



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

**‘19**



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# INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dear Readers,

I am delighted to welcome you to the 2019 Annual Report of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek. The following report is a great opportunity for you to have a thorough summary of the main accomplishments and developments of the OSCE Academy in 2019.

Every year the Academy attracts brilliant minds and success-oriented young professionals from the Central Asian region, Mongolia, Afghanistan as well as from other OSCE participating States. In 2019, 1,824 applications were submitted for two MA programmes at the Academy, which speaks of a growing number of young people in Central Asia seeking good education and the chance to make a lasting contribution to their own careers and their communities.

In 2019, the Academy has successfully implemented its activities, including academic conferences, workshops, public lectures, and trainings, as well as first student exchange activities with European partner uni-



**Ambassador Pierre von Arx**  
Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek

versities and has shown a great progress in the international outreach of the Academy and its programmes. The Academy now has partnership agreements with more than 30 universities, academic institutions and international organizations all over the world, including the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Geneva Centre for Security Policy, European School of Political and Social Sciences (ESPOL) of the Université Catholique de Lille, University of Valencia, Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO), Gorchakov Fund, Kazakh-German University in Almaty, and University of Central Asia.

2019 included reunions of the Academy's alumni with 182 alumni attending the events. The graduates of the Academy have become symbols of the international friendships that continue to promote co-operation between countries and move their home countries forward. That being said, I am proud to announce that of our 520 total alumni in 2019, more than 85% work in national ministries, academic institutions and the private sector, while 7.7 % continue with their education at internationally recognized universities.

I would like to emphasize that the outstanding achievements of the Academy's students, graduates and staff would not be possible without the continuous support of the Academy's partners and donors. I would like to thank the OSCE community and its participating States, as well as the members of the Academy's Board of Trustees for their continuous strategic, political and financial support. The Academy is also very grateful to the states that continue to contribute to its budget, including Austria, Finland, Germany, Italy, Norway, Slovakia, Switzerland and the United States. The Academy continues to promote the ideas of progressive change and critical thinking, while providing high-level education to the sharpest minds.

I am confident that as young professionals with wealth of expertise and experience in politics, security, good governance, and development, graduates of the Academy will take leading roles and drive change both at their local societies and in the world.

I wish you an interesting reading of the 2019 Annual Report.





**Dr. Alexander Wolters**  
Director of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek

## INTRODUCTION FROM THE MANAGEMENT OF THE OSCE ACADEMY

Dear Readers,

It is my pleasure to present to you the Annual Report of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek for 2019. During that year we have set up a new administrative structure, we expanded our programmatic activities and we established new partnerships with institutions in the wider OSCE area. We hope you enjoy reading about our past efforts to enhance the Academy's reputation and to establish our institute as a platform for regional exchange and academic excellence!

In September 2019 the Academy invited 44 students from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan to enroll in its two MA programmes and to study in the following 16 months such diverse subjects as Politics, Security Studies, Political Theory, Econometrics, Economic Governance, Development Studies, or Project Development. Later in the year, on 13 December, 46 students successfully graduated from the old class and received their diploma during a ceremony that was attended by honorary guest Ambassador Christian Dussey, director of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, partners, colleagues, family, and friends. The Academy's alumni network grew to reach the number 520. More than 100 of our alumni returned to the Academy following the invitation to join the 4th Alumni reunion which took place in September last year. The event was attended by colleagues from our long-term partner NUPI, as

well as by a representative of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs that had made this reunion and many other alumni activities in 2019 possible.

Furthermore, in 2019 the Academy realized its professional trainings programme which included for the first time a training conducted fully in Kyrgyz Language. Several smaller workshops and seminars, concentrating on career building or on policy analysis skills, complemented this engagement. With conferences on “Memory and Transitional Justice”, “China’s Belt & Road Initiative”, and “System Transformation in Central Asia”, we reinforced our efforts to bring high-ranking scholars to Central Asia and to promote international academic exchange. These efforts will materialize further in multiple publications to which the conferences and the papers presented have made a significant input. Publishing in English, in Russian and in local languages, we follow our goal to establish the Academy as a leading research institute with significance for the wider region of Central Asia.

We are very excited about the new partnerships that we concluded in 2019. Together with Marburg University in Germany, the Riga Graduate School of Law in Latvia, the Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna in Pisa, Italy, as well as with the University of Tartu in Estonia, we submitted applications for Erasmus+ exchange mobilities. What is more, in September the first Erasmus+ exchange student from our partner, the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA) in Romania, arrived at the Academy, and the first Academy student went to study in Bucharest. With these steps the Academy finally has begun to integrate into the European Higher Education Area and to establish lasting

academic exchanges and research collaborations with partners in Europe. More international engagement we developed via our internship programmes: For the first time an Academy student went to the Georg-Eckert Institute in Braunschweig, Germany, while the recent co-operation with the European Centre for Migration Issues in Flensburg, Germany, and the Aleksanteri Institute in Helsinki, successfully continued.

The Academy and its many projects and activities in 2019 were made possible due to the generous contributions from Austria, Finland, Germany, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Slovakia, Switzerland, and the United States, amounting to full coverage of related Extra-budgetary costs of the Academy. NUPI, with support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, contributed via a three-year partnership programme that encompasses all activities at the Academy and had been sending faculty for teaching modules and receiving our students for internships. Finally, with an increased contribution from the Unified Budget for the second consecutive year, the OSCE via its Programme Office in Bishkek provided with the essential support to the Academy and its functioning as an organization.

We are profoundly grateful for this support and the new opportunities that we have been given! We will increase our efforts to provide excellent education and research, expand our collaborations and partnerships, and engage in joint projects of research and policy exchange to serve the wider region of Central Asia and the whole of the OSCE area!

For now, we hope you will enjoy our Annual Report for 2019!

## ADMINISTRATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

In June and October 2019, the Board of Trustees of the OSCE Academy held its regular meetings. Both meetings served to inform the members of the Board about the successful implementation of the Academy's programmes and to report on plans to introduce new activities. Special attention was paid to the further development of the summer school preparatory programme that was organized with great success in August 2019. Furthermore, the development of the Academy's engagement with Erasmus+ and other EU funded initiatives received attention, not least since such engagement had been promoted by the management as an excellent tool to promote the Academy's internationalization. In addition, the Board was much satisfied to see the institute's financial support base widening and new applications for funding from third parties, for example the Volkswagen Foundation, being

prepared. The Board underlined the need to work more towards creating funding sustainability for future years, to design a development strategy, and to transform the Academy into a research-based graduate institute.

The Academy continued to build up its administrative capacity: not only were new regulations adopted for various fields of operations, accounting as well as human resources, but the delineation of programmatic responsibilities resulted in the creation of new structures, for example the newly established International Office or the Research and Training Department. This was further aided with selected staff trainings and the creation of new positions as well as the successful continuation of the Academy's traineeship programme for young people to learn at different units inside the Academy.

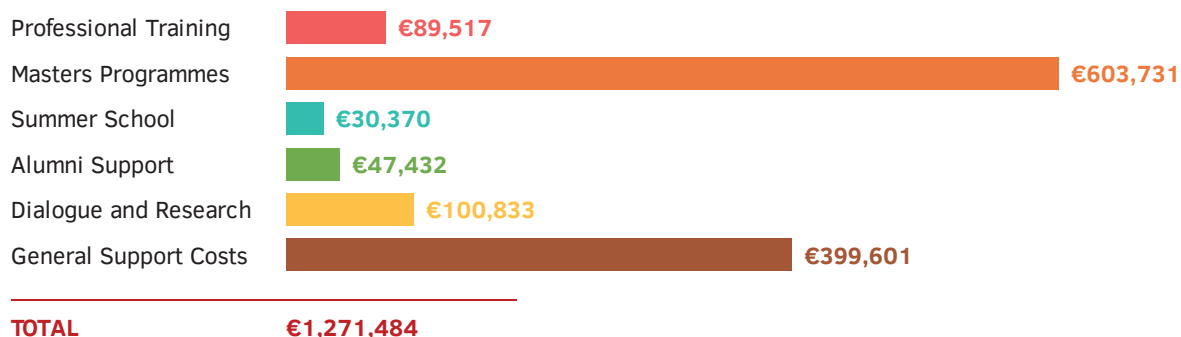


OSCE Academy Staff Members at the Retreat

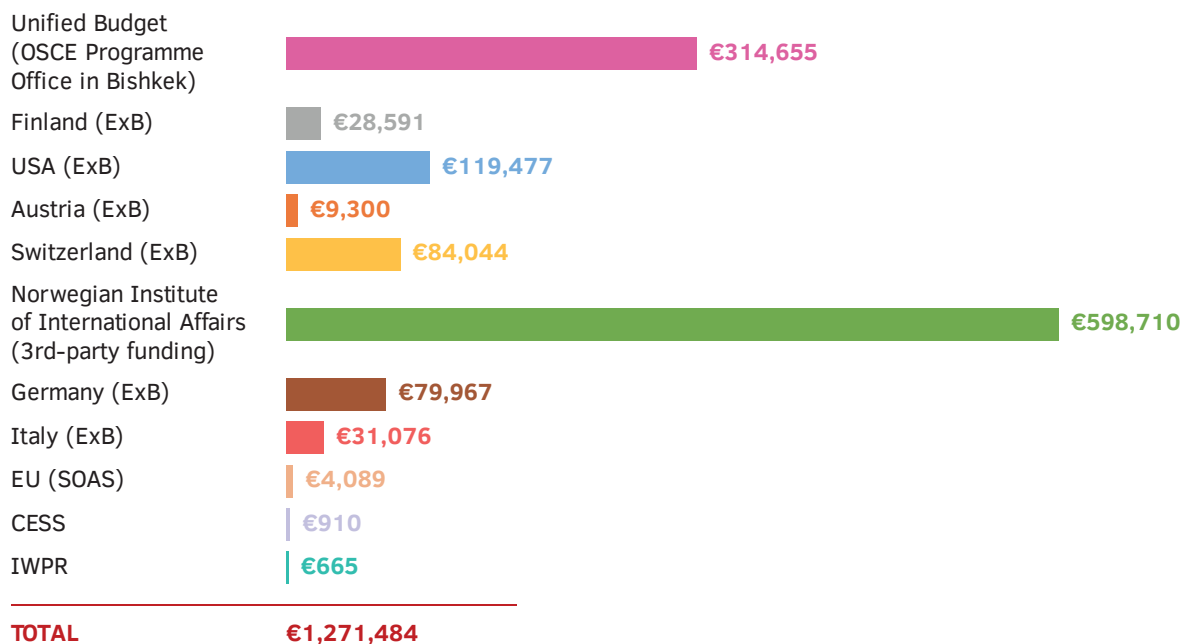
# FINANCES

In line with continued efforts to increase the transparency and accountability of the Academy's financial operations we are providing the following differentiated overview of our budget and expenses.

## Expenditures by Area of Activities



## Expenditures by Source of Funding





## GRADUATE EDUCATION



The OSCE Academy continued to successfully run its MA Programmes in Politics & Security and in Economic Governance & Development, both unique educational projects that were developed to meet the demand in international standard graduate education in the region.

