### SOROS FOUNDATIONS NETWORK REPORT







**Building Open Societies:** Soros Foundations Network 2005 Report

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COVER PHOTOGRAPH: An Afghan woman relaxes at a polling station after casting her vote.

INSIDE COVER PHOTOGRAPH: A group of young girls study the Koran at a mosque in Afghanistan.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Lana Slezic

Complete photography credits on page 191

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# **Civil Society: Global Advances** and Local Resistance

◀ THE FIFTH ESTATE. **Protestors at** May Day rally in Moscow.

**ACCORDING TO** Carlyle's famous story, Edmund Burke once pointed to the gallery in the House of Commons where the journalists were sitting and first referred to its occupants as the "Fourth Estate." Burke meant that the press, like the other three estates in Parliament—the clerical hierarchy, the peers, and the commons—was a participant in the governing of England. If Burke were with us today and all the other estates were still significant in government, he might designate a "Fifth Estate": nongovernmental organizations. NGOs have grown greatly in number, size, and **significance** in recent years in almost all countries of the world. The main exceptions are a few of the most repressive states that either ban them entirely—such as North Korea—or make it almost impossible for them to operate—such as Burma, Libya, and Turkmenistan. Even in a country

like China, where legal registration is very difficult, the numbers of NGOs concerned with such issues as HIV/AIDS and the environment are proliferating rapidly. In some other countries, there exist literally hundreds of thousands of NGOs.

Worldwide, NGOs have had their greatest impact on public policy in two fields: environmental protection and human rights. Both of these issues engendered significant citizen movements in the 1970s, though their roots go back a great deal further. Probably the first NGO in the international human rights field was a group formed in London during the latter part of the 18th century to campaign against slavery in the British Empire. Early on, its efforts resulted in a judicial decision requiring that slaves from the colonies brought to England had to be set free. The group inspired the development of the abolitionist movement that played a crucial role in ending slavery in the United States several decades later. Today, millions of people identify with the environmental and human rights movements and support local, national, or international NGOs in these fields.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

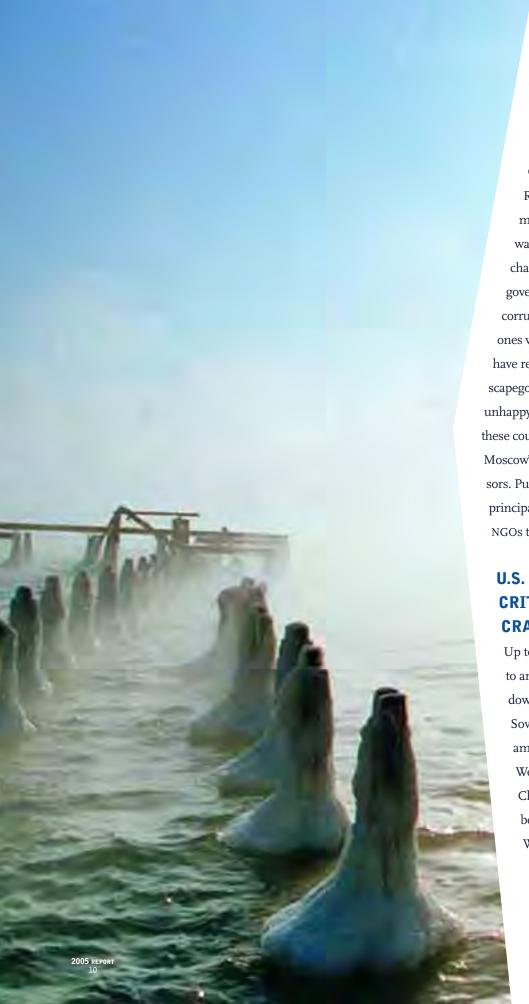
Another important movement also became significant internationally in the 1970s, the movement that promotes women's equality, though the NGOs in this field are far less well developed than those concerned with the environment or human rights. More recently, starting in the 1990s, an international citizens' movement opposing corruption and promoting budget transparency has become significant. NGOs developing in this field seem to be rapidly acquiring the sophistication of some of the older groups in the environmental and human rights fields.

# OSI'S SUPPORT FOR NGOS WORKING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND TRANSPARENCY

The Open Society Institute and the Soros foundations network have been leading financial supporters of NGOs concerned with corruption and transparency as well as human rights and women's equality. In the past, we have not been a significant source of support for groups promoting environmental protection, though this is beginning to change. We are becoming active in this field in the United States, which is by far the major contributor to global warming today, and, to a more limited extent, in China, which is rapidly catching up to the United States and will probably surpass it within the next 20 years as a factor in climate change.

A disturbing current trend is a crackdown on NGOs in a number of the countries of the former Soviet Union. Turkmenistan has always impeded their development. Belarus began restricting their operations several years ago. And Uzbekistan adopted legislation in 2004 making it very difficult for them to obtain foreign funding. Also, following the earlier example of Belarus, **Uzbekistan** closed the Open Society Institute's foundation in that country and, at this writing, is considering a new law imposing further restrictions on NGOs. Kazakhstan's parliament is also debating a draft law restricting foreign financing of NGOs; and the parliament in Tajikistan has before it a draft law that would require all existing NGOs to reregister and make registration of new NGOs more difficult. The minister of justice in Kyrgyzstan recently called for scrutiny of all foreign-funded groups but backed down when Kyrgyz NGOs criticized the proposal. Even in Latvia, a member state of the European Union, two parties in the ruling coalition have proposed to ban foreign-funded groups from monitoring elections.

Russia's crackdown on NGOs has attracted the greatest media and public attention. In January 2006, President Vladimir Putin signed legislation adopted by the Duma that gives the government extensive new powers over NGOs and makes it easy to shut them down. It appears that Putin sought the new legislation out of a belief that NGOs played a part



in the Rose Revolution in Georgia and in the Orange Revolution in Ukraine. The major factor in both these cases was widespread popular disenchantment with the previous governments because of extensive corruption. But NGOs, especially ones with international support, have received the blame and become scapegoats for officials in the Kremlin unhappy that the new governments in these countries are not as firmly under Moscow's thumb as their predecessors. Putin's influence seems to be a principal factor in the crackdown on NGOs throughout the region.

# U.S. FAILURE TO CRITICIZE RUSSIA'S CRACKDOWN ON NGOS

Up to now, the main impediment
to an even more drastic crackdown on NGOs in the former
Soviet Union has been a certain
amount of criticism by a few
Western governments. German
Chancellor Angela Merkel has
been the most outspoken
Western leader in criticizing

the Russian government's actions. The United States has expressed concern about the actions of the smaller countries in the region. But Washington has been less inclined to criticize Putin, whom it apparently considers a valuable ally in the "war on terror." **Putin already** controls all the other relevant estates in Russia—including most of its Fourth Estate. If he also uses his new powers to destroy what has become a vibrant NGO sector in Russia, he will reestablish control similar to that exercised by the Kremlin during the period when the Soviet Union was still intact. The Fifth Estate of NGOs, on which he is now focused, is almost alone in standing in his way.

The Open Society Institute, as the pages of this report show, continues to support nongovernmental organizations working for democratic elections, accountability in government, the rule of law, and respect for human rights. Without a vibrant Fifth Estate, new open societies fail to blossom and older ones shrivel up and die.

Aryeh Neier May 2006







RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY.
 Muslim demonstrators
 pause to pray in London.

Advocacy and policy change play an increasingly significant role in the work of the Open Society Institute and the Soros foundations network. The network first promoted the building of open societies on a countryby-country basis by providing financial support and creating national foundations. The network now focuses on efforts to establish policies that advance open society principles and practices. OSI and the network pursue these advocacy efforts with grantmaking and operating programs, public education, pressure, and persuasion.

# **European Union**

EUROPEAN INTEGRATION has been a driving force for peace, stability, democratization, and prosperity across the continent. More than any other single actor, the European Union has spread the values of open society by providing a development model for other countries, and the financial and technical assistance for adopting it. During 2005, Croatia and Turkey began negotiations to enter the European Union; Macedonia obtained EU candidate status; and the European Neighborhood Policy produced concrete results in Ukraine and Moldova. At the same time, the EU faced a crisis of direction and identity after voters in France and the Netherlands rejected the EU's constitutional treaty. Member states disagreed publicly over the EU's next seven-year budget. And racial and ethnic riots flared in the outlying suburbs of Paris and other French cities.

### **Media Freedom** in Europe

While there are nearly 4,000 television channels in Europe, the television market is highly concentrated in terms of both ownership and audience shares. In most countries, a handful of channels attract the vast majority of viewers. Ownership structures are controlled by a few companies and often shrouded in secrecy. Political pressure on regulators and public service broadcasters is widespread. These developments jeopardize pluralism and diversity in broadcasting and threaten to undermine the pivotal contribution television can make in supporting democracy, especially in the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe, Television across Europe: regulation, policy and independence, a monitoring report produced by OSI's EUMAP, is the largest-ever comparative survey of television in 20 European countries. Based upon the report's findings, OSI is encouraging the EU to establish an independent agency to monitor media markets and media concentration in the EU and in global markets and to ensure transparency of media ownership. The Open Society Institute advocates for a European Union that promotes and enforces the values of an open society among its members and spreads these values to other countries through its external policies and assistance programs. OSI undertook a variety of activities in support of EU-related policies in 2005.

### **EUROPEAN NEIGHBORHOOD POLICY**

The goal of the EU's European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) is to foster the development of closer relationships between the EU and the countries bordering it, based on a respect for common values, but without offering these countries full EU membership. Moldova and Ukraine have already agreed with the EU on individual action plans, while plans for Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia are in the works.

### ADVOCACY + POLICY

OSI focused its activities on promoting civil society involvement in the development and monitoring of the ENP process, both in Brussels and in the countries concerned; supporting the transfer of knowledge and expertise about the EU from the new EU member states to their neighbors; making rule of law the cornerstone of the ENP action plans; and advocating for effective EU funding for ENP implementation. Ukrainian experts supported by OSI made recommendations for the EU-Ukrainian action plans in the policy areas of judicial reform, access to justice, media independence, and improvement of human rights. Most of the recommendations were included in the plans.

In Moldova, the European perspective played a crucial role in uniting political and social forces around a national cause, reforming election procedures, and ensuring the independence of the judiciary and media. OSI advocacy contributed to EU decisions to open a European Commission delegation in Chisinau, to appoint a special representative to Moldova, for the EU to obtain observer status at the Moldova-Transnistria negotiations, and to send a border assistance mission to



reduce human trafficking, smuggling, proliferation of weapons, and customs fraud. The EU granted Moldova important duty and quota-free access to the EU market.

### **EU ENLARGEMENT**

After the EU's latest wave of enlargement in 2004, the accession process continues to be the main driver of democratic transition in Eastern and South Eastern Europe. Bulgaria and Romania will likely join the EU in 2007; Croatia, Turkey, and Macedonia are at different stages of the accession and candidate process.

One of OSI's objectives is to **ensure that the EU-enlargement process produces more open societies.** To this end, OSI facilitates civil society input into the European Commission's regular monitoring reports on Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, and Turkey. The reports have reflected many of OSI's concerns about corruption, organized crime, and

the plight of the Roma and other minorities. In order to prevent the creation of a belt of poverty and marginalization on the EU's borders, OSI and the European Stability Initiative advocate for developing EU policies that provide support for socioeconomic cohesion to South Eastern European nations.

#### **EU FUNDING AND THE FUTURE EU BUDGET**

The EU is one of the biggest foreign donors worldwide. Its foreign assistance budget in 2005 was approximately 8.548 billion euros, including preaccession aid. However, the EU also has a notorious reputation as one of the world's slowest and most bureaucratic donors.

In a coalition with other Brussels-based NGOs, OSI is campaigning for an overhaul of the EU's financial regulations and implementing rules to make EU funding for civil society actors more effective and efficient. The European Commission included several of the coalition's recommendations in a proposed revision of the current rules. OSI is also advocating for continued funding for promotion of human rights and democracy as part of the EU's 2007–2013 budget.



# Roma

THE ROMA, Europe's largest ethnic minority, have not benefited from the dramatic transition to democracy that has swept over Central and Eastern Europe since 1989. The continued segregation, discrimination, and extreme poverty faced by the Roma are among the most critical deficits for open society in Europe today.

The Decade of Roma Inclusion, 2005–2015, an initiative supported by OSI and the World Bank, is an unprecedented international effort to eliminate discrimination against the Roma and ensure that Roma have equal access to education, housing, employment, and health care. The Open Society Institute advocates for equal participation of Roma in all spheres of public life. Systemic policy reform in education for

Roma remains a priority for OSI, and it provides the Roma Education Fund with an annual contribution of \$3 million for its efforts to ensure that Romani children have access to a quality education based on school desegregation.

 CONCERN FOR THE MARGINALIZED.
 Residents in a Romani neighborhood in Slovakia.

### NATIONAL ACTION PLANS FOR THE ROMA

OSI and the Soros foundations undertook a variety of activities at the national level during 2005, including support for the advocacy initiatives of Romani civic organizations and alliances, such as the monitoring of national Romani strategies, national action plans, and national budgets. OSI's foundation in Romania organized a series of high-profile debates on Romani inclusion and funded a publication program with Revista 22, a highly respected weekly magazine. In Bulgaria, OSI supported a network of Romani community centers to act as mediators between the Roma and local governments. Together with the World Bank, OSI funded public opinion surveys on attitudes toward Roma in all countries that have signed on to the Decade of Roma Inclusion and used the results of these surveys to design effective initiatives attacking the negative image of the Roma.

### ADVOCACY + POLICY

### **EU STRATEGY FOR THE ROMA**

OSI advocates for the development of an EU strategy that combines complementary approaches to crafting government policies aimed at fighting discrimination against the Roma and achieving their full integration into the greater society. OSI promotes the effective use of existing EU funding, for new funding instruments, and for the alignment of EU policy and funding with the national action plans of the Decade of Roma Inclusion. OSI is also a consultation partner of the European Commission on Roma and works with various European Commission departments in the areas of social inclusion, antidiscrimination, microfinance, entrepreneurship, and health. OSI's Roma Participation Program assists Romani NGOs in using EU structural funds effectively and developing models for EU and national cofunding. Since it is crucial that Roma make their own case before EU policymakers, OSI works closely with the Romani-run European Roma Information Office in Brussels and funds 10 Romani internships at the European Commission.



## HIV

**THE HIV** epidemic consistently strikes those whose access to information, public services, and economic opportunity is most limited: poor women, drug users, sex workers, and ethnic minorities. Discrimination makes the epidemic worse. Sex workers and drug users—who, for example, make up more than 80 percent of those infected with HIV in the countries of the former Soviet Union—are sometimes subjected to forced testing, mandatory institutionalization, and mass incarceration as well as to less formal but powerful forms of discrimination in housing, employment, and health care. Government efforts to control and contain these "undesirables" often accelerates HIV infection by forcing people away from services and into risky environments where means of disease prevention, such as condoms, clean needles, and access to treatment or health information, are unavailable.

 EQUALITY OF HEALTH CARE. Doctor verifies a positive HIV test

in Zambia.

working with the Soros foundations network and other partners, OSI presses for policies that ensure access to information about HIV, to the means of prevention, and to treatment and care. Effective HIV advocacy—like the epidemic itself—extends beyond national borders, and, in its advocacy efforts, OSI regularly works with other international actors, including bilateral aid agencies such as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the UK's Department for International Development (DFID), United Nations agencies, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

### INFORMATION, PREVENTION, AND TREATMENT FOR ALL

Since 1995, OSI has supported a range of HIV-related programs, including peer outreach efforts, needle exchanges, professional training, community mobilization, and policy reform initiatives. In Ukraine, OSI and local advocates worked in 2005 to oppose broadening laws criminalizing drug abuse and to press for broader inclusion of people living with HIV in the political process. In Russia, OSI's International Harm

Reduction Development Program sponsored a study that documented human rights violations, including forced HIV testing, refusal of medical care to those with HIV, and stigmatization of drug users. OSI also supported increasing the availability of substitution treatments by sponsoring conferences and meetings between international experts and local authorities to press successfully for the inclusion of methadone and buprenorphine on the World Health Organization's Essential Drugs List.

Prisons are a key focus of OSI's HIVrelated advocacy efforts. In Russia, OSI worked to strengthen a reform that provides for administrative rather than criminal penalties for violators of laws forbidding possession of small

# OSI Prevails in Suit against USAID Prostitution Pledge Requirement

In a victory for free speech and sound public health policy, a federal judge ruled in May 2006 that USAID violated the First Amendment when it tried to require recipients of U.S. funding for HIV prevention work to sign a pledge opposing prostitution. The Open Society Institute, along with its affiliate, the Alliance for Open Society International (AOSI), and Pathfinder International filed the lawsuit against USAID in September 2005. The Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law served as OSI's counsel. The lawsuit did not challenge the U.S. government's authority to control how its funds are spent. The suit asserted, however, that the pledge requirement restricted both free speech and the AIDS prevention efforts that the grantee organizations finance with their own funds. Requiring health workers to condemn the sex workers they are trying to help intensifies the stigma and fears of this vulnerable population and makes it harder to reach them with prevention services. The lawsuit asserted that the pledge requirement was unconstitutional, because it required private organizations to adopt the government's point of view in order to receive funding.

AOSI is administering a government grant to implement USAID's Drug Demand Reduction Program in Central Asia. The program provides capacity building for professionals; drug abuse prevention education for vulnerable groups (youth, migrants, sex workers, prisoners); and counseling, drug treatment, rehabilitation, and other services to help people stop using drugs.



amounts of drugs. In Ukraine, OSI helped persuade the government to begin pilot needle exchange programs in two penal institutions.

With the UN and Health Canada, OSI cosponsored a global policy dialogue on prisons that focused on lessons learned from countries with needle exchange programs and opiate substitution treatment programs in penal institutions.

PRESSING FOR GREATER
RESPONSIBILITY AT
THE UNITED NATIONS

ensure that UN member states honor their commitments to expand access to harm reduction efforts and HIV treatment and to work to reduce the stigma attached to HIV. OSI's Public Health Watch brought together local experts in six countries to

### ADVOCACY + POLICY

monitor and assess how governments fulfill these commitments and to publish their results during 2006.

OSI advocated against U.S. government efforts to make its opposition to funding for needle exchange into a global standard. At the June 2005 meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board of UNAIDS in Geneva, OSI and others helped thwart an effort by U.S. officials to strike all language about clean needles and syringes from a document detailing the UN's HIV prevention strategy.

# STRENGTHENING THE GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND MALARIA

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is perhaps the single largest and most important force in HIV prevention and treatment for marginalized groups. OSI worked on several levels during 2005 to strengthen the Fund. It helped NGOs with their applications for Global Fund support and with efforts to turn their proposals into effective programs. OSI's offices in Washington, D.C., and Europe worked to emphasize the unique importance of the Fund and to urge greater support from donor nations.

# Access to Information

INFORMATION IS the oxygen of democracy. The ability of citizens to hold their governments accountable and to participate fully in democratic society rests on their ability to access and comment upon government-held information. Human rights and national security are better protected when the press and public can effectively monitor government decisions. By enabling public scrutiny, laws guaranteeing access to information and freedom of expression serve as safeguards against government abuse, subversion of the democratic process, and the squandering of public assets.



### ADVOCACY + POLICY



A FREE PRESS. In Senegal, journalists demonstrate for freedom of information. For several years, OSI, led by the Open Society Justice
Initiative, has supported efforts to expand and
strengthen access to information and freedom of
information around the world. In 1990, only 12
countries had access to information laws. By the
end of 2005, more than 50 additional countries—
throughout Central, Eastern and Southern
Europe, Latin America, and parts of Africa and
Asia—had adopted such laws, several with
support from the Justice Initiative and Soros
foundations.

### **IMPLEMENTING FOI LAWS**

The Justice Initiative also promotes the implementation of freedon of information (FOI) laws. Over the past two years, it has worked with partners in Albania, Argentina, Mexico, Peru, and Romania to gain access to information about corruption, government contracts, and the salaries of government officials.

In Bulgaria, a local NGO, the Access to Information Programme, litigated to gain access to documents that



### **Access to Information Monitoring Tool**

The Justice Initiative has developed the Access to Information Monitoring Tool to evaluate the implementation of access to information laws and diagnose institutional obstacles to release of information. Transparency & Silence, a study of 14 countries in Europe, Latin America, and Africa, to be published in 2006, has confirmed that governments provide information erratically but that FOI laws lead to greater transparency. Requests filed twice received different answers in a majority of instances; 47 percent of requests in all the countries studied yielded no response at all; and, most disturbingly, requests filed by Roma, disabled individuals, and members of other marginalized groups received significantly less information than other requestors and, in some countries, received no information at all.

demonstrated corruption in the use of EU funds and helped an investigative journalist identify the killer of the Bulgarian dissident Georgi Markov in London during 1978 The Centre for Democratization and Development of Institutions won Albania's first access to information court case, challenging the central government's refusal to release information on the criteria for licensing day care centers. In Mexico, litigation by Freedom of Information Mexico led to a ruling by the Mexican Electoral Tribunal that the salaries of political party officials be made public.

### **STRENGTHENING** INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

Strengthening international and regional standards is crucial to

## ADVOCACY + POLICY

development of the right to information. In a case in which the Justice Initiative filed an amicus brief, the Inter-American Commission recognized that the freedom "to receive" information provided for in the American Convention on Human Rights includes a specific right of access to government-held information and concluded that Chile's access to information legislation falls short of the Convention's requirements. In Europe, the Justice Initiative is part of a working group convened by the Council of Europe to develop the first treaty on access to official documents.

The Justice Initiative has developed a set of core principles on access to information laws to be used in efforts to elaborate the right to freedom of information at the international and regional levels, especially in Africa and Asia, and to oppose efforts by governments to justify restricting access to information inappropriately in the name of privacy, commercial confidentiality, and national security. OSI plans to strengthen NGO efforts to file information requests, challenge denials, monitor results, and share best practices.



## **Revenue Watch**

**ABOUT 60** of the world's developing countries and countries in transition to democratic government depend primarily upon revenues drawn from oil and gas production or mining, and within the borders of these countries live two-thirds of the world's most impoverished people—millions of men, women, and children who exist on less than \$2 a day. These people are among the victims of the "resource curse," a harsh economic fact of life that, in countries dependent upon oil drilling, minerals mining, and other extractive industries, fosters the development of corrupt, authoritarian, and repressive

regimes; undermines civil society; destroys trade and manufacturing; and, too often, leads to armed conflict.

A FAIR SHARE OF RESOURCES. A young girl in the oil fields south of Baku, Azerbaijan.

In Angola, the resource curse has manifested itself in a 27-year-long civil war funded primarily by revenues drawn from oil and diamonds; and while Angola's people remain mired in extreme poverty, an International Monetary Fund audit estimates that more than \$1 billion in oil revenues go "missing" each year. In Nigeria, Cameroon, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, oil wealth has generated deepseated corruption and conflict. And in

Aceh and West Papua, Indonesia, regional separatism has been fueled in part by the presence of significant resources and the central government's "obscure" management of their associated revenues.

The world is witnessing the rapid coalescence of a movement to promote transparency and accountability in

the extractive industries. After many years of being at odds with one another, oil and mining companies, civil society, and governments are beginning to work together toward this goal. This movement includes a major global campaign called Publish What You Pay as well as the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), hosted by the British government and the World Bank. Almost 20 countries are now at various stages of adopting and implementing EITI's principles; and at three of its meetings, the G8 has made statements supporting EITI.





## ADVOCACY + POLICY

The mission of the Open Society Institute's Revenue
Watch project is to improve government
accountability in countries rich
in natural resources by equipping
citizens with the information, training, networks,
and funding they need to become more
effective monitors of government revenues
and expenditures. By promoting civic
oversight and public finance transparency
in resource-dependent countries, the
program aims to ensure that the revenues
the extractive industries generate
contribute to sustainable development
and poverty reduction.

