

EUROASIA MODEL UNITED NATIONS  
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# ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE



## Letter from the Secretary-General

Dear Participants,

My name is Saide Esra AKDOĞAN and I am a senior student at Faculty of Law, Ankara University. It is my utmost pleasure to welcome you all to the eleventh annual session of the first and biggest development and training conference of Turkey, EuroAsia MUN 2016 as the Secretary-General.

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, being the world's largest regional security organization has members not only from Europe but also from North America and Asia. It constitutes a unique environment with participation of members outside of the continent and operates on a wide range of agenda items including terrorism, energy security, human trafficking, common security and crisis management.

As a challenging committee, apt for experienced participants, OSCE will have an open agenda full with very current issue and delegates which will be fed with original crisis scenarios during the sessions. Therefore, it is of crucial importance for the participants to first read through the whole Handbook deeply and have a comprehensive knowledge regarding the current situation be prepared for possible conjuncture.

Lastly, I would like to thank to Mr. İlker KARARAŞ, Director of Crisis and our Academic Assistants Ms. Defne ŞAHİN and Mr. Berk Furkan KOCATEPE and Under-Secretary-General Mr. Ali Berk İdil who shaped and documented this very document, all being brilliant team members.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Directorate of Crisis as well as me via [akdogan@muntr.org](mailto:akdogan@muntr.org),

## **I. Introduction**

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) was initially formed under the premises of building a bridge for dialogue and negotiation between the West and the East. Initially named Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), OSCE until 1990 served as a series of gatherings for Participating States for discussion of cooperation on security issues and for considering implementation of their promises. At the end of the Cold War, the Participating States decided that the OSCE shall a bigger role in transition from the post-Cold War Europe to a united Europe. Therefore, Participating States decided to reform OSCE in both structural and functional capabilities.<sup>i</sup>

## **II. Structure of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe**

In order to achieve what has been established as its aims and objectives, the OSCE do have many institutions and structure working within cooperation. The main structures and institutions of the OSCE could be listed as: OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE Representative on Freedom of Media, OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, OSCE Minsk Group and OSCE Secretariat.<sup>ii</sup>

The Parliamentary Assembly aims to strengthen international cooperation, executes election observing operations and it serves as a platform of parliamentary diplomacy and debate.<sup>iii</sup>, The current president of the Austrian Parliamentary Assembly, Christine Muttonen, who was elected in 2016, stated: *“Parliamentarians can play a very important role in securing peace*

*and stability, it will be my duty to make sure they have the possibility to do so.”*<sup>iv</sup> Moreover, the Parliamentary Assembly consists of 323 members from 56 parliaments.<sup>v</sup> The Vatican City, which does not have a national parliament, does have the right to send two representatives as guests of honour to the meetings of the Parliamentary Assembly.<sup>vi</sup> The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly is gathered three times a year, two of which are meetings and one of them is an annual session. The first of the meetings is the winter meeting, which is always held in Vienna and lasts for two days in February. The second meeting is the autumn meeting, which is usually held in the Mediterranean area and lasts for two days in October. In addition, the annual session lasts for five days and its location rotates between Member States.<sup>vii</sup> As it is one of its main duties, the Parliamentary Assembly have made observation missions in more than 130 elections throughout the OSCE region since 1993.<sup>viii</sup> Moreover, there are many Democratic Commitments that all Member States have agreed upon, which varies from the advocacy of equal suffrage for all adult citizens, to the separation of political parties from the State.<sup>ix</sup>

The High Commissioner of on Ethnical Minorities (HCNM) is responsible from identifying and addressing to the causes and the ongoing processes of ethnic tensions and conflict. It is the HCNM’s discretion to be involved in a situation by identifying it as an ethnic tension or conflict. If it observed that a Member State is not meeting its commitments, HCNM may have an advisory function to resolve the situation.<sup>x</sup> The Fourth High Commissioner was Astrid Thors and her term of office ended on August 2016<sup>xi</sup> and the Fifth High Commissioner is to be elected, the election process still continues.<sup>xii</sup> Basically, with all its missions HCNM is responsible for addressing the minority issues and trying to resolve any possible related conflicts.

The Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, which is based in Warsaw aims to promote democratic elections, respect for human rights, tolerance and non-discrimination and the rule of law.<sup>xiii</sup> While it is one of the most prominent human rights bodies, the Office is active in Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and North America.<sup>xiv</sup> The current director of the Office, Michael Georg Link took office in July 2014.<sup>xv</sup> The Office also plays an essential role in the development of relations among States, governments and civil society; and also the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting is held by the Office.<sup>xvi</sup>

OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Dunja Mijatović from Bosnia and Herzegovina took office in March 2010,<sup>xvii</sup> OSCE considers free speech as a fundamental pillar of a democratic society and also as an internationally recognized human right; therefore the Representative must be observing the media and the States' interactions with it and must make sure that States do meet the requirements of the commitments about the freedom of expression and free media.<sup>xviii</sup> Moreover, some technical issues such as digital switchover and media freedom on the Internet is also within the scope of interest of the Representative.<sup>xix xx</sup>

The Court of Conciliation and Arbitration is responsible for solving disputes between States; which is composed of recognized experts on international law.<sup>xxi</sup> *“The conciliators and arbitrators are headed by a bureau, which is chaired by Christian Tomuschat, professor emeritus of Humboldt University Berlin and President of the Court. The bureau is the Court’s permanent executive body and consists of the president, four members (including the vice president), and four alternate members.”*<sup>xxii</sup>

The Minsk Group which is co-chaired by France, the Russian Federation and the United States, is the spearhead group of the OSCE for the issue of Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.<sup>xxiii</sup> The co-chairs of the Minsk Group visits the region regularly and organize high-level meetings with both sides of the conflict while trying to provide a framework for the resolution of the conflict.<sup>xxiv</sup>

Last but obviously not least, the Secretariat focuses on *“conflict prevention, economic and environmental activities, co-operation with Partner countries and organizations, gender equality, anti-trafficking, as well as international threats, including anti-terrorism, border management and policing reform.”*<sup>xxv</sup> Lamberto Zannier from Italy is the Secretary-General of the OSCE since July 2011.<sup>xxvi</sup>

### **III. Policies of the OSCE by Fields**

#### **A. Politico-Military Dimension**

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) endeavors to advance military security by maintaining transparency, cooperation and greater openness within its politico-military dimension. In the scope of politico-military dimension, OSCE improved the most enhanced regime of arms control and confidence-building measures of the world.<sup>xxvii</sup> Moreover, the work areas also contain the reforms in the security sector and the safe storage and destruction of small arms, light weapons and conventional ammunition.<sup>xxviii</sup> The politico-military dimension of OSCE has six branches namely arms control, border management, conflict prevention and resolution, countering terrorism, policing and lastly reform and cooperation in the security sector.

## **1. Arms Control**

The base document of OSCE, 1975 Helsinki Final Act, points out the requirement of the member states' contribution in order to reduce the dangers of armed conflict and miscalculation military activities. In order to prevent security, comprehensive set of confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs) which includes the exchange of information and compliance and verification of it are needed to reduce the risks of conflict and escalate the trust among OSCE Participating States.<sup>xxix</sup> There are some OSCE field operations that are active in arms control areas and in cooperation with national governments and international organizations. The scope of their activities:<sup>xxx</sup>

- Empowerment of small arms and light weapons and the management of conventional ammunition stockpile management including destruction;
- Propping national small arms control mechanisms;
- Servicing with the rehabilitation of areas contaminated with explosives;
- Assisting in defecating of dangerous chemicals stored in military premises;
- Contributing to national initiatives to gather small arms and light weapons;
- Supporting initiatives to restrict the possession of illegal weapons;
- Organizing awareness-raising and training campaigns.

