

МЕЃУНАРОДНА НАУЧНА КОНФЕРЕНЦИЈА

**БАЛКАНОТ МЕЃУ МИНАТОТО И
ИДНИНАТА: БЕЗБЕДНОСТ,
РЕШАВАЊЕ НА КОНФЛИКТИ И
ЕВРОАТЛАНТСКА ИНТЕГРАЦИ**

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

**THE BALKANS BETWEEN PAST AND
FUTURE: SECURITY, CONFLICT
RESOLUTION AND EURO-ATLANTIC
INTEGRATION**

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THE ROLE OF OSCE IN THE SEE COUNTRIES

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Abstract

This paper elaborates the role of OSCE in implementing the preventive measures and activities to promote democracy and peace in SEE. The basis for the functioning on OSCE in SEE region is a European security policy and its goals to establish a lasting peace in the areas affected by the security challenges.

The paper retains a line which covers issues important for the functioning, cooperation, position, characteristics and functioning of the OSCE in the SEE. Particularly the most important mission on OSCE is the implementation of activities within the scope of the organization to preservation of the nature, safeguarding and protection of human rights, which are solved with general mechanisms and broader aspects of international and inter-ethnic conflicts or problems.

Significant aspect of the topic is revealing the relations and cooperation of OSCE with other international organizations, particularly in the areas of primary prevention tool for warning, conflict prevention and crisis management. Finally we will elaborate the current activities of OSCE in this SEE country: Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Kosovo, Serbia, Montenegro and Macedonia.

Keywords: *OSCE, role, regional cooperation, human rights, crisis management*

Introduction

This paper explores the role of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in SEE in terms of its function in conflict prevention, early warning, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation. The paper examines the activities of the OSCE in the region of SEE in the following countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Kosovo, Montenegro and Macedonia. OSCE was established as the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) on 1 August 1975 with the aim to build confidence among European countries USSR,

USA and Canada during the growing tensions of the Cold War. Meanwhile, the security situation in the world has changed dramatically - Cold War ended, the Soviet Union no longer exists, most countries in Central and Eastern Europe are liberal democracies and appeared a new global threat - terrorism.

These changes in international community cause NATO expands to the east of Europe and the European Union slowly but surely building a stronger common foreign and security policy by establishing rapid reaction force includes military facilities. Today's OSCE are dealing with new challenges - global terrorism, trafficking of weapons of mass destruction, illegal migration, human trafficking and other forms of organized crime.

We couldn't dispute that the OSCE is an organization with specific features that no other international organization. It has a complex term, with a comprehensive and cooperative approach to the security. It offers a forum for political negotiations and decision-making in the area of early warning, conflict prevention and post-conflict rehabilitation.

No other international organization has so many members and so a wide range of activities. Decisions are taken by consensus among the 56 participating countries, which have equal status. If we look at the situation in SEE in the 1990s, which was a direct threat to European security, the OSCE was one of the best platform for mediation, intervention and conflict resolution. OSCE deals with several dimensions of security, divided into three pillars: political-military, economic/environmental and human factors. OSCE is covering a wide spectrum of security issues, including arms control, confidence-building measures, human rights, national minorities, democratization, terrorism and economic and environmental activities. This diversity of issues OSCE stands out from all other organizations and institutions in Europe¹. Today OSCE has 19 field missions or other activities in the following 17 countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Moldova, Serbia, Montenegro, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. For the purposes of this paper we will analyze the missions in SEE: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Albania and Macedonia.

The starts of the OSCE activities in the former Yugoslavia are considered with the declaration of independence of Slovenia and Croatia on 25 June 1991, which launched the war in the former Yugoslavia. In April 1992, began the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the first between Serbs on the one side and Croats and Bosnians on the other, and then among all three ethnic groups. The bloody civil war in Bosnia ended in autumn 1995

¹ <http://www.osce.org/about>

with the signing of the Dayton Agreement, producing complex state based on two entities - the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republic Srpska.

