

ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE OSCE BORDER SECURITY AND MANAGEMENT  
NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS NETWORK

**PROMOTING CROSS-BORDER CO-OPERATION  
AND CONFIDENCE BUILDING  
TO ADDRESS EMERGING THREATS AND CHALLENGES  
IN THE OSCE REGION**

BERLIN, GERMANY  
12 - 13 APRIL 2016

#### BACKGROUND

At the Ministerial Council in Ljubljana, participating States adopted the **OSCE Border Security and Management Concept (BSMC, MC.DOC/2/05; 6 December 2005)**. In the BSMC, the OSCE was tasked to facilitate the “exchange of information, experience and best practices” as well as “technical dialogue between national border services and competent national structures” on border security and management issues.

Additionally, the BSMC identified the *establishment of national focal points (NFPs) as a method by which a possible OSCE contribution may be delivered*. The Permanent Council approved the **Terms of Reference for the OSCE Border Security and Management National Focal Points (NFP) Network (PC.DEC/757; 5 December 2006)**, which described the responsibilities of the NFPs and the OSCE Secretariat.

Most participating States are represented in the Network, with 52 appointing NFPs that meet on an annual basis. *This year’s meeting will mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NFP Network* and will be co-organized with the current OSCE Chairmanship in Berlin, Germany.

The event focuses on the conclusions of the previous annual meetings and is in line with the 2016 German OSCE Chairmanship priorities.

#### MEETING OBJECTIVES

- for all participants: to review emerging transnational threats and challenges and discuss how modern border security and management services can address those;
- analyze existing cross-border co-operation mechanisms and share best practices such as developing joint operational co-operation (regional border police and customs co-operation/information exchange centres, joint border patrolling, liaison officers, joint operations, information exchange systems, etc.);
- define and discuss lessons learnt and challenges posed by the recent migration crisis;
- share best practices and lessons learnt such as providing timely and accurate information to public and partner agencies;
- brainstorm on how to improve communication measures to the public and partner services in order to contributing to higher public engagement and mutual support to manage crisis situations;
- for NFPs only: to discuss on-going initiatives and agree on further activities.

## PARTICIPANTS

The meeting is open for officially designated National Focal Points, relevant national experts as well as representatives of the OSCE field operations that address border security and management issues in their host country<sup>1</sup> and officials from international and regional organizations dealing with relevant issues that are willing to contribute to the discussions.

The German OSCE Chairmanship is planning to invite suitable border security and management experts from the OSCE Partners for Co-operation to take part in some sessions of the Meeting.

## DRAFT AGENDA

### Monday, 11 April

19.00            *Hotel Berlin, Berlin*            **Networking reception hosted by German OSCE Chairmanship**

### Tuesday, 12 April

09.00 – 09.30            **Participants' registration**

09.30 – 10.00

#### Opening remarks

##### Invited speakers (TBC):

- **Dr. Emily Haber**, State Secretary of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Germany
- **Mr. Alexey Lyzhenkov**, Director of the Transnational Threats Department, OSCE Secretariat
- **Mr. Dennis Cosgrove**, Head/Border Security and Management Unit, Transnational Threats Department, OSCE Secretariat

10.00 – 11.00

#### **Introduction: Emerging transnational threats and challenges and modern approaches to border security and management**

*The invited speakers and the NFPs will review the current and emerging threats and challenges the OSCE pS's are facing. The participants will be encouraged to brainstorm on whether the modern approaches to border security and management are comprehensive and flexible enough to address these emerging threats and challenges.*

Q&A Session

11.00 – 11.30

**Coffee break**  
*(Family photo)*

11.30 – 12.30

#### **Panel discussion: Cross-border co-operation and confidence building mechanisms**

*The participants will be introduced to existing cross-border co-operation mechanisms and will be invited to share best practices in developing joint*

<sup>1</sup> The co-ordination meeting of the OSCE Field Operations representatives dealing with border security and management issues is planned for 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016 afternoon at the same venue.

	<p><i>operational co-operation (regional border police and customs co-operation/information exchange centres, joint border patrolling, liaison officers, joint operations, information exchange systems, etc.), define and discuss the positive lessons learnt and the challenges posed by the recent migration crisis.</i></p> <p>Q&amp; A Session</p>
12.30 – 13.00	<p><b>OSCE Border Management Staff College</b></p> <p><i>The representative of the OSCE Border Management Staff College will provide a briefing on the recent College achievements and plans for the remainder of the year.</i></p> <p>Q&amp;A Session</p>
13.00 – 14.30	<p><b>Lunch</b></p>
14.30 – 16.00	<p><b>Panel discussion: Crisis management through communication with adjacent agencies and the public</b></p> <p><i>Among the many tasks performed by the border security and management agencies, maintaining trust with the community and the neighbouring services is the cornerstone of successful law enforcement. Building and maintenance of trust takes a great deal of continuous effort. Communication with partner agencies and the public is equally crucial to providing security at the borders as any other function of the modern border service and more so in the times of crisis. Non-systematic and inaccurate communications with the media could negatively contribute to the development of a crisis situations. The participants will be invited to share the best practices and lessons learnt in providing timely and accurate information to the public and partner agencies thus contributing to higher public engagement and mutual support in managing crisis situations.</i></p> <p>Q&amp;A Session</p>
16.00 – 16.30	<p><b>Coffee break</b></p>
16.30 – 17.30	<p><b>NFP Network: on-going initiatives and way forward</b></p> <p><i>The officially appointed National Focal Points will be invited to discuss:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>future plans and projects (BU, ExB projects)</i></li> <li>• <i>communication tools and mechanisms</i></li> <li>• <i>prospective joint NFP Network activities</i></li> </ul>
19.00	<p><b>Dinner hosted by the German OSCE Chairmanship</b></p>