## **2. Border Management**

The main goal of OSCE in border management is to succeed a balance between the exigence security against the cross border threats and freedom of movement for services, goods, persons and commerce, and to realize the fact that borders could be both open and secure. According to this aim, OSCE supports the efforts put by its 57 Participating States and Partners

for Cooperation to empower the capacities of border-related agencies and to maintain cooperation among them by harmonizing border-related policies and practices in accordance with OSCE Border Security and Management Concept and intimate Ministerial Council Decisions.<sup>xxxii</sup> In the field of border management, The OSCE Border Security and Management National Focal Point Network and OSCE Policing Online Information System (POLIS) provide platforms to share information and experiences about border-related issues.<sup>xxxiii</sup> The works of OSCE field operations that support effective border management includes:<sup>xxxiii</sup>

- Keeping an entity in border zones;
- Promoting cooperation and rapid information sharing among border police and neighboring country counterparts;
- Provide training, workshops and awareness-raising for border security and navy officers, custom personnel, and aviation and airport security staff on:
  - Patrolling procedures, surveillance techniques, maritime security protocols, airport safety management, countering drug trafficking, cementing travel document security, international profiling techniques, combating transnational organized crime, illegal trafficking of drugs and chemical precursors;
  - Early warning meetings with local officials, border services and residents;
  - Procuring technical suggestion and assistance for preventing and responding to border incidents.

OSCE, which works with all relevant actors; including cooperating international and regional organizations to prevent conflicts and to prepare permanent and extensive political settlements of existing conflicts, is a key tool for early warning, conflict prevention and



resolution, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation.<sup>xxxiv</sup> This process is also called 'conflict cycle'. The Organization's network of field operations and the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) are two main means in this cycle.<sup>xxxv</sup> In the area of conflict prevention and resolution, the activities of OSCE field operations include:<sup>xxxvi</sup>

- Capacity building for local actors targeted at decreasing potential drivers and sources of conflict;
- Simplifying exchanges among political and civil actors to determine the conflict risks at the earliest possible stage;
- Helping with dialogue facilitation, mediation and confidence building activities among communities and societies affected by conflicts;
- Monitoring the security situation in OSCE Participating States
- Conducting with confidence building;
- Promoting national crisis response plans.

### **3. Countering Terrorism**

There is no doubt to say that terrorism is one of the biggest threats to peace, security and stability as well as to social and economic improvement and enjoyment of human rights. At this point, OSCE comprehensively contribute to international efforts against terrorism. OSCE brings about a coordinated and cooperative approach to countering terrorism at all levels.<sup>xxxvii</sup> OSCE seeks coordination between national authorities, cooperation among states, cooperation between related international and regional organizations and also public-private partnerships among state authorities private sector (business community, industry), media

and civil societies.<sup>xxxviii</sup> Strategic focus areas for OSCE counter terrorism activities are listed as:<sup>xxxix</sup>

- Promoting the implementation of the international legal framework against terrorism and improving international legal cooperation in criminal matters related to terrorism;
- Countering violent extremism and radicalization that result in to terrorism, following a multidimensional approach;
- Blocking and suppressing the funding of terrorism;
- Countering the use of Internet for terrorist aims;
- Maintaining dialogue and cooperation on counter-terrorism issues, in particular, through public-private partnerships between state authorities and the private sector as well as civil society and the media;
- Empowering national efforts to implement United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;
- Strengthening travel document security;
- Promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms in the context of counter-terrorism measures.

#### **4. Policing**

It is needless to say that developments in technology and means of communication resulted in rise of interconnectedness and dynamicity of international criminal networks. Furthermore, they adapt well new circumstances, challenges and opportunities. Therefore, OSCE puts efforts to develop comprehensive action of plans focused on building modern, democratic and pro-active police services in order to respond transnational threats.<sup>xl</sup> The police-related

activities of OSCE constitute a crucial part of its efforts in conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation,<sup>xli</sup> and the Transnational Threats Department's Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU) is the focal tool of OSCE that deals with police-related works.<sup>xlii</sup> OSCE's police-related works has two main branches:<sup>xliii</sup>

- i. Police development and reform within the principles of democratic policing, a special focus on community policing and police-public partnership, training initiatives, and promoting the protection of victims and vulnerable persons;
- ii. Building capacities of law enforcement agencies of OSCE Participating States and Partners for Co-operation in order to be able to effectively counter transnational organized crime, terrorism, trafficking in illicit drugs, trafficking in human beings and cybercrime.