After the wars in Former Yugoslavia, the result was 7 new countries: Slovenia became NATO and EU member, Croatia is NATO member and from 1st of July 2013 possible EU member. Macedonia has candidate status for membership in NATO and EU, Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina is on the way to intensify Euro-Atlantic integration as well as Republic of Montenegro.

Republic of Kosovo declared independence in 2008 and is in the process of intensifying negotiations with Serbia on the northern border in order to accelerate the Euro-Atlantic processes of both countries. OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina was established by decision of the Council of Ministers in Budapest on 8 December 1995. Mission is defined by the Dayton Agreement, the Declaration of the OSCE summit in Lisbon, the conclusion of the Steering Group meeting in Paris, conferences Peace Implementation held in London as well by Decision No.145 of the OSCE Permanent Council².

The role of OSCE in Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina

OSCE field operations in October 2008 contribute to the creation and development of safe and democratic Bosnia and Herzegovina. OSCE acted in regional stabilization, especially in building confidence and security and regional control of arms, according to the Dayton Peace Agreement. The first element in the area of security cooperation includes implementation and verification of the agreement to build trust which was adopted by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia-Montenegro in 1996 under strong support on OSCE. OSCE in Bosnia and Herzegovina works closely with other international representatives - ECMM (observer team of the European Community), Office of the High Representative, SFOR-led NATO forces, UNMBIH, UNHCR, Council of Europe and local NGOs. The headquarters of the OSCE Mission in Sarajevo has 4 regional centers (Banja Luka, Mostar, Sarajevo and Tuzla), 14 field offices and an additional office in Brcko, which covers the area of the country. OSCE Mission currently has 540 members, which 93 are international and 447 local officials³.

The BiH National War Crimes Strategy set deadlines for completing the most complex and top priority cases by 2015, and all remaining cases by 2023. In an effort to meet these deadlines, the pace of

² SEC.GAL/145/07:21

³SEC.GAL/182/08:12.

case processing needs to be greatly accelerated whilst ensuring that the highest judicial and human-rights standards are met throughout the proceedings.

The War Crimes Processing Project aims to bolster the capacities of the BiH judiciary to process war crimes cases and address the most urgent staffing and training needs of courts and prosecutors' offices at various levels of BiH jurisdiction. Specifically designed by the OSCE Mission to BiH and partners to bridge the 15-month funding gap until the release of EUR 15 million of EU-financed IPA funds, the War Crimes Processing Project will immediately tackle the most pressing needs of the BiH judiciary⁴.

As foreseen in the BiH National War Crimes Strategy, hundreds of war crimes cases were transferred from the State-level to lower level jurisdictions in recent years. This transfer significantly adjusted the structure of the war crimes backlog in BiH. Approximately half of the backlog of 1,320 cases now falls under State-level jurisdiction, while the remaining half will be processed by the entity and Brčko District jurisdictions. To meet the deadlines set by the Strategy, the human and material resources of these judicial authorities, especially at the entity and Brčko District levels – must be strengthened. Given the current needs and status of war crimes processing, the primary focus of the War Crimes Processing Project over the next 15 months will be on assigning additional legal professionals to prosecutors' offices, especially those at the cantonal and district level⁵.

Once selected and trained via an intensive two-week seminar provided by the OSCE Mission to BiH, in co-operation with the Judicial and Prosecutorial Training centre, the impact of these additional staff will be closely monitored and periodically assessed to ensure their effective utilization⁶.

Within the War Crimes Processing Project, the OSCE Mission to BiH will also offer intensive training and specialized education to judges and prosecutors working on war crimes cases, as well as defense lawyers, police and other professionals. These specialized trainings will be tailored to the particular needs of each group and will be designed in co-operation with BiH authorities to ensure that the key needs are addressed. This will result in more efficient and effective war crimes processing. In addition to education and training, the OSCE Mission to BiH will also provide operational support,

⁴The OHR is an ad hoc international institution responsible for overseeing implementation of civilian aspects of the accord ending the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and aims to facilitate the resolution of issues domain, available: www.ohr.int.

