



Annual Program 2006



Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to introduce the Annual Program 2006 of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek. From its inauguration in December 2002 the Academy has grown in prestige and has turned into an important regional academic establishment for Central Asia. In the past year the OSCE Academy further consolidated its work as a regional centre of excellence and in support of the OSCE mandate – excellence is standing for the participating students from all the CA countries, the management and the support of OSCE delegations and partner institutions.

The following Program is intended to give you an idea of the plans for the future development of the Academy. I hope you find it useful and informative and I am looking forward to your continued interest in and support for the activities of the Academy.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees I would like to thank all supporters of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Müller', with a small flourish above the second 'l'.

Markus Müller

Chairman of the Board of Trustees



Distinguished Reader,

in the past three years the OSCE Academy has turned into a highly visible and important **regional institution** in Central Asia promoting the principles of the OSCE. All three components of our activities – Training, MA Program Political Science and Research & Conferences – experienced a significant extension.

In June 2004 the first complete MA Program Political Science (Central Asia) was concluded with 36 students graduating from the OSCE Academy. For the present academic year the Academy has received more than 420 applications from Central Asia which underlines the **enhanced visibility** and **regional character** of the program. Currently 27 students from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Germany are enrolled in the MA program.

Additionally the OSCE Academy has identified core training courses, such as Conflict Prevention and Media & Democracy training. I am pleased to inform you that we were able to agree on a co-operation with the **Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights** on intensive training courses on **Human Rights in the Administration of Justice** (November 2005) and on **Equal Status and the Human Rights of Women** (December 2005). The training program is funded by the **Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)**.

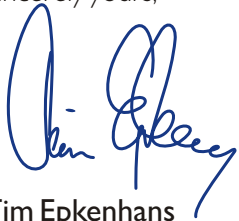
The following Annual Program 2006 includes our main activities for the forthcoming years (as for the MA program until 2007) in the three fields of activity (Training, Master Program and Research & Conferences) and the budget. The Academy always welcomes your valuable comments and criticism to improve our work.

The Academy would like to express its gratitude to the donor community and its consistent commitment to the Academy. We will remain strongly committed to revision and thorough auditing of the budget to guarantee an efficient and cost effective implementation of our programs.

In order to assure a significant level of achievement at the Academy, we endeavor to secure sustainable financing of activities beyond the perspective of one budgetary year.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Tim Epkenhans

Director of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek



Beneficiaries: 270 participants in 8 trainings

Duration: 12 Months (1.8.2005 to 31.7.2006)

Budget: € 122.084 (core budget OSCE Academy)

€ 106.628 provided by SIDA for the Human Rights Training

Training Courses are specific and demand driven. Participants are usually drawn from among the **public administrators, NGOs** or other **social actors**. The **target group** typically represents **mid-ranking professionals** in their respective organizations. So far the OSCE Academy implemented a number of core training courses that will be conducted annually or biannually. The Academy pays particular attention to **regionally integrated training** in order to promote an intensive exchange of experience and common strategies of problem solution.

Some of the trainings and workshops presented in the Annual Program 2005 have been postponed respectively cancelled because of the recent political events in Kyrgyzstan. Additionally, the training program of the OSCE Academy is primarily demand driven. Consequently, we constantly revise our program based on a need assessment. However, we have developed – as already indicated – a **core training program** containing the highly demanded **Conflict Prevention Training** (October 2005) and the **Media & Democracy Training** (October 2005 and February 2006). At present the OSCE Academy started to implement the **Mission Preparation Training (MPT) for OSCE election observers and field missions for Central Asian participants** in co-operation with the **OSCE Department of Human Resources**. A first training module is scheduled for November 2005 in Bishkek with 25 participants from Central Asia. Depending on the demand the OSCE Academy and the OSCE Department of Human Resources would like to implement this training biannually.