OSCE runs cooperation with police agencies across the OSCE region and SPMU serves a network of police advisers in field operations as well as offers expert suggestion and assistance to Participating States to improve liable police services in order to protect and serve their citizens.<sup>xliv</sup> Most of the OSCE field operations conduct programmes on police reform and development, including:<sup>xlv</sup>

- Manufacturing capacities of the law enforcement to address transnational threats;
- Enhancing and organizing police education programmes which are sustainable;
- Coordinating leadership and management training for law enforcement and government officials, judges and prosecutors;
- Empowering investigative and analytical skills;

- Developing competencies in managing financial investigations, in addressing money laundering and in seizing criminal assets;
- Advancing community policing initiatives and police-public partnership;
- Focusing on domestic violence;
- Helping in strategic planning and threat assessments;
- Encouraging information exchange amongst border officials;
- Enabling information sharing and the exchange of best practices;
- Analyzing and assessing lessons taught to improve guidance;
- Suggesting on legislation reform and institution-building;
- Elevating intelligence-led policing;
- Monitoring police work for accordance with international human rights standards;
- Supporting regional and international police co-operation;
- Reform and cooperation in the security sector.

The topic of reform and cooperation in the security sector takes place in the Forum for Security Cooperation, which serves as the main platform of OSCE for dialogue on politico-military issues. Operations in the area of reform and cooperation in the security sector contain legislation reform, scaling back and/or transformation of armies, training personnel on the rights of servicemen and servicewomen and humanitarian law.<sup>xlvi</sup> These tasks are handled by a number of OSCE field operations, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), and the Conflict Prevention Centre, all of which work closely with governments, NGOs and civil society.<sup>xlvii</sup> OSCE's work in this area includes topics such as:<sup>xlviii</sup>

- Rules of engagement and integrity within defense and security institutions;

- Preservation of human rights of military service members;
- Empowering the parliament's oversight role;
- Inciting better communication of security sector institutions with citizens;
- Cathecting active participation of civil society;
- Retraining ex-service personnel for civilian employment;
- Providing social rights in transition from conscription-based to a professional army;
- Inspecting draft legislation.

### **B. Economic - Environmental Dimension**

Security and co-operation are highly influenced by economic and environmental aspects. Economy encourages state developments and respectively, security. The more a state develops the more it will get equipped to protect its borders and the international field. The power of a government lies on economy. Besides, states cannot be imagined without its borders and homeland. Therefore the environmental issues have always been a top priority on the international arena since it is the living space of the human being.

Contrary to the high standards in economy and environment, security and stability can also be affected by the economic and environmental threats. Inconsistent economy causes poverty and corruption. Therefore, an environmental problem of a state is likely to become a global concern. For instance, some natural resources are being used by more than one state. Waste of such a natural resources will cause major problems in all of the consumer states. Therefore such a threat, will lead to a cooperation between consumer states regarding the use of the natural resource.

This cooperation and stability on both economy and environment is provided by OSCE. In order to avoid the threats, OSCE triggers its Participating States to support good governance, protect the natural resources and encourages to suppress and end corruption.<sup>xlix</sup>

### **1. Good Governance**

The aim of good governance is to fight corruption and develop democratic, accountable and transparent state institutions.<sup>i</sup> The OSCE Participating States commit themselves to combat corruption, money laundering and financing terrorism. In 2012, 'OSCE's Dublin Declaration on Strengthening Good Governance' was adopted and it enhanced the mandate of the OSCE and field operations to promote good governance.<sup>ii</sup>

The significance of good governance was emphasized in the Dublin Declaration on Strengthening Good Governance as follows: *"... good governance at all levels is fundamental to economic growth, political stability, and security. Good public and corporate governance, rule of law and strong institutions are essential foundations for a sound economy, which can*

