendations on how to improve the Council's work. It also assessed the current situation of ministerial gender focal points, including their designation and terms of reference.

Promoting civil society. The Presence provided support to the National Council of People with Disabilities, organizing strategic

planning seminars and a study visit to the United Kingdom, during which Council members met their British counterparts. In Korca, the Civil Society Development Centre, the Municipality, civil society and the Presence extended the local Civil Society Development Fund to further enhance local citizen engagement. The Presence commented on a draft policy document on civil society produced by the Government in consultation with civil society and also provided policy recommendations on how to improve Albania's civil education curriculum.

Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Gary Robbins**
Budget: €15,278,300
www.oscebih.org

The Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina continued to support good governance objectives, focusing on municipalities that are economically weak or politically difficult. The Mission also continued its involvement in the effective processing of war crimes cases and related legislative and judicial reforms. Civic activism, inclusion and promotion of diversity in education were among the Mission's priorities. The Mission also supported Bosnia and Herzegovina's increased capacity for democratic control of the security, defence and intelligence sectors, and compliance with its politico-military commitments.



■ Politico-military dimension activities

Increased capacity. Working closely with the Mission and other partners, officials in Bosnia and Herzegovina continued to develop good institutional practices in 2010, while assessing their capabilities and requirements for sustaining and improving in the future. These practices included the reaffirmation of core principles, such as the OSCE Code of Conduct, and the importance of public-private partnerships. Additionally, they assessed the time, money and other resources required to operate the country's complex network of security assets. Intense discussions on strategic planning and decision-making aided this process, as seminars and workshops served to enhance skills and awareness of emerging threats and resources. By combining talents and expertise from a broad cross-section of society, the Mission and national authorities reaffirmed that strong partnerships are useful tools for promoting and maintaining security.

Compliance with commitments. Government authorities and the Mission endeavoured to improve the fulfilment of the State's politico-military commitments. Fostering and building upon inter-agency co-ordination, this partnership encouraged more direct involvement by State and entity officials in the fulfilment of their OSCE commitments. The national Armed Forces demonstrated their commitment by conducting the Third Annual Seminar on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Other Politico-Military Commitments, with support from the Mission. This event demonstrated that such commitments are as relevant to military commanders as they are to civilian ministers.

Arms control. Together with its strategic international partners and parliamentarians, the Mission urged authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to destroy their surplus munitions. They also encouraged them to set in motion the required actions to improve the conditions for storing weapons and ammunition. In co-operation with the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre, military

officials witnessed the resourcefulness of the OSCE in this regard, by assessing an OSCE-sponsored project to increase and improve storage sites in that country. In addition, the Mission continued to support the success of the sub-regional arms control regime through its logistical, administrative and interpretation support to the OSCE's Personal Representative for Article IV.

Parliamentary oversight. The State Parliament and the Mission enhanced the capabilities of parliamentary committees to oversee the State's defence, security and intelligence institutions. The Mission's advocacy of the Parliamentary-Military Commissioner extended the oversight function to increase focus on human rights in the Armed Forces. It included participation in field visits and a conference to discuss the Commissioner's role and function with national military and parliamentary authorities.

■ Economic and environmental dimension activities

Good governance and the rule of law in education. The first conference of education inspectors from the Western Balkans was held in Sarajevo to strengthen the regional network of inspectors and competent education authorities. Initiated and supported by the Mission, the first financial guide for school directors in South-Eastern Europe was developed and presented to 700 school directors in Bosnia and Herzegovina. After more than a year of work, school directors came together to establish two State-level associations — one for primary school directors and one for secondary schools. Within the Better Governance, Better Schools Project, the Mission trained 50 school board trainers, who will in turn train members of school boards in Republika Srpska and several cantons.

■ Human dimension activities

Fostering civic activism. The Mission launched hundreds of community engagement initiatives aimed at

Education inspectors from the Western Balkans meet for the first time to discuss quality assurance in education in Sarajevo on 20-21 October 2010. (OSCE/Aida Besic)

Mayor Dragoljub Davidovic of Banja Luka greets participants at an inter-municipal leadership workshop on 9 November 2010. (OSCE/Maja Babic)



increasing the level and quality of civic participation in local community and municipal affairs across the country. An important focus was the development, implementation and promotion of youth-related legislation at various levels of government.

Promoting inclusion. The number of municipalities implementing the Index for Inclusion increased to 40, with schools independently taking steps to promote cross-cultural exchanges. A conference emphasized the role of parents in building inclusive and democratic schools. Thousands of students, teachers and parents took part in Building Bridges projects for cross-ethnic events, with an emphasis on sustainability.

Ombudsman reform. The Mission played an active role in efforts aimed at establishing a single and unified Ombudsman for Bosnia and Herzegovina — a goal finally reached in 2010. The Mission continues to facilitate the consolidation of the Ombudsman to ensure the reform is irreversible.

Social protection and housing. The Mission promoted the development of a National Housing Strategy, supported local social housing initiatives and continued human rights training for social workers.

Promoting tolerance, diversity and participation of national minorities. Following its involvement in the drafting of the seminal Law on Prohibition of Discrimination, the Mission supported an awareness-raising campaign to ensure civil society and key domestic institutions are ready and able to implement the law. As part of the Kaleidoscope National Minorities Project, the Mission trained 600 teachers in fostering intercultural competences, while within the History for the Future Project, several large-scale fora enabled hundreds of experts to learn how history can actually help facilitate reconciliation. Other national and regional initiatives promoted the EU framework of key educational competences, emphasizing intercultural skills, teacher training and modern approaches to language learning. The Mission also continued to advocate for the implementation of the Roma Action Plans on Education, Employment and Housing and worked to build the operational capacities of the Council of National Minorities as well as local associations. The Mission led the initiative to adopt the National Strategy for National Minorities.

Sustainable return. The Mission secured the adoption of the Revised Strategy for Implementation of Annex VII. Activities aimed at the closure of collective centres and sustainable return initiatives, including the State

Commission for Refugees and Displaced Persons, continued.

Gender equality. The Mission conducted awareness-raising, training and public discussions about this much-neglected issue. The Mission also monitored institutional responses to domestic violence and supported initiatives to improve communication among responsible agencies, including the formalization of protocols.

Supporting justice sector reform. The Mission transferred a process to establish a National Preventive Mechanism as required by the Optional Protocol for the Convention against Torture to national authorities. To further support victims' rights in criminal proceedings, the Mission produced a Know Your Rights and Duties leaflet and a damage-compensation-claim template for victims who may not have defence counsel to assist them.

Accountability for war crimes. The Mission issued three public reports through the Capacity Building and Legacy Implementation Project identifying challenges in war crimes proceedings, such as witness protection. The Mission provided technical advice and support to the implementation of the National Strategy for War Crimes Processing, though progress remains slow.

Representatives of the OSCE Mission visit a Roma community in the municipality of Tuzla on 2 September 2010. (OSCE/Danica Pelemis-Subotic)

Students from 12 primary schools in Mostar participate in a Culture of Tolerance workshop in October 2010. (OSCE/Radmila Vlatkovic)



Combating hate crimes. Events were held throughout the country to promote better understanding of the impact of hate-related incidents and to encourage appropriate responses by authorities. The Mission provided support to domestic authorities in drafting legislative amendments and promoting their correct application.

Human trafficking and gender-based violence. The Mission monitored trafficking-related cases and put forward amendments to relevant legislative frameworks, as well as the effective prosecution of these cases. The Mission also supported non-governmental organizations, local authorities and judicial institutions to more effectively respond to all forms of gender-based violence.

Supporting democratic governance and inter-municipal co-operation. The Mission supported the development of inter-municipal learning networks and partnerships among 36 municipalities. Areas in need of improvement were identified based on the completion of the Common Assessment Framework self-assessment tool. Within the Local First project, the Mission supported 23 municipalities facing systemic political difficulties and lacking basic democratic governance practices. These municipalities made progress in participatory strategic planning and budgeting, improving the effectiveness of

municipal councils and establishing mechanisms to strengthen accountability.

Ensuring the integrity of the Federation's Civil Service System. The Mission supported efforts to re-establish Bosnia and Herzegovina's Civil Service System after a ruling of the Constitutional Court affected its competencies and threatened further fragmentation. A conference gathering key actors was organized by the OSCE in December, and the Mission will continue to work with domestic and international partners in developing a new legislative framework for the Civil Service in 2011.

Supporting the Central Election Commission (CEC). The Mission implemented an extra-budgetary project aimed at improving the management of elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina. An integrated Information Election System was established, which resulted in the CEC presenting preliminary results of the 2010 general elections six times faster than any previous election. The Mission also supported the CEC in implementing the Law on Conflict of Interest and the Law on Political Party Financing by supporting training for elected officials, political party, mass media and civil society representatives.

Parliamentary support and monitoring. The Mission supported the work of the State

Parliament to enhance the capabilities of parliamentary committees that oversee the State's defence, security and intelligence bodies. The Mission's advocacy of the country's Parliamentary-Military Commissioner extended the oversight function to increase focus on human rights in the Armed Forces. It included participation in field visits and a conference to discuss the Commissioner's role and function with national military and parliamentary authorities. Also, the Mission supported the State Parliament in developing its first Communications Strategy, aimed at improving internal communication and the public image of the Parliament, and supported the development of IT applications that will lead to more efficient document processing and faster handling of legislative material. The Mission further supported the development of a manual for newly elected parliamentarians and a manual on international relations and protocol. Debates between parliamentarians and high school graduates were held to increase civic awareness and motivate young people to vote.

Mission in Kosovo

Head of Mission: Ambassador Werner Almhofer
Budget: €23,546,600
www.osce.org/kosovo

The Mission in Kosovo¹ continued its core work in monitoring the work of institutions in Kosovo for compliance with human rights standards and principles of good governance. The Mission also continued to promote human rights — and in particular community rights — at all levels in Kosovo.

As an international civilian organization with the largest field presence, the Mission promotes mutual respect and tolerance among all ethnic groups, as well as the development of a democratic and multi-ethnic society.

¹ All references to Kosovo institutions/leaders refer to the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government.



■ Human dimension activities

Community rights. The Mission continued to monitor and to report on the rights of communities in the areas of return and repatriation, security and freedom of movement, and use of languages. It lobbied relevant institutions to enhance communities' public participation and access to public services. The Mission increased its focus on return and reintegration activities by implementing capacity-building, empowerment and advocacy initiatives and reached out regularly to communities at all levels. The Mission supported inter-community dialogue and raised awareness amongst communities about policies and procedures to promote and protect their rights.

Property rights. The Mission organized several workshops to assist municipalities in addressing property and housing challenges. To tackle issues that impact the sustainability of the returns process and economic development, the Mission promoted long-term land allocation for housing projects for returnees and organized an international conference on "Property Rights in Transition: Challenges to the Future Development of Post-Conflict Kosovo". Finally, the Mission continued monitoring the protection and promotion of cultural and religious heritage, advocating for the implementation of relevant legislation.

Human rights. The Mission continued to support central and local institutions in improving their compliance with human rights standards. It delivered specialized training to municipal officials in the areas of basic human rights, the revised Strategy and Action Plan on Repatriated Persons, expropriation and the rights of persons with disabilities. As a result, municipal human rights units are better informed and equipped to promote human rights within the municipality and also to fulfil their mandates as remedial human rights mechanisms. Furthermore, the Mission continued to monitor the human rights compliance of the legislative

framework and conducted legal-drafting training for legal officers.

Rule of law. In 2010, the Mission issued 12 monthly reports highlighting human rights concerns in the justice system. The Mission also published thematic reports on war crimes trials, the use of detention in criminal proceedings, family law cases and the treatment of persons with mental disorders by the Kosovo justice system. The implementation of recommendations from these reports was discussed at 25 roundtable meetings with relevant stakeholders, including the Kosovo Judicial Institute. Finally, the Mission continued to monitor and assist in the development of a human rights-compliant police service. Together with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the Mission produced a booklet, *Understanding Hate Crimes*, which will be followed by workshops to ensure that police properly address this issue and understand the importance of combating hate crimes.

Anti-trafficking. The Mission organized anti-trafficking training throughout Kosovo for teachers, police officers, customs officers, municipal officials and non-governmental organizations to help participants identify, refer and assist victims of trafficking in human beings. In the last quarter of the year, the Mission conducted campaigns to raise awareness throughout Kosovo, including radio and television programming, debates, lectures and film screenings.

■ Good governance

Local governance. The Mission continued to facilitate dialogue on local governance reform between central and local institutions through its Municipal Leadership Forums. In 2010, in addition to budget planning and provision of public services, the Forums were also used to discuss and help streamline the central-local coordination in other policy areas, including the transfer of competencies.

Mission Marks Democracy Day

On 15 September, the Mission organized more than 30 events Kosovo-wide to mark the International Day of Democracy. The events organized under the slogan "Accept the Challenge of Democracy" included open-day sessions at more than 20 municipalities, public discussions on various aspects of democracy, lectures for students, democracy quizzes, as well as drawing and essay competitions. The aim of the events was to mobilize grassroots support for democratic processes, encourage the active involvement of all communities and raise awareness of achievements and challenges of democracy.

Below left:
An artist in Rahovec/Orahovac creates a graffiti work to mark the International Day of Democracy on 15 September 2010. (OSCE/Besfort Oruci)

Below right:
High school students from six towns participate in a democracy quiz in Gjakove/Djakovica in western Kosovo, organized by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo on 15 September 2010. (OSCE/Besfort Oruci)



Through strengthened co-operation with the Ministry of Local Government Administration, the Mission effected improvements in both legal drafting and legal compliance by the local governments. It also contributed to better qualitative assessment of municipal performance by the Ministry of Local Government Administration.

Assembly support. In addition to helping the Assembly of Kosovo revise its rules of procedure, the Mission also supported key committees — such as the Committee on Human Rights, Gender Equality, Missing Persons and Petitions; the Committee for Community Rights and Interests and Returns; the Committee for Agriculture, Forestry, Rural Development, Environment and Spatial Planning; the Committee on Internal Affairs and Security; and the Committee on Legislation and Judicial Affairs — in their exercise of legislative oversight. The Mission provided the committees with technical assistance in the drafting of key legislation in accordance with international standards and facilitated participation by committee staff and elected members in exchanges of international best practices.

The Mission's support to non-Albanian Assembly Groups started to deliver results, as illustrated by a three-fold increase in the number of comments, proposals and amendments to draft laws tabled by these groups compared with 2009. The Mission also continued to support women's and youth forums of political parties, as well as their elected counterparts in the Assembly.

Oversight of the independent institutions. The Mission provided assistance in the drafting of new legislation governing the Ombudsperson Institution and the Independent Oversight Board for the Kosovo Civil Service, which will help improve the standing of the two institutions and facilitate the implementation of their respective mandates. With support of the Mission, the annual reports of the two independent institutions to the Assembly were adopted without delay.

Elections. The Mission supported electoral reform by providing technical advice to the Elections Working Group. The Mission's long-standing electoral experience ensured reforms in line with international electoral

standards, including sustainability and integrity. The Mission also continued its non-executive technical advice and support role in relation to the Central Election Commission and other electoral bodies.

Media. The Mission assisted the broadcast regulator in concluding the long-term licensing of the media. In addition, the Mission continued to advise the Assembly of Kosovo in efforts to amend media legislation so that it is more closely aligned with prevailing international practices. It also provided support to the public broadcaster in improving its programming in non-Albanian community languages, mainly through the inclusion of local and regional media outlets as content providers.

Higher education. The Mission continued to promote access to quality higher education for non-Albanian communities in Kosovo, through the establishment of a Teachers' Centre at the Faculty of Education in Prizren. In order to enhance employment prospects of Kosovo Serb graduates, the Mission facilitated the establishment of a career centre at the University in Mitrovicë/Mitrovica

The Mission in Kosovo implemented a street-safety campaign to encourage drivers to obey traffic rules, especially speed limits. (OSCE/Besfort Oruci)

Paramedics of the Kosovo Emergency Service test their skills in a simulated exercise on 1 October 2010. (OSCE/Besfort Oruci)



as well as a student centre at its Gračanica/Gračanicë campus. Specialized training in the area of quality assurance was delivered to the University in Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, resulting in the award of a first-ever EU-Tempus grant worth close to €400,000.

■ Politico-military dimension activities

Police-public partnerships. Promotion of community-oriented policing as a crime-reduction and prevention tool remained a core activity. The Mission supported various community safety forums, such as the Local Public Safety Committees and the Municipal Community Safety Councils, comprised of community and police representatives, to address and resolve various security and public safety issues, especially issues concerning the communities.

To strengthen community outreach activities, the Mission conducted various Kosovo-wide community-policing and safety awareness campaigns to improve the public's understanding of community safety forums and to build a sustainable and trustworthy relationship between the police and the public.

Strengthening public safety agencies. After facilitating the development of strategies

and action plans to combat terrorism, organized crime, drug trafficking and cross-border crimes, the Mission supported their implementation by organizing numerous advanced and specialized training courses and workshops on religiously motivated terrorism, cybercrime, trafficking of drugs and intelligence-led policing. As a result of these courses, the Kosovo police started to conduct very successful operations combating organized crime. Soon after the conclusion of the Advanced Cybercrime Investigations training, police arrested seven suspects accused of producing counterfeit bank cards.

The Mission also supported public safety agencies by offering advice and expertise on training-related issues, with special emphasis on advanced training in the fields of extreme operations, specialized investigative interviewing, speech and voice analysis, forensics, surveillance, risk analysis and performance management.

The Mission provided Kosovo police and other public safety agencies with expertise in training needs assessment, curriculum development and further improvement of the existing training and train-the-trainer programmes to bring them in line with prevailing international standards.

To improve the performance of the Police Inspectorate of Kosovo (PIK), the Mission

contributed in the drafting and approval process of the new PIK law. Experts from the Mission focused on keeping the new law in line with the applicable European standards and preserving the structure of the agency as it was established by the OSCE in 2006.

Through monitoring and advising, the Mission continued to support the senior management of the Kosovo Centre for Public Safety Education and Development (KCPSED) in its accreditation and certification process. The Mission facilitated the activities of the working group tasked with improving the legal framework of the KCPSED and strengthening its communication with other public safety agencies.

Mission to Montenegro

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Sarunas Adomavicius** from 1 October, succeeding **Ambassador Paraschiva Badescu**, whose mandate ended on 10 September
 Budget: €2,392,100
www.osce.org/montenegro

In line with its mandate, the Mission assisted Montenegro in strengthening the capacity and effectiveness of institutions and furthering its reform agenda. This included supporting the implementation of the new Criminal Procedure Code, the second phase of the Court Monitoring Project, the new Strategy on the Fight against Corruption and Organized Crime, as well as the Code of Ethics for municipal officials. The Mission continued to provide strong support for the full implementation of the Law on Free Access to Information. Partnership with the host country on initiatives to develop regional co-operation resulted in regional conferences on crisis management, local self-governance and criminal matters.



■ Politico-military dimension activities

Politico-military affairs programme. The Montenegro Demilitarization Programme (MONDEM), a joint project of the Government, the OSCE and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), facilitated the destruction of almost 500 tonnes of unstable munitions in 2010. Building upon the Programme's achievements, the Mission signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Interior and the UNDP Country Office to expand activities to control and reduce the number of small and light weapons in possession of citizens. To contribute to accountability and greater participation of the public in defence reform, the Mission continued to support the holding of regular media briefings by the Defence Ministry.

Organized crime and anti-corruption. The Mission supported the Police Directorate's Organized Crime Department by providing specialized training on cybercrime, money-laundering and undercover investigations and a course on operational police tactics. It also organized a two-day anti-corruption seminar for traffic police and the Internal Control Department.

Anti-trafficking. The Mission organized a regional meeting on trafficking in human beings for co-ordinators from the national police services of the South-Eastern European countries, as well as a course on illegal migration and human trafficking for criminal police officers in Montenegro.

Border policing. The Mission facilitated the process of implementing the Bilateral Co-operation Agreements and Protocols on Joint Patrols and Regular Exchange of Information, concluded by Montenegro with Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. It also organized training on drugs-identification procedures at border crossings and on joint patrols for border police and customs officers.

Community-oriented policing. The Mission successfully implemented the Community Policing Project for Border Police in three pilot sites and expanded it to four others, thus covering the entire green border. Thirty border police officers participated in a two-week course on community-oriented policing.

■ Economic and environmental dimension activities

Environmental issues. The Mission organized events to strengthen the institutional capacities of the Ministry of Environment and the Environmental Protection Agency, including public awareness campaigns, workshops for national and local environmental officers and public debates with civil society organizations.

■ Human dimension activities

Parliamentary support. The Parliamentary Support Project provided training on management and research skills to the Parliamentary Service. Nine parliamentary outreach activities were organized to strengthen ties with citizens and provide parliamentarians with input for their legislative and oversight work.

Good governance. The Code of Ethics for municipal employees and elected officials, drafted by the OSCE and the Council of Europe, was adopted and implemented in all 21 municipalities. Best practices were promoted at the municipal level with the Union of Municipalities.

Civic participation. The Mission, together with a local non-governmental organization and municipal stakeholders, developed a youth action plan for Bijelo Polje.

Civil society. The Mission supported a working group to streamline and improve the legislative framework for civil society organizations and submitted its recommendations to the Government.

Below from left: Susanne Kastner, Chair of the Committee for Defence, German Bundestag; Mevludin Nuhodzic, Chair of the Committee for Security and Defence, Parliament of Montenegro; Axel Janick, Senior Parliamentary Advisor of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro and Ambassador Sarunas Adomavicius, Head of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, at the presentation of *Public Discourse: A Form of Direct Participation of Citizens in the Legislative Process*, a handbook on parliamentary hearings, in Podgorica on 2 November 2010. (OSCE/Mia Lausevic)

Danica Vukovic, the first female community police officer in Montenegro, at work in the municipality of Pljevlja on 22 July 2010. (OSCE/Patrick McNulty)



Roma. The Mission, in co-operation with Roma civil society activists, conducted seminars for Roma women on access to healthcare. The Mission supported the Roma Scholarship Foundation in promoting Roma inclusion and integration.

Gender equality. The Mission and the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights supported the implementation of local gender action plans to assist unemployed women in rural areas and advocated for greater political participation of women at the national level.

Durable solutions for displaced persons. The Mission, together with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, supported an information campaign to promote the process of resolving the status of the displaced population.

Judiciary reform. The Mission supported regional judicial co-operation in criminal matters by co-organizing the First Regional Conference of Presidents of Supreme Courts and Prosecutors. This conference will take place annually, and a regional agreement on co-operation between the Supreme Courts is to be drafted.

Reform of the criminal-justice system.

The Mission helped implement the new Criminal Procedure Code and the amended Criminal Code by developing publications and training tools for legal practitioners and by providing specialized training. The second phase of the Court Monitoring Project helped improve administration of justice with regard to the right to a fair trial.

Strengthening human rights institutions. The Mission assisted the Constitutional Court in aligning its practices regarding constitutional complaints with international standards. In co-operation with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, it provided legislative support for anti-discrimination and ombudsman legislation and helped the Ombudsman Institution in assuming its new mandates.

Fight against corruption and organized crime.

The Mission supported the development of the new Strategy on the Fight against Corruption and Organized Crime for 2010-2014 and its Action Plan for 2010-2012. It also provided specialized training to the judiciary on financial investigations and integrity.

Media legislation. The Mission, in co-operation with the Government, civil society and international experts, launched a

debate to improve and harmonize legislation pertaining to free access to information. The Mission continued to promote the implementation of the Law on Free Access to Information among civil servants and public officials.

Media development. The Mission supported efforts to enhance communication between the media and institutions by providing public relations training, organizing debates and publishing guidelines on the new Criminal Procedure Code. The Mission assisted in the process of transforming State broadcasting to public-service broadcasting through professional advice and analysis of programming. Investigative journalism was supported by organized trainings for young journalists.

Mission to Serbia

Head of Mission: Ambassador Dimitrios Kypreos
Budget: €7,932,100
www.osce.org/serbia

The Mission worked in partnership with Serbia's authorities and civil society to further develop the country's democratic institutions, enhance policies for protection of human rights and improve the rule of law. It offered expert and financial assistance to the landmark elections of 19 National Minority Councils. Through the Mission's efforts in co-operation with the host country, Serbia's ethnic Albanian community elected their Council for the first time. A multi-ethnic government involving ethnic Albanians and Serbs has been created in Bujanovac. Security and stability in south-western Serbia were advanced through the efforts of the Head of Mission to encourage dialogue among local political leaders, with the aim of forming a functioning, all-inclusive, all-representative Bosniak Minority Council.



■ Politico-military dimension activities

Police reform. The Mission provided advice and expertise as the Ministry of Interior drafted its first overall Strategic Plan for 2011-2014, which will help the police improve planning and increase cost-efficiency. The Mission also advised the Ministry in drafting its communication strategy and action plan and trained senior police officials in all 27 police districts on public and media relations.

Police education. The Mission assisted Ministry of Interior officials in structuring their specialized training requirements for core police personnel. These efforts represent a qualitative advance in the Ministry's planning.

Organized crime. The Mission offered Serbia its expertise to develop the Action Plan on Combating Organized Crime. It also trained police officers within the scope of the Government's Action Plan for the Fight Against Drugs. Having participated in the passage of legislation on seizing assets from organized crime, the Mission advised extensively on its implementation.

Economic transparency and anti-corruption. To eradicate legal and procedural loopholes for financing organized crime and terrorism, the Mission deployed advisors to train police and the judiciary on conducting financial investigations.

Security sector reform. The Mission supported the Ministry of Defence in drafting the National Action Plan on the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and helped the Ministry present this plan to the public.

■ Environmental dimension activities

Public participation in environmental policy development. The Mission advised the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning in drafting the National Action Plan for Implementing the Aarhus Convention. Serbia's

first regional Aarhus Centre was opened in Kragujevac with Mission assistance. Further, the Mission organized public discussions on the Aarhus Convention across Serbia and helped draft the first national report on its implementation.

■ Human dimension activities

National minorities. The Mission offered extensive support, including human resources and public outreach, to the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights in organizing Serbia's first direct elections of National Minority Councils on 6 June. The Councils empower minorities in the areas of education, culture, use of minority language and media. More than 400,000 voters turned out to elect councils representing 19 national minorities. The Mission encouraged the ethnic Albanian community to elect its Council for the first time and supported the participation of Roma women. It also facilitated dialogue among the three Bosniak lists that participated in the elections so that a functioning Bosniak National Minority Council could be formed.

Refugee return and integration. The Mission presented a unified international community stance on key issues at a regional conference on durable solutions for refugees and internally displaced people. The State participants resumed dialogue following a significant hiatus and agreed on a time-frame for resolving regional refugee issues and follow-up meetings.

Judicial reform. The Mission helped the Ministry of Justice create a roadmap for the establishment of a Judicial Academy, an essential step for the professional development of the Serbian judiciary.

War crimes. The Mission monitored 20 war crimes trials, including six new cases, in 2010. It also began monitoring trials in the newly established Courts of Appeal. Financial and expert assistance was provided to the War Crimes Prosecutor's Office and the National Council

Participants in a seminar on investigative journalism to combat organized crime visited Radio B92 in Belgrade on 25-26 November 2010. Twenty prominent journalists, half from Pristina and half from Belgrade, participated in the first part of a joint programme organized by the OSCE Mission to Serbia and the OSCE Mission to Kosovo. (OSCE/Milan Obradovic)



Female cadets from the Serbian Armed Forces at the presentation of Serbia's Draft National Action Plan on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women Peace and Security at the National Assembly in Belgrade on 16 November 2010. (OSCE/Milan Obradovic)



for Co-operation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) to intensify the public information campaign on domestic war crimes trials and ICTY co-operation, particularly targeting youth and journalists.

Advancement of Roma. The Mission helped Serbia meet commitments under the National Strategy for the Improvement of the Position of Roma and the Decade of Roma Inclusion. The Mission trained members of the Roma Women Network and helped them advocate for the improvement of the position of Roma women in the National Minority Council and in Roma communities.

Criminal justice reform. The Mission acted as the Ministry of Justice's main partner for criminal justice reform. It supported the working group drafting substantive revisions to the Criminal Procedure Code and the Ministry in holding the two-month public debate of the draft, which should be adopted in early 2011. The Mission worked with the Ministry of Justice to develop a strategy to reduce overcrowding in prisons and continued to train judges and prosecutors on alternative sentencing. In 2010 the number of alternative sentences increased by almost one-third compared with 2009.

Human rights institutions. The Mission helped the Ombudsperson establish an office in southern Serbia to make his work more accessible to the ethnic Albanian minority.

Access to justice. Five law faculties across Serbia assumed responsibility for the network of pro-bono legal assistance facilities established with the Mission's assistance. The Mission helped establish common standards and procedures for these facilities. It further helped the network publish an operational manual on interview techniques, with specific emphasis on interviewing children.

Human rights. The Mission assisted the Ministry for Human and Minority Rights in developing Serbia's Common Core Document — an essential part of the country's report to UN human rights treaty bodies.

Following the cancellation of the Pride Parade in 2009, the Mission provided venues for discussion and expert assistance to support the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights' drafting of recommendations to bring Serbia's freedom of assembly legislation in line with European standards. Representatives from the Ministry of Interior, the judiciary and civil society were involved in discussions. Belgrade hosted the Pride Parade in 2010, with the support of the Ministry and under police protection.

Democratic governance. The Mission introduced an e-Parliament system for the electronic management of documents in the National Assembly of Serbia.

Media legislation. The Mission, in close collaboration with the European Union Delegation, assisted the Ministry of Culture in drafting the national media strategy, which aims to carry out significant reforms.

Enhancing media skills. The Mission trained more than 300 media professionals in reporting on politics, corruption, the judiciary and war crimes. It strengthened the skills of television reporters, camera operators and photo editors in central and eastern Serbia in the production of news programmes and the sustainability of local outlets. Journalists from southern and south-western Serbia were sent on study visits to Germany and to the ICTY.

Freedom of the media. The Mission supported campaigns promoting media freedoms during the Exit Music Festival and the Right to Know Day. The Mission has condemned violence against journalists from radical nationalist organizations and football hooligans and supported Government efforts to prosecute such cases.

Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Jose Luis Herrero Ansoa**
Budget: **€8,360,700**
www.osce.org/skopje

Monitoring and supporting implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement (OFA), which ended hostilities in 2001, remained a key priority. The Mission worked in close co-operation with the other security principals: the European Union Special Representative, the United States Embassy and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Representative in Skopje and also with local counterparts on long-term reform processes in areas such as the judiciary, police professionalization and public administration. The Mission pro-actively encouraged the further strengthening and streamlining of the essential pillars upholding the OFA, being: education, decentralization, equitable representation, the use of languages and non-discrimination. Efforts to promote the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities' recommendations on reversing the trend of further ethnic separation in education resulted in the Government adopting a comprehensive strategy towards integrated education. In December, a Permanent Council Decision (PC.DEC/977) was taken to change the name to Mission to Skopje, effective 1 January 2011.



■ Politico-military dimension activities

Monitoring. The Mission continued its monitoring activities with a focus on the north-western part of the country. Particular attention was paid to the security situation, as well as to developments concerning both inter- and intra-community relations.

Police development. The Mission continued to support the development of a professional, accountable and transparent police service through a series of activities in co-operation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MoIA), including participation in an inter-agency Working Group to advocate for effective implementation of the Law on Internal Affairs. To facilitate implementation of the MoIA's Anti-Corruption Programme for 2010, the Mission organized a regional conference on prevention and repression of corruption in the police for 50 representatives of the Units for Internal Control. The Mission's Detached Police Advisors (Co-locators) continued providing assistance to police structures at the regional level through specific actions, such as creating a national network of police trainers, establishing a decentralized police training structure and offering specialized training to more than 300 police officers in the areas of organized crime and terrorism. The Mission also focused on promoting institutionalized community policing practices to further improve inter-community relations through capacity-building workshops, conferences and study visits targeting MoIA mid-level managers and local self-government representatives. To gauge the general public's perception of community policing, the 2010 Survey in Community Policing was conducted in co-operation with the MoIA. The existing community policing mechanisms to promote co-operation between the police and local communities — Local Prevention Councils (LPC) and Citizen Advisory Groups (CAG) — were further consolidated.

■ Human dimension activities

Political system. The Mission continued its co-operation with other security principals — the EU, NATO and the United States — in the stabilization process. Particularly, the Mission supported and promoted the dialogue with the Government on reviewing the OFA. In order to advance its implementation, the Mission enhanced collaboration with the relevant Government secretariat and strengthened its commitment to improving relations between communities through the establishment of a specific unit for inter-community relations (Programme Co-ordination Unit). In close co-operation with the Secretariat for the Implementation of the OFA (SIOFA), the unit pro-actively encouraged the further strengthening and streamlining of the essential pillars upholding the agreement, being: education, decentralization, equitable representation, the use of languages, and non-discrimination. Efforts to promote the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities' recommendations on reversing the trend of communities' separation in education resulted in the Government adopting a comprehensive strategy towards integrated education on 5 October.

Public administration. In an effort to professionalize the public administration, the Mission trained more than 400 municipal councillors from 61 municipalities on legislative issues, the financing of local self-government units and management skills. The Mission held its annual Decentralisation Conference to assess the advancements made in 2009-2010, with a view towards drawing conclusions in early 2011 on the overall progress of five years of efforts to transfer competences from the central to the local level. To further promote the improvement of inter-ethnic relations, the Mission supported the SIOFA through different activities, such as training more than 350 newly recruited civil servants employed under the principle of equitable representation.

