



ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE

The Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe (OSCE) has been entrusted with the lead role in matters relating to institution and democracy building, rule of law, and human rights in Kosovo. Its Mission forms a distinct component of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and is responsible for, among other things, training police and judicial and civil administrators; furthering the development of a civil society; supporting media development; monitoring and promoting human rights; and assisting with organizing and supervising elections.

OSCE MISSION IN KOSOVO

In brief

The OSCE Mission in Kosovo was established on 1 July 1999, by the OSCE's Permanent Council, Decision 305. It was charged with Institution Building, Pillar III of the United Nations Interim Administration in Kosovo (UNMIK), established by the UN Security Council, Resolution 1244. Under the Resolution, the UN is responsible for Police and Justice, Pillar I, and Civil Administration, Pillar II, while Economic Reconstruction, Pillar IV, is the responsibility of the European Union. The four pillar operation is the first such ever established by the UN.

Being responsible for institution building means that the OSCE focuses on those sectors and people that are crucial to a well functioning democratic society: governance at central and local level; media and journalists; human rights and community based NGOs; elections and electoral bodies; political parties and politicians; and rule of law and a judicial system, as well as law enforcement. Common to each of these efforts is the concept of capacity-building, which, when targeted at institutions and its people, entails better use of current, and development of, future resources and potentials.

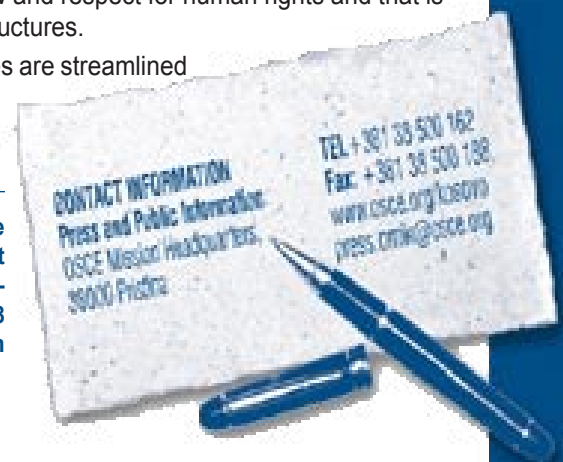


The Mission is increasingly devoting its attention to the Provisional Institution of Self-Government (PISG). This is necessary in view of the enhanced transfer of powers from UNMIK to the PISG, which will be responsible for further institution building.

The Mission's goal is to help create a democratic society that upholds rule of law and respect for human rights and that is conducive to economic development and further integration in the European structures.

Ambassador, Werner Wnendt, heads the Mission and ensures Mission's activities are streamlined and coordinated to yield best possible effect. He also serves as Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Institution-Building.

The OSCE is the world's largest regional security organization. It has the expertise in early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation. It works in human, economic and environmental, and politico-security dimensions. The Kosovo mission is the largest of the Organization's 18 field operations. It has over 1,100 staff members, including 225 internationals from 36, out of 55, OSCE participating states.



MISSION ACTIVITIES

The OSCE Mission's programme areas include human rights and rule of law promotion; democratization of society through local governance, central governance, civil society and media development; police education and development; and electoral processes. Specialized departments deal with each issue.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW

Respect for human rights and the rule of law is a vital component of building democratic institutions. To create an environment where the rule of law and respect for all individuals is paramount, the Department of Human Rights and Rule of Law is engaged in monitoring and reporting, advising and capacity building, and educational activities.

HUMAN RIGHTS DIVISION

- **Monitoring and Reporting** – The OSCE monitors and reports on the development of the legal system, including law enforcement. Additionally, human rights teams produce periodical and thematic reports on human rights-related issues, such as the situation of ethnic minorities, discrimination particularly in public services, the right to effective remedies and fair trial, property rights, domestic violence and trafficking. These reports are then used to highlight the problematic areas and try and initiate and coordinate activities that would address them.
- **Advising and Capacity-Building** – As the PISG increasingly assumes the responsibility for the human rights protection and promotion, the Mission works to transfer its human rights expertise and build it into local structures. The Human Rights Experts (HREs), who will provide legal expertise to local authorities, have already deployed to 16 of 30 municipal administrations, as well as to the main and regional police headquarters.
- **Human Rights Promotion and Education** – The OSCE works to achieve a fair balance between individual human rights and societal responsibilities. For this purpose, it engages into intensive awareness-raising, capacity-building, teaching and training activities to firmly establish a respect for human rights within the society as a whole, and in particular with those in the exercise of public authority.



Promoting rule of law, the Mission helps train judges, prosecutors, legal professionals, and law enforcement officials.

RULE OF LAW DIVISION

The OSCE has followed two principles in developing institutions that ensure the respect of human rights and rule of law. First, it developed structures within the legal community, which in turn build the capacity of its members. Second, it monitors, analyses, and reports on the rule of law situation, and develops concrete strategies and recommendations to address identified problems. Rule of law capacity building activities of the Mission have supported the Kosovo Chamber of Advocates, contributed to the development of legal aid system, and trained candidates for the Judicial/Bar Exam.