The **Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights (RWI)** with funding from the **Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)** is going to implement in co-operation with the OSCE Academy a training on **Human Rights in the Administration of Justice** for regional participants. The program is primarily designed for representatives of NGO's, government officials and academics with an interest in human rights. The organizers aim for an even distribution from the countries of the region and for a gender balance among the participants. The program will take place at the OSCE-Academy, 7-18 November 2005. The overall objective of the programme is to contribute to strengthening respect for and understanding of human rights in Central Asia, as defined in international human rights instruments, thus contributing towards a social environment beneficial to poverty alleviation and the prevention of violent conflict. Particular attention will be paid to the regional context and the current debate regarding the implementation of human rights in Central Asia. The approach to the training will be inter-disciplinary and will include aspects of law and social sciences. The programme will offer an opportunity for the exchange of views and ideas based on the national experiences of the participants and offer a forum for the establishment of a regional human rights network.

Also thanks to funding from **SIDA**, the RWI and the Academy will organize trainings on **Equal Status and the Human Rights of Women**. The training is scheduled for 5-16 December 2005. The overall objective of the programme is to contribute to the strengthening of human rights of women in the region, by promoting awareness of applicable international human rights standards among NGOs, governmental officials and academics working with gender and equality issues. Particular attention will be paid to regional initiatives and the current debate regarding the implementation of human rights in Central Asia, with special emphasis on the equal status and human rights of women. Regional in scope, the programme will offer an opportunity for participants to exchange views and ideas based on their national experiences. As such, the programme aims at providing a regional forum for debate on human rights of women.

The training schedule for 2006 will continue with the Media & Democracy training. Additionally the Academy would like to conduct a **Summer School on Civil Education for religious Students and a Summer School on Human Rights for young Lawyers**. At present we are identifying local and regional partners.





Beneficiaries: 30 Master Students (4th cohort), 70 alumni

Duration: 1. September 2006 – 30. June 2007

Budget: € 155.702

The MA Program in Political Science (Central Asia) is the educational pillar of the OSCE Academy and it is the **only graduate program** political science in Central Asia. Currently 27 students from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Germany are enrolled in the program. The first complete MA program was concluded in June 2005 with 36 (from originally 40) students graduating from the Academy. Students and lecturers considered the content and form of the MA program at the Academy as **highly successful and intellectually demanding**. However, the evaluation (in form of written statements as well as discussions with students and lecturers) revealed some deficits in the program as well. The structure and content of some of the modules proved to be inadequate for a Master Program in Political Science, the module implementation and supervision lacked consistency and the MA thesis supervision missed a code of academic standards. The academic management of the Academy in co-operation with the Advisory Council reviewed the program's content and decided to implement several changes in the module structure, the content and the supervision of the program. The new curriculum was approved by the Board of Trustees in April 2005.

Although the graduation has taken place only a few weeks ago we are pleased to inform you that a significant number of graduates from the Academy were able to find positions in various international organisations (such as UNDP, World Bank and the OSCE), NGOs, as well as to continue their academic career abroad. The OSCE Academy will further stay in touch with graduates and establish an **alumni network**.

The application process for the MA Program is **highly competitive**. All eligible candidates should have completed an academic degree with an above-average grade and have to pass a admission procedure including personal interviews. In the selection of the applicants the admission committee of the Academy considers next to the general **academic qualification the regional background** and the **gender equality**.

The MA Program is **free of any tuition fees** and the Academy follows a strict **egalitarian policy** by providing a **grant** for all students for their modest living costs in Bishkek. A grant contract is signed with every student at the beginning of the academic year. The grant is divided and paid out in monthly instalments of **€ 150**, – plus additional housing allowance for out-of-town students. Financial support of **€ 15** per child is offered to students with children, single parents receive additional **childcare** financial support on special arrangement with the Academy's administration. The Academy covers travel expenses inside Central Asia to and from Bishkek. All students receive a **medical insurance**.