Almost 3,000 primary school students from all over the country participated in a drawing contest as part of the Action Against Gun Violence project, supported by the OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission in Skopje. Participants in Kavadarci pose with a local official on 11 November 2010. (OSCE/Jaana Naapa)



The OSCE monitoring team during a routine field mission along the northern border in the Tetovo region in March 2010. (OSCE/Eberhard Laue)



Electoral reform. The Mission continued to assist the host country in its implementation of recommendations of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) election reports. It supported long-term capacity- and institution-building by providing training to the State Election Commission on communication, presentation and team-building skills, training-of-trainers and strategic planning. The Mission also rendered assistance to four Working Groups that were established by the Government to address concerns raised by the OSCE/ODIHR regarding alleged cases of intimidation, to audit the voters' list and to support the election administration. Amendments to the election code were prepared and publicly discussed.

Judicial reform. The Mission continued its efforts to improve and strengthen the independence of judges by facilitating debate, at the local and regional level and amongst the legal community, the Government and the general public, on the appointment, evaluation and dismissal processes for judges. As the new Law on Criminal Procedure was adopted in late 2010 and entered a *vacatio legis* period prior to implementation, the Mission further provided technical assistance to the Government in training-of-trainers and preparing training materials for all legal practitioners. The Mission monitored the legislative process, offering the Government substantive and qualitative comments regarding judiciary legislation. The Mission continued monitoring all proceedings related to the four cases that were deferred from

the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia to the national jurisdiction, as well as other high-profile cases. The Mission assessed the implementation of current legal solutions, such as the evaluation of the work of Public Prosecutors. It also continued supporting the provision of legal aid to the Roma community by assisting mobile legal aid activities conducted by a local non-governmental organization, Association for Human Rights Protection of Roma.

Capacity-building and legislative reform. The Mission continued its efforts to improve the drafting and implementation of laws and produced country-specific manuals and guidelines on transparency and public participation in law-making, monitoring and evaluation of legislation, secondary law-making and usage of discretionary powers. The Mission continued to collaborate with national authorities to support their anti-trafficking efforts in revising the Standard Operating Procedures for dealing with victims of trafficking in human beings, in assisting in the development of an outreach programme for street children and in preparing media guidelines for reporting on anti-trafficking cases. The Mission supported the drafting and enactment of the comprehensive Law on Promotion and Protection from Discrimination (ADL) and supported the process of establishing an independent commission for protection from discrimination. The Mission facilitated the preparation of two guidelines — regarding implementation of the ADL and the work of the National Co-ordinative Body

on Non-discrimination — for use by national institutions and the general public. Furthermore, it prepared the Commentary on the Criminal Code in relation to hate crimes and supported implementation of the Law on Equal Opportunities of Women and Men. The Mission continued to promote the role of the Ombudsman Institution in the mass media and put in place capacity-building actions for the Institution, focusing on newly established competencies such as the National Preventive Mechanism.

Education. The Mission continued to monitor developments in the education sector thanks to a number of activities aimed at promoting inter-ethnic integration through the education system. The Mission continued working to improve the pre-service teacher-training system to better prepare teachers to teach in a multi-ethnic society. With the Mission's assistance, the first municipal five-year strategy was designed, publicly discussed and adopted. The Mission also published a large-scale study on the influence of the education system on inter-ethnic relations in society.

Roma inclusion. The Mission maintained an integrated approach to Roma issues. In close co-operation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, it financed the drafting of a Status Report on the Implementation of the Action Plan for Roma and Sinti in the OSCE Area, which assessed the integration of these communities in the host country and provided recommendations on steps forward.

Office in Zagreb

Head of Office: **Ambassador Enrique Horcajada Schwartz**
 Budget: €1,613,500
www.osce.org/zagreb

The OSCE Office in Zagreb continued covering and advancing residual issues in its two remaining work areas: war crimes accountability and monitoring of the Croatian Housing Care Programme. A significant number of OSCE-proposed measures were adopted and implemented in 2010. Among them, continued implementation of the important action plans on war crimes accountability, including the nearly completed review of *in absentia* convictions from the early 1990s; the introduction of a war crimes database as a tool to continue addressing unprosecuted war crimes; and a new option allowing returnees to purchase their allocated apartments in urban and coastal areas.

The Office continued supporting and promoting the Croatian Housing Care Programme through regular field-verification visits to allocated housing facilities for eligible refugee beneficiaries. In 2010 this mandate-related area received important political boosts that very much facilitated the Office's work. Vigorous initiatives and messages favouring reconciliation and co-operation with neighbouring countries and focusing on the victims of war crimes, regardless of their ethnicity, by the newly elected President of the Republic, Ivo Josipovic, enhanced the work being done by the Government. Serbo-Croatian relations and co-operation in this area dramatically improved this year through State visits by the Presidents of both nations.

Within this positive climate, the Croatian Government announced, during a Platform meeting on 29 October in Vukovar, that it would accept a new extension of the deadline for applications to the Housing Care Programme. This measure would come into effect in early 2011, following an information campaign in Serbia.



■ Human dimension activities

War crimes accountability. The Office continued comprehensive monitoring of national war crimes proceedings, with more than 140 cases involving more than 600 individuals in 16 courts. The OSCE commitment with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) was finalized by an appeal decision, issued in March 2010, in the *Ademi-Norac* case for war crimes committed during the so-called 1993 Medak Pocket military operation. Since then, the Office has mainly focused on the pre-investigation phase of domestic cases, where a quantity of evidence remains to be processed.

The Office also maintained its regular Zagreb-based and field-level contacts with relevant judicial authorities in order to continue following the ongoing implementation of the action plans by the Chief State Attorney and the Police Directorate. These plans were designed by Croatia to address the remaining issues in the war crimes portfolio: the review of unsubstantiated charges, including *in absentia* convictions, and unprosecuted war crimes. The review of *in absentia* convictions, initiated last year, recognized as defective and set aside almost 20 per cent of the convictions from the early 1990s. The results of the ongoing implementation have improved Croatia's system of war crimes accountability and countered concerns observed by the Office in its monitoring activities. The Office reported in December 2010 that the Croatian judiciary acts with objectivity, impartiality and

regardless of ethnic background when sentencing perpetrators of war crimes.

Finally, Croatia continued to play an important role in inter-State co-operation and co-operation among state attorneys of the region, including evidence-sharing with Serbia. This co-operation and the newly established war crimes database in Croatia should continue to be used as an effective tool to minimize the obstacles presented by the unavailability of suspects to the Croatian judiciary.

Capacity-building for non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The Office continued providing support to three Croatian NGOs — Documenta, Civil Committee for Human Rights and the Centre for Peace Osijek — in their monitoring and advocacy activities in relation to war crimes accountability. Monitors at the Office continued transferring know-how and building the legal and analytical skills of NGO staff through regular joint discussions. In addition, the Office, together with the ICTY Liaison Office, the Delegation of the European Union and Zagreb-based embassies, participated in a steering board that coached NGO directors on outreach, management and advocacy activities. The Office also reported and provided solid proof of the capacity of domestic NGOs to monitor war crimes proceedings on behalf of the international community.

Ambassador Enrique Horcajada (*right*) receives Judge Patrick Robinson, President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, at the OSCE Office in Zagreb on 7 July 2010. (OSCE/Davor Grgicevic)

Jan Repa, head of the Housing Care Monitoring Unit (*far left*) and Ambassador Horcajada pose with former refugees Anto and Slavica Kolak in the garden of their new home in Lika-Senj County on 16 September 2010. (OSCE/Jasmin Mahmic)



Access to housing. Croatia adopted a new Activity Plan for the Accelerated Implementation of the Housing Care Programme for Former Occupancy/Tenancy Right Holders (OTR). The new plan will facilitate implementation of the three benchmarks established with the OSCE in 2006, regarding former tenants of socially owned housing in the former Yugoslavia (OTRs) who want to return to Croatia. The plan established a political commission attended by four ministers, under a new directing chair by a Deputy Prime Minister, and six technical sub-commissions. The OSCE, the EU, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United States Embassy were invited to participate in all sessions. Of particular importance was the new commission for the review of all previously denied cases. During 2010, the Office actively participated in the work of these bodies, thus contributing further to the implementation of the Programme.

In 2010, 1,427 housing units were allocated to former OTR holders, exceeding the 2008 benchmark of 1,400. Most of the flats are located in newly constructed buildings of high quality. In parallel, the 2009

benchmark, targeting 2,070 former OTR holders, continued to be implemented during the year as well. According to the Government, this last benchmark will be accomplished by mid-2011. In sum, the 2007-2009 programmes should provide housing to as many as 5,000 former OTR holders. Two other major developments also took place: the adoption of the Decision on Sale of State Owned Flats, which enables OTRs who have been provided housing in urban and coastal areas to purchase their dwellings significantly below the market price, and the announcement of a reopening for applications to the Housing Care Programme, beginning in January 2011, following an information campaign in Serbia.

To help monitor the Programme and verify these figures, the Office regularly visited and evaluated the quality of around 700 dwellings in war-affected areas, remote municipalities and urban areas. These visits also assessed whether recipients were OTR minority returnees to Croatia.

Office in Minsk

Head of Office: **Ambassador Benedikt Haller**
 Budget : €1,164,600
www.osce.org/belarus

The rehabilitation of Chernobyl-affected areas remained one of the Office's priorities in environmental protection and economic co-operation, which also relates to the promotion of energy security and agro-ecotourism. The Office helped develop relations between State institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The Office also actively promoted the use of two official languages, gender awareness, democratic policing and border management. Monitoring of developments related to the Office's mandated tasks in the country continued. In co-operation with the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, the Office also worked on media issues, in particular with regard to Internet regulation.



■ Economic and environmental dimension activities

Promoting awareness and dialogue on energy security.

The Office, in co-operation with the Faculty of International Relations - Belarusian State University, organized a conference on the theme of "Energy Challenges to Trans-European Security", which gathered 100 students and staff as well as national and international experts.

Promoting environment and security in a regional context.

In co-operation with the Faculty of Law of the Belarusian State University, the Office organized a conference on "The Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Trans-boundary Context as a Framework for Regional Co-operation". National and international experts participated in the conference, which was attended by more than 80 students and faculty staff.

The Office also supported the Regional Students' Contest on Environment and Security, in partnership with the International Sakharov Environmental University in Minsk.

Rehabilitation of Chernobyl-affected areas. The Office teamed up with regional authorities and local civil society representatives to support projects in regions affected by the Chernobyl disaster, aiming to promote best practices for sustainable agro-business development and enhance entrepreneurship skills among rural youth.

Promoting local economic development in Belarus. In co-operation with the NGO Country Escape and with the support of the Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, the Office helped establish the Consultancy Centre in Minsk for the Promotion of Agro-ecotourism in Belarus. The Centre organized a seminar for national stakeholders to introduce best practices for rural tourism and European standards for eco-labeling. The Centre will also provide Internet consultations for owners of rural guesthouses.

■ Promoting dialogue on values in a post-economic crisis environment.

In co-operation with the Faculty of Philosophy and Sociological Sciences of the Belarusian State University, the Office organized a series of conferences for students and staff on the theme of values and communication in the aftermath of the global economic crisis. It also published a booklet based on the conferences with contributions by foreign and national experts.

■ Human dimension activities

Civil society and governmental forums for discussion.

In the first half of 2010, the Office completed the first phase of a project entitled "Developing Relations between State Institutions and Non-Governmental Organizations". The project began with a sociological survey amongst civil society to ascertain the development of civil society in Belarus and its interaction with the Government. Study visits to the Republic of Cyprus and France were also organized within the framework of the project to enable Belarusian experts to study the legislative framework, mechanisms and practices of State-public co-operation in those countries. Based on these visits, NGOs participating in the project drafted a proposal for future interaction with the Government through national thematic platforms. This proposal was discussed at a national conference in November.

Alternative service. The Office held a seminar on alternative military service as part of an international technical assistance project implemented with the National Centre for Legislation and Legal Research of the Republic of Belarus. International experts from France, Germany, Moldova and Russia shared best practices and their countries' experiences in implementing alternative military service legislation. The National Centre for Legislation and Legal Research will prepare a draft law on alternative military service in 2011. This legislation will allow Belarusian citizens to exercise their constitutional right to choose alternative military service.

Ambassador Benedict Haller presents awards to the best young rescuers at the annual OSCE-supported Eastern European Rescue Teams Gathering near Naroch, Belarus, on 21 September 2010. (OSCE/Natalia Belikova)

Ambassador Benedikt Haller, Head of the OSCE Office in Minsk, on a field visit to a rural development project in Bragin district on 16 September 2010. (OSCE/Natalia Belikova)



Two official languages. The Office supported a project with the National Centre for Legislation and Legal Research entitled “Reforming the Legislation and Practice of Using Two Official Languages”. Representatives from the Centre, the Ministry of Education, other governmental structures and the NGO Belarusian Language Society participated in study visits to Ireland and Finland and learned about policies and legal frameworks for supporting two official languages. Participants will apply what they have learned to develop a comprehensive concept for the use of the Russian and Belarusian languages in Belarus.

Administrative procedures study tour to Germany. In October, a study tour to Koblenz, Germany, was arranged for four participants, representing the Presidential Administration, the Belarusian Constitutional Court and the National Centre for Legislation and Legal Research. Participants learned about administrative justice and personal liability in Germany.

Gender awareness. In co-operation with the NGO Women’s Independent Democratic Movement and local authorities, a

roundtable dedicated to the economic empowerment of women was held in Gomel, in the south-east of Belarus. The Office also supported the Government and NGOs in addressing gender issues and promoted gender awareness by co-sponsoring a public campaign against domestic violence.

Democratic policing. In co-operation with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit and the International Training and Civil Crisis Management Centre of the Interior Ministry of Hungary, the Office carried out projects to promote community policing and modern techniques in police education as well as to address the psychological aspects of police work.

Border management. The Office organized several events within the framework of its project aimed at strengthening the Psychological Support Unit of the Belarusian Border Services.

Media work. The Office was one of the co-organizers of a roundtable on Internet regulation in Minsk in October, which was attended by the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media. Officials from

various State structures, representatives of State-owned and private media outlets and local and international experts participated in the event, where discussions centred upon issues related to the legislative aspects of Internet regulation.

The OSCE has maintained a presence in Minsk since 1998. The mandate of the Office expired on 31 December 2010 and was not renewed.

Mission to Moldova

Head of Mission: **Ambassador Philip Remler**
 Budget: **€2,083,900**
www.osce.org/moldova

In 2010 the OSCE Mission to Moldova supported confidence-building between Chisinau and Tiraspol. The Mission organized five informal “5+2” meetings (including the Republic of Moldova and Transdniestria, plus the Russian Federation, Ukraine, the OSCE, the European Union and the United States), three confidence-building workshops and a Review Conference. It supported reform efforts on the rule of law, combating torture and ill treatment, freedom of assembly and freedom of the media. A protracted electoral season, which included a 5 September referendum and early parliamentary elections on 28 November, affected both the Transdniestrian settlement process and reform efforts.



■ Politico-military dimension activities

Political settlement negotiations and confidence-building. Mission activities focused on building confidence between the sides, to promote meaningful negotiations in the “5+2” format. The Mission organized five informal “5+2” meetings in 2010, focusing on freedom of movement and guarantee mechanisms. To facilitate these discussions, the Mission worked in co-operation with both sides to develop a systematic overview of freedom of movement issues and an index of previously reached agreements.

The Mission hosted meetings of the joint working groups on confidence-building measures. It conducted workshops on co-operation between law enforcement and disaster relief agencies, a seminar on guarantees (in co-operation with the British Embassy in Chisinau) and a Review Conference to assess progress made by the working groups in 2010.

The political representatives of Moldova and Transdniestria continued their regular confidential bilateral meetings, which were initiated in 2009 by the Mission. In 2010, their working-level staff began meeting as well. These meetings and the “football diplomacy” between Moldovan Prime Minister Vlad Filat and Transdniestrian leader Igor Smirnov resulted in progress on a number of issues, including: resumption of rail passenger traffic on the Chisinau-Tiraspol-Odessa route, extension of a 2006 mechanism to allow Moldovan farmers access to their land on the Transdniestrian-controlled side, conclusion of an agreement on simplified regulations for the export of goods from Transdniestria by railway, and commencement of expert negotiations on the reconnection of fixed-line telecommunications between the sides.

Joint Control Commission. The Joint Control Commission (JCC), established to oversee the 1992 ceasefire agreement, met regularly throughout the year. Mission representatives attended all sessions and chaired a sub-group on non-peacekeeping posts in the Security Zone. The JCC continued to monitor the situation on the

ground and provide guidance to the Joint Military Command of the Joint Peacekeeping Force (JPKF). The Joint Military Command continued the joint training activities by all three contingents of the JPKF, which were resumed in 2009 after a hiatus of several years.

■ Human dimension activities

Election and electoral reforms. The Mission worked closely with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) in preparation for a constitutional referendum on 5 September and parliamentary elections on 28 November, supporting domestic election monitoring, domestic analysis and public debates on electoral legislation. Moldova has been in anticipation of elections since the Parliament’s failure in 2009 to elect a president. As parliamentarians struggled to find ways out of the impasse, the Mission maintained close contact with all parties to promote adherence to OSCE principles and commitments.

Monitoring and promoting human rights. Activities to promote human rights on both sides of the Dniester/Nistru River included training law enforcement representatives in freedom of assembly and training forensic experts from both sides in investigating allegations of torture. Throughout the year the Mission responded to individual human rights complaints.

Providing legal expertise and strengthening the rule of law. The Mission worked closely with Parliament on reforming anti-discrimination legislation and organized a conference on prosecution reform together with the General Prosecutor’s Office.

Promoting freedom of the media. The Mission monitored Internet and broadcast media, including the Audiovisual Co-ordination Council and the Supervisory Board of the public broadcaster. The Mission assisted the national public service broadcaster by providing independent monitoring and expert advice, hosted roundtables for

In 2010 the Mission to Moldova worked with the sides to reach agreement on the restoration of landline communications between the two banks of the Nistru/ Dniestr, which had been interrupted since 2003. (OSCE/Igor Schimbator)



Below left: Moldovan Army engineers destroy cluster munitions in the Bulboaca training area on 26 May 2010. (Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Moldova/Andrei Camerzan)

Below right: Members of the OSCE Mission to Moldova patrol the security zone on a regular basis, meeting a wide range of people, such as these monks from the Chitcani monastery. (OSCE/Igor Schimbator)



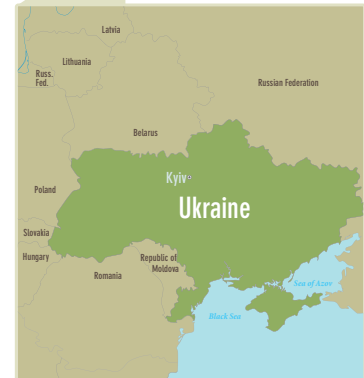
media donors and non-governmental organizations for better co-ordination of media development and freedom of media work in Moldova and, in co-operation with the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, held a training seminar for journalists from Internet media organizations.

Combating human trafficking and promoting gender equality. The Mission played a leading role in technical co-ordination of organizations combating trafficking in human beings in Moldova. It supported the play *Casa M.* and the 16-Day Campaign against Gender Violence, both of which raised public awareness of domestic violence. The Mission supported counseling services for victims and perpetrators of family violence and organized training seminars for police, prosecutors and judges on combating domestic violence, proactive investigation and techniques for interviewing victims of trafficking. In advance of the parliamentary elections, the Mission held a roundtable for political party representatives to promote the role of women in politics.

Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

Project Co-ordinator: **Ambassador Lubomir Kopaj**
Budget: **€2,752,300**
www.osce.org/ukraine

The Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine worked with the country's authorities to assist domestic efforts aimed at institution-building, strengthening human rights, combating trafficking in human beings, promoting economic development and environmental education and tackling environmental threats, including elimination of unexploded ordnance from past conflicts.



■ Politico-military dimension activities

Assisting social adaptation of discharged military personnel. In co-operation with the Ministry of Defence, the Project Co-ordinator organized retraining and employment assistance for 1,188 discharged military officers and some of their family members, 76 per cent of whom subsequently found employment. More than 700 active senior military officials were trained in social rights and guarantees for personnel discharged due to military restructuring.

Mélange disposal. The Project Co-ordinator supported OSCE efforts to assist Ukraine with safe disposal of its stockpiles of the toxic rocket fuel mélange. Currently in its second phase, this project is set to be the OSCE's largest donor-financed project in the Organization's history, with funding from Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Norway, Poland, Spain, the Swedish International Development and Co-operation Agency (SIDA) and the United States.

■ Economic and environmental dimension activities

Supporting local economic development. The Project Co-ordinator helped the local government in the Dnipropetrovsk region develop ICT-based solutions to improve the quality of administrative services and increase the accountability and transparency of authorities.

Cleaning up unexploded ordnance. To help the Ministry of Emergencies safely remove unexploded ordnance, the Project Co-ordinator facilitated the provision of modern metal-detection equipment and conducted training on its use.

Promoting environmental education and sustainable development. The Project Co-ordinator introduced Ukraine-specific multimedia educational materials for secondary schools entitled "Green Pack". In 2011, more than 50 per cent of Ukraine's secondary schools are

expected to be using the tool, which promotes sustainable development and raises environmental awareness among young people.

The Project Co-ordinator also promoted renewable energy use and introduced energy-saving practices in the Poltava region.

Promoting environmental protection. The Project Co-ordinator continued supporting the activities of the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities in the Moldovan-Ukrainian joint management of the Nistru/Dniester River basin. It also produced "Waste(s) Watch" cards, quick-reference materials on hazardous waste, for use by border management authorities from Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine who are in charge of the detection and prevention of transboundary waste trafficking.

■ Human dimension activities

Anti-trafficking support. The Project Co-ordinator assisted in the drafting of a new State programme to combat trafficking in human beings for 2011-2015. It also trained 200 representatives from social services, educational and health care institutions and law enforcement bodies in the piloting of a State-led National Referral Mechanism. To improve capacity in identifying and referring trafficking survivors, the Project Co-ordinator facilitated the training of 1,100 police officers, social service providers and medical practitioners. Law enforcement officials travelled to Germany to gain experience in the prevention and prosecution of trafficking in human beings before and during major international sporting events. In addition, a number of anti-trafficking publications were produced.

Combating domestic violence. The Project Co-ordinator trained more than 350 practitioners from social services, regional departments for family and youth and also police officers on the implementation of a corrective programme aimed at perpetrators of domestic violence.



A billboard in Dnipropetrovsk advertises a police anti-trafficking hotline supported by the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, 1 June 2010. (OSCE/Tetyana Rudenko)

Below left: The Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine organized a quiz called "Protect your rights" for the Children's Day celebrations in Kyiv on 5 June 2010. (OSCE/Igor Segeiev)

Below right: Police inspectors discuss anti-trafficking issues at a training seminar in Ivano Frankivsk on 6 May 2010. (OSCE/Tetyana Rudenko)



Administrative law reform. The Project Co-ordinator helped improve citizen-State relations, focusing on raising awareness and building the capacity of Ukrainian public servants and civil society to effectively interact with each other. It offered training to more than 200 Justice Ministry officials and more than 100 representatives of civil society organizations. More than 200 administrative court judges were also trained, as a means to enhance the quality and consistency of judicial decisions and ensure the protection of human rights.

Legal education. The Project Co-ordinator continued supporting the improvement of legal education in Ukraine, ensuring its compatibility with current international requirements in the field of higher education, especially in the sphere of human rights protection and adherence.

Legislative and judicial support. In cooperation with the Ukrainian Parliament, the Project Co-ordinator reviewed and submitted recommendations on 64 bills and supported capacity-building of lawmakers and judges aimed at aligning the country's legislation with international standards and OSCE commitments.

Detention monitoring. The Project Co-ordinator continued supporting the development of National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs) against torture and ill-treatment. In 2010, efforts were focused on launching NPM operations in children's custody facilities and supporting NPM development within the country's penitentiary system.

Constitutional justice. The Project Co-ordinator organized efforts to raise awareness of the remedy of direct constitutional complaint, to be introduced in Ukraine, and supported e-initiatives to enhance transparency of the Constitutional Court.

Combating corruption. Upon request of the Ukrainian Government, the Project Co-ordinator assisted in the implementation of the 2009 anti-corruption reform by offering training to 100 judges and civil servants, developing a national methodology for diagnosing corruption in State institutions and recommending legal and policy framework improvements.

Strengthening democratic practices. As part of a multi-year, multi-donor project funded by the European Union, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA),

SIDA, Irish Aid and the Strategic Programme Fund of Britain's Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Project Co-ordinator worked to strengthen electoral processes, specifically in the operation of a State Voter Register, assisting in the drafting of a unified Electoral Code and capacity-building of election officials. More than 80,000 election officials were trained ahead of the January 2010 presidential election. A mobile training class was also established for personnel of the State voter register maintenance bodies.

The Project Co-ordinator assisted in establishing a baseline for the existing legal, structural and institutional framework for sustainability and funding of civil society organizations in Ukraine, identifying workable models in this sphere and providing concrete recommendations.

Office in Baku

Head of Office: **Ambassador Bilge Cankorel**
Budget: **€2,789,900**
www.osce.org/baku

The Office in Baku supported Azerbaijan's election-related commitments during the November parliamentary elections and helped with the implementation of the Electoral Code. The Office also assisted in the areas of security and justice reform and promoted fundamental freedoms, as well as good governance, anti-corruption, environmental awareness, regional economic development, anti-trafficking in human beings and gender equality.



■ Politico-military dimension activities

Police Assistance Programme. The Office integrated new elements into the community policing programme, including schools, differential gender security and support to the ongoing establishment of presidentially mandated community advisory groups. The Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic was also included in the programme in 2010. In May, the Office conducted the first international community policing workshop, with more than 50 officials from Baku participating. The Office also organized a series of police-media workshops, supported training at the Police Academy and provided public assembly management training to police officers in Nakhchivan and in the city of Ganja.

Programmes to combat trafficking in human beings. The Office's activities included regional workshops, extensive support to national non-governmental organizations, co-operation with and support to Government agencies and wide-ranging co-operation and co-ordination with other international organisations involved in the fight against trafficking in human beings.

Counter-terrorism activities. The Office supported the Government in the establishment of a National Bomb Data Centre and its consequent participation in the International Bomb Data Centre Working Group. This support included specific and detailed liaison with a large number of similar agencies of other OSCE participating States. The Office also conducted the first National Conference on a Comprehensive Approach to Cyber-Security, involving international experts from a number of OSCE participating States.

■ Economic and environmental dimension activities

Good governance and anti-corruption. The Office launched new co-operation with the Financial Monitoring Service under the Central Bank of Azerbaijan, conducting training courses on combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism. The Office also co-funded the participation of Azerbaijani civil society actors in a regional anti-corruption meeting in Tbilisi.

Entrepreneurship. The Office concluded its four-year training programme on "Start and Improve Your Business", in co-operation with the International Labour Organization. It opened two Legal Advice Centres (in Baku and Sheki), which provide free legal support to owners of small- and medium-sized businesses. The Office also conducted training seminars for students on the OSCE *Best Practice Guide for a Positive Business and Investment Climate* and training courses on new accountancy standards in Ganja and Guba.

Environmental awareness and participation. The Office launched seven new projects with non-governmental organizations within the Civic Action for Security and Environment (CASE) programme to raise awareness of environment and security challenges. Projects focused on topics such as solid waste management, landslide risks, hazardous waste, climate change and mining. The projects were selected jointly by the Office, the United Nations Development Programme, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources and Statoil.

Energy policy dialogue. The Office continued its project to raise awareness among policymakers on renewable energy in Azerbaijan and organized two study tours to Spain and Germany for eight representatives of relevant public agencies and ministries. The Office also co-operated with the Ministry of Emergency Situations by conducting an assessment of the legal framework for oil-spill prevention and response.

Police and internal troops participated in a public assembly management training course in Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic on 10-20 May 2010. (OSCE/Suleyman Ozbey)



A campaign for environmentally friendly bags, in Baku on 29 October 2010, was part of the Civic Action for Security and Environment Programme. (OSCE)



Melissa Stone, Deputy Head of the OSCE Office in Baku, presents certificates to participants in a Start and Improve Your Business training course in Ismailly district on 9 August 2010. (OSCE/Yan Olsson)



■ Human dimension activities

Rule of Law

Trial monitoring. The Office published its *Trial Monitoring Report for 2009*, covering both criminal and civil cases throughout the country. The Office discussed the findings and recommendations in the report with the Ministry of Justice, the Judicial Legal Council and the Judiciary on a regular basis and continued monitoring trials in 2010.

Detention monitoring. The Office continued monitoring conditions at all types of detention facilities throughout the country. In co-operation with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the Parliament, the Office also supported the Ombudsman's Office in strengthening its role as a National Preventive Mechanism in Azerbaijan.

Legislative assistance. The Office continued supporting the drafting of new legislation on the rights of suspects and the accused and on juvenile justice. Moreover, the Office conducted a needs assessment of the legal framework regulating property rights as part of efforts to further streamline such legislation.

Free legal advice. To address the lack of sufficient legal resources in the region, the

Office operated four legal resource centres throughout the country. These centres also facilitate training for legal professionals and serve as rule of law resource facilities.

Training activities. In co-operation with the Judicial Legal Council, the Prosecutor's Office and the Bar Association, the Office conducted training activities for judges, lawyers and prosecutors throughout the country, including the Autonomous Republic of Nakhchivan.

Individual human rights advice. The Office assisted individuals seeking advice on possible remedies in cases of violations of their individual rights.

Democratization

Electoral assistance. The Office convened three high-level roundtables, on freedom of assembly, election administration and the role of the media, with the participation of ruling and opposition parties and the Government. The Office also conducted numerous voter education seminars and domestic observer training throughout the country in order to boost civic participation, and supported legal assistance for candidates.

Freedom of the media and media development. In partnership with the Azerbaijani Press Council, the Office supported an

expert review of the press Code of Ethics, which was ultimately adopted. The Office continued its work on legislative initiatives to decriminalize defamation; organized training on access to information for Government press officers and media representatives; and conducted an assessment of the national curriculum on journalism education. The Office also supported training for regional television stations on the production of talk-show and news programming, as well as training for regional youth on the use of social media for advocacy purposes.

Gender equality. Subsequent to advocacy activities the preceding year, the Parliament adopted the Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence in June. The Office continued its advocacy regarding comprehensive implementation of the new law. The Office also supported leadership training for women, which focused on preparing them to participate in elections as candidates and observers.

Parliamentary assistance. The Office facilitated an exchange of international experience for the IT staff of the Parliament regarding the expansion of its website to include a full legislative database. Online access to pending and adopted laws will dramatically increase citizen participation in the legislative process.

Office in Yerevan

Head of Office: **Ambassador Sergey Kapinos**

Budget: **€2,788,900**

www.osce.org/yerevan

In 2010 the Office marked its tenth anniversary and continued its close co-operation with the Government of Armenia, with many activities in all three dimensions. The Office continued to support police reform and the implementation of good governance practices. It further promoted the Aarhus Convention and assisted the Government with economic reform initiatives. The Office also worked to strengthen the capacity of national institutions in their efforts to combat trafficking in human beings and continued to promote human rights throughout the country.



■ Politico-military dimension activities

Supporting police reform. In support of the Government's reform strategy, the Office continued its community-based policing model. It also designed a new six-month basic police training programme and developed the curriculum for an accredited bachelor's degree programme.

Democratic oversight of armed forces. In co-operation with its partners, the Office organized a series of roundtables on a new Disciplinary Code for the Armed Forces. The ensuing draft code was forwarded to the OSCE Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) for expertise. The Office also prepared a special volume dedicated to the implementation of commitments under the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security.

Cyber security. The Office organized a conference with local law enforcement and international experts to discuss global trends and assess the current threat level for Armenia as well as existing capacities for dealing with threats against cyber security.

■ Economic and environmental dimension activities

Enhancing economic competition. The Office assisted the Government's Commission for the Protection of Economic Competition by elaborating a system of indicators to measure the success of governmental policies that protect economic competition. This will help ensure a level playing field for businesses to develop in the country.

Fight against corruption. The Office worked with students to study corruption risks in schools, universities and law enforcement and provide recommendations to address them; monitored the work of notary offices; addressed corruption in the registration of motor vehicles; and assisted in developing a training module

on integrity and ethical behaviour for civil servants. It also supported the production of a documentary about the prosecution of law enforcement officials for corruption, which was broadcast on national television.

Support to the Aarhus Convention. The Office provided financial assistance and staff training to increase the number of local Aarhus Centres from 13 to 15. In co-operation with local self-government bodies, the Centres provided extensive support to environmental non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and local populations in addressing environmental challenges.

Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC). The Office supported the national component of ENVSEC, including a project to render a DDT burial site harmless. Under the Civic Actions for Environmental Security (CASE) project, 15 small grants were provided to NGOs to raise awareness, investigate threats and promote environmental standards for business.

Capacity-building for State bodies. The Office organized an experience exchange with the Slovenian Parliament for seven professional staff of the National Assembly. It also provided three one-week courses on urban management to municipality staff. In total 50 staff were trained in urban planning, economic development and financial management.

■ Human dimension activities

Monitoring places of detention. The Office supported the activities of the Police Detention Monitoring Group and the Penitentiary Monitoring Group. The latter organized a discussion on ways to decrease the prison population, resulting in an amnesty appeal by civil society. The Office also published a brochure and guidelines on the rights of detained persons and presented a report on military detention aimed at the general public.