Since 2002, Revenue Watch has
worked with the Open Society
Institute's network and partners
around the world to create a body
of research and a battery of
reference tools to assist citizens

ELIMINATION OF
EXPLOITATION. Gold
miners in the Democratic
Republic of the Congo
digging a pit by hand.

in monitoring natural resource revenues and public expenditures. Revenue Watch has helped create numerous local coalitions that advocate for revenue and expenditure transparency and has created public finance monitoring centers in several countries.

Revenue Watch has also worked with policymakers and members of parliament to enhance their capacity to manage, in a transparent and efficient manner, their countries' public finances, and particularly revenues drawn from natural resources. It has provided journalists with the reference tools and training necessary to cover extractive industries and public finances effectively. The program helped initiate and continues to work closely with the international Publish What You Pay campaign, and it supports the development and implementation of international protocols such as EITI.

## ADVOCACY + POLICY

Azerbaijan's Revenue Watch Program published the first two comprehensive EITI reports on state revenues generated by the oil industry, and Kazakhstan's EITI coalition signed a memorandum of understanding with the government, members of parliament, and extractive sector companies. Iraq Revenue Watch helped bring together representatives from civil society, parliamentarians, oil industry workers, journalists, and civil servants to discuss governance and development of the Iraqi oil industry and issue policy recommendations. In Latin America, Revenue Watch worked with Grupo Propuesta Ciudadana to foster greater dialogue on the extractive industries, social development, and transparency.

In 2006, the Revenue Watch program will spin off from OSI and become an independent NGO called the Revenue Watch Institute. Through the generous contributions of OSI and numerous outside donors, the Revenue Watch Institute's expanded capacity will allow it to become the leading civil society resource dedicated to supporting actors working in natural resource—dependent countries to enhance public finance accountability and transparency.



# International Justice

WAR AND MASS oppression inflict unspeakable harm on millions of men, women, and children around the world. Armed conflicts damage the environment, economy, infrastructure, animals, cultural property, and the rule of law. When conflict ends, mass atrocities must be redressed in one form or another to help wartorn societies recover and begin to function openly and effectively.

Efforts to establish a system of international justice to deal with atrocities are growing. The UN Security Council in 1993 created the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia to prosecute horrific crimes being committed in that region.

A year later it established the International

Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda to prosecute leaders of the genocide that claimed the lives of some 800,000 Rwandans in just 100 days.

< ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ATROCITIES. Memorial in Cambodia for victims of the Khmer Rouge.

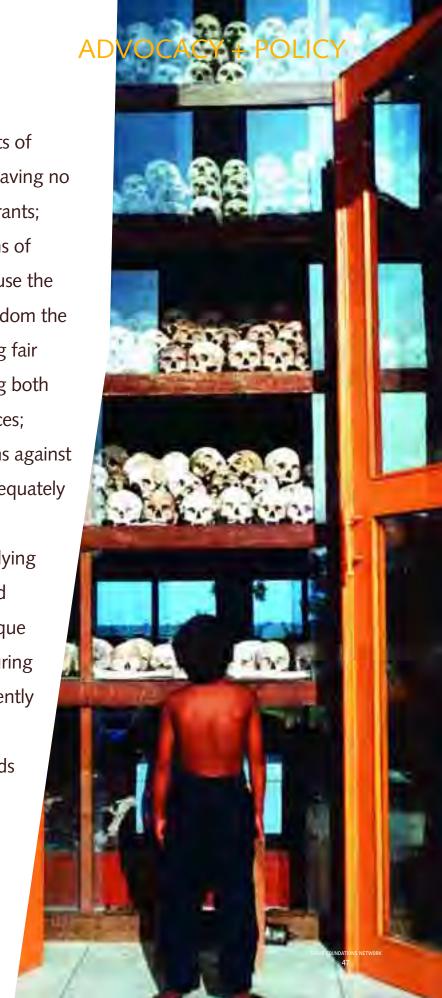
The past decade has seen the establishment of hybrid tribunals made up of international and local judges and prosecutors to adjudicate extermination, ethnic cleansing, persecution, rape, forced amputation, forced displacement, and other serious crimes in places such as Sierra Leone, Kosovo, and East Timor. Cambodia will soon join the list. Over 100 countries have ratified the statute of the permanent International Criminal Court (ICC), which is currently investigating atrocity crimes in the Democratic

Republic of the Congo, Uganda, and Darfur.

### **ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ATROCITY CRIMES**

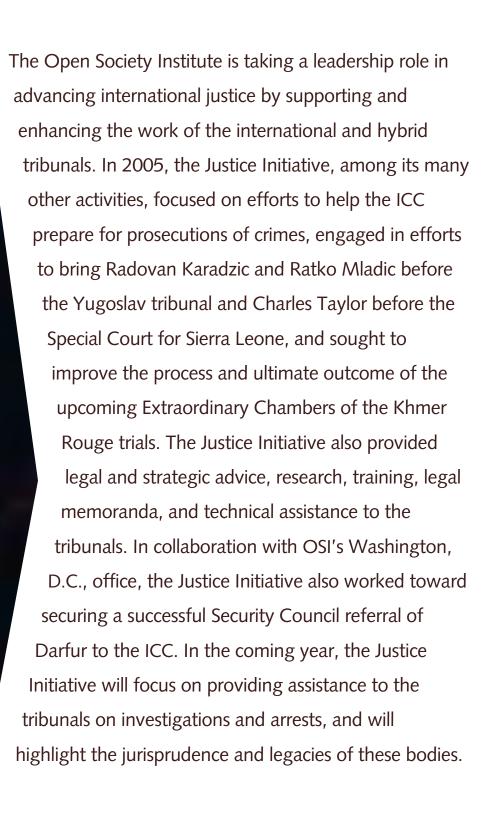
Holding political and military leaders and other powerful individuals accountable for atrocity crimes is a difficult task. The many challenges include investigating crimes in hostile

territories; securing the arrests of indicted individuals despite having no police power to enforce warrants; establishing links in the chains of command and control, because the architects of atrocities are seldom the physical perpetrators; holding fair and impartial trials combining both common and civil law practices; balancing the rights of victims against the rights of the accused; adequately consulting and including the victimized communities; applying international criminal law and perhaps domestic law to unique and complex situations; ensuring that laws are applied consistently on different continents; and providing a legacy that affords the victims a measure of justice.











## **Torture**

LONG BEFORE the Abu Ghraib photos reached the press, it was clear that the United States had significantly loosened the rules against the use of cruel, inhuman, and degrading interrogations. The resulting abuses were not simply individual excesses. They occurred at many locations both inside and outside of Iraq and involved many United States government agencies and units, not just the reservists at Abu Ghraib. Prisoners in

and CIA sites with colorful and suggestive names like "the Salt Pit" and "the Blacksmith Hotel," and at other as yet unidentified "black sites" around the world. **PROHIBITIONS ON** TORTURE. U.S. military

 ■ ADHERENCE TO police take a detainee to his cell at Guantánamo.

The U.S. Justice Department gave abusive interrogations **legal cover** by defending the legality of painful and degrading methods so long as they did not cause "serious physical injury, such as organ failure" or psychological damage lasting "months or even years." As a result, according to Human Rights First, 98 prisoners have been killed by U.S. personnel while in custody; these deaths include 34 cases that the Department of Defense has classified as homicides. Little is known about some of these cases, but available information suggests that at least eight prisoners were tortured to death.

U.S. custody reportedly have been subjected to

abusive interrogation methods in Afghanistan, Iraq,

and Guantánamo Bay, at both military facilities

## ADVOCACY + POLICY

The interrogation methods used are severe and clearly illegal. Some amount to torture, such as "waterboarding," a form of mock execution used extensively during the Spanish Inquisition, which induces the sensation of drowning. Among the other techniques used are beatings, prolonged sleep deprivation, painful stress positions, sexual humiliation, the use of dogs to terrify prisoners, and prolonged exposure to freezing temperatures. Bush administration defenders have asserted that illegal abuses were limited to a number of "high value" detainees; but the reality is quite different. One United States Army interrogator described the persons he interrogated in Iraq as mostly being just "farmers," at least one of whom was arrested on the basis of little more than possession of a shovel and a cell phone. Sources have told reporters that as many as two-thirds of the so-called "high value" detainees proved to have no intelligence value whatsoever.

### **PROHIBITIONS ON TORTURE**

The Open Society Institute worked to remind policymakers about the international legal prohibitions on torture that the

United States is obligated to honor. OSI, for example, helped inform government officials of U.S. obligations under the UN Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment by distributing printed materials, meeting with government staff, and serving as a source of expert advice on international law. OSI convened numerous meetings of groups working on the issue, helping them to share information and develop joint strategies. OSI grantees, including Human Rights Watch and Human Rights First, took a leading role in documenting and denouncing interrogation abuses at United States facilities. Among other things, human rights organizations and OSI strongly encouraged rigorous enforcement of the United States Army Field Manual on Intelligence Interrogation after concluding that the pre-9/11 policies embodied in the field manual were consistent with international law and the U.S. obligations.

A bipartisan majority in Congress passed the McCain Amendment, which requires that all Department of Defense interrogations anywhere in the world follow the Army Field Manual's prohibitions and which

prohibits the use of cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment by any U.S. agency or official.

Much remains to be done.
Public policy battles are rarely
"won" in any final or
definitive sense. Rather,
advocates work to obtain
majority support for
improvements and must then
fight to retain and expand them.
Ensuring that the McCain
Amendment is faithfully
implemented and fully enforced
represents a substantial challenge for
the days to come.





# Katrina and Poverty

DEALING WITH the aftermath of Hurricane
Katrina will require focused attention and
resources for many years. The failure of the
United States government to plan properly

for a long-predicted disaster, coupled with underinvestment in infrastructure and social welfare resulting from an ideologically driven program of tax cuts, demands accountability and a reordering of the country's priorities.

OSI moved as quickly as possible to provide emergency funds to the storm-hit area—
\$665,000 in the first round to eight grantees in the South whose work was

CONFRONTING RACISM.
 People wait to be
 evacuated from New
 Orleans, Louisiana, after
 Katrina.

disrupted. These initial grants, awarded in November 2005, included support for local and national organizations to monitor post-Katrina relief and reconstruction efforts in order to assure that equity and social justice were given paramount importance and to enable persons most affected by Katrina to become involved in shaping policy and rebuilding their communities. Organizations supported by OSI, including the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, the National Immigration Law Center, and the Ms. Foundation for Women, are helping provide legal representation to immigrants, document cases of incarcerated people whose records were lost in the storm, and involve low-income young people and women of color in shaping policy.

Hurricane Katrina made it clear that the United States must **engage in national debate** 

## and action to confront racism and

**poverty.** OSI, along with its network of grantees, fellows, and sister donor organizations, is working to galvanize this process. By supporting in-depth journalism projects and other initiatives, OSI is attempting to improve media coverage and deepen public understanding of the persistent problems of poverty, racism, and government neglect.

OSI's priorities include documenting what happened in the wake of Katrina and capturing lessons learned to spur changes in public policy. Sound Portraits—StoryCorps received funds for two mobile StoryBooths to travel to New Orleans and other locations in the Gulf Coast region to collect the stories of those affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In June 2006, OSI's U.S. Programs awarded fellowships to help 27 print and radio journalists, photographers, and documentary filmmakers, as well as some youth media organizations, generate a national conversation on the race and class inequalities that Hurricane Katrina laid bare. Special consideration was given to applicants who had been displaced from or were residents of the Gulf region.





## **Central Eurasia**

BUILDING BLOCKS. A young woman in Afghanistan turns over bricks drying in the sun.

#### **CRITICAL EVENTS**

in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan presented special challenges to Soros foundations in Central Eurasia during 2005. In March, the regime of Askar Akayev collapsed in Kyrgyzstan as protestors stormed the presidential palace and clashes erupted. Soros Foundation-Kyrgyzstan helped restore order and reduce dangerous tensions by facilitating discussions in the country between the government and civil society groups.

After the violence had waned, the foundation in Kyrgyzstan supported civil society stabilization projects aimed at legitimizing local governments. The foundation brought together hundreds of people to discuss

improvement of ethnic relations, gender issues, education, mass media, and local governance, and it facilitated public debate on reforming the constitution. The foundation supported efforts to transform the country's national television station into a public broadcasting corporation, to privatize state-owned newspapers, and to ensure that presidential elections would be free and fair.

blow to open society during the year 2005.

In May, the regime of Islam Karimov violently suppressed a demonstration in the city of Andijan, killing hundreds of demonstrators. Uzbekistan's government, ignoring criticism from abroad, refused to allow an independent investigation of the incident and worked to cover up the killings. OSI's Central Eurasia Project sponsored public events in Washington in June and September to present the views of two eyewitnesses and to launch a report on the post-Andijan campaign to silence human rights advocates and civilians who fled the violence.

New draft laws on NGOs in several Central Asian countries posed serious challenges to OSI activities

as well as the expansion of civil society and the democratization process.

## TRANSPARENCY AND REVENUE MONITORING

In resource-rich countries of Central Eurasia, OSI's Revenue Watch successfully campaigned during 2005 for enhancing government transparency and accountability by providing NGOs and citizens with information, training, networks, and funding to help them become more effective monitors of company payments and government revenue flows and expenditures. In Azerbaijan, Revenue Watch continued to promote efforts to monitor the impact of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline on society and the environment. Five civil society monitoring groups reported their findings and conducted a series of negotiations with oil giant BP, the project operator, to highlight its commitments to more effectively addressing the challenges and impact of the project.

Revenue Watch also continued to advocate for acceptance of the reporting requirements established by the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), an international effort to **improve governance in resource-rich countries** through the full publication and verification of company payments and government revenues from oil, gas, and mining. Supported by the Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation–Azerbaijan,

a coalition of NGOs began reviewing the EITI's country reports on company payments to Azerbaijan's government.

After years of advocacy efforts by Revenue Watch and local partners, the government of Kazakhstan expressed its intention to implement the EITI's reporting requirements. The government and a coalition of local NGOs supported by Revenue Watch became parties to a memorandum of understanding that will govern implementation of these reporting requirements. Revenue Watch launched a project to increase public awareness of the need for budget transparency and campaigned to increase the portion of tax revenues spent on social programs, to encourage the participation of civil society institutions in managing budget flows, and to increase the accountability of state bodies in allocating economic resources.

In 2005, Mongolia's government also took steps toward implementing the EITI's reporting requirements, and the Open Society Forum in Mongolia launched a program to support these efforts and promote greater awareness of the importance of transparency and accountability in Mongolia's expanding mining sector.

The Central Eurasia Project launched a multiyear effort to expose and halt human rights abuses and environmental damage in Central Asia's cotton industry and to raise awareness of the role

cotton plays in supporting the oppressive regime in Uzbekistan.

#### DEMOCRATIC REFORM

The Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Armenia has been leading the advocacy efforts of the Partnership for Open Society, through which more than 50 civil society organizations are **promoting** democratic reform, good governance, rule of law, respect for human rights, and freedom of the media. In 2005, the partnership focused its policy development efforts on the European Neighborhood Policy, the Millennium Challenge Account, and constitutional reform. The foundation sponsored public debate on constitutional amendments involving human rights, freedom of speech, and independence of the judiciary. The Partnership for Open Society's recommendations were seconded by the Council of Europe's Venice Commission and significantly shaped the final constitutional package included in a referendum.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

The Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Azerbaijan helped establish rehabilitation centers for disabled children and worked to raise awareness about problems faced by people with mental disabilities. The Open Society Georgia Foundation, together with its partners and the Ministry of Labor, Health, and Social Affairs, helped prepare a strategy paper to redefine the country's

drug policies and organized public hearings on the document in six cities. Georgia's creation of a nationwide association of NGOs working to fight HIV/AIDS and drug addiction was a landmark in the foundation's effort to uphold the rights of marginalized and vulnerable groups affected by the disease and drug use.

The Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Tajikistan initiated an ongoing reform process in public health. After the signing of a memorandum of understanding with Tajikistan's Ministry of Health, the foundation provided support for developing a public health faculty at Tajik State Medical University. By the end of 2005, 57 students were enrolled in bachelor's degree programs. A drug demand reduction program, initiated by the foundation and funded by USAID, succeeded in winning government approval for implementing a drug-use prevention curriculum for vocational schools.

## RULE OF LAW, LAW ENFORCEMENT, **LEGAL AID**

Soros Foundation-Kazakhstan concentrated efforts on the problems of misrule, abuse of power, and nonaccountability as well as on establishing an agenda for fighting HIV/AIDS, advancing access to justice and the rule of law, and supporting independent media by developing a nongovernmental journalistic sector nationwide.

The Open Society Georgia Foundation worked to improve the operations of Georgia's interior

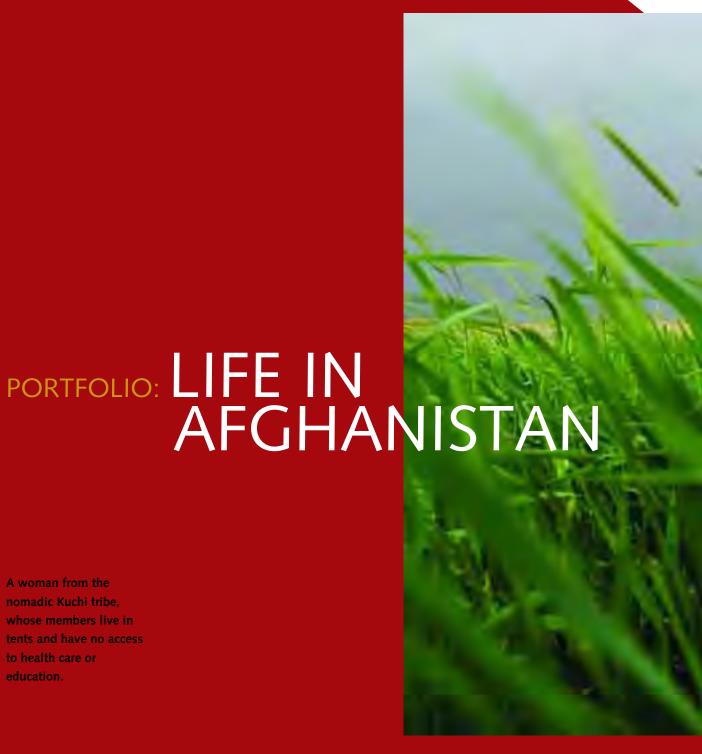
ministry and police departments. A foundationsponsored conference examined **best practices in community policing and crime preven- tion**, internal and external oversight of police structures, and police relations with the media and civil organizations, and provided Georgian police personnel with opportunities to learn about effective policing in democratic countries. In partnership with the Open Society Justice Initiative, Georgia's Ministry of Justice, and the Georgian Young Lawyers Association, the Open Society Georgia Foundation launched a project to promote a free legal-aid system; this project led to the creation of the Public Attorney Service.

The Open Society Institute Assistance
Foundation–Tajikistan, with the support of the Law
Program and Judges Training Center, launched its
first full-scale, one-year training program for judges
with 180 judges participating. The foundation also
supported nine rural legal aid centers serving
Tajikistan's large indigent population.

#### **EUROPEAN INTEGRATION**

Providing the public and policymakers in both the European Union and Turkey with thorough information about Turkey's bid for EU membership continued to be a major priority for the Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation—Turkey during 2005. The Independent Commission on Turkey, initially established with the help of the foundation as an ad-hoc group of former European





A woman from the nomadic Kuchi tribe, whose members live in tents and have no access

to health care or education.





Pakistani refugee girls play in the building where they live in Kabul. Refugees in Kabul, in the abandoned hospital where they live.



## **Southeast Asia**

**SOUTHEAST ASIA** witnessed a number of free and relatively fair elections during 2005, and, after nine years of negotiations, the government of Cambodia officially agreed to the creation of a hybrid, Cambodia–United Nations tribunal to try members of the Khmer Rouge. But consolidation of democratic systems and good governance remain elusive goals throughout the region. Over the past year, more journalists were killed on the job in the Philippines than in Iraq. Media monopolies in Southeast Asia continued to encroach upon the independence of the press and an increasing number of defamation suits were filed throughout the region, intimidating journalists, their editors, and media company owners. In Singapore, where the media have always been tightly controlled, the government has even begun cracking down on bloggers. In response to these and other challenges, OSI increased its support for regional and local human rights advocacy efforts, and particularly for initiatives aimed at advancing policy change.

## CIVIL SOCIETY, THE RULE OF LAW, AND EDUCATION

OSI's Southeast Asia Initiative supported the work of two organizations—the Bank Information Center and Mekong Watch—that are working to strengthen the capacity of local civil society organizations to influence the policies of international financial institutions operating in the region. In Cambodia, the Southeast Asia Initiative worked with the Open Society Justice Initiative to **Support** local organizations engaging in legal reform and education.

With OSI's Media Program, the Southeast Asia Initiative helped draw public attention to prominent criminal defamation lawsuits, including that of Supinya Klangnarong, a young Thai researcher who wrote a report exposing the intimate relationship between Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's government and the businesses he owns or controls. Working with OSI's Information Program, the Southeast Asia Initiative supported the second in a series of training sessions for community organizers and activists in free and open-source online advocacy tools.

# REGIONS: ASIA

During 2005, OSI's Southeast Asia: Partnership Beyond Borders Program supported initiatives that help local communities in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region, which includes swaths of Burma, Laos, Cambodia, Southern China, Thailand, and Vietnam. These projects helped communities share the experiences they have had in confronting rapid change and development and local efforts to protect the rights of vulnerable and marginalized groups. The Partnership Beyond Borders Program, for example, funded initiatives for a comprehensive approach to development in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region that engaged local communities affected by large-scale development projects. The program also supported the launch of an initiative to develop the leadership skills of young people who are working against human trafficking as well as the pilot phase of an effort to support capacitybuilding initiatives of organizations engaged in social entrepreneurship in Asia.

#### **BURMA**

The ambient political repression and lack of human rights in Burma gave way to even bleaker developments during 2005. The ousting in 2004 of the "moderate" prime minister, General Khin Nyunt, and his military intelligence apparatus brought even more hard-line generals of the ruling junta to the government's most powerful positions. In October, the lead-

ership suddenly saw fit to transfer the country's capital from Rangoon to a half-constructed site near the town of Pyinmana, clearly demonstrating the bunker mentality of the rulers. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria terminated a \$98 million grant to Burma because the regime refused to grant unrestricted access to target populations.

A primary objective of OSI's Burma Project is to increase global awareness of the conditions **the Burmese people are suffering** under the country's military regime. During 2005, OSI worked closely with international and regional organizations in Southeast Asia to publicize the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Myanmar Caucus. During October, OSI helped bring key officials from ASEAN countries to exchange ideas on Burma with officials and others in Washington, D.C., and at the European Union in Brussels, the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, and the United Nations in New York.

