



Centre for Security Cooperation

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# Newsletter



**NATO Integration in SEE:**

## **Developing a Common Transatlantic Vision and Future Perspectives**

### **Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector**

# Contents

**Visits to/outside RACVIAC**  
2 - 4

**NATO Integration in SEE: Developing a Common Transatlantic Vision and Future Perspectives**  
5 - 7

**Annual Workshop on Transition of Military Personnel**  
8 - 9

**"STARLINK" Training of Trainers**  
10 - 11

**"Positive Experiences and Examples of the Parliamentary Committees for Security in SEE"**  
12 - 13

**NATO-RACVIAC Conference on Better Management on Defence Resources**  
14 - 15

**Goodbyes & Hellos**  
16 - 17



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## Visits to/outside RACVIAC

### "Guide through Personal Transition"

The Ministry of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina and RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation organized an official public promotional ceremony of the publication titled "Guide through Personal Transition" released in June 2010. The ceremony was held on Friday, June 25th 2010 in the Army Club, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. This solemn event included numerous eminent guests from the respective governmental institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina and international organisations that contributed to execution of the Programme PERSPEKTIVA - programme of career transition support to the separated military personnel of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Mr Sead Muratović, Assistant Minister for Personnel of the Ministry of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Colonel Željko Ceganec, Deputy Director of

RACVIAC addressed the audience during the opening session.

The Guide is one of the direct results of the RACVIAC's Technical Assistance



Project of Programme PERSPEKTIVA implementation support activities that were conducted during the first term in 2010. The entire project is funded by the Kingdom of Denmark, while NATO Headquarters Sarajevo financed the printing of the Guide.

### Parliamentarians from Bosnia and Herzegovina visited RACVIAC

Members of the Joint Committee for Defence and Security of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina visited RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation on 10 June 2010. The delegation, led by Mr Branko



Zrno, Head of the Joint Committee for Defence and Security, was accompanied by Ms Šejla Bektašević, representative of OSCE Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and by Colonel Dragoš Milanković, Defence Attaché of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Republic of Croatia.

The guests were welcomed by Director of RACVIAC Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski and his Deputy Colonel Željko Ceganec. Delegation from Bosnia and Herzegovina also had a meeting with other senior staff members at RACVIAC, during which they were given a brief presentation on RACVIAC's mission, annual programme of activities, and the process of transformation of the Centre's structure completed with the recently signed new Agreement on RACVIAC's legal status. Professor Branko Zrno praised the role of RACVIAC in promoting dialogue and cooperation on security matters in South East Europe, and expressed satisfaction that Bosnia and Herzegovina, as one of the chief beneficiaries of RACVIAC's activities, is gradually becoming a strong partner and contributor to security cooperation in SEE, having gathered considerable experience in this field.

### Command and Staff School of Slovenian Armed Forces in RACVIAC

Attendants of the Command and Staff School of Slovenian Armed Forces visited RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation on Friday 11 June 2010 as part of their study trip to several countries in the region. During their visit to RACVIAC, the guests from Slovenia were accompanied by Brigadir General Alojz Završnik, Defence Attaché of the Republic of Slovenia to the Republic of Croatia. The students were welcomed by Director of RACVIAC Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski and other senior staff members at the Centre. Captain Jože Čebular, national representative of the Republic of Slovenia at RACVIAC, provided the guests with a brief presen-

tation of the Centre – its mission, annual programme of activities, the completed process of Centre's transformation, and especially the recently signed new Agreement on RACVIAC's legal status.



## Visits to/outside RACVIAC

### NATO Partner Nations visited RACVIAC

As part of their participation at the annual Allied Chiefs of Army Staff Talks (ACAST) and Land Commanders Conference (LCC) organized by the NATO Allied Force Command Madrid, the delegates of the Partnership for Peace countries visited RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation on 16 June 2010. The delegates were representatives of Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Switzerland, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan, and they were accompanied by representatives of Croatian Army. Director of RACVIAC Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski and Deputy Director Col Željko Cepanec welcomed the distinguished guests, while LtCol Ewald Keller, Planning & Liaison Officer for Western Europe and International Organisations, provided the guests with a presentation on the history, mission and accomplishments of RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation.



### EMPA Journalist in RACVIAC

European Military Press Association (EMPA) visited RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation on Friday 18 June 2010. This visit was conducted as a part of the EMPA Journalist Tour 2010 to Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Military journalists from Austria, Croatia, Latvia, Norway, Serbia, and Slovenia were led by Colonel Dr Jörg Aschenbrenner. They were accompanied by members of Croatian military magazine "Hrvatski vojnik", headed by editor-in-chief Mr Željko Stipanović.

RACVIAC Deputy Director Colonel Željko Cepanec welcomed the guests from European Military Press Association, while RACVIAC Public Affairs provided the guests with a presentation on RACVIAC.



### Representatives from People's Republic of China visited RACVIAC

Representatives of the Ministry of Defence and Armed Forces of the People's Republic of China visited RACVIAC on 28 June 2010, as part of their visit to Croatian Ministry of Defence. The delegation from China was led by Major General Quian Lihua, Head of International Defence Cooperation Department in Chinese Ministry of Defence.

They were accompanied by Senior Colonel Liwei Wang, Chinese Defence Attaché to Croatia, and by Mr Davor Ćutić, Head of International Defence Cooperation Department in

the Croatian Ministry of Defence. Guests from People's Republic of China were welcomed by Colonel Ömer Faruk Baştürk, RACVIAC Programme Manager of the International and Regional Cooperation with focus on Euroatlantic Integration Pillar.

Lieutenant Colonel Ewald Keller, RACVIAC Planning & Liaison Officer for Western Europe and International Organisations, provided the guests with a presentation on RACVIAC, while guests from People's Republic of China expressed significant interest in the possibility of establishing mutual cooperation.



### RACVIAC on Croatia Summit

The Government of the Republic of Croatia hosted "Croatia Summit 2010 – South East Europe Facing Global Challenges", the fifth edition of an international conference of senior European and North American leaders and key opinion makers, in Dubrovnik, from 9 to 10 July 2010. The Croatia Summit has been held in Dubrovnik on an annual basis since 2006, with the aim to serve as a forum for dialogue between political leaders, having special focus on the integration of the South East European region into European and Transatlantic cooperation structures.

