



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

Conflict Prevention Centre
Operations Service

Vienna, 13 December 2012

Programme for the workshop “Towards a Strategy for Reconciliation in the OSCE Area”

*18 December 2012, Vienna
(Hofburg, Neuer Saal)*

08:30 Registration and Welcome Coffee

09:00 Opening Session

Welcome and Introductory Speech

Lamberto Zannier, OSCE Secretary General

Keynote speakers:

Prof. Adam Daniel Rotfeld, Polish Co-Chair of the Polish-Russian Group on Difficult Matters, Chair of the EASI sub-group on Historical Reconciliation

Prof. Anatoly Torkunov, Russian Co-Chair of the Polish-Russian Group on Difficult Matters, Rector of Moscow State Institute of International Relations

Prof. Henri Menudier, Professor for Political Science and German Studies, University of Paris III: Sorbonne Nouvelle

The keynote speeches will set the general tone for the main themes discussed in the workshop. They will comment on why reconciliation is important and what makes it successful. Historical examples will be briefly outlined demonstrating how reconciliation has worked in practice.

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30

Panel 1: Reconciliation and Convergence – Building the foundation for a security community

Moderator: Walter Kemp, Director for Europe and Central Asia, International Peace Institute

Panellists:

Janez Lenarčič, Director, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

Erwan Fouere, Special Representative of the Irish OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for the Transdniestrian settlement process

Ilze Brands Kehris, Director, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Sonja Licht, President, Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence

This panel will provide the conceptual basis for the themes discussed in the Workshop building on the keynote speeches, elaborating on the concept of reconciliation and identifying those processes that make reconciliation work. Drawing on examples from the OSCE area and beyond for conceptual purposes, the panel will also explore the linkage between reconciliation and the establishment of a security community, focusing in particular on why reconciliation process is essential for achieving such a community.

13:00

Lunch Break

14:00

Panel 2: Historical Reconciliation – Lessons learned and best practices

Moderator: Miroslava Beham, Senior Adviser on Gender Issues, Office of the OSCE Secretary General

Panellists:

Dr. Slawomir Debski, Director, Centre for Polish-Russian Dialogue and Understanding

Dr. Pyotr Stegny, Director, Centre for Russian-Polish Dialogue and Understanding

Dr. Lily Gardner-Feldman, Senior Researcher, American Institute for Contemporary German Studies, Johns Hopkins University

This panel will present successful cases of historical reconciliation in the OSCE area. It will look in particular at past and on-going

examples of reconciliation, such as the Franco-German experience or the Russian-Polish one. Panelists will identify how these reconciliation efforts have been shaped; what core fundamental processes have been important; and in what way these processes have contributed to making reconciliation a success. Challenges as well as difficulties that had to be overcome to have positive outcomes will also be addressed.

15:30

Coffee Break

16:00

Panel 3: Breaking the Vicious Circle – Reconciliation and conflicts in the OSCE area

Moderator: Matthew Rojansky, Deputy Director, Russia and Eurasia Programme, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Panellists:

Fletcher Burton, Head of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Jonathan Cohen, Director of Programmes, Conciliation Resources

Mô Bleeker, Special Envoy, Head of the Task Force for Dealing with the Past and Prevention of Atrocities, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

This panel will explore how confidence-building and reconciliation efforts can be applied in concrete conflict settings, particularly in the OSCE area. It will also provide an overview of various efforts already underway, either through OSCE field operations and institutions or other actors, such as individual governments and non-governmental organizations. Particular examples of activities and projects carried out will inform the discussions. Prospects and limits to reconciliation will also be debated in a frank manner.

17:30

Conclusion: Prospects and Challenges

Speaker: Adam Kobieracki, Director, Conflict Prevention Centre, OSCE Secretariat

The concluding panel will sum up some of the core issues and principal questions identified in the Workshop. This panel will also layout what the OSCE can and should do in the future. Moreover, it is intended to underline some of the concrete activities that participating States and other Workshop participants have proposed during the course of discussions. This is also an opportunity to float new ideas for adapting the OSCE to these challenges.

18:00-19:30

Reception