A year of 2019 started with the Winter and Spring semesters for 2018-2019 student cohorts. The programmes maintained most of its permanent faculty members including Senior Lecturers Dr. Emilbek Dzhu-raev, Dr. Nazgul Zhenish, Prof. Dr. Anja Mihr (DAAD Associate Professor); Teaching Fellows Dr. Nurgul Ukueva, Dr. David Grant, and Dr. Farhad Kerimov. New faculty member Dr. David Karas joined the OSCE Academy in the 2018-2019 academic year. Dr. Karas defended his PhD at the European University Institute in 2015 with a thesis on comparative developmental policies in post-Communist states in agro-food.

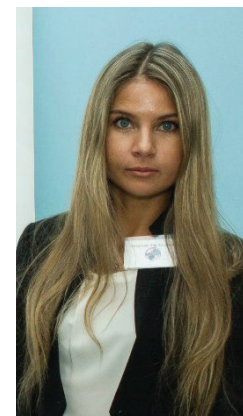
During the winter and spring semesters students had the opportunity to be taught by leading academics from our long-term partner institution, the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI), as well as the professors who visited the OSCE Academy on the basis of newly established international partnerships: Dr. Barbara Christophe from the Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research, Germany; Dr. Yana Leksytina via the Gorchakov Fund, Russian Federation; Dr. Daniela Irrera from the University of Catania, Italy; and Dr. Clara Portela from the University of Valencia, Spain.

Additionally, new visiting faculty members recruited by the Academy, colleagues from the OSCE field offices and experts from the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ) taught some of the required and elective practice-oriented courses.

As part of the OSCE Academy's effort to improve the teaching and learning process, all courses of the MA Programmes were evaluated by students. Overall, the courses achieved good evaluations and received an average score of 4.42 on a scale from 1 to 5, where 5 is the best.

Completed in June, winter and spring semesters were followed by the MA thesis research period and internships. In 2019 we sent students for internship to the OSCE Secretariat in Vienna, the Norwegian

Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) in Oslo, the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), the European Center for Minority Issues (ECMI) in Flensburg, the Norwegian Helsinki Committee (NHC) in Oslo, and the Aleksanteri Institute in Helsinki. In addition to already well-established international internship opportunities, two students of the MA Programme in Politics and Security conducted their internships at the Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research in Germany, our new partner institution.



## Student Internships



- OSCE Secretariat 6
- NUPI 3
- NHC 1
- GCSP 2

- Aleksanteri Institute 1
- ECMI 2
- Georg Eckert Institute 2
- OSCE Programme Offices in CA 3

The rest of the students had an opportunity to gain new practical and research knowledge and skills doing internships at the OSCE field offices in Bishkek and Dushanbe, the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), the UN Women Country Office in the Kyrgyz Republic, the Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and other organizations in the region.

In December 2019, after successfully completing the curriculum requirements and defending their thesis 46 students of the MA Programmes in Politics & Security and in Economic Governance & Development have graduated from the OSCE Academy in Bishkek and joined the alumni community.

*"I was really impressed by how active the students of the Academy are and how openly they express their knowledge and opinion. Moreover, the students are very constructive and respectful towards each other even at times when they have disputes over some specific issues that are discussed at classes. I think that is largely due to the perfect management of the learning and teaching process that the Academy managed to organize"* – highlighted Dr. Yana Leksytina.



## ADMISSION PROCESS 2019

To improve the quality of admission process, we revised our recruitment strategy. It was necessary to update the existing and develop new documentation, which helped to ensure that the applicants are compared fairly and equally. The admission process focused on raising the quality and aimed at attracting students with strong academic results and high motivation to study at the OSCE Academy.

During the application period we received 1824 applications in total. 18 out of 1035 and 26 out of 789 candidates were enrolled to the MA in Economic Governance and Development Programme and the MA in Politics and Security Programme respectively. A country representation and a gender ratio of the enrolled students are set out below.

### Admission statistics for the academic year of 2019-2020

#### MA Programme in Politics and Security

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<b>789</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>30</b>
Applications in total for the September intake	From five Central Asian countries (KZ, KG, TJ, TURK, UZB)	Applications from Afghanistan	Applications from Mongolia	From other OSCE participating States	Number of students admitted to the programme

### Admission statistics for the academic year of 2019-2020

#### MA Programme in Economic Governance and Development

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<b>1035</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>
Applications in total for the September intake	From five Central Asian countries (KZ, KG, TJ, TURK, UZB)	Applications from Afghanistan	Applications from Mongolia	From other OSCE participating States	Number of students admitted to the programme

## SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAMME



In 2019 the preparatory Summer School Programme was held for the second time. This School is mandatory for enrolled master students and is open for senior students and recent university graduates, selected via a special call. The number of applications for the Summer School has increased from 450 in 2018 to 650 in 2019. Thus, in addition to 44 master students we invited 37 participants from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

During the four weeks of the Summer School the participants were given the chance to improve their skills in academic writing and research methods, as well as to advance in Mathematics, and in Probability and Statistics, thus preparing themselves for further studies. Courses were taught by the OSCE Academy's permanent faculty and recruited lecturers.

## Admission statistics for 2019

### Summer School Programme

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**650**

Applications  
in total for the  
September  
intake

**280**

From five Central  
Asian countries  
(KZ, KG, TJ,  
TURK, UZB)

**343**

Applications  
from Afghanistan

**4**

Applications  
from Mongolia

**23**

From other OSCE  
participating  
States

**37**

Number of  
students  
admitted to the  
programme



*“I was accepted to the OSCE Academy Summer School Programme in 2018. During the Summer School I was able to improve my research and analytical skills which enabled me to engage in different projects. At the same time, I learned about the OSCE Academy, its academic staff and classes that are offered for MA students. All the information and experience received during the Summer School motivated me to apply for Master’s degree which I am pursuing now.”*

- **Meerim Egemberdieva, MA in Politics and Security 2019-2020**



## MA PROGRAMME IN POLITICS AND SECURITY



The Master of Arts in Politics and Security offers students an interdisciplinary curriculum in the fields of political science, international relations, security, democratization and human rights, sustainable development - both in the global and Central Asian contexts, preparing young leaders not only intellectually but also practically. In 2019 the Programme welcomed 30 students from the region and the first Erasmus+ student from Romania.



*“At the end of August 2019, my Erasmus mobility at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek started. Here, I was very happy to experience again the emotions and excitement for learning that I had during my first year of Bachelor degree. I am very grateful for this experience, where I did not only gather valuable information for my PhD research, as well as for my general academic knowledge, but I also made new friends, while exploring the local culture and cuisine of Central Asia.”*

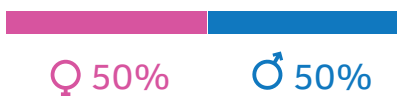
- **Ana-Maria Anghelescu, PhD Candidate**  
Home university:  
**National University of Political Studies and Public Administration**  
**Bucharest, Romania**

## Graduated students in 2019

**26** Students have graduated from the programme:

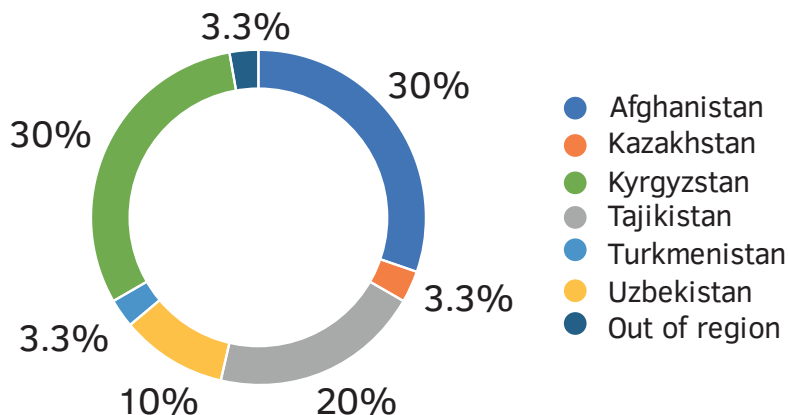
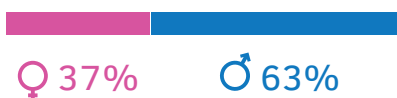


Gender balance



## Enrolled students by country

Gender balance out of 30 enrolled students



## Curriculum

In the 2018-2019 academic year, the curriculum offered 14 full term and 15 modular courses in total.

### Fall semester

#### Full-term

- Political Institutions and Processes
- International Relations
- History of World Politics and Political Theory
- German Language
- Russian Language

#### Modular

- Human Rights and International Law
- The OSCE
- European Politics
- Political Violence and Terrorism

### Winter semester

#### Full-term

- Research Methods
- Quantitative Methods in IR
- International Political Economy
- Contemporary Security Issues
- Central Asian Politics and Security
- German for political scientists
- Russian for political scientists
- MA Thesis Seminar

#### Modular

- Conflict Management

### Spring semester

#### Full-term

- MA Thesis Seminar

#### Modular

- Political Islam
- Central Asia and Russia
- Central Asia and the USA
- Central Asia and China

#### Elective modules

- Central Asia and Middle East
- Energy Politics
- Sustainable Development
- Migration and Human Trafficking
- Nation, State and Nationalism
- International Cyber Security

## Faculty, 2018-2019 academic year

**Dr. Emilbek Dzhuraev** (Kyrgyzstan), OSCE Academy

**Prof. Dr. Anja Mihr** (Germany), OSCE Academy, DAAD Associate Professor

**Dr. Farhad Kerimov** (Turkmenistan), American University of Central Asia (AUCA)

**Dr. Kemel Toktomushev** (Kyrgyzstan), University of Central Asian (UCA)

**Dr. Baktybek Urmambetov** (Kyrgyzstan), American University of Central Asia (AUCA)

**Dr. Indra Overland** (Norway), Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)

**Dr. Helge Blakkisrud** (Norway), Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)

**Dr. Pal Dunay** (Hungary), George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies

**Dr. David Karas** (Hungary), European University Institute, Italy



**Dr. Yana Leksyutina** (Russian Federation), St. Petersburg State University via the Gorchakov Fund  
**Mr. Gerald Ziegler** (Austria), OSCE Academy  
**Dr. Clara Portela** (Spain), University of Valencia  
**Dr. Daniela Irerra** (Italy), University of Catania  
**Dr. Barbara Christophe** (Germany), Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research  
**Dr. Asel Doolotkeldieva** (Kyrgyzstan), American University of Central Asia (AUCA)  
**Ms. Irina Hudolei** (Kyrgyzstan), Center for Teaching Russian Language to Foreigners  
**Mr. Rouslan Jalil** (Kyrgyzstan), OSCE Academy  
**Dr. Mary B. Conde** (Republic of the Philippines), American University of Central Asia (AUCA)  
**Mr. Augustin Nicolescu** (Austria), Institute for Integrative Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding  
**Dr. Salim Cevik** (Turkey), German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), Germany  
**Mr. Shairbek Juraev** (Kyrgyzstan), University of St Andrews  
**Ms. Elena I. Barth** (Germany), German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ)  
**Ms. Alena Zelenskaia** (Russian Federation), American University of Central Asia (AUCA)  
**Ms. Anna Gussarova** (Kazakhstan), Central Asia Institute for Strategic Studies  
**Mr. Rashid Gabdulhakov** (Uzbekistan), Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands

# MA PROGRAMME IN ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT



The Master of Arts in Economic Governance and Development offers an interdisciplinary curriculum in economics, governance and development based on international standards of teaching. The Programme structure is designed in a way that gives the students a freedom in composing their own course portfolio through the electives which make up 36 percent of the all offered courses.