OSI also continued to focus on building the capacity of civil society organizations dealing with Burma, particularly those representing ethnic and marginalized groups in Burma. One OSI grantee, the Women's League of Burma, an association of women's groups representing all of the country's major ethnic groups, called upon the United Nations to enforce Security Council Resolution 1325, which requires national leaders to allow women input into decision making on all key issues. On the eve of the

China

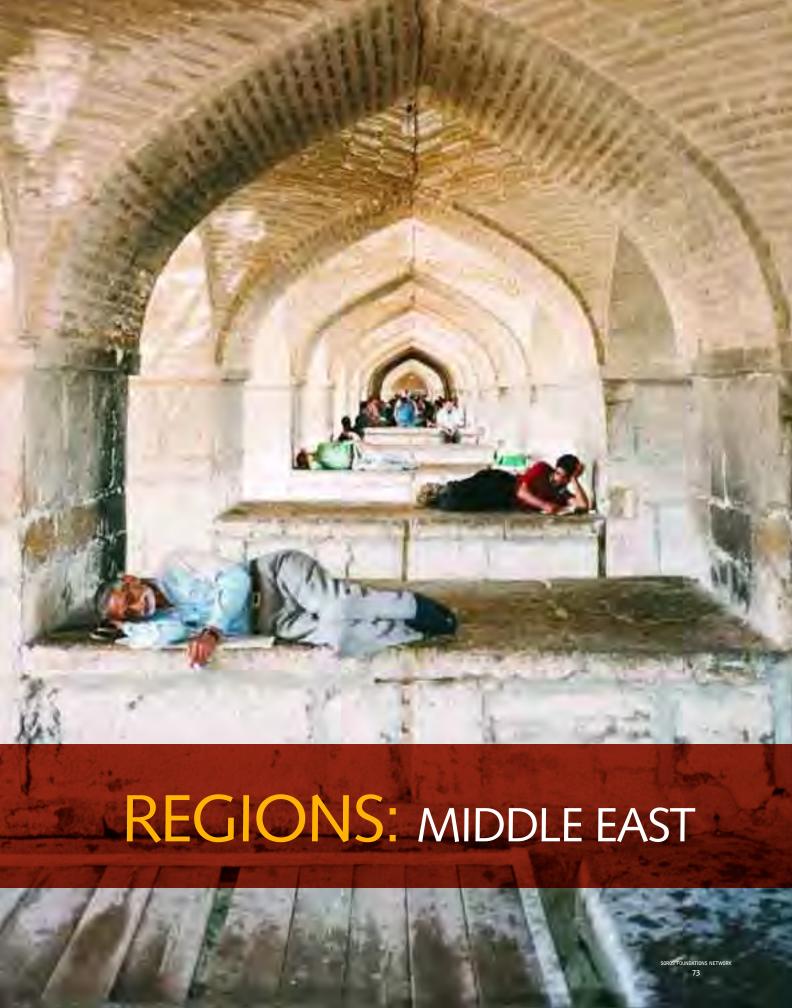
17th anniversary of the prodemocracy uprising in Burma, OSI launched an operational program, the Burma Guide to Rights and Democracy, whose website (www.burmaguide.net) offers news and tools for promoting a peaceful democratic transition in Burma. It is available in English, Burmese, Chin, Kachin, Karen, Mon, and Shan.

#### **INDONESTA**

OSI directs most of its grant support in Indonesia through the Tifa Foundation, which was established in 2000 as one of the country's first indigenous foundations. Tifa focuses on developing and improving NGO capacity building, local governance, civil society, democracy, human rights, and the media. In an effort to combat rampant corruption in Indonesia, Tifa helps coordinate an alliance of NGOs committed to monitoring local government budgets as well as a coalition that monitors revenues derived from extractive industries.

During 2005, OSI and Tifa allocated special funds to expand work on the island state of Aceh after the tsunami, which killed about 132,000 people throughout Indonesia. Tifa supported efforts to restore damaged NGO offices and enable Acehnese civil society organizations to wield stronger influence in the decision making on social reconstruction and implementation of the peace process that, on August 15, ended hostilities in the three-decade-long civil war between the Indonesian government and the separatist rebel Free Aceh Movement.

Through the office of the president, the OSI network has made available a small amount of funding for initiatives in China. In 2005, just under \$2 million were spent to support the growing fields of legal aid and public interest litigation, environmental initiatives, and HIV/AIDS practitioners. The major grants were: \$450,000 to International Bridges to Justice to support training for criminal defenders; \$375,000 to the Natural Resources Defense Council to empower Chinese environmental NGOs in the areas of public participation and public interest litigation; and \$235,952 to the Beijing ZHIAIXING Information Counseling Center to support advocacy and organization of HIV/AIDS groups throughout China. In addition to these grants, OSI's public health, information, and debate programs are working with Chinese colleagues to promote reporting on public health issues, harm reduction methodologies to treat drug addicts, open access to scholarly journals, and university debate programs.



## CHAOS AND CALM. People rest under the historic Sio-Seh-Pol Bridge

in Iran.

## THE STATE OF OPEN SOCIETY

OSI's Middle East and North Africa Initiative pursued efforts to establish open society principles and practices amid instability that made the work difficult. Violence in Iraq still dominated the Middle East. The assassination of Lebanon's prime minister, Rafik Hariri, a strong critic of Syrian presence in his country, implicated officials in Syria. Iranians elected a new conservative president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, whose government declared its intention to build a nuclear program. And in Israel, the government continued to expand settlements in the West Bank and construct a separation wall. Mahmoud Abbas was elected president of the Palestinian Authority but Hamas enjoyed more popularity in local elections.

In Egypt, a few hopeful signs for civil society appeared, as the country, following U.S. and Western pressure, held its first presidential elections ever.

The Open Society Institute's Middle East and North Africa Initiative focused on **supporting the rule of law and transitional justice**, citizens' political participation, women's empowerment, higher education, free media, and independent art and culture activities. In Egypt, where NGOs are among the most vibrant in the region, OSI supported human rights research and advocacy, the empowerment of women, and the independence of culture.

OSI's Debate Program worked with Palestinian citizens of Israel and a summer youth camp in Egypt while the Information Program expanded its Electronic Library Project and the Justice Initiative supported citizenship projects in the region. OSI's Scholarship Program began a five-year project to help revitalize Palestinian higher education and developed its scholarship programs for Palestinian law students. The Media Program supported independent monitoring of media coverage of elections.

The Middle East Initiative provided grants to NGOs working in Israel on improving public health, legal advocacy, independent media, and early childhood education for Palestinians. In the occupied Palestinian Territories, it supported independent

### REGIONS: MIDDLE EAST,

culture, women's reproductive rights, and human rights groups.

The Open Society Institute's main activity in Iraq continued to be the Iraq Revenue Watch's monitoring of resources and expenditures. Revenue Watch released a timely report on constitutional safeguards for Iraqi oil wealth.

In Iran, OSI succeeded in providing support for women's rights and harm reduction efforts while also funding efforts to reduce tensions between Iran and the rest of the world.

In Afghanistan, OSI
continued to provide support
within its general areas of cultural
exchange and development, gender
issues, free media, and transitional
justice and the rule of law. Finally, in
Pakistan, through its education reform
initiative, OSI worked with major NGOs in a
network of key donors and state players to
establish 30 community schools in the
earthquake-affected area of Azad Jammu and
Kashmir. The network will mobilize local communities to take the lead in reconstruction efforts.







## EXPANDED MONITORING ACTIVITIES

With the European Union expanding to include Central and Eastern European nations, the Open Society Institute has expanded its monitoring activities to include all of Europe. The EU accession process has shown that in some cases, even older EU member countries can fall short of the human rights and governance criteria that they demand for membership. The lead program in promoting awareness of challenges to open society throughout Europe is OSI's EU Monitoring and Advocacy Program or EUMAP.

In 2005, EUMAP published

Television across Europe: regulation,
policy and independence, the largest-ever
comparative survey of its kind.

Undertaken with OSI's Media Program,
the three-volume report examines the state
of television broadcasting in 20 countries
and reaches several sweeping conclusions:
The pivotal role of television in supporting

democracy in Europe is under threat. Public service broadcasters are compromising quality and independence, and their content is often indistinguishable from their private competitors. Despite inadequate transparency of media ownership in the commercial sector, it is clear that fewer and fewer owners, in many instances with clear political affiliations, are amassing an ever-greater share of Europe's television outlets. These developments are jeopardizing broadcasting pluralism and diversity, with the new democracies in Central and Eastern Europe and South Eastern Europe most at risk.

EUMAP, with OSI's Mental Health Initiative, also published bilingual single-country reports on Access to Education and Employment for People with Intellectual Disabilities in 10 European countries, with further reports to be produced in 2006. The reports offer concrete and realistic recommendations aimed at promoting the social inclusion of one of the most vulnerable groups in Europe, people whose learning ability is significantly below average. Across the countries monitored, very few children and young people with intellectual disabilities have access to quality education or training, adapted to their needs, in mainstream schools. The reports find that the vast majority of people with intellectual disabilities in Europe cannot access any kind of work, and are fully dependent on state benefits or the support of their families.

SHADOWS. Crows circle a statue of Lenin in front of the Supreme Soviet building in Transnistria.

## **Central and Eastern Europe**

**GEORGE SOROS'S** efforts to foster development of open societies in Central and Eastern Europe reached a significant milestone in Hungary during 2005. Soros announced that not only had Hungary established a democratic form of government and gained membership in the European Union, it had also succeeded in meeting the criteria for a truly open society. Soros congratulated the first of his foundations, the Soros Foundation-Hungary, on the successful completion of a mission that began in 1984, when it provided local NGOs photocopying machines to spread information and alternative views. Soros announced that the Soros Foundation-Hungary would close at the end of 2007. In addition to implementing ongoing programs during 2005, the foundation launched efforts to record its achievements and make its archives and publications available for both professionals and the public.

Despite Poland's membership in the EU, during 2005 OSI monitored with concern a growing popular distrust of democratic procedures and institutions due to corruption and misconduct among

political leaders. The Soros foundation in Poland, the Stefan Batory Foundation, campaigned on several fronts to promote improvements to democracy in Poland, including sponsorship of a series of talks by leaders of political parties and candidates for presidential office. Soros foundations in Romania and Bulgaria completed reports measuring each country's progress in meeting EU accession criteria. The reports' comprehensive analysis of each country's status and their recommendations for improvement received substantial media coverage in Romania and Bulgaria and were reviewed by the European Commission in Brussels.

The Open Society Fund–Lithuania supported key civil society institutions in 2005, including the Human Rights Monitoring Institute, the Civil Society Institute, and the local chapter of Transparency International. Despite an increasingly difficult political environment, the foundation also carried forward its efforts in support of harm reduction approaches.

#### PROMOTION OF OPEN SOCIETY AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION IN COUNTRIES TO THE EAST

In addition to their efforts to develop open societies at home, OSI foundations in Poland, Estonia, and other Eastern European countries coordinated efforts to foster the development of open societies and a pro-European atmosphere in Belarus, Ukraine, and other countries to the east. In cooperation with partners from six EU and four Eastern European countries, the Stefan Batory Foundation monitored visa policies and the consular **practices** of seven EU countries toward citizens of Belarus, Ukraine, Russia, and Moldova. The aim was to obtain an accurate picture of how visas are currently handled and to develop a set of guidelines for a common EU visa policy in the future.

The Stefan Batory Foundation sponsored a project to enrich discussions on opportunities and risks for the EU and its eastern neighbors stemming from the Orange Revolution in Ukraine. This project led to the publication of several policy papers and reports and promoted a series of activities, including visits and seminars organized for regional leaders from Ukraine.

With support from the Ford Foundation, the Stefan Batory Foundation awarded a network of 32 NGOs in Belarus and Ukraine grants to finance grassroots initiatives, strengthen civic activity, and develop partnerships between NGOs and private and public institutions. In the framework of OSI's East

East: Partnership Beyond Borders Program, the foundation awarded 33 grants to organizations for cross-border projects implemented in Poland and 161 travel grants for experts and NGO leaders participating in projects in Ukraine and other countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

The Estonia foundation successfully shared its knowledge and experience in bringing Internet access and information technology to Estonian schools with similar projects in Georgia. The Soros Foundation-Latvia, supported by the East East: Partnership Beyond Borders Program, facilitated transfer of Latvia's reform experience to neighboring countries by, for example, launching a bilingual Latvian-Russian Internet-based community to promote diversity and tolerance through publications, debate, and research. The OSI-supported Baltic-American Partnership Program worked with all three Soros foundations in the Baltics to support NGOs seeking to sustain participatory democracy and civil society and address issues involving the environment, disabled people, youth, and rural and regional development.

#### ROMA

During 2005, the Open Society Institute–Sofia invested considerable effort in enhancing the capacity of Romani community centers to launch and implement their own advocacy **campaigns**. The centers mounted campaigns focusing on, among other issues, equal access to

education, the introduction of Romani health mediators, and improvement of housing in Romani neighborhoods. The Bulgarian government adopted a health strategy, prepared by OSI–Sofia in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, to address the needs of Roma and members of other ethnic minorities.

In the Czech Republic, the Open Society Fund-Prague helped leading NGOs working on Romani issues to establish and develop the Forum for Integration, whose primary goal is to coordinate common action and advocate for changes to governmental policy on integration of Roma into Czech society. Three OSI programs, the EU Monitoring and Advocacy Program, Education Support Program, and Roma Participation Program began monitoring equal access to quality education for Roma. In Slovakia, the Open Society Foundation-Bratislava, together with the World Bank, launched a grant program to help NGOs develop professional skills in monitoring, evaluating, and implementing goals and activities of the Decade of Roma Inclusion, 2005–2015. The Soros Foundation–Romania was also involved in Decade-related activities by organizing the first meeting of the Decade International Steering Committee in November, where it conducted workshops for Romani and non-Romani journalists on accurately reporting on Romani issues and promoting inclusion in Europe. The foundation also helped develop Romani-related articles for a prominent Romanian magazine, and worked on

Romani community development by creating an integrated approach to addressing Romani community health, education, employment, and housing issues, giving substance to the government's Decade of Inclusion plans.

## LEGAL REFORM AND IMPROVEMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Open Society Institute—Sofia contributed to efforts to revamp Bulgaria's system for ex officio defense in criminal cases. Bulgaria's parliament adopted a new legal aid law that, among other things, aims at broadening the scope of state-financed legal aid to include civil and administrative cases.

The Open Society Fund–Prague cooperated with the Czech Republic's Ministry of Justice in **promoting mediation as an alternative to court proceedings** for resolving disputes.

OSF–Prague also promoted the establishment of free legal aid and launched a project aimed at introducing the concept of community policing.

The Centre for Public Policy PROVIDUS, established by the Soros Foundation—Latvia, promoted measures providing for state compensation for victims of violent crime.

## GOOD GOVERNANCE AND ANTICORRUPTION

Corruption at all levels of government in the Czech Republic remained widespread in 2005. The Open Society Fund–Prague continued collaborating with Transparency International and other watchdog organizations to combat this problem. Transparency International published its annual corruption index, prepared a code of conduct for regional administrations, and suggested ways of attacking conflict of interest problems. The fund also worked with the Open Society Foundation-Bratislava to increase the role of women in good governance efforts and society at large by supporting initiatives that increase women's political participation, encourage political parties to seek women members and leaders, and reduce gender inequality in the labor market.

The Open Society Institute-Sofia launched a civic effort to monitor reform **commitments** that Bulgaria's government undertook within the framework of negotiations on EU accession. Under an agreement with the Minister of European Affairs, OSI-Sofia formed five expert teams that are monitoring reforms in agriculture, regional policy, intellectual property, the judiciary and internal affairs, and the free movement of services. These teams will issue reports to the public and the European Commission on whether Bulgaria's government has implemented reforms quickly enough to secure Bulgaria's accession in the European Union by January 1, 2007.

To stimulate public oversight of Poland's government institutions, the Stefan Batory Foundation supported 23 organizations that are monitoring transparency, ethical conduct, and

accountability. The foundation presented a report on anticorruption regulations adopted by the Polish parliament, released a report on corruption in courts and prosecutors' offices, conducted the first-ever examination of presidential campaign financing in Poland, and participated in the Transparent Poland project, which involves implementation, at the municipal level, of principles of good governance, transparency, and accountability.

The Democracy Watch Project, a collaboration between the Open Estonia Foundation and top Estonian social scientists, produced a monitoring report that fostered discussion on transparency, accountability, and ethnic minority issues, and prompted the government to establish regular monitoring activities.



# PORTFOLIO: IMMIGRANTS IN ITALY

In Rome, refugees from Africa—mostly from Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Sudan—make their home in an abandoned building, after enduring the arduous journey from Africa.









## **South Eastern Europe**

**SOROS FOUNDATIONS** in South Eastern Europe in 2005 maintained their efforts to help people participate in decision making on public issues ranging from European integration to legal reform, to ethnic minorities and civil society capacity building.

The Foundation Open Society Institute-Representative Office Montenegro helped civil society groups organize efforts to register voters and monitor Montenegro's statehood referendum in 2006. In Kosovo, the Kosovo Foundation for Open Society (KFOS) supported Forum 2015, an initiative that helped generate and focus public discussion on issues such as decentralization, education, and ethnic minorities that will figure prominently in future negotiations about Kosovo's status.

The Open Society Institute-Croatia developed the Open Society Index to help promote public policies by assessing a society's degree of openness in six key areas: education, rule of law, media, economic rights and entrepreneurship, transparency and democracy, and minorities and marginalized groups. Although the foundation is scheduled to close its administrative offices in 2006, a number of OSI programs will remain active in Croatia for years to come.

#### **EUROPEAN INTEGRATION**

During 2005, the Fund for an Open Society—Serbia (FOSS) pressed the government to take a pro-European stance as Belgrade struggled to overcome political gridlock and launch fundamental reforms still urgently needed more than half a decade since the Milosevic regime's collapse. FOSS worked to help prepare government negotiators for talks on the Stabilization and Association Agreement with the European Union. The fund participated in the development of Serbia's national strategy for joining the European Union; since Serbia's government adopted it in June 2005, the national strategy has served as a basis for negotiations with the EU and as a starting point for development of EU-related domestic policies.

The Kosovo Foundation for Open Society helped edge Kosovo closer to Europe. The foundation worked to improve the conditions of **Kosovo's minority groups**, in large part by enhancing their capacity for calling attention to their special needs. The autumn of 2005 witnessed the launching of the Kosovo School for European Integration, which builds upon similar OSI efforts started in Montenegro in 2003, and provides community leaders—public officials, leading citizens, and participants in nongovernmental organizations—with instruction related to EU integration.

#### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

In November, Macedonia's parliament adopted a new law on the broadcast media, which secured the independence of the national broadcasting service and provided for the development of nonprofit media outlets in local communities. This law is to a large degree the result of a civic initiative begun in 2003 by the Media Development Center with support from the Foundation Open Society Institute–Macedonia (FOSIM), IREX, the OSCE, and the Stability Pact Initiative. FOSIM also organized public discussions on freedom of information.

FOSS led a coalition of 17 nongovernmental organizations that advocated for full implementation of the republic's Law on Free Access to Information. The coalition prepared and published a guide to Serbia's access to information law and had it translated in five minority languages; the commissioner for free access to information adopted this guide as an official tool for administrative and judicial bodies that are required by law to disclose information to citizens.

#### LEGAL REFORM

A partner of the Soros Foundation–Moldova, the Institute for Penal Reform (IRP), undertook advocacy efforts to urge observance and enforcement of the country's new legal framework on alternatives to imprisonment. IRP has worked to persuade judicial and criminal-investigation bodies and other stakeholders to apply community sanctions rather than press for and impose harsher, custodial sanctions upon persons convicted of criminal offenses.

The Soros Foundation–Moldova supported activities to reform access to legal aid. The foundation also undertook efforts through Moldova's judicial system to improve observance of the European Convention on Human Rights and to fight arbitrary arrest and detention, police brutality, and abuse of office by, among other things, applying existing laws that are underutilized.

The Foundation Open Society Institute—
Representative Office Montenegro supported
efforts to improve the education of judges and rules
of procedure for the state prosecutorial service.
The foundation also provided support to expert
commissions responsible for revising Montenegro's
Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure.
The Open Society Foundation for Albania (OSFA)
undertook an advocacy project to reform the laws
regulating the country's civil society sector.

#### **GOVERNANCE AND DEMOCRACY**

The foundation in Kosovo, the UN's capacity building development program for Kosovo, and other organizations provided on-the-job coaching and mentoring to enhance the leadership and management skills of civil servants, including senior managers. In Albania, the foundation launched a budget-monitoring project, mobilizing independent experts to provide recommendations for enhancing the effectiveness of funds earmarked in Albania's 2006 budget for improving education and health and other social services. The Foundation Open Society Institute-Representative Office Montenegro focused on improving governance and democracy by cooperating with the national government and the UNDP to support capacity-building initiatives that provided civil servants and political leaders with new skills to deal with municipal governance issues, and improved their understanding of the EU and the Stabilization and Association Process. The foundation also supported projects that improved the ability of educators and policymakers to monitor Romani schoolchildren's attendance, and seminars that helped women's NGOs and state institutions better understand and implement EU directives on gender equity. FOSS, with the Center for Free Elections and Democracy, examined implementation of Serbia's campaign finance law and called for improving oversight mechanisms.

The Open Society Fund-Bosnia and Herzegovina began a Democracy Assessment Project to raise public awareness of democratic values and facilitate public dialogue on democratic development. A project of the foundation and USAID worked to encourage voter turnout, and promote "issue-based" instead of "ethnic-based"

**voting** in preparation for national elections in 2006. FOSS promoted good governance by forming an association of municipalites and cities with 139 members from nine countries.

#### **EDUCATION**

In an effort to encourage Albanian families to send their children to school, OSFA launched a project to draft a policy paper outlining a system for linking social benefits with school attendance. During preliminary discussions, government officials expressed an interest in implementing some of the recommendations, including a proposal to provide cash benefits to impoverished families whose children show good progress in school. FOSS, together with Save the Children and the Centre for Interactive Pedagogy, initiated a program to build a constituency of experts and teachers and other education practitioners who will develop policies for guaranteeing all of Serbia's children access to a quality education and increasing the educational system's capacity to mainstream, whenever possible, children with special needs.

#### MINORITY RIGHTS, ROMA

In Kosovo, KFOS and two other nongovernmental organizations established community development centers to provide research, advocacy support, and public policy development to serve the needs of Kosovo's Bosniak, Romani, Serbian, and Turkish ethnic communities. In Albania, OSFA conducted advocacy campaigns to give a voice to Albania's Roma and members of the

country's other marginalized groups. OSFA set up a project to monitor implementation of commitments made by the Albanian government for improving the Roma's access to quality education, health, employment, and housing. To monitor and advocate for the implementation of Romani policies and programs, FOSS led the formation of a 60-NGO coalition, the League for the Decade of Roma Inclusion. The Foundation Open Society Institute—Macedonia continued to improve the attendance and achievement of Romani primary school students and provide Romaversitas scholarships to Romani university students.

#### Ukraine

The International Renaissance Foundation (IRF) initiated a collaborative effort to advise policymakers on how to create an environment favorable to civil society. IRF-supported campaigns against torture and ill treatment prompted the Ministry of Interior to acknowledge the problem, create task forces, and cooperate with human rights organizations to improve the situation. A national commission endorsed by the president worked on judicial reform, also with the foundation's support.

The IRF assisted a range of initiatives promoting the establishment of public broadcasting in Ukraine. The foundation worked toward **fostering greater civil society engagement in public health policy and practice**, reform of health

care systems, and introduction of innovative and pilot approaches.

The IRF supported the establishment of the Community for Democratic Choice, uniting countries of the Baltic-Black-Caspian-Seas region and the Balkans to promote democracy, security, stability, and peace. It enhanced cooperation of independent think tanks from Ukraine, Moldova, and Romania to find alternative solutions to the frozen conflict in Transnistria, and efforts to make the European Union visa policy toward its eastern neighboring countries more friendly and modernized in accordance with fundamental human rights.

The Testing Technologies Center created by IRF provided a pilot program that tested 10,000 students for admission to higher education institutions. Its success resulted in government plans to test 2 million students in 2006, but the government's program has a number of flaws that limit its effectiveness in offering all Ukrainian students an equal opportunity for higher education. The IRF will continue its efforts to improve the system.

#### Russia

With the closure of the Soros foundation in Russia, OSI worked through its Russia Project, which focused on support to core civil society/human rights institutions, especially in the regions; existing civil society networks; and debate and discussion in public settings.





NEALTH AND POVERTY. Children play among the oil pipelines in their village in the Niger Delta.

tions made strides during
2005 by working with
Africans to build democratic
and accountable governments, combat rampant
corruption and human
rights abuses, empower
women, fight HIV/AIDS
and other diseases, and
challenge the stereotype
of Africa as a continent
of despair.

