

The author assessed the operational capabilities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in regulating armed conflicts occurring in the post-Soviet area in 1991-2021. These include the armed conflict in Donbas, armed conflict over Transnistria, internal conflicts in Georgia, armed conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, Russian-Chechen wars, and internal conflict in Tajikistan. The research problem concerned determining the relationship between the use of operational activities by the OSCE and the stabilization of an armed conflict. The author sought an answer to the question: whether and if so, how the operational activities undertaken by the OSCE contributed to the resolution of the armed conflict, and therefore, whether the operational activities used by the OSCE can be considered adequate.

The work consists of seven chapters. The first chapter is theoretical, while chapters II-VII present the characteristics of a given case (armed conflict), the field operation aimed at conflict resolution, external factors affecting the conflict resolution process and the assessment of the OSCE operational capabilities applied to a given case.

Defining the field operation as a structured, vertically and horizontally organized regulatory instrument of the OSCE made it possible to call individual elements such as missions, field offices, groups, and field coordinators - regulatory tools. Through its regulatory tools, the OSCE uses (deliberately created) resources to achieve effect. The expected outcome is the use of operational capabilities in such a way as to bring the conflict to an end. The above helped to organize the knowledge about the operational capabilities of the OSCE and made it possible to carry out multiple case studies. Applying the conflict "cycle" theory made it possible to distinguish at which stages of the conflict "cycle" the OSCE used its operational capabilities and with what effect. The main aspects of the OSCE's operational activities correspond to the various stages of the conflict "cycle" but are implemented differently in different cases (armed conflicts).

The research hypothesis was that the greater the involvement of the OSCE in regulating armed conflict through operational capabilities deployed within the current stage of the conflict "cycle", the greater the chances of resolving the armed conflict. The hypothesis was verified partly positively and partly negatively. To verify the research hypothesis and achieve the assumed goal of the work, the author used a multiple case study, elements of system analysis, institutional and legal analysis, critical analysis of literature and the process tracking method.