Wednesday, 13 April

09.00 – 17.00

#### Field trip to the German-Polish Border in Swiecko

*The German Ministry of Interior will offer the participants an opportunity to learn about best practices in conducting joint police work, putting the necessary structures and communication mechanisms in place to provide for efficient border security and management. Special attention will be paid to the functioning of the Police and Customs Co-operation Centre in Swiecko at the German-Polish border.*

### REGISTRATION

Participants are invited to use the POLIS on-line registration tool here: <http://polis.osce.org/registration>

**REGISTRATION: NOT LATER THAN 5 MARCH 2016**

The provisional list of participants will be available at the accreditation desk during registration, throughout the meeting, and a final version will be uploaded to the POLIS platform after the meeting together with all the meeting materials.

### VENUE AND ACCOMMODATION

The Meeting will take place in **Hotel Berlin, Berlin (Conference room Berlin Berlin 1)**.

Address: Lützowplatz 17, 10785 Berlin, Germany

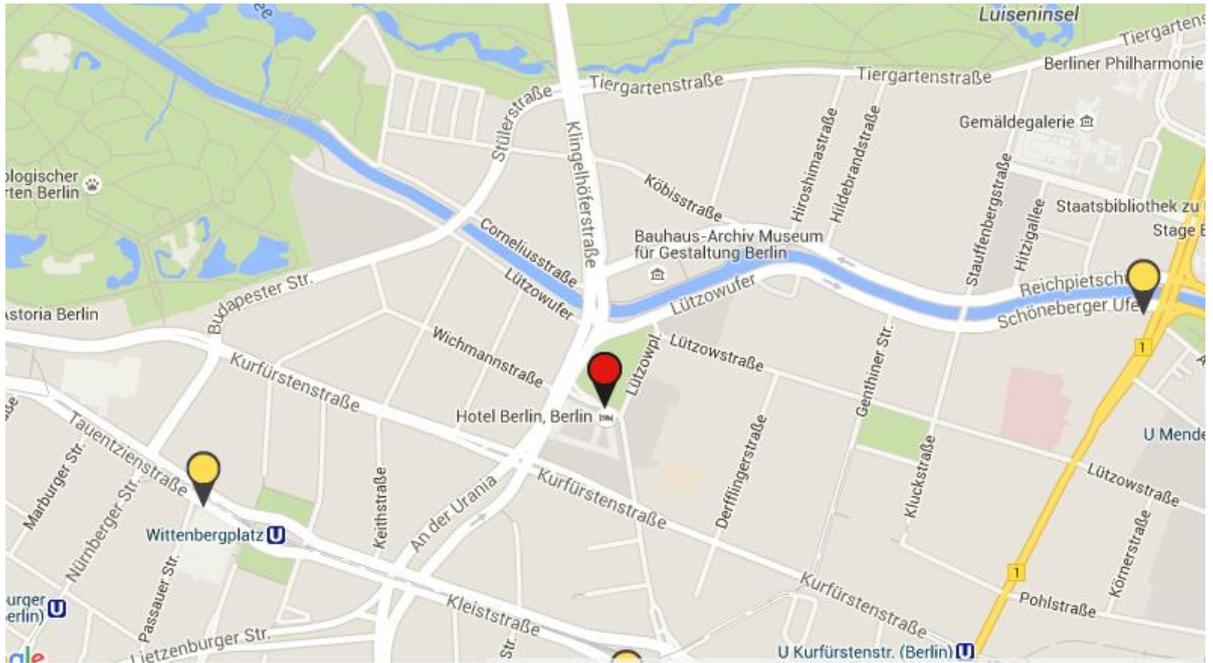
Tel: +49 (0) 30 2605 2700

Fax: +49 (0) 30 2605 39 2715

E-mail: [reservations@hotel-berlin.de](mailto:reservations@hotel-berlin.de)

<http://www.hotel-berlin.de/de/>





**Special rate for the participants of the Meeting will be as follows:**

- Standard single room 80,00 EUR (incl. breakfast and taxes)
- Business single room 80,00 EUR (incl. breakfast and taxes)
- Premium single room 100,00 EUR (incl. breakfast and taxes)
- Supplement for double occupancy will be charged at € 20.00 per person and day
- Payment: upon check-out, in EUR only, cash or with credit card (Master, VISA, Amex)

Please note that **we will not be able to guarantee the availability of the rooms with the special rate after the hotel booking deadline.**

**HOTEL BOOKING: NOT LATER THAN 5 MARCH 2016**

**To book the hotel room** please address your queries (**please mention the keyword “OSCE NFP”**) to the Reservations Department:

Tel: +49 (0) 30 2605 2700

Fax: +49 (0) 30 2605 39 2715

E-mail: [reservations@hotel-berlin.de](mailto:reservations@hotel-berlin.de)

Please note that you will be asked for your credit card number when booking the hotel.