The topics of this year's conference included issues such as economic governance, global security, Transatlantic relations, as well as the challenges and strains that the countries of South East Europe are exposed to due to the global eco-

nomical crisis. The host of this international forum was Croatian Prime Minister Ms Jadranka Kosor, and the list of her guests included high representatives from several European countries, as well as from NATO, EU, OSCE and other international organisations and institutions. The Croatia Summit was also attended by the Director of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski, who used the occasion to engage in a series of talks with representatives of different countries and organizations.



## Visits to/outside RACVIAC

### German Ambassador visited RACVIAC

The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Republic of Croatia H.E. Dr Bernd Fischer visited RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation on 14th July 2010.

The German diplomatic delegation also included Mr Sebastian Jost Bertram Brokelmann, the First Secretary at the German Embassy to Croatia. The guests were welcomed by Director of RACVIAC Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski, RACVIAC Deputy Director Colonel Željko Capanec, and RACVIAC Programme Manager Lieutenant Colonel Stefan Miene, German representative at RACVIAC.

The main reason of the visit of the German Ambassador was the signing of the 2nd part of a Financial Agreement between RACVIAC and Germany for the year 2010. In addition to that, the guests from Germany were provided with a brief presentation on RACVIAC's mission, annual programme of activities, plans for forthcoming period, the completed process of transformation of the Centre's structure and the recently signed new Agreement on RACVIAC's legal status.

During the meeting, it was agreed that the German fundi-

ng will be allocated for activities related to arms control and CSBMs (Confidence and Security Building Measures). German delegation again used the opportunity to emphasize and



praise the role of RACVIAC in the process of stabilization and development of the South East Europe region, and used the opportunity to assure RACVIAC of German intention for an ongoing partnership.

### Deputy Secretary General of RCC visited RACVIAC

Ms Jelica Minić, Deputy Secretary General of Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) visited RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation on 24 August 2010.

Ms Minić met with the Director of RACVIAC Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski, and Deputy Director, Colonel Željko Ce-

panec, and they exchanged information on activities and plans of these two regional organizations.

Since regional security and cooperation are basic preconditions for the development and Euroatlantic integration of all SEE countries, it was concluded that both RCC and RACVIAC, together with other initiatives and organisations in the region, should continue investing a lot of effort to enhance the cooperation and speed up the integration processes.

It was also agreed that mutual cooperation of two Centres, especially in the area of information exchange on current and future activities, will be intensified through regular coordination meetings, with a goal to harmonize common efforts in improving overall regional cooperation and achieving more efficient response to the regional needs.

RACVIAC readily welcomed the invitation of RCC to take part at the donor conference organized by RCC in spring next year, which is expected to gather all key actors involved in regional cooperation and Euroatlantic integration in SEE region.





# NATO Integration in South Eastern Europe Developing a Common Transatlantic Vision and Future Perspectives

Conference Co-Organized and hosted by the Ministry of Defence (MK)

■ Mr Milan JANIĆIJEVIĆ

The Integration process has always been the main instrument for consolidating peace and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area. In line with that, NATO integration has contributed to the enhancement of stability and security of all countries in the mentioned area by: firstly, encouraging and supporting democratic reforms, including the establishment of civilian and democratic control over military forces; secondly, fostering patterns and practices of cooperation, consultation and consensus-building among members of the Alliance; and finally, by promoting good-neighborly relations. In the region of South Eastern Europe, the NATO Integration process has not yet been fully completed. There are still substantial challenges on the path of the Western Balkan countries in completing their accession, which should be discussed, and built on principles of mutual

respect, responsibility and reciprocity.

## Aim

The aim of the Regional Conference was to contribute to the regional security cooperation in Southeast Europe (SEE), since it is an important tool for promoting its Euro-Atlantic integration efforts. The Regional Conference in Bitola offered the countries a common platform for exchange of views and experiences on the mutual priorities and the existing challenges.

## Regional Conference Co-organizers

The Regional Conference was planned, organized and executed as a joint event by the Ministry of Defence (MK) and RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. The Ministry of Defence (MK) undertook the larger burden and fully provided opera-

tional support as the host of the Regional Conference, while the Agenda included all jointly defined objectives, arising from the common perspective and vision of the two co-organizers.

## Venue, duration and participation

The Regional conference venue was the hotel Epinal in the beautiful town of Bitola, from 30 May to 01 June 2010. The Conference was organized as a three-day event, two of which were working days. It included a total of 107 participants: senior level officials nominated by the contributing countries from the Region, diplomatic/defence representatives from NATO HQ and NATO subordinated commands, and regional security organizations.

The Conference was attended by five Ministers of Defence, two Deputy Ministers of Defence, and one State Secretary of Ministry of Defence from the regional

countries, namely: Mr Zoran Konjanovski - Minister of Defence (MK), Mr Arben Imami - Minister of Defence (AL), Mr Branko Vukelić - Minister of Defence (HR), Dr. Ljubica Jelušič - Minister of Defence (SI), Mr Vecdi Gönül - Minister of National Defence (TR), Mrs Marina

globalization is the cause of significant change in international security environment and that for achieving full national security, "state defense" is not sufficient. He stressed that regional threats should be removed through regional cooperation and that all countries in the region should

security dialogue and cooperation, as well as the need to further enhance the Euro-Atlantic integration processes.

The Minister of Defence (SI) Dr. Ljubica Jelušič stressed that Western Balkans and regional responsibilities remain at the top of Slovenia's list of foreign and security policy priorities. The Minister underlined that this year Slovenian regional commitments and priorities are in the process of their reaffirmation, with national strategic documents being approved at parliamentary and governmental level. Thus Slovenia remains a reliable ally, and promoter and strong supporter of the Euro-Atlantic aspirations for the countries of the region. Dr. Jelušič added that regional cooperation is one of the most useful frames for sharing lessons learned, knowledge and experience from the processes of Euro-Atlantic integration and defence reforms. She also mentioned that this kind of events contribute to the regional security cooperation in Southeast Europe (SEE) as an important tool for promoting its Euro-Atlantic integration efforts.

Due to an unexpected and urgent matter, the Minister of National Defence (TR) Mr Vecdi Gönül had to leave the Conference earlier. On his behalf, Ambassador of TR to the MK, Mr Hakan Okcal delivered Mr Gönül's address. The address conveyed the message that Turkey has the desire to contribute to the creation of a new environment in the region, based on common security environment, economic interdependency, high-level political dialogue and multi-cultural coexistence. Turkey pays special attention to the completion of integration of Southeast European countries to the Euro-Atlantic structures. In this respect, Turkey welcomes the latest NATO membership of Albania and Croatia and in the near future, when the name



Pendeš - Deputy Minister of Defence (BA), Mr Draško Jovanović - Deputy Minister of Defence (ME) and Mr Zoran Jeftić - State Secretary, MoD (RS).