The MA program consists of two semesters, while most of the teaching is conducted during the first five months; the second part of the program is covered by an internship period, examinations and research.





The curriculum of the **first semester** consists of the following eight modules:

1. **Political Processes and Institutions**
2. **The OSCE**
3. **Prevention, management and resolution of Conflicts**
4. **International and national peace efforts and security policy**
5. **Democratization**
6. **Sustainable development: economic, social and environmental aspects**
7. **Military-political aspects of security in Central Asia**
8. **Regional security challenges**

In the **second semester**, **Master theses** research and an **internship program** is implemented in close co-operation with academic partners. In the academic year 2004/2005 students of the Academy conducted their internships in Central Asian OSCE Centers and Field Offices (Bishkek, Ashgabat, Tashkent, Osh), the Conflict Prevention Centre of the Secretariat, External Co-operation Unit of the OSCE, the Gender Advisor, ODIHR (Human Rights Section), the High Commissioner on National Minorities and various branches of the UN as well as NGOs in the region.

The state exam is approved by the Kyrgyz Ministry of Education, while the **defence of the Master thesis** is the last step before graduation.

Beneficiaries:

15 regional researchers, approximately 400 participants in lectures, conferences and other events, readership of publications

Duration:

6 months (per project), conferences may vary

Budget: € 51.637

In addition to Training & Workshops and the Master Program, the first three research projects were launched as scheduled. As a rule, the research projects are regionally focused:

The projects on **The Rule of Law and Local Traditions** and on **Ethnicity and Education** have been concluded with some delays due to the political events in Kyrgyzstan. The OSCE Academy will publish some of the findings of the projects in the forthcoming months.

At present the Academy is conducting a major regional project on **Legal Aspects of Border Management** with six Central Asian researchers. The project design was elaborated in co-ordination with the **Border Management Unit** and the **Central Asia Desk of the Secretariat**. Compared to the previous two research projects, this one is on a larger scale involving more researchers and more activities. Researchers come from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. The research has been organized in a slightly different format based on our experience with the first two projects. First, an academic coordinator has been selected to give guidance as well as provide support in areas where a certain researcher is having/may have difficulties. This person is also making sure that all the researchers use the same research structure, approach, and methods in studying the research topic. Second, the Academy has assigned the duties of research supervisor on the Deputy Director, thus allowing for a more involved and better controlled schedule of research activities. Third, the need for an intermediate workshop has become apparent. Start up workshop and the final workshop do not allow to compare the research activities, research stage, and research direction of different persons involved in the project. Therefore, an intermediate workshop will allow keeping the research deadlines better and coordinating the work of different persons at an earlier stage – before the components of the research go too far from each other.





The start-up workshop for the project **Legal Aspects of Border Management** took place in July 2005 with participation of the experts from the **BOMCA – EU** office in Bishkek. An agreement on co-operation has been reached with BOMCA – EU and the research team, due to the fact that BOMCA – EU has many years of solid experience in studying the border management issues and can be an excellent source of expertise for our researchers. An intermediate workshop is scheduled for early October 2005 and the final workshop will take place in mid January 2006.

For the forthcoming year the OSCE Academy would like to implement research projects on **Islamic Education in Central Asia** and the Social Impact of **Labor Migration in Central Asia**.

Participation in other projects and hosting of seminars:

In addition to projects started within the framework of the long-term concept, the Academy endeavors to link up with the

Academic community. The Academy in co-operation with the **United Nations Development Program** hosted a conference **Role of Universities in Democratic Societies** in June 2005. The conference has had three groups of participants – a) heads of international organizations in the Kyrgyz Republic, the prominent educators and political figures in the country, and the Deputy Minister of Education of the Kyrgyz Republic; b) the junior faculty members from different universities in the Kyrgyz Republic; c) and the students of Bishkek's universities.

As a result this conference has seen the creation of an **Association of Teachers for Democratic Transformation**.



