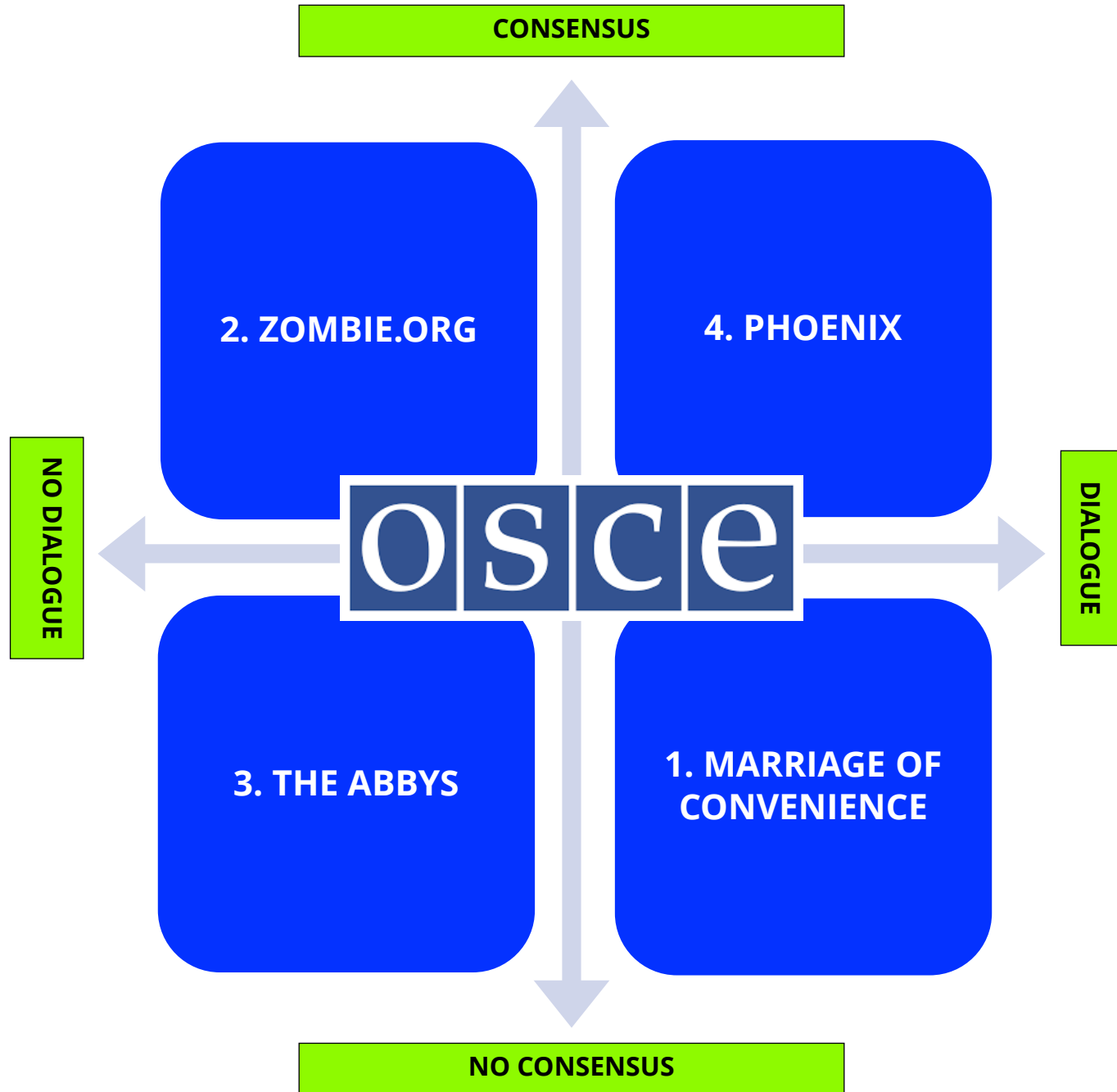


OSCE TO 2025

FOUR PLAUSIBLE SCENARIOS



Caveats:

- No actual scenarios – just examples of “what if.”
- Answers depend on what questions are asked.
- Parameters of analysis can be less, more or different.
- Much depends on when and how this war will end.

1. MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE

Consensus on
organizational
survival matters
but no dialogue
otherwise



osce

- Participating States unable to discuss principles but want to keep the OSCE afloat.
- **Silent concessions** made to reach key organizational decisions:
 - **Four key posts** appointed with the lowest common denominator → weak leadership.
 - **No CiO 2024** → North Macedonia's CiO for 6 extra months, handover to Finland 6 months earlier.
 - UB negotiations as continued tool for political control
 - Each adopted **UB later and lower** than before → just enough to cover operations but minimum for activities.
 - Growing **limits to human dimension**.
 - Gradual downgrade and closure of **FOs**.
 - No **HDIM**.
 - Highly filtered **civil society participation**.
- **ExB scarce and uncertain** due to economic downturn and high military spending.
- Organization on life support, **no impact**.

2. ZOMBIE.ORG

Continuous
dialogue that
does not bring
decisions



- No more decisions and resolutions at PC and MC meetings.
- Appearance of consensus-based organization kept but ways found to bypass current decision-making mechanism:
 - **No appointment of four key OSCE posts** → deputies acting as heads.
 - No **CiO** 2024 and 2026 → no Troika.
 - **No UB** → operations funded through greater “UB contributions” by some pS based on 2021 UB, and through greater ExB.
 - **No FOs** → ExB-funded program offices opened.
 - **No HDIM** → similar CiO events fully ExB-funded.
- No more ambitions to see Helsinki 2025 MC as a platform for renewed commitments.
- Some results at activity level but **no political impact**.

3. THE ABBYS

No consensus on
any key decisions
and no belief that
any dialogue
is possible



- Russia no longer engaged on any OSCE matters or putting forward any proposals for dialogue.
- No constructive cooperation ideas from Western countries because of principles on one hand, and lack of real vision for and belief in the future of OSCE on the other.
- All existential OSCE decisions not taken, rendering the organization non-functional:
 - **No leadership** - four key posts vacant.
 - **No incoming CiO** beyond Finland.
 - **No money** (cash surplus exhausted in consecutive years without the UB).
 - **No** extension of 6-month **FOs** mandates.
- Official non-consensual announcements about “**temporary suspension**” of **OSCE activities**. Premises closed in Vienna and elsewhere, staff laid off and no activities carried out.

4. PHOENIX

Consensus on all key decisions and a genuine dialogue on organizational matters and security architecture



- OSCE as a broker of RU-UKR peace agreement that ends the war.
- Renewed consensual recognition of OSCE potential and shortcomings → new commitments to work towards:
 - **Renewal of Helsinki Final Act spirit** as relevant to 21 century.
 - OSCE Summit in 2025 to shape out **new security architecture**.
 - Sincere and good-willed **collective reflection** on best ways **to overcome organizational deficiencies**.
 - Active and broad **engagement of** and contribution from **civil society** to the processes towards new commitments.
- **Timely decisions** on all key organizational matters.
- Permanent Council decisions on administrative and operational changes → **greater efficiency and accountability** of the OSCE.
- (Reopening of) **FOs with renewed/adaptated mandates**.
- Stronger OSCE reputation as an important and impactful security organization.

Some questions to consider:

- What financing mechanisms, guaranteeing predictable, stable, sufficient and free of political interference funding for the OSCE, could be devised/employed?
- Is consensus still a feasible decision-making mechanism in the OSCE and, if not, what alternatives are possible/should be developed?
- If the OSCE is to remain a platform for dialogue, what should such dialogue look like and to what end?

THANK YOU!

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