OSCE representatives visited the Nubarashen chemical waste site on 27 May 2010 as part of the Office's efforts to assist the Armenian Government in addressing environmental threats. (OSCE/Gohar Ghazinyan)



The Office co-organized a Rock on Human Rights Day concert on 10 December 2010 in co-operation with the UN Department of Public Information, Armenia's Human Rights Defender's Office and the non-governmental organization Antenna. (OSCE/Gayane Ter-Stepanyan)



Participants in a Model OSCE Conference hone their negotiation and public-speaking skills in a simulated Permanent Council exercise on 5 November 2010. (OSCE/Photolur/Tigran Tadevosyan)



Supporting the Ombudsman Institution. The Office supported publication of the Ombudsman's Annual Report and that of the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) for torture cases. It organized two study visits, for the Ombudsman to Denmark and for two NPM experts to Slovenia. On International Human Rights Day the Office co-organized a rock concert against discrimination with the Ombudsman Institution.

The Office assisted in building the capacity of the Ombudsman's Institution to effectively advocate for the protection of the rights of national minorities by financially and conceptually supporting an Ombudsman assessment of State policy in this regard. The Office commissioned a report on religious tolerance from an NGO, which was presented to the public.

Supporting criminal-justice reforms. Together with ODIHR, the Office organized three seminars to discuss the recommendations of the ODIHR trial monitoring report as well as the concept for the draft Criminal Procedure Code. An international expert performed an assessment of crime data collection by the Prosecutor's Office. The Office published commentaries to the decisions of the Cassation Court and commissioned research on case law of the European Court for Human Rights in relation to Armenia. Current witness-protection procedures were assessed through monitoring and legal analysis.

Protecting children's rights and juvenile justice. The Office and the Cassation Court launched a juvenile-trial monitoring project. The Office also supported educational and social activities to help reintegrate juvenile offenders, as well as a documentary to highlight the role of the Prosecutor's Office in juvenile justice.

Gender. The Office continued to support three women's resource centres in Syunik region and co-sponsored the second annual competition for the best media coverage of gender issues. The Office co-chaired the newly established Gender Theme Group.

Media freedom. In co-operation with the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, the Office facilitated legal reviews of draft broadcasting legislation. It also organized public discussions with participation of international experts to assist in Armenia's transition to digital broadcasting. The Office provided the media self-regulation mechanism information on good practices from well-established European press councils. It also assisted in the introduction of a new media course in university curricula.

Electoral reform. The Office, in co-operation with ODIHR experts, took part in a seminar on election administration. It also organized an international symposium to discuss the new draft Electoral Code.

Youth. The Office supported a student survey on the perception of corruption at Armenian universities. It also conducted training on assessing community needs, volunteerism and strategy development for paid staff and volunteers working at regional youth centres.

Migration management and anti-trafficking. The Office, in co-operation with the International Labour Organization, supported the State Migration Service in developing a Migration Concept.

The OSCE-supported Anti-Trafficking Support and Resource Unit continued to provide capacity-building for the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, thereby strengthening its capacity to implement the national referral mechanism for victims of trafficking in human beings.

Model OSCE conferences. The Office organized five Model OSCE conferences throughout Armenia. Close to 200 young people honed their negotiation, problem-solving and communication skills by working to resolve hypothetical scenarios involving human trafficking and migration, freedom of media, chemical waste management, gender equality, energy security and political instability.

Centre in Ashgabat

Head of Centre: **Ambassador Arsim Zekolli**
 Budget: €1,401,700
www.osce.org/ashgabat

The Centre continued to support Turkmenistan in the implementation of its OSCE commitments in all three dimensions. Activities focused on areas such as supporting legal reform and media development, strengthening border security and management, providing election support, promoting human rights standards, facilitating the development of transport links and promoting rational use of land and water resources.



■ Politico-military dimension

Police education. The Centre facilitated the exchange of information and best practices in police education and curriculum development through a study tour to Lithuania and a roundtable for officials from the Interior Ministry and the Police Academy of Turkmenistan.

Support to the media sector. The Centre continued its support to the international journalism department at the Institute for International Relations with a follow-up training course for students who attended the first training in 2009. An applied on-the-job training was also organized for editorial and technical staff working for State television news programmes. In addition, the Centre supported a seminar on media regulation, in co-operation with the Embassy of the United Kingdom in Turkmenistan.

Strengthening border security and management. To improve travel-document security, the Centre organized training courses for law-enforcement officials in Ashgabat, Mary and Turkmenabat and facilitated the installation of an electronic database for passports at one of the departments of the State Migration Service and at two international airports in Turkmenistan. It also provided two manuals with detailed information about international travel documents for the State Migration Service.

Promoting security of weapon and ammunition stockpiles. In co-operation with the United States Defense Threat Reduction Agency, the Centre organized a training course for 30 mid-level officers from the Defence Ministry to raise awareness of international standards and best

practices in the safe and secure stockpiling of small arms and light weapons and conventional ammunition.

Combating drug trafficking. To strengthen the capacity of border agencies and combat drug trafficking, the Centre held training courses for customs officials in Ashgabat and Dashoguz, focusing on examination and detection techniques and protection of evidence. To support cross-border co-operation, the Centre invited two customs officials from Uzbekistan to the course in Dashoguz.

■ Economic and environmental dimension activities

Promoting railway and road transport development. In co-operation with the Office of the Co-ordinator of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the Centre held an inter-regional workshop on Euro-Asian transport links (EATL) in the port city of Turkmenbashi.

Support to the agricultural sector. The Centre supported the establishment of the Crop and Irrigation Diversification Advisory Centre (CIDAC) on the premises of the agribusiness school of the Turkmen Agricultural University in Turkmenabat. The CIDAC serves as a consultative and educational resource base for local farmers, students and faculty. To promote rational land management, the Centre launched a project on protection from mudflows and re-cultivation of degraded lands in several mountainous villages in the Ahal region. The project included construction of a dam in the mudflow bed in the village of Garaul and two environmental training events for young people.

Promoting anti-corruption instruments and practices. In co-operation with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Centre organized a national workshop on the implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption and facilitated the translation and publication

The Centre commenced a lecture series on international affairs and politics by prominent speakers and invited the former President of Albania, Rexhep Meidani, and Ambassador Markku Reimaa, who served as the Head of the Special Mission of Finland to the CSCE in Vienna. To mark the anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, the Centre distributed a Turkmen translation of *Helsinki Catch*, Reimaa's book on the history of the CSCE.

Editorial and technical staff from Turkmenistan's State television network participate in hands-on training organized by the OSCE in Ashgabat on 7 June 2010 (OSCE/Svetlana Ostroushenko).



Students attend classes at the Crop and Irrigation Advisory Centre (CIDAC), opened with the support of the OSCE Centre, in Turkmenabat on 28 September 2010. (OSCE/Begench Babakuliyev)



Marat Kogamov, Rector of the Kazakh University of Law and Humanities, addresses judges and law enforcement officers at a summer course on international human rights standards in the administration of criminal justice, in Ashgabat on 27 July 2010. (OSCE/Svetlana Ostroushenko)



of the *Technical Guide to the UN Convention against Corruption* in the Turkmen language.

Supporting economic empowerment of rural women. Generating alternative income was the focus of a project for rural women launched by the Centre in the Mary province. The project featured ten outreach training workshops, publication of a brochure on rural guest house management and development of eco-tours in the Mary province.

A high-level international conference with the theme of "Strengthening regional co-operation in Central Asia for promoting stable and reliable energy within Eurasia" was held on 3-4 May 2010 in Ashgabat. The conference, co-hosted by the Government of Turkmenistan and the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat in co-operation with the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, brought together 85 participants from 26 OSCE participating States and two OSCE Partners for Co-operation.

■ Human dimension activities

Supporting legal reform. To promote access to the country's applicable legislation, the Centre launched a searchable database containing all officially published national normative acts as well as international treaties. The Centre held a series of three courses on legislative drafting skills for parliamentarians and parliamentary legal officers and organized a study visit to the parliaments of Luxembourg and Belgium. The Centre also disseminated comments by OSCE/ODIHR on national legislation on religious freedom, public assembly and trafficking in human beings.

Support to the administration of justice. An OSCE summer course on international human rights standards in the administration of criminal justice was held for judges and law-enforcement officials. To promote the role of national judicial training centres, the Centre organized a seminar on initial and regular in-service professional training for judges and prosecutors and a study visit to the Justice Academy of Turkey.

Support to the election process. Members of Turkmenistan's Central Election Commission discussed good practices and modern methods for organizing elections during study visits to three OSCE participating States. The Centre also supported an OSCE/ODIHR Elections Expert Team, which was invited by the Government to observe regional council elections in December. In co-operation with ODIHR, it organized a roundtable to discuss recommendations from the ongoing OSCE/ODIHR review of Turkmenistan's electoral legal framework.

Promoting human rights standards. The Centre organized lectures on international human rights standards in the administration of criminal justice at the Turkmen State University and on international human rights law at the Foreign Ministry's Institute of International Relations. Jointly with OSCE/ODIHR, the Centre organized a training course on human rights protection in countering terrorism at the Police Academy and a roundtable to present the *Handbook on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Armed Forces Personnel* at the Military Institute. The Centre also continued to provide legal consultations, assisting

approximately 200 individuals in 2010. To improve the quality of education for blind children, equipment for printing school-books in the Braille system was provided to the Turkmen Society of Blind and Deaf Persons, with financial support from the OSCE Charity Funds.

Prevention of trafficking in human beings. The Centre facilitated the exchange of best practices in combating human trafficking for labour exploitation by organizing a conference for 45 representatives from State institutions, civil society, international organizations and embassies. The Centre also supported the National Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan (NRCST) in organizing training events throughout the country on how to prevent human trafficking and promote safe migration.

Support to the penitentiary system. To further promote awareness of prisoners' rights, the Centre organized two training courses for prison officers at the Police Academy, one of which focused on the rights of female inmates. The Centre also prepared the first draft of a manual on the rights of prisoners, targeting teachers at the Police Academy.

Domestic violence. The Centre supported the public association Keik Okara in running a domestic violence hotline and in organizing training courses for hotline consultants and the public at large. With the Centre's support, the NRCST also held training events to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases and domestic violence in four regions of Turkmenistan.

Centre in Astana

Head of Centre: **Ambassador Alexandre Keltchewsky**
Budget: **€2,188,200**
www.osce.org/astana

The OSCE received considerable attention in Kazakhstan during its Chairmanship year, resulting in an increased focus on some of Central Asia's greatest challenges. In partnership with Government agencies, civil society representatives, OSCE Institutions and international organizations, the Centre in Astana addressed a broad range of issues, including political reform, border and water management, transport and transit, organized crime, labour migration, good governance, political freedoms, judiciary reform, human rights and the reform of law enforcement agencies. The Centre's activities included cross-dimensional, multi-disciplinary approaches and a regional perspective when relevant and feasible.



■ Politico-military dimension activities

Political reforms. The Centre continued to promote the broadest possible participation of local and national Government officials, political parties and representatives from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in discussions on political reform.

Youth programmes and outreach. The Centre conducted numerous awareness-raising activities at educational institutions and other venues throughout the country. This year's regional Central Asian Youth Network activities brought together some 40 young leaders to study regional security issues. The Centre also supported the translation of key OSCE documents into the Kazakh language and distributed them to a broad cross-section of the public.

Democratic policing support. The Centre partnered with a local NGO to conduct more than a dozen train-the-trainer courses throughout the country as part of a project to integrate a human rights component into police training. The Centre also helped organize a regional workshop in Astana on combating organized crime.

Border security. The Centre co-organized with the International Organization for Migration and other partners a joint training seminar on Kazakhstan's southern border with Kyrgyzstan for customs officers and border inspectors from both countries. The Centre also facilitated participation by border officials from Kazakhstan in training events at the OSCE Border Management Staff College.

Military co-operation. As in previous years, the Centre partnered with the Ministry of Defence (MoD) in hosting two Central Asian regional events: on confidence- and security-building measures and on combating illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons. The Centre also supported activities pertaining to the Vienna Document 1999, such as military officials' inspection visits to

several European countries and the MoD's participation in the OSCE Global Exchange of Military Information.

■ Economic and environmental dimension activities

Transboundary integrated water resource management. Following the signing of a memorandum of understanding in 2009 with the Kazakhstan branch of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea, the Centre helped revitalize the interest of the international community in the environmental and socioeconomic challenges of the Aral Sea region, a Chairmanship priority. The Centre also helped the host country achieve significant progress towards finalizing Kazakhstan's national programme on water management.

Transport and transit. Assisting Kazakhstan in its Chairmanship of the OSCE's 18th Economic and Environmental Forum (EEF) figured prominently in the Centre's efforts to promote good governance and regional co-operation, in co-ordination with its national partners and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. A landmark event in this regard was the Regional Seminar on Promoting Integrity in Customs and Border Services in Central Asia and South Caucasus, a follow-up to the 18th EEF.

Labour migration. Activities focused on identifying and co-ordinating practical solutions to labour migration challenges at the regional level. One major regional event was a seminar on gender and labor migration, which was organized by the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) and the Centre in partnership with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection and several international organizations.

Environment and sustainable development. The Centre continued its co-operation with the Ministry of Environmental Protection to address national environmental

Participants discuss local self-government issues at a conference organized by the OSCE Centre in Astana on 21 May 2010. (OSCE/Andrew Offenbacher)



Participants in a seminar on combating the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons, in Almaty on 16 September 2010. (OSCE/Andrew Offenbacher)



Participants at a Central Asian Youth Network seminar, in Almaty on 22 June 2010. (OSCE/Andrew Offenbacher)



The Kokaral dam at the North Aral Sea on 17 May 2010. (OSCE/Aiman Smagulova)

issues and with the Central Asian Regional Environment Centre (CAREC) for regional concerns.

Transparent and efficient economic environment. The Centre, in co-operation with other international organizations, organized a series of workshops for local businesses on the new customs code/union between Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia. It also expanded its efforts to encourage transparency in the extractive industries and broader participation of civil society. In addition, the Centre was granted observer status with the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative National Commission.

■ Human dimension activities

Rule of law. The Centre continued its efforts to encourage fair trial standards, equal access to justice and criminal justice reform. It pursued close co-operation with all stakeholders and also fulfilled numerous requests

by governmental authorities to provide expertise and support in the area of legal reform. For example, the Centre organized training seminars in co-operation with the General Prosecutor's Office to provide prosecutors with practical jury trial skills and supported an analytical project exploring alternatives to detention.

Human rights and democratization. The Centre, in partnership with the Danish Institute for Human Rights, launched a long-term project to strengthen the legislative framework and capacity of the Ombudsman Institution. The Centre also facilitated dialogue on freedom of assembly through a monitoring project carried out in several regions and a conference.

Countering trafficking in human beings and domestic violence. The Centre co-operated with law enforcement agencies, other State bodies and NGOs on activities to improve

their understanding of protection issues and skills in victim identification. The Centre also assisted State agencies with implementing new legislation on gender equality and domestic violence by facilitating dialogue with civil society and conducting targeted training events.

Media development. The Centre continued to support the professional development of journalists through training programmes. Several activities aimed to enhance the media's co-operation with NGOs and State institutions; other projects provided for discussions about Internet freedom and development. The Centre also closely monitored freedom of speech and frequently liaised with the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media and State authorities.

Centre in Bishkek

Head of Centre: **Ambassador Andrew Tesoriere**
Budget: €7,092,300
www.osce.org/bishkek

2010 was an eventful year, which saw the overthrow of President Bakiyev in April, inter-ethnic violence in southern Kyrgyzstan in June, a referendum on a new Constitution in July and pre-term parliamentary elections in October. In the aftermath of the April turmoil, the OSCE, the United Nations and the European Union quickly formed a tripartite group to co-ordinate the international response and help address these issues. The OSCE Centre in Bishkek played a central role in co-ordinating activities on the ground. In July, the Centre received OSCE contingency and supplementary funding to help support emergency stabilisation measures. All ongoing programmes were adapted in light of the new circumstances.



■ Politico-military dimension activities

Early warning and conflict prevention. The Centre provided a steady flow of early-warning reporting and analysis to participating States and international partners, focusing especially on monitoring areas of potential conflict. In response to violence in southern Kyrgyzstan in June, the Centre intensified its conflict-management activities. It also worked to promote tolerance and build the capacity of local mediators. It successfully mobilized the mediator system first established in March 2010 in Suzak district to respond to the June violence in Jalal-Abad city. These efforts helped to mitigate the impact of the violence.

Development of political institutions. In response to political instability following the April uprising, the Centre supported the co-operation of political parties on legislative issues, public relations and the electoral process. It assisted with the negotiation and signing of a Code of Conduct between the political parties contesting the October parliamentary elections. The Centre also supported the creation of voter education websites, encouraging an informed choice between the 29 parties, and supported live TV debates, ensuring parties equal access to airtime. It also worked to strengthen women's and youth leadership skills and boost their political participation. Collectively, these activities helped support the peaceful and successful outcome of the constitutional referendum and parliamentary elections.

Media issues. To reopen lines of communication and broaden access to information following the instability, the Centre organized capacity-building activities for journalists and Government spokespersons, with special attention to those in southern Kyrgyzstan. It also continued to promote a free and responsible media, focusing on journalist safety, legislation and the transition from a State-run to a public broadcasting system.

Action against terrorism. The Centre focused on helping Kyrgyzstan strengthen the security of its critical energy infrastructure against terrorist attacks, supporting activities to build capacity and encourage co-operation between relevant State agencies. The Centre continued to promote the public-private partnership concept in combating terrorism, as well as in improving travel document security. Through a series of training events and roundtables, it promoted international standards in countering cyber-terrorism, preventing religious extremism and radicalization in religious institutions, educational institutions and the penitentiary system, and protecting human rights while combating terrorism.

Border security and management. The Centre worked to improve cross-border dialogue and prevent conflict in border areas through the creation and strengthening of local conflict-prevention mechanisms. It continued to support efforts by customs agencies in Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan to deliver sustainable training, via the Customs Training Facility in Bishkek. Regular donor co-ordination was established. The Centre also initiated training of border troops in the three southern provinces, focusing on conflict prevention.

Police reform. The Centre continued to support initiatives in the areas of community-based policing, police education, juvenile-delinquency prevention, police-community relations and gender mainstreaming. In October, an international conference on the role of female police officers in democratic society resulted in the creation of the Association of Women Police of Kyrgyzstan. In response to the April and June events, the Centre actively supported the host country's initiative to establish citizen patrols, which played an important role in helping local police maintain public order.



Internal Troops officers participate in a training session on watercraft patrolling for protection of critical infrastructure in Cholpon-Ata on 1 August 2010. (OSCE/ Kutman Borboev)

Visitors receive information and promotional materials at an anti-corruption event in Bishkek on 9 December 2010. (OSCE/ Raphael Tenaud)

Minister of Interior Colonel Zarylbek Rysaliev, President Roza Otunbayeva and the Head of the OSCE Centre in Bishkek Ambassador Andrew Tesoriere at the opening of the Constituent Assembly of the Association of Women Police in Kyrgyzstan on 1 October 2010. (OSCE/ Kylych Kubatbekov)



■ Economic and environmental dimension activities

In the aftermath of the April and June events the Centre realigned its efforts, concentrating on activities to ease tension and mitigate conflict in the south of Kyrgyzstan.

Economic issues. The Centre laid groundwork to strengthen governance and address the allocation and use of resources such as water and land. Baseline surveys were conducted to measure the impact of future programmes. A survey to assess small-scale cross-border trade was also commissioned. The Centre continued its support of legal labour migration policies and promoted the drafting of a law on private employment agencies. It also supported research by independent experts to assist the Ministry for Labour Migration in formulating a sustainable policy on remittances. The Centre

worked to improve accessibility to investment information by hosting public events for young entrepreneurs and supporting investment catalogues and websites.

Good governance. The Centre facilitated participation by a non-governmental organization (NGO) in the monitoring of the State Directorate responsible for the reconstruction of areas affected during the June violence. It also supported the establishment of anti-corruption telephone hotlines at the airport in Bishkek and other areas. In addition, the Centre supported the publication of a manual for local self-governance bodies and organized training to enhance participants' understanding of their responsibilities. It likewise facilitated public hearings on budgets of local self-governance bodies. To increase youth awareness of anti-corruption efforts in the south, the Centre helped establish students' initiative groups, providing

a forum for discussions on how younger people can address corruption and improve governance.

Environmental issues. The Centre facilitated the inclusion of environmental safety and sustainable development into national curricula of secondary schools and helped establish educational standards. It continued to promote social and economic development in three former uranium-mining villages and further supported the mobile crisis intervention team of the Emergency Ministry in the south. It also helped local farmers upgrade irrigation systems, which helped prevent inter-communal conflicts over water.

Participants at a seminar on the OSCE and Central Asia at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek on 12 October 2010. (OSCE/Sarah Crozier)

OSCE Academy

Now in its eighth year, the OSCE Academy graduated 20 students with a Master of Arts in Political Science and recruited 21 students from Central Asian countries and Afghanistan. It continued its training programmes, focusing this year on journalism and human rights. In September, the Academy held its third forum for security experts, during which participants from Central Asia, East and South-East Asia, Europe and the United States analyzed and discussed key regional security dynamics and functional issues. The Academy's Alumni Network hosted its first reunion in September, with 60 graduates out of 140 attending. In October, the Academy, in co-operation with the Press and Public Information Section, hosted a seminar to mark the 20th anniversary of the Paris Charter and nearly two decades of the independence of the Central Asian States.



Students at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek take part in the OSCE Module, an intensive course in which OSCE professionals share their work experiences with participants, on 2 March 2010. (OSCE Academy/Tatiana Zelichenko)



Officers from Kyrgyzstan's border troops at a training session on the Interpol database in Bishkek on 20 December 2010. (OSCE/Kutman Borboev)



Airport police officers learn how to identify victims of trafficking in human beings at a training session for border guards and transport police in Osh on 17 December 2010. (OSCE/Graziella Pavone)

■ Human dimension activities

Institutional and legal reform. The Centre widely supported the elaboration of a draft Constitution, which was initiated after the April 2010 events. The Constitution aimed to introduce a parliamentary government system in line with OSCE commitments. The Centre co-ordinated efforts of the international community in preparing and communicating legal opinions on the draft Constitution and promoted nationwide public discussions on the proposed amendments. To help the Kyrgyz Republic prepare for the 27 June constitutional referendum and the 10 October parliamentary elections, the Centre launched voter-education initiatives, including television and radio public-service announcements, debates, information campaigns and election-related publications. It also facilitated the training of election representatives and other State officials, the organization of voting in detention facilities and independent domestic observation.

Penal reform. The Centre supported training of prison personnel as part of efforts to align practices with national and international human rights standards. It also worked to strengthen the management of penitentiary facilities, to build the capacity of local human rights defenders who monitor detention facilities and to improve detention conditions and treatment, in particular for prisoners serving life sentences. The Centre regularly provided advice on maintaining security in penitentiary facilities, including during times of conflict.

Promoting adherence to international human rights standards. The Centre promoted the training of judges, prosecutors, police and court personnel in the application of international and national human rights acts. It assisted in strengthening the capacities of local NGOs to effectively address human rights violations, facilitated monitoring of trials and worked to improve the treatment of those in police custody. The latter was of particular importance after events in April

and June. The Centre supported central and municipal authorities in establishing an effective mechanism of State-guaranteed free legal advice and protection for vulnerable groups.

Promoting gender equality and fighting trafficking in human beings. The Centre continued to carry out awareness campaigns on gender equality and to promote women's participation in Government, in particular in the context of the 10 October parliamentary elections. The Centre also assisted in the promotion of women's rights in the peace-building process, conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction. Further efforts were undertaken to support public awareness campaigns about domestic violence, bride kidnapping and trafficking in human beings, in particular among the youth. The Centre assisted in developing and reviewing national anti-trafficking legislation and co-ordination among civil society, law-enforcement and local authorities in southern Kyrgyzstan.

Office in Tajikistan

Head of Office: Ambassador Ivar Vikki

Budget: €5,926,200

www.osce.org/tajikistan

Moving forward towards a comprehensive security approach incorporating all three dimensions, the Office focused on border security and management, ranging from activities within the Border Management Staff College to mine clearance near the Tajik-Afghan border; on practical action to address economic and environmental challenges; and on promotion and protection of human rights.



■ Politico-military dimension activities

Political dialogue. In co-operation with the Public Council of Tajikistan, the Office supported the Social Partnership Club, inviting civil society and Government representatives to participate in discussions of important societal issues such as energy security, information security and labour migration. The Office also hosted monthly discussions on current political issues for political party and civil society representatives at its five field offices. In addition, the Office facilitated the participation of Parliamentary observers in election observation missions to the United Kingdom and the United States to strengthen the engagement of the newly elected Tajik Parliament with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Border security. The National Border Strategy that was developed with the Office's support was adopted by the Government. The Office also conducted training in patrolling for border troops and in search techniques for customs officers and provided the necessary equipment to both groups. In co-operation with national border and law-enforcement academies, the Office developed training curricula and led a workshop for Tajik and Afghan officers on border delegate co-operation.

Support for police reform and counter terrorism. The Office, in co-operation with the Interior Ministry, developed a Memorandum of Understanding establishing principles for police reform and also introduced change

management strategies to hone the organizational skills of senior police management. In co-operation with the Drug Control Agency, the Office continued its countrywide campaign against illicit drugs, targeting young people in particular. The Office also conducted research into violent extremism and radicalization as a means to develop effective response strategies that protect human rights and ensure freedom of belief.

Small arms and light weapons and conventional ammunition (SALW and CA). To further improve security and the management of stockpiles of SALW and CA, the Office supported national training capacity and assisted in the establishment a Centre for Emergency Situations and Other Incidents.

Confidence- and security-building measures. The Office supported the Government's efforts to observe its commitments under the Vienna Document 1999 through capacity-building initiatives at the Tajik Verification Centre, improving its ongoing information exchange through the OSCE Information Exchange Network. In addition, the Office supported the participation of specialists from the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in OSCE-wide security-related events and training.

Mine clearance. The Office continued to assist the Defence Ministry's National De-mining Unit on mine clearance near the Tajik/Afghan border. Nine minefields were located, marked and mapped within the OSCE-created border minefield database. To promote the establishment of a regional framework for co-operation on mine clearance, the Office and its partner, the International Trust Fund, conducted, *inter alia*, a regional technical workshop on co-operation mechanisms.

Launched in May 2009, the OSCE Border Management Staff College (BMSC) conducted 11 seminars as well as its first Staff Course, training a total of 257 mid-level and high-ranking border, customs and drug control agency officers from 19 OSCE participating States and Afghanistan. A one-month intensive course offered the participants coherent training on border management and comprehensive security across the three OSCE dimensions. The BMSC is assisted and advised by an Academic Advisory Board and a Consortium of National Training Institutes, which also provide expertise and resources.

The Tajik/Afghan border crossing at Nyzhny Pjansh in November 2010. (OSCE/Carolyn Drake)



Boys in Tojikabat display an educational leaflet distributed in July 2010 as part of an OSCE-supported drug prevention campaign by Tajikistan's Drug Control Agency. (OSCE/Oliver Janser)



Preparation of a remote-controlled mine clearance machine used to map and mark mine fields on the Tajik/Afghan border in November 2010. (OSCE/Carolyn Drake)



■ Economic and environmental dimension activities

Cross-border trade. The Office, through its three cross-border trade promotion centres, supported local entrepreneurs engaged in trade with neighbouring countries, reaching more than 940 beneficiaries. Moreover, host country officials acquired best practices in management of free economic zones, helping to attract approximately €14.5 million in private investment in the Sughd Free Economic Zone. Officials were also introduced to the concept of public-private partnerships to modernize trade operations at border crossings.

Energy security. The Office facilitated creation of an inter-ministerial group on the development of small hydropower stations, with a focus on creating an appropriate regulatory framework to attract domestic and foreign private investors.

Encouraging business establishment. The Office provided practical guidance on establishing service co-operatives for entrepreneurs in rural areas and offered training to returning migrant labourers on how to start their own businesses.

Water management. The Office trained officials from the water, energy and agricultural sectors in confidence-building measures and conducted a study tour on best practices in river basin management for senior members of the Kyrgyz-Tajik Inter-ministerial Working Group on Water Management. The Office also strengthened co-operation with the Tajikistan Branch of the Executive

Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea.

Environmental policies and awareness. The Office supported research on climate change in Tajikistan and assisted a working group in drafting waste regulations for energy-saving bulbs. It also advised officials and corporate representatives on policy tools that link business development with environmental protection. To promote environmental awareness, the Office continued to support Aarhus Centres and youth activities that supplement environmental education in schools.

Good governance. In 2010, the Office began working on policy-driven anti-corruption activities by offering consultations on best practices for senior policymakers in the legislative and executive branches of the Government.

■ Human dimension activities

Human rights and rule of law. The Office continued to support institutional development of the Office of the Human Rights Ombudsman. It sustained national and regional dialogue between Government and civil society on detention issues, access to justice, freedom of religion and capital punishment. The Office also fostered multi-agency engagement in improving human rights education.

Democratization of the media. To improve consumer access to information, the Office helped print media establish a distribution co-operative and provided training to increase reader orientation of editorial

policies. It also facilitated Government-civil society dialogue on legal and programming challenges posed by the switchover to digital broadcasting. Having previously assisted in the establishment of a media self-regulation body, the Office provided additional help in its implementation and regional outreach.

Elections. To promote voter education prior to February 2010 parliamentary elections, the Office produced television and radio spots, reached more than 18,000 voters in face-to-face community outreach, blanketed print media with instructional materials and held youth debate camps on the political process.

Anti-trafficking in human beings. The Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs began the quarterly Dialogue on Human Trafficking, convening high-level Government officials, civil society organizations and international actors to discuss anti-trafficking issues, including the National Action Plan. It also helped the Police Academy develop an interactive course on anti-trafficking investigation techniques, which is now included in the curriculum.

Gender. The Office supported the Interior Ministry by training specialized police units in recognizing and responding to domestic violence cases, providing equipment and facilitating co-operation with local crisis centres operated by civil society organizations. The Office also trained civil servants in gender-sensitive budgeting and helped develop community action plans to promote girls' education.

Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

Project Co-ordinator: **Ambassador Istvan Venczel**
Budget: **€1,868,300**
www.osce.org/tashkent

The Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan continued its efforts to implement projects and encourage the participation of Uzbek officials and civil society in OSCE events and project activities in the three dimensions.



■ Politico-military dimension activities

Police reform. With the Police Academy, the Project Co-ordinator supported capacity-building for law-enforcement staff, focusing on counter-terrorism, management training and new methods in crime investigation.

Combating the impact of drug trafficking. The Project Co-ordinator organized training and published handbooks and toolkits on drug-abuse treatment for National Drug Control Agency staff and for social and medical workers.

Biometric passports. In co-ordination with the OSCE Action Against Terrorism Unit, the Project Co-ordinator shared with local partners the benefits of and technical requirements for participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization/Public Key Directory (ICAO). The Project Co-ordinator also provided technical support and training to ensure sustainable performance at data collection centers.

Media development. The Project Co-ordinator, in co-operation with the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, organized a camera-training course for young journalists and regional representatives of the National Association of Electronic Mass Media.

Development of civil society. The Project Co-ordinator organized a number of training courses to help build the capacity of socio-political organizations and supported the organization of public events on legislative and multiparty systems.

■ Economic and environmental dimension activities

Good governance. The Project Co-ordinator continued to support efforts to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism structures. It co-ordinated the development of software to detect suspicious transactions, which will be used throughout the banking sector. National compliance officers received training on the

international legal framework on combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism, micro-financing, the Financial Action Task Force Recommendations, the Third Directive of the European Commission and other related structures. The Project Co-ordinator also helped establish working contacts to facilitate Uzbekistan's accession to the Egmont Group in 2011.

Promoting entrepreneurship. The Project Co-ordinator organized a series of training seminars and roundtables in different regions reaching out to judges, lawyers, entrepreneurs and other interested parties. The aim of these activities was to promote arbitration — rather than litigation — as a more rapid and economical means of settling disputes. The Project Co-ordinator also supported the drafting of the Commentary to the second part of the Civil Code.

Reforming legislation. To increase transparency in decision-making, the Project Co-ordinator launched a project with the ministries of Justice, Economy and Finance to elaborate a methodology for measuring regulatory quality and assess the impact of draft legal acts on economic development.

Supporting farming and rural development. In co-operation with the Farmers' Association and the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Management, the Project Co-ordinator continued working through its regional network of farming development centres. The Project Co-ordinator provided training courses on sustainable farming, with particular emphasis on efficient use of water in irrigated farming. Together with the MASHAV Centre for International Cooperation (Israel), the Project Co-ordinator also organized training-of-trainers on desertification issues and new technologies in agriculture.

Monitoring environmental threats. The Project Co-ordinator supported the elaboration of a methodology and two field missions by specialists to monitor surface

Uzbek farmers learn about cattle breeding on a visit to Germany on 1 July 2010. (OSCE/Caroline Milow)

Deputy Minister for Foreign Economic Relations, Investments and Trade Shavkat Tulyaganov (*third from left*) opens the Euro Asian Transport Links Expert Group Meeting in Tashkent on 1 November 2010. (Mercury Service)



water flows and bottom sediments along the transboundary territories of the Syrdarya River Basin. Findings were used to establish a database to be shared by specialists from Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan and to formulate recommendations on remedying environmental damage.

Facilitating Eurasian transport. In November, the Project Co-ordinator, in co-operation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, Investments and Trade, organized the Fifth Expert Group Meeting within the Euro Asian Transport Links Project in Tashkent. Participants discussed the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to Euro-Asian inland transport routes and agreed on data to be collected and processed in order to identify and prioritize inland routes.