**TRAVEL BOOKINGS**

Participants are kindly requested to make their own travel arrangements, which will not be paid for by the OSCE or the host country.

Participants eligible for travel sponsorship will be contacted separately.

**TRANSFERS TO/FROM THE AIRPORT**

Participants are kindly requested to arrange their own transfer from the airport to the hotel.

- Public transport: depending on your airport of arrival please check the possible routes to the venue of the meeting using the following tools:

<http://www.berlin-airport.de/en/travellers-txl/to-and-from/route-planner/>

<http://www.vbb.de/de/index.html>

- b) **Taxis:** The basic taxi fare is €3.90, while the kilometre fare is €2.00 per kilometre for the first 7 kilometres, and €1.50 for each kilometre above that. The website of the Taxi-Portal Berlin (<http://www.taxi-in-berlin.de/taxitarif/taxi-tarifrechner/>) has an online tariff calculator (in German). Extra charges are applicable in large taxis or for bulky luggage.

Taxi Berlin: +49 30 – 20 20 20  
Würfelfunk: +49 30 – 21 01 01  
TaxiFunk Berlin: +49 30 – 44 33 22  
Quality Taxi: +49 30 – 26 300 0

- c) **Hotel transfer:** you might also opt for booking the transfer with the hotel while making the reservation at own cost.  
**Contact:** [hotel-berlin@interklassik.net](mailto:hotel-berlin@interklassik.net), Tel: +493026053112

## INTERNET

The above mentioned room rates include WLAN (512 kbit/s), both in the guest room and public area for the period from 11 to 13 April.

If you need a higher bandwidth, the hotel can offer WLAN with up to 54 mbit/s. An extra fee of € 15.95 per day and device will be charged. The hotel can assure the usage of their WLAN within the rooms and public areas of the venue.

## MEALS

The organizers will provide participants with lunches and coffee breaks at the venue of the conference as per Meeting agenda.

## WORKING MODUS OF THE MEETING AND THE CHATHAM HOUSE RULE

The Meeting consists of several thematic plenary sessions. The moderators and expert speakers will initiate the discussions, which are to be followed and complemented by the NFPs' contributions and Q&A sessions. A moderator will facilitate the debates and the rapporteurs nominated in advance will summarize the key issues discussed.

The Meeting should stimulate a free-flowing discussion out of which recommendations should emerge. Therefore it will be held, and reported, within the principle and purpose of the Chatham House Rule.

The **Chatham House Rule** is a principle that governs the confidentiality of the source of information received at a meeting. Since its refinement in 2002, the rule states: *When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.*

The rule allows people to speak as individuals and to express views that may not be those of their organizations or nations, and therefore, encourages free discussion. Speakers are free to voice their own opinions, without concern for their personal reputation or their official duties and affiliations.

## WORKING LANGUAGES

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English, German, and Russian.

## DISTRIBUTION OF WRITTEN CONTRIBUTIONS AND MEETING MATERIALS

Participants are welcome to submit written contributions reflecting their views on the issues to be discussed at the Meeting (to [bordersnfp@osce.org](mailto:bordersnfp@osce.org)). An *English translation* of documents submitted in another language is highly appreciated.

All the Meeting materials will be stored in POLIS.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR INVITED SPEAKERS

Invited Speakers should submit *well in advance* their request for technical support, as well as an **electronic copy of their presentation** to the contacts provided above.

Speakers are kindly requested to bring an electronic copy of their presentation (on a USB stick) **as a back-up**, when travelling to the Meeting.

## VISA SUPPORT

Participants are encouraged to apply for visas as early as possible.

It is advisable to check for visa and entry requirements before making travel arrangements. Please visit [www.germany-visa.org](http://www.germany-visa.org) or contact an official German diplomatic representation in your area.

**Visa support letters** can be requested by e-mail from [veronika.livsica@osce.org](mailto:veronika.livsica@osce.org). Your request should be accompanied by a scanned copy of the passport you will travel with, valid for at least six months, and an indication of the embassy you will be applying to.

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### In case of emergency:

European emergency phone number: 112  
Police: 110

### Medical help:

Medical emergencies: +49 30 - 31 00 31  
Call a Doc: +49 1805 – 321303

**Tip: you can always use the public phone booth and several EUR coins to call in Berlin.**

## YOUR CONTACTS AT THE GERMAN OSCE CHAIRMANSHIP

### Mr. Bernd Pfaffenbach

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## YOUR CONTACTS IN THE TRANSNATIONAL THREATS DEPARTMENT

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