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Building Bridges: Promoting Dialogue to Prevent Radicalization and Violent Extremism

Vienna, 21-22 May 2015

Annotated Agenda

Thursday, 21 May

15.00 – 18.00 **Registration and Accreditation, Segmentgalerie, Hofburg**

18.00 – 19.30 **Night Owl-Session: How can the media help prevent violent radicalization that leads to terrorism?**

Traditional and new media can be used as vehicles for promoting extremism and intolerance. In particular, the Internet and new social media have become powerful tools in the hands of terrorists and other violent groups. However, media can also be efficient tools for spreading a message of tolerance and for connecting activists and partners in both governments and civil society working to advance mutual understanding and dialogue. What are the role and responsibilities of the media in countering prejudices and misperceptions and presenting counter-narratives to help prevent radicalization? How can the media become active stakeholders of a security dialogue involving governments and international organizations? Can freedom of expression and security be mutually reinforcing rather than in tension with each other?

Opening remarks, Ambassador Lamberto Zannier, OSCE Secretary General

Moderator: **Randa Habib**, Director for Middle East and North Africa, AFP Foundation (confirmed)

Panellists:

- **Dunja Mijatović**, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (confirmed)
- **Simon Haselock**, Co-Founder and Director, Albany Associates (confirmed)
- **Victor Khroul**, Correspondent, Rossiya Segodnya International Information Agency (confirmed)
- **Leila Ghandi**, TV Host, Journalist and Producer (confirmed)

Audience Q & A

19.30 – 21:00 **Reception**

Welcoming Remarks

- **Ambassador Lamberto Zannier**, OSCE Secretary General
- **Michael Georg Link**, Director, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

Friday, 22 May

8.00—15.00 **Registration and Accreditation, Segmentgalerie, Hofburg**

9.00 – 9.15 **Welcoming remarks**

- **Ambassador Lamberto Zannier**, OSCE Secretary General
- **Ambassador Vuk Zugic**, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council

9.15-9.30 **Keynote speech by Wolfgang Schüssel, former Chancellor of Austria**
“Building Bridges within Our Societies” (confirmed)

9.30 – 11.00 **Session 1: Setting the scene: What are the root causes of radicalization and violent extremism that lead to terrorism?**

Violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism seem to be on the rise in many societies, though the main drivers of this trend remain opaque. What are the influence, and the combination, of socio-economic, cultural, religious and other factors in explaining the phenomenon of radicalization that leads to violent extremism and terrorism? This discussion will focus on the nature of the challenge we are facing. Panelists will also discuss how open and transparent dialogue can help to separate violent extremism from religion and culture and prevent the identification of terrorism with any single religious, cultural, or ethnic group. Panellists will also address the link between radicalization and security, including the relevance of OSCE commitments such as the Cordoba Declaration.

Moderator: **Steve Killelea** Founder and Executive Chairman, Institute for Economics and Peace (confirmed)

Panellists:

- **Hamid Boukrif**, Director General of the Diplomatic and International Institute, Algeria (confirmed)
- **Mohamed Lessir**, Secretary General, United Nations Association of Tunisia (confirmed)
- **Mara Marinaki**, Managing Director, Global and Multilateral Issues Department, European External Action Service (confirmed)
- **Keneshbek Sainazarov**, Country Director, Search for Common Ground, Kyrgyzstan (confirmed)
- **Shaarik Zafar**, Special Representative to Muslim Communities, U.S. Department of State (confirmed)

- **Fatma Ceren Yazgan**, Deputy Director for Security Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey (confirmed)

Audience Q & A

11.00 – 11.20

Coffee break

11.20 – 12.50

Session 2: How can education challenge misperceptions and biases, and counter violent radicalization?

Education plays a key role in the formation and propagation of personal as well as societal norms and values. It can be a bridge between individuals, communities and cultures, identifying commonalities across traditions, and highlighting the positive contributions of diversity to society. How can knowledge and education be used to address the drivers of radicalization that leads to violent extremism and terrorism? How can educational institutions better co-ordinate their efforts to accomplish these tasks at the local, national, regional, and international levels? How can educators be made more aware of their unique role as security providers?