■ Human dimension activities

Supporting the Ombudsperson. The Project Co-ordinator continued to assist the Ombudsperson, installing complaints database software in the Central Office and organizing special training on its use. The Project Co-ordinator also published a new edition of the *World Ombudsmen* handbook and organized a study tour to Hungary and Portugal.

Promoting human rights. The Project Co-ordinator continued to promote human rights and rule-of-law principles among

justice officials and judges through regional workshops and supported the establishment of the Scientific-Practical Laboratory on International Law at the Research Centre under the Supreme Court. It also participated in capacity-building activities by organizing a training course on human rights monitoring for police officers and by printing related handbooks.

Combating trafficking in human beings. The Project Co-ordinator implemented workshops for law enforcement investigators, customs officers and judges and organized investigative training for police officers. It supported efforts to raise the professional capacity of defence lawyers, promote adequate protection of victims and ensure access to effective legal remedies. An international workshop on protecting the rights of trafficked persons served as an opportunity for experts to share experiences, identify challenges and find solutions.

Supporting the Department of Human Rights Theory and Practice at the Police Academy. The Project Co-ordinator initiated a two-year project to build the capacity of the Police Academy's Department of Human Rights Theory and Practice through technical support, publications and training-for-trainers.



Assistance with bilateral agreements

Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners

The Representative continued to assist in the implementation of the 1994 bilateral agreement between the Latvian and Russian Governments on social guarantees for military pensioners of the Russian Federation and their families residing in Latvia. The latest available overview listed 14,285 persons who receive a pension from the federal budget of the Russian Federation — 8,035 persons fewer than when the Agreement was signed on 30 April 1994.

■ Activities and developments

No official commission meetings in 2010. No individual complaints were brought to the attention of the Commission by military pensioners in 2010. On the other hand, the Russian and Latvian sides are still engaged in identifying possible procedures that could allow additional persons to be included on the list of eligible military pensioners. The Representative has already provided some ideas on the possible composition of an adjusted list. Different opinions concerning the application of specific provisions of the Agreement were still under discussion at the national level and prevented the Latvian and Russian parties from agreeing to official discussions on this issue in 2010. However, it is expected that a common understanding regarding which basic principles should determine the composition of the military pensioners' list will be established in the coming year.

OSCE Representative: **Helmut Napiontek**
Budget: €9,300

Institutions



Above left:
A news stand in Kazakhstan.
(OSCE/Lubomir Kotek)

Above right:
Polling station commission
members in Grigorivka, Kirovohrad
region, during the second round of
presidential elections in Ukraine
on 7 February 2010. (OSCE/Adam
Adamus)

Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), as the Organization's main Institution focusing on the human dimension, organized events and activities to promote the implementation of OSCE commitments in the areas of democracy, rule of law, human rights, and tolerance and non-discrimination. It covered 21 elections in 2010 and continued to assist participating States in ensuring that their national legislation is in line with OSCE commitments.

■ Monitoring implementation

Elections remained a primary focus for ODIHR in 2010, and the Office continued to widen the scope of its assistance to participating States in conducting elections in line with OSCE commitments. Observers for election missions were drawn from 51 participating States.

Following April's violent unrest in Kyrgyzstan, ODIHR sent observation missions to two vital votes in the country: the constitutional referendum in June and parliamentary elections in October. The Permanent Council also asked ODIHR to deploy an election support team for parliamentary elections in Afghanistan.

Continuing to intensify its follow-up activities on election processes, the Office conducted visits to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, the

former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Romania, Tajikistan and Ukraine.

The Office continued to refine and develop its observation methodology, publishing the sixth edition of the *ODIHR Election Observation Handbook* in 2010. The Office also issued a report based on the monitoring of trials following post-election violence in Armenia in 2008. Several roundtables with Armenia's justice authorities on concrete proposals to address identified shortcomings followed the report's publication.

Against a backdrop of growing intolerance toward Roma in a number of participating States, the Office closely monitored events in the summer of 2010 and maintained communication with the government of France over concerns about the dismantling of illegal

ODIHR Election Activities 2010

Country	Election	Date	Type of mission
Croatia	Presidential, 2nd round	11 January	Limited observation
Ukraine	Presidential	17 January, 7 February	Observation
Tajikistan	Parliamentary	28 February	Observation
Hungary	Parliamentary	11 April	Assessment
Austria	Presidential	25 April	Assessment
United Kingdom	General	6 May	Assessment
Georgia	Local	30 May	Observation
Netherlands	Early parliamentary	9 June	Assessment
Slovakia	Parliamentary	12 June	Assessment
Kyrgyzstan	Constitutional referendum	27 June	Observation
Moldova	Constitutional referendum	5 September	Election expert team
Afghanistan	Parliamentary	18 September	Election support team
Latvia	Parliamentary	2 October	Limited observation
Bosnia and Herzegovina	General	3 October	Observation
Kyrgyzstan	Parliamentary	10 October	Observation
Ukraine	Local	31 October	Election expert team
United States	Congressional mid-term	2 November	Assessment
Azerbaijan	Parliamentary	7 November	Observation
Moldova	Early parliamentary	28 November	Observation
Turkmenistan	Local	5 December	Election expert team
Belarus	Presidential	19 December	Observation

ODIHR published the sixth edition of the *ODIHR Election Handbook* in 2010.



ODIHR Director Ambassador Janez Lenarčič (*below, right*) and the Chairman of the Russian Central Election Commission, Vladimir Churov, in discussion at the ODIHR office in Warsaw on 1 February 2010. (OSCE/Jens Eschenbaecher)

Ambassador Lenarčič (*foreground, left*) and his adviser Bernhard Knoll (*foreground, right*) speak with election officials at a polling station in Osh, Kyrgyzstan, during parliamentary elections on 10 October 2010. (OSCE/Jens Eschenbaecher)



Roma settlements and the offering of financial incentives to Roma to return to their country of origin.

ODIHR also released a report in 2010 on a field assessment visit to Hungary, which was carried out after attacks on Roma in 2008 and early 2009 resulted in a number of deaths. A follow-up roundtable discussion on the report's findings and recommendations was jointly organized with the Hungarian Government on 23 November, in Budapest.

■ Human dimension events

Leading up to the 2010 OSCE Summit in Astana, the Office played an important role in organizing and hosting the first segment of the Review Conference, in Warsaw from 30 September to 8 October. Several hundred participants — representatives of governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), intergovernmental organizations and the media — reviewed progress made by participating States in implementing human dimension commitments.

ODIHR assisted the Chairmanship in organizing the OSCE High-Level Conference on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination, held in Astana in June. A civil society event prior to the conference drew 200 participants.

ODIHR also supported the Chairmanship in organizing two Supplementary Human Dimension Meetings in Vienna. The May meeting focused on challenges and best practices for improving gender balance and women's participation in political and public

life, while the theme for the December meeting was freedom of religion or belief.

The Office hosted a Human Dimension Seminar in May, focused on strengthening judicial independence.

■ Support for implementation

The War Crimes Justice Project, a €4 million capacity-building initiative, got underway in May. It provides support to the legal and judicial institutions handling domestic war crimes caseloads in South-Eastern Europe by sharing expertise and practices developed by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). The Project, operating in partnership with the ICTY, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and OSCE field operations in the region, was set up to respond to the needs and capacity gaps identified by local actors during the first phase of the Project.

Based on several country studies and expert consultations, ODIHR, in co-operation with Germany's Max Planck Institute, issued the Kyiv Recommendations on Judicial Independence in Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia, which list key good practices regarding judicial administration and selection and accountability of judicial officers, for implementation by participating States.

Continuing its efforts to combat hate crime, the Office organized training seminars for the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and the OSCE Mission in Bosnia and

Herzegovina and for staff of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). In co-operation with OSCE field operations, ODIHR convened a seminar on hate crimes for government officials and NGOs in Moldova and Serbia and, at the request of the European Commission, provided related training for police officers in Georgia. ODIHR also supported police training in Poland and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In response to MC.DEC/9/09, ODIHR organized two expert meetings, in March and May, respectively, on the potential link between the use of the Internet and hate crimes. These meetings attracted participants from governments, major web media firms and civil society.

ODIHR's *Hate Crime Laws: A Practical Guide* served as the focus of a roundtable held in Moscow, and briefings on the issue for civil society were delivered in London, The Hague, Istanbul, Moscow, Berlin and Copenhagen.

In the area of migration, the Office conducted research aimed at helping Ukraine and Kazakhstan meet OSCE commitments on the integration and civic participation of migrants. The Office was involved in the elaboration of *Gender and Labour Migration: A Trainer's Manual* and its application in a number of training events. The Office also assisted authorities in Kyrgyzstan in reforming the country's residency and civil registers in order to enhance freedom of

A voter casts his ballot at a polling station in Zhodino during the presidential election in Belarus on 19 December 2010. OSCE observers, including ODIHR Director Janez Lenarčič, can be seen in the background speaking with polling-station officials. (OSCE/Jens Eschenbaecher)



Below right: Hungarian police officer Gabriella Bán at a press conference to launch an OSCE guide on building trust between police and Roma and Sinti communities, with ODIHR's Andrzej Mirga (centre) and Kevin Carty of the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit, in Vienna on 21 May 2010. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)



movement and facilitate data collection for voter lists.

ODIHR provided legal and technical expertise to support national human rights institutions and co-operated closely with these bodies in countries such as Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro.

During the year, in collaboration with other international organizations and OSCE field operations, the Office organized training workshops on countering terrorism and protecting human rights for law-enforcement officials in Turkmenistan and in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, as well as for the Border Management Staff College in Tajikistan.

In the area of freedom of assembly, the Office co-operated with the Council of Europe and local experts in providing training for local human rights defenders in Georgia, preparing them to monitor and report on upcoming assemblies.

The quality of human rights education and training by the OSCE was enhanced by a capacity-building workshop for OSCE field operations, while another international workshop — the first of its kind — explored the importance of developing human rights education standards to improve practice. Both events were held in September in Istanbul. The Office also supported the development of resources on human rights education and civic participation for use in Belarus and for adaptation to other national contexts.

ODIHR continued to work with State authorities and civil society across the OSCE region to ensure that responses to human trafficking are human rights-based, by providing trafficked persons with access to

justice and building the capacity of criminal justice actors.

The development of country-specific teaching materials for Austria and Hungary to counter anti-Semitism brought to 16 the number of participating States in which ODIHR supports teacher-training seminars of this kind. Modeled after the existing guidelines on anti-Semitism, ODIHR continued work in 2010 on developing guidelines to address intolerance against Muslims, in co-operation with the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Council of Europe.

At the request of Switzerland's Federal Commission against Racism, ODIHR organized a roundtable for Muslim organizations in Switzerland in October to discuss the establishment of an umbrella organization for Muslims.

Following up on MC.DEC/8/09, stressing the importance and benefits of early education for Roma and Sinti children, ODIHR issued a report in December on their enrollment and participation, based on responses from participating States and civil society to a questionnaire produced by the Office. An important development in this area in 2010 was the establishment by the Council of Europe, ODIHR, UNESCO, UNICEF, the European Commission, the Roma Education Fund and the International Step by Step Association of a task force to find solutions to the problems plaguing Roma and Sinti in this area.

ODIHR also partnered with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit in the Secretariat to publish and launch a manual featuring good practices in building trust and

understanding between police and Roma and Sinti communities.

■ Legal support

The Office commented during the year on draft laws concerning freedom of assembly, freedom of association, freedom of information and freedom of religion, as well as on laws addressing hate crimes, elections, political parties, gender issues, domestic violence, trafficking in human beings, anti-discrimination policies, judicial independence, criminal matters and constitutional amendments. Many of the opinions were followed up by in-country consultations to discuss recommendations and share expertise from throughout the OSCE region.

The Office's legislative support activities also included the revision and publication, in partnership with the Council of Europe's Venice Commission, of the *Guidelines on Freedom of Assembly* and the drafting and adoption of the *Guidelines on Political Party Regulations*.

Another focus of ODIHR's activities in the area of legislative support is evaluating law-making systems, looking at how laws are prepared, discussed, adopted and monitored. The Office conducted a comprehensive assessment of Moldova's law-making system in 2010, and preliminary assessments are being planned for Albania, Armenia and Serbia.

Director: **Ambassador Janez Lenarčič**
Budget: **€15,986,800**

www.osce.org/odihr

High Commissioner on National Minorities

The High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) Institution was created in 1992 to identify and seek early resolution of ethnic tensions that might endanger peace, stability or friendly relations between or within OSCE participating States.

In 2010, the High Commissioner continued to address ethnic tensions within and between States, examining conditions for minority communities in many participating States and advising them on how to improve national legislation related to minorities and interethnic relations in general. The High Commissioner also assisted a number of countries in their bilateral dialogue on national minority issues and continued to promote the Bolzano/Bozen Recommendations on National Minorities in Inter-State Relations.

Estonia and Latvia. The High Commissioner continued to be involved in Estonia and Latvia, including examining proposed language legislation in Estonia and the Law on Electronic Media in Latvia to assess implications for national minorities. The HCNM seconded an adviser to the ODIHR Limited Election Observation Mission to the Latvian parliamentary elections in October. Following the elections the High Commissioner reiterated his concern about the still-high number of non-citizens in Latvia and urged the newly elected Government to take a constructive approach to issues of language and citizenship.

Georgia. The High Commissioner visited Georgia in February, March and November 2010. In February he travelled to Abkhazia, and in November to South Ossetia. During these trips the High Commissioner visited camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and discussed the return of IDPs with the relevant authorities.

The High Commissioner assessed conditions for different communities in Abkhazia and South Ossetia, especially for ethnic Georgians in the Gali and Akhgori districts, respectively. In Sukhumi and in Tskhinvali, he expressed concern regarding language and education rights, compulsory “passportization”, potential expulsion, forced conscription and restrictions on freedom of movement. He urged *de facto* authorities in Sukhumi and Tskhinvali to refrain from putting additional pressure on the remaining Georgian community in the Gali and Akhgori districts, as this could potentially increase tensions and aggravate the humanitarian situation on the ground.

The High Commissioner continued his engagement on the Meskhetian repatriation process and stressed the need to tackle this issue in a timely, comprehensive and strategic manner. He assisted the Georgian Government in setting up an inter-institutional framework and developing a long-term strategy for the repatriation and reintegration of the Meskhetians. He also continued his

discourse with the Georgian Government on the implementation of its policy on national minorities, conflict prevention and various integration activities, especially in the Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kvemo-Kartli districts of Georgia.

Kyrgyzstan. The High Commissioner visited Kyrgyzstan twice following the uprising in April 2010 and three more times following the violence in June. He deemed the situation in the country particularly serious and on a number of occasions brought this to the attention of the participating States. At the Permanent Council on 6 May, he expressed concern that interethnic relations might further deteriorate. In accordance with his mandate, the High Commissioner issued an early warning on 12 June and urged participating States to take immediate action to prevent further violence in the south of Kyrgyzstan, particularly in Osh and Jalalabad.

During subsequent visits the High Commissioner urged the new authorities to take tangible steps to re-establish law and order in the south, to ensure protection, to prevent intimidation and harassment of persons belonging to the Uzbek minority and to engage in a dialogue with leaders of the Uzbek community. He reiterated his concern in this regard in his Statement to the Permanent Council on 18 November: “Despite notable improvements on the humanitarian situation and reconstruction fronts, the security and human rights situation in the south of Kyrgyzstan remains volatile. [...] The Government should clearly articulate its intention and take visible steps to restore law and order, to stop discrimination of national minorities in the short-term and to develop and implement comprehensive policies on integration of national minorities in the medium- and longer-term perspective.” (HCNM.GAL/5/10/Rev.1)

To address the underlying causes of the June events, the High Commissioner continued to work with Kyrgyz authorities to develop their state concept on interethnic relations and integration of national minorities. He also

OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities Knut Vollebaek (*left*) speaks at the presentation of a study on higher education needs in Serbia's Presevo and Bujanovac municipalities, in Belgrade on 3 March 2010. (OSCE/Milan Obradovic)

Ambassador Vollebaek at the opening session of the OSCE Review Conference in Warsaw on 30 September 2010. (OSCE/Piotr Markowski)



engaged with the new authorities regarding the implementation of multilingual and multicultural education under the current difficult circumstances.

Moldova. During his visit to the country in February, the High Commissioner exchanged views with the new Moldovan Government on the issue of integration of national minorities. Based on an agreement reached during the visit, he facilitated the deployment of an international expert to Moldova, who assisted the authorities in elaborating a programme on integration.

The High Commissioner also discussed Moldova's language policy, in particular language regulation in the cinema sphere. Shortly after his visit he provided an assessment of a draft amendment of the Cinema Law.

Finally, the High Commissioner addressed education issues in Transdnistria, including the rights of Moldovan children wishing to study in their mother tongue using the Latin script. Discussions also focused on ways to enhance intercultural and tolerance education in the region.

Russian Federation. The High Commissioner visited North Ossetia in November. He met with education authorities at a multilingual school in Vladikavkaz and reiterated his interest in supporting Russia's efforts in multilingual and intercultural education.

Serbia. During visits in March and October, the High Commissioner focused on the

issue of national minorities' access to higher education. He discussed follow-up to a feasibility study commissioned by the Serbian Government to assess the viability of multi-ethnic higher education institutions in the municipalities of Bujanovac and Presevo. On his visit to Bujanovac in October, the High Commissioner welcomed the Government's announcement of its decision to open a Faculty of Economics there in 2011 and pledged continuous support of multilingual higher education, which will eventually enhance the integration of the Albanian minority in Serbia.

Having delivered a legal analysis of the Draft Law on National Minority Councils the preceding year, the High Commissioner followed up on the election, establishment and effective functioning of these councils, emphasizing their important role in articulating minorities' interests.

The High Commissioner continued to focus on educational issues in **Kosovo**¹, following up on efforts to ensure access to education for Gorani children in the Dragash/Dragas municipality. He also launched specific initiatives aimed at fostering mutual understanding between ethnic communities, including the drafting of a textbook for civic and inter-cultural education, which uses interactive pedagogy to encourage respect and appreciation of diversity.

¹ All references to Kosovo institutions/leaders refer to the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government.

Slovakia-Hungary. The High Commissioner continued his engagement in Slovakia and Hungary, focusing on issues of dual citizenship and the use of the State language and minority languages in Slovakia. He assisted Slovak authorities in their efforts to find the right legal balance between promoting the use and knowledge of the State language and protecting the linguistic rights of national minorities.

The Slovak State Language Law underwent several stages of amendments. The High Commissioner was involved throughout the process and was satisfied with the level of co-operation with authorities in Bratislava. In his analysis, he concluded that strengthening the State language is a legitimate aim, as long as the measures aimed at achieving this aim do not unduly restrict the linguistic rights of national minorities and do not limit basic human rights and freedoms, including the freedom of expression. At the same time, he recommended that Slovak authorities also review minority language legislation to ensure that it is compatible with the amended State Language Law.

Ukraine. In September, the High Commissioner visited Ukraine. A great deal of his time there was devoted to the situation in Crimea, including the long-standing problem of illegal seizure of land, the allotment of land for the planned construction of the Central Mosque in Simferopol and especially the need for a legal framework regulating the rights of formerly deported people. In advance of his visit, the High Commissioner

Ambassador Vollebaek delivers a press statement on the adoption of a strategy on integrated education by the Government of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, in Skopje on 7 October 2010. (OSCE/Mirvete Mustafa Islam)



Ambassador Vollebaek observes the reconstruction of a site in Maevka, Kyrgyzstan, that was damaged during looting in April 2010, on 1 July 2010. (OSCE/Alimjan Jorobaev)



had provided the authorities with his assessment of the most recent Draft Law on the Restoration of Rights of Persons Deported on Ethnic Grounds, which, overall, was positive.

The High Commissioner also engaged in dialogue with the Ukrainian authorities with regard to language legislation. Subsequent to his visit, he provided his assessment of a controversial Draft Law on Languages, which was submitted by members of the parliamentary majority.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. During his visit to Skopje in October, the High Commissioner commended the authorities of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia for their adoption of the Strategy on Integrated Education. This strategy constitutes a comprehensive policy framework, the implementation of which will facilitate mutual understanding between communities and consolidate stability in the country. He also discussed modalities for providing authorities the necessary expertise and advice in designing and implementing the long-term reform envisaged in this strategy in areas such as language acquisition, curriculum and textbooks, teacher training and school governance.

■ Thematic issues

HCNM Recommendations

During 2010, the High Commissioner hosted regional roundtables — in Vienna, London and The Hague and covering Central

and Eastern Europe, Western Europe and North America and the Black Sea regions, respectively — on the implementation of the Bolzano/Bozen Recommendations on National Minorities in Inter-State Relations. The purpose of these roundtables was to further highlight good practices, to address contested issues and to discuss how the Recommendations can be applied and implemented in specific regional contexts.

Education of persons belonging to national minorities

Education has been and continues to be central to the work of successive OSCE High Commissioners on National Minorities. The 2010 Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting, hosted by the HCNM with organizational support from ODIHR in Vienna (22-23 July), was devoted entirely to education of persons belonging to national minorities. It addressed the need to combine tuition in and through the minority language with tuition in the State language and the increasing trend towards segregated education in many OSCE States.

Language legislation

The HCNM assessed a number of new language laws and amendments to existing language legislation in various OSCE participating States. While the justifiable intention of such legislation is almost always to strengthen the State language by promoting its use in public life, the HCNM's efforts aim to find the right balance between integration of national minorities through promotion of

the State language and respect for linguistic diversity. In his experience, the best way to strengthen the State language in education, the media and public and cultural life is by adopting a positive approach, as negative measures designed to restrict the use of minority languages or to impose burdens upon speakers of minority languages are likely to be counter-productive and may increase tensions between different groups, especially if a punitive approach is taken.

Roma and Sinti

The High Commissioner continued to raise concerns over the situation of Roma and Sinti communities during his country visits, in particular with regard to non-discrimination and the right to free movement within the European Union. He initiated a project in Kosovo aimed at increasing sensitivity to the rights, needs and interests of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities within the school learning environment, based on a grass-roots approach to engage teachers, school directors, civil society organizations and parents from those communities. The 2008 joint assessment with the Council of Europe's Commissioner for Human Rights, entitled *Recent Migration of Roma in Europe*, was re-launched in order to cast focus on the report's concrete recommendations to participating States.

High Commissioner: **Knut Vollebaek**

Budget: **€3,317,500**

www.osce.org/hcnm

Representative on Freedom of the Media

Dunja Mijatović, a media law and regulation expert from Bosnia and Herzegovina, took office on 11 March 2010, as the OSCE's third Representative on Freedom of the Media. As Representative, she is charged with the responsibility of monitoring media-freedom issues, acting as a watchdog to promote full compliance with OSCE principles and commitments relating to freedom of expression and free media, and provides rapid response to serious non-compliance with OSCE principles and commitments by participating States.

■ Monitoring and intervention

The Representative concentrated on rapid response to instances of serious non-compliance with OSCE principles and commitments by participating States. In case of problems related to obstruction of media activities and unfavourable working conditions for journalists, the Representative pursued direct contact with the participating State and other parties involved, assessed the facts and contributed to the resolution of the situation.

The Representative provided an early-warning function and co-operated closely with the participating States, the Permanent Council, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the High Commissioner on National Minorities and, where appropriate, other OSCE entities, as well as national and international media associations.

From the beginning, Mijatović has challenged participating States to work to improve conditions for journalists and for all those who wish to speak their minds.

Following in the footsteps of her predecessors, Miklós Haraszti and Freimut Duve, Mijatović pursued a multi-faceted policy of rapid intervention throughout the OSCE region, already supporting journalists and free-speech advocates in half of the 56 participating States during her first nine months in office. Examples include stepping up to argue on behalf of incarcerated bloggers and pressing the case for independent newspapers that are tormented by libel suits filed by government agencies and officials.

Interventions on behalf of media ranged from quiet diplomacy at the ambassadorial and ministerial level to public displays of concern through press statements and speeches when media are physically attacked or groundlessly incarcerated.

■ Main challenges

Recognizing the depth and breadth of the challenges of her Office, the Representative has embarked on a variety of measures designed to increase the ability of the Representative's Office to enhance free media and free expression across the OSCE region.

Violence against media. During a year in which two journalists were murdered, another went missing and is feared dead, and dozens more were beaten, harassed and intimidated, the Representative vigorously spoke out against such violence, demanding that government officials at all levels act to create conditions in which journalists can do their jobs without fear of harm. The Representative carried this message to all regions of the OSCE and engaged in dialogue with government officials at the highest levels to gain their support for swift and effective prosecution of these cases.

Campaign against criminal defamation. The Representative also vigorously condemned actions taken by governments to silence dissent. Among these is the use of archaic laws that criminalize free speech.

Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Dunja Mijatović, as one of the founders of the Communications Regulatory Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1998, helped create a legal and policy framework for media in that complex post-war society. She also was involved in establishing a self-regulatory Press Council and the first Free Media Helpline in South-Eastern Europe.

Mijatović was appointed Chairperson of the European Platform of Regulatory Authorities, the largest media regulators' network in the world, in 2007. She held this post until her appointment as the Representative.

From 2005 to 2007, she chaired the Council of Europe's Group of Specialists on freedom of expression and information in times of crisis. In that role, she was instrumental in steering a declaration on the protection and promotion of investigative journalism through the Council's Committee of Ministers. She also played a key role in developing guidelines on protecting freedom of expression and information in times of crisis.

Mijatović has written extensively on "new media" topics. She also has served as a consultant on projects relating to media regulation and new technologies in Europe and the Middle East.

She is a graduate of the University of Sarajevo, the University of Bologna and the London School of Economics.



In 2010, the Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media sponsored *The Legal Leaks Toolkit*, a guide on accessing government-held information developed by Access Info Europe and the Network for Reporting on Eastern Europe. Project co-ordinator Viktoria Anderika Cafferena of Access Info Europe (*below*) speaks at the launch of the publication in Berlin on World Press Freedom Day on 3 May 2010. (OSCE)

Dunja Mijatović, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, took office on 11 March 2010. (OSCE)



The Representative is pleased to report that a campaign to end criminal libel in the participating States, launched by the Office in 2004, has gained momentum. At the start of the campaign, there were six OSCE participating States that had decriminalized libel. Now there are 11: Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Estonia, Georgia, Ireland, Moldova, Romania, the United Kingdom, Ukraine, and the United States. Still, dozens of journalists remain behind bars for simply expressing their opinions. Across the region, libel laws, both criminal and civil, are used to punish dissent and restrict the free flow of information.

The Representative will continue to make this movement a centrepiece of her activities throughout her term in Office.

Assistance to governments dealing with the technological revolution. Recognizing the opportunities and potential pitfalls associated with the switch from analogue to digital terrestrial broadcasting, the Representative in 2010 provided a comprehensive, OSCE-wide analysis of the legal, regulatory and public-policy considerations to be taken into account. *The Guide to the Digital Switchover* is available in hard copy and on the

OSCE website in both English (www.osce.org/fom/73720.pdf) and Russian (www.osce.org/ru/fom/73721.pdf).

Free expression on the Internet. New media, including freedom of expression on the Internet, is another main focus of activities. The Representative embarked on a project to quantify the state of free expression on the Internet by providing a comprehensive matrix on Internet legislation in the OSCE region. Preliminary results of the study were released in December, and the final report will be completed early in 2011. Among other things, the study will provide an overview of existing national legal provisions relating to free expression on the Internet, assess compliance with national Internet legislation in light of existing media-freedom commitments and establish a comprehensive database of the legislation in place OSCE-wide.

Along that line, the Office engaged in a series of projects designed to strengthen the right of people to communicate freely using new technologies. Those include participation in conferences by the Representative and her staff on Internet-related issues, including the Internet Governance Forum

in Vilnius and a Google-sponsored event at the Central European University in Budapest exploring the future of free expression online.

Legal assistance. The Office continues to provide participating States with expert legal analysis of existing and proposed media-related legislation. These included:

- Armenia: draft laws amending defamation legislation and “Addendum to the Comments on the Amendments to the Law of the Republic of Armenia on Broadcasting and to the Review on the Concept Paper on Migrating to Digital Radio and TV Broadcasting System Made Earlier by the OSCE FOM Experts”;
- Belarus: “On Measures to Improve the Use of the National Segment of the Internet” and “Supplementing Guidelines to the Presidential Internet Decree” and “Commentary on Recent Documents of the Republic of Belarus Regarding Use of the National Segment of the Internet”;
- Hungary: “Analysis and Assessment of a Package of Hungarian Legislation and Draft Legislation on Media and Telecommunications”;

Shorena Shaverdashvili, editor-in-chief of *liberalli* news magazine, speaks at the Seventh South Caucasus Media Conference on 12 November 2010 in Tbilisi. (OSCE/David Khizanishvili)

The Representative's Office publishes a variety of instructional materials on topics of professional interest. (OSCE/David Khizanishvili)



- Kyrgyzstan: “On Establishment of Public Television and Radio Broadcasting in Kyrgyz Republic”;
- Moldova: “Proposed Amendments to the Broadcasting Code of the Republic of Moldova” and the “Draft Law on Freedom of Expression of Moldova”; and
- Turkey: “Regulation of Publications on the Internet and Suppression of Crimes Committed by means of Such Publication” (widely known as the Internet law of Turkey).

The Representative will continue to offer all participating States the opportunity to take advantage of the Office’s expertise on proposed and current media legislation.

Training. Recognizing the duty to help media improve its professional skills, the Office hosted a training seminar in Baku in April on government-media relations in a democratic society, which was attended by heads of information offices of Government ministries and editors-in-chief of media outlets. The Office also co-organized a week-long television training course for cameramen, editors and reporters in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, in July.

The Office organized, in co-operation with the OSCE Mission to Moldova, a seminar on Internet media in Chisinau in

September. Twenty journalists from central and regional newspapers and broadcasters, including those from Gagauzia and Transnistria, discussed the legal context, professional advantages and risks, as well as the sustainability of Internet media.

Regional conferences. The Office continued its support for the enhancement of journalism standards by hosting regional conferences in Dushanbe, Tajikistan and Tbilisi, Georgia. The two-day conferences brought together more than 150 journalists, media experts, government officials, parliamentarians, scholars and civil society representatives from the South Caucasus and Central Asia to discuss issues related to access to information, free flow of information on the Internet and regional media developments with international media experts. Similar conferences are planned and an additional conference is anticipated for the Balkans in 2011.

The Representative on Freedom of the Media: **Dunja Mijatović**
 Budget: **€1,392,600**
www.osce.org/fom

Secretariat



Jamila Seftaoui, OSCE Senior Adviser on Gender Issues, confers with OSCE Secretary General Marc Perrin de Brichambaut during a meeting of the OSCE, the Council of Europe and the United Nations on gender and security, at the Hofburg in Vienna on 14 June 2010. (OSCE/Susanna Löff)

Secretariat

In 2010, the OSCE Secretariat, led by the Secretary General, continued working to ensure the implementation of relevant OSCE decisions and to support the process of political dialogue and negotiation among the participating States. It provided operational support to participating States through a wide range of mandated activities across all dimensions. It supported all OSCE executive structures in ensuring coherent and co-ordinated action across the Organization. It worked hand-in-hand with the Kazakhstan OSCE Chairmanship to fulfil the Organization's goals and to maintain consistency and institutional memory. In particular, it supported the Chairmanship in the preparation and conduct of major events, including the Annual Security Review Conference (ASRC), the Informal Ministerial Meeting in Almaty, the three-week Review Conference and finally the OSCE Summit in Astana on 1-2 December 2010 — the first OSCE Summit since 1999. It also supported other OSCE executive structures in order to promote coherent and co-ordinated action across the whole mandate of the Organization.

Throughout the year, the Secretariat continued providing support to the Chairmanship in conducting an informal Ambassador-level dialogue on current and future challenges to security in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian area, including by providing substantive input in the framework of the Corfu Process. The OSCE Secretariat and Institutions provided expertise and contributions to this process, mandated by the Athens Ministerial Council, including the preparation of concept and food-for-thought papers and other contributions, as requested. Secretariat units rendered substantive and operational assistance to the Kazakhstan Chairmanship in the preparation and organization of the Review Conference, in particular the Vienna segment, and in the preparation for and conduct of the Astana Summit.

The Secretariat continued to provide robust administrative and operational support to all field operations in order to support them in the fulfilment of their mandates and also in relation to the effective and efficient management of human and financial resources.

The OSCE reacted promptly to political developments in southern Kyrgyzstan in April and June 2010. Upon the request of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Organization approved a set of measures aimed at resolving the crisis, preventing the spillover of tensions in the region and promoting post-conflict rehabilitation. The Community Security Initiative (CSI), developed by the Secretariat, working closely with the OSCE Centre in Bishkek, represents a substantial contribution to the implementation of these measures and is set to play an important role in assisting the government and people of Kyrgyzstan.

Despite the closure of the OSCE field operation in Georgia in 2009, the Secretariat continued to be actively engaged in

international negotiations launched after the August 2008 events. It continued to contribute to the Geneva Discussions by providing support to the Kazakhstan Chairmanship in its work as Co-Chair, on behalf of the OSCE. In addition, in 2010, the OSCE co-moderated Working Group II (humanitarian issues).

The Secretariat continued to lend assistance to participating States in a wide range of thematic areas, focusing on multidimensional responses to security threats and challenges throughout the OSCE region. These included projects and other activities for the benefit of all participating States in such areas as:

- disposal of small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition, including the rocket fuel component mélange;
- improving border security and management, in particular in Central Asia;
- promoting action against terrorism, including through private-public partnerships;
- police-related activities, including efforts to fight organized crime and illicit drugs;
- promoting economic and environmental co-operation, including on good governance, transport issues and migration management;
- fighting against trafficking in human beings, including by providing expert support for the prosecution of offenders, protection of victims and prevention of this crime;
- advancing gender equality throughout the Organization's structure and programmes.

