Yuliia HALENKO
senior lecturer at the Department
of Language Studies of Dnipro State
University of Internal Affairs
(Dnipro, Ukraine)
https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5670-4774

THE ROLE OF THE OSCE IN SECURITY AND STABILITY IN EUROPE

The Organization for Security and Defense in Europe (OSCE) plays a key role in maintaining peace and stability in the European region. Founded in course of the Cold War, it has become an important platform for the establishment of dialogue and cooperation between state powers. Today the OSCE is the largest regional international security organization, comprising 57 member states from the United States of America, European countries and Central Asia with populations across billion of individuals. The organization contributes in ensuring dialogue between countries from various security sectors, including the prevention of conflicts and their regulation [2].

The OSCE advocates a holistic approach to security that promotes military-political, economic and humanitarian aspects. Its specialized institutions and expert groups aim to provide security in the region, dealing with control over the armed forces, combatting terrorism, energy security, democratization and the protection of human rights.

The organization operates without a statutory agreement and is based on the voluntary participation of member states, which provides equal status for every member. Throughout its existence, the OSCE has evolved from a forum for dialogue between military blocs to an important element of the daily security system in Europe and the world [3].

The priorities of the OSCE reflect a comprehensive approach to increasing the importance of security, stability and human rights [1]. The organization emphasizes legal reform, promoting the development of democratic institutions, the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary.

The OSCE is also involved in human rights awareness, providing educational programs and training to increase awareness of human rights and freedoms. An important direct focus is the fight against organized crime, terrorism and human trafficking, which provides international coordination and support to law enforcement agencies.

Control over military forces and reform of the military sector is another key aspect of the organization's operation, directly aimed at ensuring visibility, transparency and efficiency of the defense sector functioning. Moreover, the OSCE implements environmental initiatives for the exploitation of natural resources.

In the security sector, the organization supports the development of fair law enforcement systems and border management. It protects the freedom of the world and promotes holding free and fair elections as well that uphold democratic standards.

The expanded role of the OSCE in the context of security allows us to better understand the importance of international cooperation and dialogue for the stability and peace in Europe.

_____
1. «EU Statement on the russian federation's Ongoing Aggression against Ukraine». OSCE Permanent Council No. 1507 Vienna, 6 February 2025: the EEAS official website. URL: https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna-international-organisations/osce-permanent-council-no-1507-vienna-6-february-2025-0_en (date of access: 06.02.2025).
2. Organization for Safety and Security in Europe (OSCE): the official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. URL: https://mfa.gov.ua/mizhnarodni-vidnosini/organizaciya-z-bezpeki-i-spivrobitnictva-v-yevropi (date of access: 07.02.2025).
3. OSCE External Cooperation: United Nations. Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe: the official website. URL: https://www.osce.org/partnerships/111477 (date of access: 05.02.2025).