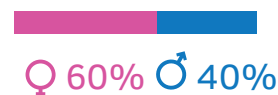
## Graduated students in 2019

20

Students have graduated from the programme:

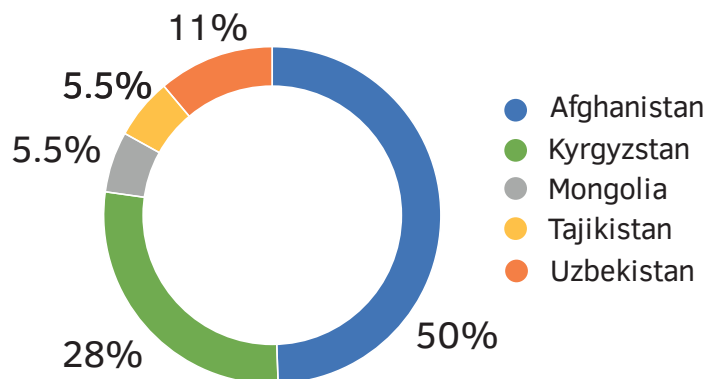
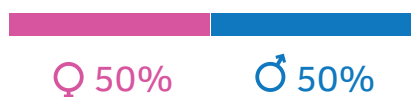


Gender balance



## Enrolled students by country

Gender balance  
out of 18 enrolled students



## Curriculum

In the 2018-2019 academic year, the curriculum offered 8 full term, 8 modular and 9 elective courses in total.

### Fall semester

#### Full-term

- Microeconomics
- Macroeconomics
- Academic Writing

#### Modular

- The OSCE
- International and Regional Trade Arrangements
- Economics of Sustainable Development

### Winter semester

#### Full-term

- Econometrics
- Research Methods and Design
- Economic Governance and Regulation

#### Modular

- Good Governance in Central Asia
- Economics and Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources

### Spring semester

#### Full-term

- International Development
- International Financial System

#### Modular

- Integrated Water Management
- Economics and Regulation of Energy Sector
- Industrial Policy

### Elective courses

- Statistics
- Stata
- Project Management

### Elective courses

- International Economic Indices and Economy Rankings
- Economy of Border Management and Transport Routes
- Mixed Methods to Understand Economic and Other Human Behavior

### Elective courses

- Energy Politics
- Economic Effects of Migration
- MA Thesis Seminar

## Faculty, 2018-2019 academic year

**Dr. Nazgul Zhenish** (Kyrgyzstan), OSCE Academy

**Prof. Dr. Anja Mihr** (Germany), OSCE Academy, DAAD Associate Professor

**Dr. Nurgul Ukueva** (Kyrgyzstan), OSCE Academy

**Dr. David Grant** (UK), OSCE Academy

**Ms. Dina Biba** (Kyrgyzstan), OSCE Academy

**Mr. Yuri Fenopetov** (Austria), OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

**Dr. Lukasz Gruszczynski** (Poland), Institute of Law Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences

**Dr. Jo Lind** (Norway), University of Oslo, Norway

**Dr. Roman Vakulchuk** (Kazakhstan), Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)

**Mr. Jonathon Hornbrook** (UK), German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ) in Bishkek

**Dr. Damir Esenaliev** (Kyrgyzstan), International Security and Development Center, Germany

**Dr. Philipp Schroeder** (Germany), University of Freiburg, Germany

**Dr. Farid Guliyev** (Azerbaijan), ADA University in Baku

**Dr. Nurbek Jenish** (Kyrgyzstan), OSCE Academy

**Dr. Indra Overland** (Norway), Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)

**Dr. Kai Wegerich** (Germany), OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe

**Dr. Gordana Pesakovic** (USA), Argosy University

**Dr. Bedelbay Mamadaliev** (Kyrgyzstan), Regional Institute of Central Asia

## STUDENTS' VISITS



Students of the MA Programme in Economic Governance and Development at the International Organization for Migration/ The UN Migration Agency in Bishkek



Students of the MA Programme in Politics and Security and lecturer Dr. Clara Portela with Ambassador Eduard Auer at the EU Delegation

Throughout the year our students meet diplomats, experts and practitioners not only at the Academy, but also during their visits to the Embassies, International Organizations and Development Agencies located in Bishkek. Such visits help students to get acquainted with the work implemented in the development sector as well as provide an opportunity to receive first-hand advice on building their career paths.

In March and November students of different MA groups met Ambassador Eduard Auer, Head of the EU Delegation to Kyrgyzstan, at the Delegation's office in Bishkek to discuss the EU activities in Central Asia.

In May students of the MA Programme in Economic Governance and Development visited USAID Country Office at the US Embassy in Bishkek, Department for International Development (DFID) office in Kyrgyzstan, and the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ).

In June the same group of students visited the International Monetary Fund Resident Representative Office in the Kyrgyz Republic and the Asian Development Bank Country Office in the Kyrgyz Republic, and in July - The International Organization for Migration/The UN Migration Agency in Bishkek.



# PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

In 2019, the OSCE Academy in Bishkek successfully organized a number of training that brought together a wide range of young and mid-career professionals, experts and researchers from Central Asia and beyond to increase their capacity and establish a regional network. Training themes ranged from human rights and conflict sensitive development to policy paper writing and personal brand development. Additionally, the Academy conducted a pilot training in Kyrgyz for journalists, bloggers, and activists to foster their analytical writing skills.

From 22 to 25 January 2019, the Academy conducted a workshop on **Professional**

**Skills and Assets for Successful Job Applications** for 29 participants from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. The workshop was organized by Prof. Dr. Rolf Kuchenbuch, Lecturer from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and Ms. Amelia Hagen, Lecturer from Narxoz University. The workshop was delivered in the form of lectures, class discussions, group work and peer-editing sessions. Trainers shared tips on writing professional CVs, personal branding, self-presentation for job interviews and creating effective professional profiles on social network platforms, such as LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter.

Prof. Dr. Rolf Kuchenbuch with the participants of the Professional Skills and Assets for Successful Job Applications workshop







One of the Trainers of the Academic Writing by International Standards and Introduction to Statistical Computing Training Prof. Dr. Anja Mihr, DAAD Associate Professor at the OSCE Academy

On 9 March 2019, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) held a training on **Academic Writing by International Standards and Introduction to Statistical Computing** at the OSCE Academy. Eleven young researchers, MA and Ph.D students participated in the training. They were introduced to international standards of peer-reviewed journals and learned to evaluate journal articles. The training was taught by Prof. Anja Mihr, DAAD Associate Professor at the Academy, Prof. Rolf Kuchenbuch, DAAD Visiting Professor at Kyrgyz-Turkish “Manas” University, and Dr. Niels Thevs, Coordinator of Central Asia for World Agroforestry – ICRAF.



Trainer Mr. Kemal Izmailov explains participants citizen participation in political decision-making

From 24 to 28 June 2019, the Academy conducted its regular training on **Regional Training on Regulatory Impact Analysis (RIA)** for 25 junior and mid-level public officials from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to improve their professional skills and qualifications. The trainer, Mr. Kemal Izmailov, Director of the Institute of Public Analysis and Research, Kyrgyzstan, delivered the training in an interactive format, where participants had an opportunity to learn about government regulations, citizen participation in political decision-making, basics of public policy analysis, opportunities and challenges of the use of RIA and the experience of other countries.



Participants of the training on Writing Feasibility Studies for Investment Projects with Trainer Evgeniy Kurinin.

From 15 to 19 July the OSCE Academy conducted regional training on **Writing Feasibility Studies for Investment Projects** within the framework of state development policies (industrial development, export promotion and infrastructure development) for 22 junior and middle-level staff from the analytical departments of institutes, ministries and departments of Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. The training focused on investment projects within the framework of state development policies (industrial development, export promotion, and infrastructure development). Participants learned how to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the project, including investment analysis and political, social and environmental impact analyses.



Participants of the Summer School on Youth for Gender Equality

From 12 to 16 August 2019, the Academy, in co-operation with the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe, organized a week-long Summer School on **Youth for Gender Equality**. The school took place at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek and gathered 20 young experts from Tajikistan, who are interested in gender issues. During this week, Dr. Anara Niyazova, a gender expert from Kyrgyzstan delivered sessions on international normative frameworks of Tajikistan on protecting and advancing women's rights. The Academy professors also contributed to the school with lectures on political theory and democratization. Additionally, participants had a chance to meet with the representatives of active youth organizations and female politicians, working on the promotion of women's rights in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia. On the last day of the Summer School, participants had "Coffee with Leaders" sessions with Ms. Aida Kasymalieva, Vice-Speaker of the Kyrgyz Parliament, and Ms. Avazkan Ormonova, Member of the Parliament and Chairwoman of the budget group, who shared their working experience as parliamentarians. The Summer School helped participants to improve their skills in gender analysis and gender budgeting.



Participants of the Human Rights in an International Context seminar discuss human rights in groups

From 9 to 13 September 2019, the Academy organized a seminar on **Human Rights in an International Context** for 22 trainees selected from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The training was led by Prof. Dr. Anja Mihr, DAAD Associate Professor at the Academy. The training was designed for scholars and practitioners, aiming to broaden their understanding of international human rights norms, treaties, debates, politics and governments' and civil society's response to them. During the week, participants were introduced to the major concepts, standards, laws, agreements, and treaties of today's international human rights regimes. Furthermore, participants learned about different governmental and non-governmental actors and institutions on the global, national and local levels, which are an integral part of today's human rights regimes and the Sustainable Development Goals in particular.



Participants of the Policy Paper Writing Seminar at the Certificate Award Ceremony

From 21 to 25 October 2019, the Academy conducted a **Policy Paper Writing Seminar** for 12 young scholars, activists and policy-makers from Central Asia. The one-week training included lectures, class discussions, group work and peer-editing sessions led by Dr. Emil Dzhuraev, Senior Lecturer and Dr. Lance Tillman, Visiting Lecturer of the Academy. Participants had a chance to learn about policy paper writing techniques, its varieties, and structure. In addition, they were able to present their policy papers and receive feedback from the trainers.





Participants of the second Professional Skills and Assets for Successful Job Applications Workshop with the trainer Ms. Amelia Hagen and Guest Lecturer Mr. Naoki Nihei

From 28 October to 1 November 2019, the Academy organized **Professional Skills and Assets for Successful Job Applications Workshop** for the second time. This time the workshop gathered 22 young and early career professionals from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan to help them to acquire key skills to present and promote themselves in the labor market. During the training participants also had a chance to meet Mr. Naoki Nihei, International Development Expert of the UNDP in Kyrgyzstan and Director of the “Global Knowledge” Association, who shared his professional experience on building personal branding working in International Organizations like JICA and the UN.



Participants of the Analytical Writing in Kyrgyz present their works

From 4 to 8 November 2019, the Academy conducted a new training on **Analytical Writing in Kyrgyz**. This training targeted journalists, bloggers, young researchers, and activists to develop their analytical writing skills in the Kyrgyz language. During one week participants acquired knowledge and skills on analytical writing, organizing its structure and language, learning research methods and techniques, and obtained decent expertise on migration issues in Kyrgyzstan. After the training, from 11 to 24 November 2019 participants were sent to fieldwork to gather data and prepare their papers related to the topic of “Migration, Agriculture and Rural Change”. Overall, 15 trainees from Osh, Jalal-Abad, Naryn and Bishkek participated in the training. The training was conducted by Dr. Elira Turdubaeva, Associate Professor of the American University of Central Asia.