The Secretariat contributed significantly to ensuring active dialogue with OSCE Partners for Co-operation, including by organizing the major annual conferences with both groups of Partners, and by enhancing

interaction with other organizations and institutions, on the basis of the 1999 Platform for Co-operative Security. Enhanced interaction of the OSCE with its international partners was very much in the focus of discussions among the participating States in the framework of the Corfu Process and at the Review Conference, and the Secretariat provided its full substantive support to these deliberations.

The Secretariat continued to ensure the effective and efficient management of the Organization's human and financial resources, to promote greater strategic and impact-oriented planning of activities using results-based management, and to ensure the sound implementation of the OSCE regulatory framework. In an overall context of declining resources within the Organization and challenging external financial and economic factors, these efforts are crucial to the Organization's ability to deliver the results expected by its participating States.

More detailed reports on the activities of the Secretariat in 2010 are provided in the relevant sections that follow, the structure of which reflects the composition of the Secretariat: Office of the Secretary General, Conflict Prevention Centre, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Department of Human Resources and Department of Management and Finance.

2010 Budget: €32,332,300

Office of the Secretary General

The Office of the Secretary General includes Executive Management, the Press and Public Information Section, the Section for External Co-operation, Legal Services, the Gender Section, Security Management, the Strategic Police Matters Unit, the Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and the Action against Terrorism Unit, as well as the Office of Internal Oversight.

Executive Management

Executive Management supported the work of the Secretary General and the Kazakhstan Chairmanship by providing leadership and co-ordination to ensure the coherence and continuity of the Organization's multi-faceted and long-term programmatic activities. As the main focal point for internal co-ordination and day-to-day co-operation between the Chairmanship and the Secretariat, Executive Management's work has always been heavily influenced by the OSCE's current agenda, based on tasks set by the participating States, major developments in the OSCE area and the priorities of the Chairmanship.

During 2010, Executive Management ensured proactive and well-co-ordinated support, on the part of the Secretary General, for the efforts of the Kazakhstan Chairmanship in continuing the Corfu Process, including in the preparation of concept papers for relevant thematic meetings, and in compiling the Chairmanship's Interim Report, which summarizes concrete proposals put forward by the participating States. Executive Management delivered support and expert advice to the Chairmanship and the participating States in negotiating and drafting of the Permanent Council and Ministerial Council decisions and on holding the Review Conference and Astana Summit. It provided substantive support to the Chairmanship and participating States in the preparation of the draft Astana Commemorative Declaration, adopted by the Heads of State or Government at the Summit in Astana on 2 December 2010.

Executive Management, together with the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC), supported the Chairmanship in its role as the Co-Chair of the Geneva Discussions.

Executive Management co-ordinated the Secretariat's efforts in developing the Community Security Initiative (CSI) concept for Kyrgyzstan. It also played a leading role in securing the extra-budgetary contributions necessary to fund the CSI project, as well as requesting participating States to second police advisors required for this endeavour. Executive Management in co-operation with CPC regularly updated participating States on the developments and achievements of the CSI. Executive Management will continue to implement its co-ordinating role between the Secretariat, the OSCE Centre in Bishkek and the CSI in order to complete the tasks entrusted by the participating States in accordance with PC.DEC/947.

Executive Management has been the Secretariat's focal point in co-ordinating activities conducted by the thematic and programmatic Units on combating transnational threats and led the process of compiling the Secretary General's First Overview on the OSCE's role in addressing transnational threats (April) and subsequent Report on Implementation of the Athens MC.DEC/02/09 (June).

Executive Management continued to support the Secretary General in the implementation of the 2007 Ministerial Council Decision on OSCE engagement with Afghanistan (MC.DEC/04/07). This long-term endeavour required effective co-ordination, including through the ad-hoc Afghanistan Task Force, among various Units of the Secretariat and other executive structures in conducting various activities and projects in areas such as strengthening border management between the Central Asian participating States and Afghanistan, promoting cross-border co-operation and training of Afghan border guards, police and counter-narcotics officers and customs officials.

Executive Management continued to implement its important co-ordination role within the Secretariat, assisting the Secretary General in performing his role as the Organization's Chief Administrative Officer. Apart from ensuring coherence in the work of administrative and programmatic parts of the Organization, Executive Management also supported the work of the Organization's internal oversight function and the work of the OSCE Audit Committee.

Press and Public Information Section

The Astana OSCE Summit preceded by a Review Conference, an Informal Ministerial Meeting in Almaty and the OSCE's activities in Kyrgyzstan were high on the Organization's agenda in 2010 and provided the Press and Public Information Section (PPIS) with an opportunity to draw renewed public attention to the role, functioning and potential of the Organization in the present security environment.

OSCE Summit, 1-2 December 2010, Astana.

The meeting of the leaders of the OSCE participating States, the first in more than a decade and held upon the initiative of the Kazakhstan Chairmanship, was a landmark event of the year. In the run-up to the Summit, PPIS provided media support and set up websites in Russian and English for the three-part Review Conference held in Warsaw, Vienna and Astana in autumn 2010. Before and during the Summit, PPIS organized numerous media briefings and individual interviews in Vienna, Astana, Paris, London and Moscow with the heads of OSCE Institutions, the Secretary General, the Chairperson-in-Office and other

high-level officials and also prepared opinion pieces and factsheets. PPIS organized a fully equipped press centre in Astana, which drew more than 1,000 journalists, and developed a dedicated multilingual Summit website in all six official OSCE languages, featuring live webcasting, videos of over 70 speeches, photo galleries and background articles. This website received more than 40,000 visitors from 120 countries. A special issue of *OSCE Magazine*, featuring accounts of all past OSCE Summits, was printed in the six official OSCE languages and distributed at the Summit.

OSCE's involvement in Kyrgyzstan. Following unrest in Kyrgyzstan in April and June, PPIS worked to raise awareness about the OSCE's efforts to help restore stability. It organized media briefings and interviews in Vienna and in Bishkek with the Special Envoy of the Chairperson-in-Office, the Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre and subsequently the Chairperson-in-Office and distributed press releases and statements. A photo gallery and a special section on the situation in Kyrgyzstan were created for the OSCE website, and new developments were also featured on all OSCE social media platforms. With the Centre in Bishkek, PPIS worked on increasing awareness of the tripartite mediation activities involving the United Nations, the European Union and the OSCE, and of the matters related to the deployment of OSCE police advisors in Kyrgyzstan.

Participants in the OSCE Review Conference in Astana browse through OSCE literature on 26 November 2010. (OSCE/Vladimir Trofimchuk)



Academic events. Think tanks and academia were among the primary target audiences of PPIS's work in 2010, which was a year of important anniversaries in CSCE/OSCE history. In co-operation with the OSCE Academy and with the support of the Kazakhstan Chairmanship, PPIS organized a one-day OSCE Talks seminar in Bishkek on 12 October. More than 55 participants, including renowned experts, discussed the OSCE and Central Asia over the last 20 years and future perspectives of the region. A publication about the event was distributed at the Astana Summit and sent to think tanks and academics. Follow-up events are planned, including a seminar in Vilnius in 2011.

The inaugural meeting of the Vienna Experts Roundtable marked the launch of a dialogue between the OSCE, think tanks and academia on the role of the OSCE in the future of European security. The meeting, which took place in Vienna on 12-13 December 2010 following the Astana Summit, brought together 16 international experts, representatives of OSCE participating States and OSCE officials.

Launch of the re-designed public website.

Preparations for the re-designed OSCE website were completed by the end of 2010 in time for the 1 January 2011 launch. In addition to migrating the existing site to a new platform, new features were developed, including multilingual capability, improved navigation and enhanced multimedia

presentation. Prior to the launch, PPIS operated the existing public website and the re-designed website in parallel. More than 6,000 content items (web pages, documents, photos and multimedia clips) were added to and updated on the existing website, which reached a global audience of nearly one million.

PPIS also developed an online forum for an OSCE Mediation Workshop held in Vienna in December, meant to build a virtual community of mediation practitioners from the UN and major regional organizations.

Other work during the year included:

- Providing press releases, opinion pieces, interviews and media opportunities for high-profile OSCE events, including the Informal Ministerial Meeting in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in July, where the Section also organized a press centre which drew more than 200 journalists; Astana conferences on tolerance and non-discrimination (June) and on countering terrorism (October); an energy security conference in Vilnius (September); and a conference on the Copenhagen Document in Copenhagen (June). PPIS also provided media support for the ongoing Geneva Discussions following the 2008 conflict in Georgia, for the Transdniestrian settlement process, as well as for visits by the OSCE Chairperson.
- Publishing four issues of *OSCE Magazine*, containing features and interviews on topics such as co-operation between international organizations, human rights commitments and confidence- and security-building measures. Printed in English and Russian, with an average total print run of 16,500 copies, *OSCE Magazine* was distributed to delegations, field operations and more than 5,000 subscribers and was posted on the OSCE public website in English, Russian, German and French.
- Organizing a photo contest on tolerance and non-discrimination, initiated and financed by the Chairmanship. In June, the winners travelled to Astana for an award ceremony and a photo exhibition. The photographs by the winners and finalists were also exhibited in Vienna in October, posted on YouTube and used for the OSCE 2011 calendar.
- Presenting the OSCE to approximately 80 visitor groups, comprising more than 1,900 visitors from 25 OSCE participating States, Partners for Co-operation and international organizations.

- Developing presences on major social media sites — YouTube, Facebook and Twitter — as well as on Picasa, a photo-sharing website. The number of YouTube views in 2010 doubled compared with the previous year, reaching 60,000. The number of OSCE Facebook fans grew by 10 per cent to more than 15,500; and OSCE Twitter followers nearly doubled to 3,000.
- Producing the monthly *OSCE Highlights* newsletter to provide more than 1,200 journalists and other subscribers with targeted information on upcoming events and OSCE work in the field.
- Hosting a Public Affairs Roundtable in March with participants from OSCE field operations and Institutions, during which the main themes of the forthcoming communications strategy were discussed.

Section for External Co-operation

The Section for External Co-operation in the Office of the Secretary General is the first point of institutional contact within the Secretariat for the 12 OSCE Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation, and other international, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions. The Section takes the lead in providing substantive advice and organizational support to the OSCE Chairmanship, the Troika and the Secretary General in maintaining dialogue and co-operation with the Partner States and in the implementation of the modalities of co-operation with other organizations and institutions in accordance with the 1999 Platform for Co-operative Security. In addition, it ensures internal co-ordination on matters of external co-operation among Secretariat departments and with the three OSCE Institutions and provides them with relevant information and assistance.

In addition to its regular work in 2010, the Section for External Co-operation was actively engaged in providing analytical input and substantive expertise to the OSCE Chairmanship, the Troika and participating States for their deliberations in implementation of the Athens Ministerial Council Decision on Furthering the Corfu Process (MC.DEC/1/09), as well as during sessions of the Review Conference and preparations for the Astana Summit.

In particular, the Section worked closely

with the Chairmanship and the Lithuanian Corfu Co-ordinator, providing them with background information and forward-looking analysis. This included information in preparation for the informal Ambassadorial Retreat on 15 May, focusing on enhancing the OSCE's interaction with other organizations and institutions, on the basis of the 1999 Platform for Co-operative Security. The Section also prepared and distributed to participating States two background papers providing an overview of the current status and outcomes of OSCE relations with its Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation, and of the OSCE's co-operation with other organizations and institutions. These papers informed discussions during the two dedicated sessions of the Vienna Review Conference on 22 October. Moreover, the Head of External Co-operation was one of the two introductory speakers for the session on interaction with other international, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions.

In addition to lending its expertise to participating States in support of their strategic political dialogue leading up to the Astana Summit, the Section sustained its regular work in maintaining dialogue and fostering co-operation with the Partners for Co-operation and with other international, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions.

Two events deserve particular mention. The Section assisted in organizing the annual High-Level Tripartite Meeting between the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the OSCE on Gender and Comprehensive Security, which was hosted by the OSCE Secretary General in Vienna in June. In December, the Workshop on Preventive and Quiet Diplomacy, Dialogue Facilitation and Mediation was another highlight of the year, gathering for the first time in Vienna senior representatives from the UN and a large number of regional organizations from all over the world. The Section provided conceptual and organizational support prior to and during the event and is engaged in a comprehensive follow-up to it.

The External Co-operation Section continued to maintain the established regular frameworks for co-operation at the high and working level with the UN, the European Union, NATO and the Council of Europe, as stipulated under the 2003 Maastricht Strategy. It pursued dynamic contacts with a number of other international, regional and sub-regional organizations, institutions and initiatives concerned with the promotion

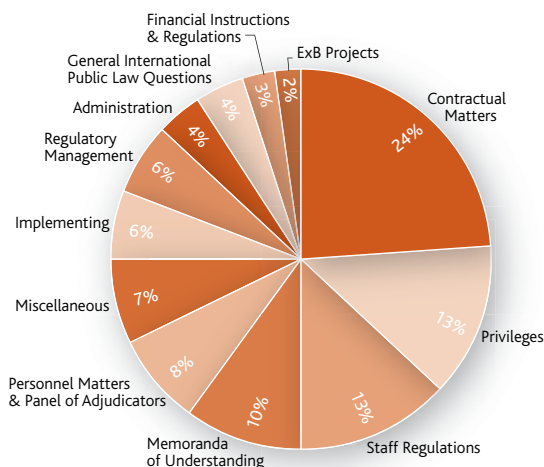
of comprehensive security in the OSCE area, as well as facilitated the exchange of OSCE experience with interested regional organizations outside the OSCE area. The Section actively supported the Chairmanship in inviting heads of other organizations, including the UN Secretary-General, as well as heads of the Council of Europe, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Organization of American States and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, to address the OSCE Permanent Council or joint Forum for Security Co-operation/Permanent Council meetings. The Head of External Co-operation represented the OSCE at the UN Security Council Debate with regional organizations held in January in New York. The Section also supported the participation of the Secretary General at the Third Global Forum of the Alliance of Civilizations in Rio de Janeiro in May and at the third Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, in Istanbul in June.

The Section continued to facilitate strengthened dialogue between the Partners for Co-operation and the OSCE participating States, in line with the Madrid Ministerial Declaration on the OSCE Partners for Co-operation (MC.DOC/1/07). Support to the work of the two Contact Groups was provided throughout the year, as well as to the Troika meetings with the Partners for Co-operation during the OSCE Summit in Astana.

The Section organized the two key annual events with the Partners for Co-operation: the OSCE-Republic of Korea Conference on OSCE and Asian Partners for Co-operation's Vision of a Comprehensive Approach to Security Issues, held in Seoul in May, and the Mediterranean Conference on the Dialogue on the Future of European Security — a Mediterranean Perspective, held in Malta in October.

The External Co-operation Section also sustained its role as the Partnership Fund's master project manager, liaising with individual project managers and donors. During the year, the Fund was used to sponsor eight projects in areas including border management, anti-terrorism, countering human trafficking, multilateral security in North-east Asia, gender issues, human resources, elections and engagement with Afghanistan. The Fund also provided for increased participation of representatives from the Partners for Co-operation, in particular Afghanistan, in OSCE activities.

Work typically undertaken by Legal Services
(Example from 3rd Quarter 2010)



Legal Services

In 2010, Legal Services continued to play an essential role, supporting the Chairmanship in strengthening the international legal status of the Organization. Legal Services contributed to four informal roundtables and several working meetings organized by Personal Representative Ida van Veldhuizen-Rothenbücher on the legal framework of the OSCE. This dialogue amongst the participating States culminated in discussions during the 2010 Astana Summit.

In addition, Legal Services provided the necessary legal expertise on significant projects, particularly with respect to: the OSCE's engagement with Afghanistan, such as the training of Afghan police officers in several countries (*inter alia*, Kazakhstan, Turkey, Russia) using the "train-the-trainer" format; the successful outcomes of both Phase III-A and Phase III-B of the mélange disposal programme in Ukraine, in which more than 5,000 tonnes of Ukraine's stockpiles of mélange (liquid rocket fuel component) were safely eliminated; the preparatory phases for the police presence of the OSCE Community Security Initiative in Kyrgyzstan; the operations of the Border Management Staff College (BMSC); the strengthening of the modalities of the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities in its co-operation with other international organizations in the Environment and Security (ENVSEC) Initiative; and the evaluation of the impact of the Austrian social security system, Wiener Gebietskrankenkasse (WGKK), on staff members.

In 2010, Legal Services continued to facilitate the implementation and improvement of the Common Regulatory Management System framework (CRMS). In particular, it developed a tentative draft instruction on

Information Disclosure to Third Parties, together with suggestions and guidance for the reform of the records management framework of the Organization. Legal Services made significant contributions with regard to the Staff Regulations and Rules (SRR) and their application in personnel matters, including the OSCE ethics framework as well as the Financial Regulations. In addition, Legal Services also provided valuable input on the revision of P/FAI No. 6 on Procurement and Contracting, as well as the *OSCE Procurement and Contracting Management Manual*. Moreover, Legal Services continued to provide legal opinions on a broad range of issues and assisted on matters such as bilateral agreements with host countries, privileges and immunities, taxation of local staff, court requests, interpretations of the CRMS and several contractual and project-related matters, as well as providing various templates, such as lease agreements, grant agreements and co-operation agreements.

Legal Services also continued to reach out to the wider OSCE community by holding its annual Legal Roundtable, in Vienna on 16-17 September. Participants from across the Organization discussed a wide range of topics, including the OSCE legal framework, legal aspects of the OSCE financial regulations, contentious personnel matters, data protection, records management and information disclosure, contracting compliance with local legislation, risk management and legal implications and amendments to the SRR. The Legal Services newsletter continued in 2010 to positive reviews and remains well-received. Legal Services also raised its external profile by participating in a conference organized by the International Institute of Administrative Science, which was attended by legal advisers from the United Nations and other international organizations.

Gender Section

The Gender Section supports the promotion of gender equality in OSCE executive structures and works towards the integration of men's and women's perspectives in all dimensions, in particular in the politico-military and the economic and environmental dimensions.

The implementation of OSCE commitments to promote gender equality has seen considerable progress during 2010. For the first time in OSCE history the representation of women in management positions has reached 30 per cent. In addition, a woman has been hired as head of an Institution for only the second time in OSCE history; field operations have integrated a gender perspective in an increased number of projects in the first and second dimensions; and the Forum for Security Co-operation has successfully integrated gender into the OSCE Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons (FSC.DEC/0002/10), agreed upon during 2010.

The Gender Section provided assistance to a number of OSCE field operations in integrating a gender perspective into police programmes. For example, it delivered training for OSCE staff on "Gender issues in the monitoring of the work of the Kosovo Police". In Armenia, the Section assisted with the development of an action plan with recommendations for the inclusion of gender in the National Police Strategy. Staff from the OSCE Centre in Baku, the Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Office in Tajikistan received direct technical assistance in order to implement OSCE gender commitments within their field programmes.

Due to the high demand for practical tools from OSCE staff and partners, the Section developed a CD toolkit *Gender matters in the OSCE*. This tool provides an overview of key gender concepts, the methodology of gender mainstreaming as well as practical examples from OSCE projects in the three dimensions. With the objective of exchanging lessons learned and best practices between field operations, Institutions and other partners, the Section initiated the production of the electronic newsletter *The Gender Monitor*, distributing three issues in 2010.



A number of roundtables on gender and security were organized in conjunction with the Forum for Security Co-operation and the Security Committee. The Section has contributed to other meetings of the Economic and Environmental Committee, the Prague Economic Forum, the Asian and Mediterranean Partners and the Human Dimension Implementation meetings, as well as to the High-Level Tripartite Meeting of the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the OSCE, dedicated this year to "Gender and Comprehensive Security: Lessons learned and possibilities for enhanced co-operation".

www.osce.org/gender

Security Management

A key security challenge in 2010 was the crisis in Kyrgyzstan and its impact on the safety and security of staff, premises and OSCE operations. Security Management collaborated with the Centre in Bishkek, the Osh Field Office and departments within the Secretariat to facilitate appropriate security guidance to ensure the safety and security of OSCE national and international staff. This included two security missions to Kyrgyzstan. The Secretariat Crisis Management Team and Kyrgyzstan Task Force met on numerous occasions, beginning in April and continuing until the end of 2010, dealing predominately with this issue. Security Management input was also provided on the establishment, selection and recruitment of Field Security Officers for the Centre in Bishkek and the Centre in Bishkek/Strategic Police Matters Unit Community Security Initiative.

Security Management continued its practice of delivering presentations on the OSCE Security Management System for new OSCE staff members at the General Orientation Programme and provided individual briefings to staff and mission members with security responsibilities. Participants at the Regional Heads-of-Mission meetings were updated on safety and security issues and on new security developments in the OSCE. Security Management provided field operations with on-the-ground training on the theoretical and practical applications of vehicle searching and dealing with mines and improvised explosive devices.

The Seventh Annual Meeting of OSCE Security Officials, held in Vienna on 11-12 November, welcomed guest speakers from the

Swedish National Defence College and the United Nations, who delivered presentations on new global security challenges and the new UN security level system, respectively. Participants were also invited to contribute toward the development of an OSCE *Security Operations Manual*, which is currently being developed.

In 2010, Security Management:

- continued to conduct inspections of Institutions and field operations to facilitate compliance with security guidance documents;
- provided support to the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, assisting with a security assessment for the Election Support Mission to Afghanistan;
- assisted field operations in the assessment of potential premises;
- trained field operations security personnel and, in particular, co-ordinated external training for the Mission in Kosovo on First Responder Hostage Negotiation; and
- in co-ordination with the Department of Human Resources Training Section, made recommendations on the selection of participants for external security training.

Security Management also:

- regularly issued hazard-pay recommendations; and
- participated in other meetings where safety and security issues were on the agenda (Afghanistan and air traffic discontinuation due to volcanic activity in Iceland).

Security Management further strengthened its collaboration with the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) in New York. In doing so, Security Management has secured legal agreement for the use of UN security training CD-ROM programmes by all OSCE personnel, established contact with

the UNDSS Policy Department to ensure OSCE Security Management is aware of new developments in UN security policies and maintained links with the Threat and Risk Unit, Critical Incident Stress Management Unit and Executive Management.

Security Management regularly met with representatives of law enforcement authorities and other international partner organizations both in Vienna and in the countries where the OSCE has field operations for the purpose of sharing information on issues of safety and security.

Strategic Police Matters Unit

Effective rule of law through policing is vital to development and crucial to crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation. The Charter for European Security and various OSCE Ministerial and Permanent Council decisions reaffirm that effective policing is essential to sustaining development and combating terrorism, transnational organized crime, cybercrime, drug trafficking, sexual exploitation of children and trafficking in human beings. The Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU) therefore continued in 2010 to assist participating States and OSCE field operations in facilitating OSCE police-related activities, developing capacity-building programmes, providing training and expert advice and enhancing regional police co-operation.

SPMU devoted significant energy to the production of the analytical report *Further Enhancing OSCE Police-Related Activities*. This document provided forward-looking perspectives and strategic recommendations and was further discussed at the 2010 Annual Police Experts Meeting (20-21 May)

Afghan police officers and trainers at a two-week counter-narcotics training course supported by the Strategic Police Matters Unit, in Almaty in November 2010. (OSCE/Djangabayev Abdraman)



and the Annual Security Review Conference (14-15 June) in Vienna.

SPMU also produced and distributed regular annual reports on OSCE policing activities and efforts in combating organized crime, based on information gathered from the OSCE executive structures.

New publications. Improving relations between the police and Roma and Sinti communities was the focus of *Good Practices in Building Trust and Understanding*, a guidebook published by SPMU in co-operation with the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues.

The SPMU, aware of the benefits of using community policing as a tool to prevent crime and to identify victims of trafficking in human beings, began research and expert discussions to prepare a guidebook on this issue. An expert meeting aimed at reviewing the draft guidebook was organized in Vienna on 19 November.

Pragmatic labours towards OSCE policing efforts. SPMU continued to raise awareness, build capacity and provide training as part of its efforts to combat organized crime, trafficking of illicit drugs, trafficking in human beings and cybercrime while promoting the relevant international conventions. Activities included:

- A conference on “Combating the threat of illicit drugs and strengthening control of precursor chemicals” (Vienna, 8-9 July);
- A Central Asia regional workshop on “International criminal co-operation in relation to the tracing and seizure of criminal assets” (Almaty, 20-22 July);
- A regional high-level expert workshop on “Comprehensive co-operation in synthetic drug supply reduction in the Baltic region” (Vilnius, 20-21 October); and
- A regional training course on cybercrime investigation for police investigators (Belgrade, 1-19 November).

SPMU also increased its assistance to the Afghan National Police by organizing five training courses in Domodedovo, Dushanbe and Almaty, during which 60 Afghan police officers participated in training programmes specifically tailored to their needs.

The principles of democratic policing identified in SPMU’s widely disseminated *Guidebook on Democratic Policing* and *Good Practices in Building Police-Public Partnerships* were further promoted at a regional workshop on democratic policing, in Sarajevo (30 September–1 October). The workshop

Maria Grazia Giammarinaro (right), OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, and Belgian filmmaker Jorge Leon at a press briefing on domestic servitude, in Vienna on 18 June 2010. (OSCE/Sarah Crozier)



focused on managerial and organizational issues in the context of democratic police reform.

SPMU supported OSCE field operations in conducting training on combating trafficking in human beings and implementing community policing projects at the OSCE offices in Baku, Minsk and Ukraine, and in facilitating police training activities at the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat. In addition, SPMU organized the regular meetings in Vienna of the heads of the OSCE law enforcement departments (18-19 May and 12-13 October), where issues of mutual support were discussed.

Additional efforts of SPMU. Following civilian unrest and ethnic clashes in Kyrgyzstan in April and June, SPMU assisted in the co-ordination of OSCE support to that country. The Community Security Initiative (formerly called the Police Advisory Group), an international team of 30 police officers, would be dispatched mainly to the south of the country as part of efforts to build trust and facilitate police-community relations.

Subsequent to a request by Belarus, the Secretary General asked SPMU to review case material related to the death of a journalist in Minsk. Two forensic experts were dispatched to the country from 25 to 29 October, completing their evaluation in November.

POLIS system review. SPMU carried out an in-depth updating of the Policing OnLine Information System (POLIS), which was launched in 2006. POLIS includes a digital library containing more than 1,100 documents, and a database incorporating 441 available police experts. Most of the material, including the publications and reports mentioned above, can be downloaded at www.polis.osce.org.

Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

Maria Grazia Giammarinaro took office as OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in March 2010. Since then, the Special Representative has actively raised the political profile of the fight against trafficking in human beings, calling for a new perception of this complex issue; built upon the cross-dimensional nature of the mandate, strengthening both internal co-ordination and external co-operation; and developed strategic relations with a variety of civil society actors to better prevent and combat trafficking in human beings.

Building on the strong evidence that trafficking in human beings is not a marginal phenomenon, especially concerning labour exploitation, the Special Representative recognized trafficking as modern-day slavery on a massive scale and a serious transnational threat to security. Throughout the year, the Special Representative called for improved implementation of the OSCE anti-trafficking commitments, including the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, national legislation and anti-trafficking policies. Moreover, she advocated for national machineries established during the past decade to work more effectively and on a much larger scale.

The actions of the Special Representative remained firmly rooted in a human rights approach. The Special Representative prioritized prevention, calling for more extensive research, more targeted and innovative

awareness raising, and enhanced child protection and gender-sensitive policies, as well as the social inclusion and empowerment of trafficked persons. One notable instance of such advocacy was manifest at the launch of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (31 August), when the Special Representative addressed the UN General Assembly.

Determined to build upon the cross-dimensional nature of the mandate, the Special Representative explored further opportunities to strengthen OSCE action. The Special Representative convened a one-day co-ordination meeting with Anti-Trafficking Focal Points from the OSCE structures, Institutions and field operations to assess the current state of action across the OSCE region, and to share lessons learned and good practices in addressing trafficking for labour exploitation and in preventing all forms of trafficking in human beings.

In co-operation with the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and relevant field operations, the Special Representative convened a one-day regional meeting of national anti-trafficking co-ordinators on the prevention of trafficking for labour exploitation. Officials from 13 countries attended the Vienna meeting on 29 October, focusing discussion on challenges in prevention, protection and prosecution, as well as access to justice and compensation for trafficked persons.

With the Strategic Police Matters Unit, the Office of the Special Representative delivered numerous training programmes for law enforcement, judiciary and border-related agencies across the OSCE region. With the Office of the Co-ordinator for Economic and Environmental Activities, co-operation was further developed in the fields of gender-sensitive labour migration, corruption, and money laundering and trafficking in human beings.

The Special Representative paid increased attention to strengthening partnerships with international organizations, both at the bilateral level and in the framework of the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons. Throughout the year, the Office of the Special Representative also enhanced co-operation within the UN.GIFT Steering Committee and contributed to numerous UN.GIFT activities, including the publication of *Analysing the Business Model of Trafficking in Human Beings to Better Prevent the Crime*, a report based on innovative research. Significant steps were taken to develop further co-operation with UN

agencies, the International Organization for Migration, the European Union, the CIS Executive Committee and other organizations. Relations with the Council of Europe and its independent monitoring mechanism, GRETA, were raised to a new level of collaboration.

The Special Representative convened a high-level Alliance against Trafficking in Persons conference in Vienna (17-18 June) focusing on trafficking for the purpose of domestic servitude, which contributed to inform the fourth Occasional Paper entitled *Unprotected Work, Invisible Exploitation: Trafficking for the Purpose of Domestic Servitude*. More than 250 participants attended the conference, which opened with a photo exhibition, *Eslavage domestique*, followed by a screening of *Vous êtes servis*, a documentary film on the hardships experienced by migrant domestic workers.

Calling on participating States to take action to forge their cultural, social, political and legislative environments for a new understanding of trafficking in human beings as modern-day slavery, the Special Representative conducted consultations with high-level officials in the course of country visits and other events, as well as meetings with civil society organizations. These meetings have paved the way forward for more concerted efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings in 2011.

Special Representative: Maria Grazia Giammarinaro

www.osce.org/cthb

A joint OSCE/UNODC-WCO team assesses security at the Georgian port of Poti on 19 May 2010. The three organizations are assisting in the establishment of Joint Port Control Units in Georgia's main commercial seaports and dry container ports. (OSCE/Mehdi Knani)



Action against Terrorism Unit

In 2010 the Action against Terrorism Unit (ATU) continued to address a wide range of terrorist threats. The Unit responded to requests from the Chairmanship, participating States and the Secretary General, covering issues such as travel document security, critical energy infrastructure protection, public-private partnerships (PPP) in countering terrorism, the international legal anti-terrorism framework and cyber security.

The ATU organized, supported or otherwise facilitated 30 capacity-building activities at the OSCE-wide, regional and national levels. In doing so the Unit co-operated with all pertinent United Nations structures, international, regional and sub-regional organizations and specialized agencies to support and promote their counter-terrorism related activities, share experiences and best practices, as well as facilitate contacts among national authorities and international experts. Whenever appropriate, the Unit engaged with the business sector, civil society and the media.

The main focus throughout the year was on implementing relevant tasks from previous Ministerial Councils. Concretely, the Unit organised four major counter-terrorism events:

- A public-private expert workshop on “Protecting non-nuclear critical energy infrastructures from terrorist attacks”. The event, organized by the ATU in co-operation with two American non-governmental organizations, gathered 200 participants from 50 countries for the first ever table-top simulation on the issue.
- A workshop on the “2005 Universal Legal Instruments against terrorism and the implementation of their provision in national legislation”. For the first time,

representatives from 53 States received practical legislative drafting advice on implementation of these universal treaties, thus facilitating their ratification.

- An OSCE workshop on “Promoting the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD)”. This was the first regional workshop highlighting the technical, operational and administrative elements related to the PKD, resulting in the development of a national training package as part of efforts to increase the number of PKD participants in the OSCE area.
- An expert conference on “Successful strategies, effective policies and best practices to prevent terrorism”, organized in co-operation with the 2010 OSCE Chairmanship, represents the highlight of ATU’s activities in 2010. In the run-up to the OSCE Summit, the conference resulted in a Chairmanship Declaration that highlighted ideas, proposals and recommendations to enhance participating States’ capacity to prevent terrorism (CIO. GAL/174/10).

Another important outcome of the Unit’s work was the conclusion of an ATU/INTERPOL project in Moldova, which equipped 16 border-crossing points and ten regional and local police stations with real-time access to INTERPOL databases.

Throughout the year, the ATU also provided expertise and substantive input to a number of political documents, most notably to the sections on terrorism and on cyber security of the *Report by the OSCE Secretary General on the Implementation of MC.DEC/2/09 on Further OSCE Efforts to Address Transnational Threats and Challenges to Security and Stability*.

In the meantime, the ATU continued to work on other, ongoing portfolios in accordance with existing mandates previously adopted by OSCE participating States.

www.osce.org/atu

Office of Internal Oversight

The Office of Internal Oversight (OIO) conducted an in-depth evaluation of the OSCE’s secondment system with a view to identifying ways and means of strengthening its effectiveness. The evaluation assisted the Secretary General in making proposals to the participating States in that respect. The Office carried out horizontal audits of three



The Office of Internal Oversight has recommended a broad review of the OSCE’s records- and document-management system.

OSCE-wide functional areas: the budget process, travel management and training.