### Regional Conference Agenda

The Regional Conference agenda included speeches given by high-level representatives, as well as national presentations, exchanges of standing points and experiences on common priorities and challenges, followed by open discussions. The Conference started on 30 May with a Welcome reception and a visit to the amphitheatre and the ancient Heraclea Lynkestis.

The working part of the Conference opened the next day with a Welcome Address by Mr Zoran Konjanovski, Minister of Defence (MK). The Minister Konjanovski conveyed exceptional honor that with this Conference, the Region confirms its readiness to utilize the regional and bilateral cooperation and professional and personal contacts for the future of regional countries on their path to Euro-Atlantic integrations. Mr. Konjanovski stressed that dedication to dialogue, cooperation and integrations are the biggest investments in the defence, in the national, regional and global stability and priorities. He depicted the Region as a mosaic structure that should be based on mutual understanding and respect as well as mutual responsibility and reciprocity. The Minister also confirmed his country's determination to achieve NATO membership, because this is not just as a national issue, but also part of a much wider process to achieve world peace, security and shared future perspective.

The next speaker, Mr Arben Imami, Minister of Defence (AL), emphasized that

complete their integration to NATO and support regional cooperation organizations. Mr Imami also mentioned other significant challenges to global security that include environmental issues, climate change, and drug trafficking.

The Minister of Defence (HR) Mr Branko Vukelić conveyed in his speech the message that Croatia supports the Euro-Atlantic perspective of South-East European countries, taking into consideration the strong impact of NATO and EU membership on the stabilization processes and security in the Region. The Croatian Minister stressed that the integration of all countries into European and



Euro-Atlantic institutions is the best way to achieve stabilization of the Region. He also underlined the importance of common and harmonized efforts of the countries in the region to contribute to the

issue will be resolved, NATO will be able to invite MK to the Alliance. Ambassador's speech was concluded with the statement that the enlargement momentum should be preserved for the prosperity of the re-

gion and in this regard, Turkey will spare no effort.

The Deputy Minister of Defence (BA), Mrs Marina Pendeš welcomed the idea of organizing this Conference, seeing it as a renewed opportunity for further support to the ongoing efforts of SEE countries in pursuing their Euro-Atlantic integration agendas, as well as the most substantial contribution to promote this part of Europe into the zone of stability and security. In her speech, Mrs Pendeš tried to reverse the perception that South East Europe is a place where peace is an exception and replace it with the proof that this is an area where cooperation is possible and common actions prevail over competing national interests.

The next speaker, Deputy Minister of Defence (ME) Mr Draško Jovanović apprised the audience that Montenegro has started the process of meeting the necessary conditions to access the MAP process and that it has already completed major reforms in defense after gaining its independence by following the NATO standards. He reiterated the views of previous speakers, on the particular responsibility of regional cooperation in the field of defense.

The State Secretary from the Ministry of Defence (RS) Mr Zoran Jeftić was the next speaker to address the audience. Mr. Jeftić pointed out that Serbia contributes to the democratic transformation of the region, insisting on strengthening the regional cooperation, and the introduction of streamlined activities aimed at the consolidation of regional ownership over security initiatives. Mr Jeftić underlined that such events as this regional conference represent a good framework for deepening political dialogue and developing mutual trust. In conclusion of his speech, he said that European and Euro-Atlantic integration of the countries in the region serve as additional guarantees of regional security, prosperity and development. He also said that cooperation means belonging to a common vision, both in the region itself and in the relations with other regions of the Euro-Atlantic area.

Following their addresses in the opening session, the Minister of Defence (MK), Minister of Defence (AL), Minister of Defence (HR), Minister of Defence (TR), Deputy Minister of Defence (BA), Deputy Minister of Defence (ME), State Secretary (RS), and RACVIAC Director participated at a press conference. The journalists asked the distinguished national representatives a variety of questions on the Conference topic, as well as on their national views and standpoints.

Conference Agenda proceeded with the addresses made by Dr. Trajan Goceviski, former Minister of Defence and current Dean of the University “Ss. Cyril and Methodius”, and by Mr Mario Nobilo, Director for Multilateral Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Croatia.

The first session of the Regional Conference addressed the topic “Regional cooperation and mentorship in SEE – contribution to overall SEE NATO integration

Todorčevski, Director of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. Its topic was “NATO in South Eastern Europe: National views, challenges and future perspectives”.



efforts and to regional and global stability”. This session was moderated by Mrs Mira Krajacik, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MK). The following speakers provided the speeches: H.E. Ms Simone Filipini, Ambassador of the Netherlands to the MK; H.E. Mr Ean-Claude Schlumberger, Ambassador of France to MK; Lt Gen (ret) Stergios Papatios, former RACVIAC Director and H.E. Mr Zoran Dabik, Ambassador of MK to OSCE Vienna. Each session had designated time for questions and answers, which allowed the participants to engage in open and fruitful discussions.

The second working day of the Regional Conference started with the second session which was dedicated to the role of NATO in promoting security environment and setting a common transatlantic vision, with the reference to NATO political and military policy in SEE Region. This session was moderated by Brig Gen Branko Drakalski, Military Representative of MK to NATO. Speeches were given by the following speakers: Brig Gen Adam Pavel, Deputy Assistant Director of Cooperation and Regional Division, NATO IMS (presentation about NATO Open Door Policy: Through Partnership to Membership); Dr. Willem Frederic van Eekelen, Former Minister of Defence of the Netherlands; Col Nicholas Kotchine from Military Cooperation Division, JFC Naples (presentation on NATO Integration Procedures and Perspectives); Col Todd Brown, US Defence Attachè in MK; Prof. Dr. Peter Volten, Director of the Centre for European Security Studies, the Netherlands, (presentation on the most necessary reforms and challenges towards meeting the membership criteria); Mr Rohan Maxwell, Head of Politico-Military Div. in NATO HQ Sarajevo; and Brigadier David Humar, SMR/COM NHQS&NAT Director.

The third Conference session was under the moderation of Ambassador Nikola

This session was designed to provide the audience of the Regional Conference with a brief statement and presentation on respective national views, challenges and future perspectives by respective national representatives.