Moderator:

Anna Triandafyllidou, Professor, European University Institute, New Med Network (confirmed)

Panellists:

- **Michael Georg Link**, Director, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (confirmed)
- **Astrid Thors**, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (confirmed)
- **Elisabeth Guigou**, President, Anna Lindh Foundation (confirmed)
- **Maged Mosleh**, Director of the Security and Strategic Organizations Department, Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (confirmed)
- **Jonathan Fine**, Senior Researcher at the International Institute for Counter Terrorism in Israel (confirmed)
- **Anders Levinsen**, Executive Director, Cross Cultures, Denmark (confirmed)

12.50– 13.20

Building Coalitions against Hate: The OSCE experience with combating discrimination and promoting tolerance in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Twenty years after the end of the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, reconciliation remains fragile and can be hindered by incidents of ethnic tension. To address this continuing challenge, the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina has taken an innovative approach: encouraging NGOs, local political leaders and media to form “coalitions against hate.” Today scores of organizations throughout the country are mobilizing citizens from all ethnic groups in “coalitions against hate” to condemn bias-motivated incidents in their communities. These coalitions employ “constructive condemnation” to rescript hostile messages into messages of tolerance and respect.

Introductory remarks, Alexander Chuplygin, Deputy Head of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina (confirmed)

- **Sladjana Milunovic**, National Programme Officer, OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina (confirmed)
- **Mirela Geko**, Representative for Ignore Differences, Sarajevo (confirmed)

13.20 – 14.20

Buffet Lunch

14.20 –15.50

Session 3: Fostering inclusive dialogue: The critical role of women, youth and religious leaders

Inclusive dialogue has the potential to increase mutual understanding and respect between different communities and groups within societies. What can the international community do to support the inclusion of women, young people and religious leaders in participatory dialogue processes that build bridges between communities, religions, and cultures, fostering the security of all? How can women, youth and religious leaders be empowered to become voices for tolerance and bridge builders within their own communities? How can the concerns of women and youth in particular be constructively addressed to prevent their disenfranchisement and marginalization, and what role can religious leaders play in supporting this process? The panel will also discuss what the OSCE has already accomplished in this field and how its work could be expanded.

Moderator: **Sanam Anderlini**, Co-founder, the International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN) (confirmed)

Panellists:

- **Hasina Safi**, Executive Director, Afghan Women's Network (AWN), Afghanistan (confirmed)
- **Robert Örell**, Head of EXIT Sweden (confirmed)
- **Antti Pentikäinen**, Executive Director, Finn Church Aid, Finland (confirmed)
- **Roman Bogdasarov**, Deputy Head of unit on cooperation between church and society, Moscow Patriarchy, and Head of the Secretariat of the Inter-religious Council of Russia (confirmed)
- **Nermin ef.Botonjić**, Chief of Cabinet, Mesihat of Islamic Community in Croatia (confirmed)

Audience Q & A

15.50 – 16.20 **Coffee break**

16.30 – 18.00 **Session 4: A call to action: strengthening international responses to radicalization that leads to terrorism (TBC)**

This panel aims to identify key elements of a joint strategy bringing together regional partners to tackle the challenge of violent radicalization and address fundamental security concerns while taking into account the need to respect basic human rights. What have been the main shortcomings and most notable lessons learnt so far? Is there room for greater co-ordination, including with civil society actors? What next steps can be taken to advance a regional approach?

Moderator: **Lamberto Zannier**, OSCE Secretary General

Panellists:

- **Fathallah Sijilmassi**, Secretary General, Union for the Mediterranean (confirmed)
- **Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser**, High Representative of UNAOC (confirmed)
- **Faisal Bin Muaammar**, Secretary General, KAICIID (confirmed)
- **Hatem Atallah**, Executive Director, Anna Lindh Foundation (confirmed)

Audience Q & A

18:00– 18.20 Concluding Remarks

- **Ambassador Lamberto Zannier**, OSCE Secretary General
- **Ambassador Vuk Zugic**, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council
- **Anna-Katharina Deininger**, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office on Youth and Security (confirmed)