Group discussion during the Conflict Sensitive Development training

From 13 to 19 November 2019, the Academy conducted training on **Conflict Sensitive Development** for 17 junior and mid-level professionals from civil society, NGOs, international development agencies, and governmental organizations from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. Participants acquired the fundamentals for implementing development projects based on a conflict-sensitive approach, particularly relevant for countries and territories of ongoing political, military or ethnic conflict. The training was conducted by Dr. Augustin Nicolescu, Co-Director of the Herbert C. Kelman Institute for Interactive Conflict Transformation/Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution.



Dr. Abel Polese, Senior Research Fellow at Dublin City University

On 10 December 2019, the Academy conducted a workshop on **Strategies of Academic Survival: Writing Approaches and Publication Strategies**, led by Dr. Abel Polese, Senior Research Fellow at Dublin City University, Ireland. The workshop aimed at young researchers, post-doctoral fellows and Ph.D. students to help them design writing and publication strategies. During the workshop, participants learned about writing approaches for academic journals. The workshop gathered 24 participants, which included students, young scholars and those interested in publishing their papers from various backgrounds from Kyrgyzstan.

## CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND DIALOGUE



Participants of the Conference on “System Transformation in Central Asia and Comparative Perspective”

On 20 - 21 September 2019, the Academy in partnership with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Kyrgyzstan organized an academic conference on **System Transformation in Central Asia and Comparative Perspective**. The conference gathered 13 international and regional speakers and 62 participants. Distinguished international speakers included Prof. Wolfgang Merkel, from the Social Science Research Center (WZB), Berlin, Germany, Prof. Mario Sznajder, Professor Emeritus, Political Science from Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, Prof. Manfred Nowak, Secretary-General from the Global Campus of Human Rights, Venice, Italy, Prof. Dr. Christian Haerper, President of the World Values Survey Association and Dr. Kseniya Kizilova, Head of Secretariat at the World Values Survey Association from Vienna, Austria. The keynote speaker from Kyrgyzstan was Dr. Medetkhan Sherimkulov, Speaker of the ‘Legendary’ Parliament (1990-1995) of the Kyrgyz Republic. The conference aimed to facilitate the exchange of perspectives on the current state system transformations in Central Asia and beyond.



Dr. Chiara Pierobon, Trainer of the Research Capacity-Building on Preventing Violent Extremism

On 7 October 2019, the Academy’s Associate Research Fellow and Post-Doctoral Research Scholar Dr. Chiara Pierobon conducted an academic workshop on **Research Capacity-Building on Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE)**. The workshop was designed for young scholars and staff from civil society organizations in Kyrgyzstan to strengthen their capacity to deal with violent extremism (VE) and its prevention (PVE). Dr. Pierobon introduced key approaches, concepts, factors and variables explaining radicalization and de-radicalization processes, the challenges faced by researchers (and evaluators) analyzing VE- and PVE-related issues as well as civil society organizations’ role and concrete contributions. Participants worked in teams, developing their methodological skills with a focus on qualitative methodology, specifically on semi-structured interviews.





Exhibition on the “30 Years of Peaceful Revolution in Germany 1989 – 2019” at the Kyrgyz National Library named after A. Osmonov

On 11 October 2019, Prof. Dr. Anja Mihr, DAAD Associate Professor at the Academy organized an Exhibition on the **“30 Years of Peaceful Revolution in Germany 1989 – 2019”** at the Kyrgyz National Library named after A. Osmonov. The Exhibition was held with the support of the German Federal Foundation for the Study of Communist Dictatorship in East Germany in light of the 30th anniversary of the peaceful revolution in Germany in 1989. Next day the exhibition was launched at the Republican Library for Children and Youth named after K. Bayalinov. The Exhibition was opened by the German Ambassador Ms. Monika Iwersen and Ms. Bakashova Zhyldyz Kemelovna, the Director of the National Library, and Dr. Alexander Wolters, Director of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek. Dr. Anna Kaminsky, Director of the German Federal Foundation for dealing with the Communist Past, Berlin gave a keynote speech on the 30 Years of Peaceful Revolution in East Germany after the Fall of the Wall.



Keynote Speaker Dr. Anna Kaminsky, Director of the German Federal Foundation for the Study of Communist Dictatorship in East Germany, Berlin, Germany

On 12 October 2019, the Academy organized a conference on **Memory and Transitional Justice in Central Asia and International Comparative Perspective**. The conference was initiated by Prof. Dr. Anja Mihr, DAAD Associate Professor at the Academy and aimed to compare different international approaches in dealing with the past with a particular focus on Central Asia. Keynote speech was delivered by Dr. Anna Kaminsky, Director of the German Federal Foundation for the Study of Communist Dictatorship in East Germany, Berlin, Germany, on “Dealing with the Past and Transitional Justice in Germany and Europe after 1990.” Panelists included local and regional experts, such as Mr. Erlan Alimbaev, Deputy Ombudsman for Human Rights of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, Dr. Sergey Sayapin and Dr. Nygment Ibalidildin, Professors from KIMEP University, Ms. Tolekan Ismailova, head of a civil society organization “Bir-Duino” in Kyrgyzstan, Ms. Elmira Nogoibaeva, head of the analytical center Polis Asia in Kyrgyzstan and others.



Speakers of the workshop on China's Belt & Road Initiative (BRI): Cross-Regional Perspective

On 8 November 2019, the Academy conducted a workshop on **China's Belt & Road Initiative (BRI): Cross-Regional Perspective**. The workshop provided a platform for experts from Europe, North America, East and South-east Asia, to present and compare different views on the BRI projects in various parts of the world. Distinguished speakers of the workshop were: Dr. Sam Parker, from Georgetown University Law Center, USA, Dr. Giuseppe Gabusi, from the University of Turin and T.wai-Torino World Affairs Institute, Italy, Mr. Haakon Fossum Sagbakken, from the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Norway, Prof. Dr. Nikola Zivlak, from the Belt and Road Institute, Republic of Serbia and Emlyon Business School, China, Dr. Cheng Ming Yu, from University Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysia, Dr. Pham Sy Thanh, from the Vietnam Institute for Economic and Policy Research, Vietnam and Dr. Jun Kumakura, from the Institute of Developing Economies, Japan. The workshop was attended by 15 invited participants, which included researchers, experts, representatives of international organizations and embassies as well as students and alumni of the Academy.



Participants of the DAAD – Research Symposium “Bioeconomy & Security”

In spring 2019 two more academic events were held in partnership with the OSCE Academy. On 15 April the OSCE Academy hosted the second day of the **DAAD – Research Symposium “Bioeconomy & Security,”** organized by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in co-operation with the OSCE Academy, the University of Bremen and Fresenius University. This two-day symposium gathered more than 60 representatives of NGOs, of international development organizations as well as of a number of Universities of Kyrgyzstan. Experts from German and Kyrgyz universities discussed bioeconomy and supply chain security; food security; potentials of bioeconomy in the region and its importance in pharmaceutical commodities; bioeconomy and its potential for sustainable development as well as other related issues. During the second day experts raised several relevant topics such as the importance of security for global food chains; bioeconomy and supply chain security; bioeconomy and reindustrialization in Kyrgyzstan and innovation and education in security management in Central Asia.



Dr. Rozeta Karova, Energy Community, Vienna, presents at the International conference “The EU, Central Asia and the South Caucasus: new approaches on regional and international cooperation”

On 23-24 May the International conference “**The EU, Central Asia and the South Caucasus: new approaches on regional and international cooperation**” took place in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. This conference has been co-organized by the Institute for European Politics (IEP), Germany, the Centre international de formation européenne (CIFE), France, in co-operation with the OSCE Academy in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. It is the fourth and last conference of the PhD Programme “EUCACIS” for Postgraduates and Doctoral Researchers in Central Asia and the South Caucasus, funded by the Erasmus+ Programme and the Volkswagen Foundation. Within four panels experts from the European Union, the South Caucasus and Central Asia discussed a broad spectrum of issues, including border issues and migration in Central Asia; chances for/and obstacles to regional and international co-operation in the areas of trade, energy, and security; and the involvement of big powers in Central Asia as well as social change in the post-Soviet space.



Participants of the Model OSCE

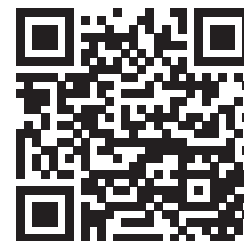
On 23 November the OSCE Academy hosted the **Model OSCE**, organized jointly with the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek. This event was held within the framework of the 20th Anniversary of the OSCE presence in Kyrgyzstan and allowed BA and MA students from Central Asia to step into the shoes of diplomats and try to resolve the crisis by reaching a consensus. Each participant represented one of the Permanent Representatives at the OSCE Permanent Council meeting and had a chance to practice their negotiation skills as well as understand the decision-making process of the organization.



# RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

## ASSOCIATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

The OSCE Academy Associate Research Fellowship (ARF), launched in 2017, was actively implemented throughout 2019. This Fellowship aims to support independent researchers, MA students, Ph.D. Candidates and/or Post-Doctoral researchers in conducting their research projects and provide institutional affiliation. The Fellowship is open for researchers of any nationalities. The Academy provides Fellows with access to the library and all available online resources as well as with an opportunity to present their research to the public. Fellows contribute to one of the publication outlets of the Academy. By the end of 2019 the total number of new Associate Research Fellows reached 19. <http://osce-academy.net/en/research/arf/arfellows/>



## POST-DOCTORAL AND JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS

The Academy offered two Post-Doctoral and two Junior research scholarships between June and December 2019. These Fellowships were funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs via the Academy's Co-operation with the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs. Dr. Asel Doolotkeldieva and Dr. Chiara Pierobon were selected as Post-Doctoral Fellows while Ms. Yau Tsz Yan and Ms. Nazik Mamedova were offered Junior fellowships.

