



## CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

**Security Sector Reform (SSR) in the context of Peace Support Operations (PSO), top down approach”**

**SSR-05-C**

**12 – 15 December 2011**

**Camp Butmir, Sarajevo (BA)**

**Abstract:** This activity was a kind of a follow-up to the seminar held in March this year addressing the basics of Security Sector Reform (SSR) with the introduction of Peace Support Operations (PSO) as one of its specific aspects. The initial idea of co-organising this seminar entitled “*Security Sector Reform (SSR) in the context of Peace Support Operations (PSO), top down approach*” was launched in December 2010 by RACVIAC– Centre for Security Cooperation and the Peace Support Operations Training Centre (PSOTC), Sarajevo. During the preparation process, the co-organisers had also developed operational collaboration with the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Belgrade Centre for Security Policy (BCSP) and the NATO HQ Sarajevo. Stretching over the period of three full working days, this event saw 31 participants from 9 countries, including representatives from EUFOR, Sarajevo, US Naval Postgraduate School - Monterey, Hellenic Multinational Peace Support Operations Training Centre (MPSOTC) and the Sarajevo based Centre for Security Studies.



Seminar group photo

## **Activity Background**

In the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Peace Support Operations (PSO) were given a completely new design. Transformation to peace-building missions was directed by changes in their structure, the establishment of new components and addition of new tasks. Their civilian component was strengthened with civilian police functions (CIVPOL), monitoring of elections, provision of humanitarian aid, monitoring of human rights implementation, and Disarmament, Demobilization & Reintegration (DDR). Just a few years later, development and democratization programs and Security Sector Reform (SSR) were introduced to the core of peace-building missions. Being members of the international community, bound by alliances as well as their own security and defense strategies and agendas, countries of the region are equally expected to contribute to this global effort. Yet, with an effective provision of security standing as one of preconditions to reconstruction and development, actors of PSO are facing increasing difficulties in planning of their SSR-related agenda.



Amb. Nikola Todorchovski, Director of RACVIAC

Countries of South East Europe (SEE) with their more than a decade long participation in PSO are fully interested in this matter – especially from the

perspective of current financial and general economic crisis.

„The SSR concept is not a disposable, one-time matter. Contrary to that, its proper implementation permanently improves the overall status of security of societies, as well as countries’ effectiveness, efficiency and accountability“. Therefore, this seminar was envisaged to serve as a provider of SSR basics to military, parliamentary and governmental staff dealing with or being engaged in Peace Support Operations (PSO), both on the national (preparatory) level and upon deployment of personnel in the mission area. This seminar combined academic approach to SSR with specific, regional case studies which were comprehensive and linked with SEE experience and thus served as clear guidelines for practical implementation both in the national preparation phase and in the operational phase in mission areas.

## **Activity Facilitators**



Brig(OF5) Kenan Dautović, Commandant PSOTC

The seminar was planned, organised and executed by RACVIAC and Peace Support Operations Training Centre (PSOTC), Camp Butmir – Sarajevo, with the generous support of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina and NATO HQ Sarajevo.

### **Activity Venue, Duration and Participation**

The seminar was conducted in Camp Butmir – Sarajevo, the base of PSOTS. The event started with the welcome dinner on 12 December 2011. It extended for the next three working days and was officially closed on 15 December 2011.

In the after-activity hours, a seminar dinner and Sarajevo sightseeing and cultural tour were also provided.

The seminar participants were representatives of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia<sup>1</sup>, Montenegro, Slovenia, Serbia and the USA.



BG (ret) Victor von Wilcken, Director Department of Security Co-operation, OSCE Mission to B&H

### **Activity Description and Contents**

The first two working days were comprised of presentations and case studies done in work-groups and given by the BCSP staff while the third day saw presentations and speeches arranged by the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The working part of the seminar started with the opening address given by Col Kenan Dautović, Commandant PSOTC, H.E. Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski, Director of RACVIAC, BG Ivica Jerkić, Commandant

Operational Command AF B&H, BG (ret) Victor von Wilcken, Director of Department of Security Co-operation, OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina and Mr Denis Hadžović, Director of the Centre for Security Studies, Sarajevo.