#### **Regional Conference closing remarks**

The Regional Conference provided a successful framework for exchanging of information and experiences on the common priorities and challenges on NATO Integration in South Eastern Europe. The Regional Conference was especially successful in bringing together in one room several Ministers of Defence, Deputy Ministers of Defence, MoD State Secretaries, Ambassadors, Defence Attaches, high-level senior officials and security experts to discuss NATO Integration issues from their national or expert points of view. This Regional conference also reaffirmed the support of RACVIAC to open dialogue among countries in SEE regarding security cooperation, and provided encouragement for the future activities of RACVIAC in that direction.

The Regional Conference was a confirmation that each country from the region is dedicated to dialogue and cooperation, and to integration and security of the entire region. In that regard, NATO Open Door Policy is an essential contributor to the security of the North Atlantic area, which undoubtedly includes the Western Balkan countries. While NATO and the EU are the main promoters and facilitators of regional cooperation, the role of regional initiatives is also crucial, and their work should be complementary and create opportunities for open dialogue, promotion of democratic development and stimulation of regional cooperation, including development of common capabilities and capacities. ■

# Annual WG1 Workshop on Transition of Military Personnel



Hosted by the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Moldova and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova

■ Lt Col Sergiu RAILEAN

Thanks to the Republic of Moldova and its acceptance to host the Annual 2010 Workshop in Chisinau, Working Group 1 was able to continue supporting the regional ownership build-up efforts, introduced and persistently promoted by RACVIAC.

The general purpose of the Working Group 1 (WG1) activities is to enable faster, more transparent and more efficient reform of the regional defence systems in the context of its modernization during the last decade.

In the case of the Annual 2010 WG1 Workshop, the initial objective was the application of the WG1 in-country approach, which implies the display of the most advanced elements of the host country's separated military personnel career transition system. In this particular case, the goal was to provide regional expert support to the initiation of the Moldova's new uniformed personnel career transition programme, together with OSCE Mission to Moldova as the project proponent.

In addition, all WG1 activities involve "real-time support" approach, which guar-

antees the inclusion of the conclusions defined during the previous WG1 activity - in this case a workshop that was held in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Thus, one of the major subjects that were discussed was the social and business networking as a completely new topic that was never discussed before as a specific process and important individual skill required for successful personal career transition based on self-employment.

Similar to previous workshops that included the same subject, this workshop continued to promote the idea that the most significant issue in terms of overall benefit is self-employment. This is equally beneficial for the individual establishing the enterprise, and at the same time, for the national economy through creation of new jobs and the ultimate production of added value. In this particular case, the workshop was designed to provide valuable examples in the area of collective farming as highly interesting type of networking due to the economic structure of the most of the regional countries, which are predominantly agricultural.

The abovementioned served as the starting points for the creation of the corresponding workshop core agenda, which was prepared by RACVIAC.

#### Activity Facilitators

The Workshop was planned, organized and executed as the joint event by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Moldova (Moldovan MoD), and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova (Moldovan MFAEI), who respectfully shared corresponding organizational and financial responsibilities. Moldovan MoD fully provided organizational support as the host organization, while RACVIAC fully provided the Workshop programme concept, which was developed primarily to support the objectives defined jointly and in advance.

#### Activity Venue, Duration and Participation

The Workshop was held from 07 to 09 June 2010 in the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Moldova. It was organized



as a three-day event, two of which were working days.

During the working day sessions, held at the Ministry's Congress Hall, participants had the opportunity to hear presentations and engage in discussions on the corresponding subject matter issues. Besides the opening welcome gathering at the Hotel Codru VIP Hall, the second conference day also included an informal dinner at the Brănești Cellars, hosted by Colonel Željko Cepanec, Deputy Director of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.

Workshop included the total of 29 participants coming from the host country, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Hungary, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia\*, the Kingdom of Norway, and Serbia, together with representatives from NATO and regional OSCE Mission to Moldova, including RACVIAC staff.

### Activity Description and Contents

The Workshop was conducted as a combination of individual presentations, subject matter lectures, group work and open discussions.

The first day of the Workshop included individual arrivals, administrative processing, final coordination of activities and initial welcome gathering hosted by Mr Andrei Popov, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, who welcomed all participants at the Hotel Codru VIP Hall.

The event started with the opening session chaired by WG1 2010 Chairperson Lt Col Grigore Chirica, former RACVIAC staff member and Head of Treaties Implementation Service in J5 Directorate of the Main Staff, National Army of the Republic of Moldova.

Colonel Iure Dominic, Chief of the Main Staff of the National Army, commander of the National Army of the Republic of Moldova, was the first to address the participants. In his welcome address, he emphasized the significance of WG1 joint work during last five years within RACVIAC's domain.

The first working day of the Workshop continued with the Individual National Programme Updates by WG1 country members' representatives. This is the standard element of WG1 Workshop and it includes expert exchange of information on the subject matter field of interest.

The next set of presentations was dedicated to specific subject matter issues and it was opened by Brigadier General (retired) Albert Moinard (FR), senior representative of OSCE Mission to Moldova. The expert expose of the day was given by Ms Nevenka Benić (HR), Director of the Directorate for War Veterans and Members of their Family, the Ministry of Family, War Veterans and Intergenerational Solidarity of the Republic of Croatia, who gave a presentation on institutional support to business networking efforts of former military personnel in Croatia. This was the case study that actu-

ally provided the direct illustration for the Workshop's main subject - business networking in the area of collective farming.

Ms Benić was followed by Lt Col László Oláh (HU), Deputy Head of Human Service Section, the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Hungary. His participation was significant in the context of the fact that this was the first involvement of the Republic of Hungary in the activities of the Working Group 1. His exposition concluded the subject matter expert presentations for the working day one. In addition, RACVIAC activity team: Lt Col Davor Kiralj, RACVIAC Acting Programme Manager for Security Sector Reform Pillar and Lt Col Sergiu Railean, Subject Matter Expert for Base Conversion, introduced participants with the RACVIAC research project on "Defence Conversion Modalities in SEE", which includes joint participation and expert support by the very same Workshop participants who are responsible for the corresponding systems in their countries.

Due to fact that the Annual WG1 Workshop was held in Chisinau, a unique place of culture and history, Workshop Agenda was intentionally designed to provide enough free time for the participants to enjoy cultural and social dimensions of their joint work.

Thus, the Workshop continued in the afternoon with the sightseeing tour, which was provided by Moldovan MoD and finished in the evening with an informal dinner hosted by RACVIAC.

