

24th Summer Academy on OSCE

7 - 14 September 2024

Discussing the OSCE & the challenges of rebuilding security is more relevant than ever.

Since 1997 the purpose of the “Summer Academy on OSCE” has been to expand and deepen knowledge about the OSCE. A number of Alumni have gone on to become OSCE diplomats or OSCE field staff, contributing to various OSCE activities.

Organised by



**Austrian
Centre for Peace**
SCHLAINING · VIENNA



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Background & Purpose of the Summer Academy on OSCE

Discussing the OSCE and the challenges of rebuilding security in Europe are more relevant than ever.

The Summer Academy on OSCE in Stadtschlaining is a 24-year tradition (since 1997). It has trained a generation of diplomats, OSCE field staff and other practitioners in understanding the Helsinki Process and the OSCE, its methods of work and its relevance in preventing and dealing with security threats in Europe. In the process, the Academy has stimulated debate on the OSCE and its work and developed a network of practitioners who have shared the unique Schlaining experience and have retained their interest in the organization.

The war in Ukraine has destroyed the pan-European security order, and created an existential crisis for the OSCE and, more broadly, the idea of cooperative security. Therefore, discussing the OSCE and the challenges of rebuilding security in Europe are more relevant than ever.

After a four-year hiatus because of COVID-19, the war in Ukraine et al., the Summer Academy on the OSCE at the renamed and renovated Austrian Peace Centre will take part in the autumn of 2024.

The executive-level course has adapted to changing circumstances, thus:

- The course will move from the spring to the autumn to support the in-coming Chair for 2025.
- The course will provide a more focused and cost-effective program.
- There will be less of a focus on the OSCE and its executive structure and a greater focus on how to address security threats and challenges in Europe, and developing the skills to anticipate emerging threats, facilitate dialogue, and manage relations in a highly polarized security environment.

Program Overview (draft)

	SAT, 07 Sept.	SUN, 08 Sept.	MON, 09 Sept.	TUE, 10 Sept.	WED, 11 Sept.	THU, 12 Sept.	FRI, 13 Sept.	SAT, 14 Sept.
9 - 10.30		Security and Cooperation in ruins: Cooperative security and the OSCE in a time of crisis	The OSCE in the field	Emerging threats and challenges: what role for the OSCE?	Scenarios for the OSCE in rebuilding European security (Teamwork / Simulation game)	<i>Traveling to Vienna</i> Visit to OSCE in Vienna	Presentation of scenarios for the OSCE in rebuilding European security	Individual Departure
11- 12.30		OSCE principles: what are they and are they still relevant?	The OSCE as a framework for managing political-military relations (CSBMs, arms control FSC, Structured Dialogue)	Rebuilding security – rebuilding peace!?	Continued	PC Meeting	Continued	
15 - 16.30	Arrival of Participants	OSCE executive structures	How to build cooperation? (Mediation and CBMs, practical exercises)	Scenarios for the OSCE in rebuilding European security (discussion and preparation of Simulation) (Teamwork)	Continued	Meeting OSCE Representatives	Continued	
17 - 18.30	Introduction of Participants, Team, Programme	Workshop 1: "Icebreaker" Teambuilding – Working in multinational Teams	Continued	Continued	Continued	Leadership in a time of change and crisis (meetings with Chairmanship/Troika and SG)	Wrap up and evaluation	
19.00	Official Opening Ceremony 19:45 Welcome Dinner		Participants' WS: Volunteers				19:30 Closing, Farwell Dinner	

Curriculum & Methodology

A carefully balanced mix of lectures, workshops and a study visit to the OSCE in Vienna.

The methodology of the Academy is based on lectures, workshops, a study visit to the OSCE in Vienna, completed by background readings. Basic information about the OSCE and its executive structures are made available in advance to help participants prepare for the lectures.

- Lecturers use primarily case study approach and focus on recent developments and activities of the OSCE.
- Working groups give participants the opportunity to discuss the subjects dealt with in the lectures and to further consolidate and apply their knowledge.
- Participants practice communication, mediation and negotiation skills and gain experimental knowledge of different concepts through interactive exercises, such as role-plays and simulation exercises.
- The Academy includes a 2-day excursion to the Hofburg/Vienna to visit the Permanent Council and meet OSCE representatives.

The 24th Summer Academy on OSCE will be implemented in Stadtschlaining and Vienna from 7 – 14 September 2024.

The Academy will finish with a 2-day excursion to the Hofburg/Vienna to visit the PC and meet OSCE representatives.



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Application Requirements & Procedure

Scholarships are available for selected participants from non- OECD countries.

The cost of participation will be € 2.500, - per participant. This amount covers tuition, educational materials, and full board accommodation in a single room with bath as well as all expenses linked to social events and excursions of this 7 days-training-event.

For participants coming from non-OECD member states, a limited number of scholarships will be awarded. Applicants who would like to apply for such a support should indicate this in the respective section of the [application form](#). However, there is no possibility to get financial support for travel expenses from the organisers.

Application Requirements

Applications can be downloaded here:

[SAC on OSCE - ACP \(aspr.ac.at\)](#)

- Master's degree or the equivalent in working experience.
- working knowledge of English.
- submission of the application form and the required accompanying materials as soon as possible, but not later than **DEADLINE 15 May 2024**.

Applicants for admission will be selected on a competitive basis. Preference is given to applicants whose participation is supported by their Foreign Ministry or one of the OSCE institutions. Applicants will be informed on the decision of the admissions committee in May 2024.

Application is possible via the [online application form](#) only!

The Summer Academy Course Directors

Arie Bloed has been involved in CSCE/OSCE matters since the end of the 1970s, both as a scholar and as a practitioner. He has published extensively on OSCE issues. Arie Bloed is Co-Founder, Director and Lecturer of the Summer Academy on OSCE since its foundation 1997. In the past decade, Arie Bloed has been actively involving in Security Sector Governance and Reform in a large number of countries in Eastern Europe, Central Asia, South-East Asia, the Pacific Region and the Middle East.

Ursula Gamauf-Eberhardt is managing the Summer Academy on OSCE and other OSCE related projects at the ACP since 2005; 2010 she took over the responsibility as the Academy Co-director. Ursula founded the Programme on Peace Education at the ACP and is heading this constantly evolving portfolio ever since.

Walter Kemp is Director of the Global Strategy at the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime, a strategic adviser at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, and teaches at the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna. He has worked in several senior positions at the OSCE, as well as Spokesman and Speechwriter at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Vice President of the International Peace Institute. He is author of *Security through Cooperation: to the Same End* (2022).

Austrian Centre for Peace (ACP) – Peace Castle Schlaining

The ACP was founded in 1982 and is located in a medieval castle in Southern Burgenland, with a second office in Vienna. The ACP holds the status of UN "Peace Messenger" and a UNESCO "Prize for Peace Education". The ACP is an independent, non-profit and non-partisan organization. It is engaged in research, education/training/capacity development and practical conflict transformation.

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