The work of the Office of Internal Oversight encompasses three distinct functions: internal audit, evaluation and investigation. OIO made every effort in 2010 to continue to professionalize all three functions, serving as an independent and objective reviewer and evaluator of the OSCE regulatory framework, operations and activities, and investigating allegations involving waste, fraud, mismanagement or other impropriety. In addition, OIO continued to provide advisory services in response to formal and informal requests from managers throughout the Organization.

In the course of the year, OIO conducted six audits of field operations in South-Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus and Central Asia. In one audit, OIO reviewed the archiving function and recommended a broad review of the OSCE-wide records and document management system (see illustration). In addition, the Office carried out audits of IT governance and IT security.

Internal audits routinely monitored compliance with the regulatory framework, providing assurance on the adequacy of internal controls and assisting managers in the achievement of their objectives. In recent years, however, with the consolidation of a full-fledged Common Regulatory Management System, internal audit has increasingly focused on programme and project planning, implementing and monitoring. In its 2010 audits, OIO observed that progress had been made in the proper planning and monitoring of implementation, although it will take time for the self-evaluation of project management to become anchored in OSCE practice.

The Office conducted an evaluation of a major programme on legislative strengthening at the Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina and formulated recommendations for OSCE-wide application in programmes and

projects of a similar nature. The 2009 horizontal evaluation of police training activities fed into a number of high-level policy and planning documents in 2010, including the *Report by the Secretary General on Police-Related Activities of the OSCE Executive Structures up to the End of 2009* (SEC.GAL/62/10, issued on 31 March 2010).

In the spirit of sharing best practices and lessons learned, OIO was invited in 2010 by a partner organization, the Council of Europe, to share its experience in strengthening the evaluation function in the context of the Council’s reform process.

OIO conducted investigations into various matters. Four in-depth investigations were concluded and the recommendations accepted in full. A fifth investigation is underway. In addition, the OIO investigator undertook a proactive assessment of fuel management in conjunction with an audit at one field operation. The investigator has also worked on a separately constituted investigative panel at the request of the Secretary General. OIO also entered into an innovative co-operation agreement with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on the exchange of investigation staff at peak periods with a view to sharing best practices and methodologies.

The Office’s oversight work in 2010 resulted in the formulation of approximately 200 recommendations. OIO also followed up on previous years’ audit recommendations to ensure that management had addressed them effectively. The high acceptance and implementation rate of recommendations was indicative of good co-operation with the audited entities.

The OSCE Audit Committee continued to closely scrutinize OIO’s work. OIO and the External Auditor held regular meetings in 2010 to co-ordinate planning and discuss possible areas for synergy. OIO routinely provides the External Auditor with copies of its audit and evaluation reports.

Conflict Prevention Centre

The work of the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) focuses on early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation. In 2010, the CPC provided policy support and assisted in the operational planning of enhanced OSCE activities to address the crisis in Kyrgyzstan. The CPC also contributed to overall OSCE efforts to move the Transnistrian conflict settlement process forward and supported the Geneva Discussions in the wake of the conflict in Georgia. The CPC prepared, participated in and provided follow-up to visits by the Chairmanship to South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus, as well as a trip by OSCE ambassadors to South-Eastern Europe.

Other priorities included analytical support on conflict cycle issues in the framework of the Corfu Process and the OSCE Review Conference, as well as assistance to borders- and customs-related projects, particularly in Central Asia, including the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe. The CPC continued to support the work of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC), including its preparations for the OSCE Summit in Astana. A number of projects related to small arms and light weapons (SALW) and conventional ammunition (CA), including the initial disposal phase of the largest-ever OSCE project managed by the CPC to dispose of stockpiles of the highly toxic rocket fuel mélange in Ukraine, were successfully completed.

Furthermore, the CPC continued to be the Organization's central reference on programme and project management issues, from planning to self-evaluation.

■ Policy Support Service

The Policy Support Service assisted the Chairmanship, the Secretary General and other high-level officials to ensure the Organization's appropriate responses to political developments in the OSCE area with a view to reducing the risk of conflict. It co-ordinated the activities of the OSCE's field operations and assisted in the implementation of their mandates.

The **South-Eastern Europe Desk** advised and assisted the Chairmanship in maintaining an effective and tailored OSCE engagement in the region and ensured overall co-ordination of the work of OSCE field operations in South-Eastern Europe, which have contributed to developing a positive dynamic in regional co-operation and implementation of OSCE commitments. The Desk supported the Mission in Kosovo in adapting its programmatic activities and performing an increasingly important role on the ground, following the successful reconfiguration of the United Nations presence. It also provided substantive and organizational support for an OSCE ambassadorial visit to Zagreb, Belgrade and Sarajevo in May and contributed to the preparation, conduct and follow-up of Chairmanship visits to the region.

The **Eastern Europe Desk** contributed to overall OSCE efforts to advance the Transnistrian settlement process. It continued to support the ongoing work of the mediators and observers and facilitated a number of

meetings in Vienna of all the key actors in this process. The Desk assisted the Office in Minsk in helping the host country fulfill its OSCE commitments in all mandate-related issues and helped co-ordinate the deployment of two forensic experts to Minsk to review case material related to the death of a Belarusian journalist. The Desk supported the work of the Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine in meeting requests from Government authorities and other relevant partners for projects. In addition, the Desk assisted in the preparation of and took part in numerous visits to the region, including those of the Chairperson, his Special Representative for Protracted Conflicts and the Secretary General.

The **Caucasus Desk** continued to support field operations in their activities aimed at assisting the host countries in fulfilling their OSCE commitments. It also supported the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on the conflict dealt with by the Minsk Conference in his activities related to the settlement process of the conflict in and around Nagorno-Karabakh. The Desk continued to be closely involved in the preparations and conduct of the Geneva Discussions and participated in the meetings of the Dvani/Ergneti Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism. It also contributed to the elaboration of six confidence-building water-related projects.

The Desk accompanied and provided support to the Special Representative of the Chairperson during regular visits of the Co-Chairs of the Geneva Discussions to Tbilisi, Tskhinvali and Sukhumi.



Project Management in the OSCE, published in 2010, serves as the main reference point on project management for all executive structures across the OSCE.

Ambassador Ivar Vikki, Head of the OSCE Office in Tajikistan (*foreground, right*), confers with Tajik Customs officials regarding the OSCE Customs Assistance Project in the Pamir Mountains region near Murghab on 20 July 2010. (OSCE/Rudolphe Oberle)

Tajikistan border guards in a field classroom that is part of the Office in Tajikistan's OSCE Patrol Planning and Leadership Project on 17 August 2010. (OSCE/Alexander Pozhidaev)



The **Central Asia Desk** supported the work of the Chairmanship's Special Representative for Kyrgyzstan, in partnership with the United Nations and European Union Special Representatives, to help the country resolve the April and June crises. It also worked with the Centre in Bishkek, the CPC Operations Service and the Strategic Police Matters Unit to develop the Community Security Initiative (formerly called the Police Advisory Group). The Desk assisted the OSCE Office in Tajikistan and the Government of Tajikistan in convening the fourth annual joint OSCE-Tajikistan Task Force Meeting in Dushanbe in March to discuss common goals and supported several trips to the region by the OSCE Chairperson, the Secretary General and the Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre. It continued actively supporting the implementation the 2007 Ministerial Council Decision on OSCE Engagement with Afghanistan (MC/04/07). It also delivered lectures to students at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek and to students involved in the Central Asia Youth Network.

■ The Programming and Evaluation Support Unit

The Unit focused on ensuring the quality, coherence and sound management of projects and programmes across the Organization. It

continued to serve as the main point of reference for project, programme and fund managers working to strategically plan, develop, implement and evaluate their work more efficiently and more effectively.

In 2010, a major achievement for the Unit was the publication of the *OSCE Project Management Manual*, which serves as the main reference point on project management for all executive structures across the Organization. The responses of the field operations, Institutions and the units of the Secretariat as well as external counterparts (such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Council of Europe) have been extremely positive and rewarding. The manual is now forming the basis of the tailor-made support provided by the Unit to executive structures. The aspects related to self-evaluation, in particular, seemed to have filled a long-enduring gap in the Organization's work and to have provided hands-on, ready-to-use support to project and programme managers. On-site support to executive structures, participation in coaching and training events and ongoing long-distance contact with counterparts have allowed the Unit to contribute to the process of sharing best practices and lessons learned across the Organization.

With reference to extra-budgetary project

proposals developed by field operations and by the units of the Secretariat, the Unit has co-ordinated the assessment of 104 proposals in 2010, with a value in excess of €38 million. With the view to continue providing effective support to project managers in the process of identification and development of eligible proposals, the Unit started working in closer co-operation with some of the Organization's main donors and the relevant technical units in 2010.

■ Operations Service

Operational planning and analysis. The Planning and Analysis Team assisted in the planning and implementation of the OSCE Police Advisory Group to Kyrgyzstan in relation to PC.DEC/947 and the subsequent Community Security Initiative in Kyrgyzstan in relation to PC.DEC/961.

It also continued implementing its systematic approach to learning from past activities by co-ordinating the debriefing process of outgoing OSCE Chairmanships and senior officials from field operations. On the basis of those lessons identified by field operations, it continued to prepare recommendations to enhance the OSCE's effectiveness. Operational guidelines on the closure or restructuring of an OSCE field operation were also completed, as was the handbook *Operational Guidelines for Working in a*

Potentially Hazardous Environment, which was distributed to all OSCE staff working in the field.

Furthermore, the Planning and Analysis Team continued offering analytical support to the Corfu Process and the 2010 OSCE Review Conference. Moreover, it provided support to the Chairmanship in the organization of the 2010 Annual Security Review Conference and assisted the Permanent Council's Security Committee on organizational and content-related matters.

To help enhance the early warning, conflict prevention and crisis management capacity of the OSCE, it continued providing analytical support and advice to the Secretariat's senior management, the Chairmanship and participating States, including a Secretariat workshop on mediation and mediation-support with other regional organizations. An event focusing on reconstruction and peace-building will be held in 2011.

24-hours-a-day/7-days-a-week operational link. Through its Situation/Communication Room, the Service continued to provide an around-the-clock operational link and point of contact among OSCE structures, especially outside working hours. It provided real-time reporting on the OSCE area via text messages and e-mail, with a particular focus on emerging crisis situations. Breaking-news reports in Central Asia and the Caucasus this year, for example, enabled senior management to take appropriate decisions as situations unfolded. The Situation Room continued to produce daily briefings, special briefings, weekly regional summaries and calendars of upcoming events. It also provided operational assistance for emergencies in the field, such as security incidents and medical evacuations.

Border security and management. The Borders Team continued to support the implementation of the OSCE Border Security and Management Concept, in close co-operation with field operations and national border/customs agencies across the OSCE area. While the geographic focus remained on major capacity-building initiatives targeting border guards and customs officers in Central Asia, engagement with border agencies from other regions also continued, e.g., through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the State Border Committee of Belarus, which foresees capacity-building efforts in five key areas.

The Borders Team further maintained and developed the OSCE Border Security and

Management National Focal Point (NFP) Network. It advocated for the appointment of NFPs, published the Network's regular newsletter and conducted a survey, through the NFP web platform, on the functioning and future development of the Network. The Network, which now includes NFPs from 41 OSCE participating States, held its Annual Meeting in Vienna. It was organized by the Borders Team and provided participants an opportunity to discuss joint activities and mechanisms to intensify information exchange.

The Borders Team also supported the Border Management Staff College (BMSC) in Dushanbe, which in 2010 conducted 11 seminars, as well as its first Staff Course, gathering 257 border officials from 19 participating States and Partners for Co-operation. The BMSC, in consultation with relevant international organizations and national training institutions, completed its core curriculum and delivered the Staff Course in November-December 2010.

Furthermore, the Borders Team, in line with MC.DEC/4/07 on OSCE engagement with Afghanistan, promoted the participation of Afghan border officials in OSCE project activities in Central Asia and in the BMSC in Dushanbe. It also supported operational activities to strengthen the border between Central Asian participating States and Afghanistan and encouraged cross-border co-operation and joint patrolling efforts.

■ FSC Support Section

In 2010, the Section continued to support the FSC in its activities. The Section monitored the implementation of confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs), published monthly and quarterly reports and supported FSC negotiations on the update of the Vienna Document 1999. It also facilitated discussion at the Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (AIAM) by publishing a *Summary Report on Recent Trends in the Implementation of the Vienna Document 1999 and Other Measures Addressed during the AIAM*. The Section also chaired the fourth Meeting of the Heads of Verification Centres, where views on the practical implementation of the Vienna Document 1999 were exchanged.

Together with the OSCE Office in Minsk, the Section organized a regional seminar on the Implementation of the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security in Eastern Europe. With the support of six participating States, the Section accomplished an academic study to improve

the reference guide for the Code of Conduct questionnaire. In Kazakhstan, the Section contributed to a regional seminar on the Vienna Document 1999, organized together with Kazakhstan's Verification Centre and the OSCE Office in Astana. Its purpose was to train military officials from Central Asia and the South Caucasus in how to organize evaluation visits to military facilities.

The Section actively supported participating States in the development of the OSCE Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted by the FSC. The Section also prepared the *OSCE Report to the Fourth Biennial Meeting of States (BMS4) on the Implementation of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALW in All Its Aspects* on the regional efforts to combat illicit SALW at the global level. Together with the OSCE Centre in Astana, the Section also organized a regional follow-up meeting in Kazakhstan on combating illicit trafficking of SALW in Central Asia.

Six assistance projects were successfully completed. The Section finalized the initial disposal phase of a project to remove all stockpiles of the toxic rocket fuel mélange (more than 3,000 tonnes) from two western Ukrainian regions. In Albania, an OSCE initiative substantially increased the country's capacity to destroy surplus ammunition. An OSCE-assisted project to eliminate all remaining cluster munitions helped Moldova fully comply with its commitments under the Convention on Cluster Munitions. The first phase of joint OSCE-United Nations Development Programme projects in the area of SALW stockpile management and security and conventional ammunition demilitarization, conducted respectively in Belarus and in Montenegro, was also finalized.

The OSCE Communication Network, which connects 51 of the 56 participating States, as well as CPC and NATO, continues to facilitate the exchange of important information to further openness and transparency in military affairs. The FSC Support Section maintains the system, and the custom software used to generate treaty notifications. In 2010, the central hardware was upgraded to ensure continued high reliability, and the software was also improved. The network made possible the exchange of approximately 270,000 messages between participating States this year, while maintaining an availability of over 99.9%. The Section also continued to chair the OSCE Communications Group, which provides valuable oversight by and for delegations.

Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

The year 2010 marks the 20th anniversary of the OSCE's Bonn Document on Economic Co-operation. Adopted in 1990, "at a time of profound and rapid change", the Bonn Document is one of the milestone CSCE/OSCE documents in the economic and environmental dimension (EED). Economic and environmental co-operation have remained critical aspects of stability and security in the OSCE region. On this background, the year 2010 saw intensified political dialogue among participating States on EED issues, conducted, inter alia, in the framework of the Economic and Environmental Committee, in follow-up to the 2009 Athens Ministerial Council Decision on the future orientation of the EED (MC.DEC/4/09), as well as within the Corfu Process. The Vienna segment of the Review Conference convened ahead of the Astana Summit also featured a session entitled "From Bonn to Maastricht and beyond: Adapting the OSCE economic and environmental dimension to changing challenges".

■ Economic and Environmental Forum

The OCEEA furthered its involvement in transport-related activities and provided support to the Chairmanship throughout the entire 18th Economic and Environmental Forum process on "Promoting good governance at border crossings, improving the security of land transportation and facilitating international transport by road and rail in the OSCE region". The Forum addressed issues such as challenges in the transport sector due to the global economic downturn, promoting transparency and improving governance at border crossings, facilitating transport connections in Central Asia and with Afghanistan, increasing the security of land transportation and promoting environmentally sustainable transportation choices. The follow-up to the Forum is already ongoing.

■ Energy security

Following the Athens Ministerial Council Decision on strengthening dialogue and co-operation on energy security in the OSCE area (MC.DEC/6/09), an OSCE Special Expert Meeting on Assessing the OSCE's Future Contribution to International Energy Security Co-operation was organized in Vilnius (13-14 September). It provided substantial input to the *Report of the OSCE Secretary General* concerning the complementary role of the OSCE in the field of energy security (RC.GAL/21/10). Energy security will remain a constant focus for the OCEEA. The OSCE can, taking into account the interests of all concerned, contribute to advocating good public and corporate governance, market transparency and regional co-operation in the energy sector. It can also support the exchange of best practices and facilitate capacity-building in the areas related to energy security and promote sustainable energy solutions, including energy efficiency, energy savings and the development of and investment in renewable sources of energy.

■ Good governance

In 2010 the OCEEA saw a strong renewed interest in promoting good governance and transparency, fighting corruption and combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism, as expressed in the Corfu Process and the Vienna segment of the Review Conference.

The OCEEA's activities in the area of good governance and anti-corruption were aimed at strengthening good public governance, promoting transparency and improved management of public resources and fighting corruption. The OCEEA continued its co-operation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to promote the implementation of the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and actively supported the work related to the new Review Mechanism of the UNCAC. To further strengthen its anti-corruption activities, the OCEEA established a new working relationship with the European Commission's Eastern Partnership (EaP) Platform I Panel on Fight Against Corruption. The OCEEA also supported exchange of information and best practices in local good governance as important factors of sustainable economic development by co-organizing, with the Council of Europe and the UN Development Programme (UNDP), a cross-regional Conference on Inter-Municipal Co-operation in Dubrovnik (23-24 September).

In the area of anti-money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism, the OCEEA continued to support activities that assist participating States in implementing the main international instruments, in particular the 40 + 9 Recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the UN Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism.

■ Migration management

The OCEEA undertook a number of activities in 2010 to promote a comprehensive approach to migration

The 18th Economic and Environmental Forum was held in Prague on 24-26 May 2010. (OSCE/Lubomir Kotek)

Delegates of an OSCE-UNECE inter-regional workshop during a visit to Turkmenbashi Port on 8 December 2010. (OSCE)



management in line with the Athens Ministerial Council Decision on Migration Management (MC.DEC/5/09).

On 19 May, the *Review Report on Strengthening Migration Governance*, prepared by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in co-operation with the OCEEA, was officially launched in Vienna and distributed to all OSCE delegations. The report reviews the OSCE commitments related to migration, particularly work done to establish and strengthen governance of migration across the OSCE region.

In line with the Athens Ministerial Council Decision to provide advice, training and exchange of good practices (MC.DEC/5/09), the OCEEA produced, together with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), a comprehensive and a first of its kind *Trainer's Manual on Labour Migration Management*. Particular attention was also afforded to gender aspects of migration. Hence, the OCEEA, in close co-operation with IOM, ILO, the Council of Europe and the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), organized two regional training seminars on gender and labour migration, one held in Helsinki (15-16 April), and the other in Astana (14-15 September). Both seminars were structured as interactive trainings based on case studies, using the *OSCE Guide on Gender-Sensitive Labour Migration Policies* and the new *OSCE Trainer's Manual on Gender and Labour Migration*, produced together with the Office for

Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR).

To facilitate evidence-based decision-making on migration, the OCEEA, together with the IOM, the ILO and the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), launched a new project, *Harmonised Migration Data Collection as Sound Basis for Policy Making*, which will assess the gathering of migration statistics in Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan in 2011.

■ Environment and security

The OCEEA continued its involvement in the Environment and Security (ENVSEC) Initiative, promoting transboundary co-operation on environmental and security issues in Central Asia, South-Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus and Eastern Europe. In 2010, the ENVSEC Initiative had a portfolio of 54 projects, with a total budget of about 12 million euros. The Office provided leadership for the ENVSEC work programme in the South Caucasus region in the fields of wildfire management, transboundary water co-operation, local environmental assessment and public participation. The OCEEA also continued to promote co-operation on management of transboundary water resources in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

The OCEEA, in co-operation with OSCE field operations and in co-ordination with the ENVSEC partners, continued its promotion of the Aarhus Convention principles, which are designed to promote

transparency, fairness and democracy in environmental decision-making. Within this framework, the Aarhus Centres Initiative has been expanded to include 30 Aarhus Centres in nine countries.

The OCEEA, in partnership with the OSCE Offices in Baku and Yerevan, continued to support implementation of the Civic Action for Security and Environment (CASE) initiative, a small-grants programme for civil society organizations to enhance their capacities for addressing environmental and security challenges, in Armenia and Azerbaijan. In 2010, the CASE programme was extended to Tajikistan in co-operation with the OSCE Office in Tajikistan.

The OCEEA launched a research project on the security implications of climate change in the OSCE region during the annual co-ordination meeting for economic and environmental officers in February. The aim of the project is to develop scenarios for different OSCE regions to quantify the consequences that climate change will have on natural resources, energy and food availability. The scenarios will provide a tool for co-operative action and policy recommendations that could be implemented by the OSCE field operations or be elevated to the Permanent Council.

The OCEEA also continued its collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and UNDP on the issue of uranium tailings in Central Asia.

Department of Human Resources

The Department of Human Resources (DHR) continued its efforts to maintain adequately competitive conditions of service at the OSCE, including through promoting a professional working environment, integrating gender issues and ensuring a set of amendments to the OSCE Staff Regulations and Rules. Highlights also included further development of recruitment tools and improved management of human resources in the OSCE. Efforts to address the adverse effects of the strict limitations on periods of service in the OSCE are yet to yield meaningful results.

Key achievements in 2010 included:

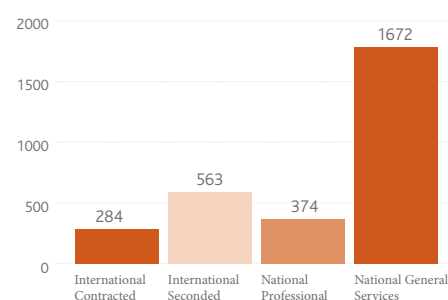
- maintaining adequately competitive conditions of service in the OSCE, paying particular attention to locally recruited mission members and seconded staff, bearing in mind the current financial climate and through close dialogue with the Organization's decision-making bodies;
- developing proposals on enhancing coherence, effectiveness and efficiency in the management of the OSCE's human resources and presenting them at the Vienna Review Conference of the Astana Summit;
- contributing to the elaboration of the staffing components of the Community Security Initiative project (formerly called the Police Advisory Group) to be implemented in Kyrgyzstan and facilitating the recruitment and training of its international mission members by conducting a tailored orientation programme on short notice;
- further developing recruitment tools and procedures aimed at securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity when fairly and transparently recruiting staff from all participating States;
- implementing new features in the area of recruitment to improve online application and nomination procedures;
- implementing and improving standard payroll operating procedures across the Organization;
- facilitating the approval by the participating States of a set of amendments to Staff Regulations and Rules (July), significantly improving the regulatory framework;
- continuing to integrate gender aspects into human resources management policies and procedures, *inter alia*, by conducting a project to define gender sensitivity in the OSCE and formulating amendments to the regulatory framework. DHR will continue to incorporate the findings and recommendations of the study into the areas of recruitment, training and

personnel. As a concrete example, the approval of an amendment to the regulatory framework ensured that maternity/paternity/adoption leave periods do not count towards the maximum period of service in the OSCE;

- improving the IRMA human resources module for timely and accurate reporting functionality, including a major update to further enhance its stability and usability, adjustments to allow implementation of the amended Staff Regulations and Rules and integration of the human resources aspects of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS);
- encouraging improvement of the professional working environment across the OSCE, including through mandatory exit interviews in the OSCE Secretariat and the review, redesign and wider distribution of the booklet *Professional Working Environment – Guide on the OSCE Policy against Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination*, in English and in Russian;
- enhancing the ethics co-ordination role within the OSCE, particularly by updating the OSCE Code of Conduct to be submitted for consideration by the OSCE decision-making bodies, and training in the OSCE;
- consolidating and managing common staff costs in the Secretariat under a separate programme within DHR;
- based on practical experience, refining flexible working arrangements in the OSCE Secretariat, including staggered working hours, telecommuting, part-time jobs and job-sharing, to create a more family-friendly and gender-sensitive working environment and encouraging similar flexible arrangements in other duty stations;
- initiating the review and updating of a number of Staff Instructions to ensure alignment with the amended Staff Regulations and Rules;

- undertaking a comprehensive internal evaluation of the secondment system and, as a first practical step, introducing improved health insurance coverage for the seconded staff/mission members on an optional basis and at no cost to the OSCE Unified Budget;
- reviewing current mechanisms for recognizing and addressing conflicts in the workplace, including through the recruitment of external mediators, providing relevant training opportunities and preparing an awareness-raising campaign to increase all OSCE officials' knowledge of policies and procedures;
- continuing the Junior Professional Officer programme, which provides young professionals from participating States an opportunity to gain an overview of the Organization. Building on the programme's success over the preceding four cycles, with the support of the participating States, the Department expanded the programme from April 2010, enabling six additional participants to be seconded by their nominating authorities;
- participation of 928 OSCE staff and mission members (504 women and 424 men) in training activities conducted in Vienna on various topics;
- continued strengthening of regional training activities;
- continued enhancement and updating of the General Orientation Programme and support of local induction programmes;
- undertaking a comprehensive review and evaluation of all training activities and drafting a new Training Strategy for the period 2011-2013 and facilitating its approval;
- supporting the Chairmanship through tailored training activities as well as through administering recruitment and extension processes for the senior management of the Organization; and
- increasing interaction and co-operation with other international organizations on a variety of human resources issues, including payroll procedures, staff entitlements and benefits, periods of service, training and recruitment.

2010 OSCE Post Table



Department of Management and Finance

The Department of Management and Finance (DMF) provides managerial, financial and administrative advice, services and support to OSCE participating States, the Secretary General and the Secretariat, Institutions and field operations. DMF comprises Budget and Internal Control Services (BICS), Financial Accounting and Treasury Services (FATS), Mission Support Services including Supply Chain Management (MSS), Information and Communications Technology Services (ICTS), Conference Services (CS) as well as oversight of the Prague Archives Office (PO).

DMF fulfilled its 2010 obligations regarding the Organization's planning and budget cycles and, as in previous years, continued the pursuit of Organization-wide management reform by spearheading, together with the Department of Human Resources and OSG/Legal Services, the enhancement of the Organization's regulatory framework, the Common Regulatory Management System (CRMS), in particular through strengthened guidance on procurement and contracting. DMF helped facilitate the process to further develop the Organization's Performance-Based Programme Budgeting model and provided continued support and functional training to field operations. It supported the Organization's successful delivery of OSCE meetings and conferences throughout the year.

In 2010, the DMF successfully:

- received an unqualified (positive) external audit opinion on the 2009 financial statements. The External Auditor of the Accounting Chamber of Ukraine stated: "In our opinion, these financial statements, present fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position as at 31 December 2009, and the results of the operations and cash flow for the period then ended";
- strengthened further the CRMS and the internal control structure by supporting the Secretary General's issuance of Financial/Administrative Instruction (FAI) 16; and by developing revisions to FAI 6 Procurement and Contracting and FAI 13 on OSCE Corporate Information Technology Security Policy;
- continued to provide critical systems and business process support to all Fund Administration Units in all OSCE field operations and Institutions, providing guidance on Financial Administrative Instructions and monitoring improved internal controls;
- continued to meet commitments for delivery of planning and budget-cycle documents and provision of guidance, advice and assistance to the Chair of the OSCE Advisory Committee for Management and Finance;
- prepared and supported discussions for four supplementary budgets, including a mid-year review, an increase in the Bishkek 2010 Unified Budget, Unified Budget contributions to a Police Advisory Group in Kyrgyzstan (which became the Community Security Initiative) and support for a 17th election observation mission for the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights;
- progressed further in the transition to International Public Sector Accounting Standards aimed at placing the OSCE as a "fast follower" among international organizations globally;
- successfully managed OSCE funds placed on accounts with financial institutions (banks) and managed throughout the year to safeguard, materially, OSCE funds against a highly volatile global financial environment;
- contributed significantly to cost-effective logistical planning and management of the OSCE Summit travel arrangements, which resulted in estimated savings of approximately €200,000 to participating States and the Organization when compared with using scheduled commercial air services;
- negotiated a favourable extension of the contract for Phase III-c of the OSCE project to ensure disposal of mélange rocket fuel in Ukraine, enabling a seamless continuation of the mélange disposal project; and
- through its Prague Office,
 - hosted the annual Researcher-in-Residence Programme. Eight PhD and four MA candidates came to Prague for a period of two to three months;
 - welcomed an average of three student groups per month (mostly from various German law schools on study trips to the Czech Republic), amounting to an average of 550 visitors this year; and
- continued developing the CSCE/OSCE Oral History project, launched in 2009. Several interviews with ex-ambassadors in Moscow and Washington were conducted, and existing audio-visual archives were enhanced with valuable photographic evidence gathered from Finnish press agencies, documenting the Organization's progress from 1972 to 1975.

Partnerships for security and co-operation



Representatives of the OSCE Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation at the OSCE Review Conference in Warsaw on 1 October 2010. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)

Interaction with other international, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions

The year 2010 brought new dynamism and a number of important developments in the OSCE's co-operation with other international, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions. Throughout the year, and culminating with the Astana Summit, co-operation with other organizations was placed at centre stage of participating States' attention, leading to a broad political and strategic overview of the Organization's interaction over the past decade with other organizations that promote comprehensive security in the OSCE area and providing further guidance on the future content and form of this interaction. The Chairmanship, supported by the Section for External Co-operation, made concerted efforts in implementing the Athens Ministerial Council decision on Furthering the Corfu Process (MC.DEC/1/09), which identified interaction with other organizations and institutions as one of the main topics for discussion among participating States in the framework of the Corfu Process. This issue was also the focus of exchanges during the informal Ambassadorial Retreat on 15 May, as well as at a number of Corfu Process meetings across the three security dimensions. As summarized in the *Interim Report on the Corfu Process*, participating States positively assessed the level of co-operation with other organizations and institutions in the OSCE area, achieved in the implementation of the 1999 Platform for Co-operative Security, and agreed on the need to enhance this interaction further, as well as to broaden dialogue and contacts with regional organizations outside the OSCE area.

Following the practice of the OSCE Informal Ministerial Meeting in Corfu in June 2009, seven international and regional organizations (the United Nations, the European Union, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), the Council of Europe (CoE), and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA)) were invited by the Chairmanship to the Informal Ministerial Meeting in Almaty in July, during which the Chairperson hosted a dinner for the representatives of participating organizations.

Co-operation with other international, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions also featured highly on the agendas of the three segments of the OSCE Review Conference, with a dedicated session on 22 October during the Vienna segment. A number of representatives of other organizations (CoE, NATO, CSTO, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), CICA, the League of Arab States (LAS) and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), represented by Thailand) contributed to the discussions.

Sixty-six organizations, institutions and initiatives were invited to participate in the Astana Summit, more than double the number at the Istanbul Summit 11 years ago. The Secretary-General of the UN delivered an address at the opening session. The Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community reaffirmed participating States' willingness to continue their work to ensure strengthened "co-operation among our States, and among the relevant organizations and

institutions of which they are members", "guided by the principles of equality, partnership co-operation, inclusiveness and transparency."

Regular institutional co-operation, both at the headquarters level and in the field, was also developed throughout the year. Partner organizations were invited to the main OSCE meetings in the three dimensions, including the Economic and Environmental Forum and the Annual Security Review Conference, as well as to a number of relevant high- and expert-level events. For their part, the OSCE Chairmanship, the Secretary General and other senior officials represented the OSCE, upon invitation, at Summits, Ministerial Meetings and other gatherings of international, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions.

The Chairmanship invited heads of several organizations to present their views on co-operation with the OSCE at Permanent Council or joint Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC)/Permanent Council meetings. The UN Secretary-General addressed the Permanent Council in April, the first such address in 11 years, highlighting the importance the UN attaches to its partnership with the OSCE. In October, the Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS) addressed the Permanent Council for the first time. Other speakers throughout the year included the Secretaries General of the CoE, CSTO and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the Executive Secretary of the CIS, the Director of the Central Asian Regional Informational and Coordination Centre (CARICC) and Special Representatives of the EU. The security dialogue of the

A bird's eye view of the United Nations Security Council during a briefing by Kanat Saudabayev, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan and OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, in New York on 5 February 2010. (UN Photo/Mark Garten)



FSC was enriched by presentations from UN, EU, Wassenaar and Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) representatives, who in particular contributed to discussions related to small arms and light weapons (SALW) and non-proliferation.

In Vienna in June, the OSCE Secretary General hosted the annual High-Level Tripartite Meeting between the UN, the CoE and the OSCE on the theme of “Gender and Comprehensive Security: Lessons learned and possibilities for enhanced co-operation”. Discussions focused on preventing and resolving conflicts, in particular through the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325, which marked its tenth anniversary in 2010, and on combating violence against women, including the girl-child, before, during and after armed conflicts. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), NATO and CSTO also participated in the meeting.

In December, the OSCE Secretary General held a workshop in Vienna with regional organizations on the theme of “Preventive and Quiet Diplomacy, Dialogue Facilitation and Mediation” as a follow-up to the UN Secretary-General’s high-level retreat with heads of regional organizations in New York

in January. The workshop was the first event of its kind and brought together senior representatives from the UN and a number of regional organizations, including the EU, the CoE, NATO, the African Union (AU), ARF, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), CSTO, CICA, LAS, OAS and Pacific Islands Forum (PIF).

