THE OSCE AS MEDIATOR
Instruments - Challenges - Potentials

Berlin, 6 July 2016
The OSCE and Mediation: Roles and Approaches

Panel:

- Astrid Thors
- Edelgard Bulmahn
- Prof. Dr. Dr. H.C. Christian Tomuschat
- Paul Picard
- Pekka Haavisto

Topics:

- Role of Women
- English is Good for Compromises
- Important to Have Good Cooperation with Missions and Structures
- Dialog Facilitation
- Bilateral Commissions
- Mediation is Long Processes
- OSCE Brings People Together
- Special Representatives (Only 1 year??)
- Mediation Toolbox
- Importance of Mediation at Different Stages and Also During the Conflict
- We Need to Talk to the Bad Guys
- Let's Create Jobs
- Importance of Inclusiveness

Recommendations:

- We Need to Look at the Different Positions
- OSCE is Based on International Agreements
- States Should Consider Advantages
- Consolidation Commissions
- Don't Forget Education!
- Mediation Round Tables
- Inclusion of Women!
- We Need a Systematic Approach and Reorganisation
- We Have to Think About Inclusiveness

Chairs:

- Dr. Almut Wieland-Karini
- Dr. Norbert Ropers
Panel 1

Status-neutral Mediation Approaches

How to involve non-recognised or disputed entities?

Kick-off examples from South Caucasus

Günther Bächler

Oliver Wolle

Nina Tsikhistavi

Magdalena Grino

I disagree with:

"what we call 'mediation' is diplomacy"

We have a hybrid mandate

Not a mediation approach as such

All participants - Not parties

Challenge:

We have no conflict

How to bring it to the table

Not on the safe side - More mediation in the long run or escalation do to parties get stuck

Avoid all status-related issues

Status Question is affecting everything

Better than the status quo!

Melt down frozen structures

Local organisations started dialogue with Russians

We are afraid of compromises and intransparency

Civil society discusses, but they need a channel to high ranking diplomacy

Great pragmatism is needed!

Need for dialogue now!

Otherwise we have war in 5-8 years!

For example:

Expert meetings of both sides

To give future recommendations

Electricity, economy, practical issues

Question of attitude, personality and skills of the mediator

Many cases of putting activists in prison... some blame us for stop working

Even more difficult

Now there is growing up a generation that never experienced peace!

In any case, we can't solve core issues but certain particular issues but maybe there is a danger on escalation as well!

Chair

Dirk Splinter

Sebastian Dworack
Insider Mediators as Part of Peace Infrastructure

Where do they complement and where do they pose a challenge?

Kick-off Examples from Northern Ireland and Tajikistan

Panel 2

Rev. Dr. Gary Mason
3 Young Boys...

Who becomes who?

We need to deal with the past...

Social Healing Process

is not only for politicians
and in not only useful for terrorists

What about us? the hats, murderers, rapists, greedies...

five years later...

Having done step by step...

Insider Mediators are excellent door openers.

What's the number?

Your passion for peace

Peace Messengers

completely divers people with a common aim: create harmony

Young people, women, male leaders, non-religious commanders...

A Challenge:

Peacemakers often want the quick harmony instead of going deeper to the reasons of the conflict

Who is right?

Women's role in peacebuilding

North-South

Decision-making by consensus

Designers are very much influenced by peers

Hey girl, what would you do?

Follow us!!

But remain yourselves

Chair

Illustration: Shanne Ash英國
Protracted Conflicts and their Multi-Dimensionality for Mediation

How to see and use the potential of perceived deadlock situations? Kick-off examples from the Transdniestrian Settlement Process

5+2
The 5+2 meetings here had tangible results.

There is something to be learned from the Transnistrian conflict... but every conflict is different.

Show is not the issue, but rather consistency.

There are three parties: Moldova, the principal key players.

Demonstrate the peace dividend.

You can’t always get what you want (but if you try sometimes you might get what you need).

There are no blueprint for specific solutions that can be transferred from one to another.

The Transnistrian Settlement Process has been described as a tortoise...

The decision-making process of the OSCE can be quite slow.

There is no timeline for progress, but we can work with the parties.

Civil society has been slow to transfer to Transnistria.

5+2
The 5+2 meetings here had tangible results.

The OSCE is trying to speed up the process.

Raga Ostrauskaite

Roxana Cristescu

Julia von Dobeneck

Prof. Dr. Lars Kirchhoff

Dr. Tanja Tamminen

Chair

We have to understand the difficulties of the state-building process.

Even Russian conflicts can be difficult.

The rule of the actors in the conflict is changing.

Civil society has been slow to transfer to Transnistria.

There are three parties: Moldova, the principal key players.

The parties are working on the peace dividend.

You can’t always get what you want (but if you try sometimes you might get what you need).
Inclusivity in Mediation Processes
Who sits at the table - who sits at the window?
Kick-off Examples from the Belgrade-Prizina-Discussion

Jean-Claude Schumberger
There is not enough inclusivity in the discussions

Valdrat Idrizi
Inclusion of Civil Society

Sonia Biserko
Role of the media

Questions of representation

Role of Kosovo Serbs has to be defined by themselves

Brigita von Messling
What kind of format and what participants

Graphic recording by Benjamin Felis
THE OSCE: Variety of Mediation Instruments in the Case of Ukraine

**PLENARY PANEL**

- **Dr. Martin Sajdik**
- **Konstantin Obolensky**
- **Wolfgang Ischinger**
- **Eberhard Pohl**

**We Need Confidence!**

**There is No Dialogue Between Viewers and Separatists**

**Only in Minsk**

**Conclusion & Recommendation**

1. Adapt Mediation to the Needs!
2. Be Creative with Protracted Conflicts!
3. Multitrack Processes with Inclusivity!
4. Include Mediators!
5. Realistic Long-Term Engagement!

- **Dr. Ahmat Wieland-Karimi**
- **Dr. Norbert Ropers**

**2014 OSCE Presidency**

- **INTERNATIONAL CONTACT GROUP**
- **TRI-LATERAL CONTACT GROUP**

**2016 OSCE Presidency**

- **HOT CONFLICTS**
- **MANY PROTRACTED CONFLICTS (AS A LEGACY OF THE FALL OF THE SOVIET UNION)**

**Vision for a Better Society**

**Graphic Recording by @Benjamin Felis**