*enable our States to reduce poverty and inequality, to increase social integration and opportunities for all, to attract investment and to protect the environment.”*

The Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) works to enhance stabilization of good governance in the Participating States. The OCEEA actively supports OSCE Participating States in improving their national legislative and regulatory

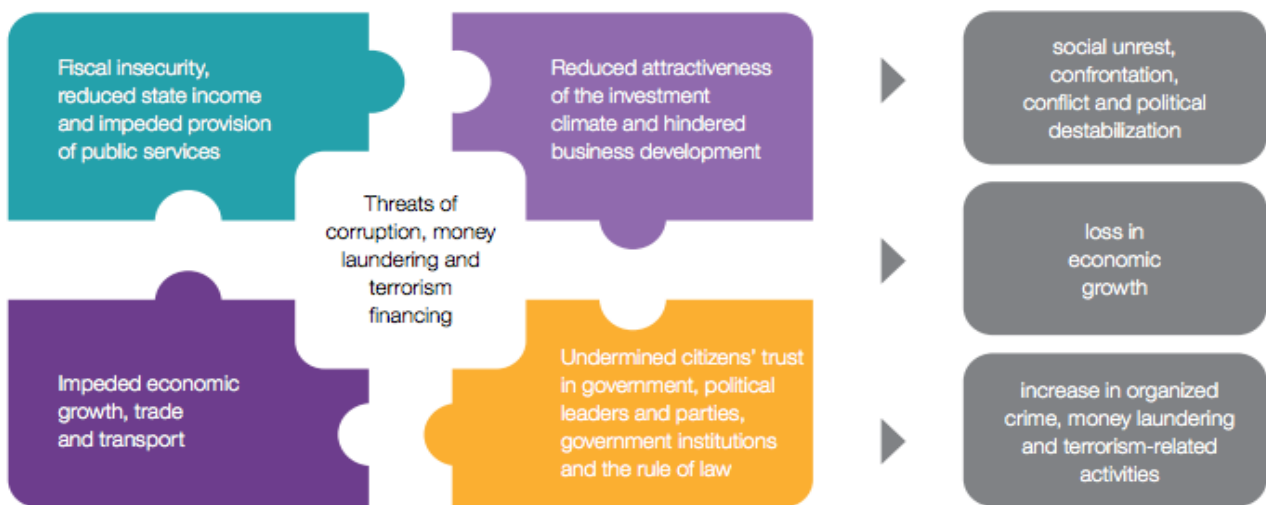


Chart 1- A chart on the threats of corruption, money laundering and terrorism financing<sup>lii</sup>

frameworks, thereby contributing to better economic governance and sound financial and resource management as well as more transparency at all levels of government. Upon the request of individual Participating States the OCEEA also conducts national anti-corruption scoping missions.<sup>liii</sup>

## 2. Economic Activities

Economic and social disparities, lack of rule of law, weak governance, corruption, widespread poverty and high unemployment are among the factors that contribute to illegal economic activities and other threats to security and stability in the OSCE region. OCEEA mission field

also involves transport, trade and border crossing facilitation and labor migration.<sup>liv</sup> International trade is the key to a better economy, inter alia; good co-operation comes from good economic relations. Well-functioning international, multi-modal transport systems are necessary preconditions for trade and have a favorable impact on the business and investment climate of countries and their economic development. Additionally, the terrorism has a huge impact on the trade logistics regarding security and stability. Both in international and inland transportations, vehicles can be subject to robbery. Illegal border crossings triggered the states to built complex security implementations that slows the transportation and affects the trade relations respectively.<sup>lv</sup>

The labor migration is one of the issues that dealt within the establishment of OSCE. Effective migration management leads to more efficient economic governance. Effective labor migration governance systems strive to balance different concerns related to border control, demographic shifts, needs of national economies, skill-specific demands of labor markets and private businesses.<sup>lvi</sup>