One OSI effort, the Africa Governance Monitoring and Advocacy Project (AfriMAP), monitors and promotes government observance of standards adopted by the African Union relating to human rights, the rule of law, and accountability. During 2005, AfriMAP published its first report on justice and the rule of law in South Africa. This report identified a number of challenges to South Africa's judicial **system**, including weaknesses in the domestication of international human

rights treaties, and the need to transform the judiciary while maintaining respect for the independence of the courts from the executive; to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of the justice system reforms undertaken since 1994; to build and strengthen civilian oversight of police; to promote an integrated approach to sentencing and improve conditions of detention; and to ensure wider access to justice. In South Africa, AfriMAP's report on political participation neared completion while work began on analyses of the justice sector and political participation in Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, and Senegal.

African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) process is functioning in Kenya, Ghana, Rwanda, and Mauritius, the first four countries to submit to the review mechanism. The APRM was designed by the African Union and the New Partnership for Africa's Development to foster the adoption of policies and practices that can contribute to political stability, sustainable development, economic growth, and regional and continental integration.

## OPEN SOCIETIES, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS, HUMAN RIGHTS

Launched in 2005, the Open Society Initiative for East Africa (OSIEA) began its work in Kenya, focusing on independent media, access to information, governance and human rights. A major focus of grantmaking during 2005 was support for **nonpartisan civic education efforts**,

particularly in rural and remote areas, around a draft constitution proposed by the government. At a referendum in November, Kenyans opted for the ballot-box defeat of this constitutional proposal that would have preserved strong presidential powers and weakened the bill of rights. OSIEA also supported anticorruption efforts in Kenya, which Transparency International ranks as one of Africa's most-corrupt states. In response to the dearth of human rights organizations outside Kenya's capital, OSIEA is supporting the development of such groups in the country's North Eastern and Coast Provinces.

The Open Society Initiative for Southern
Africa (OSISA) and Action Aid provided regional civil society organizations with a guide on how to engage with the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), the African Union, and other organizations.
OSISA worked with the SADC Parliamentary Forum in an effort to produce a framework for democratic elections. Together with the International Bar
Association, OSISA founded the Johannesburg-based Southern Africa Litigation Centre to support individual human rights cases, provide advice on constitutional advocacy in the Southern African region, and furnish training in human rights and

rule of law issues. OSISA collaborated with the Human Rights Trust of Southern Africa to host a regional anticorruption seminar and hosted a number of government watchdogs at a workshop to introduce the methodology of the Public Service Accountability Monitor for monitoring expenditures. OSISA also initiated a detailed assessment of laws and policies dealing with access to information in the nine countries where OSISA operates.

The Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) provided support for Nigeria's National Working Group on Prison Reform and Decongestion. Faced with the group's report on problems in Nigeria's prisons, the attorney general and minister of justice convened an interministerial meeting to discuss prison overcrowding, including the large numbers of people incarcerated for long periods of time while awaiting trial, and other prison conditions; the Nigerian government accepted all of the working group's recommendations. The Open Society Foundation for South Africa (OSF-SA) helped establish a spin-off organization in 2005, the Center for Justice and Crime Prevention, and worked to strengthen parliamentary oversight of **policing** in South Africa by advising members of parliament on how to better inspect operations of police stations. OSF-SA developed a handbook to help local officials better understand laws and policies dealing with local government finance.







#### **MEDIA**

The Open Society Institute for Southern Africa continued to support the development of private media through the Southern Africa Media Development Loan Fund. By supporting the Media Institute of Southern Africa, OSISA helped convene a donor conference to assist Zimbabwe's media as well as journalists suffering harassment in Zimbabwe and other countries. The Open Society Foundation for South Africa established a media fellowship program, which focused on strengthening independent news agencies and supporting journalists working on articles that deal with themes relevant to open society. One media fellowship resulted in the publication of an influential series of articles on prison conditions in South Africa, including sexual assaults of inmates and unclean living conditions. The Open Society Initiative for East Africa provided support for media students' equipment and human rights film projects. In West Africa, OSIWA

brought together civil society groups, government officials, and representatives from the private sector to develop strategies for expanding access to information technology in the region.

#### **HIV/AIDS**

OSISA convened a working group on AIDS and the law; launched a project to monitor resource flows into and within the agencies, organizations, and institutions dealing with HIV/AIDS; supported organizations of people who are living with HIV/AIDS and want to strengthen their influence on public policy; and made a number of high-profile presentations before regional and international forums that drew attention to legal and policy issues related to HIV/AIDS.

#### WOMEN

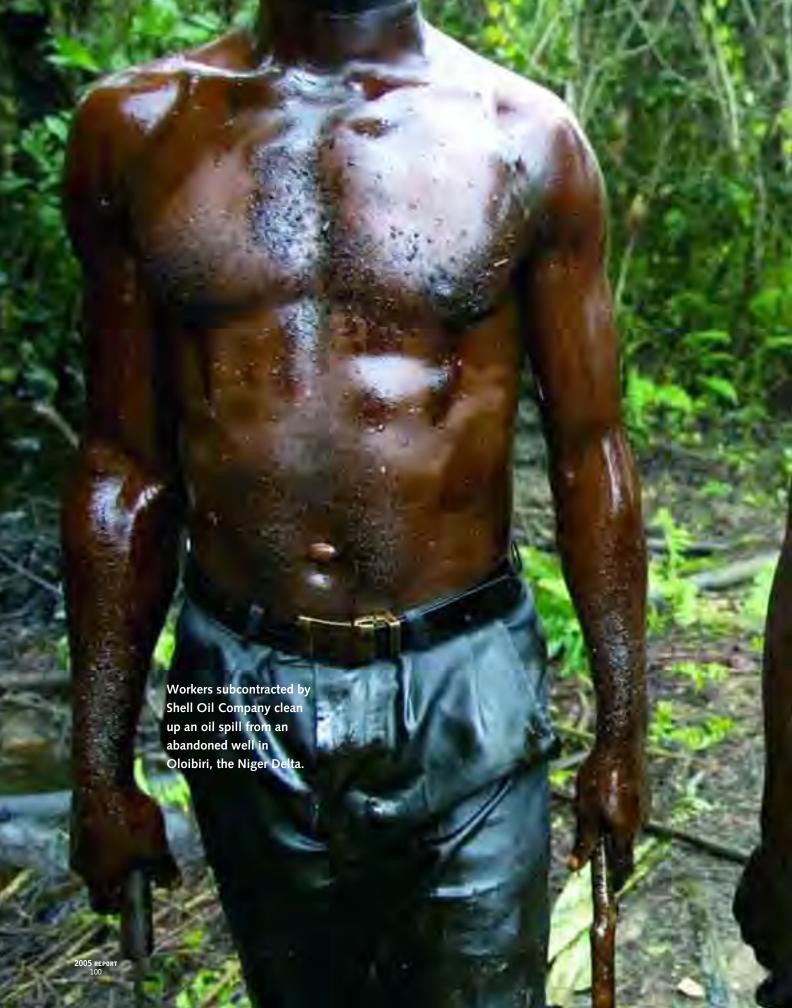
The Open Society Initiative for West Africa worked with Women in Law and Development to campaign in 15 countries for the ratification and implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa. The protocol came into force on November 24, 2005, following its ratification in the 15 countries. OSIWA, in conjunction with the British Council, organized an education effort to increase the number of women elected to local and national legislatures. In southern Africa, OSISA began a campaign on girls' education within the framework of the UNESCO Education for All initiative.



Gas flares pollute the air

around Agip's Nembe Creek flow station.

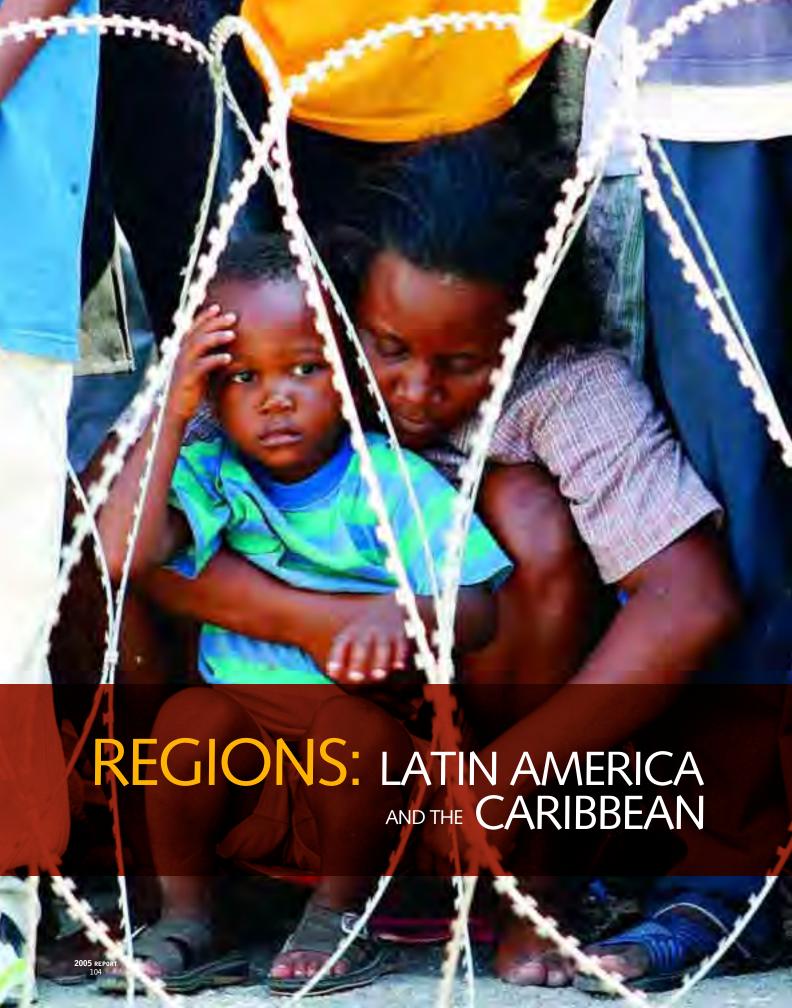












#### **LATIN AMERICA PROGRAM**

Since 2002 OSI's Latin America Program (LAP) has worked to improve citizen security by supporting academic efforts to identify best practices in public security reform, by strengthening the capacity and interest of civil society organizations to engage in issues of citizen security, and by supporting collaboration and cooperation between governments and civil society to improve public security.

A new regional advocacy initiative grew out of these efforts during 2005. This initiative is working to have the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights take up the issue of citizen security and establish minimum standards regarding the responsibility of governments to **provide security and protect the rights of citizens from abuse**.

Representatives of the Open Society Justice Initiative and 12 human rights organizations from all over Latin America met with the commission and presented a series of proposals outlining how it can more systematically incorporate the issue of citizen security and human rights into its work agenda. The commission agreed to develop a thematic report on this question during 2006.

The LAP also worked with Transparency International's Bureau for Latin America during 2005 to develop a regionwide campaign for implementation of the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption. Transparency International developed a comparative assessment of how several countries in the region are implementing the convention, and the results serve as a powerful advocacy tool for national civil society efforts to bring pressure to bear for its further implementation.

The LAP sponsored a regional meeting for local civil society groups to exchange information and best practices on monitoring and promoting better parliamentary oversight of government spending. OSI grantees in Mexico and Peru continued to monitor and report on the use of revenues from oil, gas, and mineral extraction. The LAP also sponsored a public-opinion survey in Sao Paolo, Montevideo, Buenos Aires, and Santiago to understand attitudes about relations between the United States and the region's countries. The survey highlighted differences between perceptions in the United States and Latin America on key problems and its results were the focus of one regional seminar held in Santiago and another in Washington, D.C., with U.S. government officials.

The LAP worked to strengthen collaboration among civil society groups and regional organizations to promote and defend open society values. In partnership with the Organization of American States, the Latin America Program sponsored the Inter-American Civil Society Partnership Initiative, which made possible civil society input into planning leading up to the Summit of the Americas in

Defense Network of Latin

American, a key grantee of the

LAP, coordinated civil society

input into the biannual meeting of hemispheric ministers of defense, which

took place in Ecuador

during October.

Argentina. The Security and

Mother and child in Port-au-Prince wait for food aid.

HUNGER IN HAITI.

# COMMUNITY LIBRARIES AND DEMOCRATIC VALUES IN HAITI

Against the backdrop of the failure of Haiti's interim government to contain mounting violence, organize a credible electoral process, and alleviate poverty, Fondation Connaissance et Liberté (FOKAL) continued its work to establish democratic values and other components of open society. During 2005,

## FOKAL's resource center drew thousands of visitors

from all segments of society.

With its partners, FOKAL organized

international conferences on women's rights, on urbanism and civic rights, and on human rights and international justice as well as a series of theatrical events by local youth groups that explored themes related to civic rights and democracy.

FOKAL also sponsored training sessions for its network of 50 community libraries throughout the country; at these sessions, hundreds of young men and women received instruction in library management and in how to use their facilities for educational and cultural events that promote democratic values, human rights, the protection of the environment, and sustainable development. Under FOKAL's leadership, 60 cultural institutions and associations participated in an effort aimed at strengthening the cultural sector's capacity to play a role in building democracy and fostering the growth of civil society. OSI's Economic and Business Development Program helped FOKAL secure the assistance of the Tides Foundation, which will host a "Friends of FOKAL" initiative in the United States and help build relationships with new donors.

## FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES IN GUATEMALA

The Fundación Soros–Guatemala focused in 2005 on strengthening citizenship and the rights of citizens as vital forces in the country's transition from authoritarianism toward a more open society. Foundation-supported initiatives included participatory municipal planning activities, electronic infor-

mation and analysis services for local governments, and the creation of citizen-run, municipal ecology parks. Support was also provided to emerging social actors, including indigenous women in politics and small-scale, rural entrepreneurs. The foundation continued to prioritize work with the media by strengthening alliances with commercial TV and advertisers to obtain prime time slots for foundation-developed programming, and helped develop radio news and video programming that establish the country's rich diversity as an important part of its national identity.

A new three-year program, cofinanced with funds from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), aims to improve access to justice, focusing on indigenous populations and agrarian and labor issues. The foundation completed preparations to launch a Rural Investment Fund in 2006 to provide equity capital to creative and viable economic ventures in the countryside.







Defendant
appearing before
the court in
Paris. France.

**OSI'S ACTIVITIES** across dozens of countries have spawned an expanding network of local and regional NGOs that are working to advance human, political, and minority rights, freedom of information and expression, equal access to public services, and other open society issues. OSI initiatives have supported the establishment and operation of international tribunals to try political leaders, military commanders, and other persons accused of crimes in connection with the mayhem in West Africa and the genocide in Cambodia. OSI initiatives have also supported litigation to end discrimination against the Roma in education and employment, to reform juvenile justice systems in countries across Eurasia and Africa, and to ensure the participation of women in governance throughout Eastern Europe.

#### **OPEN SOCIETY JUSTICE INITIATIVE**

A centerpiece of the foundation's efforts in the area of law and governance is the Open Society Justice Initiative. Key developments in Nigeria and Cambodia during 2005 gave the Justice Initiative and its partners good reason to be encouraged. The Justice Initiative has campaigned extensively for the arrest and extradition of Charles Taylor, the former president of Liberia, to stand trial on charges brought by the UN-sponsored Special Court for Sierra Leone stemming from his role in the wars in West Africa. Despite objections by the Nigerian government, a Nigerian High Court judge ruled in November to allow two plaintiffs—men whom Taylor's troops had allegedly mutilated—to file a lawsuit seeking rescission of the grant of asylum that has shielded Taylor in Nigeria.

The Justice Initiative has also advocated for the establishment of a "hybrid" tribunal to try war crimes committed in Cambodia; 2005 witnessed the appointment of senior international administrative personnel for this tribunal and the nominations of judges and prosecutors. In addition to vetting candidates proposed for these positions, the Justice Initiative continues to provide assistance to newly selected officials.

A program to improve juvenile justice in Kazakhstan, sponsored by the Justice Initiative and the Soros Foundation–Kazakhstan, helped

## **INITIATIVES:** LAW & GOVERNANCE

lower the number of arrests of young people, reduce the frequency of pretrial **detention of juveniles**, and provide them with greater procedural guarantees in practice. A Justice Initiative project on pretrial detention and legal aid in Nigeria brought about the release of 635 pretrial detainees in four states—more than a fifth of the pretrial detainee population—and produced important ripple effects, including easier access by defense counsel to police detention facilities and the launch of a computer system to track detainees from arrest through trial. In Mexico, the Justice Initiative and its Monterrey-based partner, Renace, held a workshop for officials in Aguascalientes, prompting the creation of a state-level organizing committee for reform of pretrial detention and bail practices.

In March, the Justice Initiative and a partner, INTERIGHTS, obtained a finding by the UN Human Rights Committee that the Angolan authorities' detention, trial, and conviction of journalist Rafael Marques for criticizing government corruption had violated international standards on free expression. Following Justice Initiative legal action before the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the government of Cameroon pledged to lift a ban and allow a radio station to resume broadcasting.

The Justice Initiative's 14-country audit of citizenship and discrimination issues in Africa helped renew interest in the plight of denationalized and stateless persons across the continent.

The Justice Initiative organized a mission of the African Commission to examine the situation of Mauritanians illegally driven into Senegal in 1989, and joined NGOs in Mauritania in a public appeal to the new government to facilitate the lawful return of these people. Through submission of an amicus curiae brief, the Justice Initiative contributed to a landmark judgment of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights affirming the right of all persons to protection against racial discrimination in access to citizenship. A project on policing and minorities in Europe generated ground-breaking research on the practice of ethnic profiling by law enforcement institutions in several countries.

# HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOVERNANCE GRANTS

OSI's Human Rights and Governance Grants
Program launched two new initiatives during 2005.
The Accountability Initiative supports organizations working to increase the accountability and transparency of state bodies as a means to stem corruption and enhance government responsiveness to the public interest. In Kyrgyzstan, the local Transparency International chapter succeeded in having a new freedom of information law drafted and submitted before the parliament. And in Slovakia, the Fair Play Alliance successfully promoted a number of laws



and Romani Baht Foundation helped secure a landmark court victory in Bulgaria; the court ruled that the authorities had violated the rights of Romani children to an integrated education and ordered the desegregation of an all-Romani ghetto school.

#### **ROMA PROGRAMS**

OSI, the largest nongovernmental supporter of Romani-related initiatives in Central, Eastern, and South Eastern Europe, has provided almost \$70 million since 1993 to increase the capacity of the Roma to act effectively for themselves, to advocate for systemic change in government and EU policies affecting Roma, to challenge the negative image of Roma, and to make the Decade of Roma Inclusion a success. In 2005, the Roma Participation Program (RPP) focused on providing funds for high-impact, civic campaigns against desegregation in education, for pilot desegregation programs, for advocacy efforts by the Roma, and for the training of new Romani activists. More than 15 of RPP's grantees were either women's organizations or NGOs directed by Romani women.

In close cooperation with OSI and Step by Step NGOs, the Roma Education Initiative focused on helping Romani children escape the trap of segregation through a range of initiatives.

The International Higher Education Support Program provided scholarships and tutoring to Romani students. Soros Foundations in Croatia, Macedonia, and Montenegro continued efforts to

## **INITIATIVES:** LAW & GOVERNANCE

integrate Romani children into the general education system and provide scholarships and mentors to help them remain in school and improve their performance.

OSI's national foundations and the Human Rights Program worked with community-based groups and legal advocacy organizations to address racial violence and discrimination as well as police abuse. Together with OSI–Brussels, the Justice Initiative contributed legal and policy advice for an upcoming report on how the EU and individual national governments can do more to give practical meaning to legislative guarantees of equality for Roma.

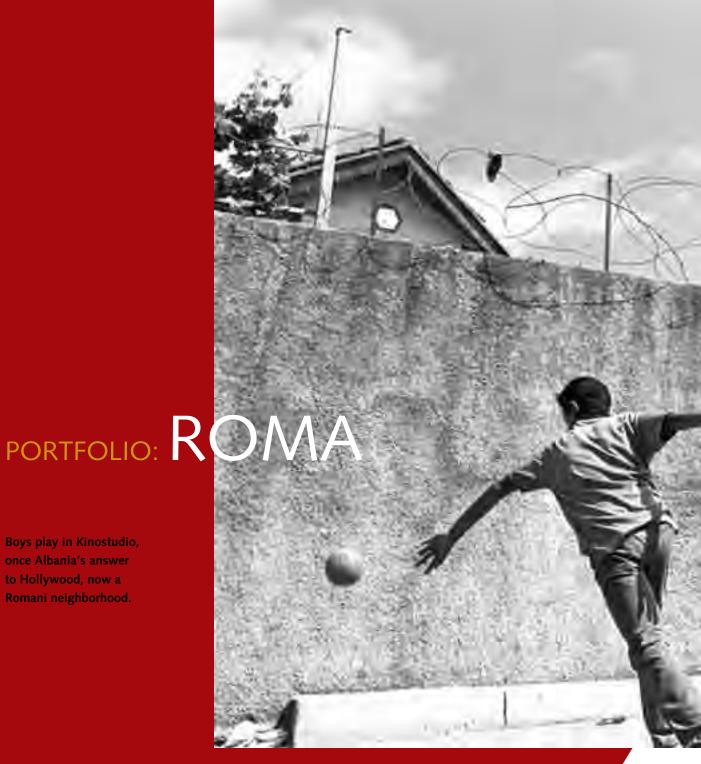
Other major focus areas of OSI's Romani initiatives have been the empowerment of Romani women through the Roma Women's Initiative, support for the development of Romani media outlets, and support for Romany-language programming carried by non-Romani media. The Virginity Project, sponsored by the Network Women's Program and led by young Romani women and men, promoted freedom of choice and sexual and reproductive rights for young Roma and continued to expand to more countries in the region. OSI's foundation in Bulgaria also backed the development of Romani media by continuing to support a website dedicated to Bulgaria's ethnic minorities (www.ethnos.bg). The Information Program assisted Romani groups in using information and communication technologies for advocacy.

#### **WOMEN'S PROGRAM**

Since 1997, the Network Women's Program (NWP) has worked to expand the capacity, visibility, and influence of women's rights organizations and networks in order to contribute to lasting policy changes, particularly in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, South Eastern Europe, and the former Soviet Union. In 2005, NWP's partners established an independent Prague-based network: the International Gender Policy Network (IGPN), which will monitor government accountability and commitments in the area of women's rights/gender equality.

#### **International Conferences on Women**

In early 2005, NWP supported a delegation of 25 women's rights advocates—including advocates from foundation partners and other NGOs, Romani women activists, and journalists—to the 10-year review of the Beijing Platform for Action in New York, where they participated in advocacy efforts resulting in the platform's reaffirmation. As a result of NWP's advocacy during strategy meetings of the Gender Monitoring Group at the 2005 UN World (Millennium) Summit, an expanded set of gender goals was included in the Summit's Outcome Document. NWP supported the participation of over 50 women's rights activists from the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, South Eastern Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa at the 10th AWID International



Boys play in Kinostudio, once Albania's answer to Hollywood, now a Romani neighborhood.





Men work on a building in Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro.









Forum on Women's Rights and Development, "How Does Change Happen?" which was held in Bangkok in October 2005. The forum is the largest reoccurring venue for the global women's rights sector outside the UN system. Enisa Eminova, consultant to NWP's Roma Women's Initiative, was the first ever Romani woman plenary speaker.

