



Annual Program 2009

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Introduction

Distinguished Reader,

Since its establishment in 2002, the OSCE Academy in Bishkek has become a highly visible regional project of the OSCE in Central Asia covering a graduate program in political science, training activities and regionally embedded research projects. The successful implementation of the OSCE Academy was made possible with the strong commitment of the donor community, our partner institutions and the OSCE. We would like to take the opportunity to thank all involved stakeholders for their generous support and consistent engagement for the OSCE Academy.

The following Donor & Activity Report 2008/2009 is intended to provide you with an insight into our activities in 2008 and our plans for the forthcoming year in all three dimensions of our program (MA program, training and research) including our budget projections.

The overall financial situation of the OSCE Academy has been consolidated in the past three years and the yearly budget has been stabilized to approximately Euro 450.000. This budget would allow us to implement the MA program as well as a set of core training programs the Academy conducts with its partner organizations. However, after the period of consolidation, the OSCE Academy has now the capacity to increase its activities, therefore our budget projection for 2009 is Euro 600.000.

The MA Program in Political Science is currently in its 6th academic year with 24 students from Afghanistan, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Poland, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan studying at the Academy. By October 2008, the Academy has an alumni network of 120 graduates whose career paths highlight the success of the Academy's program.

Our training program in 2008 followed its focus on core training courses on Human Rights, Conflict Prevention and Journalism.

Again, we would like to express our gratitude to the donor community for their strong support of our activities.

Sincerely,

Tim Epkenhans and Violetta Yan

I. Master of Arts In Political Science (Central Asia)

"The whole academic year was adventurous: different lecture, different cultures, variety of academic and social events, roundtable discussions and debates."

Gulya Kolakova'05

"The year at the academy has greatly contributed to my education and career. It deepened my knowledge in many areas of the political science; it broadened my horizons through the meetings with outstanding professors, teachers and practitioners from various fields with various international backgrounds."

Irina Wolf'06

A Unique Graduate Opportunity in Central Asia

The thirteen-month **Master of Arts in Political Science (Central Asia) program** is open for up to 25 **students from Central Asia**, as well as a limited number of students from out of the region. The Master Program was inaugurated in February 2004 with a pilot course. Currently 24 students from Afghanistan, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Poland, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan are enrolled in the 6th academic class since September 2008. Entry to the Master Program is **highly competitive**: all eligible candidates should have completed an academic degree with high grades and have to pass a rigid **admission procedure** including a personal interview. In the selection of the applicants, an independent admission committee considers, alongside the general **academic qualifications**, the **regional balance** and the **gender equality**. The MA Program is **free of any tuition fees** and the Academy follows a strict **policy of equal opportunities** by providing a **grant** for all students for their modest living costs in



Bishkek. A grant contract is signed with every student at the beginning of the academic year. The grant is divided and paid out in monthly instalments of €150 and an additional housing allowance for out-of-town students. Financial support of €15 per child is offered to students with children; single parents receive additional **childcare** financial support on special arrangement with the Academy's administration. The Academy covers travel expenses inside Central Asia to and from Bishkek. All students receive a **medical insurance**.

The MA Program offers a **unique curriculum** with a strong focus on international and regional affairs combined with in-dept seminars on political theory, economy and research ethics and standards. The faculty is recruited among regional and international experts (MGIMO, University of St. Andrews, Central European University, Geneva Centre for Security Policy). In recent years the OSCE Academy was able to extend its library and research resources significantly thanks to the strong support and commitment of our donor community.



The Alumni Network

In recent months the OSCE Academy started to establish an alumni network of the MA Program in Political Science. By October 2008 some 120 students have graduated from the OSCE Academy. A recent survey by the OSCE Academy among the alumni indicates the achievements of the Academy's program. According to this survey, some 60 % of the OSCE Academy's alumni are currently working in Central Asia while some 40% either work or continue their education abroad.

Employment of the OSCE Academy's Alumni



The OSCE Academy alumni network is designed to support the graduates in their professional and academic aspirations and should contribute to a stronger integration of young professionals in Central Asia and beyond.

Graduate Spotlight

Contributing to community...



*Gulya Kolakova'05
Analytical Unit Manager,
Research and Policy Department,
Afghanistan Investment Support
Agency (AISA), Afghanistan*

"Every time I recall the events in my past that to some extent made an influence on my life and brought me to where I am now, I think of my studies at the OSCE Academy.

