

## **VII. Conclusion - Recommendation on Action**

The OSCE Secretariat's 'Road Map on Terrorism' calls for OSCE missions to monitor and report developments related to fighting and preventing terrorism – concentrating on factors within all three dimensions which provide fertile ground for terrorism – and define ways how the OSCE can address these problems. The specific catalog of Mission activities from the Secretariat's 'Road Map' – listed as bullet points below – is not exhaustive, and missions can create their own initiatives.

### **Politico-Military Dimension**

OSCE Missions shall monitor the implementation of existing politico-military commitments.

- The Mission to BiH should use its influence to pressure the government to sign and ratify the many remaining UN and Council of Europe conventions and protocols against terrorism and international organized crime. The Mission should especially ensure that the OSCE Code of Conduct and SALW be complied with in full, including asking for an annual answer to the Code of Conduct Questionnaire.
- The Mission, working with the other international bodies in BiH, should also monitor the implementation of the aforementioned international agreements. Our office has created a comprehensive questionnaire on BiH's anti-terror obligations under international conventions or politically binding agreements. This should be distributed to all levels of government with competencies in the particular fields, including both the federal and entity administrations.

OSCE Missions shall support national authorities in the re-integration of former combatants into society

- The recent handbook for decommissioned military personnel is a example of the efforts the OSCE has taken to help re-integrate those persons into civilian life. The Mission should continue to work with SFOR and the Ministries of Defense in this important post-war process.

OSCE Missions may give assistance in strengthening border police (including expertise on border controls or recognizing counterfeit identification, all necessary facilities or equipment, creating a national IT system)

- Using the resources available to the OSCE, the Mission can assist with implementing best practices from within the OSCE area, and help to bring in expert trainers for the SBS border police.

### **Economic and Environmental Dimension**

OSCE Missions shall address factors contributing to negative socioeconomic and environmental developments;

- As mentioned previously, poverty, unemployment, and disenfranchisement can provide a breeding ground for terrorist sentiment. The Mission should support the position of the OHR that business registration restrictions be eased, to allow for faster economic development. In addition, interviewees mentioned that entrepreneurial training for young would-be businessmen and businesswomen could play a key role in developing the market economy by creating the right mindset for economic growth.

OSCE Missions shall assist in raising voluntary contributions for such projects

### **Human Dimension**

Missions should:

- monitor and strengthen national human rights institutions;
- facilitate an independent and impartial judiciary;
- enhance transparency for criminal proceedings;
- train judges and prosecutors on organized crime and terrorism;
- assist with return policy;
- promoting inter-ethnic dialogue & pluralism, conflict prevention, etc.;
- enhance permanent monitoring of inter-religious relations for early warning.

### **Co-ordination with other Groups**

The Secretariat's 'Road Map' notes the importance of coordinating efforts at stamping out terrorism with other international groups.

The Mission should work with the UN Mission in BiH, OHR, and Council of Europe to push for full signature, ratification, and implementation of the international conventions and protocols against terrorism and organized crime. Regular dialogue should be kept with the Council of Europe (CoE) to check on the progress toward signing and implementing the CoE's anti-terror documents. Similarly, progress should be monitored on the implementation of the 12 main UN Conventions with the UN representatives in BiH.

The OSCE Mission should also continue to work with the international community in BiH to support the development of the economy, civil society, and rule of law. While investigating and prosecuting suspected terrorists or supporters is important, the Mission should focus heavily on eliminating the root causes of terrorism. The Mission should emphasize

that the “common factors of inept governance, poor public security, weak rule of law, pervasive economic backwardness, institutional corruption and organized crime...combine to produce an environment where international terrorist networks can hid personnel and money. From this perspective, the most important Balkans dimension of the war on terrorism is the long-term work of peace-building – institutional reform and development.”<sup>85</sup>

## **Mission Institutions**

The Head of Mission can offer high-level political support toward speeding up the ratification and implementation process of international anti-terrorism agreements. This should be offered both on the state and entity level.

In addition, the Mission should continue to offer legal support – in helping draft legislation which combats terror without diminishing the protection of human rights. The Security, Democratization, and Human Rights departments should all remain involved in this issue.

The importance of the new OSCE Education department should not be underestimated in the fight against terror. Many of the officials interviewed for this paper expressed the view that strengthening the education system – particularly civil society education – would accomplish much to prevent terrorist sentiment. They mentioned the promotion of European democratic ideals and election activism in the classroom as indispensable toward building a civil society free of terrorist sentiment. In addition, by raising the level of university education in BiH, bright students and possible future leaders will be less likely to leave the country and not return. The Mission should support all such education development project.

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<sup>85</sup> “Bin Laden and the Balkans: The Politics of Anti-Terrorism.” International Crisis Group Report No.119. 9 November 2001.