Working day two brought the remaining main workshop contents, which included the main topic lecture and corresponding exercise on development of entrepreneurial skills for former military personnel, primarily focusing on business networking as one of the crucial individual capabilities. Leading lectures and training was provided by Ms Emina Pašić (BA), professional trainer for EU TAC Bosnia and Herzegovina, who provided a combination of presentation, interactive group work and plenary discussion concerning some key aspects of entrepreneurial personality to be developed, based upon market needs and previous experience. Her engagement took the majority of time of the Agenda and included corresponding exercise, which concluded the academic part of the Workshop.

### Conclusions and Recommendations

Annual WG1 Workshop reconfirmed the vitality of the defence conversion programme area, regardless of the time that had already been invested in its elaboration. It was primarily successful in identifying the obvious requirements for the continuation of WG1 activities at the higher levels.

Notwithstanding the individual level of completion, the common view is that all national programmes require further improvements, either if this process considers only the first steps in system creation or the modernization of already esta-

blished systems. After five years of WG1 existence, few of the countries are still at the beginning, while other must resolve the final stage of development toward the integrated transition systems. This year is particularly interesting because Bosnia and Herzegovina began with the execution of its own institutionally integrated programme PERSPEKTIVA, while OSCE Mission to Moldova used the Annual WG1 Workshop as an opportunity to announce that the Moldovan programme would be initiated in September 2010. Thus, the main objectives of the event were fully achieved.

More advance WG1 countries continue to develop their systems by fully applying the modern transition doctrine that RACVIAC introduced four years ago, although there is a clear and present issue of the system sustainability, due to lack of understanding from high management levels.

Presented RACVIAC research project was supported as a joint regional product and there was a clear support to its execution, which could not be possible without the WG1 members' expertise.

More than ever, WG1 members were aware of their own potential for further developments in this field. This was especially visible through their recommendations for RACVIAC's future activities in which they actually reflected our previous suggestions regarding the scope and structure of future WG1 engagements.

Produced recommendations were actually part of the main lecture exercise, and they were as follows:

- RACVIAC as provider of technical and expert assistance;
- RACVIAC should continue to act as platform for exchange of knowledge and experience;
- RACVIAC acts as regional training centre for career transition system in which the regional experts should be engaged as lecturers;
- Sustainability of Individual Transition Systems (without international donations) should be discussed at regional high-level conference and thus support countries' efforts at home;
- Annual WG1 Workshop should be held in the Republic of Hungary;
- Development of common Public Relations Project on Change of Public Opinion on Former Military Personnel as Employees;
- RACVIAC should facilitate regional expert team which can be deployed in other regions with the mission to establish corresponding career transition systems (Africa, Asia, Latin America ...).

It can be concluded that WG1 truly matured in respectable expert pool that can continue to be active primarily through common projects facilitated and funded through RACVIAC. This should be major direction for RACVIAC programme strategy in the period 2011-2014. ■

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

**STARLINK**

# Training of Trainers Course on Security System Reform for South East Europe



In cooperation with the Centre for European Security Studies (CESS)

Co-funded by the Kingdom of Norway and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs

■ Lt Col Sergiu **RAILEAN**

**R**ACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation and CESS – Centre for European Security Studies conducted the “STARLINK” Training of Trainers Course on Security System Reform (SSR) from 16 – 18 June 2010 in Zagreb (Croatia). The Course represented the conclusion of two prior activities – Introductory and Advanced Course on SSR, which were successfully executed as part of overall training on SSR for South East

Europe (SEE) aimed at assisting the countries of the region in developing their own capacity for providing SSR training.

The ToT Course brought together representatives from SEE as well as from other countries where the “STARLINK” Programme was conducted in previous years (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia). All course sessions were mainly conducted by the trainees who thus had plenty of opportunities to act as trainers and apply in

practice the knowledge and skills they had learned during prior courses on SSR.

Another great advantage of this methodology was the chance to see and evaluate the performance of other trainees, in that way learning from each other.

The course was opened on 16 June 2010, with the speeches by Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski, Director of RACVIAC; Mrs Willemijn Van Haften, Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of the Kingdom

of the Netherlands to the Republic of Croatia; and Dr Sami Faltas, the Executive Director of Centre for European Security Studies.

### Course Sessions

The first day of the training was entirely devoted to individual exercises performed by the participants themselves. Each trainee was tasked to prepare and conduct a 10-15 min training session on one of the assigned SSR related topics.

Subsequently, trainers and trainees evaluated each participant's performance. This approach of "learning by doing" combined with the audience feedbacks, helped the participants to achieve significant progress in a short time and understand the essence of an interactive training.

This methodology also helped the trainees to revise the theoretical material from previous training courses and create a friendly and productive working environment where each participant could openly participate in all discussions.

Based on the progress and momentum achieved during the previous day, the objective of the second day of the training was to help the trainees make a step forward towards becoming professional trainers on SSR. Following the same methodology, the participants, divided into groups, were asked to select from a list of suggested topics and methods to design a 3-day training programme on SSR to be conducted in a young democracy. The selected topics or activities had to be paired with an appropriate training method and had to

trainers and participants.

The subsequent assignment helped the participants to familiarize themselves with important aspects of each training which, if not handled properly, may lead to failure to achieve the established training objectives ("running out of time", "death by PowerPoint", "unhappy trainee", "absenteeism and distractions" and "juniors shy to speak"). The discussions that followed reflected these issues

The last day of the training was devoted to the discussion on the very interesti-



ng and important topic "The gender and SSR", which was led by Mr Tobias Pietz, Political Scientist and Senior Researcher, from German Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF).

Following this discussion, the whole audience was once again divided into two groups and tasked to prepare written and verbal course evaluations.

At the end of the course on day three, the participants received certificates endorsed by the Directors of both partner organizations, awarding them the title of trainers on SSR.

from all perspectives. Recognizing the adverse impact of mistakes on the training process, the participants agreed that the key solution lays in the ability of a trainer

to engage the trainees at early stages of the training and to ensure that the above-mentioned problems are identified and prevented from the start.

After this training session, the participants were again split into 2 groups and were asked to develop simulation exercises.

They then played assigned roles within each exercise and discussed the overall performance of each group.

### Summary and Conclusions

1. The interactive approach and problem-oriented content of the provided training, supported by the participants' positive feedbacks, allow us to conclude that the "STARLINK" Programme has proved its usefulness and timeliness for the countries of the region.

2. Thirty-two participants from 12 SEE and other countries, and twelve trainers from various countries and organizations (OSCE, CESS, FRIDE, ZIF, the Netherlands, Germany, Sweden, MoD of Bosnia & Herzegovina) actively participated in the "STARLINK" courses on SSR. Twelve participants have completed the overall training and have been certified as trainers on SSR.