Now, I am in Afghanistan, working for Afghanistan Investment Support Agency (AISA), the World's second best investment promotion agency awarded at the World Investment Conference held in April 2008, in Accra, Ghana. This job allows me to understand all interlinks between country's economic growth and private sector development. It enables me to interact with company owners, government officials, investors, donor agencies, NGOs, think tanks – all related to private sector development issues.

I would like to thank the OSCE Academy sponsors and management for helping me to get where I am now and I wish this program to continue to raise potential future leaders who could make changes for a better tomorrow."

"After graduation from the OSCE Academy in July 2005, I became the 1st OSCE Academy's alumni recruited by the OSCE Centre in Bishkek. I worked as the OSCE Local Program Coordinator in Talas province. Skills and knowledge I gained at the Academy and during my internship at Economic and Environmental Dimension of OSCE the Centre in Almaty, Kazakhstan, helped me a lot to perform professionally.

Since spring 2007, I have been working for Tolerance International (FTI) in Batken province of the Kyrgyz Republic. FTI is one of the leading Kyrgyz NGO dealing with conflict management and resolution. I am focused on peace building within local communities and conflict management in villages bordering



*Erkinbek Kamalov'05
Senior Field Officer, Foundation
for Tolerance International,
Kyrgyzstan*

Tajikistan and Uzbekistan in particular. Situation here is fragile and needs early warning and prevention strategies. This very challenging job motivates me greatly.

Young Central Asians benefit from the OSCE Academy's diversity of students and faculty, guest lecturers and other prominent visitors. Its students explore new opportunities to become leaders and decision-makers at local, national, regional and even international levels."

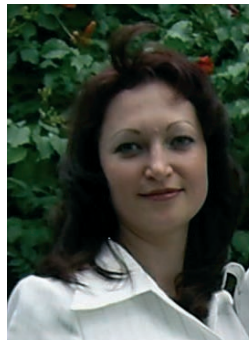
Entering post-graduate programs...

"The OSCE Academy in Bishkek has become one of the most important stop stations on the way to my present position. I certainly want to use this opportunity to extend my gratitude to the participating states of the OSCE for supporting the academy.

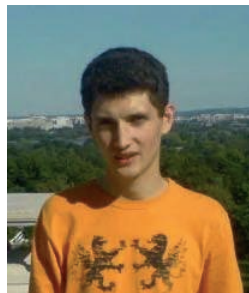
My research papers prepared in the framework of the master's program at the OSCE Academy have been published by the Central Election Committee of Kyrgyzstan and the Institute for Integrative Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding (IICP), Vienna. My thesis written for the master's program was accepted for publication in the German journal *conflict & communication on line*. Another writing based on my master's thesis is the manuscript "*Hizb ut-Tahrir as Presented in Vechernii Bishkek*", which has been accepted for publication as part of a book on press in Central Asia and is expected to see the publication in 2009 as part of the Michigan State University Press series on Eurasian Political Economy and Public Policy Studies. My master thesis has also inspired me for my Ph. dissertation thesis."

"I have greatly benefited from my year at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek. I acquired profound knowledge and skills which allowed me to participate in other international educational exchange programs, receive Ford Foundation Scholarship, and pursue postgraduate degree at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations under Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russian Federation.

After studying at the OSCE Academy, I have successfully integrated into academic community interested in Eurasian issues. Currently, I am writing a dissertation on regional stability and security in Central Asia."



*Irina Wolf'06
2007 DAAD Ph.D. Stipend
Receiver, Germany*



*Alexei Dundich'05
Ph.D. Student, Moscow State
Institute of International
Relations (MGIMO), Russia*

Utilizing opportunities...

"The OSCE Academy provides its alumnae with many opportunities: assistance in getting internship, continuing study and increases their chances for getting jobs. I was awarded with a scholarship to continue my study at Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), one of the OSCE Academy's partner institutions. Starting from October 2008 I will be a student of a new Master of Advanced Studies-Central Asia Scholarship Program for a graduate of the Academy to study at the GCSP. My major will be International and European Security."

