

RESOLUTION ON
STRENGTHENING THE OSCE'S APPROACH TO SUPPORTING SECURITY
SECTOR GOVERNANCE AND REFORM IN PARTICIPATING
AND PARTNER STATES

1. Recognizing that the nature of conflict has changed over recent years and that the concept of security no longer limits itself to a narrow State-centric approach, but has broadened its reach to include the well-being, vulnerabilities and human rights of people,
2. Recalling that by transforming the security sector into one that is inclusive, accountable and democratically controlled, security sector governance and reform (SSG/R) enhances State and human security, thus enabling security authorities to address today's multifaceted and emerging security challenges,
3. Stressing the importance of reforming the security sector to effectively provide both State and human security, strengthen the rule of law and good governance, and underlining that an accountable, effective and responsive security sector is a cornerstone for sustaining peace and sustainable development as well as an important instrument of conflict prevention and management which contributes to greater trust and stability in the OSCE region and beyond,
4. Convinced that all SSG/R processes should be nationally owned, backed by strong political commitment, rooted in the country's institutions and responsive to local needs and conditions, while at the same time upholding good governance, the rule of law and respect for human rights,
5. Stressing that SSG/R is in line with the OSCE's comprehensive approach to security and provides for cross-dimensional co-operation, including across the politico-military dimension, economic and environmental dimension as well as the human dimension of the OSCE,
6. Recalling United Nations Security Council Resolution 2151 (2014) and other international and regional SSG/R frameworks such as the European Union's Strategic Framework to Support the Security Sector Reform (2016), and the African Union's Policy Framework on Security Sector Reform (2013), all of which stress the importance of SSG/R for sustainable peace and development,
7. Reaffirming, as in the 2015 Helsinki Final Declaration and its Resolution on the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (the Code) adopted in 1994, the importance of this Code as a normative key document for the democratic control of armed forces in democratic societies and the necessity to reinforce it as a fundamental principle of SSG/R,
8. Recalling the importance of effective democratic, and in particular parliamentary, control over the public and private security sectors, in accordance with the 2014 Baku Final Declaration's Resolution on the Democratic Control of the Public and Private Security Sectors,

9. Recalling United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000), which stresses the importance of ensuring increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions,
10. Noting with satisfaction that the OSCE and its participating States have addressed the topic of SSG/R in the framework of a joint FSC–PC meeting and OSCE-wide Conferences, and that internal SSG/R guidelines have been adopted as well as an internal SSG/R focal point network put into place,
11. Recalling, as underlined by the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) mapping study on the Role of the OSCE in SSG/R of December 2013 (CIO.GAL/18/14), that the OSCE is to a large extent already engaged in supporting national SSG/R processes both at the normative and operational levels, but that an encompassing strategic framework is lacking, resulting in a scattered approach and a loss of sustainability and efficiency,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

12. Commends the OSCE Executive Structures for the progress made towards developing a more coherent and co-ordinated approach to SSG/R, with the OSCE Guidelines on SSG/R providing a good practical tool to this end, and welcomes progress in their implementation;
13. Reiterates the importance of taking a comprehensive and inclusive approach when supporting national reform efforts, by involving all relevant actors, including civil society, particularly with regard to exercising oversight;
14. Calls on the OSCE Executive Structures to increase their efforts towards the development of an OSCE-wide strategic approach to support nationally led SSG/R processes and to ensure that OSCE efforts are complementary to other initiatives at the international and regional levels, spearheaded by the work of the United Nations towards the implementation of UNSCR 2151, the Sustaining Peace Agenda, as well as the Sustainable Development Goals;
15. Stresses the importance of adopting a cross-dimensional, comprehensive, human rights-based and gender-responsive approach to SSG/R support, while taking into account regional and national sensitivities and engaging all participating States in a transparent manner, recognizing the key elements of national ownership and accountability;
16. Emphasizes the importance of adopting a gender-sensitive approach to adequately respond to the security needs of men, women, boys and girls, and of including women and their perspectives in all the stages of SSG/R, given the importance of having gender responsive security institutions and in recognition of the important role inclusive teams play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, in particular because the inclusion of women and their perspectives in the security sector not only enhances legitimacy and local ownership, but also increases the long-term success of any reform;
17. Calls on OSCE participating States to ensure that SSG/R initiatives prioritize the prevention of sexual abuse and exploitation in armed conflict and post-conflict situations by delivering robust training on sexual abuse and exploitation to military, civilian and

police personnel, prosecuting perpetrators, and ensuring that survivors of sexual violence have equal protection under the law, access to justice, and access to healthcare and psychosocial support;

18. Encourages the OSCE to collaborate with the United Nations and other international and regional organizations active in supporting SSG/R with the aim of co-ordinating activities and initiatives, and invites the participating States to exchange information concerning their experiences in this domain;
19. Confirms its belief that security should be enhanced by the greater empowerment of women in related positions within civil society, policy analysis, government and international organizations, and by ensuring that they have a direct and concrete role in the policy-making process and intergovernmental dialogue;
20. Calls upon participating States to support this process with the necessary political ownership by engaging in an inclusive discussion on the development of a common understanding of SSG/R in the context of the OSCE among all participating States and by strategically addressing the topic in meetings of the OSCE's different political bodies, across all three OSCE dimensions, and to consider the adoption of a Ministerial Council Decision in this respect;
21. Further encourages the current and incoming OSCE Chairpersonships and the participating States to exploit their convening power to call upon the relevant actors to share their experiences at the regional and subregional levels;
22. Encourages the OSCE Secretary General to report on progress made by the OSCE in strengthening its approach to SSG/R support;
23. Underlines the role and responsibility of parliamentarians and parliamentary security commissions regarding the oversight of the security sector in participating States, and calls upon national parliamentarians to foster discussions on parliamentary oversight of the security sector at the national and regional levels;
24. Further emphasizes the importance of fully implementing and strengthening the norms and provisions of the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security as a prerequisite for successful and sustainable SSG/R processes;
25. Calls upon Members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to support efforts to enhance coherence and to develop an OSCE approach to SSG/R and to institutionalize the discussion on SSG/R at the level of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly by regularly setting an item related to SSG/R on the agenda of its General Committee on Political Affairs and Security;
26. Resolves to remain involved in discussions pertaining to SSG/R.