This opening remarks session was followed by the keynote speech and course introduction given by Mrs Sonja Stojanović, Director of the BCCP and a speech given by Mr Vlatko Cvrtila, PhD, Associate Professor, Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb, who elaborated a wider picture of the importance and the setbacks of engagement in SSR matters in SEE.

The remaining sessions and the second working day were fully led by BCSAP staff whose presentations were an excellent example of academic approach to SSR matters related to all levels of participation in PSO, further elaborated through case studies and work in groups. That combination, with a vigorous involvement of participants in terms of experience and approaches sharing, produced a well-balanced, high-quality, regionally owned activity. Thus, the seminar met the organisers' original idea – tackling the subject matter from the regional perspective.



Ms Sonja Stojanovic, MA, Director BCSP

The issues addressed were:

- Planning and implementing SSR programmes in the context of

PSO: WoG approach and its limitations,

- Case study: Internal Security Sector Review (ISSR) in Kosovo,
- Integrity and accountability as key facets of WoG approach to SSR: Relative value for the context of PSO,
- Relationship to non-statutory security actors,
- Civil society (organisations) as actors in PSOs,
- Setting an SSR agenda in a post-conflict environment.



Brig(OF5) Hamza Visca, Joined Staff AF B&H

The third day of the seminar was focused on the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina's engagement and experience in SSR activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The issues addressed included:

- The role of the OSCE in a post-conflict environment: the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina,
- Local ownership of SSR,
- Gender aspects in SSR.

The presentation by Col Hamza Višća, AF B&H, is to be singled out for its comprehensiveness and clear experience-driven suggestions and views.

### General impressions and proposals

- Organizers (RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation and the Peace Support Operations Training Centre (PSOTC) brought together the strategic and the operational level of participation in PSO;
- This seminar was recognized as a successful event where the academic and research approach was well balanced with the operational and experience approach;
- To the general satisfaction, gender aspects of SSR were also presented and discussed, attaching additional value to the seminar;
- Participation of high-level, experienced representatives and participants substantially contributed to achieving the main goal of the seminar;
- Since SSR in PSO was recognized as an important issue especially in these hard times of economic and financial crisis, we do hope it might motivate potential supporters to finance such kinds of events in the future as well;
- Providing knowledge and education and connecting SSR and PSO is highly important for decision-making process. Thus, RACVIAC and its partners should continue organizing events of this kind, possibly on a higher level, in 2012. Hereby, RACVIAC takes the

opportunity to propose organizing an activity entitled “Ten years of participation of SEE countries in Peace Support Operations”;

- RACVIAC wishes to thank all its partners (especially Peace Support Operation Training Centre, OSCE Mission to B&H, NATO HQ Sarajevo, Centre for Security Studies, Sarajevo and Belgrade Centre for Security Policy) for taking part in the organization, co-sponsorship and execution of this successful seminar;
- Many thanks go to all participants from different ministries, agencies and institutions from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Slovenia, Serbia and the United States of America, for having taken a productive and an active part in the three-day programme of the seminar. Furthermore, highly devoted, professional and experience-based participation of Mr Ivan Velimir Starčević, Croatian MFAEI, Col Stojan Dimcov, Chief of Staff, JOC, Macedonian AF, Lt Col Dejan Vujaklija, Serbian MoD and Mr James Carr, HQ EUFOR, deserves our special acknowledgement.

Finally, we may say that this seminar served its purpose and can be considered as a good and fertile ground for further elaboration of the highly relevant issue of participation of

countries and armed forces of South East European countries in Peace Support Operations.

1 Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name

It is worth reiterating that this was a pilot activity which proved worth organising because of the vast experience and academic expertise that can be certainly found in the societies and governmental structures of SEE countries.



Launch of a successful seminar

**Drafted by:**

**Lt Col Neven Bajic**  
SSR Pillar, SME

	Drafted by	Language Specialist	PMSSR	Deputy Director	Director
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