The Mission also established several legal education and resource institutions.

- **The Kosovo Judicial Institute (KJI)** was established by the OSCE in 2000 to provide legal training for judges and prosecutors. Currently, the KJI is in the process of becoming an independent school of magistrates. Its mandate was expanded to include pre-selection training for candidates to the office of judge or prosecutor.
- **The Kosovo Law Centre (KLC)** was established by the OSCE as an NGO in 2000 to cultivate the professional skills of local legal community, and promote the rule of law and respect for human rights. These goals are pursued through projects of legal education, legal courses for different social groups, publication of compilations of applicable law, Supreme Court Opinions and a legal journal, legal research, and the KLC library.
- **The Criminal Defence Resource Centre (CDRC)** was established by the OSCE in 2001 as a public benefit NGO to provide direct case assistance for criminal defense lawyers in all areas of criminal law, including international human rights.

DEMOCRATIZATION

The Department of Democratization focuses its work on a wide range of good-governance activities aimed at strengthening Kosovo institutions of self-government at the central and local level. OSCE democratization programs foster good governance, civic participation and inter-ethnic reconciliation and support the development of self-sustainable and responsible media. Minority and gender equality issues form an integral part of all democratization activities.

- **Supporting good governance practises in the institutions and governing bodies of Kosovo** - The OSCE helps Kosovo governmental institutions become more transparent, accountable and effective. Emphasis is placed on developing policy-making capacities and instituting democratic practices. The goal is to support local governmental bodies in adopting and implementing policies, in accordance with the established rules and procedures. The OSCE also provides assistance to members and staff of the Assembly of Kosovo, the Municipal Assemblies and to senior executives working within the PISG. In addition, the OSCE provides direct technical support to the Kosovo Institute for Public Administration (KIPA), contributing to the development of a professional and accountable civil service.
- **Civic Participation and Reconciliation** - The OSCE provides direct support to all ethnic communities living in Kosovo to ensure all communities' equal access to public

services and equal opportunity to participate in political and social life. The OSCE has supported the active inclusion of key local groups in public debating on a series of issues concerning societal development, local government reform issues, reaching democratic standards, budget formulation, electoral system development, and many other issues. The OSCE also brings together youth, women and media groups from the region to address common concerns. In addition, the OSCE's partnership with local NGOs and civic groups is considered crucial as a means to empower civil society actors at the local level.

■ **Media Development** - Contributing to the formation of a diverse and self-sustainable media sector in Kosovo and to the creation of conditions that support freedom of the media and freedom of information are main goals of the OSCE. Efforts are undertaken to establish guidelines and recommendations for the media on how to co-operate with law enforcement agencies and how to conduct training on media legislation. Moreover, the OSCE has been instrumental in the current process of establishing the Independent Media Commission (IMC).



Raising awareness about democratic principles, the Mission offers its expertise and financial support to a Supplementary Democratic Education Programme for nine-grade students across Kosovo.

POLICE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Police Education and Development (DPED) and the United Nations have been working together to establish a democratic police service that will embrace the community policing principles. Brought into existence in September 1999, the OSCE-run Kosovo Police Service School (KPSS), works to develop the educational foundation for the future development of such a service.

■ **Kosovo Police Service Training Program** -In conjunction with international partners, and under the auspices of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo, the KPSS operates in a facility in Vushtrri/Vučitrn, the traditional site of police training in Kosovo. The basic training consists of 20 weeks of basic police instruction, and an additional 20 weeks of structured field training under the guidance of international and KPS police instructors. The curriculum upholds the principles of democratic policing and human rights, and covers a wide variety of skills required for policing in a democratic society. These include: patrol duties; use of force and firearms; crime investigation; gathering forensic evidence; traffic control; defensive tactics; first aid; applicable laws; interviewing techniques. Upon successful completion of the combined 40 weeks of classroom and field instruction, the new Kosovo police officers are eligible for certification and independent assignment. Furthermore, the DPED conducts additional professional training programs for KPS such as Re-certification, Supervision and Management, Advanced and Specialized and the Staff Development Training Program as part of overall capacity building program. To date, 6,953 new KPS Officers have successfully graduated representing the ethnic diversity of Kosovo.

■ **Special Projects** - As part of its outreach work, DPED works on numerous community based projects throughout Kosovo. In response to the violent riots in March 2004, specific activities aimed at strengthening relationships between police and youth, and increasing safety as well as wellbeing within communities, were undertaken. The Community Policing Program was set up in eight municipalities across Kosovo, while the KPSS provided additional training on civil conflict, non-violent problem-solving, and community policing.

ELECTIONS

In recent years, organizing and supervising elections in Kosovo was one of the most important tasks of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo. As part of this process, the Department of Elections (DE) played a major role in two Municipal elections in 2000 and 2002, and the Kosovo Assembly election in 2001. Through the process the Mission gradually handed over its elections related responsibilities to the local institutions.

The last elections, for the Kosovo Assembly, held in October 2004, were organized by the Central Election Commission Secretariat (CESC). The OSCE continued to be responsible for the specific operational activities such as: Voter Registry, by-mail voting for out of Kosovo voters, political party registration, as well as planning and running of the Count and Results Center, and the financial audit office. These responsibilities are to be transferred by the end of 2005.