⁵National Strategy (English Version), at p.5 supra note 13, (English version available at <http://www.adhgeneva.ch/RULAC/pdf.state/War-Crimes-Strategy-f-18-12-08.pdf>).

⁶War Crimes Processing Project.

including financial support for exhumations, investigations and witness travel.

On 14th March 2013 in Sarajevo was organized an introductory course on security sector reform by the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Armed Forces of BiH Joint Staff and the Centre for Security Studies ended in Sarajevo. More than 50 participants representing relevant ministries and agencies, the armed forces, media and civil society took part in the discussion. The OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina supports initiatives aimed at further enhancing the effectiveness of the wider security system in the country, in line with its OSCE commitments, said the Director of the security cooperation department of the OSCE Mission⁷. Security sector reform seeks to make the system more responsive to the needs of all citizens, thus strengthening security in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the wider OSCE area. The course focused on the current situation and remaining challenges in various areas of security sector reform, including police reform and reform of the judiciary, defense and intelligence systems. The importance of including underrepresented groups in security sector decision-making and the need to consider emerging actors in the sector were also discussed⁸.

The role of OSCE in Republic of Albania

OSCE presence in Albania is established by a decision of the Permanent Council, adopted on 27th March 1997 (PC.DEC/160), in response to the collapse of law and order throughout Albania as a result of pyramid schemes in which many Albanian citizens lost their life savings⁹.

At a special meeting held for the Kosovo crisis on 11th March 1998, the Permanent Council decided to strengthen the monitoring capacity of the OSCE in Albania to provide continuous monitoring of the border with Kosovo and to prevent spillover of the crisis¹⁰. By the end of the Kosovo crisis in 1999, the monitoring activities were reduced and border monitoring stations were converted to field offices.

⁷ Harald Quiel, the Director of the Security cooperation Department of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina. "Security sector reform seeks to make the system more responsive to the needs of all citizens, thus strengthening security in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the wider OSCE area."

⁸**SECURITY SECTOR REFORM FOCUS OF OSCE-SUPPORTED TRAINING IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, WWW.OSCE.ORG/BIH/ 100144.**

⁹Присуството на ОБСЕ во Република Албанија е воспоставено со следниот мандат (SEC.(GAL/182/08:8).

¹⁰Набљудувачките капацитети на границата на Република Албанија со Косово се воспоставени со мандатот PC.DEC/218.

The mandate of presence is extended in December 2003 to reflect the overall progress in Albania in recent years, the growing role of institutions in the country, as well as the positive role which country plays for development and improvement of relations in SEE¹¹. Working under an expanded mandate, the purpose of the OSCE was to promote democracy, the rule of law and human rights and to consolidate democratic institutions in accordance with the principles, standards and OSCE commitments¹². OSCE provides assistance to Albanian authorities and civil society on promoting democratization, rule of law and human rights and consolidating democratic institutions in conformity with OSCE principles, standards and commitments.

Also OSCE is supporting Albanian Central election commission (CEC) in holding training for 76 trainers, selected by the CEC, on the recently amended Electoral Code and related sub-legal acts. The first session was held on 26 and 27 April 2013 year, followed by the second sessions on 29 and 30 April. The sessions are focused on the role of the Commissions of Election Administration Zones (CEAZ) from their inception until the end of the electoral process, covering all stages of the Commissions' activity. The trainers will then use their acquired knowledge to train CEAZ members across the country in preparation for elections on 23th June 2013. This training is part of the OSCE Presence's overall technical assistance to the Albanian Central Election Commission. Such assistance aims to help electoral administration bodies improve their performance and increase their professionalism. The event is also supported by the Council of Europe's Office in Tirana.