Selbi Hanova'08

Master of Advanced Studies-Central Asia Scholarship Program for a Graduate of the OSCE Academy, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), Switzerland



II. Professional Training

The professional training program at the OSCE Academy has a specific focus on **Human Rights, Journalism, Conflict Prevention** and **Human Resource Capacity Building**. The participants are drawn from the public administration, international organizations and NGOs in Central Asia. The target group typically represents mid-ranking professionals. The Academy pays particular attention to **regionally integrated training** in order to promote an intensive exchange of experience and common strategies. In general the training courses last between 5 to 10 working days. In order to achieve sustainability the OSCE Academy offers continuous trainings for a core group of participants (usually between 25 and 30 participants per seminar/course).



The training courses at the Academy are usually organized in co-operation with regional and international partner institutions, such as regional Human Rights NGOs, associations of journalists and editors, the **Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and International Law** (Sweden), **Media4Democracy** (Switzerland), the **Institute for Integrative Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding** (Austria) or the **Geneva Centre for Security Policy**.

Journalism School

By establishing the regional **Media & Democracy Journalism School**, the OSCE Academy in co-operation with the Swiss based consultancy network **Media4Democracy** aims at providing journalists from Central Asia with a substantial knowledge on both the role of media in a democracy and the concept of quality of information. The role of media and journalists is central to the definition of **professional standards** on an everyday practice. It affects and directly determines the choice of topics considered as being newsworthy, as well as the very content of articles and broadcasts. During the practical sessions, the quality of the work of the participants is therefore evaluated on the light of the role that media should play in a more or less democratic system. It is an assumption of the OSCE program that **quality information** is necessary to a **quality democracy**; hence the accent made during the training sessions on journalism practice and such criteria of quality as accurate and impartial reporting of the information ("**objectivity**") and the use of clearly identified and authoritative sources of information ("**credibility**"). Since 2004 the OSCE Academy and Media4Democracy conducted four one-year journalism schools with more than 200 participants.

Human Rights and Conflict Prevention



Since 2005 the OSCE Academy co-operates with the Austrian Institute for Integrative Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding (IICP) and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute (RWI). Until 2008 the regional workshops dealing either with human rights or with conflict transformation were conducted separately with representatives of the regional governments (Ministries of Interior and Justice) and the civil society (NGOs, lawyer associations, journalists). An external evaluation in 2007 and 2008 came to highly positive results. The OSCE Academy, RWI and IICP are therefore

planning to integrate both training activities into a Human Rights and Conflict Prevention training with a specific focus on capacity building for government agencies and civil society. The Academy and its partner institutions would like to develop the specific training modules in 2009 in case sufficient funding is available.

The OSCE Academy in cooperation with IICP and RWI will therefore organize an initial training module in February 2009 to finalize the need assessment for the intensive training modules.

The integrated training aims at consultancy capacity building for project management and organizational planning with a special focus on conflict and human rights sensibility. In 2009 we are planning to conduct 4 modules for up to 25 consultants from all five Central Asian states.

III. Conferences, Seminars and Research Activities

Over the past four years the OSCE Academy emerged as an important regional centre for conferences, seminars and regionally embedded research activities. The Academy hosted or organized numerous workshops, seminars and conferences with regional and international partner organizations and supported the activities of the OSCE Centre in Bishkek. The Academy provides a venue for dialogue, teaching and training in a regional setting.

In September 2008, for instance, the OSCE Academy organized with the Geneva Centre for Security Policy the **First Central Asian Seminar** on regional Security Issues. The seminar, which will take place annually, provides a forum for security policy experts from Eurasia, East and South East Asia, Europe and the United States, to analyze and discuss the continued interaction of a range of key regional security dynamics and functional issues in Central Asia. 25 participants from Moscow's MGIMO, the regional Institutes for Strategic Studies, UNDP, Singapore's Nanyang University, the University of St. Andrews, the Near East and South Asia Centre in Washington and the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies (Germany), the ICRC, OSCE and GCSP discussed related issues during the seminar.



In 2007 and 2008 the OSCE Academy conducted a large scale **Oral History Project Independent Tajikistan** with partner institutions in Tajikistan. The project interviewed more than 1.400 individuals in Tajikistan. Seminars and Conferences in Dushanbe and Bishkek discussed the further development the Oral History Project in the region.