Together with the UN and the EU, the OSCE co-chaired six rounds of the Geneva Discussions, as foreseen in the 12 August 2008 six-point agreement. It also co-facilitated, together with the EU Monitoring Mission (EUMM), three meetings of the Second Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism. The importance of this co-operation was illustrated by repeated joint appearances of the three Co-Chairs of the Geneva Discussions at the OSCE Permanent Council and the EU Political and Security Committee.

The OSCE, the UN and the EU also co-ordinated closely, including by issuing joint statements by their Special Representatives, in assisting Kyrgyzstan, upon its request, in resolving the political crisis, preventing the spillover of tensions in the region, and in promoting post-conflict rehabilitation.

The OSCE contributed to the Paris Pact Initiative through its engagement with Afghanistan, complementing the efforts of the

UN, NATO and the EU, including in the areas of border security and management, policing and election support.

In carrying out activities under their respective mandates, thematic units and departments in the Secretariat also maintained active contact and co-operation with relevant structures in partner organizations and with specialized agencies and institutions.

For example, throughout the year ATU co-operated with more than 20 UN institutions, international, regional and sub-regional organizations and specialized agencies to support and promote their counter-terrorism related activities and share experiences and best practices.

SPMU continued to leverage efforts for co-ordination and co-operation with relevant international and regional organizations, focusing in particular on illicit drugs and precursor chemicals interdiction and training of Afghan police. Other activities, principally related to police development, have involved co-operation with institutions and organizations such as the UN Department for Peacekeeping Operations (UNDPKO), the CoE, the European Police College (CEPOL), the International Network to Promote the Rule of Law (INPROL), the Democratic Control of the Armed Forces Centre (DCAF) and a number of NGOs.

Eric Svanidze, a consultant to the Council of Europe on ill-treatment and torture, introduces a session on rule of law at the OSCE's Review Conference in Warsaw on 5 October 2010. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)



Séverine Jacomy-Vité, a UNICEF child-protection specialist, makes introductory remarks at a session on human trafficking at the OSCE Review Conference in Warsaw on 8 October 2010. (OSCE/Curtis Budden)



The Gender Section continued to co-operate with other organizations by sharing OSCE experience related to gender equality, violence against women and the implementation of UNSCR 1325.

The Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (CTHB) promoted multi-stakeholder partnerships through the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons. This year saw a renewed engagement in bilateral and multilateral dialogue amongst various partners to consolidate existing partnerships and expand membership. Upon the initiative of the Special Representative, the Alliance Expert Co-ordination Team issued a "Joint Statement on Child Protection, Especially among Migrant, Undocumented, Unaccompanied, Separated and Asylum Seeking Children, to enhance Prevention of Child Trafficking", which was presented at the OSCE Review Conference in Warsaw in October.

Through its Borders Team, the Operations Service of the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) engaged with international and regional organizations dealing with issues affecting border security and management. Key partners included the UN, the EU (particularly its BOMCA Programme in Central Asia, EUBAM and Frontex), NATO, IOM, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the World Customs Organization (WCO), Interpol, the CSTO, the Regional Co-operation Council (RCC), the

Southeast European Co-operation Initiative (SECI), the Migration, Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative (MARRI), the International Anti-Corruption Academy and DCAF.

Operations Service also regularly participated in the International Stabilization and Peacebuilding Initiative, which included the AU, the CoE, the UN and the World Bank.

Over the year, the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) intensified its co-operation in the area of fighting corruption with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the CoE and the EC's Eastern Partnership, Platform I – Panel on Fight Against Corruption.

The OCEEA continued to be actively engaged in the Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC), in co-operation with the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe, as well as NATO.

On the ground, OSCE field operations continued to share information and, as necessary, co-ordinate in implementing projects and other practical activities with other locally represented organizations, in a pragmatic way and in accordance with their individual mandates. The CPC organized

special sessions on assessing co-operation with other organizations and institutions present alongside the OSCE Regional Heads of Mission meetings in Sarajevo in June, in Ashgabat in May and in Baku in September. In addition, a representative of the EC delivered a briefing on the EU's Eastern Partnership Initiative at the Regional Heads of Mission meeting in Kiev in July.

The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) regularly co-operated with the Venice Commission of the CoE on legal reviews and maintained strong partnerships with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the Parliamentary assemblies of the CoE and NATO, as well as the European Parliament on election observation.

The OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) co-operated with international organizations in order to broaden channels of influence, avoid overlap and increase the effectiveness of the HCNM's work. The HCNM developed close links with the EC, in particular with the EU Commissioner for Enlargement and the Directorate-General for Enlargement; the CoE, especially the CoE Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the Venice Commission; and with the UN Secretariat and specialized UN bodies, such as the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights (UNHCHR), UNHCR and UNDP.

The Representative on Freedom of the

Media worked with freedom of expression rapporteurs of the UN, the OAS and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to publish a document setting forth the ten key challenges facing freedom of expression in the next decade.

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly regularly co-operated with the European Parliament, the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, the Parliamentary Assembly of the CoE (PACE), the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the CIS Parliamentary Assembly and other international parliamentary organizations, particularly in the field of election observation.

■ United Nations

In his address at the opening session of the Astana Summit, the UN Secretary-General spoke of the "core principles and common values" on which both organizations were founded and the benefit of deepening co-operation in order "to expand peace, advance human rights, generate sustainable development, and build a safer world". His statement provided an apt summary of a year characterized by an exceptionally intense and close co-operation between the UN and the OSCE.

Providing a coherent response to the situation in Kyrgyzstan, as well as continuing close and co-ordinated engagement on Georgia, Kosovo and Afghanistan, were the highlights of OSCE-UN interaction during the year. Other priority areas for co-operation included advancing fundamental freedoms and human rights in the OSCE area; disarmament and non-proliferation, including by supporting the implementation of UNSCR 1540; addressing environmental challenges and fostering sustainable development, with a special focus on efficient water and energy management; and developing co-ordinated approaches to combating transnational threats to security, in particular in the areas of trafficking in human beings and narcotics, and the fight against terrorism.

Inter-institutional contacts also acquired new dynamism and helped to advance the co-operation agenda throughout the year. On 5 February, the OSCE Chairperson briefed the UN Security Council on the priorities of the 2010 OSCE Chairmanship. He stressed the important role played by regional intergovernmental organizations such as the OSCE, with their unique tools, resources and understanding of the situation on the ground, in assisting the Security Council to more effectively address potential security

threats and respond to them. This point was also highlighted at the thematic debate of the UN Security Council, held in January, on the theme of "Advancing co-operation of the UN with regional and sub-regional organizations in the maintenance of global peace and security". The OSCE Chairperson focused again on the OSCE's wide-ranging role as a key regional partner of the UN during his remarks at the inaugural session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) in September.

In New York in January, the OSCE Secretary General attended the UN Secretary-General's high-level retreat on "Co-operation in Times of Crisis" for heads of regional and other intergovernmental organizations. On that occasion, he met bilaterally with the UN Secretary-General to discuss issues of mutual interest. Other bilateral meetings between the two Secretaries General took place on the margins of the UN Secretary-General's address to the OSCE Permanent Council in April and during the Astana Summit in December. At the end of August, the OSCE Secretary General met in New York with high-ranking UN representatives from the Departments for Political Affairs (DPA) and DPKO to discuss co-operation on key regional issues.

In September, the OSCE Secretary General met bilaterally with the newly appointed executive director of UNODC, and in December he hosted the annual OSCE-UNODC co-ordination meeting in Vienna. Senior experts on both sides reviewed co-operation between the two organizations in the areas of combating trafficking in human beings; fighting illicit drugs, terrorism and transnational organized crime; and corruption and money laundering.

The annual OSCE-UN staff-level meeting was held in May in New York and focused on co-operation in the Western Balkans, the South Caucasus, Moldova, Central Asia and Afghanistan, as well as on thematic issues including mediation and conflict prevention and disarmament and non-proliferation. On the margins of the meeting, OSCE representatives held a number of bilateral meetings with senior UN officials.

In September, the OSCE Head on Anti-Terrorism Issues addressed the 117th Session of the UNGA, which reviewed the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and briefed the UNGA on the OSCE's contributions to global efforts against terrorism.

SPMU maintained effective co-ordination with the UNODC in preparing and

implementing activities related to combating organized crime and illicit drugs. Regular co-ordination meetings were held at the senior and technical level in Vienna, continuing through the OSCE field offices. A number of joint OSCE-UNODC workshops, seminars, training programmes and conferences were organized in the course of the year.

The Operations Service of the CPC continued to enhance its co-operation with the UN DPA Mediation Support Unit. The first joint training between the OSCE and the UN took place at the Folke Bernadotte Academy's (FBA) training facility in Sandö, Sweden, in April.

Through its participation in the Expert Reference Group, the FSC Support Unit of the CPC took on an active role in the process of developing International Small Arms Control Standards initiated by the UN Co-ordinating Action on Small Arms Mechanism. This new initiative aimed to create universal standards in designing, planning and implementing small arms control initiatives to be used equally by practitioners and policy-makers.

The FSC Support Unit also continued the implementation of joint projects with UNDP. This year witnessed the successful conclusion of the first phase of the joint SALW project in Belarus, where a total of five SALW storage sites were updated in line with OSCE best practices on the management and security of SALW stockpiles. In addition, special SALW inventory software was developed for use in Belarus and other OSCE participating States. In Montenegro, the first phase of two joint projects was finalized, resulting in the destruction of 480 tonnes of unstable ammunition and the updating of an ammunition storage site in Tarash.

The OCEEA continued its co-operation with the UNECE on transport and cross-border facilitation issues. A number of joint or back-to-back regional events were organized, related, *inter alia*, to the Euro-Asian Transport Links and the UN Trans-European Motorway (TEM) and Trans-European Railway (TER) projects. Co-operation also focused on finalizing the joint *OSCE/UNECE Handbook of Best Practices at Border Crossings*.

The OCEEA further expanded its co-operation with the UNECE Aarhus Convention Secretariat within the framework of the OSCE Aarhus Centres Initiative and strengthened its collaboration with the UNECE Helsinki Convention and the UNECE

Sergei A. Ordzhonikidze, Under-Secretary-General, Director-General of the United Nations Office in Geneva, speaks at a meeting of the OSCE, the Council of Europe and the United Nations on gender and security, in Vienna on 14 June 2010. (OSCE/Susanna Lööf)



Espoo Convention through projects in the field of transboundary water management and environmental impact assessment, respectively. In areas related to energy security, OCEEA partnered with the UNECE through its Committee on Sustainable Energy, Working Parties and Expert Groups.

The OCEEA continued its co-operation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in the framework of mitigating radioactive problems in Central Asia.

The Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media worked with UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to organize a roundtable on the topic of self-regulation for media representatives from seven South-Eastern European countries and Turkey, as well as on a project to develop a Russian version of the UNESCO Model Curricula for Journalism Education.

■ European Union

The EU and the OSCE continued building on their close co-operation throughout the year, which was marked by the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty. In his address to the OSCE Summit, President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy highlighted that “for the EU the [OSCE-EU] joint long-term vision is clear: a Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian Security Community where

the use of force has become unthinkable and where common interests prevail.” He outlined four key priorities for the OSCE, namely dealing with regional conflicts (emerging and old), strengthening and modernizing the conventional arms control regime in Europe, ensuring the strengthening of the protection of human rights and increasing co-operation in the face of transnational threats.

The Chairperson participated in the regular OSCE-EU Ministerial Meeting held in January in Brussels. Meetings at the ambassadorial level took place in June and December, addressing a number of topical issues of common interest, including the priorities of the OSCE Chairmanship, the Astana Summit and its follow-up, the Corfu Process, protracted conflicts, Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan.

The OSCE Secretary General addressed the EU Political and Security Committee in April and November, under the respective Spanish and Belgium presidencies, and held a number of bilateral meetings with high-ranking EU representatives on the margins, addressing issues such as the situation in Kyrgyzstan, protracted conflicts, Georgia, Afghanistan, the implementation of the Lisbon Treaty and preparations for the Astana Summit. The Secretary General also

met bilaterally with the EU President on the margins of the OSCE Summit in Astana.

The year also featured appearances by senior EU representatives before the OSCE Permanent Council, including the Spanish Foreign Minister on behalf of the EU Presidency, the Special Representative of the EU for the South Caucasus and the EU Special Representative for the Republic of Moldova.

In July, an OSCE-EU brainstorming session at the staff level took place in order to explore ways for enhanced co-operation ahead of the Astana Summit.

As a permanent participant in the EU’s Eastern Partnership Initiative’s (EaP) Platform I on Democracy, Good Governance and Stability, the OSCE took part in the third and fourth meetings of the Platform in October and April, raising awareness of OSCE activities in these areas.

The Operations Service of the CPC enhanced its interaction with the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU in the area of mediation support. In October, representatives of the Operations Service’s Planning and Analysis Team participated in an EU workshop on best practices in mediation, which was also attended by several EU Special Representatives.

The OCEEA initiated a new partnership with the European Environmental Agency

within the framework of a project aimed at developing scenarios for different OSCE regions to quantify the security implications of climate change, as well as within the framework of a project on the security implications of climate change in the OSCE region.

■ Council of Europe

The OSCE and the CoE worked closely together throughout the year and co-ordinated their activities on issues of common interest at the political and expert levels, including in the field. In his address to the OSCE Permanent Council on 10 June, the Foreign Minister of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Chairman of the CoE's Committee of Ministers emphasized that the cumulative effect in reaching the goals of the CoE and the OSCE is to be achieved through strengthening co-operation, creating synergies and avoiding overlapping.

The CoE's Secretary General addressed the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna on 1 July, while the OSCE Secretary General addressed the meeting of Ministers' Deputies of the Committee of Ministers of the CoE on 29 September. Both highlighted the significant complementarities in the work of their organizations and the concrete results that could be reached through an enhanced working relationship. The OSCE Secretariat was also represented at the 120th Session of the CoE's Committee of Ministers in Strasbourg on 11 May.

Current and emerging co-operation between the CoE and the OSCE, the respective priorities for 2010 as well as their co-operation in the field were discussed at the 19th High-Level "2+2" Meeting, held in Geneva on 5 March. The Chairperson of the CoE Committee of Ministers, the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and the Secretaries General of the CoE and the OSCE participated in the discussions. The CoE Secretary General and the OSCE Secretary General also held a bilateral meeting on the margins of the meeting.

The two Organizations worked particularly closely together in the four agreed priority areas: promoting tolerance and non-discrimination, the protection of rights of persons belonging to national minorities, fighting terrorism and combating trafficking in human beings. Enhanced interaction in these areas was reviewed during the two regular meetings of the CoE-OSCE Co-ordination Group, held in Strasbourg on 1 March and in Vienna on 22 October.

The OSCE's Gender Section participated

in the CoE's task force to prepare the first legally binding European Convention on Combating Violence against Women.

Aiming to further develop the close relationship between the OSCE and the CoE, the Special Representative on Trafficking in Human Beings and the President and Vice-President of the CoE's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) met in June to co-ordinate their awareness-raising and advocacy activities. They also agreed to continue providing assistance to participating and Member States, upon request, especially in the areas of training, assessment and monitoring.

In September, the OCEEA supported the Centre of Expertise for Local Government Reform of the CoE and UNDP) in organizing a conference on Inter-Municipal Co-operation in Dubrovnik for officials from South-Eastern and Eastern Europe and South Caucasus.

ODIHR and the CoE's Venice Commission jointly issued *Guidelines on Legislation on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly* and further co-operated in preparing and finalizing the 2010 Kyiv Recommendations on Judicial Independence in Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia, which addressed issues of judicial administration, with a particular focus on judicial councils, the selection of judges and their accountability. In December, jointly with the CoE and the local NGO Human Rights Centre, ODIHR trained assembly monitors in Tbilisi, Georgia, in international standards, applicable national law and assembly monitoring techniques. In order to promote early education for Roma and Sinti, ODIHR, in co-operation with the CoE and UNESCO, established the International Task Force for the Education of Roma (ITFER).

The Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media and the CoE jointly organized an open forum at the Internet Governance Forum in Vilnius in September on how to balance the governing of hate speech with the right to freedom of expression and the free flow of information.

The OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre entertained direct contacts with the Secretariat of the CoE on a number of regional matters. These exchanges contributed to a better understanding of the activities undertaken by both organizations, in particular in response to developments in the field.

■ North Atlantic Treaty Organization

In a year marked by preparations for their respective Summits, the OSCE and NATO

continued to develop their relations through political dialogue and expert-level co-operation. At the Lisbon Summit meeting of the North-Atlantic Council in November, NATO Heads of State and Government highlighted NATO's commitment "to further enhance the Alliance's cooperation with the OSCE, both at the political and operational level, in particular in areas such as conflict prevention and resolution, post-conflict rehabilitation, and in addressing new security threats."

On 27 January, the OSCE Chairperson held talks with the NATO Secretary General in Brussels, focusing on Afghanistan, the Chairmanship of the OSCE and the prospects for an OSCE Summit.

In his capacity as Special Envoy of the OSCE Chairperson, the Deputy Foreign Minister of Kazakhstan addressed the first Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) ambassadorial meeting in Brussels, in March, focusing on Afghanistan, the Corfu Process, preparations for the Astana Summit and co-operation on issues of wider European security. In December, he briefed the EAPC on the achievements of the OSCE Chairmanship, highlighting in particular the results of the Astana Summit, OSCE's engagement with Afghanistan and management of the crisis in Kyrgyzstan.

The OSCE Secretary General delivered a statement to the EAPC in July. Topics of discussion, both at the EAPC and during subsequent bilateral meetings with high-ranking NATO officials and ambassadors, included the outlook for the Astana Summit, conclusions from the Corfu Process, NATO's deliberations on a new Strategic Concept, security in Afghanistan and developments in Georgia, Kosovo, Moldova and Central Asia.

In addition, the Secretaries General of the OSCE and NATO met bilaterally in January in New York on the margins of the UN Secretary-General's retreat with heads of regional organizations. The OSCE Secretary General also held a bilateral meeting with NATO's Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs and Security Policy during the Astana Summit. Topics of discussion included the outcome of the Summit, prospects for OSCE engagement with Afghanistan and OSCE-NATO co-operation.

Regular OSCE-NATO staff-level meetings, held in Vienna in March and October, addressed thematic issues such as the Vienna Document 1999, the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE), preparations for the Astana and Lisbon

Summits, NATO's comprehensive approach, energy security, the fight against terrorism, as well as co-operation on regional matters including Central Asia, the South Caucasus, the Western Balkans and Afghanistan.

■ Other international, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions in the OSCE area

In accordance with the OSCE Helsinki Ministerial Decision of 2008 on the OSCE contribution to the Implementation Phase of the Alliance of Civilizations Initiative (MC. DEC 8/08), the Secretary General attended the Third Global Forum of the Alliance of Civilizations (AoC) in Rio de Janeiro in May. The Secretary General took part in the Ministerial Meeting and addressed the Summit Plenary. He also was a speaker at the thematic session on "The Dialogue of Civilizations and the Remaking of the World Order". On the eve of the AoC Forum, the Secretary General participated in the side event on "Addressing Islamophobia: Building on Unused Opportunities for Mutual Respect and Inclusion", co-organized by the AoC, the CoE, the OIC and the British Council. The High Representative of the UN Secretary-General for the AoC addressed the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna in June.

On the margins of the address by the Secretary General of the CSTO to the joint Permanent Council/Forum for Security Co-operation meeting on 15 April, the two Secretaries General held a bilateral meeting, focusing on issues such as Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan, and border security and management in Central Asia. During his visit to Moscow in March, the Director of CPC met with the CSTO Secretary General to discuss issues including the creation of CSTO peacekeeping forces, the Corfu Process, the OSCE Summit, transnational threats to security, as well as Central Asia and Afghanistan.

The OSCE Secretary General met with the Chairman of the Executive Committee and Executive Secretary of the CIS on the margins of his address to the Permanent Council on 22 July, and exchanged information on the latest developments within the two organizations.

The Head of External Co-operation represented the OSCE Secretariat at the Summit Meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the SEECP and the Annual Meeting of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) in Istanbul on 22-23 June.

A delegation from the ICRC visited the OSCE Secretariat on 23-25 February for consultations with various thematic units

and regional desks on issues of common interest.

As a member of many international working groups, SPMU engaged in co-ordination with organizations such as INTERPOL, EUROPOL and SECI Centre. SPMU co-operated with the RCC on the OSCE workshop series on democratic-policing and SPMU guidebooks on good practices for law enforcement.

The Office of the Special Representative on Trafficking in Human Beings developed co-operation with the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF). In November, the Office contributed to the FATF workshop on money laundering vulnerabilities arising from trafficking in human beings and the smuggling of migrants in Cape Town, and the first joint meeting of the FATF and the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units on money laundering and terrorist financing typologies.

In co-operation with the IOM, the International Labour Office (ILO), the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the CoE, the OCEEA organized two regional training seminars on gender and labour migration in Helsinki (15-16 April) and in Astana (14-15 September). The seminars were based on the *Gender and Labour Migration Trainer's Manual*, produced by the OCEEA and ODIHR. The OCEEA worked closely with the IOM to produce *Training Modules on Labour Migration Management - Trainer's Manual* as a complement to the OSCE-IOM-ILO labour migration handbooks. The OCEEA and the IOM also initiated a new joint project to assess the gathering of migration data in Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. Furthermore, the OCEEA worked closely with the ILO to publish *Strengthening Migration Governance*, a review report on the implementation of the OSCE commitments related to migration produced for the 2009 Economic and Environmental Forum.

The OCEEA engaged in co-operation with the World Customs Organization (WCO) on promoting integrity in customs and other border services. A joint regional workshop was held in Almaty in July.

In the area of combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism, the OCEEA continued its collaboration with the Financial Action Task Force, the CoE's Moneyval Committee and the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism.

In addition, the OCEEA joined the Vienna Energy Club (VEC), which includes

organizations such as the Energy Community, the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID), OPEC, the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP) and UNIDO. The OCEEA hosted representatives from the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, the Energy Charter Secretariat, the European Climate Foundation, NATO and UNECE at the special expert meeting on "Assessing the OSCE's future contribution to international energy security co-operation", held in Vilnius, in September.

■ Regional organizations outside the OSCE area

Guided by participating States' agreement during Corfu Process discussions on "the need for openness to interacting with regional and sub-regional organizations outside the OSCE area, in particular those from adjacent regions, in areas where joint efforts could be beneficial", the year also saw broadened dialogue and contacts with such organizations, aimed at the exchange of experience, best practices and lessons learned.

Interaction with CICA, one of the priorities of the Chairmanship, was particularly intensified throughout the year. The OSCE Secretary General was invited to participate in the Third Summit of CICA in Istanbul on 8 June, where he delivered a statement on behalf of the OSCE. He also made a presentation during a special event focusing on security and economic co-operation in Eurasia in the 21st century, organized in connection with the CICA Summit, on 7 June. In addition, the Head of External Co-operation represented the OSCE Secretariat at the meeting of the CICA Specialized Working Group and the Senior Officials Committee, held in Ankara in October.

Co-operation with the OAS also took on new dynamism over the course of the year. In February, an OAS representative participated in the Chairmanship Seminar on Conflict Prevention and Resolution, organized in the framework of the Corfu Process. In October, an OAS team headed by the Secretary for Multidimensional Security visited the OSCE Secretariat for the first time in preparation for the OAS Secretary General's address to the Permanent Council, as well as to exchange views on issues of mutual interest. ODIHR also strengthened its co-operation with the OAS, sharing its election observation experience and methodology.

On 6 May, the Secretary General of the OIC addressed the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna for the second time. In his statement, he emphasized the need for the two organizations to work together to battle the rise of Islamophobia. On the margins of his address, he and the OSCE Secretary General discussed current and upcoming co-operation. They met again, on the margins of the Fourth Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan (RECCA IV) in Istanbul on 3 November, and continued their discussions.

In addition, the OSCE Secretary General held bilateral meetings with the Secretaries General of the OAS, OIC and SCO in January in New York on the margins of the UN Secretary-General's retreat with heads of regional organizations.

A delegation of the Union of South American Nations visited the OSCE Secretariat in February for in-depth briefings with specialised units aimed at sharing OSCE knowledge and experience.

A representative of the ARF addressed the Asian Contact Group in February, providing a briefing on recent developments and activities and proposing areas of possible co-operation with the OSCE.

On the margins of the Sixth UN Conference on Competition Policy, in Geneva in November, the Head of the OSCE Office in Yerevan met with representatives of the CARICOM Secretariat to share OSCE experience in Armenia related to competition policies and legislation.

■ Non-governmental organizations

Contacts with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) were particularly intensified in 2010, and representatives of a number of think tanks and NGOs were invited by the OSCE Chairmanship to take part and contribute to the three segments of the OSCE Review Conference in Warsaw, Vienna and Astana, respectively. In addition, NGOs took part in all regular OSCE events throughout the year. The three OSCE Institutions, the thematic units of the Secretariat and field operations continued to develop their dialogue and co-operation with a number of relevant NGOs, including as implementing partners and guest speakers at events.

ODIHR co-operated with the Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) in the organization of roundtable conferences on the *Handbook on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Armed Forces Personnel*. This year's events brought together a wide range

of actors from the security sector to discuss the handbook's recommendations on Serbia (May), Georgia (June) and Albania (November).

ODIHR hosted the Third Annual Meeting on Mechanisms and Programmes for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders in Warsaw in December. The meeting, organized by the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), brought together representatives from UNHCHR, the CoE Commissioner for Human Rights, the EU, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the International Organization of the Francophonie and a number of international NGOs, including Amnesty International, Human Rights First and the World Organization Against Torture.

The HCNM worked with civil society in the countries where the Institution is engaged to support efforts aimed at preventing conflict and protecting human rights.

The Office of the Representative on Freedom of the Media provided assistance and participated in a country visit to Serbia organized by the International Press Institute and the South East Europe Media Organization to address the country's Law on Public Information. The Office also financed *The Legal Links Toolkit*, a guide on how to access government information, prepared by Access Info Europe and the Network for Reporting on Eastern Europe.

■ Highlights of co-operation in the field

South-Eastern Europe

The **Presence in Albania** worked with the EU on property and police, with the EU and the CoE on civil registry and the media, with the CoE on decentralization and with the UN, the World Bank and the EU on donor co-ordination.

The **Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina** co-operated with UNHCR, UNDP, NATO, the EU Forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the EU Delegation, the CoE and the Office of the High Representative.

The **Mission in Kosovo** continued its role as a reliable partner of the international community, providing valuable experience and expertise in institution-building and human rights promotion. The Mission, working within the overall framework of the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, engaged actively with relevant institutions, including UNHCR, UNDP, the CoE, the EC

Liaison Office, the EU Rule of Law Mission and NATO.

The **Mission to Montenegro** continued its close co-operation with the EU Delegation, the CoE, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF and civil society organizations in the process of reforms and strengthening institutional capacity, especially in the areas of rule of law, police-military matters, democratization and media. In co-operation with the host country and international organizations, the Mission co-hosted five regional conferences on building regional stability and security.

The **Mission to Serbia** co-operated with UN agencies, such as UNDP, UNHCR, UNODC, UNICEF, as well as the EU, the CoE, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), the World Bank and NGOs in its four programme areas: rule of law and human rights, democratization, law enforcement and media.

The **Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje** co-operated with the Security Principals – the EU Special Representative, the United States and NATO – to promote stabilization and a fruitful dialogue with the country's institutions. Collaboration with UN agencies present on the ground and the EC continued, particularly to improve inter-ethnic relations.

The **Office in Zagreb** co-operated with the EU delegation, three NGOs (the Centre for Peace in Osijek, Document and the Civic Committee for Human Rights (GOLJP)) and the ICTY Liaison Office on monitoring of war crimes proceedings. The Office contributed to the War Crimes Justice Project, which was carried out by ODIHR in partnership with the ICTY and the UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI).

Eastern Europe

The **Office in Minsk** maintained close co-ordination with UN agencies, the EU delegation, the CIS Executive Committee, international financial institutions and the IOM when developing its projects with the Institutions of the host country.

The **Mission to Moldova** kept close contact with a number of UN agencies, the EU, the CoE and IOM in its efforts to find a lasting solution to the Transnistrian conflict, to combat trafficking in human beings

and to promote democracy, the rule of law and freedom of the media.

The **Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine** co-ordinated activities with the CoE, the Venice Commission, the EU, USAID and USAID-funded projects in Ukraine, IOM, UNECE, UNEP, UNDP, ILO, the Eurasia Foundation, the German Foundation for International Legal Cooperation, and local and international NGOs.

South Caucasus

The **Office in Baku** worked with the ILO on combating trafficking in human beings and on training for the owners of small and medium-sized businesses; with UNECE on water management; with UNDP on the Civic Action for Security and Environment (CASE) programme; with ICRC on monitoring of detention facilities; with the World Bank on judicial reforms and with the IOM on combating trafficking in human beings.

The **Office in Yerevan** closely co-operated with the CoE, including the Venice Commission, the EU Delegation and Advisory Group and the UN on elections, anti-corruption, police assistance, human rights, economic and environmental issues, judicial reform, media, gender, anti-trafficking and migration.

Central Asia

The **Centre in Ashgabat** worked together with UNODC, UNECE, the EU and other organizations to address issues such as anti-corruption practices, media reform, transport development and anti-trafficking, also closely co-ordinating its day-to-day activities with all international organizations active in Turkmenistan.

The **Centre in Astana** liaised and co-operated with various UN bodies, the EU and other international, intergovernmental and regional organizations to address a range of issues including organized crime, gender equality and transboundary water management.

In response to the April events in Kyrgyzstan, the OSCE, the UN and the EU established a co-ordination assistance mechanism including tripartite visits of their Special Representatives for Kyrgyzstan. The **Centre in Bishkek**, in co-operation with UNDP and the EU Delegation, created the Reconciliation, Conflict Prevention and Peace-Building Mechanism (RECAP), co-chaired by the

OSCE, the EU and UNHCHR. A similar co-ordination mechanism was set up jointly with USAID in the field of strengthening local self-governance bodies. In the aftermath of the April events in Bishkek, the OSCE Centre, the UN and the EU initiated weekly international co-ordination meetings throughout the year. The OSCE Centre also collaborated with the Eurasia Foundation in the area of education, as well as with the EU, the EC's Disaster Preparedness ECHO (DIPECHO) programme, UNICEF, IOM, the Asian Development Bank and UNDP.

The **Office in Tajikistan** expanded its co-operation in all programme areas with international organizations, including UN agencies, international development banks and NGOs in projects concerning border management, mine action, police reform and counter-terrorism, environmental issues, gender, anti-trafficking, human rights and media development.

During the year, the **Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan** organized various events in co-ordination with international organizations, NGOs, partners and local institutions in the three dimensions.

Interaction with the Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation

This year's dialogue with Partners for Co-operation was marked by their close involvement in the discussions among participating States preceding the OSCE Summit in Astana on 1-2 December. Partners actively participated in and contributed to the informal consultations within the Corfu Process and in the Review Conference. Practical co-operation activities focused on ensuring continuity with previous work. For the first time, implementing decisions adopted in 2009, two workshops were organized on the territory of Partners for Co-operation: one, in Mongolia, on combating human trafficking and another, in Thailand, on fighting drug trafficking. Participation of Afghan representatives in OSCE activities was boosted. With the Mediterranean Partners, the work in the three priority areas selected in 2009 for activities under the Partnership Fund was advanced.

■ Report of the OSCE Chairmanship

The Chairmanship advanced the dialogue with Partners by convening for the first time a special high-level event for OSCE Partners for Co-operation on the margins of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA) Summit in Istanbul. High-level exchanges continued on the occasion of the addresses to the Permanent Council by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia and Thailand and during the visit to the OSCE by the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Partners took active part in the informal discussions in the framework of the Corfu Process, including the Informal Ministerial Meeting in Almaty, and substantially contributed to the Review Conference organized in preparation of the OSCE Summit. One session of the Review Conference focused on examining co-operation with the OSCE Partners. Both Partners for Co-operation and participating States appreciated the progress achieved in developing dialogue and co-operation in recent years, and a number of proposals were made for further enhancing interaction in the future.

Upon invitation by the Chairmanship, the Partners for Co-operation participated in the 2010 Astana Summit at a high level. The Astana Commemorative Declaration, adopted by OSCE heads of State and Government, pledged to enhance the level of interaction with the Partners for Co-operation. The OSCE Ministerial Troika meetings with the Partners, with the participation of the Secretary General and of the Parliamentary Assembly, held on the margins of the Summit, allowed for an assessment of the progress made in recent years and a discussion of ways to further enhance the OSCE Partnership.

Following the established practice, Partners regularly participated in meetings of the Permanent Council and of the Forum for Security Co-operation. The Chairmanship regularly briefed the Partners on the ongoing

activities of the Chairperson at the Contact Group meetings. Partners were also invited to the main OSCE annual events, including the Annual Security Review Conference, the Economic and Environmental Forum and the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting.

The Chairmanship provided full support, including financial, to co-operation activities implemented with both groups of Partners under the Partnership Fund. Kazakhstan also hosted an international conference in Almaty in April to explore possibilities for applying the OSCE's experience in security co-operation to other regions, and in particular to north-east Asia.

■ Fourth joint meeting of the Contact Groups

Co-chaired by Greece and Lithuania, the July meeting focused on the OSCE's work in protecting human rights while fighting terrorism and combating money laundering and financing of terrorism and explored venues for co-operation activities. The outcomes and follow-up to the Almaty Informal Ministerial Meeting, the Parliamentary Assembly Annual Session and the OSCE-Republic of Korea Conference were also discussed. The briefing delivered by a representative of CICA prompted exchanges on the possibility of furthering OSCE-CICA interaction.