An OSCE seminar on financial investigation and seizure of criminal assets related to different form of human trafficking was held with Albanian police, prosecutors, judges and financial investigators on 17 April 2013 in Tirana.

“Enabling law enforcement institutions to track illicit money flow from human trafficking more effectively and strengthening measures to confiscate the proceeds of crime serves two key aims - depriving criminal organizations of operating capital and recovering funds that may be used to relieve the victims,” said OSCE Senior Police Adviser.

“In recent years, Albania has undertaken significant, commendable efforts in the fight against human trafficking at legislative and operational levels. The proposed changes to the Criminal Code should increase the prosecution rates of all forms of human trafficking, regardless of whether it

¹¹ Со одлука на Постојаниот совет на ОБСЕ (PC.DEC/588) во 2003 година е продолжен мандатот за следење на напредокот на Република Албанија.

¹² <http://www.osce.org/albania/13134.html>, 10 ноември 2008.

occurs within or across country borders. Nevertheless, the fight against this crime demands more effective co-operation, at home and abroad,” said Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania.

The seminar was organized by the OSCE’s Transnational Threats Department/Strategic Police Matters Unit together with the OSCE Presence in Albania, and led by experts from the UK, Switzerland and Liechtenstein. It follows on a similar international training event held in Prague in July 2012.

On 26th March 2013 in Tirana, seven thousand police officers were prepared for their role in the electoral process through a series of trainings organized by the OSCE Presence and the Albanian State Police, ahead of the 23 June general elections. The role of the Albanian State Police in the electoral process is absolutely crucial to the success of the elections.

The training, which will continue until the end of April, started today at the strategic level, with a session dedicated to senior police officers. Following the training of 150 trainers, sessions will be cascaded through the operational and tactical levels for all police personnel that will be engaged in election-related duties. Lecturers include experts from the Police academy, the OSCE Presence, the Central Election Commission, and the Prosecution Office. In addition, the Presence is preparing an information booklet regarding the special role of the police in the electoral process.

The role of OSCE in Kosovo

OSCE mission in Kosovo was established on 1 July 1999¹³. The OSCE Permanent Council held a special session on the situation in Kosovo in 11 March 1998, which was adopted with Decision No. 218 (PC.DEC/218), under which the Council was deeply concerned over the crisis in Kosovo and urges to the parties to stop the violence and excessive use of force by Serbian police in Kosovo. During the NATO campaign, the OSCE began planning to take responsibility for the civil administration of Kosovo after Serb withdrawal¹⁴.

NATO air strikes began on 24 March 1999. The bombing ended with the signing of the Kumanovo Agreement on 10 June 1999, in which Serbian forces withdrew from Kosovo. KFOR and UNMIK were responsible to take management. Thousands of refugees from Kosovo left mostly in Macedonia¹⁵. KVM (Task Force) assisted UNHCR in Albania and Macedonia

¹³Мисијата на ОБСЕ во Косово е воспоставена во 1999 година со одлука на Постојаниот совет (PC.DEC/305)

¹⁴Robert Barry. The OSCE: A Forgotten Transatlantic Security Organization? British-American Security Information council, UK,2002,17.

¹⁵ <http://www.osce.org/kosovo/13197.html>

in dealing with the refugee crisis. The composition of KVM would later be the basis for the establishment of the mission in Kosovo under UNMIK structures. KVM is still considered the largest operation of OSCE faced with major challenges¹⁶. Kosovo still could be a security problem. OSCE can't be a unique factor in the security sphere¹⁷. The sizable international presence must work together to build health state institutions. Many people work in the monitoring system and maintain contacts on areas where it can disrupt security. Therefore it's necessary timely warning.

On 19th April 2013 the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Ukrainian Foreign Minister and the OSCE Secretary General welcomed today's Belgrade-Pristine agreement facilitated by the EU High Representative in Brussels. This agreement is an important step in normalization of relations and stability in the region of SEE. This is the beginning of a new chapter for continuation dialogue that will improve the lives of all the communities in Kosovo. Already the largest international civilian presence in Kosovo is working on institution and democracy building and promoting human rights and the rule of law for the benefit of all communities.

