



CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION



THE SOUTH EASTERN AND EASTERN EUROPE
CLEARINGHOUSE FOR THE CONTROL OF
SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

Regional Seminar on Armed Violence Prevention: Review of National Projects and Identification of Areas for Assistance



Sponsored by
Kingdom of Norway

Co-organized with
The South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearing House for
the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons

Dates	23 - 24 September 2009
Venue	RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Zagreb (Croatia)
Background	<p>In their Strategic Outlook the Regional Cooperation Council has tasked SEESAC to support initiatives on armed violence prevention with focus on community security. The consensus reached at the first regional conference on Armed Violence and Development held in Sarajevo in December 2008, as well as the commitments contained within the Geneva and Sarajevo Declarations on Armed Violence and Development, affirmed the determination of the regional countries to continue working towards raising awareness of the linkage between armed violence and social and economic development of the region. In line with its strategic objective of strengthening the SEE region's overall stability and security, RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation will host the Regional Seminar on Armed Violence Prevention in order to enable the sharing of experience and lessons learned amongst the countries of the region in the development and implementation of armed violence prevention policies, strategies and programmes.</p>
Purpose & Objectives	<p>The purpose of the seminar is to bring together respective representatives from relevant ministries, regional and international organizations and NGOs with a view to discussing national strategies and programmes for armed violence prevention with a focus on community security. The objectives supporting this purpose are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To share experiences and lessons learned in the development and implementation of armed violence prevention policies, strategies and programmes;• To identify the areas for assistance, as well as capacity building needs in the countries of the region;• To develop road maps for elaboration of armed violence prevention programmes;• To bridge the gap between the security and development sectors in order to develop policies aimed at preventing and reducing armed violence;• To increase the cooperation within Southeastern Europe between governments, international organizations, civil society and development Agencies.
Participants	<p>Approximately 30 participants, up to two participants from the following countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, and the Republic of Serbia; as well as other participants representing UN, RCC and NGOs. Participants should have experience in the field of armed violence prevention, holding middle to top management positions in corresponding organizations. Participants are required to prepare and deliver a presentation (10 – 15 min per each participating country) on existing national strategies for armed violence prevention and their implementation. The seminar language will be English.</p>
Methodology	<p>The seminar will comprise a combination of plenary sessions, thematic working groups, individual presentations and open discussions (exchange of knowledge, experience and lessons learned). The work in thematic working groups will provide participants with the opportunity to develop road maps (including key elements and entry points) for the elaboration of Armed Violence Prevention Strategies and Programmes. All academic materials presented or produced during the seminar will be distributed in electronic form on a CD media.</p>
POC	<p>LTC Sergiu Railean, Subject Matter Expert, Tel.: 00385 1 3330 870 E-mail: srailean@racviac.org Web: www.racviac.org</p>

* Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.