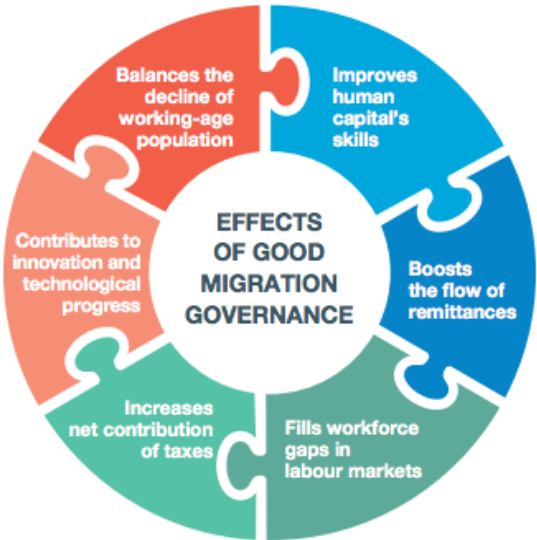


Chart 2 - Chart showing effects of good migration governance<sup>lvii</sup>



### **3. Environmental Activities**

OSCE encourages the Participating States to build environmental awareness on areas such as climate change, water management, renewable energy and hazardous waste. Environmental issues usually are counted as an internal problem of the states. However, when it comes to transboundary waters, energy sources and illicit traffic of hazardous waste, there appears the global perspective of the matter.<sup>lviii</sup>

OCEEA promotes cooperation on transboundary water management, facilitates the development of legal and institutional frameworks among riparian countries, and supports data collection and monitoring. Through these process, OCEEA Works coordinately with UNECE. For instance, Chu-Talas and Kura-Aras rivers basins benefitted from this collaboration.<sup>lix</sup>

OCEEA organizes an 'Economic and Environmental Forum' annually to evaluate the progress of the implementation held by OSCE. Therefore, the future work is determined on the light of these forums. The latest forum was held in January in Vienna and mostly focused on the environmental, political and economic challenges of the population growth.<sup>lx</sup>

#### **C. Human Rights Dimension**

It is a well-known fact, human rights is the key to the core of the international issues. Security cannot be achieved without following the principles of human rights. Respecting human rights starts with democratic implementations and elections, promoting gender equality, promoting freedom of media and the rights of the persons belonging to minority groups and genuine execution of the rule of law.<sup>lxi</sup>

## **1. Human Rights**

Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) is the subsidiary organ of the third dimension. ODIHR deals with a wide range of problems on fundamental freedoms of religion or belief, movement, assembly and association, reporting the use of the death penalty, monitoring trials, and preventing torture and other forms of ill-treatment. Their work includes:<sup>lxii</sup>

- Working to eliminate discriminatory laws, policies and practices;
- Providing technical support to human rights bodies;
- Reviewing legislation to ensure compliance with OSCE commitments and international human rights standards;
- Training human rights advocacy groups;
- Supporting civil society organizations working on human rights and like.

## **2. Elections**

A legitimate government is based on proper and not corrupted elections. Ensuring such elections are one of the main goals of OSCE. Therefore, 57 Participating States' elections are observed in election observation missions. For this area OSCE is responsible for following parts of the election:<sup>lxiii</sup>

- Advising election commissions;
- Application of international standards and good practices;
- Improvement of electoral administration;
- Technical reviews of elections;

- Reform of electoral codes;
- Consultations among stakeholders of the voting process;
- Training, performance reviews and evaluations;
- Supporting and engaging with international networks;
- Strengthening the participation of women in elections;
- Awareness-raising campaigns on voter rights and electoral procedures;
- Supporting NGOs observing local and national polls; and
- Establishing voter lists.<sup>lxiv</sup>

### **3. Media Freedom and Development**

As a part of the OSCE, the Representative on Freedom of the Media observes developments in media for serving as an early warning function and through this function, the Representative helps the Member States to ensure application of freedom of expression and free media. Following is the exhaustive list of areas that the OSCE is working with the member States to ensure freedom of media:<sup>lxv</sup>

- Monitoring the work of media regulators;
- Monitoring and reviewing the improvement and implementation of media legislation;
- Supporting national reforms in broadcasting;
- Providing technical expertise to national authorities, for example on transitioning from analogue to digital broadcasting;
- Fostering transparency, credibility and independence of media;
- Advising media outlets;