### Post-Doctoral Fellows

**Dr. Asel Doolotkeldieva** is an Assistant Professor at the American University in Central Asia. She obtained her Ph.D. from the University of Exeter, the UK. Her doctoral research focused on the study of political change from below: protest politics in Kyrgyzstan. Dr. Doolotkeldieva holds a Master's degree from Sciences Po Paris, France. Dr. Doolotkeldieva has published on the topics of social mobilization, religiosity and gender, democratization and institution-building, authoritarianism and rent-seeking of natural resources, and migration. As part of her Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Dr. Doolotkeldieva conducted research on the topic of *"Extraction for Export: Economic Model of Gold Mining and its Contestations in Kyrgyzstan."*



**Dr. Chiara Pierobon** brings more than 10 years of research experience in the field of civil society and social movements, youth studies, and radicalization and violent extremism in Europe, Russia and Central Asia. Between 2012 and 2017, Dr. Pierobon has served as a manager of the St. Petersburg/Bielefeld Centre for German and European Studies (CGES/ZDES) funded by DAAD, of education exchange programmes such as the ERASMUS Mundus Joint Doctorate "Globalization, the EU and Multilateralism (GEM)" funded by the European Commission and of collaborative research projects involving different universities and partners in Central Asia. Since 2017, Dr. Pierobon has been a senior manager of the research professionalization project "Between Stability and Transformation: Regional and Transnational Co-operation in Central Asia and between Central Asia and Europe" funded by the Volkswagen Foundation. Dr. Pierobon's research topic for the fellowship was on *Preventing Violent Extremism through Civil Society: the Role of the International Donor Community in Kyrgyzstan.*



## Junior Research Fellows

**Ms. Yau Tsz Yan** is a graduate of the University of Hong Kong. Ms. Yan's research focuses on China's Western Peripheral Diplomacy, including Central Asia and Afghanistan. Her research interests center on China's strategic thinking in the 21st century, including the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Chinese private military security companies and authoritarian technology. Ms. Yau frequently writes for Eurasianet and the Diplomat to update China in Central Asia affairs. Before the Central Asian focus, Ms. Yau was a Research Assistant at the Belt and Road Strategic Research Center in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia where she worked with Belt and Road actors and issues in the Southeast Asian region. Ms. Yan conducted research on *Operation Reality of the Belt and Road Initiative in Central Asia*.



**Ms. Nazik Mamedova** has a background in mass communications and political studies. She has an MA in Politics and Security Studies from the OSCE Academy. Ms. Mamedova worked at international organizations, such as GIZ and the OSCE and for consulting companies in Central Asia and Europe. Her research interests focus on media studies, environment, public health, and education. Her current research focuses on mass media coverage of women, working in STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) and advocacy efforts in this field. Ms. Mamedova conducted research on *Women in STEM in Kyrgyzstan: Mass Media Portrayal versus Advocacy Efforts*.

## PUBLIC TALKS BY RESEARCH FELLOWS

As mentioned above, the OSCE Academy provides a platform for its Research Fellows to present their research results to the public. In 2019 nine Research Fellows delivered public talks on their topics:



**Mr. Tamás Kozma, ARF**

"Turkmen Natural Gas in the European Energy Security Discourse: Perceptions, Outlooks, Realities" on 11 March 2019



**Ms. Niva Yau Tsz Yan, ARF and Junior Research Fellow**

"Making Sense of the Belt and Road Initiative in Central Asia" on 23 April 2019

"Operation Reality of the Belt and Road Initiative in Central Asia" on 2 December 2019

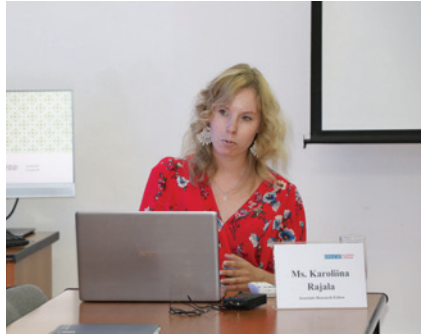


**Mr. Miguel Iglesias Lopez, ARF**

"Uneven Borderwork in Central Asia" on 27 May 2019



**Dr. Sebastian Mayer, ARF**  
"Regime Complexity in Central Asian Security" on 6 June 2019.



**Ms. Karoliina Rajala, ARF**  
"Russian military-industrial complex and its prospects for future development" on 12 July 2019.



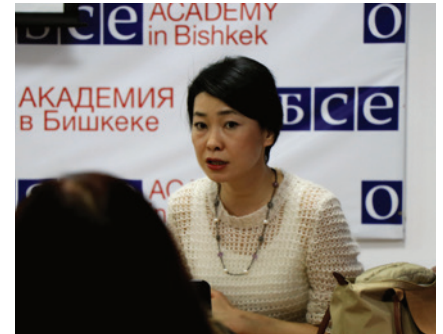
**Mr. Yazid Suleimani, ARF**  
"Belt and Road Initiative Policy Framework I: Entrepreneurship" on 11 September 2019



**Dr. Chiara Pierobon, ARF and Post-Doctoral Fellow**  
"EU Prevention of Violent Extremism and Radicalization in Central Asia: A Case Study on Civil Society Engagement in Kyrgyzstan" on 2 October 2019



**Ms. Nazik Mamedova, Junior Research Fellow**  
"Women in STEM in Kyrgyzstan: portrayal in the Mass Media Versus Advocacy Efforts" on 11 December 2019



**Dr. Asel Doolotkeldieva, Post-Doctoral Fellow**  
"To Bring the State Back: Mining Conflicts and Struggles for Political Participation and Social Justice in Kyrgyzstan" on 12 December 2019

## CADGAT

The Central Asia Data-Gathering and Analysis Team (CADGAT) was established by the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) and the Academy in 2009 to produce new cross-regional data on Central Asia that can be freely used by researchers, journalists, NGOs and government employees inside and outside the region. On 14 January 2019, the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) and the Academy organized a seminar titled as *CADGAT: Launch of new Datasets* to present data aggregated CADGAT to 50 participants, including Academy students, alumni and external guests.



In first half of 2019 4 CADGAT reports on renewable energy were presented:

- Renewable Energy Policies of the Central Asian Countries
- Wind Power Potential of the Central Asian Countries
- Solar Power Potential of the Central Asian Countries
- Hydropower Potential of the Central Asian Countries.

In the second half of the year CADGAT published 8 reports on Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in Central Asia:

- BRI in Central Asia: People-to-People Projects
- BRI in Central Asia: Agriculture and Food Projects
- BRI in Central Asia: Finance and IT Projects
- BRI in Central Asia: Industrial Projects
- BRI in Central Asia: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Extraction and Processing Projects
- BRI in Central Asia: Energy Connectivity Projects
- BRI in Central Asia: Rail and Road Connectivity Projects
- BRI in Central Asia: Overview of Chinese Projects.



The reports are published online and can be accessed on the Academy's website:  
<http://osce-academy.net/en/research/cadgat/>



## AGRUMIG

*Background: 'Leaving something behind' - Migration governance and agricultural & rural change in 'home' communities: comparative experience from Europe, Asia and Africa (AGRUMIG) project is conducted within the Horizon 2020 – Research and Innovation Framework Programme and proposes an integrated approach to migration governance to address the two-way relationship between labor mobility and changes in agriculture and the rural sector. Migration creates challenges for rural 'sending' communities in low- and middle-income countries, yet it can also be transformative. AGRUMIG aims to engage in a comparative analysis of seven countries to analyze the economic, institutional, cultural and agro-ecological factors which shape these relationships. It will go on to identify the range of government interventions that can harness migration to*

*stimulate sustainable and gender-equitable growth in agriculture and reduce the distress associated with migration.*

The OSCE Academy is implementing the AGRUMIG project in partnership with the University of Central Asia (UCA) and Polis Asia in Kyrgyzstan. The Academy plays a key role in involving stakeholders into migration related policy dialogues and disseminating research results, conducted by the UCA.

In the framework of the AGRUMIG project, in May 2019 Dr. Alexander Wolters visited the welcome meeting of the AGRUMIG project in Brussels to develop an overview of activities for the upcoming year. On 17-18 June 2019, Ms. Venera Mambaeva, Training and Research Assistant, along with

AGRUMIG project meeting in Vienna, Austria





other 30 members of the AGRUMIG project attended the first meeting of the AGRUMIG project in Vienna, Austria. The first meeting was devoted to the planning of the Academy's activities within the AGRUMIG project.

On 26 November 2019, the Academy organized a national dialogue for the project AGRUMIG and brought together representatives of the Government and NGOs in Kyrgyzstan working on the issue of migration. The dialogue was also attended by the participants of the training on Analytical Writ-

ing in Kyrgyz, who presented their papers and recommendations to the stakeholders working in the migration sector.

On 10-14 December 2019 Ms. Aigoul Abdoubaetova, Head of the Research and Training Unit participated in the second meeting of the AGRUMIG project in Kathmandu, Nepal. During the meeting, she reported on the national policy dialogue held at the Academy on migration and participated in stakeholder mapping exercises to come up with further activities for the year of 2020.



## CENTRAL ASIA POLICY BRIEFS

In 2019, the Academy published two policy briefs. The first policy brief attempts to analyze understanding the Belt and Road Initiative in the framework of Chinese foreign policy and offers different lenses in thinking about the debt trap, as well as other contested Belt and Road issues. The second paper discusses the factors that are influencing urbanization trend in Afghanistan. The briefs can be accessed via the link:

<http://osce-academy.net/en/research/publication/policy-briefs/>



- Policy Brief #52 Making Sense of the Belt and Road Initiative, Niva Yau Tsz Yan
- Policy Brief #51 Drivers of Urban Transition in Afghanistan and the Country's Urban Future, Naqibullah Ahmadi

## ACADEMY PAPER SERIES

The Academy Paper Series summarizes conferences, workshops and seminars organized by the Academy with the purpose to reflect on main issues raised and discussed during the events. The reports are published on the Academy's website in English and Russian languages. In 2019 two reports were published:



- Summary Report # 4 of the International Conference on **System Transformation in Central Asia and Comparative Perspectives**, held on 20-21 September 2019 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- Summary Report # 5 of the Workshop **China's Belt & Road Initiative (BRI): A Cross-Regional Perspective**, held on 8 November 2019 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Academy papers can be accessed via the link:

<http://osce-academy.net/en/research/publication/sumrep/>



## LIBRARY

The Library serves as the information centre of the OSCE Academy and plays a crucial role in supporting the educational process as well as ongoing research activities at the Academy. The Library contains a specialized collection of books in political sciences and economics and development, with focus on International Relations, Conflict and Security Studies, Economic Governance, Human Rights, Development Studies, Comparative Politics, and Political Theory. Additionally, the library regularly receives publications from the OSCE and other related partner institutions. Additions to the Library's stock are made in line with the needs provided in the curricula of the Academy's programmes, and requests made by faculty, students, and permanent and visiting researchers. The Academy's collection counts more than 4000 books and annual subscriptions to Jstor and EBSCO databases. In 2019 the collection replenished by 145 more books.

Our Library is a part of the Kyrgyzstan Library Information Consortium and thanks to

its membership in the Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL), we have free access to seven more databases:

1. Oxford Journals Collection
2. Cambridge Journals Online
3. e-Duke Journals
4. Edward Elgar
5. IMF eLibrary
6. OECD
7. SAGE Journals

Our Library collection and its cataloguing system also attracts students and researchers from our partner institutions. In April we welcomed the first group of 6 MA students from the Kazakh-German University in Almaty, Kazakhstan, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, for a short research stay. In November students of the International University of Central Asia (IUCA), Kyrgyzstan, visited the OSCE Academy and listened to a presentation by Ms. Kalbiu Argynova, Librarian/Archivist on how to work with online library catalogue and use the electronic databases.