The Action Plan for Implementation of the Strategy for Integration of Roma and Egyptian Communities (2009-2015) is one of the range activities on OSCE mission in Kosovo¹⁸. Bringing together the efforts of all field teams and several different departments in Kosovo, as well as incorporating expertise from the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), this work on the promotion and protection of Roma and Egyptian communities' rights and their integration reflects the high priority the OSCE accords to human rights, and the continuing need for policy prioritization and practice improvement in Kosovo¹⁹. The Action Plan included financial estimates over 20 million Euros for the 2009–2015 implementation period²⁰.

¹⁶ http://www.osce.org/documents/mik/2008/09/32879_en.pdf, 12 ноември 2008.

¹⁷ Извештај на ОБСЕ за Косово од 2008
(http://www.osce.org/documents/mik/2008 година/09/32879_en.pdf).

¹⁸ OPM, Kosovo Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy for the Integration of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Communities, 2009–2015, December 2009; http://www.kryeministriks.net/zck/repository/docs/Action_Plan_on_the_Implementation_of_the_Strategy_for_the_Integration_of_Roma,_Ashkali_and_Egyptian_Communities_2009-2015.pdf (24 August 2012).

¹⁹ Office of the Prime Minister, Strategy for the Integration of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Communities in Kosovo, 2009–2015, December 2008; http://www.kryeministriks.net/zck/repository/docs/Strategy_for_the_Integration_of_Roma,_Ashkali_and_Egyptian_communities_2009-2015.pdf (accessed 24 August 2012). The Strategy also has an education component that was adopted separately in July 2007 and covers the period from 2007 to 2017.

²⁰ During a roundtable discussion entitled “Kosovo, the EU and integration of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian – Achievements, shortcomings and the way forward”,

OSCE supported workshop on terrorist bombing prevention organized for representatives of the Assembly of Kosovo, Kosovo Police, relevant ministries, the customs service, the office of the special prosecutor and the business community concluded in Priština on 13 March 2013. Its purpose was to identify potential gaps in the legislative framework in Kosovo in relation to the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, and to enhance cooperation between institutions and the business community in Kosovo in controlling the production, transport, trade and use of industrial explosives and explosive precursors.

The OSCE supports legislative drafting efforts aimed at avoiding the existence of: safe havens, criminalization and cooperation in criminal matters related to terrorism, trains law enforcement, prosecutors and judges on effective investigations in line with international human rights standards. The workshop was organized by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and the Transnational Threats Department of the OSCE Secretariat. The OSCE Mission in Kosovo is mandated with human rights protection and promotion, democratization and public safety sector development.

The role of OSCE in Republic of Serbia

OSCE mission in Serbia was formed on 11 January 2001 to help the authorities with expertise in the areas of democratization, protection of human rights and media development. After the changing of the Constitutional charter of the Union between Serbia and Montenegro in February 2003, the Mission was renamed in "Mission to Serbia and Montenegro." After the independence of Montenegro on 3 June 2006, the Permanent Council renamed the mission "OSCE Mission in Serbia" on 29 June 2006²¹. The mandate of the OSCE mission in Serbia is different from the other missions in the region. This mission is not very focused on conflict prevention and post-conflict rehabilitation, but rather on building democratic institutions and reforming the judiciary²².

Other developments in the area of reform is training the Serbian police forces, establishment of multi-ethnic police in Southern

organized by the European Union Office in Kosovo and the Kosovo Foundation for Open Society on 25 May 2012 in Prishtinë/Priština, the Head of the AOGG within the OPM, announced the following budgetary commitments to the Strategy and Action Plan for 2012: Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare around 2 million Euro; Ministry of Communities and Return 400,000 Euro; Ministry of Health 93,000 Euro; Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport 67,000 Euro; Ministry of Education, Science and Technology 100,000 Euro; Ministry of Local Government Administration 90,000 Euro; OPM 30,000 Euro.