#### Violence Against Women, **Equal Opportunities for Women and Men**

In 2005, NWP continued collaborating with Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights and UNIFEM on the Stop Violence Against Women website, a resource for advocates working to end violence against women, which includes country pages maintained by monitors from 30 countries. The website includes policies, protocols, and model laws. NWP made a one-year grant to V-Day Karama to provide capacity-building help, linkages, and funding to a wide array of women's organizations and networks working to end violence against women in nine countries of the Middle East and North Africa. Its official launch in Cairo included an NGO regional roundtable in which NWP participated. In its efforts to strengthen the European Union's gender machinery and ensure implementation of gender directives, the Equal Opportunities Network (EONET) assisted in the publication of reports of national experts from nine countries—Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Turkey—on shortcomings in these countries' com-

pliance with equal opportunity laws. NWP experts presented the results to the European Parliament. EONET also launched a similar initiative for South Eastern Europe that also focuses on Romani women's rights.

#### Reproductive Rights, Gender-Sensitive **Education, Major Grants**

An NWP partner, ASTRA (Central and Eastern European Women's Network for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights), continued to work to advance a progressive reproductive, sexual rights, and health agenda. NWP promoted development of gender studies through subregional networks of scholars in Central Asia, the Caucasus, and South Eastern Europe. The program continued to develop its second documentary film collection, Gender Montage: Paradigms in Post-Soviet Space, by helping film teams solidify their outreach strategies in preparation for the collection's 2006 launch at One World's International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival in Prague, Czech Republic. The second collection of films addresses violence against women and harmful traditional practices, discrimination against women in the workplace, feminization of poverty, labor migration, and reproductive health. In 2005, a grant to the Afghan Institute of Learning made it possible for educators and trainers in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Tajikistan to conduct women's human rights education trainings for Afghani officials. The program also made a large

INITIATIVES: LAW & GO

grant to the Global Fund for Women to aid women in the Middle East.

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Helping to establish good governance in countries and regions undergoing political and economic transition remained a priority in 2005 for OSI's Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative (LGI). The initiative fosters good governance practices by focusing its efforts on improving the management and transparency of public finances; supporting the effective and equitable delivery of public services such as education, health care, and utilities; fostering local economics development; and improving the management of multiethnic communities.

During the year, the initiative implemented over 100 projects in more than 20 countries. In Serbia, an LGI property-devolution impact study concluded that adoption of specific legislation would enrich municipal coffers by an additional 105 million euros per year and generate at least 4,500 new jobs annually; the study's results were the centerpiece of a public education campaign. LGI launched two new policy fellowship projects: Implementing Local Economic Development Strategic Plans and Financial Management Reform. The Local Government Information Network (LOGIN), which offers downloadable documents free of charge, continued to expand eastward as the Community

Finance Officers Association of Armenia and the Association of Cities in Kyrgyzstan joined the existing network of 11 national partner organizations. The number of freely downloadable documents in the LOGIN online library exceeded 8,000 in December; the library's 100 most popular were downloaded more than 32,000 times. Through the joint LGI/USAID Fiscal Decentralization Initiative, scholarships were awarded for 20 students attending the master's degree program in Public Policy at Central European University.







HEALTH
PROTECTION.
Governmentsponsored
exhibition in
Shanghai
promoting

condom use.

**IN 2005,** OSI's Public Health Program continued to build and strengthen NGOs working at the local, national, and international levels and to emphasize the need for global health equity, the participation of socially marginalized populations in policy debates, and advocacy on the human rights and health needs of stigmatized populations. As a part of this mission, the program established two new public health initiatives, the Sexual Health and Rights Project (SHARP) and the Law and Health Initiative. During the year, the Public Health Program also continued to support key policy and advocacy activities targeting the rights and needs of marginalized groups in China and in countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East.

#### HARM REDUCTION

The International Harm Reduction

Development Program (IHRD) advocated at the international, regional, and national levels to advance policies designed to **reduce drug-related harm**, **diminish HIV transmission**,

#### and improve access to antiretroviral

**therapy** for injection drug users. At the United Nations, IHRD played a key role in leading a coalition of human rights, HIV, and drug-policy groups to rebuff attempts by the United States government to remove language about needle and syringe exchange from the UNAIDS prevention strategy adopted in June. IHRD also joined a collective effort that successfully convinced the World Health Organization to add methadone and buprenorphine to its list of essential drugs. At the country level, IHRD supported the Russian Harm Reduction Network's Global Fund proposal, resulting in a grant of \$10 million for harm reduction made outside of government mechanisms. The fact that Russia's president, Vladimir Putin, committed to a 25-fold increase in funding for HIV treatment in 2005 is a reflection of the efficacy of HIV activist groups.

IHRD supported needle-exchange programs from Slovakia to Tajikistan and provided technical assistance to ensure that Global Fund monies helped bring services to those in need. In Ukraine, IHRD continued to provide technical assistance for path-breaking services such as the piloting of substitution treatment. In Russia, the first antiretroviral treatment for people living with HIV was launched with protocols that explicitly include drug users. IHRD increased its advocacy activities in Central Asia by expanding its efforts to monitor whether civil society

# INITIATIVES: PUBLIC HEALTH

is included in Global Fund programs and by mobilizing community engagement across the region.

#### **SEXUAL HEALTH AND RIGHTS**

The Sexual Health and Rights Project (SHARP) was launched in April to improve the sexual health and rights of socially marginalized populations globally. Its objectives include reducing the spread of HIV among vulnerable populations by promoting protection and increasing access to quality health services, increasing service delivery and advocacy among allied health and social justice communities, and expanding funding and policy support for an evidence-based approach to health care information and services from the U.S. government. In 2005, SHARP provided grants for projects ranging from building the capacity of NGOs working on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues to hosting a dialogue on the effects of the political environment in the United States on the health of sex workers globally.

In September, the Alliance for Open Society
International and the Open Society Institute jointly
filed a lawsuit against USAID, successfully challenging the constitutionality of the antiprostitution pledge
requirement for grantees receiving federal HIV/AIDS
funds. To document the detrimental impact of the
USAID policy, SHARP commissioned a report and
supported the formation of a steering committee to
identify concrete policy objectives, community-

organizing opportunities, and a communications strategy around U.S. government policies on sex work (see page 27 for more on lawsuit).

#### **PALLIATIVE CARE**

The International Palliative Care Initiative (IPCI) funded programs that enhanced the provision of palliative care for patients with cancer and HIV/AIDS in countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Southern Africa, and Southeast Asia. In 2005, the IPCI joined with a coalition of palliative care organizations around the world and advocated for the full integration of palliative care into all national cancer-control programs. These efforts resulted in the development of a set of recommendations adopted by the WHO at the World Health Assembly in May.

#### **ROMA HEALTH**

The Roma Health Project continued working to improve the health of Central and Eastern Europe's Roma. The program provided support to eight NGOs working with Romani communities and the authorities in Macedonia and Serbia to address access to health care and insurance, health education, and the impact of social and economic conditions on health. In collaboration with the government of Romania, the project convened government officials, civil society representatives, and experts on health

and vulnerable groups to advance a more effective implementation of programs on Romani health.

#### TOBACCO CONTROL

In 2005, higher levels of government awareness and better understanding of the need for tobacco control resulted in major achievements, including ratification of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, and Romania. In Armenia, after two years of concerted campaigning supported by OSI's Tobacco Control Policy Project, the government funded a three-year national tobacco control program. In Ukraine, OSIsupported advocacy projects were instrumental in efforts to ban tobacco advertising and restrict smoking in public places. Partnering with Indonesian NGOs and the Southeast Asian Tobacco Control Alliance, OSI supported the building of a tobacco control coalition and provided advocacy training fellowships. In Africa, OSI funded workshops to build the capacity of local tobacco control advocates.

#### **HEALTH IN THE MEDIA**

The Health Media Initiative, launched in early 2005, supports efforts that enhance the capability of media professionals to raise public awareness of marginalized populations and stigmatized issues, and funds programs that assist public health NGOs in utilizing the media and communicating effectively with the public. In 2005, this initiative supported media advocacy on Romani health, HIV/AIDS, and tobacco

control. It gave a grant to Tsinghua University's AIDS Policy Research Center in Beijing to increase public knowledge of HIV/AIDS through the media and to highlight the underlying dimensions of social stigma and discrimination.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH MONITORING**

Public Health Watch launched two global monitoring projects aimed at encouraging public engagement in the development, implementation, and evaluation of health policies. These monitoring projects work with civil society organizations to report on government compliance with international health commitments and conduct targeted advocacy. The TB Monitoring Project is working in Bangladesh, Brazil, Nigeria, Tanzania, and Thailand to assess government progress toward compliance with international TB control commitments. Preliminary findings and recommendations were presented at the annual meeting of the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease in Paris in October 2005. The HIV/AIDS Monitoring Project initiated efforts in Nicaragua, Senegal, Ukraine, the United States, Vietnam, and Zambia to assess their governments' progress in implementing the UN's Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS.

#### **HUMAN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT**

The Public Health Program's work in humancapacity development, which was undertaken

### INITIATIVES: PUBLIC HEALTH

to strengthen faculties and schools of public health in the countries of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, neared completion in 2005. In collaboration with the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region, 11 existing faculties and schools of public health in Armenia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mongolia, Poland, and Romania worked with peer faculty from other regions to improve curricula and teaching standards. In Albania, Macedonia, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, and Ukraine, OSI helped establish, recast, or develop entirely new faculties of public health to collaborate with their respective governments and shape public policy.

#### LAW AND HEALTH

The new initiative on law and health will use legal tools to advance the rights of those whose marginalized status threatens their physical and mental health. It will support legal assistance, analyses, and advocacy projects that bring together public health and human rights activists; integrate human rights principles into existing health programs; and give a greater voice to marginalized persons in the health policy process.

#### **GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS**

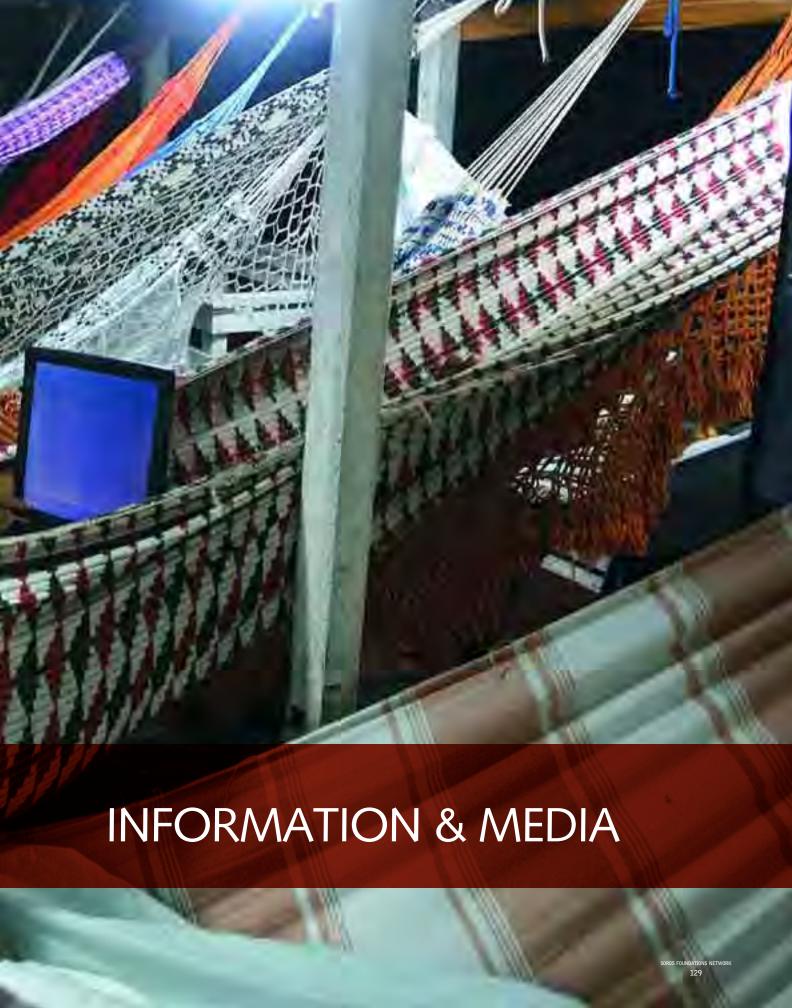
OSI, an advocate and supporter of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, sponsors monitoring of Global Fund activities at the country level, works to strengthen civil society involvement in its governance structures, and advocates internationally for adequate financing by donor countries.

OSI provides technical assistance to Global Fund grantees in Eastern Europe, Russia, Transcaucasia, and Central Asia.

## **Mental Health**

The Open Society Mental Health Initiative (MHI) aims to ensure that people with mental disabilities are able to live as equal citizens in the **community** and to participate in society while enjoying full respect for their human rights. In 2005, MHI provided funding, training, and technical assistance to NGOs in 20 countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. MHI support is designed to stimulate the reform of national policies on health, social welfare, education, and employment. Together with European partners, MHI established the European Coalition for Community Living to promote deinstitutionalization and the development of comprehensive, quality, community-based services for people with mental disabilities.





# **Education**

A man uses a laptop below deck on an Amazon ferry.

#### **QUALITY EDUCATION,**

reliable information, and trustworthy, responsible media underpin every open society. OSI and the Soros foundations have, from their beginnings, pursued efforts to improve education, the quality and accessibility of information, and the effectiveness and responsibility of media outlets and media professionals in an effort to transform state-controlled systems of government into open societies. From the creation of new debate clubs in more than a dozen countries from Argentina to Zimbabwe, to organizing meetings on education in Kiev and Vilnius, to providing students, teachers, researchers, and citizens in Iran, Jordan, the occupied Palestinian Territories, Syria, and Egypt affordable access to scholarly publications, OSI-

backed initiatives in 2005 worked to improve education, information, and media across the world.

The Network Children and Youth Programs in 2005 worked to bring innovative approaches to existing formal and informal educational structures that affect the development of children and adolescents. The priority programs, the Network Debate Program, Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking, and Step by Step, all emphasize democratic principles and promote the development of the individual child's full potential. The Debate Program also works outside of existing educational structures to promote the active participation of youth in civil society.

#### **DEBATE PROGRAM**

The Network Debate Program primarily works to equip young people with the critical thinking skills they need to engage in formal, reasoned discussions of controversial ideas in public settings. In 34 countries, the program has helped to create and sustain independent NGOs that organize tens of thousands of public debates a year. The program also supports a

series of international events. The annual IDEA Youth Forum for 2005 brought high school students and their teachers from around the world for two weeks of educational activities in Struga, Macedonia, where young people debated strategies for dealing with drug abuse and how best to implement the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

# READING AND WRITING FOR CRITICAL THINKING

In 2005, the Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking (RWCT) program helped teachers change classroom practices to promote active inquiry, student-initiated learning, opinion formation, problem solving, cooperative learning, and democratic participation. The program trained teachers and educators in 28 countries, and worked closely with staff at teacher training universities and retraining institutes, as well as at ministries and education agencies. During the year, the RWCT program started new projects in Latin America, formed new partnerships for its established initiatives, and developed new educational materials such as a training guide to be introduced in RWCT's national projects that provides new approaches and more efficient methods for implementing the critical thinking curriculum.

#### **STEP BY STEP**

The Step by Step Program recognizes the critical importance of early childhood development and the potential for quality interventions early in life in alleviating the effects of social disadvantages. Targeting educators, parents, and other adults central to the lives of young children from birth to the age of 10, Step by Step promotes child-centered approaches, family and community involvement, and equal access to education and development programs for children of minority families, children with disabilities, children of Roma and refugees, and families living in poverty. Step by Step in 2005 paid particular attention to implementing better parenting and community initiatives in order to extend early childhood programming to children with no access to preschools, and to strengthening capacity to serve children with special needs in inclusive settings. The program developed further Education for Social Justice, a series of training programs for children and adults to promote respect for diversity and encourage appropriate interventions when discrimination occurs.

#### **EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM**

The Education Support Program (ESP) promotes collaboration and partnerships across Eurasia to broaden the support base for sustainable reforms in general education, to raise public awareness of equity issues in education, to promote active participation of civil society in education policy development, and to strengthen nongovernmental actors so they can play a more significant role in education policymaking.

In 2005, ESP continued to support general education programs of Soros national foundations as well as education spin-offs from the foundations. The informal network of OSI-related Education Policy Centers grew to include more than 25 centers in Turkey and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, South Eastern Europe, and the former Soviet Union. ESP organized two training seminars on policy analysis, writing policy briefs, and advocacy. It supported comparative studies on early school dropouts and private tutoring to raise awareness of equal rights to a quality education and to promote the participation of civil society in education policy development. About 100 people from 37 countries attended the ESP conference "Education and Open Society: A Critical Look at New Perspectives and Demands." ESP's RE:FINE grants program funded seven new regional capacity building and reform projects to improve learning outcomes through increased education system accountability, equity, and transparency.

In October, ESP, together with the International Institute of Education Planning, and OSI's East East Program, helped organize a seminar on **transparency**, **ethics**, and **anticorruption measures in education**,

attracting representatives of policy centers and ministry officials from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine. Throughout 2005, ESP continued to lead a new OSI education initiative in Pakistan, establishing connections with most major donors and players and supporting an initial collaborative study with more than 10 local partners.

In 2005, the Roma Education Initiative (REI), a joint project of ESP and OSI's Children and Youth Programs, prepared to enter its final year of operation. It funded national projects in Bulgaria, Hungary, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovakia, and Slovenia, and provided support to other efforts focused on education of the Roma in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Kosovo. Since its inception in 2002, REI has directly served more than 5,000 Romani children and students under the age of 18. Many more children stand to benefit thanks to the 1,025 teachers trained by REI in more than 70 supported schools and the involvement of some 1,300 Romani parents and 122 Romani teaching assistants.

#### HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT

The International Higher Education Support
Program (HESP) promotes the advancement of
higher education within the humanities and
social sciences in Central and Eastern Europe, the
former Soviet Union, and Mongolia by providing
technical and financial assistance to a wide range of
institutions, including undergraduate universities,
doctoral programs, and centers for advanced studies.

## **INITIATIVES:** EDUCATION, INFORMATION & MEDIA

In 2005, HESP launched the Central Asia Research and Training Initiative (CARTI) to develop indigenous capacities for original scholarly and academic work and the internationalization of scholarship in Central Asia. In post-Soviet Central Asia, Afghanistan, and Mongolia, CARTI worked to enhance independent research of university-based academics and to stimulate innovation in university teaching in the humanities and social sciences. HESP also began collaborative relationships with important actors in systemic reform efforts in Georgia, Tajikistan, and Ukraine. HESP and Central European University launched a new program to support the development of economics education with select universities in Moscow and Novosibirsk.

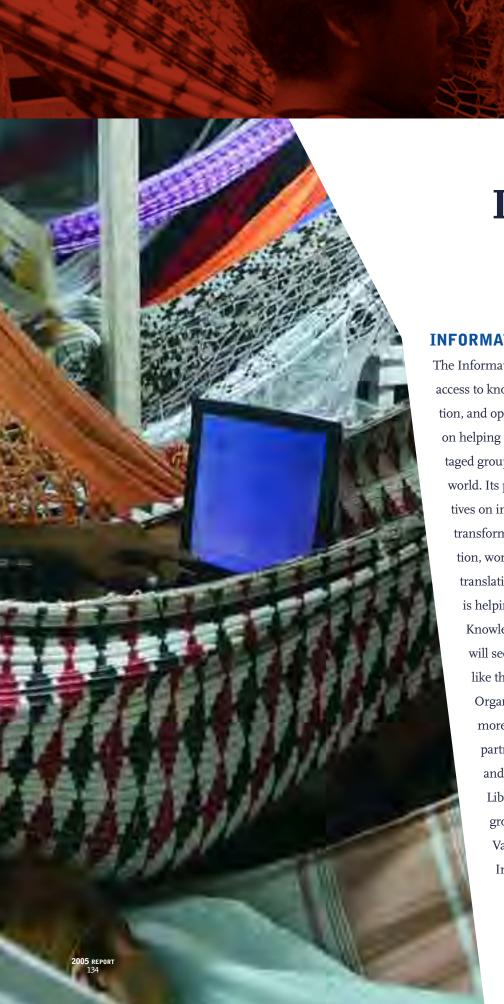
teaching and learning in Palestinian higher education in the fields of public policy, political science, urban planning, education, and social work.

NSP also continued to improve access to educational opportunities for students in Central Asia and the Caucasus by winning a grant from the European Union to train educational advisors in these regions on European higher education systems. Working in cooperation with various European academic organizations, NSP will host a series of workshops in Tbilisi, Baku, Almaty, and Vilnius to inform advisors on degree structures, exchange and scholarship opportunities, and cooperation mechanisms supported by the European Union.

#### SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

The Network Scholarship Programs (NSP) mobilize international resources to support fellowships, scholarships, and related activities that empower students and scholars to improve the social, political, and intellectual environments in their home communities. During 2005, NSP and America-Mideast Educational and Training Services, an education NGO with offices throughout the Middle East, submitted a successful proposal to the U.S. Agency for International Development to launch the Palestinian Faculty Development Program.

This program will provide U.S. fellowships to approximately 70 doctoral fellows and scholars from the West Bank and Gaza in a bid to improve



# Information and Media

#### INFORMATION PROGRAM

The Information Program works in three areas, access to knowledge, civil society communication, and open information policy, and focuses on helping to meet the needs of disadvantaged groups and less-developed parts of the world. Its projects in 2005 included initiatives on intellectual property reform, the transformation of scholarly communication, work with libraries, and support for translations. The Information Program is helping to launch an "Access to Knowledge" advocacy coalition, which will seek to transform global institutions like the World Intellectual Property Organization so they will pursue a more balanced agenda and involve partners like Consumers International and the International Federation of Library Associations as well as local groups like the Fundação Getulio Vargas in Brazil and the Consumer Institute South Africa. In 2005, the

Information Program supported a major project for the development of business models in this area through the Creative Commons network.

Electronic Information for Libraries (eIFL), a global consortium of libraries in developing countries and countries in transition, is another initiative through which the Information Program is **promoting access to knowledge**. EIFL provides low-cost access to thousands of premium journals in business, the social sciences, and humanities, as well as science and technology. The consortium now encompasses 3,000 libraries in more than 50 countries, serving about 5 million students, teachers, researchers, and citizens.

The Information Program worked with the Next Page Foundation in 2005 to support translations of books in the social sciences and humanities into Arabic and several Eastern European languages. It also continued support for a long-term effort to promote publishing by and for Romany-speaking communities in South Eastern Europe. Finally, the Information Program supported policy interventions to ensure affordable Internet access for open society constituencies in the poorest countries, to monitor online censorship, and to protect civil liberties and privacy online. Grantees included the Eurasia iPolicy Network in Central Asia and the Caucasus and the Electronic Privacy Information Center for a global project on online privacy.

#### **MEDIA PROGRAM**

The Network Media Program supports media and journalists' organizations, journalism training, monitoring of press freedom violations, initiatives providing legal defense for journalists and media, and media-related advocacy activities. A monitoring report, Television across Europe: regulation, policy and independence, produced by OSI's EU Monitoring and Advocacy Program and the Media Program, was released in October 2005. This report analyzes broadcasting across Europe and addresses policy recommendations to national and international authorities and groups. The Media Program continued to support Romani media (in cooperation with a Swiss NGO, Medienhilfe), program production, and training of Romani journalists with a view toward empowering them to work at mainstream media outlets.





# A THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE. A girl in Zambia collects water for her family after a

day at school.