- Organizing training for journalists, law enforcement, lawyers, judges, civil servants, students;
- Monitoring freedom of the media;
- Documenting cases of media rights violations;
- Holding public discussions; and
- Supporting independent media outlets.<sup>lxvi</sup>

#### **D. Cross Dimensional**

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) is dedicated to promote stronger ties and cooperation among states, to establish partnerships between the private and public sectors and to engage society in order to combat security challenges that pose threat across borders such as terrorism, radicalization and violent extremism, organized crime, cybercrime and trafficking in drugs, arms and human beings. OSCE operates seven areas within cross dimensional namely combating human trafficking, cyber/ICT security, democratization, education, gender equality, migration and youth.

##### **1. Human Trafficking**

OSCE functions in struggling human trafficking, which affects all OSCE states, through prevention, prosecution, protection, and partnerships in a victim-centric, human rights based approach.<sup>lxvii</sup> OSCE founded the Office of Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in order to assist Participating States in fight against human trafficking, which can be defined as modern form of slavery.<sup>lxviii</sup> This exercise includes psychological terror and physical violence, and its existence brings about the violations of

human rights and rule of law, results in corruption, discrimination and inequality.<sup>lxi</sup> In 2003, OSCE adopted the Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings which contains three core recommendations to Participating States for actions in national level, known as '3 Ps'. These are:<sup>lxx</sup>

- Prevention, including awareness-raising and addressing root causes;
- Prosecution, including investigation and cooperation with international law enforcement;
- Protection of victims' rights , including assistance and compensation.

Moreover, in 2013, the fourth 'P', the partnership, which emphasizes the need for advanced cooperation with international organizations and other partners, comprising on issues related to law enforcement, National Referral Mechanisms (NRMs) and joint work between public institutions and the private sector.<sup>lxxi</sup> Some OSCE field operations organize seminars and training courses for police, border guards, judges, prosecutors, lawyers, social workers, religious leaders as well as they run information campaigns for public.<sup>lxxii</sup>

## **2. Cyber/ICT Security**

Cyber/ICT (Information Communication Technologies) Security is a vital area to be considered since it is likely to be the new shape of war. Cyber-attacks to the United States of America, which resulted in damages worth \$7 billion, points out the cruciality of the situation. Moreover, since many states invest in offensive and defensive ICT capabilities and these capabilities range from reconnaissance and information operations, the unique characteristics of ICTs have considerably escalated the potential for misperceptions, miscalculations and even tensions between states as they start quarreling with questions of intent, attribution, rules

and norms.<sup>lxxiii</sup> At this point, OSCE plays a critical role in enhancing cyber/ICT security. Participating States of OSCE are endeavoring on confidence building measures (CBMs) to downscale the risks of conflict hailing from the use of ICTs.<sup>lxxiv</sup> Furthermore, OSCE and its institutions also work on tackling cyber/ICT security threats from non-state actors, such as organized criminals and terrorists.<sup>lxxv</sup> OSCE Participating States are oriented to make cyberspace more predictable and offer tangible tools and mechanisms to avoid misunderstandings, containing.<sup>lxxvi</sup>

- A mechanism to unite states for consultations over potential cyber/ICT security incidents to de-escalate increasing tensions;
- A platform for exchanging views, national cyber/ICT security policies and approaches to provide states to better 'read' each other's intentions in cyberspace;
- Concrete work items, for instance to protect ICT-enabled critical infrastructure, allowing Participating States to collectively enhance cyber resilience in the OSCE region for the benefit of all.

### **3. Democratization**

One of the main themes of OSCE is democracy and the Organization provides assistance to its Participating States in order to build and consolidate democratic institutions which further result in more responsive, accountable and representative governments.<sup>lxxvii</sup> Several OSCE field operations actively work in supporting democratic institutions in their countries of operation. Some of their activities include:<sup>lxxviii</sup>

- Managing public information, awareness raising and outreach campaigns;

- Cooperating with government structures and civil society organization on capacity building;
- Cooperating with government structures and civil society organization to cheer civic participation;
- Supporting parliamentary bodies in the oversight of the security sector;
- Promoting parliamentary bodies in the oversight of the security sector;
- Facilitating an informal and non-partisan forum for government, political parties and constituents;
- Supporting media reform
- Assisting further electoral and political processes in accordance with international standards.