²¹ Одлука на Постојаниот совет, PC.DEC/733.

²² Преглед на теренски операции на ОБСЕ, SEC.GAL/182/08:14.

Serbia, area which is mixed with Serbian and Albanian population, establishment of special court departments for dealing with war and organized crime, developing legislation to combat organized crime etc.

On 31st January 2013 in Belgrade, the Head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia welcomed the signing in Brussels of the agreement on evidence sharing in war crimes cases between the Chief Prosecutor of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the War Crimes Prosecutor of the Republic of Serbia. Bringing those responsible for war crimes to justice is fundamental to the reconciliation in the region and a key element of the rule of law. This agreement shows the commitment of Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina to eliminate impunity and ensure accountability for serious war crimes, and develop their good neighboring relations. This is an important step by the Serbian and BiH prosecutors. It is an encouraging sign of further expansion of the network of regional agreements in war crimes cases.

The evidence sharing agreement enables the prosecutors from the two countries to exchange information and evidence and improves co-ordination in the process of investigation²³.

The OSCE Mission to Serbia was among the first to recognize the importance of regional co-operation on war crime investigation matters, and has continuously supported and provided expertise that have facilitated our work with partners in neighboring countries.”

Since 2004, the OSCE Mission to Serbia has been actively supporting regional co-operation in war crimes proceedings, through the process that has resulted in cooperation agreements between prosecutors of Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro²⁴.

Some 40 senior managers from the Serbian Interior Ministry discussed the advantages of online professional development courses for police officers at an OSCE-supported event in Belgrade on 22 January 2013.

The event is part of joint efforts by the OSCE Mission to Serbia and the Ministry to enhance the Serbian police training system and improve their capacities. The European Police College (CEPOL) presented an external evaluation of the Interior Ministry’s e-learning efforts to date, including two pilot e-courses on communication skills and the use of specialized software for crime investigators delivered at the Ministry in 2012. This was organized with the aim of raising awareness and ensuring wider acceptance of online training as an efficient and accessible form of education, which will further

²³ The War Crimes Prosecutor of the Republic of Serbia, Vladimir Vukčević said: “The regional agreements like the one we signed on 31st January 2013 year, help us to prevent war crimes perpetrators from using state borders to escape justice.

²⁴ **HEAD OF OSCE MISSION TO SERBIA WELCOMES IMPROVED CO-OPERATION BETWEEN SERBIAN AND BIH WAR CRIMES PROSECUTORS, [HTTP://WWW.OSCE.ORG/SERBIA/99024](http://www.osce.org/Serbia/99024).**

support professionalization and democratic policing in Serbia. In 2011, the Serbian Interior Ministry in partnership with the OSCE adopted a strategy on e-learning aimed at modernizing its police training and education system²⁵. Speaking about the important role of Belgrade in the region, Serbia will be pointed for chair on OSCE in 2015, which is yet another reason that Serbia should and can be a good example of neighborly relations²⁶.

The role of OSCE in Montenegro

Mission in Montenegro is the youngest OSCE field mission in SEE. The mission was established on 29 June 2006²⁷, based on an invitation by the Montenegrin government. Montenegro declared independence on 3 June 2006, according to the results of a referendum held in May of that year and was admitted as the 56th country - participating in .the OSCE form 22 June 2006. In accordance with its mandate, OSCE is involved in supporting the reform processes necessary to achieve the strategic goal of Montenegro's Euro-Atlantic integration. The mission has five departments through which accomplished its mandate, focused on the following areas in terms of security sector reforms²⁸: Building effective institutions for combating organized crime and corruption, fight against trafficking, reforms in the area of border police and legislative measures for anti-terrorism. As in other countries in the region, the OSCE mission in Montenegro cooperates with EU and UN institutions and also is active in promoting regional cooperation among missions in SEE.

