



# ODIHR e-newsletter

OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

May/June 2006

## Project news:

### Freedom of Assembly

A newly created expert panel of legislators, government officials, NGO representatives and academics will discuss the ODIHR's draft guidelines on freedom of assembly in Tbilisi, 30-31 May. The meeting will be preceded by a roundtable for NGOs on the same subject.

### [Draft Guidelines on Freedom of Assembly](#)

---

## Current election missions

### [Referendum in Montenegro](#)

---

## Latest reports

- [Preliminary statement on the referendum in Montenegro](#)
- [Needs assessment mission for parliamentary elections in former Yugoslova Republic of Macedonia](#)
- [Trial monitoring in Uzbekistan](#)
- [Final report of the](#)

## • [OSCE CiO visits the ODIHR in Warsaw](#)

OSCE Chairman-in-Office Belgian Foreign Minister Karel De Gucht visited the ODIHR in Warsaw on 23 May 2006 and discussed a range of human-dimension issues with ODIHR Director Ambassador Christian Strohal.



## • [Countering discrimination against Muslims in the media](#)

To combat the rise in intolerance against Muslims, the ODIHR brought together Muslim representatives to discuss ways of improving the representation of Islam and Muslims in public discourse.



## [More](#)

## • [Rule-of-law seminar held in Warsaw](#)

**Judge Fausto Pocar**, President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, and **Leandro Despouy**, UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Lawyers and Judges, were the keynote speakers at a Human Dimension Seminar on upholding the rule of law and due process in criminal justice systems, hosted by the ODIHR in Warsaw, 10-12 May.



Speeches, written contributions and other documentation can be downloaded from the seminar website.

## [Seminar website](#)

## • [Roma conference](#)

An OSCE conference in Bucharest, 4-5 May, looked at the implementation of the OSCE's *Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area*, the European Union's relevant standards, as well as national

### **meeting on human rights defenders and institutions**

- **Expert meeting on election observation**
- **Final report on the parliamentary elections in Canada**

strategies and action plans.

### **Conference website**

- **Tolerance meeting to be held in Almaty in June**

An OSCE meeting on promoting inter-cultural, inter-religious and inter-ethnic understanding will take place in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 12-13 June.

Representatives of OSCE participating States, OSCE institutions and field operations, as well as representatives of international organizations and NGOs will participate. An NGO roundtable will precede the conference on 11 June.

### **Event details**

- **First regional OSCE meeting on anti-trafficking**

An OSCE meeting on 18-19 May in Almaty, Kazakhstan, discussed tools to fight human trafficking in Central Asia, including the establishment of national referral mechanisms to combat the crime and protect the human rights of trafficked persons, as well as co-ordination between law enforcement bodies and NGOs.

### **Press release**

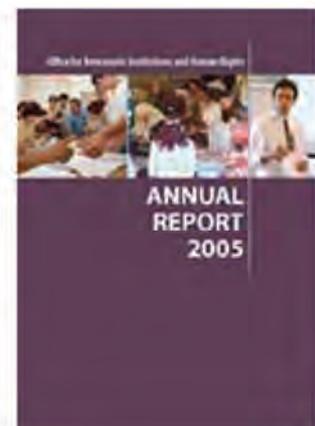
- **Implementing Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in Kazakhstan**

The ODIHR helped organize a seminar on 11 May in Astana to discuss bringing Kazakhstan's legislation into compliance with the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Members of Kazakhstan's parliament, representatives of the presidential administration and relevant ministries, and NGOs took part in the seminar.

- **New publications**

- ODIHR Annual Report 2005
- Education on the Holocaust and on Anti-Semitism
- Criminal-Justice Systems in the OSCE Area (factsheet)
- National Referral Mechanisms (Uzbek and Turkish)
- Election Observation Handbook (Albanian and Georgian)



### **Download publications**

- **New head and deputy of Human Rights**

**Kirsten Mlacak** (Canada) is the new Head of Human Rights. Kirsten comes to the ODIHR from the Canadian

---

## **Quick links**

- **ODIHR homepage**
- **Elections homepage**
- **Legislationline**

International Development Agency. She is joined by a new Deputy, **Mark Guthrie** (United Kingdom).

- **Russian version of the e-newsletter**

We will soon be launching a Russian language version of the ODIHR e-newsletter. If you would prefer to receive news from us in Russian, please send an email to [e-newsletter@odihr.pl](mailto:e-newsletter@odihr.pl)

[e-newsletter@odihr.pl](mailto:e-newsletter@odihr.pl)  
<http://www.osce.org/odihr>

Powered by



OSCE/ODIHR | Aleje Ujazdowskie 19 | Warsaw | 00-557 | Poland