Students of the International University of Central Asia during their visit to the OSCE Academy Library

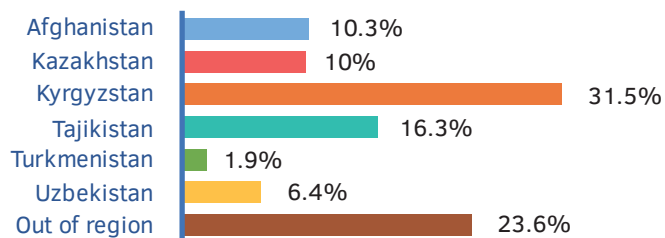


# OUR ALUMNI

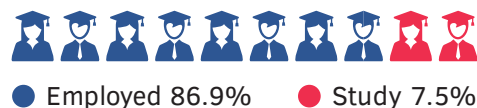
For the OSCE Academy, like for any other educational institution, it is of a high importance to maintain ties with its alumni and continue two-way communication throughout the years. In 2019 the OSCE Academy Alumni Network welcomed 46 new graduates pushing the total number of alumni in the network to 520 (275 females and 245 males). In order to stay connected, we annually conduct Alumni Surveys, which help us not only to receive updated information about professional development of our graduates, but also ideas on how to improve our Alumni Network.

Our latest Alumni Survey<sup>1</sup> revealed that the number of graduates living and working in the Central Asian region and Afghanistan has grown to 76.4 per cent. More than one third of employed alumni hold senior positions, such as directors/deputy directors, CEOs, heads of departments, managers and officers working for the Central Asian governments, international organisations, education institutions and NGOs.

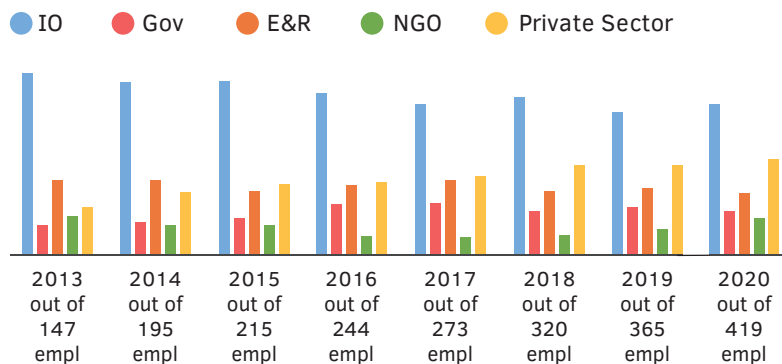
## Geography



## Employment



## Sectors of Employment 2013-2020



## Employment by Sectors



1. The Alumni Survey 2020 was carried out in March 2020 and contains the information about 482 alumni.

# ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

## 4th Alumni Reunion

Once every three years we organize big Alumni Reunions, extending the invitation to all our graduates. On 7-8 September 2019 we welcomed over 100 alumni of the MA Programmes from all the Central Asian countries, including Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, as well as from the countries across the region, including Afghanistan, Russia, Macedonia, and Georgia, for the 4th Alumni Reunion.

Current and former management representatives of the Academy discussed the current state of regional connectivity, the importance of the OSCE Academy in this regard, as well as the role of graduates in this process in the future.

The second part of the opening of the Reunion was dedicated to the achievements of the Academy's alumni. Four graduates of the Academy delivered inspirational speeches about their way of achieving success, the role of the Academy in their professional lives, and offered advice to fresh graduates and newly enrolled students.

The participants then had a chance to return to the times of their studies and attended five simultaneous workshops on different topics in the classrooms of the OSCE Academy. The sessions covered a wide range of topics, from Research Publishing and Promoting and Policy Applied Research on Human Rights and Democracy, to Project

Alumni at the teambuilding in the mountains







Left to right: Dr. Alexander Wolters, Ambassador Dr. Pierre von Arx, Ms. Merete Wilhelmsen and Dr. Helge Blakkisrud

Management, and to Preventing Violent Extremism and Counter-Terrorism in Central Asia and finally Digital Economy.

The first day of the Reunion was concluded by a formal reception that was attended by the representatives of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, and members of the Diplomatic Corps based in Bishkek.

During the second day of the Alumni Reunion graduates, students and the staff of the OSCE Academy traveled to the mountains for teambuilding activities and networking. During those graduates had a chance to connect with each other, extend

their network and thus enhancing the relevance of the Academy's Alumni Network.

We were honored to welcome a number of distinguished guests, who travelled specially to meet our alumni and made the event possible. Among them Ms. Merete Wilhelmsen, Senior Advisor, Section for Russia, Eurasia and Regional Co-operation of the Norwegian MFA, Dr. Helge Blakkisrud, Senior Researcher of the Academy's long-time partner, the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI), Dr. Pal Dunay, one of the Academy's former Directors, Professor Waleed Gumaa from Riga Graduate School of Law.



Ambassador Christian Dussey leads session on crisis management

## Chapter Meetings

From 16 April till 3 May the Academy held three Chapter meetings in Tashkent, Dushanbe and Nur-Sultan. Overall 45 alumni have gathered in the three capital cities. These meetings aim at enhancing the networking among regional chapters along with catching up on the latest regional and global trends. The meetings were followed by informal dinners, where alumni of different years had a chance to get to know each other and build new connections, discussed further joint activities and the development of the alumni network. The Academy attaches particular importance to bringing its alumni together so that graduates of various years could network and benefit from such encounters.

Current and former management representatives of the Academy discussed the current state of regional connectivity, the importance of the OSCE Academy in this regard, as well as the role of graduates in this process in the future.

## Leadership Development Workshop for Alumni of the Academy

The year was concluded by the Leadership Development Workshop for alumni from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan of the MA Programmes working in managerial positions. This one-day intensive training, held on 12 December, was divided into two sessions. The first part was on gender mainstreaming in management strategy led by Ms. Gulnara Ibraeva, a prominent sociologist and expert on gender issues, where Ms. Ibraeva and the participants discussed basic concepts of gender equality, gender equity and gender mainstreaming in an interactive format. The participants had a chance to work in small groups and analyze the integration of gender aspects in their projects and other organization's activities. The second session of the training was devoted to the topic of "Managing Crisis – Leadership Lessons" led by Ambassador Christian Dussey, Director of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, the Academy's long-time partner. Within this session, graduates learnt crisis management tools and worked on real cases to resolve critical situations.

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Every year the Alumni Network selects an alumna/us, who had a significant professional and/or academic achievement and deserves the title of Alumna/us of the Year. This year it was Nargiza Zhakypova, alumna of 2014 from Kyrgyzstan of the MA Programme in Economic Governance and Development. Nargiza is one of the founders of the IT-RUN – network of schools providing education in IT to adults as well as children in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Russia and the USA.



*“I am thankful to the OSCE Academy for providing quality education for students like me, who have a passion to study, but otherwise won’t be able to pay for it. All knowledge the Academy gave me, every course helps me every day to do research, make presentations, write reports, run the business processes. I am so grateful to the OSCE Academy for continuous support even after graduation.”*

- **Nargiza Zhakypova**

The full interview with Nargiza is available on our website at:  
<http://osce-academy.net/en/alumni/spotlight/full/804.html>





# ALUMNI OPPORTUNITIES

## Junior Public Officers Programme

In support of the professional integration of alumni in the public service, starting from 2010 the OSCE Academy has run a Junior Public Officers' (JPO) Programme. The JPO Programme provides an opportunity to the OSCE Academy's graduates from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Afghanistan to intern at the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and other State Agencies of the country of their respective citizenship.

This year the Academy signed an Agreement with the Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic, and prolonged its Partnership with the Investment Promotion and Protection Agency of the Kyrgyz Republic. Thus, the OSCE Academy now has agreements with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Agency for Investment Promotion and Protection as well as the Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic.

In 2019 overall seven alumni conducted their internships in Afghanistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. By the end of 2019 in total 36 alumni completed the JPO Programme.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan .....	9
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic.....	9
Investment Promotion and Protection Agency .....	5
Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic .....	1
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan.....	4
Institute of Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan .....	8



### Massoud Adrakhsh '18 (Afghanistan):

*"...one of my long-term future plans is to start working in the government specifically in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The experiences and knowledge I gained during the internship programme such as understanding the structure, chain of commands, exam procedures, matters of concern, and establishment of a network of friends sharing the same academic background, consequently, would help me in the future to take advantage of any relevant potential opportunities in the MFA."*





**Tahmina Raoufi '18 (Afghanistan):**

*"I learnt a lot about the functions, jobs and the nuances of being a diplomat, diplomatic missions which would contribute to my career aspirations of becoming a diplomat and working with the ambassadors in the future."*



**Aizhan Erisheva '18 (Kyrgyzstan):**

*"Experience received during the JPO Programme contributed to my future development. First of all, I have a long-lasting interest in economic policy and my theses were about agricultural and industrial policy, so the received experience heightened my interest in this topic and I would like to analyze the investment policy of Kyrgyzstan. This experience helped me understand that economic governance is not only my research interest, but also the sphere of professional interest; and in the future I would like to work in that sphere. I had an opportunity to fully understand the system of the public sector and how it operates. Moreover, this experience gave me an opportunity to improve my research and analytical skills, and to practice my knowledge obtained at the Academy. This programme was like a springboard for becoming a professional."*



**Aiperi Kashieva '18 (Kyrgyzstan):**

*"This internship developed my research writing skills, including processing a lot of information, making constructive analysis and delivering it within a short time period. [It] taught me to look at the problem from a completely different side, which greatly contributed to my personal and professional development."*



**Indira Rakymova '18 (Kazakhstan):**

*“The JPO Programme is a great opportunity for recent graduates to explore themselves on a governmental position, and also expand their knowledge by a diplomacy-related sphere. In my example, I consider the internship at the MFA as a big experience in starting my career as international relations expert. I have explored myself in the role of public officer, and acquainted with work specifics in a governmental position. Overall, I highly evaluate the opportunity to learn office ethics and work environment at the MFA. At least, I have studied two unknown spheres of work such as finance and diplomatic chancery. This internship helped me expand my knowledge in international relations by learning diplomacy and protocol related issues.”*



**Dinmukhamed Omirali '18 (Kazakhstan):**

*“There are many insights and benefits of the JPO Programme, and definitely, it will contribute to my future career. For instance, by the suggestions of my colleagues and supervisor I applied for the special test for the employees of governmental institutions, and was successful. I have a certificate now. Moreover, I increased my professional network by meeting the experts in my field. The JPO program also let me show my potential.”*



**Alina Abylkasymova '14 (Kyrgyzstan):**

*“The tasks assigned to me required a lot of analytical work, which certainly contributed to the development of my research skills in the field of migration, investment as well as in the sphere of development of the economy as a whole. I never thought I could be a consultant before. During my internship at the Ministry of Economy, I learned about the work of the consultant. I am very glad that this program allowed me to try my skills in this area.”*

## NUPI-Research Mentoring and NUPI Fellowship



Participants of the first NUPI-OSCE Academy Research Mentorship Internal Workshop

The Norwegian Institute for International Affairs (NUPI) supports the Alumni Network since its foundation. Numerous projects and programmes ran by NUPI aim at increasing the research potential among alumni. This Research Mentoring programme was launched in summer 2018 and engages six OSCE Academy alumni. Mentees work jointly with Mentors at NUPI and publish one academic article in a peer-reviewed journal in 2019. After publishing their articles, Mentees will present the results of their work at international academic events.

On 12 January the first NUPI-OSCE Academy Research Mentorship Internal Workshop took place at the Academy. During the workshop, members of the alumni community presented about the current stage of their works on:

- Farkhod Aminjonov, “Energy Security, Political and Socio-Economic Dimensions of Hydrobalancing in Central Asia.”
- Faruh Kuziev, “Museums, memory and meaning-creation: (re) constructing the Tajik nation.”
- Aiperi Otunchieva, “Renewable Energy in the Former Soviet Union.”
- Harry Roberts, “Energy in the Caspian Region.”
- Daniyar Moldokanov, “Big Powers in Central Asia and Their Economic Influence.”
- Javlon Juraev, “Distribution of Renewable Energy Resources vs. Fossil Fuel Reserves across Countries.”