Strengthening mechanisms for the fight against corruption on the local level was the topic of an event organized by the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, Interior Ministry and the Union of Municipalities on 20 March 2013 in Podgorica.

At the event the Model Local Action Plan for the fight against corruption was presented to representatives of local self-governments. The Action Plan is the result of a project aimed at strengthening mechanisms in the fight against corruption at the local level, which is being implemented by the OSCE Mission in co-operation with the Interior Ministry's Department of Local Government and the Union of Municipalities of Montenegro.

The OSCE's continued support for Montenegro's anti-corruption efforts, and said the Model Local Action Plan should serve as a practical tool

²⁵ **OSCE MISSION TO SERBIA SUPPORTS DEVELOPMENT OF ONLINE TRAINING FOR POLICE, [HTTP://WWW.OSCE.ORG/SERBIA/98873](http://www.osce.org/serbia/98873)**

²⁶ Interview with Ambassador Peter Burkhart, the Head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia on 23 February 2013.

²⁷ Decision no. 732 Permanent Council (PC.DEC/732)

²⁸ Security sector reforms (SEC.GAL/182/08:13)

to facilitate that effort. Implementation of the new model will be a step forward in minimizing the risk of corruption in the municipalities and praised the OSCE Mission's continuous assistance in the country's progress on its Euro-Atlantic integration.

Implementation of the OSCE project, under which the Model Local Action Plan has been developed, will continue in 2013 with training programmers for municipal anti-corruption teams.

Another important step was made in 2010 by the adoption of the Strategy for the Fight against Corruption and Organized Crime 2010-2014 and the subsequent Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy for the Fight against Corruption and Organized Crime in the Period 2010-2012. The organized crime part of the Strategy is divided into six chapters: 1. Definition of Organized Crime 2. The Analysis of the Situation 3. The Most Common Forms 4. Prevention 5. Cooperation between State Authorities and 6. Regional cooperation. The report includes legal definitions of organized crime and contains a brief overview of main issues related to organized crime in Montenegro.

Six areas of organized crime activities have been identified as the most common: intoxicating drugs, illegal migration and trafficking in human beings, smuggling of motor vehicles, money laundering, high-tech (computer) crime and smuggling of excess goods. The Action Plan aims for to map out improvements in financial investigation; relevant authorities' capacities (administrative, space and technical); operational-tactical and criminal intelligence methods; data gathering and analysis and statistics; and material status (i.e. salaries and benefits) of police officers working on suppressing organized crime. Chapter 26, devoted to Prevention outlines the role of civil society and media in the prevention of organized crime. It also focuses on anticorruption by detailing (mostly pedagogical) measures to ensure the integrity of the members of public administration (judges, prosecutors, police officers and all other public servants)²⁹. The report additionally dedicates space to interagency cooperation, primarily relating to the work of the Joint Investigative Team. Finally, Chapters 27, 28 are regional and international cooperation, dedicated to Montenegro's international responsibilities and its participation in relevant international organizations. Three goals conclude this chapter: continuous implementation of international standards in suppressing organized crime; efficient regional

²⁹ Ministry of Interior and Public Administration (29 July 2010). Strategija za borbu protiv korupcije i organizovanog kriminala za period 2010-2014. godine [The Strategy for the Fight against Corruption and Organized Crime 2010-2014], 39-40.

and international cooperation in joint investigations and the improvement of direct police and judiciary contact in the region and elsewhere abroad³⁰.

The organized crime as a part of the Action Plan has five chapters: 1. The Analysis of the Situation 2. The Most Common Forms 3. Prevention 4. Cooperation between State Authorities and 5. Regional cooperation.