■ Report of the Chairmanship of the Contact Group with the Asian Partners for Co-operation

Work of the Asian Contact Group

During the five meetings of the Asian Contact Group, Asian Partners made presentations on regional security issues of shared interest. Afghanistan briefed participants on the electoral process in that country; Australia presented the Asia Pacific experience in shaping multilateral processes to meet emerging challenges; Mongolia informed about the outcomes of the Ulaanbaatar workshop on combating human trafficking; the Republic

Thailand's Foreign Minister Kasit Piromya speaks at the OSCE Permanent Council, in Vienna on 24 June 2010. (OSCE/Sarah Crozier)



of Korea illustrated its perspectives on multilateral security co-operation in north-east Asia; Thailand provided presentations on the outcome of the workshop it hosted on combating illicit crop cultivation and enhancing border security as well as on potential co-operation between the OSCE and the ASEAN Regional Forum. Discussions also focused on OSCE activities on elections, gender issues, media freedom, as well as on the economic and environmental dimension, with contributions by OSCE experts.

OSCE-Republic of Korea Conference

During the Conference, held in Seoul in May, participants exchanged views and experiences on issues related to all three dimensions of security, including the ongoing dialogue on security and co-operation in the OSCE, the prospects for multilateral security co-operation in north-east Asia, economic development, environmental challenges and promotion of good governance with a special focus on Afghanistan and women's contribution to security.

Discussions highlighted the potential usefulness of the OSCE's inclusive, co-operative and comprehensive approach to security for the Asian region and the contribution that multilateral security co-operation could make to resolving both traditional and non-traditional threats and challenges.

Participants recognized that economic and environmental challenges were often intertwined and could be more effectively dealt with through a comprehensive

approach. To this end, enhanced co-operation and partnerships between governments and civil society, as well as between the OSCE and other relevant international organizations, was supported. Enhancing co-operation with Afghanistan and addressing challenges faced by landlocked countries were identified as areas for further

activities in the context of the OSCE Asian Partnership.

The contribution that women could bring to building security was extensively examined both at the Conference and at a side event gathering experts and civil society representatives on the margins of an OSCE conference with the Asian Partners for the first

Partnership Fund

The Partnership Fund, aimed at promoting the Partners' engagement in the OSCE, completed its third year of operation in 2010, during which five projects were completed and three more were launched. With new contributions from Germany, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Republic of Korea and Thailand, the fund's total pledges since its 2007 establishment by PC.DEC/812 reached over €830,000.

Completed projects were:

- OSCE 2010 Chairmanship workshop on "Combating illicit crop cultivation and enhancing border security and management: Thailand as a case study", held in Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai, Thailand, (24-28 January);
- OSCE 2010 Chairmanship international expert workshop on "Combating modern slavery: national, regional, international experiences", held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, (9-10 February);
- Meeting on "Security and co-operation in north-east Asia and the OSCE", co-organized by the Chairmanship and the Austrian Centre for International Studies, held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, (27-28 April);
- A side event on women's contribution to security at the OSCE-Republic of Korea Conference held in Seoul, (18-19 May); and
- A study trip for experts from the Mediterranean Partners on travel document security to Austria, held in Vienna, (26-28 May).

Projects initiated in 2010 were:

- Translation of OSCE/ODIHR election literature into Dari/Pashtu;
- Afghanistan engagement support, aiming at supporting Afghan participation in OSCE activities and the development of targeted extra-budgetary projects; and
- Placement of experts from OSCE Partners for Co-operation in the OSCE executive structures.

The participation of representatives from the Partners for Co-operation, in particular from Afghanistan, in OSCE activities was also sponsored through the Partnership Fund.

time. Participants agreed that women were critical to the successful prevention and resolution of conflict and should participate as central actors in those processes; therefore additional measures were needed to promote gender balance and women's participation in political and public life, in accordance with the relevant OSCE commitments.

Co-operation activities

Greece supported the intensification of exchanges and co-operation with the Asian Partners through the implementation of projects under the Partnership Fund. Activities focused on sharing OSCE experience and exchanging lessons learned on building a multilateral security framework and gender issues. For the first time, two workshops were organized in the territory of Partners for Co-operation: Mongolia hosted a workshop on combating human trafficking, and Thailand hosted a workshop on countering illicit crop cultivation and enhancing border security. Both events provided opportunities for networking and exchanges of ideas and best practices on key security challenges.

In compliance with the Madrid Ministerial Declaration on the OSCE Partners for Co-operation (MC.DOC/1/07), Greece circulated a report on the work of the Mediterranean Contact Group in 2010.

■ Report of the Chairmanship of the Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation

Work of the Mediterranean Contact Group

The Mediterranean Contact Group met six times in 2010, covering a wide range of topics, including confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs), border management, migration, gender and tolerance and non-discrimination. Exchanges of ideas and experience dominated the discussions, with contributions by experts from the OSCE as well as from other international organizations, including the EU, NATO, the Council of Europe, the League of Arab States and the International Labour Organization. The Contact Group's meetings also focused on ensuring follow-up to main events involving the Mediterranean Partners.

2010 OSCE Mediterranean Conference

The 2010 OSCE Mediterranean Conference, hosted by Malta in October, was a key event for the Mediterranean Partners, focusing on bringing a Mediterranean perspective into the OSCE dialogue on the future of

OSCE/ODIHR Election Support Team to Afghanistan

The OSCE deployed an Election Support Team (EST) to the 18 September parliamentary elections in Afghanistan, as decided by the OSCE Permanent Council in response to an invitation from the Afghan Foreign Minister.

The OSCE/ODIHR team, consisting of eight experts from six OSCE participating States, was deployed for five weeks and presented its findings to the Permanent Council on 9 December.

The OSCE has been involved in all Afghan elections since 2004, issuing reports with recommendations on how to improve future electoral processes in 2004, 2005 and 2009. During the 2010 elections, the OSCE/ODIHR EST reviewed the large body of existing recommendations and identified priority areas that could form the basis for future electoral reform. On this basis, the OSCE/ODIHR released a report addressing the legal framework, the protection of electoral rights, election administration, voters' registration, the delimitation of electoral boundaries, political parties and domestic observation, with the aim of stimulating further electoral reform in Afghanistan.

European security. Exchanges covered issues related to CSBMs, managing economic and environmental challenges for building security and stability and experiences on tolerance and non-discrimination, including the role of civil society in fostering peace and security.

During the debate, the potential relevance of the OSCE experience on CSBMs for the Mediterranean region was examined. Participants discussed the usefulness of intensifying the involvement of the Mediterranean Partners in relevant OSCE activities and the need to work towards progressively increasing trust in the region through CSBMs across the three dimensions of security, and possibly through the expansion of the Mediterranean Partnership.

Discussing the OSCE experience in promoting security and stability through the management of economic and environmental challenges, participants exchanged ideas on ways to address these types of challenges, including migration management and environmental threats such as water scarcity and desertification.

Participants also exchanged views and experiences on the promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination and agreed on further enhancing interaction in this area, especially through co-operation activities.

Co-operation activities

Throughout the year, Lithuania promoted continuity and concreteness in co-operation activities with the Mediterranean Partners by actively facilitating the launch of projects addressing the three priority areas selected by the Mediterranean Contact Group in 2009. As a result, a project on border security and anti-terrorism was successfully implemented; a programme for the sponsored placement of experts from the Partners

for Co-operation in the OSCE executive structures was launched; and negotiations on advancing the participatory drafting of a project addressing environmental challenges to security were conducted.

During a study trip to Austria in May, ten experts from four Mediterranean Partners participated in the OSCE Workshop on Promoting the ICAO Public Key Directory (e-passports). The experts also visited the Austrian State Printing House and a passport enrolment centre in Vienna and were briefed by an ICAO-affiliated expert on the topic of transliteration of Arabic characters into Latin fonts.

In compliance with the Madrid Ministerial Declaration on the OSCE Partners for Co-operation (MC.DOC/1/07), Lithuania circulated a report on the work of the Mediterranean Contact Group in 2010.

■ Report of the Secretary General

The OSCE Secretariat supported the work of the Chairs of the two Contact Groups and co-organized, together with the host countries, the OSCE-Republic of Korea Conference in Seoul and the OSCE Mediterranean Conference in Malta. The Secretary General addressed both events. The Secretariat regularly liaised with the Partners and facilitated their participation in relevant OSCE activities. It also supported the Chairmanship and participating States by providing institutional memory, background information and advice on issues related to the OSCE Partnership. A background paper outlining the developments in the OSCE Partnership since the previous OSCE Summit in Istanbul in 1999 was prepared for the session of the Review Conference examining the OSCE co-operation with the Partners.

At the Conference in Seoul, the Secretary

OSCE representatives and Afghan participants discuss alternatives to opium cultivation during a workshop on combating illicit crop cultivation and enhancing border security and management, hosted by Thailand on 24-28 January 2010. (Mae Fah Luang Foundation)



General met with the Korean Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade and other senior officials to discuss the security situation on the Korean peninsula, the relevance of a multilateral and comprehensive approach to security, Afghanistan and OSCE activities. The Secretary General also gave interviews to Korean media on the OSCE and the topics of the Conference.

On the margins of the Mediterranean Conference, the Secretary General met with Malta's Prime Minister, with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs as well as with members of Parliament. Discussions addressed the main challenges facing the Mediterranean region, including

managing migration and countering human trafficking, preparations for the OSCE Summit and the OSCE Mediterranean Partnership. He also met with the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, who presented the objectives and activities of that organization.

On the occasion of his visit to the OSCE in March, the Prime Minister of Mongolia was received by the Secretary General and briefed on the Corfu Process, as well as on OSCE activities in the economic and environmental dimension and in Central Asia. Other issues discussed included dealing with challenges faced by land-locked countries, ensuring border crossing efficiency, supporting Afghanistan and planning of the 2011 OSCE-Mongolia Conference.

The Secretary General addressed the high-level meeting with the Partners organized by the Chairmanship on the eve of the CICA Summit, in Istanbul in June. This event constituted the first ministerial-level meeting with the Partners for Co-operation held outside the context of OSCE Ministerial Councils and discussed ways to enhance security and economic co-operation in Eurasia.

The External Co-operation Section co-ordinated and contributed to briefings by

OSCE officials on the Organization's activities to delegations from the Partners for Co-operation, including Afghanistan, Australia, Japan, Israel and Jordan.

The Secretary General continued to administer the Partnership Fund, and the Section for External Co-operation served as Master Project Manager for liaison with donors and individual project managers.

In response to the interest of Partners and participating States, the Secretariat launched the first joint project for the placement of experts/young diplomats from both groups of Partners for Co-operation in OSCE executive structures, under the Partnership Fund umbrella. The project aims at further strengthening the OSCE Partnership for Co-operation through in-depth familiarization with the OSCE mandate and activities as well as its practical work to promote their implementation.

OSCE engagement with Afghanistan

In co-ordination with relevant international actors, the Secretariat continued to advance OSCE engagement with Afghanistan, including through supporting intensified involvement of Afghan counterparts in OSCE activities.

Asian Partners for Co-operation: Afghanistan, Australia, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea and Thailand. Greece chaired the Asian Contact Group in 2010.

Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia. Lithuania chaired the Mediterranean Contact Group in 2010.

The Secretary General addressed the Fourth Regional Economic Co-operation Conference on Afghanistan, in Istanbul in November, presenting the important contribution of the OSCE to international stabilization efforts in areas such as strengthening border security and cross-border co-operation between Central Asian participating States and Afghanistan, training of Afghan law enforcement and customs officers and election support. He also attended a meeting of the Regional Bodies High-Level Core Group, which co-ordinates the activities and programmes of various regional organizations in Afghanistan.

The Partnership Fund was used to finance participation by Afghan representatives in OSCE activities, particularly on issues related to border management and anti-terrorism, as well as in the Economic and Environmental Forum and in events held in the framework of the OSCE Partnership. For example, ten Afghan participants, including the Deputy Minister of Interior in Charge of Counter-Narcotics, were sponsored to take part in the workshop on combating illicit crop cultivation and enhancing border security, held in Thailand.

The Strategic Police Matters Unit organized four training courses specifically tailored to the needs of the Afghan National Police, which were attended by 56 Afghan officers. Additionally, 35 Afghan police officers attended counter-narcotics training courses in Domodedovo, Russia, at the International Drug Fighting Centre, while a further 35 Afghan police officers attended two simultaneously run counter-narcotics courses at the Police Academy and Drug Control Agency in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. Ten Afghan Police trainers attended a two-week counter-narcotics course at the Police Academy of Kazakhstan, acquiring new skills and knowledge to be passed on to colleagues in Afghanistan.

The Action against Terrorism Unit facilitated Afghan participation in three expert workshops on legal instruments against terrorism, enhancing travel document security (ICAO Public Key Directory) and on strategies, policies and best practices in preventing terrorism. In addition, one Afghan official acted as keynote speaker in a seminar on terrorism prevention in Tashkent.

The Borders Team of the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) contributed to enhancing OSCE engagement with Afghanistan through the ongoing border projects of OSCE field operations in Central Asia, in particular by facilitating and maintaining

contacts with Afghan authorities and supporting the participation of Afghan officers in relevant activities. This allowed more than 60 Afghan border guards and customs officials to take part in seminars on forged documents, customs and land mines at the border, as well as in the first staff course at the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe. More than 30 Afghan officials took part in customs-related projects at the OSCE Centre in Bishkek and at the OSCE Office in Tajikistan. Preparations for the launch of a Patrol Programming and Leadership project for Tajik and Afghan patrol officers to be implemented by the Office in Tajikistan were also made.

Finally, an intensive two-week training on Increasing Operational Awareness to Detect Forged Documents for 20 Afghan border control officers in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, was co-organized by the Action against Terrorism Unit, the CPC's Borders Team and the OSCE Border Management Staff College.

Annexes



The OSCE at a glance

The OSCE is a regional organization focusing on early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation in its area. It often acts behind the scenes, fostering discussions and defusing tensions before they develop into conflict.

Based on the understanding that security touches on many aspects of our lives and how we are governed, the OSCE addresses a comprehensive range of issues, which it has traditionally grouped into three areas, or dimensions. The Organization also works cross-dimensionally on issues that require an integrated approach.

Work in the **politico-military dimension** includes:

- facilitating and co-mediating conflict settlement negotiations;
- fostering arms control and confidence- and security-building measures;
- building border-security and -management capacities;
- helping reform military and police forces; and
- destroying small arms and conventional ammunition and ensuring safe stockpile management.

Work in the **economic and environmental dimension** includes:

- enhancing economic co-operation and good governance;
- addressing environmental security risks and promoting trans-boundary co-operation; and
- promoting co-operation on energy security.

Work in the **human dimension** includes:

- promoting respect for human rights;
- strengthening democratic institutions;
- fostering tolerance and non-discrimination;
- observing elections; and
- promoting minority rights.

The Organization, which is recognized as a regional arrangement under the United Nations Charter, has 56 participating States in Europe, North America and Central Asia and approximately 3,000 staff members in its field operations, specialized Institutions and Vienna-based Secretariat.

■ History

The OSCE traces its origins to the early 1970s, when the two-year Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) brought together representatives from Eastern and Western countries in Helsinki and Geneva, resulting in agreement on the Helsinki Final Act, signed on 1 August 1975.

Following the end of the Cold War, the CSCE took on a new role in managing the historic change taking place in Europe and responding to new security challenges. In the early 1990s, the Conference's work became more structured and it acquired permanent

institutions, including a Secretariat, an Office for Free Elections and a Conflict Prevention Centre.

Recognizing that the CSCE was no longer simply a Conference, participating States agreed at the 1994 Budapest Summit to change its name to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

In the 21st century, the OSCE's comprehensive approach to security has increasingly proved useful in tackling new challenges, such as the fight against terrorism and combating trafficking in human beings, which defy categorization into any one of the three dimensions of security. The Organization continues to focus on resolving protracted conflicts in the former Soviet Union and promoting stability in the Balkans.

In 2010, the OSCE hosted its first Summit in more than a decade, in Astana, Kazakhstan. The Organization also marked the 35th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, as well as the 20th anniversary of the Copenhagen Document, the Bonn Document and the Paris Charter.

■ How the OSCE works

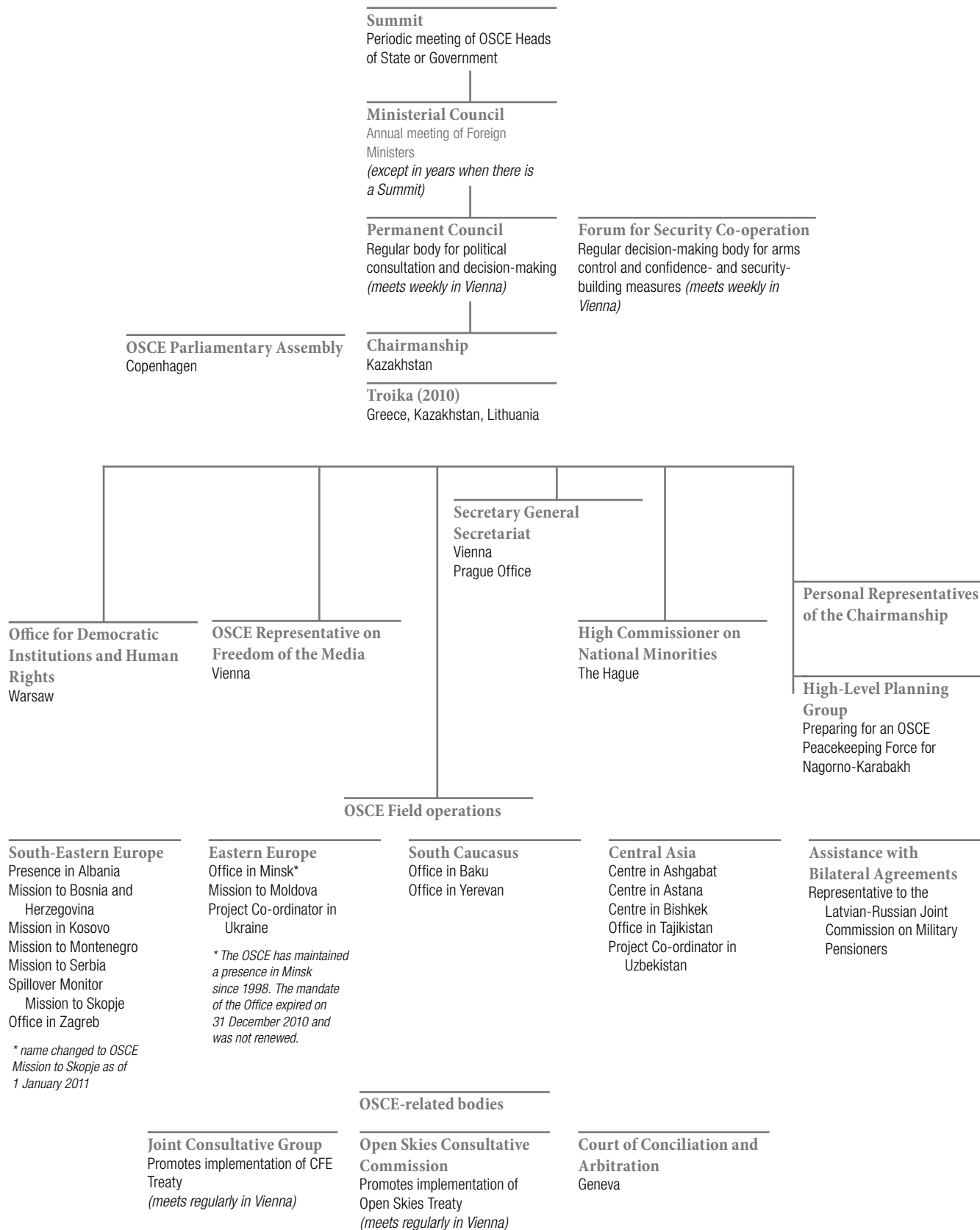
The OSCE is chaired by one of its participating States, a role that rotates annually. In 2010, Kazakhstan held the Chairmanship. To aid in long-term planning and foster continuity, Kazakhstan promoted active dialogue between fellow Troika members Greece (2009) and Lithuania (2011) and the future Chairmanships of Ireland (2012) and Ukraine (2013).

The Permanent Council, which meets weekly in Vienna, is the Organization's regular body for political consultation and decision-making. The Forum for Security Co-operation, which is the OSCE's regular decision-making body for arms control and confidence- and security-building measures, also convenes weekly in Vienna's Hofburg.

Other bodies or forums also play a decision-making role within the Organization: periodic Summits of Heads of State or Government; the annual Ministerial Council; the Economic and Environmental Forum; the Annual Security Review Conference; and the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting. There is no Ministerial Council in years that a Summit is held.

For further information: www.osce.org

Organigram

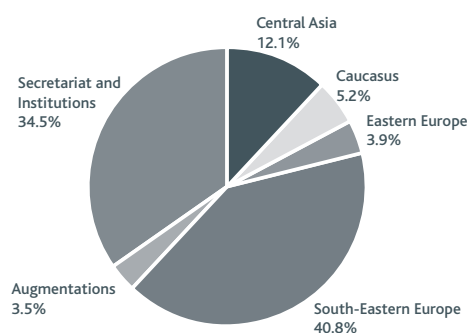


OSCE unified budget 2010 by fund

Fund	Euros	%
The Secretariat	32,572,700	21.31%
Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)	15,463,200	10.12%
High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM)	3,317,500	2.17%
Representative on Freedom of the Media (RFOM)	1,392,600	0.91%
Augmentations	5,251,300	3.44%
Mission in Kosovo	23,546,600	15.40%
Mission to in Bosnia and Herzegovina	15,278,300	10.00%
Office in Zagreb	1,613,400	1.06%
Mission to Serbia	7,932,100	5.19%
Presence in Albania	3,296,200	2.16%
Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje	8,360,700	5.47%
Mission to Montenegro	2,392,100	1.56%
Mission to Moldova	2,083,900	1.36%
Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine	2,752,300	1.80%
Office in Minsk	1,169,100	0.76%
Representative to the Latvian-Russian JC on Military Pensioners	9,300	0.01%
Office in Yerevan	2,788,900	1.82%
Office in Baku	2,817,900	1.84%
High-Level Planning Group	245,000	0.16%
The Minsk Process	953,300	0.62%
Personal Representative of the CiO - Minsk Conference	1,143,800	0.75%
Centre in Astana	2,188,200	1.43%
Centre in Ashgabat	1,401,700	0.92%
Centre in Bishkek	7,092,300	4.64%
Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan	1,868,300	1.22%
Office in Tajikistan	5,926,200	3.88%
GRAND TOTAL	152,856,900	100.00%

Budget 2010 by Institutions and Regions (PC.DEC/949)

Central Asia	12.1%
Caucasus	5.2%
Eastern Europe	3.9%
South-Eastern Europe	40.8%
Augmentations	3.5%
Secretariat and Institutions	34.5%



OSCE extra-budgetary support

The OSCE works on the basis of a modest unified budget financed through contributions from the participating States. Most of this money goes to field activities, in keeping with the priorities of the OSCE.

The OSCE is committed to being streamlined and effective, and we operate on a zero-growth budget. This means we rely on the generous extra-budgetary contributions of participating States and Partners to finance many of our key initiatives and projects, and to help us to promote the values underpinning the OSCE's vision of comprehensive and co-operative security.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our donors. We look forward to continuing our work with you in the years to come.

The Federal Republic of Germany

The United States of America

The Principality of Andorra

The Republic of Austria

The Kingdom of Belgium

Canada

The Kingdom of Denmark

The Kingdom of Spain

The Republic of Finland

The Republic of France

Georgia

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and

Northern Ireland

The Hellenic Republic

The Republic of Hungary

Ireland

The Republic of Iceland

The Italian Republic

The Republic of Kazakhstan

The Principality of Liechtenstein

The Republic of Lithuania

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

The Principality of Monaco

The Kingdom of Norway

The Kingdom of the Netherlands

The Republic of Poland

Romania

The Republic of San Marino

Sweden

The Swiss Confederation

The Czech Republic

The Republic of Turkey

Japan

The Republic of Korea

The Kingdom of Thailand

The Kingdom of Morocco

Australian Agency for International Development

Austrian Development Agency (ADA)

Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

Council of Europe

European Union

Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces
(DCAF)

International Labour Organization (ILO)

Irish Aid

Netrust PTE LTD

Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)

Open Society Institute

Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)

Statoil

United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

United States Agency for International Development
(USAID)

OSCE fixed-term staff as of 31 December 2010

(including staff financed from extra-budgetary contributions)

Nationality	Kosovo	BiH	Skopje	Serbia	Montenegro	Zagreb	Albania	Baku	Yerevan	Minsk Conf	Moldova	Minsk	Ukraine	Astana	Ashgabat	Bishkek	Tajikistan	Uzbekistan	Total for Field operations	Secretariat	RFOM	HCNM	ODIHR	Totals for Secretariat & Institutions	GRAND TOTALS	
Albania																			0					0	0	
Andorra																				0					0	0
Armenia	1	1											1				1		4				1	1	5	
Austria	14	1	5	1	1		1	1	1					2		2			29	8	1	1	6	16	45	
Azerbaijan	1																		1	1				1	2	
Belarus	2	1	1																4	3	1		3	7	11	
Belgium	1	1																	2	4				4	6	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	9		1	1													1		12	2	1		1	4	16	
Bulgaria				1	3		2		1	1	1	1		1		2	1		14	3				3	17	
Canada	4	2		1				1											8	8			4	12	20	
Croatia	8	1	1	1															11	2			1	3	14	
Cyprus																			0					0	0	
Czech Republic		1	1				1												3	3				3	6	
Denmark																	1		1	1			1	2	3	
Estonia			2								2					1			5	1		1		2	7	
Finland		1														1	1		3	2				2	5	
France	4	3	4	1	1			1			1	1		1		3	4	1	25	10	2	1	4	17	42	
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	5														1				6	2				2	8	
Georgia	5			1													1		7	1		1	2	4	11	
Germany	10	4	2	3			3	1				1		1		1	6		32	17	1	2	7	27	59	
Greece	5	4	1	1															11	2				2	13	
Hungary	3	2	4	2						2			1			1	1	1	17	1	1		2	4	21	
Holy See																			0					0	0	
Iceland			1																1					0	1	
Ireland	3	3	1	2	1														10	2		1	1	4	14	
Italy	16	3	1	1							1					1			24	11			6	17	41	
Kazakhstan										1		1					1		4	6		1	4	11	15	
Kyrgyzstan		1																	1	1				1	2	
Latvia							1				2					1			4					0	4	
Liechtenstein																			0					0	0	
Lithuania					1		1										1	1		4	3			3	7	
Luxembourg																			0	2				2	2	
Malta	1																		1					0	1	
Moldova	1			0										1		3	2		8	2			2	4	12	
Monaco																			0					0	0	
Montenegro	1						1												2					0	2	
Netherlands	3	2	1	3			1		1							1	1		13	2		2	1	5	18	
Norway		1		2			1	3									2		9	1		3		4	13	
Poland	5				1				1	1	1					1			10				10	10	20	
Portugal	4	2	1																7	1				1	8	
Romania	2	3	3																8	1			1	2	10	
Russian Federation	2	3	1	1				1	1		1					3	2		15	12		1	2	15	30	
San Marino																			0					0	0	
Serbia			1					1									1		3	3			2	5	8	
Slovakia	1	3				1							1						6	1			1	2	8	
Slovenia		1	1	1			1												4				2	2	6	
Spain	10	3	6	1		2	2	1							1				26	9		2	3	14	40	
Sweden	4	2	1	2	1			1			1						2	1	15	4				4	19	
Switzerland																			1		1			1	2	
Tajikistan		1																	1	2				2	3	
Turkey	12	2	5	1	1			3								1			25	6				6	31	
Turkmenistan																			0	1				1	1	
Ukraine	1	1		1													2		5	5		1		6	11	
United Kingdom	10	3	4	4	1		2			1	1								28	16		1	3	20	48	
United States	17	9	4	5	2		4	2	1		2	1	1	1		3	3		55	18	1	3	10	32	87	
Uzbekistan	2								1										3		1			1	4	
Internationally Recruited Staff	167	65	53	38	14	3	21	16	7	6	13	5	4	7	2	35	30	2	488	180	10	21	80	291	779	
Locally Recruited Staff	499	441	140	139	36	17	77	29	45	11	42	9	50	23	17	94	143	17	1829	196	3	11	69	279	2108	
Total Number of Staff	666	506	193	177	50	20	98	45	52	17	55	14	54	30	19	129	173	19	2317	376	13	32	149	570	2887	

Contact information

Press and Public Information Section

OSCE Secretariat
Wallnerstrasse 6
1010 Vienna, Austria
Tel.: +43 1 514 36 6000
Fax: +43 1 514 36 6996
info@osce.org
www.osce.org

Parliamentary Assembly

International Secretariat
Tordenskjoldsgade 1
1055 Copenhagen K
Denmark
Tel.: +45 33 37 80 40
Fax: +45 33 37 80 30
E-mail: international.secretariat@oscepa.dk

Institutions

Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

Ulica Miodowa 10
00-251 Warsaw, Poland
Tel.: +48 22 520 06 00
Fax: +48 22 520 06 05
E-mail: office@odihr.pl

The OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Prinsessegracht 22
2514 AP The Hague
The Netherlands
Tel.: +31 70 312 55 00
Fax: +31 70 363 59 10
E-mail: hcnm@hcnm.org

The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Wallnerstrasse 6
1010 Vienna, Austria
Tel.: +43 1 514 36 68 00
Fax: +43 1 514 36 68 02
E-mail: pm-fom@osce.org

OSCE Field operations

South-Eastern Europe

OSCE Presence in Albania

Sheraton Tirana Hotel
& Towers, 1st floor
Tirana, Albania
Tel.: +355 4 235 993
Fax: +355 4 235 994
E-mail: pm-al@osce.org

OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Fra Andjela Zvizdovica 1
71000 Sarajevo
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Tel.: +387 33 752 100
Fax: +387 33 442 479
E-mail: info.ba@osce.org

OSCE Mission in Kosovo

OSCE Headquarters
10000 Pristina
Kosovo-UNMIK
Tel.: +381 38 240 100
Fax: +381 38 240 711
E-mail: press.omik@osce.org

OSCE Mission to Montenegro

Bulevar Sv. Petra Cetinjskog 1a
81000 Podgorica, Montenegro
Tel.: +382 20 40 64 01
Fax: +382 20 40 64 31
E-mail: omim@osce.org

OSCE Mission to Serbia

Cakorska 1
11000 Belgrade, Serbia
Tel.: +381 11 36 06 100
Fax: +381 11 36 06 119
E-mail: ppiu-serbia@osce.org

OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje*

Oktomvriska Revolucija bb
Hyperium Building
MK-1000, Skopje
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Tel.: +389 23 23 40 00
Fax: +389 23 23 42 34
E-mail: info-mk@osce.org
(*name changed to OSCE Mission to Skopje as of 1 January 2011)

OSCE Office in Zagreb

Florijana Andraseca 14
10000 Zagreb, Croatia
Tel.: +385 1 309 66 20
Fax: +385 1 309 66 21
E-mail: osce-croatia@osce.org

Eastern Europe

OSCE Office in Minsk

The OSCE has maintained a presence in Minsk since 1998. The mandate of the Office expired on 31 December 2010 and was not renewed.

OSCE Mission to Moldova

Str Mitropolit Dosoftei 108
2012 Chisinau, Moldova
Tel.: +373 22 887 887/223 495)
Fax: +373 22 22 34 96
E-mail: moldova@osce.org

OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

16 Striletska St.
01034 Kyiv, Ukraine
Tel.: +380 44 492 03 82
Fax: +380 44 492 03 83
E-mail: liliia.dakhno@osce.org

OSCE Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners

Weileweg 7
22417 Hamburg, Germany
Tel.: +43 664 464 15 62
Fax: +43 1 514 36 61 24
E-mail: helmut.napiontek@osce.org

South Caucasus

OSCE Office in Baku

The Landmark III
96 Nizami St.
Baku, Azerbaijan
Tel.: +994 12 497 23 73
Fax: +994 12 497 23 77
E-mail: office-az@osce.org

The Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference

4 Freedom Square
GMT Plaza, 1st floor
0105 Tbilisi, Georgia
Tel.: +995 32 99 87 32
Fax: +995 32 98 85 66
E-mail: prcio@osce.org

OSCE Office in Yerevan

64/1 Sundukyan Str.
Yerevan 0012
Armenia
Tel +374 10 229610-14
Fax +374 10 229615
E-mail: yerevan-am@osce.org

Central Asia

OSCE Centre in Ashgabat

Turkmenbashi Shayoly 15
744005 Ashgabat, Turkmenistan
Tel.: +993 12 35 30-92
Fax: +993 12 35 30-41
E-mail: info_tm@osce.org

OSCE Centre in Astana

10 Beibitshilik St.
Astana 010000
Kazakhstan
Tel.: +7 7172 580070
Fax: +7 7172 328304
E-mail: astana-kz@osce.org

OSCE Centre in Bishkek

139 Toktogul St.
720001 Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
Tel.: +996 312 66 50 15
Fax: +996 312 66 31 69
E-mail: pm-kg@osce.org

OSCE Office in Tajikistan

18a Akhmedi Donish St.
734012 Dushanbe, Tajikistan
Tel: +992 37 226
50-14/-15/-16/-17/-18
Fax: +992 37 251 0137
E-mail: OiT@osce.org

OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

Afrosiyob Street 12b, 4th floor
100015 Tashkent
Republic of Uzbekistan
Tel.: +998 71 140 04 70
Fax: +998 71 140 04 66/67
E-mail: osce-cit@osce.org

