



Co-organized by: RACVIAC-Centre for Security Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Croatia and Technical Assistance Information Exchange Instrument (TAIEX), DG Enlargement, European Commission

The EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy: Institutional framework, policies and instruments

Date	29 March-31 March 2011
Venue	RACVIAC, Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, Croatia
Background	<p>The EU's integration process has gained new momentum since the Commission adopted its last progress reports. The entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty enabled the EU to pursue its enlargement agenda, keeping thus the initial momentum towards European integration going. The EU's enlargement process contributes to stability in Europe and to the security and well being of its citizens. It provides a unique incentive for a political and economic reform in the enlargement countries. The EU's commitment to the enlargement process reflects the Member States' conviction that it is in the mutual interest of the Union and the aspirant countries. This message needs to be presented and explained clearly to the public in order to invigorate understanding and support for enlargement. RACVIAC, whose mission is to foster dialogue and cooperation on security matters in South East Europe, along with its international partners, stands committed to SEE's progress toward membership in the European Union.</p> <p>At this moment, six SEE countries lay claim to seeking eventual, full-fledged membership in the European Union. Four of them are official candidates while the other two countries are seeking a candidate status. The aim of this seminar is to contribute to regional security cooperation in South-eastern Europe as an important tool to promote its European integration efforts. The seminar will offer a common framework for the implementation of the European Security Strategy and its evolving form under the CFSP and the CSDP in SEE.</p> <p>The activity supports the capacity-building process in the countries of Southeastern Europe that are either official or potential candidates for full EU membership. This event will help SEE countries to better understand the capacity-building process in terms of accepting EU standards and values which are indispensable for their future accession to the EU.</p>
Purpose & Objectives	<p>The purpose of the Seminar is to support the capacity building process in the Southeast European countries that are either candidates or potential candidates for acquiring full EU membership. The event will help the SEE countries to better prepare for future accession to the EU by enhancing their understanding of the capacity building process and their acceptance of EU standards and values.</p> <p>Objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to give an overview of the post-Lisabon institutional setting• to present working relationship between EEAS, the Commission and the Council• to discuss and learn about EEAS and its implications for national diplomacy• to work towards reaching possible synergies between civilian and military tools• to discuss the CFSP and the CSDP policy and instruments• to analyze the main challenges on the path to the EU and to foster the EU integration of the SEE countries by enabling exchanges of opinions and lessons learned.
Participants	Approximately 35 participants, audience and speakers, from the following countries: AL, BA, HR, ME, MK, RS and one representative from MD. The participants should be either civilian or military officials at a decision-making level and experts representing relevant institutions dealing with the activity's subject matter. Representatives of other MAG countries and relevant international organizations, NGOs and the media are also to be invited.
Methodology	The seminar 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 Seminar, will be distributed in electronic form on a CD.
Point of Contact:	RACVIAC - CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION Mr. Milan JANICJEVIC, Activity coordinator, E-mail: mjanicjevic@racviac.org ; Tel: +385 1 3330 836 and Fax: +385 (0) 1 333 0839.