The OSCE Academy also participates in the **Central Asia Applied Research Network (CAARN)**, with the co-ordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities and the Eurasia Foundation as major partners. **23 Universities throughout Central Asia** have agreed to participate in the Network and to develop contemporary research methods. The Academy organized the first co-ordination seminar for all parties involved on 15 September 2005.

In addition, the OSCE Academy participates in the **Central Asian Youth Network (CAYN)** where young researchers collaborate in different projects. We believe that this network will be very beneficial for our MA students as well. Moreover, the CAYN members based in Bishkek will have access to our computer and library facilities to conduct their research.

Finally, the Academy in cooperation with **UNESCO** hosted a conference on **Human Security and Peace in Central Asia** on 8 & 9 September 2005. The conference drew on senior experts on human security and peace in the Central Asian region both from governmental, international and academic institutions. The participants came from the five former Soviet Central Asian states as well as from Iran, Pakistan, and Afghanistan and outside the region.

4.1 Professional Training

As already mentioned the Academy identified a set of **core trainings** conducted throughout the academic year 2005/2006. Based on the experience from previous trainings the calculation of the budget proposal is more exact with trainers and training schedule already identified. The procedure for each training (from the call for application to the final report) is now firmly established to ensure the professional implementation of each course. Additionally, the management of the Academy discussed the individual training schedule with the trainers in order to improve the sustainability (training of trainers) and quality of the training. The trainings **Conflict Prevention and Media & Democracy** are designed to take place frequently with a core group of participants that should later perform as trainers in Central Asia.

Additionally, we included the half-time position of the Training Assistant into the budget (previously in the General Support Costs) in order to indicate the real expenditures for the training program.

However, at present only the MPT (funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany) and the trainings in co-operation with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute (funded by the Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency) are guaranteed, all further activities require secured funding. To implement the entire training schedule the OSCE Academy needs **€ 122.084**.



4.2 Master Program in Political Science (Central Asia)

The new budget is based on the real expenditures incurred during the MA program 2004/2005. The overall expenditures for the MA program 2004/2005 were at **€ 158.594**. The budget for 2005/2006 is **€ 155.702**. However, we decided to change the budget items slightly in order to achieve a more realistic assessment of the expenditures. We included the salaries for the OSCE Academy staff that is exclusively involved in the MA Program (Academic Supervisor, Academic Assistant and Librarian). Previously, these positions were accounted for in the General Support Costs. Considering these changes the overall program expenditures are significantly less than in 2004/2005 for the following reasons: The number of students is 27 (while one student is supported by the DAAD), the OSCE Academy was able to identify more qualified lecturers from Central Asia which reduced the travel expenses and additionally the Academy has now more permanent faculty (Academic Supervisor, Deputy Director and Director) reducing the expenses for honoraria significantly.

4.3 Research and Conferences

In the past year the OSCE Academy became a highly visible venue for various conferences and workshops that were not initially budgeted. The high demand for a convenient conference and workshop venue let us decide to reshape the third component of our activities to be more inclusive. The organization of the UNESCO Conference on Human Security and Peace in Central Asia (with external funding of **€ 20.094**) gives evidence for the demand for such activities. Furthermore, the experience with the three research projects made us change our approach to the research activities as already mentioned above.

As for the training and MA program's budget, we included the half-time position of the research assistant as well.

The overall budget for the Research and Conference activities at the OSCE Academy sums up to **€ 51.637**.



4.4 General Support Costs

The budget for the General Support Costs of the Academy has changed significantly compared to the initial projections. The **staff costs** increased since the OSCE Academy is a Public Foundation and therefore underlies Kyrgyz Law. The Academy deducts taxes and social security which makes up 33% of the salaries. In order to attract highly qualified staff the salary scheme (according to the Operational Manual and approved by the Board of Trustees), the OSCE Academy has to compensate for the tax and social security deduction. With the extension of our activities and the implementation of the core programs additional staff was necessary, while the Board of Trustees decided to appoint a Deputy Director as well.

