

# OFFICE OF THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF PROGRAMMES



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



The Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Thorbjørn Jagland and the Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Khemaies Jhinaoui at the launch of the Neighbourhood Partnership with Tunisia 2018-2021, on 9 October 2018.

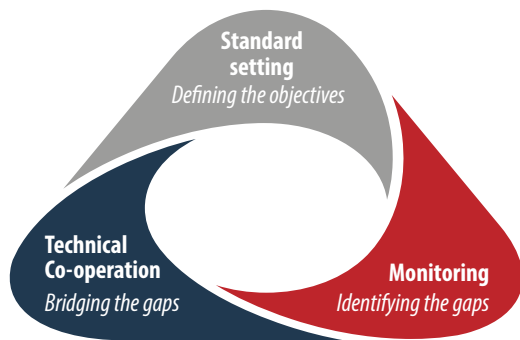
— The Office of the Directorate General of Programmes (ODGP) designs and co-ordinates Council of Europe co-operation activities in member states and in its neighbourhood. These activities are undertaken to help countries reach European standards in human rights, the rule of law and democracy.

— ODGP ensures strategic planning, mobilises resources and supports the implementation of co-operation activities. ODGP is also responsible for 17 Offices located in member states and the neighbourhood. There are two types of Offices: Council of Europe Offices which represent the Secretary General and implement projects and Programme Offices, established solely for the implementation of projects. Offices play an active part in identifying and implementing projects and in raising funds.

## Co-operation programmes: one of the main tasks of the Council of Europe

— The Council of Europe has three main missions: standard setting (international law), monitoring mechanisms, including binding mechanisms (to ensure that standards are reached and maintained) and co-operation activities (to address shortcomings).

— Standard setting, monitoring mechanisms and co-operation activities are often referred to as the Council of Europe's dynamic triangle, which is part of the unique added value of the Organisation.



This triangle links together:

- ▶ the European standards for human rights, the rule of law and democracy which have been developed by the Council of Europe since 1949;
- ▶ the conclusions and recommendations of the Council of Europe's monitoring bodies, which highlight the areas where improvements are needed, on the basis of the Organisation's conventions;
- ▶ the co-operation programmes established largely on the basis of the monitoring conclusions in order to assist the beneficiaries in their efforts to apply Council of Europe standards.

Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni,  
Deputy Secretary General  
of the Council of Europe and  
Satu Mattila-Budich, Ambassador and  
Permanent Representative of Finland,  
signing a voluntary contribution  
agreement on 4 July 2018. Finland is  
consistently among the top donors to the  
Council of Europe and is also a member  
of the Human Rights Trust Fund.



## Strategic programming

ODGP plays an important role in setting the priorities of the Council of Europe's programme and ensures that they are translated into co-ordinated co-operation programmes in member states and beyond. To do this it largely relies on the expert knowledge of different Council of Europe services.

ODGP ensures strategic programming mainly through country and regional planning (action plans and co-operation documents). It contributes to the priority-setting for the Organisation's biennial programme and budget, oversees the extra-budgetary resources and co-ordinates implementation within the remit of its mandate. It also advises the Secretary General on programme matters, such as how to deal with new challenges arising in member states and neighbouring countries.

Action plans and co-operation documents are adopted by the Council of Europe's governing body, the Committee of Ministers, following consultations with national authorities.

## Co-operation in Europe

National, regional or thematic action plans set out priority actions in the fields of human rights, the rule of law and democracy. They are prepared with national authorities by means of bilateral consultations and meetings with the ministries of foreign affairs and other specialised ministries and stakeholders. In-depth consultations with other national and international players, including donors, are conducted to ensure a co-ordinated approach to the co-operation on the ground.

These projects, which are defined in co-operation documents, receive funding from various sources, but the majority of the funding is provided by voluntary contributions from member states and other donors, such as international institutions and observer states. An important number of these projects are implemented as joint programmes between the European Union and the Council of Europe.

Oversight, evaluation, audit and lessons learnt form an important part of the Council of Europe co-operation programme cycle.

## Co-operation in neighbouring countries

The Council of Europe comprises 47 member states and five observer states but co-operation has an even broader reach.

