

**OSCE contributions in the framework of the CND 2024 Mid-Term Review**

*Challenge topic: Increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and money-laundering and, in some cases, terrorism, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, are observed*

**1- OSCE Mandates**

- **PC Decision n°1049 (2012) “OSCE Strategic Framework for Police-Related Activities”**. The **OSCE Permanent Council (PC)** recognizes the leading role of the United Nations in combating transnational organized crime, and the continued relevance of standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, and welcomes increasing co-operation between the OSCE Secretariat, the UNODC and the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.
- **PC Decision n°1048 (2012) “OSCE concept for combating the threat of illicit drugs and the diversion of chemical precursors”**. The Concept, based on relevant UN, Ministerial Council and Permanent Council decisions, seeks to enhance existing OSCE activities aimed at combating the threat of illicit drugs and the diversion of chemical precursors, to facilitate interaction among States, to promote co-ordination and co-operation within the OSCE and between the OSCE and other international and regional organizations, and to identify new instruments for action, if necessary, while avoiding duplication of efforts. The OSCE Ps reaffirm their obligations under the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol; the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971; and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, which remain the cornerstone of the international drug control system
- **Permanent Council Decision No. 813 (2007)**, in which a serious concern was expressed about the continuing spread of illicit trafficking in opiates from Afghanistan, and in synthetic drugs, cannabis, cocaine and chemical precursors throughout the OSCE area.
- The OSCE throughout its comprehensive and cross-dimensional approach to security, has realized concrete achievements in the area of capacity-building, such as the delivery of police training; the development of strategic planning capacities; the building of law enforcement capacities; the creation of transparent, effective and efficient police human resources management systems; and the development of police accountability structures.

**2- OSCE Concrete activities and projects**

**a. OSCE’s field operations**

Most of the OSCE’s staff and resources are deployed in the OSCE’s field operations\_in South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Field operations are only established with the agreement of the host country.

The OSCE's field operations assist host countries in putting their OSCE commitments into practice and fostering local capacities through concrete projects that respond to their needs. These include initiatives to support law enforcement, minority rights, legislative reform, the rule of law and media freedom, promote tolerance and non-discrimination, as well as many other areas. A number of field operations contribute to early warning and conflict prevention. A number of field operations, enabling them to manage crises and to play a critical post-conflict role.

Field operations create and maintain many partnerships with local and national authorities, agencies and institutions, civil society, as well as with international organizations. Such partnerships support the co-ordination of efforts, ensure complementarity, and mutually reinforce their impact in areas of shared engagement.

#### **b. Concrete projects**

- OSCE Secretariat's Transnational Threats Department (TNTD) with the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEAA) are currently implementing the extra-budgetary project "Enhancing youth crime and drug use prevention through education on legality and awareness campaigns addressing threats of organized crime and corruption".

The project aims at fostering a culture of lawfulness among youth through educational and social learning activities in South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia, and is implemented in co-operation with the OSCE Academy in Bishkek and in close co-ordination with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Innovative approaches are used in this project. Indeed, the OSCE applies a comprehensive approach that places the voice of young people at the center of the conversation of security and youth crime prevention. Preventing youth crime, strengthening co-operation around youth involvement, promoting the engagement of civil society, economic empowerment of young people and their direct involvement in policy development are just some of the ways in which we can help shape a safer, more secure world both today and tomorrow. In practice, with a focus on prevention from an early age and curriculum development to empower young people to foster positive change, OSCE launches "Crime Prevention and Lawful Behaviour" training course in schools of Kyrgyzstan and an OSCE curriculum on crime and lawful behavior for students in grades 5 to 11 has been developed to help Kyrgyz students learn about the risks and consequences of criminal behavior, including organized crime, corruption and illegal drug use. The curriculum is piloted across 18 schools in Kyrgyzstan over the 2023/2024 school year. More than 10,000 students are benefiting from this pilot program.

- Furthermore, 1.5 million young people in Kyrgyzstan have been reached with OSCE awareness campaign on youth crime prevention and integrity, launched in June 2023. Featuring some of Kyrgyzstan's leading influencers, bloggers, artists youth activists and athletes, the campaign showcases the stories of these local celebrities and how they pursued their passions, built successful businesses and gave back their communities, all while adhering to the values of lawfulness and integrity.
- OSCE is implementing the extra-budgetary project "Support to the Law Enforcement Agencies in Moldova in Response to the Security Challenges in the Region". This project directly responds to the needs identified by the Moldovan authorities in the context of the war against Ukraine, including the emergence of new and strengthened organized crime groups engaged

in illicit trafficking. The project proposal was recently amended to include a component on airport security.

- Activities under the extra-budgetary projects “Strengthening Asset Recovery Efforts in the OSCE Region” and “Enhancing youth crime and drug use prevention through education on legality and awareness campaigns addressing threats of organized crime and corruption” are implemented in Central Asia, in the Western Balkans and has been extended to Moldova, on the basis of needs assessments.
- Furthermore, beyond the OSCE area, the extra-budgetary project “Strengthening the partnership with the OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation on asset recovery” has been approved in 2023. This project aims to improve regional co-operation and the effectiveness of the fight against transnational organized crime, focusing on asset recovery. It adopts a holistic approach by providing support to OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation on asset identification, tracing, seizure, confiscation and recovery.
- Within the extra-budgetary project “Capacity Building on Combating Cybercrime in Central Asia” many activities have been conducted on cryptocurrencies and Darknet investigations, in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. Presentations have been given about concepts and mechanisms related to cryptocurrencies and cryptocurrency transactions, about the role cryptocurrencies can play in facilitating crime, about methods and approaches for investigating cryptocurrency-related crimes, and trends in the evolution of cryptocurrency market in Uzbekistan as well as in Central Asia.
- An extra-budgetary project on combating money laundering activities conducted via virtual assets and cryptocurrencies was launched in 2022. Through this project, the OSCE/OCEAA, together with partners from UNODC, aims to support national authorities of Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine in building capacities to counter threats posed by money laundering to national, regional, and worldwide security and stability, as well as foster international and inter-agency co-operation in this area. OSCE in co-operation with UNODC are committed to continuing our work to support governments in preventing criminals from laundering their proceeds. UNODC and OSCE have already conducted several joint activities on countering online drug trade, money laundering and related crimes, and this project is another excellent example of the continuous co-operation in this field