Looking ahead into the future, the OSCE Academy in Bishkek aims at **institutional sustainability, consolidation as an educational institution, increased public role in the region, and further strengthening of its profile as an institution promoting the ideals of the OSCE community of states**. These overarching objectives coincide well with the Academy's mission of 'promoting and enhancing the principles and aims of the OSCE in Central Asia', with the idea of "comprehensive security" guiding its philosophy. The Academy will aim to more fully implement its main directions of activity, which are "post-graduate education, capacity building, research and regional dialogue". Institutional sustainability, academic consolidation, increased public role, and a stronger profile supportive of OSCE community ideals are, thus, the four main orientations in our strategic thinking for the future. While at this stage the envisioned activities below are not a final program for action, they constitute some of the key areas where we aspire for further improvement.

IV. Expenditure Report and Budget 2009

The budget of the OSCE Academy comprises three major lines of funding: the **Unified Budget** of the OSCE Center in Bishkek (UB), **Extra Budgetary Contributions** (EXB) by participating states of the OSCE, and **Third-Party Funding** (TPF) by different organizations and institutions for specific projects. The UB funding, which makes up **Euro 180.000** of the overall OSCE Academy's budget per annum, guarantees the operational sustainability of the Academy and of its Master Program in particular. The EXB contributions indicate support the OSCE Academy receives from participating states of the OSCE. TPF reflects the OSCE Academy's efforts in diversification of its financial sources and intensity of external cooperation.

Expenditure

The expenditure of the OSCE Academy in 2008 (as of November 1) sums up to **Euro 391.493**. Until the end of the calendar year (and two more training seminars as well as the continuation of the MA program) we expect the total expenditure for 2008 at Euro 425.000, close to our previous budget projection.

Expenditure according to the activities

| Activities (Tasks) | Description | Expenditure (€) |
|-----------------------|--|------------------|
| Professional Training | Journalism School (4 seminars) | € 111.861 |
| | Human Rights Training (RWI) | |
| | OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Training | |
| | Human Rights for Young Lawyers | |
| | Environmental Migration | |
| Research | Oral History Project Tajikistan | € 28.439 |
| | Library Resources | |
| | GCSP Conference | |
| | UNESCO Publication | |
| | Conference on UN Convention in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities | |
| General Support Costs | Staff Salaries | € 109.462 |
| | Maintenance | |
| | Communication | |
| | Representation | |
| MA Program 2006-2007 | Thesis Supervision | € 413 |
| MA Program 2007-2008 | Fellowship Program | € 103.349 |
| | Student Support | |
| | Supervision | |
| | Internship Program | |
| MA Program 2008-2009 | Travel | € 37.969 |
| | Fellowship Program | |
| | Student Support | |
| TOTAL | Travel | € 391.493 |

Income (EXB, UB and TPF) in 2008

The OSCE Academy has received in 2008 **Euro 180.000** from the Unified Budget of the OSCE. Additionally, the **Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs** continued to support the MA Program with **Euro 89.000** in the calendar year 2008 (covering parts of the academic years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009). Additionally, **Germany** seconded the position of the OSCE Academy's director since 2004.

EXB Pledges received in 2007 until October 2008

| Donor | Pledge No. and date | Amount in Euro | Purpose | Status |
|--------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Germany | 11814 (18.04.2007) | € 7.550 | MA Program | Spent |
| Germany | 11815 (18.04.2007) | € 24.860 | Training | Spent |
| Germany | 11816 (18.04.2007) | € 7.590 | Research | Spent |
| Germany | 12211 (05.03.2008) | € 32.287 | Professional Training | Spend until 28 February 2009 |
| Austria | 11980 (22.08.2007) | € 22.062 | Professional Training | Spend until 31 December 2008 |
| Finland | 12093 (22.11.2007) | € 100.000 | General Support to the OSCE Academy | Spend until 31 May 2009 |
| Kazakhstan | 11963 (04.08.2007) | € 3.667 | General Support to the OSCE Academy | Spend until 31 December 2008 |
| Spain | 12024 (19.09.2007) | € 23.626 | Professional Training | Spent |
| Switzerland | 12100 (07.12.2006) | € 29.982 | General Support to the OSCE Academy | Spend until 28 February 2009 |
| TOTAL | | € 251.624 | | |