3. The established objectives of this course and the whole "STARLINK" Programme respectively, have been fully achieved. The countries have received 12 fully prepared trainers on SSR as well as training modules and other relevant materials necessary to conduct SSR training at national level. ■



be put in appropriate sequence. The programmes produced by each group were then co-compared and commented by all the



*Parliamentary oversight of the security sector is a recent phenomenon in SE Europe. The implementation of oversight mechanisms started in 1989 in the Western European states with a long democratic tradition, and subsequently in the newly developed democracies in Eastern Europe.*

# Positive Experiences and Examples of the Parliamentary Committees for Security in SEE

■ Maj Dobrislav BILOŠ

Various countries have adopted different systems of security sector oversight, as reflected in differences in legislation and institutions involved. Parliamentary Security Committees have been developed as institutional tools for overseeing the Security Sector activities and their efficiency is directly fenced by their capabilities to work in accordance with the following preconditions: clearly defined constitutional and legal powers, customary practices, resources, expertise, and political will.

The Conference was planned, organized and executed as the joint event by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the Joint Committee for Defence and Security of Parliamentary Assembly of B&H.

The primary purpose of the Conference was to bring together representatives of Parliamentary Security Committees to a forum for comprehensive discussions on parliamentary oversight of the security sector and to stage the base for better standardization in this field in Southeast European (SEE) countries.

## Activity Venue, Duration and Participation

The Conference was held from 27 to 29 June 2010 in the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It included three sessions, which were followed by

questions and answers that encouraged the participants to exchange views and to openly discuss the issues.

The participants and lecturers were representatives from eight countries and six organizations, namely: Albania (3), Bosnia and Herzegovina (5), Croatia (3), Moldova (1), Serbia (1), Slovenia (1) Montenegro (3), the Netherlands (1), NATO HQ in Sarajevo (3), OSCE Mission to BiH (3), DCAF Brussels (1), CESS - Centre for European Security Studies from the Netherlands (1), USAID - Parliamentary Strengthening Project (1) and EUFOR (1).

## Conference Opening

The event started with the Opening session. First to welcome the audience were representatives of two co-organizers: Mr Branko Zrno, Member of Parliament of Bosnia & Herzegovina, Chairman of Joint Committee for Defence and Security of Parliamentary Assembly of B&H, and H.E. Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski, Director of RACVIAC, followed by H.E. Gary D. Robbins, Head of OSCE Mission to BiH and Brig Gen David B. Enyeart, Senior Military Representative/ Commander of NATO HQ Sarajevo.

## Keynote Speeches

After welcome addresses, the Conference participants had the honour to hear

the keynote speech by Mr Zoran Šajinović – Assistant Minister for International Relations, MoD B&H, who presented the current situation and achievements of Bosnia and Herzegovina on its path to NATO membership.

On behalf of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces, Mr Darko Stančić – Assistant Director, Head of Operations SEED of DCAF Brussels, gave the second Keynote Speech. Mr. Stančić identified Authority, Ability and Attitudes as three groups of conditions for a successful parliamentary oversight. He also outlined several areas in which oversight mechanisms and practices need to be continuously discussed and developed in the Western Balkan region. They include the oversight of procurement, intelligence and security services, and the regulation of private security business.

## Session 1 – Civil - Military Cooperation and the Role of Parliament

Dr. Willem Frederic van Eekelen - Member of the Netherlands Advisory Commission on European Integration, Chairman of the Board of CESS, emphasized the comprehensive nature of security today. He said that the traditional division between internal and external security has been blurred and that security and development policies have become more inter-

linked. As the EU Security Strategy (2003) states, no crisis can be resolved by military means only. This emphasizes the need to conceptualize security in a comprehensive manner. Therefore, the oversight of security sector needs to take this comprehensive notion of security into account. Security policy should be treated as any other policy area. In this regard, the government is responsible to reveal, explain and justify all policies in front of the parliament.

Mr Dušan Zoller, Head of Parliamentary Section, OSCE Mission to B&H, discussed the conditions and tools of parliamentary oversight and discussed obstacles and challenges to effective oversight. He emphasized the importance of political will among MPs to oversee security sector. In this sense, he emphasized the role of political parties, which should appoint capable MPs to security committees. Parliamentary committees should have access to and avail themselves of external expertise, by inviting experts from academia and civil society.

GM Bernhard Bair, EU Force Commander of EUFOR ALTHEA, discussed the civil-military relations in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the EUFOR mandate. EUFOR's focus on civil-military relations in B&H is embedded in the capacity and training task which was added to its mandate by the EU Foreign Affairs Council in January 2010, in accordance with which EUFOR will work to develop capacities and standards in the armed forces. EUFOR gradually hands over parts of its mandate to domestic civilian authorities, at the rate at which the latter develop their own capacity.

Mr Ole Hammer, Political-Military Advisor, NATO HQ Sarajevo, presented NATO's defence reform toolkit. The goal of the toolkit for aspiring members and partners is to increase their mutual interoperability with NATO and achieve their participation in NATO operations. He discussed the progress of defence reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina and underlined that one of the key preconditions for the country's membership in NATO is the establishment of an unambiguous civilian command and control of the armed forces.

### **Session 2 - Achievements, Obstacles and Good Practices of Parliamentary Security Oversight Bodies in Performing Their Duties**

First to deliver his address in the second session was Mr Boško Šiljegović – Parliamentary Military Commissioner, Parliament of B&H. He presented the role, objectives and legal framework for establishment of Parliamentary Military Commissioner in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Military Commissioner has permanent access to all armed forces installations and all files and may initiate investigations, notably when complaints from the people in the services (of any rank) are received. Any soldier is entitled to take his

case directly to the Commissioner and is not obliged to go through official channels. These strict regulations make the Commissioner highly instrumental in establishing a balanced relationship between civil society and armed forces.

In his very useful contribution to this Conference, Mr Jan Dirk Blaauw - former Chairman of the Committee for Defence, Kingdom of the Netherlands, currently Associate of CESS, started his presentation with valuable general observations on Parliamentary Oversight. He pointed out that Parliamentary Oversight remains a contested function, which most parliaments are still struggling to develop. It includes techniques and questioning, interpellations, emergency debates, hearings and inquiries, which are all designated to extract information from the government. These techniques reflect the fact that, without full and accurate information, meaningful oversight is impossible.