Network Program promoted cross-border cooperation and intercultural dialogue in the Caucasus and Central Asia, as well as partnerships between individuals and organizations in these regions and in Russia, Turkey, Iran, and Afghanistan, by supporting 43 collaborative artistic and cultural initiatives. The program worked with two Amsterdam-based foundations, the European Cultural Foundation (ECF) and the Felix Meritis Foundation, and cosponsored the launch of the ECF's Balkan Incentive Fund for Culture. In

ARTS AND CULTURE

In 2005, OSI's Arts and Culture

#### PARTNERSHIP BEYOND BORDERS

Central Asia, the program started a poten-

tial long-term partnership with the Dutch

Humanist Institute for Cooperation with

Developing Countries to work on museum

development and various projects in music,

The East East: Partnership Beyond Borders
Program backed **210 international** 

film, and contemporary art.

exchanges that brought together
people and organizations involved in building
civil society to share ideas, information, knowledge,
experiences, and expertise. Soros foundations in
Central and Eastern Europe, Turkey, and Central
Asia implement the East East Program. In 2005,
the program supported a long-term initiative of
the Soros Foundation—Moldova, the International
Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine), and the
Open Society Foundation—Romania to develop
three-way partnerships among civic society
representatives in those countries that would
strengthen open society and sustain development
in the region within the context of the European
Neighborhood Policy.

The Soros Foundation–Kazakhstan supported an initiative designed to strengthen the participation of NGOs in budget processes and decision making in Kazakhstan by providing exchanges for civil society actors to analyze the experiences of NGOs in Poland. East East's institutional partner in Slovenia, the Peace Institute, launched several initiatives designed to empower minorities in the mass media, to analyze measures to protect citizenship rights in Europe, and to promote gender equality in EU policymaking. East East launched an initiative to help European Union actual and prospective candidate countries learn from the experiences of Central

## **INITIATIVES: OTHER PROGRAMS**

European countries that succeeded in acquiring EU membership.

The Southeast Asia: Beyond Borders Program, a collaboration between the East East Program and OSI's Southeast Asia Initiative, supported efforts to engage local communities in development in the Mekong Sub-Region, to develop the leadership skills of young people working to combat human trafficking, and to strengthen the organizations engaged in social entrepreneurship in Asia.

# ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The Economic and Business Development Program (EBDP) promotes access to credit programs and educational initiatives to **help disadvantaged entrepreneurs**, especially those working in the informal economy. In 2005, EBDP supported projects in 15 countries, either through direct grants or through the Soros Economic Development Fund, an independent nonprofit foundation that provides loans, guarantees, and equity investments to financial institutions with strong social missions.

To facilitate investment in the microfinance industry and promote its transparency, EBDP supported the Microfinance Information Exchange (www.mixmarket.org), the only global database of microfinance providers and their performance.

EBDP promoted sound regulation of the microfi-

nance sector through the *Policy Monitor*, a report card of policies affecting the microfinance sector in Eastern and Central Europe. In partnership with the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor, EBDP supported the Microfinance Management Institute, which introduced microfinance curricula to selected MBA programs around the world.

In Russia, EBDP strengthened the credit-union movement by helping to expand the Russian Credit Union League and by advocating on behalf of 200 credit unions with close to 1 million members. In Bulgaria, Moldova, and Romania, EBDP supported rural and peri-urban credit programs that together issued more than \$12 million in loans to more than 8.000 clients.

As part of the Decade of Roma Inclusion,
EBDP increased its support for projects that promote
self-employment, entrepreneurship, and savings in
Romani communities in Bulgaria, Hungary,
Macedonia, and Romania.

# INTERNATIONAL POLICY FELLOWSHIPS

The International Policy Fellowships (IPF) Program is OSI's front-line effort to combat brain drain. The program identifies and supports policy research in an effort to counter the exodus of researchers and advocates from countries in transition by providing resources, mobility, professional networks, and intel-

lectual freedom for promoting open, transparent, and responsive public policy processes in their home countries.

International Policy Fellow Ekaterina Sokirianskaia in 2005 worked to reduce ethnic tensions in the North Caucasus both as a collaborator with the Russian human rights organization Memorial and as a professor at Chechen State University. Her research developed **strategies** for the return of internally displaced **persons** to North Ossetia and analyzed the role of local institutions in the postconflict area. Sokirianskaia will continue to advocate for policies protecting the rights of the displaced and other victims of conflict in the North Caucasus in 2006, as Russian and international organizations grapple with the resettlement issues.

Urska Lunder implemented a palliative care model for the Slovene health system, which earned her a nomination for Slovenian of the Year 2005. In Tajikistan, fellow Asomudin Atoev analyzed the potential for utilizing open-source software in schools and other institutions throughout the country to promote information and communications technology. In Pakistan, Syed Shah Tauqir Hussain examined various stakeholder positions on the regulation of Islamic religious schools to identify gaps in the present legal and financial framework and formulate politically feasible strategies for reform. Olga Demidova succeeded in convincing the environmental authority of the Vologda Region in Russia to seize the initiative

in integrating environmental insurance into regional environmental policy to better assess and manage pollution-related health risks.

In the Balkans, Nonka Bogomilova Todorova analyzed the laws and social norms surrounding church-state relations in Bulgaria, Serbia and Montenegro, and Macedonia within the context of possible European Union accession and provided policy recommendations for stakeholders, including policymakers and church leaders.

#### RELATED INSTITUTIONS

#### **Central European University**

Central European University (CEU) continues to pursue its mission to contribute to the development of open societies by promoting academic excellence—including high-level research—and civic commitment, not only in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, but also in other emerging democracies worldwide. In 2005, CEU's status was enhanced with the completion of its accreditation by the Hungarian Accreditation Committee, which followed the institutional accreditation granted in the United States by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education in 2004. These two accreditations speak for the quality of the work performed at CEU and also for its profile as both an American and European university.

CEU's Board of Trustees adopted a 10-year

### INITIATIVES: OTHER PROGRAMS

strategy designed to ensure the university's financial sustainability and support future growth. The strategy emphasizes new avenues for revenue enhancement and a diversification of the university's funding base. The university's endowment was increased to provide CEU with the resources and stability it needs to continue to grow into a world class research and teaching institution and become more effective in helping to develop open societies.

During the 2005/2006 academic year, CEU enrolled 1,058 students. Approximately 55 percent were enrolled in master's degree programs, 36 percent in doctoral study programs, 4 percent in bachelor's degree programs, and the remainder in nondegree programs. In fall 2005, the Business School, in cooperation with Bocconi University in Italy, launched the first CEU undergraduate program: a Bachelor of Business Administration, Laurea. Another initiative was the two-vear Erasmus Mundus Master's Course in Environmental Sciences, Policy and Management, which is operated in partnership with Lund University (Sweden), the University of the Aegean (Greece), and the University of Manchester (UK), and supported by a substantial award from the European Commission.

#### **Central European University Press**

During 2005, Central European University Press reprinted more titles than ever before from its 13-year-old backlist. The Cold War Readers series,

published jointly with the National Security Archive of Washington, D.C., produced CEU Press's bestreceived and bestselling books. Launched in Warsaw, Vienna, Copenhagen, and Washington between April and June 2005, A Cardboard Castle? An Inside History of the Warsaw Pact, edited by Vojtech Mastny and Malcolm Byrne, was called "the most ambitious and integral project in the burgeoning field of Cold War history" by a reviewer in Foreign Affairs. Other important titles from CEU Press were Russian Foreign Policy in Transition, a collection of recent documents and analytic studies, edited by Andrei Melville and Tatiana Shakleina; Islam: Between Divine Message and History by Abdelmajid Sharfi; and Ascensions on High in Jewish Mysticism by Moshe Idel, which was reprinted just six months after its initial release.

#### **Open Society Archives**

In the 10th year of its existence, the Open Society Archives (OSA) completed its move to a new location in Budapest's Goldberger building, which will increase the transparency of the archives' work and records, initiate serious public debate, allow the public to monitor and challenge the work of scholars, and make the work of archivists and researchers immediately available to the responsible public.

OSA, in cooperation with the Digital Divide Data Foundation, digitized 147 boxes of its holdings, posted a photo gallery on its website, and created an online directory of *samizdat* archives.



# White House

### **U.S. Justice Fund**

DOWN AND OUT IN D.C. A homeless man protects himself from the wind at the entrance of the White House metro station, Washington, D.C.

#### THE U.S. JUSTICE

**FUND** continued its grantmaking, educational, and advocacy activities on securing equal justice and seeking an end to the overreliance on incarceration.

Securing Equal Justice: The U.S. Justice Fund seeks to secure procedural and substantive justice by developing criminal and civil justice systems that are accessible and impartial, protect fundamental human rights, prohibit arbitrary and discriminatory government action, and remove barriers that prevent individuals from participating fully in the economic, social, and political life of the community. OSI believes that government must act in a transparent manner and respect the constitutional role of the courts as a check on legislative and executive abuse.

Seeking an End to the Overreliance on Incarceration: The U.S. Justice Fund seeks to document the causes of overincarceration, including discriminatory practices, which create and maintain a permanent underclass defined largely by race and income. OSI supports efforts to identify and adopt alternatives to incarceration and to irrational sentencing and parole policies. It encourages the reallocation of public monies to support the successful reintegration of people returning from prison and the economic and social development of communities deeply affected by incarceration policies.

The U.S. Justice Fund also oversees OSI's support of drug policy reform efforts in the United States. OSI's work in this area has taken the form of support to the Drug Policy Alliance, the leading advocate for rational policies in the field.

### CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL POLICY

The year 2005 was tumultuous for U.S. courts. The high profile case of Terri Schiavo, which hinged on a brain-damaged woman's "right to die," ignited attacks

### U.S. PROGRAMS: U.S. JUSTICE FUND

against "activist judges." Congress passed a controversial measure intervening in the Schiavo case, and enacted legislation that stripped the courts of jurisdiction to hear petitions by alleged enemy combatants detained at Guantánamo. Meanwhile, the Bush administration bypassed the courts to authorize a secret program of electronic surveillance aimed at American citizens, in violation of legal and constitutional requirements that a judicial warrant be obtained.

The Constitutional and Legal Policy Program supported organizations that expanded their efforts to protect the fairness and impartiality of America's courts. The Justice at Stake Campaign, which coordinates a coalition of organizations, worked to remind Americans that the U.S. system of checks and balances requires a strong, independent judiciary at all levels.

Justice at Stake also worked with state partners, including the Illinois Campaign for Political Reform and Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts, to press for reform of the judicial selection process in their states that would insulate judges from partisan politics.

#### **GIDEON PROJECT**

The mission of the Gideon Project is to promote the fair and equal administration of criminal justice in the United States—an ideal that remains elusive more than four decades after the Supreme Court

declared in *Gideon v. Wainwrigh*t that poor persons accused of crimes have a constitutional right to legal representation. In 2005, OSI funded organizations demanding reform of the system that provides defense attorneys for indigent people. The National Legal Aid and Defender Association (NLADA) received a grant to provide public defenders with training, leadership development, and evaluation tools to improve their performance. A grant to the Fund for the City of New York supported the work of a blue-ribbon committee appointed by New York's chief justice and tasked with making recommendations on how the state can improve the delivery of legal representation to the poor.

Additionally, OSI funded organizations that seek to abolish and reform the death penalty. The Texas Defender Service (TDS) received a grant to improve the quality of capital defense in Texas, which leads the nation in executions. The Innocence Project received funding to press for exoneration of innocent prisoners and to campaign for reforms that will reduce the future risk of wrongful convictions. OSI supported the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice, which the California Senate chose to study the causes of the racial and geographical disparities in capital sentencing and wrongful convictions.

OSI also funded organizations that seek an end to the racial discrimination that permeates the

entire criminal justice system. The Racial Disparity
Project of the Defender Association in Seattle
received a grant to join social scientists in presenting
courts with statistical evidence showing that the
police were selectively enforcing drug laws against
African Americans. OSI has continued to support
the Southern Center for Human Rights and the
Equal Justice Initiative of Alabama, organizations
that attack the unequal administration of justice
through their representation of indigent defendants
and death-row inmates.

#### **IMMIGRANT RIGHTS**

In 2005, OSI supported efforts by the New York State Defenders Association's Immigrant Defense Project to launch litigation aimed at curtailing the United States government's practice of categorizing relatively minor offenses as "aggravated felonies" and citing them as grounds for deporting noncitizens and permanently barring deported noncitizens from returning to the United States. The Immigrant Legal Resource Center is combating the treatment of civil immigration violations as criminal offenses and addressing the harsh consequences of criminal convictions. Heartland Alliance, Human Rights First, and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network are all working to ensure due process, access to counsel, and humane conditions for those immigrants in detention and those facing deportation. The National Immigration Law Center, the National Council of La Raza, and other grantees are advocating against

proposals to deploy state and local police organizations to enforce federal immigration laws.

Organizations like the National Immigration Forum, the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services, and the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium are working with a broad coalition of civil and immigrant rights advocates, faith-based groups, and unions on developing comprehensive immigration policies that are fair and equitable.

### LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER RIGHTS

OSI has provided support to a number of organizations working to protect and expand the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. These include Children of Lesbians & Gays Everywhere, the only organization that specifically supports young people with LGBT parents and ensures that these children's voices are heard in debates over LGBT families; a variety of groups working at the state level to promote the extension of marriage benefits to same-sex couples; the National Black Justice Coalition, a civil rights organization working to advance racial justice and equality for LGBT people by educating and mobilizing opinion leaders, including elected officials, members of the clergy, and journalists; and Immigration Equality, a grassroots group advocating for equality under U.S. immigration law for LGBT people and people living with HIV.

# PROGRAM IN PRISON EXPANSION AND SENTENCING REFORM

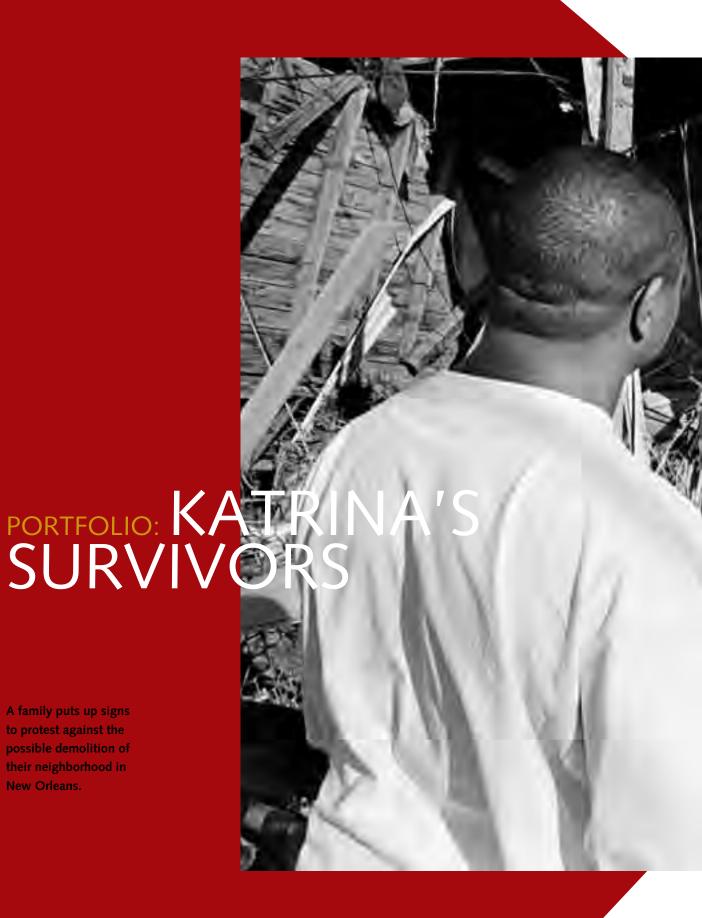
OSI is campaigning to reduce the overreliance of courts in the United States on incarceration by promoting fair sentencing policies and alternatives to incarceration. In 2005, federal sentencing dominated the program's work. Early in the year, the U.S. Supreme Court made the widely predicted move of declaring mandatory federal sentencing guidelines unconstitutional in United States v. Booker. The Court further held, however, that defendants' rights could be protected if the guidelines were simply treated as discretionary rather than mandatory. To manage the opportunity presented by *Booker*, OSI continued to fund existing grantees, including Families Against Mandatory Minimums, which are well-positioned to oppose "tough on crime" rhetoric and policies. OSI funded the Brennan Center for Justice and the National Institute of Law and Equity to harness the expertise and experience of African-American former federal prosecutors to make policy recommendations for eliminating racial and other disparities in presentencing and sentencing decisions made by federal prosecutors.

OSI renewed its support of the American
Bar Association Commission on Sentencing,
Corrections and Reentry (formerly the Justice
Kennedy Commission), which will highlight best
practices in state sentencing and reentry policies as
well as model approaches to reducing racial

disparities in the criminal justice system. OSI made a new grant to the Institute on Money in State Politics to research possible correlations between state sentencing policies and campaign contributions from individuals associated with private prison corporations or other entities that may derive economic benefit from increasing rates of incarceration.

#### **RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE**

Hurricane Katrina and other recent national events as well as the growing public debate surrounding affirmative action reveal the enduring legacy of racial discrimination and class inequities that perpetuate social and civil barriers in the United States. OSI seeks to address systemic barriers to opportunities for historically marginalized racial groups. OSI awarded grants to the Equal Justice Society, a national organization advancing creative legal strategies and public policy for enduring social change and equal protection; the Advancement Project, which provides support for legal reform, representation, and community-based legal strategies for low-income and disenfranchised communities: the Indian Law Resource Center, a Native American organization whose mission is to protect the rights, cultures, and traditional lands of indigenous peoples; and the Poverty and Race Research Action Council, a nonpartisan organization that generates and disseminates critical research on the relationship between race and poverty.



A family puts up signs to protest against the possible demolition of their neighborhood in New Orleans.





A family sees the ruins of their home in the lower ninth ward,
New Orleans, for the first time.





North Claiborne Avenue, New Orleans, where a semblance of normal life has resumed.





# THE AFTER PRISON INITIATIVE

Grantees of OSI's After Prison Initiative have forged new partnerships and promoted innovative cross-sector solutions to long-standing challenges faced by the over 600,000 people who return home from prison each year and the communities into which they resettle. An increased understanding of the impact that cyclical incarceration has on underresourced communities has catalyzed a rethinking of approaches to crime, justice, and public safety. A bipartisan array of federal, state, and local policymakers, community advocates, and business leaders agree that more sustainable, humane, and fiscally responsible reentry policies and practices can be implemented.

OSI supported justice reinvestment efforts, led by the Council of State Governments (CSG) and the JFA Institute, to reduce prison spending and to reinvest public resources in community institutions. Connecticut established and funded an independent state agency to monitor the implementation of probation, parole, and reentry reforms enacted by the state legislature in 2004. In Kansas, in collaboration with the Corporation for Supportive Housing, private developers, and state and local leaders, CSG and JFA are working to create more affordable housing in the state.

OSI also supported efforts to examine the impact of criminal justice policies on women and families. The Osborne Association is working to ensure that New York City and state agency policies protect the rights and welfare of children; and Women in Government organized public forums to introduce state legislators to the legal and practical challenges confronting formerly incarcerated women and their families.

### **Special Initiatives**

**IN 2005**, OSI's U.S. Programs began to utilize two new grantmaking sources, the Strategic Opportunities Fund and the Special Chairman's Fund. OSI drew upon the Strategic Opportunities Fund to make emergency grants in response to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina and to support public education efforts on the importance of the Social Security safety net and the independence of the federal judiciary. OSI also supported organizations working to preserve scientific integrity against a range of efforts to politicize issues like access to contraception, teaching on evolution, and climate change. OSI drew upon the Special Chairman's Fund and, working closely with other donors, began a multiyear effort to build a stronger infrastructure for progressive policy in the United States, focusing on youth activism and leadership development, constitutional and legal policy development and advocacy, and capacity building for organizations that work on a range of issues pertaining to economic opportunity and democracy.

### FUNDING MULTI-ISSUE POLICY CENTERS

Responding to unforeseeable challenges and taking advantage of unexpected opportunities requires independent policy institutions that are prescient enough to identify problems, creative enough to find solutions, and robust enough to allocate sufficient resources to effect change. For this reason, during 2005, OSI funded a set of organizations it calls "multi-issue policy centers." These include the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, the Economic Policy Institute, the Center for American Progress, Demos, the Center for Economic Policy Research, and the Center for Community Change. These organizations are receiving general support funding on a multiyear basis for their work on fundamental issues of economic security, fairness, tax policy, democracy, and community empowerment. OSI plans to broaden funding of "multi-issue policy centers" and hopes other foundations and funders will do more of this as well.

Earl Slaughter still suffers from nightmares about swimming for his life when Katrina hit his home. In his makeshift home in Denton, Texas, Earl is 260 miles from his mother, who was evacuated to Houston, Texas.





#### **JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS**

The death of the conservative chief justice of the United States Supreme Court, William Rehnquist, and the retirement of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who in many decisions cast the "swing vote" on an ideologically polarized Court, opened the way for a decisive shift in the Court's jurisprudence and added fuel to the heated debate and political struggle over federal judicial nominations and the future ideological direction of the federal courts. The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund, People For the American Way Foundation, and the Alliance for Justice—each of them an OSI grantee—led a national public education and outreach effort to alert Americans to the consequences of a rightward shift in the Court's jurisprudence. With OSI's assistance, organizations like the Community Rights Counsel, an environmental advocacy group, the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's largest gay rights organization, and the National Senior Citizens Law Center developed targeted campaigns aimed at key constituencies.

#### **KATRINA**

To encourage a nationwide conversation on the systematic causes of racial inequality and deep-seated poverty, OSI awarded funds to support grantees in the South whose work was most affected by the storm and to promote the involvement of the widest range of people—especially low-income people, members of racial minorities, immigrants, and

women—in shaping policies and rebuilding their communities. The Ms. Foundation received a planning grant to ensure that low-income women of color play leadership roles and bring their opinions to bear on relief and rebuilding efforts. The Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC) received funding to meet immediate and emerging needs for legal representation of immigrants affected by the storm, including persons who are not documented and those who lost documents, elderly and disabled immigrants, refugees, immigration detainees, and laborers; to train and support community-based agencies responding to Katrina; and to work on a national and regional policymaking level to increase and defend protections afforded to immigrant victims under current Department of Homeland Security policies.

#### **MEDIA POLICY**

The ever-greater concentration of wealth in fewer and fewer hands and the increasing power over information of a handful of media conglomerates are undermining democracy in the United States by narrowing the range of voices, facts, and arguments that are so critical for producing an informed and engaged citizenry. Media policy issues have taken on greater urgency with the approach of a set of critical decisions that will determine whether media and information in the future will be private and entirely held in the market or available for public use. In the lead up to debates about community broadband access,

#### U.S. PROGRAMS: SPECIAL INITIATIVES

expansion of low-power community radio, openness of the Internet, competition across all media, and diverse and independent sources of content, OSI continued to direct funding toward key policy analysts and advocates working to ensure that the public interest is represented in these policy deliberations. Funded organizations included Free Press, the Media Access Project legal defense team, Consumers Union's Hear Us Now project, and the New America Foundation's Wireless Future Program.

### POLITICIZATION OF SCIENCE

OSI grantees have worked to expose threats to the health, environment, safety, and security of all Americans posed by policymaking on science-related issues that has been overly politicized and based more upon ideology and corporate influence than upon sound science. Grantees include the Reproductive Health Technologies Project, which is drawing attention to the way politics rather than medical expertise keeps the emergency contraceptive Plan B from gaining over-the-counter status and wide availability. Another grantee, the Pacific Institute, is launching a scientific integrity project focused on climate, water, and security issues. Support for the National Center for Science Education helps inform policymakers and the public about threats to the teaching of science and evolution by local school boards and state education boards around the country.

#### **SOCIAL SECURITY**

The showdown over Social Security in early 2004 created an unusual opportunity to reclaim the public debate over the role of government and the importance of domestic and economic security. OSI responded quickly by distributing \$515,000 to support public education and mobilization targeted at those Americans, primarily women, young people, and members of minority groups, whose economic security was most in jeopardy. The Social Security Information Project of the Institute for America's Future served as the strategic center of a network that distributed resources and information to a wide range of organizations, in effect acting as a bridge between budget analysts and activists and national and local efforts. The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities was the primary source of information and analysis of the proposals to privatize Social Security. The Economic Policy Institute, the premier research organization focused on the economic plight of lowand middle-income Americans, debunked the myths that Social Security is in imminent danger and that privatization would benefit most people. The USAction Education Fund and the American Institute for Social Justice provided public education and mobilization capacity in key states and cities around the country.