Budget Projection 2009

With the consolidation of the budget between 2006 and 2008 at approximately Euro 450.000, the OSCE Academy plans to extend its activities in 2009 especially in the professional training component with the establishment of the Human Rights and Conflict Prevention Consultancy Capacity Development. However, this training module is not yet funded.

| Description of the 2009 Budget | Status | Total € |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Professional Training | | |
| Media & Governance School Winter 2009 | funded | 19.665 |
| Media & Governance School Spring 2009 | funded | 19.665 |
| Media & Governance School Summer 2009 | Not funded | 19.665 |
| Media & Governance School Autumn 2009 | Not funded | 19.665 |
| European Integration Training Module (Summer 2009) | Not funded | 21.678 |
| Human Rights and Conflict Prevention Capacity Building Seminar (February 2009) | Funded | 32.287 |
| Human Rights and Conflict Prevention Consultancy Capacity Development (May to December 2009) | Not funded | 75.000* |
| Training Assistant (1/2 position) | Funded | 2.868 |
| Subtotal 1 | | 210.493 |
| 2. MA Program | | |
| MA Program 2008-2009 (until September 2009) | Partly funded | 101.425 |
| MA Program 2009-2010 (September to December 2009) | Not funded | 71.800 |
| MA Program Supervisor | Funded | 12.500 |
| MA Program Academic Assistant | Funded | 6.200 |
| Librarian | Funded | 6.200 |
| Subtotal 2 | | 198.125 |
| 3. Conferences and Research | | |
| Major Research Project (TBA) | Not funded | 15.950 |
| GCSP & OSCE Academy Conference (June 2009) | Partly funded | 8.500 |
| Conference Services at the OSCE Academy in 2009 | Not funded | 3.000 |
| Academic Publications | Not funded | 6.000 |
| Subscription to JSTOR | Not funded | 2.000 |
| Magazines and periodicals | Not funded | 1.000 |
| Representation at Conferences | Partly funded | 3.000 |
| Research Assistant (1/2 position) | Funded | 2.868 |
| Subtotal 3 | | 42.318 |

| 4. General Support Costs | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Provision of the OSCE Academy Building | Provided by the Kyrgyz Government | |
| Staff Costs | Partly funded | 76.360 |
| Travel Costs | Partly funded | 3.450 |
| Communication Services and Utilities | Partly funded | 40.000 |
| Representation | Not funded | 3.000 |
| Investment Costs | Not funded | 3.500 |
| Supplies | Not funded | 8.500 |
| Maintenance (electricity, security, heating) | Partly funded | 3.000 |
| Board of Trustees Meetings | Partly funded | 6.000 |
| Contingency (3% of the GSC) | | 4.313 |
| Subtotal 4 | | 148.123 |
| Grand Total | | 599.059 |

*The Human Rights and Conflict Prevention Consultancy Capacity Development is a joint project by the OSCE Academy, RWI and IICP with additional funding from external partners. The projected budget of Euro 75.000 would cover 4 seminars for 25 consultants from Central Asia (see also the section Professional Training). For a detailed project proposal please contact the OSCE Academy.

Financial needs Assessment

In order to implement all activities described here, the OSCE Academy would need additional funding of Euro 230.000, distributed on the activities and tasks:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Professional Training | € 135.000 |
| MA Program 2009/2010 | € 50.000 |
| Research | € 20.000 |
| General Support Costs | € 25.000 |

The OSCE Academy endeavors especially for the MA program a long term funding perspective which has not yet been achieved.

In case you are interested in a specific program of the OSCE Academy please do not hesitate to contact us for further information.

Four good reasons to support the OSCE Academy

The Academy...

- ... is the only truly regional embedded OSCE project in the Central Asian academic and political context and follows a distinctive regional approach. Training, Research and Master Program are conducted in an intellectually stimulating, demanding and absorbing atmosphere generating a regional network of young professionals;
- ... runs on a long-term and well balanced cost/performance ratio as a Public Foundation with a programmatic approach to OSCE principles;
- ... complements and integrates the activities of other national/international agencies and works closely with various institutions such as the Academies of Science, Institutes for Strategic Studies, UN institutions and last but not least the OSCE Centers in Central Asia;
- ... provides a regional and international public forum for professionals in the spirit of co-operation with and security for Central Asia.