Mr Igor Tabak - Appointed Member of Defense Committee, Croatian Parliament, a defense analyst from Zagreb, spoke on the system of parliamentary oversight of the defense system in Croatia. The first part of the presentation dealt with history, structure and peculiarities of parliamentary oversight in Croatia – the relevant committees, their development and the role of the appointed members in the Committee on Defense of the Croatian Parliament.

The second part of the presentation was concerned with the actual activities of the Croatian Parliamentary Defense Committee during the two years since its establishment. An analysis of the publicly available session agendas was conducted and commented upon and some problems were highlighted and their possible solutions discussed.

### **Session 3 Lessons Learned and Practical Experiences of Parliamentary Committees Dealing with Security Issue in SEE**

In the third session, moderated by Mr Christian Haupt, Chief of Party - USAID - Parliamentary Strengthening Project, representatives from regional countries presented the practical experiences of Parliamentary Committees dealing with security issues in their respective countries.

Mr Haupt concluded this session with following conclusions and proposals for future discussions at regional meetings of parliamentary committees.

Destruction of Obsolete Weapons and Ammunition. All countries in the region have to destroy significant amounts of obsolete weapons and ammunition, which are outdated, and in case of instable ammunition, they represent a serious threat for the civil population. Different experiences in destroying weapons and ammunition could be shared among the countries in the region. For example, Montenegro is implementing a very successful program and one of the next regional meetings of

parliamentary defence and security committees could be organized on this topic in Montenegro.

Import and Export of Weapons and Ammunition. Trade with weapons and ammunition is closely linked to the problem of obsolete weapons and equipment. Effective import and export legislative regulations and practices should be harmonized in a regional context. Parliamentary committees can play an important role in ensuring that international standards and human rights are not violated.

Demobilization and Reintegration of Military Personnel. Although this problem has been solved in most countries of the region, it remains a challenge to establish comprehensive systems within armed forces to ensure continued training during their service.

Fight Against Organized Crime. One of the major challenges of the region, which requires coordinated efforts of politicians and security forces and can be an excellent example for regional cooperation of parliamentarians. In this context, the cooperation of border police forces could be considered. The new B&H model of Parliamentary Military Commissioner can serve as an interesting example for other countries of the region.

Parliamentary Control of International Operations. International peace operations represent a challenge for parliaments in conducting oversight. Information created in international organizations and operations is not available to national parliaments. Hence, new methods for conducting oversight have to be developed.

Legislation on Parliamentary Oversight. The B&H Parliamentary Assembly and the Montenegro Assembly are considering legislation on parliamentary oversight. Parliamentarians from the region could be interested to share experiences in passing and applying such laws. Also, parliamentarians could share experiences on the formal basis for investigation committees and best practices in conducting a parliamentary investigation.

Parliamentary Oversight over Military Intelligence Services. Specific area of parliamentary oversight, requiring specific methods and exchange of best practices among committees.

Parliamentary Oversight of Defence Expenditures, Budgets - how to conduct oversight over defence expenditures, audits of defence expenditures, procurement etc.

All panelists assessed the three sessions as very successful and useful. The conference was unanimously recognized as an important initiative that should continue in years to come as a permanent forum of parliamentarians responsible for oversight of security sector and thus support required security sector reform efforts at the legislative power level, being a key element of any democratic society. ■

NATO - RACVIAC Conference on Better Management of Defence Resources  
Co-organized with NATO Defence and Security Economics Directorate



# “The Global Financial and Economic Crisis: its Impact on the Management of Defence Resources, Defence Procurement Systems and their Transparency”

■ Lt Col Davor **KIRALJ**

This Conference was a direct result of the successful sustainment of the partnership that was established between NATO Defence and Security Economics Directorate (hereafter NATO DSED) and RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation (hereafter RACVIAC) almost two years ago. Both sides agreed to continue with what was evaluated as a highly successful cooperation series and this year brought together the third NATO-RACVIAC Conference on some even more specific subjects, especially if we look at them in the light of the latest financial trends and security integration efforts of the SEE Region.

All Conference subjects were selected based on the context in which defence resources management systems are facing significant limitations due to the latest global financial crisis and continuation of transition processes. Thus the Conference primarily discussed these extreme terms of operations; development of relevant mechanisms of budgeting, control of expenditures and procurement; requirements of continuous improvements and innovations in the field of management, including process of integrity building within the security systems.

This time, the main emphasis was put

on one of the most critical elements and that is the adequate defence procurement system as the essential prerequisite for the required and transparent force modernization process for the most of the SEE countries. The leading idea remains that the initiated security integration processes for the Region should not suffer from the financial contingencies.

#### Activity Facilitators

Academic and organizational elements were respectfully divided between RACVIAC and NATO DSED. Due to fact that RACVIAC was traditionally hosting the event, organizational support was its responsibility, while development of agenda and invitation of speakers was equally shared.

As stated, both partner organizations were engaged in development of required activity programme within the previously established main objectives.

Thus, the speakers were respectfully provided by NATO and RACVIAC. NATO covered Europe mainland, while RACVIAC introduced speakers from the Region. The Conference itself was designed around four panel sessions chaired in turns between two partner organizations.

#### Activity Venue, Duration and Participation

NATO-RACVIAC Conference on Better Resources Management titled “The Global Financial and Economic Crisis: its Impact on the Management of Defence Resources, Defence Procurement Systems and their Transparency” was the fourth SSR activity in 2010. It was originally planned by RACVIAC to be executed in May, but due to unresolvable timetable discrepancies it was delayed for the end of June. Due to this fact and the fact that the venue was outside RACVIAC HQ, the event itself was highly demanding in terms of its execution.

There was total of 29 participants from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia\*, Moldova, Montenegro, Turkey and United Kingdom, including members of RACVIAC staff, NATO and government and non-government organizations being in direct support to the subject matter field of interest like Centre for European Security Studies (CESS), Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) and Transparency International UK. The event itself had a standard Conference structure and lasted for two working days, during the period from 30

June to 01 July 2010. Due to late Conference closing time and complex traveling arrangements, 29 June, 02 and 03 July were dedicated as the arrival and departure days.

### Activity Description and Contents

Conference was designed with the goal to establish a common platform for mutual exchange of views and experiences on major aspects in the area of defence resources management within the context of building integrity in defence institutions, primarily from the perspective of several NATO member and partner countries in Europe, including SEE region.

The joint work started with the Conference opening during which welcome address were provided by Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski, Director of RACVIAC and Mr Adrian Kendry, Senior Economist and high representative of NATO DSED.