### PROGRESSIVE LEGAL INFRASTRUCTURE

To help strengthen the progressive legal movement, OSI made grants to the American Constitution



Society (ACS) and Yale Law School for promising new initiatives to frame a broad constitutional vision for the 21st century. In March 2005, the American Constitution Society and Yale Law School sponsored a conference, The Constitution in 2020. This conference served as the launch of ACS's Constitution in the 21st Century Initiative, an ambitious, multiyear program to change the country's legal and policy landscape by bringing together scholars, practitioners, public interest advocates, public officials, and law students to formulate and advance a progressive vision of the Constitution and laws that is intellectually sound, practically relevant, and faithful to our constitutional values and heritage.

### YOUTH ACTIVISM AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

In 2005, OSI made a series of grants aimed at building the capacity of organizations and projects that involve people aged 18 to 25 in youth-led activism. The aim of this effort was to **enhance** the role of young people in the broader **progressive movement** by supporting a more formal leadership pipeline. Based on the values and model established by OSI's Youth Initiatives, grantees are located on campuses and in community settings and use a variety of tools to engage a diverse range of young people. Grantees in 2005 included the League of Young Voters Education Fund, a national youth-led organization that builds the power of low-income youth and youth of color through grassroots organizing, broad-based coalition building, arts-based strategies, and voter engagement efforts. OSI also provided support to "Young People For," a fellowship program that promotes progressive values and activism by empowering young leaders to work toward positive social change on local and national levels.

### **Fellows**

### BALTIMORE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM

OSI—Baltimore's Community Fellowships Program annually provides financial and technical support to individuals with creative ideas for solving the city's pervasive social problems. Working independently or within established organizations, the fellows develop innovative approaches to a range of challenges, including overcoming youth disenfranchisement, breaking the relentless cycle of arrest-incarceration-release, and promoting civil rights.

During 2005, the Baltimore Community
Fellowships Program diversified its funding sources.
In addition to backing from OSI–Baltimore, the
program now receives underwriting support from
several other foundations and individuals, including
the Cohen Opportunity Fund, the Gloria B. and
Herbert M. Katzenberg Charitable Fund, the
Hoffberger Foundation, the Foundation for
Maryland's Future, the Commonweal Foundation,
and the Alison and Arnold Richman Fund. The
2005 fellows are involved in a wide array of projects.
They include leading multiday wilderness expedi-

tions and facilitating the creation of public art and special events for students in the Community

Learning for Life Program in Baltimore's Hampden community; mentoring services and activities for Garrison Middle School students who are at risk of social or academic failure; and working with the families of murder victims and people convicted of murder to identify and cultivate new leaders and voices for the abolition of the death penalty.

### NEW YORK CITY COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM

OSI's New York City Community Fellowships Program supports a growing network of activists creating innovative social justice projects that address issues critical to the city's marginalized communities. Fellows in 2005 included:

Ahsanullah Khan, who created the Coney Island Avenue Project to advocate on behalf of members of the South Asian community detained by police or harmed by bias attacks in the aftermath of 9/II; his project will map and assess the social and civil needs of the South Asian community and form a

- community caucus to combat racism and promote civic engagement, equality, and civil rights.
- Margaret Williams, who launched the Voter Enfranchisement Project to educate individuals with felony convictions about their right to vote when their sentences are completed and to encourage the public's compliance with voting rights laws.
- □ Loira Limbal, who created the Reel X Project, a social justice and creative filmmaking space for young people in the Morrisania section of the southwest Bronx. The video training institute will foster a new generation of filmmakers dedicated to raising public awareness on community issues and develop community organizing strategies for civil justice and public policy reform.

#### REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS FELLOWS

The Soros Reproductive Health and Rights Fellowship Program is a unique partnership between the Open Society Institute and the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University designed to confront the twin challenges posed by religious extremists opposed to women's rights and a conservative political climate in the United States that has become hostile to long-established freedoms for women. The program sponsored a second round of fellowships for 2005–2006, and its aim is to

highlight progress achieved and obstacles encountered around the world since the adoption of visionary United Nations agreements on human rights, population, development, and women during the 1990s. Six fellows were chosen:

- □ Diane Cooper, executive director of the Women's Health Research Unit in the School of Public Health and Family Medicine at the University of Cape Town in South Africa, is researching and writing about the special needs of women living with HIV who seek to bear children and form families.
- Jocelyn DeJong, lecturer in social policy and development at the Institute for Development Policy and Management at the University of Manchester, UK, is applying Amartya Sen's "capabilities" framework to reproductive health developments in Iran and other countries in the Middle East.
- □ Joan Kaufman, senior scientist at the Heller School of Social Policy and Management of Brandeis University and a longtime expert on China's population programs, is addressing the unforeseen link between rights-based family planning reforms and the strengthening of a women's rights movement in China.
- □ Iulia Shevchenko, research fellow at the European University in St. Petersburg, Russia, is investigating disparities in maternal and

- reproductive health care among rural and urban women in post-Soviet Russia.
- Serra Sippel, director of the international program at Catholics for a Free Choice, is investigating, analyzing, and comparing coercive aspects of state policies affecting women's reproductive health in China, Singapore, and the United States.
- Anjali Widge, a sociologist based in New Delhi and a research fellow at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, is exploring women's experiences and provider perspectives on infertility services in India.

#### SOROS JUSTICE FELLOWSHIPS

The Soros Justice Fellowships support lawyers, community activists, academics, journalists, and filmmakers seeking to draw attention to and **redress the effects of overly punitive incarceration policies** in the United States. In 2005, OSI funded 18 senior fellows, advocacy fellows, and media fellows. The Soros Justice Media Fellows included Annie Sundberg and Ricki Stern, who completed the film *The Trials of Darryl Hunt*, which focuses on a rape and murder case and an innocent man who spent nearly 20 years in prison for a crime he did not commit; Joe Loya, who completed a memoir about his reentry into society after leaving federal

prison in California; and Dan Hunt and Janet Baus, who completed the film *Cruel and Unusual*, which tells the stories of transgender women in prison and the struggles they endure while incarcerated.

The Soros Justice Advocacy Fellows included Shaena Fazal, who addresses the needs of long-term prisoners by developing policy proposals and incentives to reduce their sentences and create employment and education programs for this forgotten class of prisoners; Vivian Nixon, who educates leaders and lay people of the African Methodist Episcopal Church about the need for community support and engagement of criminal justice reform efforts; and Dana Kaplan, who challenges jail expansion in New York through research and organizing and providing technical assistance to local and national campaigns.

The Soros Justice Senior Fellows included Michele Deitch, who researched and developed independent prison oversight mechanisms in the United States that are in keeping with international human rights standards and practices; Harmon Wray, who stimulated a dialogue among Southern regional faith communities about the need for criminal justice reform and developed a model for what faithful, responsible, and progressive ministry can look like; and Michelle Alexander, who wrote a book arguing that the war on drugs and mass incarceration is the new Jim Crow.

Youth

**OSI'S INITIATIVES** in urban debate and youth-generated media value the perspectives and contributions of young people and provide opportunities and platforms for them to enhance their communication and advocacy skills. One such initiative is the incorporation of a Youth Filmmaker Summit into the 2005 Tribeca Film Festival to include a screening of youth-produced films. Station Resource Group, a web-based marketplace for public radio, developed Generation PRX with OSI support, to strengthen and encourage the broadcast of youth-produced radio work. OSI provided a planning grant to launch the Youth Media Learning Network, a collaboration between the Educational Video Center and the Education Development Center.

Grantees of OSI's urban debate initiative have created a level playing field for students to successfully compete in what has historically been an elitist activity within the private sector. A high school team from the Los Angeles Urban Debate League run by California State University, Northridge took top honors at a statewide championship that

included public and private schools. The DC Urban Debate League, which is run by the University of the District of Columbia, continued to promote and expand debate opportunities in public and charter high schools while expanding the program to middle schools and sponsoring an East Coast regional tournament.

Katrina survivors Arnold Batiste, Eujon Samson, and Antoinette Samson in Denton, Texas.



IN 2005, OSI-Baltimore launched the Soros Challenge, a public campaign that calls for community leaders and regional philanthropists to invest in the work that OSI has already begun to make systemic change on Baltimore's toughest issues. To date, individuals and foundations have committed \$5 million toward a challenge goal of \$20 million over the next five years. To meet this challenge, the Baltimore board and staff have focused on four initiatives for which there exist extensive staff expertise and considerable promise for effecting significant change for Baltimore's residents. These initiatives address drug addiction, the vicious cycle of incarceration, and the obstacles to education and success for Baltimore's poorest

WATCH YOUR STEP

children. The Baltimore Community Fellowships Program will also continue as a visible example of innovation and social entrepreneurship.

As part of its transformation, OSI-Baltimore brought two OSI initiatives to a close during 2005. The Baltimore Urban Debate League, which OSI founded, has now achieved self-sufficiency. With support from the city's public school system, it has expanded from 30 high schools to include 18 middle schools, making it the largest academic extracurricular program in Baltimore. The Community Justice Program, which also ended in 2005, provided support to the Women's Law Center of Maryland to establish an employment law hotline that will not only provide information and advice to low-income women but also track patterns of discrimination and abuse in the workplace.

With support from the Drug Addiction Treatment Program (Tackling Drug Addiction), the Citizens Planning and Housing Association worked with the Baltimore Substance Abuse Systems to strengthen community support for the expansion of the city's drugaddiction treatment system. OSI's Education and Youth Development program continued to focus on expanding out-of-school learning opportunities for young people.

OSI entered the third year of a five-year high school reform initiative, adding two new Innovation

High Schools and restructuring another of the city's large, neighborhood high schools into smaller learning environments. While it is too early to expect significant academic progress from the reform effort, two early indicators—high school attendance and graduation rates—are rising, particularly among the Innovation High Schools.

OSI-Baltimore's Criminal Justice Program is helping advocacy groups such as the Maryland Justice Coalition and the Job Opportunities Task Force (JOTF) create a growing public awareness of the importance of removing barriers for people returning from prison to the community. Baltimore opened an employment center that focuses exclusively on people formerly incarcerated; Maryland passed legislation that allows people convicted of drug offenses to receive food stamps and federal employment and training funding; and, the media have significantly increased their attention to the destructive impact of arrest-incarceration-release cycles and encouraged employers to hire people released from prison. JOTF, with significant support from OSI-Baltimore, has also launched the East Baltimore Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program, which provides training in the construction trades and job placement to, among others, people reentering society.

### **Documentary Photography Project**

**OSI** in 2005 continued its Moving Walls exhibition series and provided grants to photographers to distribute work on human rights and social justice issues. Moving Walls is a group photography exhibition that, since 1997, has presented the work of more than 70 photographers at OSI's offices in New York and Washington, at colleges, universities, and cultural institutions in Baltimore, and at the Columbia University School of Social Work. The 10th exhibition of Moving Walls opened in March 2005 as the war in Iraq continued to roil a divided public. Nina Berman's work on American soldiers wounded in Iraq depicted the human cost of war. The exhibition also included Eugene Richard's work on the treatment of the mentally disabled in Mexico, Kosovo, and Paraguay. Moving Walls 11 opened in December 2005 and reflected OSI's growing commitment to Africa by exploring the issues around resource wealth in the Congo, ethnic cleansing and displacement in Darfur, and the transition from conflict to peace in Liberia.

OSI also made grants to 12 photographers to distribute their work to targeted audiences in

innovative ways that stimulate positive social change. Working in partnership with Human Rights Watch, Marcus Bleasdale is organizing a series of exhibitions and discussions—in Geneva, London, New York, and the Democratic Republic of Congo—to highlight the human cost of resource exploitation in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Lynn Johnson, in collaboration with arts organizations in Pittsburgh, is using photographs from her project, Hate Kills, to initiate a community-wide conversation about hatred and intolerance.

Many of the photographs in this annual report are by photographers who have appeared in Moving Walls exhibitions or received grants from OSI.





A SURREAL DANGER.

Villagers in the Altai
Territory of Russia
collect scrap from a
crashed spacecraft,
surrounded by
thousands of
white butterflies.
Environmentalists
fear for the region's
future due to the
toxic rocket fuel.

#### THE OPEN SOCIETY

INSTITUTE (OSI) works to
build vibrant and tolerant
democracies whose
governments are accountable
to their citizens.

Open societies are characterized by the rule of law; respect for human rights, minorities, and a diversity of opinions; democratically elected governments; market economies in which business and government are separate; and a civil society that helps keep government power in check.

To achieve its mission,
OSI seeks to shape public
policies that assure greater
fairness in political, legal, and
economic systems and safeguard fundamental rights. On
a local level, OSI implements a
range of initiatives to advance
justice, education, public
health, and independent media.
At the same time, OSI builds
alliances across borders and

continents on issues such as corruption and freedom of information. OSI places a high priority on protecting and improving the lives of marginalized people and communities.

Investor and philanthropist George Soros in 1993 created OSI as a private operating and grant-making foundation to support his foundations in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Those foundations were established, starting in 1984, to help countries make the transition from communism. OSI has expanded the activities of the Soros foundations network to encompass the United States and more than 60 countries in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Each Soros foundation relies on the expertise of boards composed of eminent citizens who determine individual agendas based on local priorities.

OSI and the Soros foundations have given away more than \$5 billion to build open, democratic societies, including \$369 million in 2005 (see Expenditures, page 178).

### OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE (NEW YORK)

The Open Society Institute in New York and the Open Society Institute—Budapest each administer a number of initiatives and assist the other organizations and foundations in the Soros foundations network with administrative, financial, and technical

### **OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE**

support. Certain programs are administered from both New York and Budapest.

The initiatives administered by OSI in

New York include the Economic and Business

Development Program, the Open Society Justice

Initiative, the Public Health Program, the

Scholarship Programs, and the Women's Program.

OSI also operates the Central Eurasia Project/Middle East and North Africa Initiative, the Burma Project/Southeast Asia Initiative, and a number of programs in the United States.

### OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-BUDAPEST

Initiatives based at OSI–Budapest include the Arts and Culture Network Program, the Education Support Program, the EU Monitoring and Advocacy Program, the International Higher Education Support Program, the Human Rights and Governance Grants Program, the Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative, and the Mental Health Initiative. The Budapest office, together with the CEU Center for Policy Studies, supports the International Policy Fellowships program.

OSI–Budapest also operates programs that seek to improve the situation of the Roma in Central and Eastern Europe with a special emphasis on the Decade of Roma Inclusion. Budapest-based initiatives such as the Roma Participation

Program, the Roma Health Program, and the Roma Memorial University Scholarship Program work in close cooperation with OSI's Roma Initiative Office in Brussels.

OSI-Budapest is located in the Central European University complex, and its programs often share resources with CEU.

### OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-BRUSSELS

The Open Society Institute—Brussels facilitates cooperation among the Soros foundations network and partners in western Europe. It also acts as a liaison office to facilitate collaboration between the network and the various institutions of the European Union, the Council of Europe, and the OSCE, as well as bilateral donors and nongovernmental organizations. The primary goals of OSI—Brussels are to influence EU policies and raise awareness in European intergovernmental organizations, governments, and opinion-making circles about important open society issues.

In 2005, OSI–Brussels advocated for dedicated human rights and democracy funding to be available in the 2007–2013 EU budget and worked to align EU policies and funding with the Decade of Roma Inclusion to address the situation of Roma within the EU and in non-EU countries. Together with the Roma Initiative Office, OSI–Brussels helped develop cooperation between EU agencies and policymakers

and network programs that addressed Romanirelated issues. OSI-Brussels also promoted the European Neighborhood Policy as an effective driver for democratization in countries east and south of the EU; supported a balanced debate on Turkey's bid for EU membership; and advocated for a clearer and more constructive EU role in the discussions on the future status of Kosovo and Montenegro. The office worked to reduce EU bureaucracy by advocating for reforms to EU funding rules for NGOs, supported EU sanctions against Uzbekistan, and helped strengthen the EU commitment to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Throughout the year, OSI-Brussels facilitated network involvement with the European Commission's annual reports monitoring the progress of reform in EU acceding, candidate, and potential candidate countries.

The office also organized many formal and informal meetings and debates in Brussels involving Soros foundations network offices, grantees, civil society leaders, representatives of European institutions, policy centers, and other European partners. Throughout the year, OSI-Brussels hosted short-term fellows from the Soros foundations network to build their skills in working with European institutions.

#### **OPEN SOCIETY** FOUNDATION-LONDON

The Open Society Foundation–London is the base for various network programs and OSI-supported initia-

tives including the East East: Partnership Beyond Borders Program, the Media Program, the Information Program, AfriMAP (Africa Governance Monitoring and Advocacy Project), and the coordinator of the international Publish What You Pay coalition.

The office also facilitates collaboration among the Soros foundations network and partners in the United Kingdom, including the British government and London-based NGOs. The Open Society Foundation-London focuses on assisting the national foundations and network programs of the Soros foundations network in building donor partnerships and serves as a channel for information and contacts. The office also develops coalitions with long-term NGO partners and raises awareness in UK policy circles about issues of concern to the Soros foundations network. In 2005, the Open Society Foundation-London hosted a series of OSI visitors: organized meetings for the Higher Education Support program, the Public Health Program, and the Trust for Civil Society in Central and Eastern Europe; and hosted discussions on topics such as the future of the EU and media development in the Middle East and North Africa.

In close collaboration with OSI-Brussels, the London-based director of EU affairs engages in policy activities related to the European Union. In 2005, policy campaigns included advocacy related to European support for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; the prospects of EU integration for Croatia, Macedonia, and Turkey, the future

#### **OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE**

status of Kosovo, Montenegro, and Serbia; amendments to Russian NGO legislation; and the Publish What You Pay campaign. The office also worked with network colleagues to evaluate existing OSI policy efforts and create strategic frameworks for campaigns related to the Global Fund, revenue transparency, and ethnic profiling.

#### **OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-PARIS**

The Open Society Institute—Paris acts as a liaison and resource office for the Soros foundations network. Since May 2001, OSI—Paris has acted as OSI's board liaison office, helping national foundations to implement appropriate board rotation procedures. OSI—Paris is also part of OSI's Conflict of Interest Evaluation Committee.

The Paris office runs the Belarus Project, which was initiated in 1997 when the Belarus Soros foundation was forced to close. In 2005, the project continued to assist projects that enhance civic culture and provide immediate benefits to Belarusian society while preparing the country for a future democratic transition. Despite the current regime's success in positioning itself to hold power into the foreseeable future, the project continued to support efforts to foster an independent media and defend civic activity free of state control.

The Open Society Institute–Paris also works with the Uzbekistan Committee, a body created by the Open Society Institute after the forced closure of the Soros foundation in Uzbekistan in 2004. The

committee will review and guide continued efforts to support and promote open society in Uzbekistan.

### OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Open Society Institute—Washington, D.C., works to promote a just and open society in the United States and to encourage United States policies that support democracy, human rights, and the rule of law abroad.

In 2005, OSI-D.C. was deeply involved in debates over the proper balance between security and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution and international law, including the debates surrounding the proper treatment of detainees, the prohibitions on torture, and Constitutional limits on surveillance. OSI-D.C. worked to encourage an active and independent role for the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties and the Inspector General's Office at the Department of Homeland Security. The Cooperative Global Engagement Project took a leading role in encouraging a debate about America's role in the world, including sponsoring "town hall" meetings across the United States, publishing Restoring American Leadership—13 Cooperative Steps to Advance Global Progress, and helping to establish the "Connect U.S. Network" of grassroots organizations engaged in issues of global cooperation. OSI-D.C. is also playing a leading role in encouraging constructive reforms in United Nations human rights mechanisms.

Because OSI is active in many parts of the

world, it engages the U.S. government on a wide variety of issues, ranging from encouraging constructive U.S. support for democratic change in Ukraine, promoting government transparency in Central Asia, encouraging adherence to the rule of law in Africa, supporting democracy in Burma, and opposing repressive trends in Russia. The Washington office actively encouraged a vigorous U.S. response to the Andijan massacre in Uzbekistan and strongly supported a Security Council referral of the Darfur crisis to the International Criminal Court. The office works in collaboration with OSI's Public Health Program to highlight the AIDS epidemic in the former Soviet Union, where one of the world's fastest growth rates for the epidemic is fueled primarily by injecting drug use. The office also works closely with OSI representatives in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and joined efforts to advocate in the United States for the needs of Pakistanis affected by the 2005 earthquake.

During the year, OSI–D.C.'s domestic policy staff worked with a broad coalition of religious and political leader to educate the public and policymakers on the challenges of reintegrating formerly incarcerated people into society. They engaged in advocacy on the injustices caused by mandatory minimum sentences and the abuses of out-of-control federally funded drug task forces that have led to the false arrest of scores of innocent people. The office also launched an advocacy campaign about the disproportionate impact on minorities of the federal law concerning the use of crack and powder cocaine.

### CHAIRMAN'S AND PRESIDENTIAL GRANTS

In addition to supporting the network's foundations and initiatives, OSI makes funds available to a variety of organizations, especially in the fields of human rights and anticorruption. Many of these grantees form close partnerships with OSI and are considered an integral part of the efforts of the OSI/Soros foundations network. Chairman's and Presidential Grants totaled over \$12 million in 2005.

Funding was committed or went to, among others: \$255,000 to the National Institute of Military Justice to increase its capacity to advise on cases before military tribunals; \$266,000 to the International Bar Association to create mid-level career fellowships at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia; \$200,000 to the International Women's Health Coalition for its work protecting the rights and health of women and girls worldwide; and \$196,800 to No Peace Without Justice for its Muslim Women Project to increase women's participation in political life in the Arab world. Large institutional grants of \$1 million, \$1 million, and \$2.5 million, respectively, were also given to longtime OSI grantees Human Rights Watch, the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, and the International Crisis Group.

In the field of anticorruption, Global Witness received \$750,000 for exposing the link between exploitation of natural resources and human rights abuses, conflict, and corruption; Tiri received

#### **OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE**

\$380,000 for supporting the Public Integrity
Education Network and their work addressing
corruption in postconflict situations; the
International Budget Project of the Center on Budget
and Policy Priorities received \$500,000 to increase
transparency in government accounting; and the
Vera Institute of Justice received \$300,000 for
supporting the Altus Global Alliance to improve
public safety and justice through research, reform,
and NGO activism.

#### **OSI OMBUDSMAN**

The OSI ombudsman addresses complaints from within and outside the Soros foundations network about acts or practices that appear to constitute abuses of authority by the national foundations, by OSI–Budapest, or by those parts of OSI in New York that serve the network. The ombudsman investigates the complaints she receives at her discretion, and reports her findings to the OSI–Budapest board as she considers appropriate. Where necessary, OSI supports the work of the ombudsman by providing her with investigative assistance. Matters that can be dealt with by other grievance mechanisms within OSI are referred to those mechanisms for resolution.

The ombudsman does not deal with employee grievances or with disagreements about the merits of a grant or programming decision. Rather, the chief concern of the ombudsman position is to investigate accusations of rudeness, negligence, dishonesty, violation of procedures, or other abuses dealing with

grant applicants, other parts of the network, partner organizations, or the general public.

The position of OSI ombudsman is held by Irena Veisaite, who, in the past, has served both as the chair of the Open Society Fund–Lithuania board and as a member of the OSI–Budapest board.

The ombudsman may be contacted at:

Open Society Fund–Lithuania Didzioji Str. 5, Vilnius LT-2001 Lithuania

TEL: 370 5 268 55 11 FAX: 370 5 268 55 12 EMAIL: irena@osf.lt

#### **APPLICATION INFORMATION**

OSI programs and initiatives award grants, scholarships, and fellowships on a regular basis throughout the year. The type of funding and eligibility requirements differ for each initiative. Potential applicants should consult the Grants, Scholarships, and Fellowships section of the OSI website, www.soros.org, to determine their eligibility and access appropriate application guidelines.

