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Session I: “Shaping a Security Community: Thematic and Geographic issues within a comprehensive security agenda”

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- I. Transformation Needed: The OSCE and the “Global Political Awakening”
  - a. We seek to understand the geopolitical landscape in which the OSCE works. Perhaps it is time to examine how the OSCE can best function during the “Global Political Awakening,” a term Dr. Zbig Brzezinski has coined to describe events in North Africa, the Middle East, South Asia and now in Russia.
  - b. David Ignatius has described the global political awakening as “a movement for change that is enabled and accelerated by modern technology.” Brent Scowcroft describes it as a “yearning for dignity.”
  - c. The OSCE “needs to be on the side of that process of change.”
  - d. What is the OSCE best designed to do to support this process of change?
  - e. Need institutional evolution similar to 1989 – 1991 period, another period of sweeping change.
  
- II. Undertake an OSCE SWOT or SLOT Analysis (SWOT – Strengths, Weaknesses or Limitations, Opportunities, Threats)
  - a. Defining your objective: Enhance Euro-Atlantic peace, stability and security by focusing on human security?
  - b. Strengthens (What are the OSCE’s advantages in today’s geostrategic landscape?)
    - i. Strengthening of democratic principles, norms and commitments
    - ii. Human Dimension Mechanism
    - iii. Conflict resolution
  - c. Weaknesses or Limitations (What are the OSCE’s disadvantages?)
    - i. Number of OSCE activities
    - ii. Are the economic and security baskets as relevant as they were in 1975?
  - d. Opportunities
    - i. Arab Awakening
    - ii. Russia
    - iii. Social media

- e. Threats
  - i. Participating states block initiatives or activities
  - ii. OSCE functions not relevant to challenges
- f. Internal Challenges (organizational strengths and weaknesses)
- g. External Challenges (maximize opportunities; minimize threats)
- h. Need to better link strengthens and opportunities; minimize limitations and organizational threats

### III. Opportunities Ripe for OSCE Action and Enhancement

- a. What role can the OSCE play in the “Global Political Awakening?”
- b. How does the OSCE strengthen its Mediterranean Partners for Coordination?
- c. What the OSCE does best: elections and democratization
- d. Promote tolerance and non-discrimination in light of the global economic crisis. This is a growth industry and is directly linked to the role of social media and the internet
- e. Freedom of the Media – understanding the link between social media, the internet, democracy and intolerance
- f. Civil society with a focus on youth
- g. Conflict resolution? How does the OSCE differentiate itself from the UN and EU?
- h. Monitoring missions? How does the OSCE add value to the UN and OSCE?