

NEWSLETTER

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19-21 October 2005 – Second Training Seminar on Conflict Transformation, Fergana Valley

Training took place in Osh city in the south of Kyrgyzstan. It was organized by the OSCE Academy in Bishkek in co-operation with the UNDP Preventive Development Program. Representatives of cross-border communities and local state administrations from the Sugd oblast of Tajikistan and Batken oblast of Kyrgyzstan, as well as UNDP Trans Border Project partners - Khudjand and Garm regional offices, UNDP Tajikistan and SDC in Uzbekistan took part in the training.

24-28 October 2005, Professional Regional Training on Conflict Prevention

22 representatives of human rights' NGOs, state administrations, Ministries of Defense and Interior, political activists and field researchers from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan participated in the training. The trainers, Ms. Gudrun Kramer and Mr. Wilfried Graf of the Institute of Integrative Conflict Transformation have conducted an intensive 5-day training program based on the Six Steps Conflict



Transformation Process. The methodology included group work, role games and presentations by participants, who have greatly contributed to the workings of the training by sharing their professional experience and exchange of ideas. All participants expressed the need for further continuation of conflict prevention training series under the auspices of the OSCE Academy.

7-18 November 2005 – Regional Training Course on Human Rights in the Administration of Justice

This two-week training course was sponsored by the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) and organized by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, Sweden, and the OSCE Academy in Bishkek. 23 regional participants were selected among 100 applicants to take part in this high-level training course. First week of the training course began with a general introduction to the development of the international human rights regime, including

the civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, the principles of non-discrimination of women, children, religious and ethnic/national minorities. And the second week was focused on certain rights and particular issues with



relevance to the Central Asian context. Lectures on the role of national human rights institutions, human rights in places of detention, independence of judiciary, minority rights, rights of migrant workers and internally displaced persons and human trafficking in Central Asia were delivered. During the course program local experts from the Ombudsman Office of Kyrgyz Republic, the UNHCR, the UNESCO and the TACIS had an opportunity to share their knowledge and national experiences with the participants. The training course was concluded by awarding of the Certificates to all training participants.

Crisis Simulation Game

On 19-20 November the OSCE Academy organized a Crisis Game for some 55 students from various universities in Bishkek. At this event, the students were engaged in finding solutions for a close-to-conflict situation in an imagined country. This event necessitated the students not only to be well equipped with theories, but also know how to communicate and present themselves to others, how to play in a team, and be exposed to the 'human factor' during the negotiations.

On 21-25 November 2005, the first regional Training Courses on Mission Preparation/Election Observation was held at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek. It was organized in cooperation with



the OSCE Department of Human Resources, Vienna and financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany. The training was conducted by Mr. Miguel Panadero, Training Officer of the OSCE Department of Human Resources. The training consisted of an introduction to election observation, the OSCE's mandates, the structure and setup of Field Missions, as well as recruitment and selection of OSCE staff. Additionally, the program consisted of group and individual work to develop analytical skills.

5-16 December 2005 - Regional Training Programme on Equal Status and Human Rights of Women

was held at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek. This is the second training course held in cooperation with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, Sweden. It was financed through the grant of the Sida. The Training Programme was attended by NGO activists, lawyers, civil servants and academics dealing with gender and equality issues in the region. Training participants obtained comprehensive knowledge on international human rights regimes, instruments and mechanisms for the protection of the human rights of women in Central Asia. Apart from that, participants had an opportunity to share views and ideas based on their national experiences. During the training courses very essential gender issues were brought up and discussed. Participants were also provided with basic human rights documentations.



Through generous funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Canada the OSCE Academy in Bishkek had an opportunity to realize series of trainings in February-March 2006

Winter School on Journalism was conducted on 20-28 February, 2006 in Issyk-Kul in cooperation with the Swiss Consultancy Network Media4Democracy. The training was moderated by Mr. Andre Loersch, independent media expert, Swiss Consultancy Network Media4Democracy. The overall objective of the Winter School was the establishment of a regional network of journalists and editors with increased professional capacity and knowledge on free and objective media within a democratic context. 21 journalists, editors and trainers from Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan took part.