The presentations were followed by discussion and feedback from programme participants, Mentors and Academy faculty members Prof. Dr. Anja Mihr and Dr. Emil Dzhuraev.

This programme is co-ordinated by Dr. Indra Overland, Head of the Energy Programme, and Dr. Roman Vakulchuk, Senior Research Fellow, NUPI.

### One-Year-Stay at NUPI Fellowship

In 2019 two more alumni had a chance to participate in the fellowship offered by the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI): Talgat Ilimbek uulu, an alumnus of 2014 of the MA Programme in Economic Governance and Development and Abdyrakhman Sulaimanov, an alumnus of 2018 of the MA Programme in Politics and Security. This Fellowship is exclusively targeted at the alumni of the OSCE Academy. This stay is an add-on to the MA degree from the OSCE Academy, and the purpose is to further prepare the two successful applicants for work in international affairs or continued study/research by deepening their practical and academic experience.

**Abdyrakhman Sulaimanov '18 (Kyzgystan)** *“While engaging in the research environment, we learned to analyze specific topics. We had the opportunity to attend summer school on “Natural resources for sustainable development” in Azerbaijan as well as training on “Smart transformation in the energy sector” in Romania. We cannot be more thankful to all NUPI staff and the OSCE Academy for providing this opportunity.”*



Left to right: Abdyrakhman Sulaimanov, Dr. Roman Vakulchuk, Talgat Ilimbek uulu and Filipa Sofia Braarud - a master intern from University of Oslo





**Talgat Ilimbek uulu '14 (Kyrgyzstan)**  
*“During the fellowship we worked and learned a lot while assisting senior researchers of NUPI. As a co-author along with Indra and Roman, we published the article “The GeGaLo index: Geopolitical gains and losses after energy transition”. We also had an opportunity to participate in various seminars and conferences organized at the institute”.*

### **European Scholarship for Central Asia to study at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy**

In 2018-2019 **Mahabat Murzakanova**, alumna of 2008 was granted this scholarship.

*“This opportunity is very challenging that is essential for my further career development, have personal networking that widens my horizon and enriches my experience. Having worked in Kyrgyzstan for more than 12 years, having field experience I wanted to move further and get an international position either in the Central Asian region or at the headquarters of an international organization making the region better known and be responsible for projects implemented in the region. I would be able to serve as a role model for my children, nieces and nephews, and make my parents proud of me that is very essential for me morally. I strongly recommend you to apply and use this unique opportunity to widen your frontiers, to enrich your experience and contribute to developments in the security sector.”*

## Alumni Travel Grant

The OSCE Academy Alumni Network, with support of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, via the Academy's Co-operation with the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs offers travel grants to qualified OSCE Academy alumni to support their professional and academic development. This year three alumni received Alumni Travel Grant to attend conferences, traineeship and workshops in Russia, the USA and Germany.

**Zalina Enikeeva '16**, to participate and present the report on “Analysis of Agroindustrial Complex in the Eurasian Economic Union Member-States” at the Special Section “Next Generation Trade Policy” and Creation of a Future System of Multilateral Trade Regulation for the Benefit of Social and Economic Development” at the XX April International Academic Conference on Economic and Social Development, organized by the National Research University, Higher School of Economics in Moscow, Russia, on April 9-12, 2019.

**Berikbol Dukekeyev '15**, to conduct one-month research fellowship at the Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research. Currently Berikbol is a PhD candidate at the Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies (the Middle East and Central Asia) at the Australian National University.

**Diana Mamatova '09**, to participate at the Central Eurasian Studies Society (CESS) 20th Annual Conference hosted by the Central Asia Programme (CAP) and Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, part of the George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs, in Washington, DC., on October 10-13, Washington, DC. Diana presented her paper on “Peacebuilding and Patriarchal Norms: the Role of Women in Sustaining Peace at the Border Communities of Ferghana Valley” within the panel on MIG-02 Borders, Migration and Gender in Eurasian Spatialities.

## SalamAlum

OSCE ACADEMY ALUMNI MAGAZINE

The OSCE Academy collects the success stories of its alumni and together with the Alumni Network activities publishes them in the annual Alumni Magazine SalamAlum. In 2019, the Academy published its 9th issue.



The online version is available at:

[http://www.osce-academy.net/upload/journal/files/1575897179\\_60315300.pdf](http://www.osce-academy.net/upload/journal/files/1575897179_60315300.pdf)



## PARTNERSHIPS AND CO-OPERATION



Dr. Alexander Wolters, Director of the OSCE Academy and Mr. Shumkarbek Adilbek uulu, Director of the Investment Promotion and Protection Agency of the KR

In 2019 we worked towards expanding our regional and international institutional partnership network in a variety of areas, while maintaining and strengthening the co-operation with the existing partners.

In January we institutionalized the co-operation with the **Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research** that started in 2018, when Senior Researcher Dr. Barbara Christophe and Research Fellow Dr. Christoph Kohl led a week-long masterclass on Interviews as Method in the Social Sciences and Humanities. Beside the organization of joint events, this new co-operation allowed to organize internships for the Academy's master's students at the Institute.

In February we established co-operation with the **Kazakh-German University in Almaty (KGU)**, allowing the faculty and experts exchange and short research internships for students and graduates of both institutions. Previously, we already invited instructors from the KGU to teach the session on Water Management Issues and in 2019 we welcomed the first group of master's students for a short research stay. In the end of the month we signed a Memorandum of Co-operation with **the Alexander Gorchakov Public Diplomacy Fund** in Russia. The co-operation foresees the faculty and experts exchange and organization of joint events as well as research collaboration. In May 2019 the Academy invited Dr. Yana Leksyutina from St. Petersburg State University via the Gorchakov Fund.



In April we signed a Memorandum of Co-operation with the new partner in Georgia - **Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani Teaching University**, aiming at joint organization of academic events and research collaboration.

In the beginning of June, the OSCE Academy, represented by the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees Ambassador Dr. Pierre von Arx, signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the **Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO)**. This partnership will allow the organization of student internships, faculty and experts exchange and promotion of joint research projects.

In 2018 the Academy invited a Visiting Professor Dr. Clara Portela from the **University of Valencia** in Spain to teach the module on European Politics. Following this visit we started negotiating the possibility of establishing a partnership with the University of Valencia and in the beginning of July the Agreement, allowing faculty and student exchange, was signed.

Moreover, in July, the **Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic** reached out with the proposal to conclude an Agreement allowing the Academy's graduates to intern at the Ministry within the framework of the Junior Public Officer Programme, which we met with enthusiasm and signed an Agreement in the end of the month. In the fall we prolonged the partnerships that also provide our graduates exclusive opportunities for professional development at the **Investment Promotion and Protection Agency of the Kyrgyz Republic** and the **International Secretariat of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly**.

In September we expanded our partnership network to France and signed a Memorandum of Understanding and an Exchange Agreement with the **European School of Political and Social Sciences (ESPOL), Université Catholique de Lille**. In the end of 2019 ESPOL nominated two master's students for exchange visit to the Academy's MA Programme in Politics and Security Winter semester of 2020.

Later in the fall we established a number of partnerships with universities and a research institute in Kyrgyzstan. Thus, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed with the **Regional Institute of Central Asia (RICA)**. Within this partnership RICA was invited to the MA Thesis Defense Committee as well as both Parties invited experts and staff members to their events. Plans to organize joint regional conference with the Silkroad Research Centre of the **International Ala-Too University** led to the institutionalization of the partnership that also includes exchange of faculty members and scholars, the organization of joint research projects. In the beginning of December our alumnus, now working at the **International University of Central Asia** initiated the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation that promotes library co-operation, and implementation of joint projects.



Dr. Alexander Wolters, Director of the OSCE Academy and Dr. Bedelbai Mamadiev, Director of RICA



The year was concluded with the agreement with the **University of Catania in Italy**. This co-operation also started in 2018, when we welcomed Dr. Daniela Irrera to teach the module on Political Violence and Terrorism, which was successful and repeated in 2019, followed by signing the Memorandum of Cooperation.



List of all current Partner Institutions is available on our website:

<http://osce-academy.net/en/international/partners/>



The OSCE Academy submitted its first successful Erasmus+ KA 1 (Learning Mobility for Individuals) application in 2018 and received one incoming and one outgoing students' mobility with the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (NUPSPA) in Romania in 2019. Thus, in September 2019 our MA Programme in Politics and Security welcomed Ms. Ana-Maria Aghelescu, PhD student from NUPSPA and sent MA student Mirlan Otorbaev to Bucharest in October. Additionally, the Academy was included into the Erasmus+ KA 107 applications by Riga Graduate School of Law, Philipps University of Marburg in Germany, the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Pisa, Italy, and Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies at the University of Tartu in Estonia in February 2019. The latter one was successful and received funding for one teaching mobility from the OSCE Academy to Tartu University in Estonia and in reverse.

To widen our Erasmus+ partnerships, throughout the year we reached out to numerous European universities, some of which we already had links to, and some absolutely new. As a result, 10 universities included the OSCE Academy into their applications for KA 107 (student and faculty mobility) for 2020:

- Philipps-Universität Marburg (Germany)
- University of Bamberg (Germany)
- University of Freiburg (Germany)
- University of Macedonia (Greece)
- Riga Graduate School of Law (Latvia)
- South East European University (North Macedonia)
- Kozminski University (Poland)
- University of Lodz (Poland)
- University of Coimbra (Portugal)
- National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (Romania)

and 1 university - Salzburg University - invited the OSCE Academy to become an Associate Partner for the 'Joint Master Political Science - Integration and Governance (PoSIG)' within KA 2 (Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education).

## NOTABLE VISITORS

The OSCE Academy is always glad to welcome Diplomats, Government Representatives, Experts and Practitioners who would like to learn more about the Academy and also share their experience and knowledge with our students.



**Dr. Marcin Walecki**, Head of the Democratization Department, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and **Prof. Ghia Nodia**, Chairman of the Caucasus Institute for Peace, Democracy and Development (CIPDD), visited the OSCE Academy on 13 March 2019 and met the students to discuss “Policy-applied research on human rights and democracy from an IGO perspective.”



**Delegation of Norwegian Diplomats**, headed by **Ms. Helene Sand Andersen**, Deputy Director of the Section for Russia, Eurasia and Regional Co-operation of the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and **Mr. Henning Hj. Johansen**, Minister Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Norway to the OSCE visited the OSCE Academy on 15 March 2019 to meet the students and discuss the relations and co-operation of Norway with the OSCE.



**Representatives of the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, including **Ms. Päivi Peltokovski**, Director of the Unit for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, **Ms. Päivi Karhio-Szilvay**, Counsellor, Team Leader for Central Asia, and **Ms. Kaisa Standish**, First Secretary, Deputy Head of Mission in Astana visited the OSCE Academy for an introductory meeting on 27 March 2019.



