



Co-organized by: RACVIAC-Centre for Security Cooperation, Ministry of Defence (MK) and Technical Assistance Information Exchange Instrument (TAIEX), DG Enlargement, European Commission

Civil-Military Approach in EU Crisis Management

Date 18-20 OCT 2011

Venue RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, Croatia

Background Both military and civil authorities have their own assets for responding to crisis situations. However, they frequently have to cooperate and pool their capabilities. In order to ensure an integrated use of available resources in a crisis situation, there are some steps that must be elaborated such as: interoperability, support synchronization, unification of efforts and definition of a common strategy. Civil-military Crisis Management has to be integrated with the overall emergency management approach. No one can predict future events, but we can be certain that taking the necessary planning and preparedness steps ahead of time can limit the consequences and speed up the recovery process.

A comprehensive civil-military approach in Crisis Management leads to the establishment of a framework for an effective handling of a crisis situation, including defining the basic strategies, assumptions, policies, operational goals and objectives, as well as mechanisms which can mobilize resources and conduct activities for guiding and supporting crisis management efforts through different phases, i.e. prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. Thus, intensified, extended and enhanced cooperation between civil authorities and the military has become an irreplaceable imperative.

In the context of increased globalisation, the EU itself is an enduring example of how to achieve peace and prosperity through integration based on the respect of democratic values. During the negotiation process for EU membership, the candidate/potential candidate countries should accept the acquis in a number of fields, including the CFSP and CSDP of the EU. This includes the implementation of different EU strategies and other relevant reforms. In that sense, sharing the experience gained during the process of acceptance and implementation of EU standards in Crisis Management with and among SEE countries is of vital importance for their future accession to the EU.

Purpose & Objectives The purpose of the seminar is to support and foster joint cooperation in the field of civil-military approach in Crisis Management among SEE authorities, as part of the overall security cooperation in SEE. The event aims to increase awareness of the importance of harmonized civil-military approach in Crisis Management among SEE countries in order to ensure a higher level of preparedness for the prospective crisis and to harmonize practical and operational solutions with EU standards and regulations in this field.

Objectives are:

- to present and discuss the parameters of the civil- military approach in Crisis Management;
- to analyse security risks and experience gained from the applied approaches;
- to present the progress and achievements of established civil-military bodies;
- to learn from the experiences of other countries in this field;
- to foster EU integration of the SEE countries by exchanging opinions;
- to work towards reaching the possible synergies between civil and military capabilities in Crisis Management.

Participants Approximately 30 participants, from each of the Signatory countries of the new RACVIAC Agreement. The participants should be either civilian/military representatives from the Ministries of Defence and Foreign Affairs dealing with the subject matter. Representatives of other MAG countries and relevant international organizations, NGOs and the media are also to be invited.

Methodology The event will last two working days and the official working language is English. The seminar will be conducted as a combination of presentations, speeches and open discussions. All materials presented or produced during the event will be distributed in the CD form.

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