#### **4. Education**

Education programmes take an important place in efforts of OSCE in conflict prevention and post-conflict rehabilitation. Education is central for several field operations of OSCE, which focus on following areas:<sup>lxxix</sup>

- Education reform, including legal education;
- Decreasing ethnic-based division and other forms exclusion;
- Installing learning outcomes and standards;
- Developing school management;
- Strategic orientation and training programmes for civic education curricula;
- Educating on anti-discrimination, media development, policy analysis and conflict-sensitive development;

- Environmental and human rights education;
- Advancing dialogue and networks.

## 5. Gender Equality

In order to cultivate peace, sustainable democracy and economic development, equal rights of women and men are fundamental. OSCE has an approach to provide equal opportunities to women and men, and to integrate gender equality into practices and policies within its Participating States as well as within the Organization itself.<sup>lxxx</sup> In this goal, OSCE cooperates with local partners in developing and managing projects across the OSCE region in order to strengthen women.<sup>lxxxi</sup> Moreover, OSCE accompanies with authorities in examining legislation and helps in constructing national mechanisms to ensure equality between women and men.<sup>lxxxii</sup> The Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality procures the main framework for OSCE activities on gender equality and it includes.<sup>lxxxiii</sup>

- Making sure that all OSCE policies, projects and activities are gender mainstreamed;
- Facilitating staff members with tools and education on gender mainstreaming;
- Improving a gender management culture and working environment which are professional and gender-sensitive;
- Promoting Participating States in achieving gender equality;
- Regulating specific priorities for the protection of women's rights;
- Putting the role of women in conflict prevention and peace reconstruction processes forward and promoting it;
- Monitoring and evaluating progress on the implementation of the Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality.



## 6. Migration

Large migration flows is one of the most important agenda items of international community, so of OSCE. Unless migration flows are not managed comprehensively and coordinately, it would bring about the undermining of security, stability. The OSCE procures assistance in capacity building, policy advice, awareness raising and advocacy, as well as dialogue support<sup>lxxxiv</sup>, and its key policy areas in addressing migration contain:

- **Regulating migration:** border management, travel document security, responding transnational threats, including human trafficking along migration routes;
- **Facilitating legal migration:** labor migration governance and research, harmonization and collection of data;
- **Supporting people and communities:** freedom of movement, tolerance and non-discrimination, integration, refugee referral.<sup>lxxxv</sup>

Furthermore, OSCE accompanies with regional and international organizations through high level dialogue and cooperation in order to flinch duplication and consolidate synergies on migration-related matters.<sup>lxxxvi</sup>

## 7. Youth

OSCE attaches importance to promote the role and the involvement of youth in its peace and security agenda a lot, and the Organization takes its approach from its founding document, the Helsinki Final Act.<sup>lxxxvii</sup> Moreover, OSCE acknowledged the potential of young people to contribute to political, economic and social development. The Organization also focuses on youth protection and emphasizes on promoting the participation of youth especially in fields like preventing and countering violent extremism and radicalization as well as intercultural

and interreligious dialogue, education, tolerance and non-discrimination and political participation.<sup>lxxxviii</sup> At this point, the Special Representatives on Youth and Security have a crucial role in providing sustainability and persistence of these efforts.<sup>lxxxix</sup>

#### **IV. Conclusion**

In conclusion, it is important to take into account past action of the OSCE for considering the current issues as the organization itself has the capabilities across Europe to ensure security and freedom. Considering all functions mentioned above, the actions taken for the security across Europe should include the OSCE as an integral part. Today, as Europe is facing challenges regarding both its unity and its security, it is more important than ever to put the OSCE into use for replacing lack of cooperation in other institutions.

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