**H.E. Miroslav Lajčák**, OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic, visited the OSCE Academy on 9 April 2019 within his official travel to Kyrgyzstan. The OSCE Chairperson-in-Office was accompanied by **H.E. Marcel Peško**, Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre, **H.E. Dr. Pierre von Arx**, Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek and **H.E. Milan Kollar**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Slovak Republic to the Republic of Kazakhstan and to the Kyrgyz Republic.



**H.E. Christian Kamill**, Sweden's Ambassador to the Kyrgyz Republic, and **Mr. Ludvig Foghammar**, Desk Officer for Central Asia at the Swedish MFA, met the OSCE Academy's MA students and alumni to discuss Sweden's presence in the region and its foreign relations to the Central Asian countries on 18 April 2019.



**H.E. Dr. Gerhard Saller**, Ambassador of Austria to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan visited the OSCE Academy on 6 May 2019 within his official trip to Kyrgyzstan and met the management of the Academy.



**Dr. Michael Schäfer**, Managing Director of the SPD Bundestag faction, accompanied by **Mr. Alexander Rosenplänter**, Director of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) in Bishkek, met the MA students of the OSCE Academy and discussed the work of the parliamentary system in Germany and the upcoming election to the European Parliament on 20 May 2019.



**Mr. Rohan Titus**, Political Affairs Department Director and **Mr. Maciej Dachowski**, Political Officer for Regional Affairs of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), visited the OSCE Academy on 1 July 2019 and met MA students from Afghanistan to present the internship opportunities for Afghan students within UNAMA.



**Mr. John D. Marks**, the founder and former president of Search for Common Ground (SFCG), a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C., delivered a Guest Lecture on “At the Crossroad between Diplomacy and Peacebuilding” on 5 July 2019. Mr. Marks was accompanied by **Mr. Keneshbek Sainazarov**, SFCG Central Asia Programme Director and **Ms. Asel Abdyramanova**, Project Manager/Government-Community Leaders Dialogues to Reduce Violent Extremism in Central Asia.



Representatives of the **U.S. Embassy in Bishkek**, including **Mr. Tom Selinger**, Chief of Political-Economic Section, **Mr. Benjamin Williams**, Political Officer, **Ms. Danielle Villanueva**, Political Assistant and **Ms. Meerim Maturaimova**, Assistant, visited the Academy to discuss future co-operation in organizing an event on the Belt and Road Initiative.



**H.E. Knut Vollebæk**, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway and currently the Commissioner of the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP), shared his working experience in his numerous high-ranking diplomatic positions and the challenges he faced and the opportunities his various mandates offered with MA students on 13 September 2019.



**H.E. Ruth Huber**, Vice-Director of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Head of the Eastern Europe and Central Asia Department, **H.E. Véronique Hulmann**, the Swiss Ambassador to the Kyrgyz Republic, **Ms. Barbara Jäggi Hasler**, Deputy Head of Eurasian Division of SDC, accompanied by **H.E. Dr. Pierre von Arx**, Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek visited the OSCE Academy on 25 September 2019 to meet the management and current MA students of the Academy.





**H.E. George Tsereteli**, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly President, accompanied by **H.E. Dr. Pierre von Arx**, Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek, **Dr. Marcin Walecki**, Head of the Democratization Department of the ODIHR and **Ms. Farimah Daftary**, Senior Programme Officer of the OSCE PA, visited the OSCE Academy on 27 September 2019 within his official trip to Kyrgyzstan.



**Mr. Gustavo Araujo**, Chief of Recruitment of the OSCE in Vienna, delivered a lecture to MA students on “Preparing Job Applications for International Organisations” on 27 September 2019.



**Dr. John Mikal Kvistad**, Senior Adviser of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, accompanied by **H.E. Ole Johan Bjørnøy**, Norwegian Ambassador to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, and **Ms. Aijan Chynybaeva**, Norwegian Honorary Consul, visited the OSCE Academy and presented the White Paper on “Norway’s Role and Interests in Multilateral Co-operation” to the students of the MA Programme in Politics and Security on 10 October 2019.



**Mr. Mark Pfeifle**, founder and President of “Off the Record Strategies”, accompanied by **Mr. Turatbek Makenbaev**, Information Assistant, U.S. Embassy in the Kyrgyz Republic, delivered a Guest Lecture on “Succeeding in an Era of Fake News and Media Bias” to students of the MA Programme in Politics and Security on 21 October 2019.



Representatives of the **Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, including **H.E. Juha Virtanen**, Senior Advisor, Unit for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, **Ms. Marianne Purojärvi**, Desk Officer for Central Asia and **Ms. Marjo Ahvenainen**, Programme Officer for Development Aid Projects in Central Asia, met with Dr. Alexander Wolters, Director of the Academy on 24 October 2019, and learned about the Academy's activities, programmes, its recent development and plans for the coming years.



**H.E. Mosud Mannan**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Uzbekistan with concurrent accreditation to Afghanistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, accompanied by **Mr. Temirbek Erkinov**, Honorary Consul of the People's Republic of Bangladesh at Bishkek, and **Ms. Shakhlo Gafurova**, Social Secretary at the Embassy of Bangladesh in Uzbekistan, visited the OSCE Academy on 5 November 2019.



**H.E. Mr. Mikko Kivikoski**, Ambassador of Finland to Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, visited the OSCE Academy and met Dr. Alexander Wolters, Director of the Academy, and Ms. Indira Satarkulova, Deputy Director of the Academy on 25 November 2019.



**H.E. Alok A. Dimri**, Ambassador of India to the Kyrgyz Republic, visited the OSCE Academy for an introductory visit on 27 November 2019.



**H.E. Christian Dussey**, the Director of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, the Academy's long-time partner, was invited to deliver a Keynote Speech at the Graduation Ceremony 2019 and also lead a workshop for alumni on Crisis Management on 12-13 December 2019.

## SOCIAL LIFE

Traditionally in March, the OSCE Academy family celebrates Nooruz, the famous regional holiday marking the beginning of Spring and the Persian New Year. In 2019 for this occasion, we also invited our friends and partners from Bishkek and welcomed a group of Masters students from the University of St. Andrews, studying the Central Asian region. They were accompanied by Professor Rick Fawn, Director of the Institute of Middle East, Central Asia and Caucasus Studies (MECACS), who organized such a student exchange visit already for the 8th time, and Dr. Matteo Fumagalli, Senior Lecturer, School of International Relations of the University of St Andrews. The celebration started with the students' performances of national songs, dances and traditions and followed by the presentation of traditional cuisine. Nooruz is one of very few holidays, that unites all peoples of the region and its celebration at the OSCE Academy - regional institution - is very symbolic.





# 15-YEAR OVERVIEW

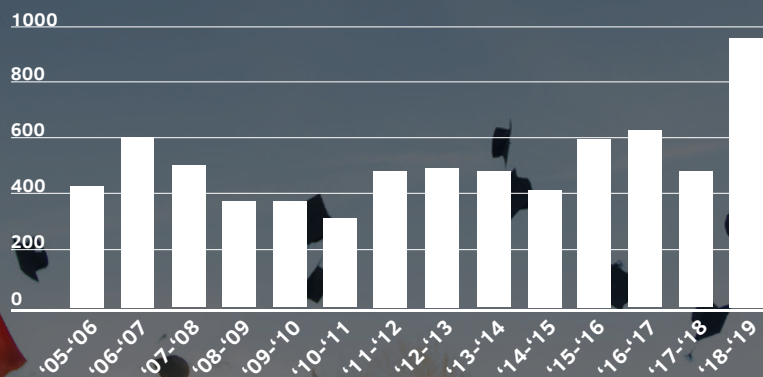




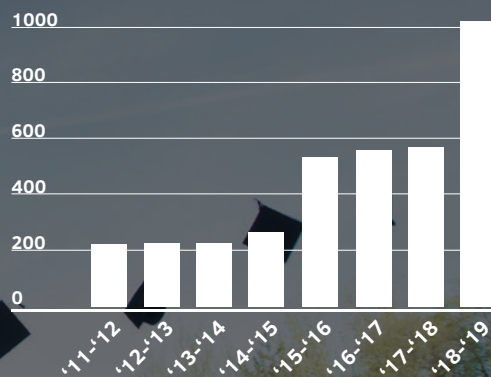
The OSCE Academy was established in 2002, but its flagship project, the MA Programme in Politics & Security, was launched in 2004. This gives us the occasion to review the past 15 years and to share numbers and figures that best show our work and reveal our achievements during that period.

## Number of Received Applications 2004-2019

### MA in Politics and Security



### MA in Economic Governance and Development



...students taught by over 120 Faculty members coming from

*Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, The Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Singapore, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, UK, USA, Uzbekistan.*

**ALUMNI**

# 520

*from Afghanistan, Armenia, Canada, China, France, Georgia, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, UK, USA, Uzbekistan.*

...conducted more than

# 80

Professional Training  
and Summer Schools  
on topics related to

Technical and Economic Feasibility Studies for Projects

Project Management

Journalism

# Human Rights

# Conflict Sensitive Development

Regulatory Impact Analysis

Media and Governance

# Policy Paper Writing



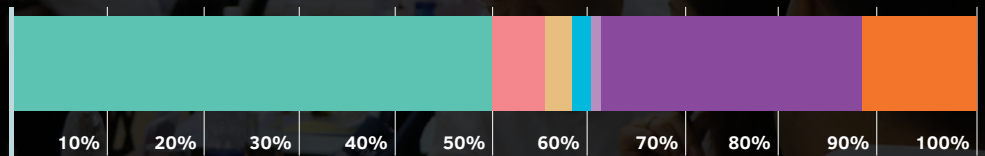
held in Bishkek, Osh,  
Khujand, Dushanbe

# 1600

participants, coming from the  
public sector, NGO's,  
academia, mass media, etc.

# 96

Publications  
and Reports



- Central Asia Policy briefs
- Research papers
- Academy Paper Series
- SalamAlum
- Joint Policy papers and Reports
- Academy Yearbook for Policy Analysis
- CADGAT Reports

ON TOPICS RELATED TO

international relations

identity-based conflicts

comprehensive security and development

# security organizations

energy

politics and religion

# economic development

socioeconomic determinants of security

the situation in Afghanistan

# ethnopolitics



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...conducted

**MORE THAN**

**40**

conferences, workshops  
and seminars

on topics related to

System Transformation

Global Security Issues

**Gender Issues**

Media

**OSCE**

Human Security and Peace

Post-Communism

**and Central Asia**

**Regional Security Issues**

Memory and Transitional Justice

Understanding Islam

**Education**

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*...some in cooperation with*

*NUPI, UNESCO, GCSP, PPIS of the OSCE Secretariat, NESACenter for Strategic Studies,  
University Paris 13, University of St Andrews, Kyrgyz-British Society, GIZ, CADI, IFEAC, FES.*

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**1300**

**PARTICIPANTS**

experts, decision-makers, practitioners,  
journalists, researchers etc.

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**High-Level Visitors & Guest Lecturers**

**OVER  
100**

including Presidents of Kyrgyzstan, Parliamentarians of  
Central Asian states, OSCE Secretary General, Director of  
ODIHR, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities,  
Ministers of Foreign Affairs of OSCE participating States,  
Ambassadors of OSCE participating and partner States,  
international experts, etc

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The report is also available on the OSCE Academy's website at:  
<http://osce-academy.net/en/about/annualreports/>