With the extension of the Academy's activities (the MA Program and the training as well as conference activities) the demand for utilities rose significantly. Some of the utilities were initially provided by the Kyrgyz Government but since the Academy was transformed into a Public Foundation the coverage of these is our responsibility. Finally, the real expenditure for communication is now based on experience stemming from the last 18 months.

The budget for the General Support Costs of the OSCE Academy is **€ 143.199**.



OSCE Academy Budget

Description	Budget 2005/2006 (in Euros)	Source of Funding
Professional Training		
Conflict Prevention Training (10/2005)	17.500	
Mission Preparation Training (11/2005)	16.100	
Media and Democracy Autumn School (10/2005)	36.626	
Media and Democracy Trainers Training (3/2006)	22.740	
RWI Human Rights in the Administration of Justice (11/2005)	0	53.314 SIDA
RWI Equality and the Human Rights of Women (12/2005)	0	53.314 SIDA
"Summer School" on Human Rights for Young Lawyers in Central Asian States (6/2006)	18.750	
Dealing with Conflict: Training on Using Problem Solving, Negotiating and Communication Skills (4/2006)	17.500	
Training Assistant (½ position)	2.868	
TOTAL	€ 122.084	€ 106.628
MA Program Political Science (Central Asia)		
Student Grants	50.800	
Health Insurance for Students	2.600	
Visa	500	
Travel Expenses for Students	6.780	
Supervision of MA Theses	6.700	
Examinations and Committees	2.050	
Honoraria for Lectures	17.271	
Travel Expenses for Lecturer (including accommodation)	12.140	
Admission Procedure for MA 2006/2007	5.200	
Advertisement	4.025	
Study Material	7.352	
Internships for Students	16.400	
Events	4.000	
MA Program Academic Supervisor	11.004	
MA Program Academic Assistant	5.736	
Librarian	3.144	
TOTAL	€ 155.702	

Description	Budget 2005/2006 (in Euros)	Source of Funding
Research and Conferences		
Major Research Project "Legal Aspects of Border Management"	15.950	
Two Minor Research Projects	9.860	
UNESCO/OSCE Academy Conference on "Human Security and Peace in Central Asia"	4.245	20.094 from UNESCO
2 further Conferences at the OSCE Academy	6.000	
Scientific Publications	3.000	
Library of the OSCE Academy	6.000	
Magazines and periodical publications	750	
Representation at Conferences	2.964	
Research Assistant (½ position)	2.868	
TOTAL	€ 51.637	€ 20.094
General Support Costs		
Provision of the Academy Building (by the Kyrgyz Government)	–	
Staff Costs	76.380	
Travel Costs	3.500	
Communication Services, Utilities etc.	40.000	
Representation	1.500	
Investment Costs	3.500	
Supplies	8.500	
Board of Trustees Meetings (two times a year)	3.000	
Administrative Overhead (5%)	6.819	
TOTAL	€ 143.199	
Maintenance, floor, doors, electricity, light, painting, security, other	10.000	
TOTAL	€ 10.000	
GRAND TOTAL	€ 482.662	€ 126.722

The Academy...

- ... is the only truly regional embedded OSCE project in the Central Asian academic and political context and follows a distinctive regional approach. Training, Research and Master Program are conducted in an intellectually stimulating, demanding and absorbing atmosphere generating a regional network of young professionals;
- ... runs on a long-term and well balanced cost/performance ratio as a Public Foundation with a programmatic approach to OSCE principles;
- ... complements and integrates the activities of other national/international agencies and works closely with various institutions such as the Academies of Science, Institutes for Strategic Studies, UN institutions and last but not least the OSCE Centers in Central Asia;
- ... provides a regional and international public forum for professionals in the spirit of co-operation with and security for Central Asia.



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