The Council of Europe policy towards its neighbouring regions focuses on areas in which it has a particular added value, through conventions and standards. The Council of Europe neighbourhood co-operation documents aim to facilitate democratic political transition, promote good governance and reinforce the Council of Europe's regional action in combating transborder threats.

# Action Plans and co-operation documents

- ▶ Action Plan for Armenia 2019-2022
- ▶ Action Plan for Azerbaijan 2018-2021
- ▶ Action Plan for Bosnia and Herzegovina 2018-2021
- ▶ Action Plan for Georgia 2016-2019
- ▶ Action Plan for the Republic of Moldova 2017-2020
- ▶ Action Plan for Ukraine 2018-2021
- ▶ Action Plan for Belarus 2016-2018
- ▶ Overview of Co-operation Activities in Kosovo\*
- ▶ Neighbourhood Partnership with Morocco 2018-2021
- ▶ Neighbourhood Partnership with Tunisia 2018-2021
- ▶ Neighbourhood Co-operation Priorities for Kazakhstan 2014-2018
- ▶ Neighbourhood Co-operation Priorities for the Kyrgyz Republic 2015-2019
- ▶ Neighbourhood Co-operation Priorities with Palestine\*\* 2016-2019

\* All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

\*\* This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of Council of Europe member States on this issue.

## Fundraising and relations with donors

ODGP is responsible for coordinating fundraising across the Council of Europe. Extra budgetary resources complement the Organisation's Ordinary Budget and are used primarily for cooperation programmes (in Europe and the neighbourhood area). Through its proactive resource mobilisation strategy, strong donor relations and the promotion of longer-term framework agreements with donors, the volume and consistency extra budgetary resources is increasing. In 2017, extra budgetary receipts reached €59.5 million.

Voluntary contributions are sought and accepted for the Council of Europe co-operation priorities set by the Committee of Ministers in the framework of the Organisation's programme and budget and specific action plans. The Council of Europe accepts voluntary contributions from member states, observer states, non-member states, the European Union, international organisations and foundations, the private sector and individuals who fully share the goals and values of the Organisation.

## Providing support for the Organisation's co-operation activities

ODGP ensures the management of these extra-budgetary financial resources, as well as the co-ordination of project implementation in the field, reporting commitments to donors and a number of other support functions, including the development of new project management tools.



The Council of Europe and European Union launch of "South Programme III: ensuring sustainable democratic governance and human rights in the Southern Mediterranean" on 18 September 2018.

## A few statistics (December 2018)

- ▶ 119 co-operation projects (worth 260 million Euros) are financially and administratively managed by ODGP;
- ▶ 94 of these projects are implemented through the Council of Europe offices and programme offices in the field;
- ▶ 300 Council of Europe staff work on co-operation in these decentralised Offices bringing the activities as close to the beneficiaries as possible.

## Close partnership with the European Union

■ The European Union (EU) is a main political partner of the Council of Europe. A very close partnership between the Council of Europe and the EU has been built up over more than two decades and is reflected politically and financially in joint programmes based on common values and goals which advance democratic governance, human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Europe and beyond.

■ The strategic approach to this partnership was strengthened in April 2014 by the signature of the Statement of intent for the co-operation between the Council of Europe and the European Commission which has resulted in larger-scale framework co-operation such as the Partnership for Good Governance for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus as well as the South Programme III for Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine,\*\* Tunisia, and the Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey.

## External presence

■ ODGP co-ordinates administrative, financial, logistical and human resources, and ensures the financial management of programmes implemented by the Council of Europe Offices and Programme Offices.

■ There are offices in: Ankara, Baku, Belgrade, Bucharest, Chisinau, Kyiv, Moscow, Podgorica, Sarajevo, Skopje, Tbilisi, Tirana, Venice and Yerevan, as well as Rabat, Tunis and Pristina.

■ In addition, the Council of Europe has Liaison Offices in Brussels, Geneva, Vienna and Warsaw for contacts with international institutions and organisations.

## CONTACTS

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**Website of ODGP**

**[www.coe.int/programmes](http://www.coe.int/programmes)**

**Website of the Partnership for Good Governance**

**<http://partnership-governance-eu.coe.int>**

**Website of the South Programme III**

**<http://southprogramme3-eu.coe.int>**

**Website of Horizontal Facility**

**<http://horizontal-facility-eu.coe.int>**

**[www.coe.int](http://www.coe.int)**

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