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1-5 March, 2006 - Training of Trainers on Journalism was again conducted together with the Swiss Consultancy Network Media4Democracy. The training was funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Canada. The training had an objective of strengthening the capacity of regional journalists and editors in areas of training skills and techniques in journalism. The goal of the training is to prepare regional media experts



who could become professional trainers on different media issues in the nearest future. The topics covered during the training included the basic principles of training in journalism, needs assessment, development of training skills, training techniques and evaluation.

From 6-15 March, 2006 the Conflict Prevention Training of Trainers was organized through funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Canada. 16 participants of previous training and teaching events on Conflict Transformation Methods came to Bishkek from Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan regions to take part in this advanced program, which included Transcend practice, Open Space work with large communities and adult learning elements (presentation and ToT skills). The training had an important interactive component. It was agreed to create a network of trainers on conflict prevention and transformation to provide continuity and sustainability to the process started by the OSCE Academy in Bishkek.

13-17 March, 2006 - The Human Rights Spring School for Young Lawyers was conducted by the financial support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Canada. A highly intensive and dynamic 5-day program was designed at the request of the OSCE



Academy in Bishkek by Ms. Gulnara Sheishekeyeva (Director, Public Foundation "Legal Center") and Ms. Maria Lisitsyna (President, Youth Human Rights Group). The training also attracted lecturers from ABA/CEELI, DFID, UN projects and local human rights advocacy NGOs. Agenda included theory and history of human rights, international and national mechanisms of human rights with a special emphasis on civil and political component. Practical part included sessions on alternative report writing skills, consulting, interviewing and case studies. The training was concluded by a role process on alternative reports hearings. The training brought together 34 participants - outstanding graduates and last year students of Kyrgyz, Tajik and Kazakh law faculties.

13-22 March 2006 - A follow up training on Pre-Deployment Mission Preparation/Election Observation was held by the OSCE Department of Human Resources. Training was designed to prepare the participants for mission fieldwork by training them in broader issues of the OSCE competence (human rights, democratization, gender), but also by familiarizing them with fieldwork methods and rules, such as monitoring techniques, communication and conflict management techniques, coordination of information and report writing techniques, and four-wheel driving.



Participants represented the OSCE missions in Central Asia, UNFPA Kazakhstan, FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance Tajikistan, legal aid NGOs of Uzbekistan, SIDA-UNDP projects, CBOs and Foreign Service in Kyrgyzstan. Trainers were: Mr. Miguel Panadero - Training Officer of the OSCE Department of Human Resources in Vienna, Ms. Laura Vai - Senior Advisor of Master Program in Peacekeeping Management of University of Turin and Mr. William Lawrence - Chief Technical Advisor of UNDP/Tajikistan.

Master Program

January 2006, first semester of the Master Program has finished with Module 8 "Regional Security Challenges in Central Asia". This module focused on regional aspects of security and covered issues of border management, mechanisms and institutions of regional security, religious radicalization,



epidemiological risks, and trafficking in human beings. Dr. Irina Zvyagelskaya, Moscow State Institute of International Relations, Ms. Tatyana Zlobina and Ms. Gulnara Sultanaliyeva, EU-BOMCA, Dr. Ashirbek Muminov, Suleimenov Institute of Oriental Studies in Kazakhstan, conducted classes in the module. State Examination launched the second semester of the Master Program. After 2-week preparations, master students took a written exam on February 3, 2006. The mid-term colloquium followed on February 9, 10, 2006, and gave a start for master thesis research and writing stage.

Several of the best students of the Academy have started their internships in the OSCE Secretariat in Vienna, Austria, the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Switzerland and the High Commissioner on National Minorities office in Hague, Netherlands. Other students of the Academy will start their internship in regional institutions in May, 2006.

4 March 2006 - The OSCE Secretary General, Marc Perrin de Brichambaut made a visit to the OSCE Academy in Bishkek to discuss the programs of educational, research



and training activities of the Academy.

28 March 2006 - OSCE Academy in Bishkek hosted the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, H.E. Karel de Gucht. H.E. Karel de Gucht held meeting with the political party and NGO representatives, and gave press-conference for journalists following the range of meetings held with President Bakiev, Prime Minister Kulov, Speaker of the