The Soros foundations award grants principally to local organizations and individuals. Some foundations also award grants to foreign organizations working in partnership with local groups. Potential grant applicants should contact individual foundations about their application procedures. Contact information for the Soros foundations can be found on the OSI website or in the directory at the end of this report.

#### **PARTNERSHIPS**

#### **DONOR PARTNERS**

As OSI and the Soros foundations network evolve and expand their global agenda, partnerships with other donors are becoming ever more significant in making possible the work described in this annual report. In some instances, these partnerships involve explicit agreements with other donors to share costs. At other times, they take place informally when another donor determines to support a project OSI has initiated or, conversely, when we build upon another donor's initiative. In some cases, other donors contribute directly to one of the Soros foundations in support of a particular project.

Our donor partners include:

*International organizations* such as the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO), UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNESCO/International Institute for Educational Planning, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Council of Europe, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the European Commission, and the Asian Development Bank. OSI's collaboration with UNDP is especially extensive, and includes a formal Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions and numerous joint funding projects;

National government aid agencies, including the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United States Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Britain's Department for International Development (DFID) and Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), the French Centre National des Oeuvres Universitaires et Scolaires (CNOUS), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs MATRA Programme, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs FRESTA Programme, the German Foreign Ministry and German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), and a number of Austrian government agencies, including the ministries of education and foreign affairs, that operate bilaterally;

National governments in several countries that cofund programs sponsored by Soros foundations in those countries, especially in education:

American private foundations such as the United Nations Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the John D. and Catherine T.

#### **OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE**

MacArthur Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the American Austrian Foundation, Freedom Forum, the Pew Charitable Trusts, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the JEHT Foundation, Atlantic Philanthropies, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Irene Diamond Fund, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Lilly Endowment, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, the Nathan Cummings Foundation, the Schumann Center for Media and Democracy, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Surdna Foundation, the Tides Foundation, and the German Marshall Fund:

European private foundations such as AVINA, the Robert Bosch Foundation, the King Baudouin Foundation, the Sigrid Rausing Trust, the Oak Foundation, the European Cultural Foundation, and some of the German political party-affiliated foundations;

European and North American institutions that administer assistance funds obtained from their governments, such as the Swedish Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, Press Now (Netherlands), NOVIB (Netherlands), International Media Support (Denmark), the British Council, Norwegian People's Aid, Medienhilfe (Switzerland), Freedom House

(U.S.), IREX (U.S.), the National Endowment for Democracy (U.S.), the Eurasia Foundation (U.S.), the Nazi Persecutee Relief Fund (U.S., France, Britain), Norwegian and Danish Burma Committees, Olof Palme International Center (Sweden), the Remembrance, Responsibility and Future Foundation (Germany), Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (Germany), Rights and Democracy (Canada), International Republican Institute (U.S.), and the Asia Foundation (U.S.).

OSI also is a donor and partner of the Baltic-American Partnership Fund and the Trust for Civil Society in Central and Eastern Europe.

The Open Society Institute and the Soros foundations are deeply grateful to all our funding partners and thank them for their role in building open societies and for the trust in the Soros foundations reflected by their support.

#### **NGO PARTNERS**

Another form of partnership is also of enormous importance to the Soros foundations: the relationships with grantees that have developed into alliances in pursuing crucial parts of the open society agenda.

These partners include, but are not limited to:

*International Crisis Group* for its research and advocacy in addressing armed conflicts and other crises in international relations;

Human Rights Watch for its leadership in protecting civil and political rights worldwide;

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation for championing the rights of Americans, and the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund for its defense of civil rights and civil liberties in the United States:

European Roma Rights Center for its defense of the rights of a minority that is severely persecuted in many countries;

Media Development Loan Fund and the Southern Africa Media Development Fund for their role in assisting independent media to develop as self-sustaining businesses;

Vera Institute of Justice for its innovative efforts to pursue criminal justice reform programs in such countries as Russia, South Africa, and the United States;

Global Witness for its investigations of the connections between resource exploitation, corruption, the arms trade, and severe abuses of human rights;

Democracy Coalition Project for working to strengthen the intergovernmental Community of Democracies process as a mechanism for democratic change; Center on Budget and Policy Priorities for its expertise on budget and tax policy questions in the United States, and also for its International Budget Project, which promotes budget transparency and accountability in transition countries;

Committee to Protect Journalists and Article 19 for their work defending and upholding freedom of expression;

Center for Community Change for its efforts to give low-income people a voice in American democracy;

No Peace Without Justice for its efforts to end female genital mutilation;

Global Fund for Women for its advocacy on human rights for women around the world;

International Center for Transitional Justice for its assistance to transition countries wishing to pursue accountability for mass atrocity or human rights abuse under previous regimes;

*Justice at Stake Campaign* for its efforts to keep the U.S. courts fair and impartial;

Local chapters of *Transparency International* for their work with Soros foundations on anticorruption measures;

#### **OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE**

Médecins Sans Frontières, AIDS Foundation
East-West, Doctors of the World, and Partners in
Health for their efforts in addressing crucial
public health emergencies that are often
connected to abuses of human rights;

Brennan Center for Justice for its intellectual leadership in devising legal approaches to issues of civil liberties and democracy in the United States:

Mental Disability Rights International and the Mental Disability Advocacy Center for their protection of the rights of the mentally disabled;

Penal Reform International for its worldwide efforts to reduce incarceration and protect the rights of prison inmates;

Sentencing Project for leading efforts in the United States to reduce excessive imprisonment;

International Women's Health Coalition, the Center for Reproductive Rights, and Planned Parenthood Federation of America, for their work protecting and expanding reproductive health advocacy and services around the world;

Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights in Poland for its human rights training efforts in Central Asia and Russia, as well as in Poland;

*Project Syndicate* for providing diverse commentaries to over 240 newspapers worldwide;

*Nurcha* for helping build hundreds of thousands of low-cost houses in South Africa;

Drug Policy Alliance for its promotion of an alternative drug policy in the United States;

Institute on Medicine as a Profession for promoting professionalism in U.S. medicine;

and a great many others.

The pages of this and previous annual reports also mention numerous independent organizations that were created by OSI or that spun off from OSI or Soros foundation programs. All of these institutions obtain support from many donors. In many cases, the funding OSI provides is only a small fraction of their total revenue. The support they obtain from multiple donors enhances their independence and, of course, helps to ensure their long-term survival as institutions that can help to build open societies.

## **EXPENDITURES**

### OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION FOR ALBANIA

2005 Expenditures	\$2,812,000
Civil Society	318,000
Culture	(1,000)
East East	96,000
Economic Reform	10,000
Education	243,000
Information	210,000
Law	235,000
Public Administration	399,000
Public Health	218,000
Women's Programs	121,000
Youth Programs	293,000
Other Programs	411,000
Administration	259,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$20,417, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Education. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Albania totaling \$982,248, principally in Education and Law; these grants are not included above.

### OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION-ARMENIA

2005 Expenditures	\$2,194,000
Civil Society	486,000
Culture	200,000
East East	79,000
Education	284,000
Information	270,000
Law	179,000
Media	94,000
Public Health	232,000
Women's Programs	97,000
Youth Programs	14,000
Other Programs	84,000
Administration	175,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$93,831, funded by non-5oros entities, principally in Law and Civil Society. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Armenia totaling \$1,158,739, principally in Education, Human Rights and Public Administration; these grants are not included above.

### OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION-AZERBAIJAN

2005 Expenditures	\$3,198,000
Civil Society	905,000
Culture	190,000
East East	116,000
Economic Reform	156,000
Education	306,000
Information	275,000
Law	140,000
Media	161,000
Public Administration	102,000
Public Health	258,000
Women's Programs	193,000
Youth Programs	31,000
Other Programs	20,000
Administration	345,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$281,810 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Azerbaijan totaling \$1,178,969, principally in Education, Public Administration and Human Rights; these grants are not included above.

### OPEN SOCIETY FUND-BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

2005 Expenditures	\$2,891,000
Civil Society	553,000
East East	69,000
Education	304,000
Law	328,000
Media	88,000
Public Administration	268,000
Public Health	4,000
Roma	202,000
Women's Programs	100,000
Youth Programs	383,000
Other Programs	202,000
Administration	390,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$96,635, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Youth Programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Bosnia totaling \$395,490, principally in Education, Media, and Public Administration; these grants are not included above.

### OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-SOFIA (BULGARIA)

2005 Expenditures	\$3,143,000
Civil Society	610,000
Conference & Travel	5,000
Culture	26,000
East East	76,000
Economic Reform	27,000
Education	338,000
Law	369,000
Media	204,000
Public Administration	436,000
Public Health	148,000
Roma	98,000
Women's Programs	35,000
Other Programs	236,000
Administration	535.000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$230,885, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society and Education. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Bulgaria totaling \$4,087,257, principally in Education, Roma, and Human Rights; these grants are not included above.

#### **OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-CROATIA**

2005 Expenditures	\$1,504,000
Civil Society	519,000
East East	89,000
Economic Reform	157,000
Education	34,000
Law	146,000
Public Health	98,000
Roma	274,000
Women's Programs	1000
Other Programs	2,000
Administration	184,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$149,057, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Law and Roma. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Croatia totaling \$1,167,624, principally in Education, Public Administration and Human Rights; these grants are not included above.

### OPEN SOCIETY FUND-PRAGUE (CZECH REPUBLIC)

2005 Expenditures	\$1,459,000
Civil Society	181,000
East East	114,000
Education	34,000
Ethnic Minorities	63,000
Law	341,000
Public Health	78,000
Roma	100,000
Women's Programs	201,000
Youth Programs	69,000
Other Programs	7,000
Administration	271,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$377,013, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society, Youth Programs and Education. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Czech Republic totaling \$402,052 principally in Human Rights, Roma and Public Administration; these grants are not included above.

#### **OPEN ESTONIA FOUNDATION**

2005 Expenditures	\$1,402,000
Civil Society	1,039,000
East East	148,000
Public Administration	8,000
Public Health	(28,000)
Women's Programs	91,000
Youth Programs	40,000
Other Programs	16,000
Administration	88,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$612,656, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Estonia totaling \$383,229, principally in Public Administration, Human Rights and Public Health; these grants are not included above.

#### **OPEN SOCIETY GEORGIA FOUNDATION**

2005 Expenditures	\$4,134,000
Culture	252,000
East East	186,000
Economic Reform	466,000
Education	657,000
Information	339,000
Law	223,000
Media	214,000
Public Administration	215,000
Public Health	560,000
Women's Programs	263,000
Youth Programs	65,000
Other Programs	315,000
Administration	379,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$224,167, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Public Health. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Georgia totaling \$2,504,148, principally in Education, Public Administration and Human Rights; these grants are not included above.

#### **FUNDACIÓN SOROS-GUATEMALA**

2005 Expenditures	\$3,244,000
Civil Society	1,062,000
Economic Reform	503,000
Law	359,000
Media	334,000
Public Administration	272,000
Other Programs	63,000
Administration	651,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$343,516, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Law. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Guatemala totaling \$125,287, principally in Law and Economic Reform; these grants are not included above.

### FONDATION CONNAISSANCE ET LIBERTÉ (HAITI)

2005 Expenditures	\$2,865,000
Civil Society	390,000
Culture	363,000
Economic Reform	573,000
Education	428,000
Information	724,000
Women's Programs	98,000
Youth Programs	39,000
Administration	250,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$78,806, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Education, Civil Society and Culture. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Haiti totaling \$122,033, principally in Civil Society and Education; these grants are not included above.

#### SOROS FOUNDATION-HUNGARY

2005 Expenditures	\$1,799,000
Civil Society	1,348,000
East East	88,000
Human Rights	4,000
Public Health	93,000
Administration	266,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$1,150,243, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Hungary totaling \$2,861,551, principally in Education, Human Rights and Roma; these grants are not included above.

#### SOROS FOUNDATION-KAZAKHSTAN

SOROS I COMPATION NALANTISTAN	
2005 Expenditures	\$3,737,000
Civil Society	260,000
Conference & Travel	108,000
East East	179,000
Economic Reform	311,000
Education	302,000
Information	287,000
Law	199,000
Media	353,000
Public Administration	300,000
Public Health	370,000
Women's Programs	63,000
Youth Programs	191,000
Other Programs	333,000
Administration	481,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$39,679, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society and Public Health. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Kazakhstan, totaling \$1,766,136, principally in Education, Human Rights and Public Health; these grants are not included above.

#### KOSOVO FOUNDATION FOR OPEN SOCIETY

2005 Expenditures	\$2,271,000
Culture	4,000
East East	16,000
Education	470,000
Ethnic Minorities	480,000
Public Administration	438,000
Public Health	89,000
Women's Programs	145,000
Youth Programs	217,000
Other Programs	209,000
Administration	203,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$47,416, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Youth Programs, Public Administration, and Culture. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Kosovo, totaling \$554,340, principally in Education, Media and Ethnic Minorities; these grants are not included above

#### SOROS FOUNDATION-KYRGYZSTAN

\$4,247,000
349,000
100,000
180,000
130,000
180,000
373,000
104,000
191,000
336,000
236,000
541,000
386,000
158,000
501,000
81,000
401,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$517,905, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Youth Programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Kyrgyrstan, totaling \$7,960,535, principally in Education, Civil Society and Human Rights; these grants are not included above.

#### SOROS FOUNDATION-LATVIA

2005 Expenditures	\$1,902,000
Civil Society	751,000
Culture	43,000
East East	85,000
Ethnic Minorities	117,000
Law	156,000
Public Administration	380,000
Public Health	87,000
Other Programs	40,000
Administration	243,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$493,851, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Lativia, totaling \$749,863, principally in Human Rights; these grants are not included above.

#### **OPEN SOCIETY FUND-LITHUANIA**

2005 Expenditures	\$2,280,000
Civil Society	892,000
East East	180,000
Education	10,000
Information	(10,000)
Law	116,000
Public Administration	198,000
Public Health	372,000
Administration	522,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$729,356, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Lithuania, totaling \$324,719, principally in Education, Public Health and Women's Programs; these grants are not included above.

### FOUNDATION OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-MACEDONIA

2005 Expenditures	\$6,336,000
Civil Society	1,605,000
Culture	216,000
East East	75,000
Economic Reform	181,000
Education	1,766,000
Information	378,000
Law	101,000
Media	393,000
Public Administration	264,000
Public Health	272,000
Women's Programs	84,000
Youth Programs	158,000
Other Programs	76,000
Administration	767,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$2,578,787, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Education, Civil Society, and Media. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Macedonia, totaling \$1,924,514, principally in Education, Roma and Media; these grants are not included above.

#### SOROS FOUNDATION-MOLDOVA

2005 Expenditures	\$4,752,000
Civil Society	433,000
Culture	239,000
East East	164,000
Economic Reform	658,000
Education	504,000
Human Rights	13,000
Information	385,000
Law	287,000
Media	123,000
Public Administration	262,000
Public Health	939,000
Roma	2,000
Women's Programs	144,000
Youth Programs	53,000
Other Programs	239,000
Administration	307,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$735,429, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Public Health and Law. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Moldova, totaling \$1,024,995, principally in Education, Public Administration and Human Rights; these grants are not included above.

### **EXPENDITURES**

#### **OPEN SOCIETY FORUM (MONGOLIA)**

2005 Expenditures	\$1,405,000
East East	9,000
Education	100,000
Law	37,000
Media	57,000
Public Administration	1,143,000
Public Health	40,000
Youth Programs	15,000
Other Programs	4,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$52,080, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Public Administration. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Mongolia, totaling \$1,272,581 principally in Education and Culture; these grants are not included above.

# FOUNDATION OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE MONTENEGRO

2005 Expenditures	\$1,346,000
Civil Society	255,000
East East	18,000
Education	452,000
Law	95,000
Public Administration	200,000
Roma	20,000
Women's Programs	70,000
Youth Programs	7,000
Other Programs	27,000
Administration	202,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$33,994, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Public Administration. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Montenegro, totaling \$416,024, Education, Ethnic Minorities and Human Rights; these grants are not included above.

### STEFAN BATORY FOUNDATION (POLAND)

2005 Expenditures	\$6,128,000
Civil Society	2,339,000
East East	2,236,000
Education	1,000
Law	360,000
Public Health	177,000
Other Programs	22,000
Administration	993,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$3,446,080, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in East East: Partnership Beyond Borders and Civil Society. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Poland, totaling \$2,011,552, principally in Education, Human Rights and Public Health; these grants are not included above.

### OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION-ROMANIA 2005 Expenditures \$3,954,000

\$5,954,000
949,000
60,000
271,000
216,000
212,000
67,000
142,000
19,000
189,000
188,000
208,000
223,000
759,000
451,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$337,095, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Other Programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Romania, totaling \$3,156,526, principally in Education, Public Health and Roma; these grants are not included above.

#### **RUSSIA PROJECT**

2005 Expenditures	\$6,164,000
Civil Society	2,000,000
Culture	200,000
Education	92,000
Information	150,000
Law	200,000
Public Health	320,000
Women's Programs	150,000
Other Programs	2,342,000
Administration	710,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$27,842, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Education. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Russia, totaling \$8,773,320, principally in Education, Human Rights, Media and Public Health; these grants are not included above.

#### FUND FOR AN OPEN SOCIETY-SERBIA

2005 Expenditures	\$3,773,000
Civil Society	288,000
East East	43,000
Education	671,000
Information	132,000
Law	307,000
Media	523,000
Public Administration	393,000
Public Health	241,000
Roma	212,000
Women's Programs	170,000
Youth Programs	135,000
Other Programs	290,000
Administration	368,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$129,850, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Roma. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Serbia, totaling \$2,503,872, principally in Education, Human Rights and Ethnic Minorities; these grants are not included above.

### OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION-BRATISLAVA (SLOVAKIA)

2005 Expenditures	\$1,800,000
Civil Society	343,000
East East	61,000
Education	152,000
Information	3,000
Law	109,000
Media	32,000
Public Administration	31,000
Public Health	124,000
Roma	252,000
Women's Programs	145,000
Youth Programs	23,000
Other Programs	83,000
Administration	442,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$366,961, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society and Roma. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Slovakia, totaling \$706,494, principally in Public Administration, Human Rights and Economic Reform; these grants are not included above.

### OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION FOR SOUTH AFRICA

2005 Expenditures	\$7,057,000
African Initiatives	19,000
Civil Society	1,178,000
Economic Reform	487,000
Information	199,000
Law	3,184,000
Media	1,065,000
Public Health	286,000
Other Programs	201,000
Administration	438,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in South Africa, totaling \$1,008,718 principally in Economic Reform, Public Health and Information; these grants are not included above.

### OPEN SOCIETY INITIATIVE FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

TOR GOOTHERM AN INTOA	
2005 Expenditures	\$10,248,000
African Initiatives	103,000
Civil Society	2,240,000
Economic Reform	893,000
Education	1,613,000
Information	825,000
Law	61,000
Media	1,479,000
Public Administration	456,000
Public Health	1,430,000
Women's Programs	4,000
Administration	1,144,000

#### **OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE ASSISTANCE** FOUNDATION-TAJIKISTAN

2005 Expenditures	\$3,639,000
Civil Society	70,000
Conference & Travel	53,000
Culture	132,000
East East	22,000
Economic Reform	120,000
Education	608,000
Ethnic Minorities	17,000
Information	421,000
International Programs	13,000
Law	188,000
Media	127,000
Public Administration	150,000
Public Health	750,000
Women's Programs	242,000
Youth Programs	319,000
Other Programs	43,000
Administration	364,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$966,751, funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Public Health, Youth Programs and Education. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Tajikistan, totaling \$904,113, principally in Education and Civil Society; these grants are not included above.

#### **OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE ASSISTANCE** FOUNDATION-TURKEY

2005 Exi	penditures	\$2,218,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Turkey, totaling \$281,633, principally in Criminal Justice and Information and for East East: Partnership Beyond Borders; these grants are not included above

#### INTERNATIONAL RENAISSANCE FOUNDATION (UKRAINE)

1 COMPATION (CIRCAINE)		
2005 Expenditures	\$6,614,000	
Civil Society	1,375,000	
East East	327,000	
Education	254,000	
Information	342,000	
Law	1,000,000	
Media	560,000	
Public Administration	35,000	
Public Health	1,442,000	
Roma	71,000	
Other Programs	476,000	
Administration	732,000	

NOTE: The financial information presented above NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$1,105,541 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Public Health, Information and Law. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Ukraine, totaling \$3,498,906, principally in Education, Public Health and Public Administration; these grants are not included above.

#### **OPEN SOCIETY INITIATIVE** FOR WEST AFRICA

2005 Expenditures	\$12,589,000
African Initiatives	111,000
Civil Society	4,151,000
Economic Reform	983,000
Information	1,302,000
Law	570,000
Media	1,417,000
Public Administration	1,476,000
Public Health	1,189,000
Youth Programs	4,000
Administration	1,386,000

**NOTE:** Civil Society Includes Good Governance, Law includes Justice and Human Rights, Information includes ICT and Public Health includes HIV/AIDS.

#### **INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES**

OSI–Paris Belarus Support	\$1,283,000
Balkans Policy Group	58,000
Burma Project	2,079,000
Southeast Asia Project	1,841,000
Indonesia Initiative	2,632,000
Central Eurasia Project	5,045,000
Middle East Projects	4,394,000
China Grants	2,026,000
Latin America Regional Initiatives	6,679,000
Project Syndicate	1,506,000
Open Society Initiative for Eastern Africa (OSIEA)	1,120,000
Other International	4,885,000

\$33,548,000

\$128,176,000

\$53,967,000

¢422 404 000

#### **NETWORK PROGRAMS**

**Total International Initiatives** 

Arts and Culture Network Program	\$882,000
Children and Youth Programs	9,418,000
East East: Partnership Beyond Borders	3,593,000
Economic and Business Development Program	3,854,000
English Language Program	257,000
EU Monitoring and Advocacy Program	1,321,000
Information Program	6,672,000
Institute for Educational Policy	3,408,000
International Policy Fellowships	1,403,000
International Higher Education Support Program	27,449,000
Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative	8,087,000
Media Program	8,610,000
Open Society Justice Initiative	11,222,000
Public Health Program	21,022,000
Roma Participation Program	4,712,000
Scholarship Programs	11,207,000
Women's Program	5,059,000

#### U.S. PROGRAMS

**Total Network Programs** 

U.S. Justice Fund	\$16,199,000
NYC Community Fellows	1,636,000
OSI-Baltimore	3,838,000
Youth Initiatives	2,591,000
OSI-Washington, D.C.	1,847,000
Strategic Opportunities Fund	7,168,000
Special Chairman's Fund	12,782,000
Other U.S. Initiatives	7,906,000

Total U.S. Programs NOTES: The Strategic Opportunities Fund includes grants related to: media policy (\$1,475,000); Hurricane Katrina (\$665,000); politicization of science (\$325,000) and social security (\$515,000).

The Special Chairman's Fund includes grants related to: youth activism and leadership development (\$799,000); multi-issue policy centers (\$1,700,000); judicial nominations (\$7,098,400); and progressive legal infrastructure (\$735,000).

Other U.S. Initiatives include: drug policy reform (\$4,000,000); After-School Program (\$734,000); Medicine as a Profession (\$1,075,000); and other U.S. programs and communications.

#### SOROS FOUNDATIONS NETWORK

Total Expenditures	\$369.476.000
Interorganizational Elimination	(30,254,000)
Interorganizational Elimination	(30,294,000)
All Other Organizations, Programs, and Costs	60,975,000
U.S. Programs	53,967,000
International Initiatives	33,548,000
Network Programs	128,176,000
Soros Foundations	\$123,104,000



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