The role of OSCE in Republic of Macedonia

The work of OSCE in our country can be divided in three periods: The first period from inception in 1992 until to Kosovo crisis in 1999, second period is from the Kosovo crisis and Macedonian conflict in 2001 and the third is the implementation of the Ohrid agreement. In the area of training, OSCE helps in: developing curricula, training the officers of the border police, advanced training in the field of human rights, combating human trafficking, cooperation between police and citizens, traffic safety, identification of drugs and forged documents, crime analysis, the police relationships with the media.

With adoption of Police Law in 2006, the OSCE mission continued to assist the Ministry of Interior in the implementation of police reforms. OSCE increase the level of professionalism for the achievement of international standards. OSCE gave support of the Roma Decade (2005-2015), organizing numerous trainings in municipalities with large Roma populations.

The OSCE mission is mandated to observe all procedures related to the four cases which Hague war tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and gave domestic judicial authorities in 2008. One of the greatest achievements of the mission in 2007 was a comprehensive training program for international humanitarian law and war crimes trials, conducted together with the newly formed Academy for legal training. The program was designed to help the judiciary to handle the cases related to the Armed conflict in 2001, including four cases that were returned by the Hague Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. OSCE mission in Macedonia has approached the post-conflict rehabilitation, especially in the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement. The mission was most successful in reforming the judiciary and police. On 15-20 April 2013 in Skopje, OSCE organized a course in cooperation with the Interior Ministry and the French Embassy in Skopje. The aim of this mission was training 30 police officers from the Ministry's Special Units Department on crowd management. During the five-day course, the police officers learned how to respond to

³⁰ OSCE, Police reform in Montenegro 2006-2011 (Assessment and Recommendations), 41.

security challenges, while at the same time respecting human rights and civil liberties. The aim of this course was to strengthen the operational capacities of the Ministry's Training and Support Unit, which was led by two French experts from the French National Police³¹.

Conclusion

OSCE Mission in SEE region marked over 20 years of its existence. Today OSCE has over 56 members countries from Europe, Central Asia and America, which makes OSCE a largest regional security organization in the world.

Conflicts that had affected countries that separated from the Former Yugoslavia made the transition long and complex. Over the last 20 years, we can say that the OSCE has quite achievements, taking difficulties in the transition process from post-state conflicts to democratic consolidation and passing the countries through important reforms. It should be noted that in Macedonia the OSCE mission was established before the conflict, while in all other countries in the SEE region missions were established after the crisis. Generally, the OSCE has been successful in the SEE region in terms of post-conflict rehabilitation and promotion of human and minority rights. In the area of security, the OSCE has been successful in assisting in negotiation and implementation of confidence-building measures, as well as in monitoring elections in all countries in the region. Other achievements include the fight against human trafficking, protection of Roma minorities, monitoring war crimes in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia and lately Macedonian Hague cases. Areas in which OSCE is engaged in almost all European countries are: police reforms, which have proved to be very effective.

OSCE established itself as a key factor for democratic reconstruction of the SEE region, especially since the OSCE as an organization gave equal voting rights for all members. On the other hand, the OSCE criteria applied their programs and activities to be comparable with the criteria of the Council of Europe and the EU. One set of challenges to the OSCE comes from the emerging new security architecture of Europe, with both NATO and the EU enlarging and becoming more active. This has an impact on the OSCE's morale, but does not undercut its potential. A more serious problem is the uneven quality of political leadership and management³².

³¹ **OSCE MISSION TO SKOPJE TRAINS POLICE OFFICERS ON CROWD MANAGEMENT, [HTTP://WWW.OSCE.ORG/SKOPJE/100698](http://www.osce.org/skopje/100698).**

³² Robert L Barry. The future of the OSCE, British-American security information council, UK, 2003, 11.

OSCE indirectly prepare countries for membership in NATO and EU, although it's composed part of the mandate of the OSCE. At the end, the OSCE contributed substantially to the development of countries in the SEE region despite its multicultural character. OSCE should remain in the SEE region because every international support for the SEE countries is of significant importance.

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