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**EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW**  
**(VENICE COMMISSION)**

**UNIDEM  
CAMPUS TRIESTE SEMINAR**

**“THE PROTECTION OF THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF  
IRREGULAR MIGRANTS”**

**Trieste, Italy**

**Palazzo del Ferdinando,  
MIB School of Management  
Largo Caduti di Nasirya n° 1  
tel: +39 040 918 8111**

**23 – 26 November 2009**

**SYNOPSIS**

1. The UNIDEM Campus Trieste programme is the Venice Commission's "Training for Trainers" programme for civil servants from 16 countries<sup>1</sup>. The participants of UniDem Campus seminars are expected to pass on the knowledge and skills they acquired to their colleagues. To this end they are requested to organise follow-up events after attending the seminar.

2. The programme is financed by the Region Friuli-Venezia Giulia.

3. The third seminar of the year 2009 took place in Trieste from 23 to 26 November 2009. Its subject was:

***"The protection of the Fundamental Rights of irregular migrants"***

4. The participants were 15 high-level civil servants involved in the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Security.

5. The seminar began with a first lecture on the "The case-law of the European Court of Human Rights on expulsion and deportation matters: the guarantees under articles 3, 5 and 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights and the application of the interim measures pursuant to Article 39". It was followed by a workshop on the "Refugees and asylum seekers in the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights". The seminar continued with a lecture on "The system of control over the detention facilities for aliens: the activity of the Council of Europe's European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment".

On the second day the participants heard a lecture on "The guarantees for an effective access to asylum requests or to the recognition of refugee status in the context of mixed migratory flows". The seminar continued with a workshop on the "Alternatives to Detention of Asylum Seekers and Refugees". It was followed by a lecture on the "International Law and irregular immigration. The case of Spain as a paradigm of recent immigration models". The participants contributed to the seminar by giving presentation on the protection of the fundamental rights of irregular migrants in their home countries.

On the third day the participants took part in the lectures "The aims and tasks of FRONTEX, the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union" and "Legal Instruments and guiding principles on irregular migration of unaccompanied and separated minors". The seminar continued with a workshop on "The cycle of migration: a comprehensive approach based on the best interest of the child".

6. On the last day of the seminar the participants attended the workshop "Training the Trainers" dedicated to the organisation of follow-up events. The participants discussed the most effective ways to organise such events and developed concrete plans for the organisation. Furthermore, they each received a training manual to that effect prepared by the Council of Europe. Moreover, they were provided with a "Best practices" collection of reports of past follow-up events.

7. The participants were very motivated and contributed actively to the discussions and workshops. The workshop "Training the Trainers" raised their awareness of the importance of the programme's follow-up aspect and provided them with the necessary tools to organise such events. This will enable them to pass on the knowledge and skills acquired during the seminar

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<sup>1</sup> Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia, Romania, the Russian Federation, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" and Ukraine.

to a large number of colleagues. Both the participants and their colleagues will apply that knowledge and those skills in their daily work.

9. The lecturers' reports will be put on the Venice Commission's website shortly and may serve as a basis for the preparation of follow-up events.