



Rappresentanza Permanente d'Italia
OSCE

AMB. STEFANO BALDI

**INTERVENTO DI SALUTO AL CORSO DI FORMAZIONE OSCE/COESPU SUL CONTRASTO
ALLA TRATTA DI ESSERE UMANI**

Vicenza, 30 settembre 2021

Thanks.

I would like to express my gratitude to the CoESPU (Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units) for the invitation and hospitality.

The visit today clearly showed that we have many reasons to celebrate and to be proud.

First of all, the successful conclusion of this course. I am sure that the work and the exchanges of the last few weeks among all the participants have been an enriching personal and professional experience.

Secondly, the conclusion of this multiannual OSCE project. The numbers are impressive and speak for themselves: 8 simulation-based trainings, more than 529 practitioners from over 54 participating States, 7 Partners for Co-operation and 6 countries from Central and Western Africa. We have come a long way since the first simulation-based training exercises.

None of this would have been possible without the leadership and quality training provided by CoESPU.

A further reason to celebrate is the uniqueness of this project. It helps countries to effectively investigate and prosecute trafficking in human beings, as well as to promptly identify and assist victims of human trafficking by promoting a multi-agency and human rights-based approach. It therefore embodies the comprehensive concept of security, with its three dimensions, which characterises the OSCE and makes it unique.

This is also a special project because it truly involved the whole OSCE membership, as the nationalities represented here today demonstrate. Participants have come from countries both “east and west of Vienna”, as well as from the OSCE Mediterranean partners.

Why this project is particularly successful and appreciated?

It is concrete, it is innovative, it brings people (practitioners) together in a conducive environment, it is conducted by experienced professionals who work in the field, and it is replicable.

Indeed, there is another achievement worth celebrating and I believe that it is probably the most important one.

These simulation-based training exercises have become a model for other similar courses. They have been replicated and implemented many times at the national level, in order to respond and to address specific local context and needs. It is a true success story.

This project is a perfect example of Italy’s staunch support and strong political and financial commitment to the OSCE over the years.