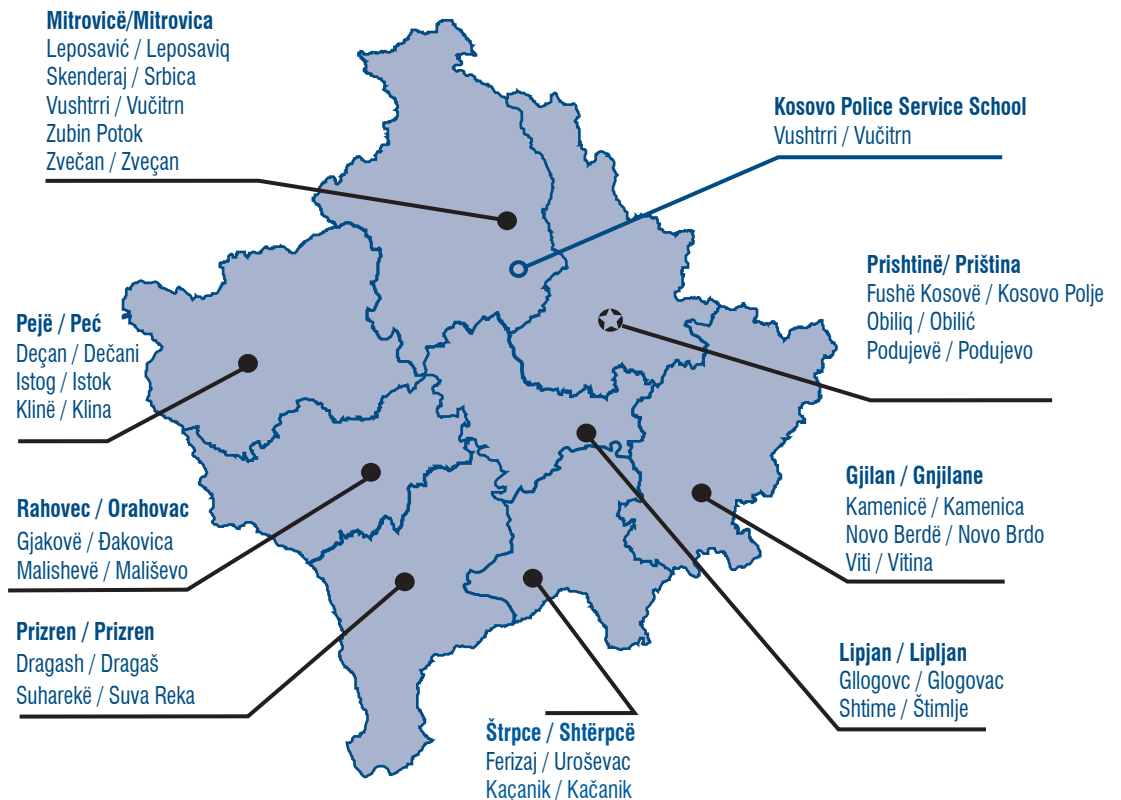
■ **Central Election Commissions Secretariat (CECS)** - The CECS was created as an operational arm of an independent and multi-ethnic Central Election Commission (CEC) that constitutes the principal electoral regulatory body. The Secretariat has a technical, non-political mandate and is equipped with sufficient resources and capacity to permit impartial electoral administration. In 2004, it was responsible for activities related to field co-ordination and planning, political entity and candidate certification, public information, accreditation of observers and distribution of election material. The OSCE was a partner in this process and has trained CECS staff to take on the crucial duties. The relevant functional advisors were working through an ambitious training programme and remained active throughout the election-run up period to provide guidance to the Secretariat staff.

■ **Election Complaints and Appeals Commission (ECAC)** - To ensure compliance with electoral regulations and to adjudicate all appeals and complaints related to electoral activities, an independent appellate body, the Election Complaints and Appeals Commission (ECAC), was appointed by the SRSG. Finally, the OSCE has established an antifraud unit to investigate suspected cases of fraud and intimidation.

FIELD STRUCTURE

The OSCE Mission in Kosovo, in addition to its head quarters in Prishtinë/Priština delivers its programs through a network of eight Offices covering whole of Kosovo. Each Office covers a number of municipalities that differ in political situation, size, and demographics. Heads of Offices advise on and coordinate programmatic activities designed to respond to the need of a specific Office and its area of responsibility.

OSCE's Field Presence in Kosovo



SOME INSTITUTION BUILDING ACHIEVEMENTS

In the past five years, the OSCE Mission in Kosovo managed to establish several institutions, which have already been or will be handed over to local authority. They are listed in chronological order:

- **Radio Television Kosovo**
- **Kosovo Judicial Institute**
- **Temporary Media Commissioner**
- **Kosovo Law Centre**
- **Ombudsperson Institution**
- **Criminal Defense Resource Centre**
- **Central Election Commission**
- **Central Election Commission Secretariat**
- **Election Complaints and Appeals Commission**
- **13 Community/NGO Centers**