Introduction Session also included keynote presentation given by Mr Davor Čutić, Head of the International Defence Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia. He stressed the issue of MoD budgeting in time of recession, its adjustment in accordance with the changing budget estimates and redefined priorities of capital investments and projects.

The first Conference day included presentations by the eminent experts in the field of defence resources management including relevant transparency issues.

Mr Neil Davies, PhD, Chief Economist and Director of Defence Analytical Services and Advice (DASA) in the Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom, gave presentation on the UK perspective of managing defence resources in time of financial crisis. The main conclusions of this expose go for the continuous reform of the procurement arrangements and contracting (including outsourcing of non-core services as a part of the solution).

He was followed by Rear Admiral (retired) Hugh Edleston, senior defence consultant in Transparency International UK, who concluded the first conference working day. Admiral Edleston talked about various form of corruption in defence procurement and what are the methods to counter them.

The second working day was opened by Mr. Adrian Kendry who thoroughly outlined the implications of the ongoing financial and economic crisis on defence expenditures, providing an insight to possible way ahead.

Next to talk about the specific elements of democratic control over the security sector, including defence procurement was Mr Jan Dirk Blaauw, expert associate of CESS and distinguished former high official in several Netherlands and European parliamentary bodies. The same topic of corruption prevention in terms of legal aspects was successfully discussed by Mr Virgil Ivan-Cucu, Head of Justice and Home Affairs Office in Regional Cooperation Council Secretariat.

Ms Lidija Levkovska from Booz-Allen-Hamilton concluded the second session

with the presentation on prospective of joint procurement programmes in SEE as one of the possible solution for significant rationalization of this highly demanding process, especially in the context of NATO accession aspirations of the Region. Each exposition was followed by intensive discussions, which presents the real value of this conference.

The continuation of the Conference, addressed regional development issues in Defence Resources Management sector with the latest cross-section of the current challenges and possible solutions in the area of defence procurement.

This preview included majority of the RACVIAC's core member countries that were represented by the national subject matter experts. Speakers were as follows:

Ms Elma Vejsiu, Specialist, Sector of Co-

able for the SEE region and its European security integration efforts.

In addition, the Conference enabled perfect benchmark for the up to date evaluation of the regional defence resources management systems by their own proponents, some senior NATO members and supporting non-governmental organizations.

We can conclude that after the third joint event addressing the same core topic of better management of defence resources, NATO DSED and RACVIAC fully managed to establish permanent and regular expertize platform, including possible development of regionally owned joint projects in the near future.

This event primarily elaborated the importance of delicate equilibrium between the processes of building the defence forces' capabilities and democratic control over the



ntract Management, Modernization Department of Albanian MoD; LtCol Taib Karaica, Section Chief, Logistic Department of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina; Major Roman Mikulić, Senior Adviser, Budget Department, Finance and Budget Directorate of Croatian MoD; 2nd Lieutenant Todor Goranović, Financial Operations Analyst in Montenegrin MoD; Mr Anatolie Coguteac, Head of Acquisition Department in Moldovan MoD; and Ms Zorica Stojkova, Advisor for Public Procurement in Macedonian MoD.

### Conclusions and Recommendations

Entire event was unanimously marked as a successful one. It primarily succeeded in being current with the corresponding questions and coping with the latest and most critical challenges in the area of defence resources management.

The main reason for this can be found in the fact that it managed again to involve exceptional forum of experts, enabling unique opportunity for all of them to directly exchange latest experiences and questions in this significant field of interest. In this way, NATO and RACVIAC continue to successfully mediate the creation of personal and professional connections - an expert network that should produce significant long-term results. This is especially valu-

able for the SEE region and its European security integration efforts. It was discussed through the example of modern defence procurement systems and necessity of their transparency, as one of the topics from the entire set of critical issues that was established by the participants during the previous conference held at RACVIAC in September 2009. This set remains to be a primary source of contemporary subjects equally available for future conferences. They are as follows: aspects of armed force modernization and downsizing, offset programmes, joint procurement projects (regional cooperation), workforce development (human capital development), etc. Again, all of these subjects are to be observed through the prism of individual security sector reform objectives and existing limitations. Thus, the issue of continuous development and modernization of defence resources management systems remains one of the key RACVIAC programme areas for the next mid-term period as the crucial element in mentioned security sector reform processes already initiated in the entire SEE region. RACVIAC together with NATO DSED should continue to support this notion with their best. ■

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

It has been great and genuine pleasure to have Colonel Ömer Faruk Baştürk for the past three years. Colonel Ömer Faruk Baştürk served at RACVIAC as Programme Manager of International and Regional Cooperation with focus on Euroatlantic Integration Pillar (former Dialogue and Cooperation Division). Thanks to his extensive professional and international experience and knowledge, Colonel Baştürk made a great contribution to RACVIAC, not only during preparation and execution of RACVIAC activities, but also during the establishment of the Pillar on International and Regional Cooperation with focus on Euroatlantic Integration.

Colonel Baştürk continues his professional carrier in Turkish Armed Forces. We wish Col Baştürk all the best in his future career, since he will be remembered not only as an excellent colleague, but also a helpful considerate friend to all of us.



In July 2010 Major Arjan Gjyla ended his one-year tour of duty in RACVIAC serving as the Subject Matter Expert for Arms Control Treaties. He was a committed member of RACVIAC's Cooperative Security Environment with focus on Arms Control Pillar, working on preparation and execution of many important activities.

All RACVIAC staff have only nice memories of Major Arjan Gjyla, both on personal and professional level. Major Arjan Gjyla will continue his carrier in the HQ of Albanian Armed Forces.



After almost four years in RACVIAC, Lieutenant Colonel Davor Kiralj ended his tour of duty. It has been a genuine pleasure to have him as Subject Matter Expert and recently as Acting Programme Manager in Security Sector Reform Pillar (former Defence Conversion Cell). He generously shared his vast knowledge and experience in the field of manpower and personnel research and development and transition of military personnel. In addition to that, he played a very important role during transition process of RACVIAC, and in the evolution of Defence Conversion Cell into Security Sector Reform Pillar.

Lieutenant Colonel Davor Kiralj will continue his career at the Croatian Military Academy, where he will transfer his knowledge and experience gathered in his four years at our Centre, to new generations of security sector reform experts. We take this opportunity to thank Lieutenant Colonel Davor Kiralj for all his work and friendship during his service at RACVIAC. We wish all the best to him and his family.



After ten years of faithful service in RACVIAC, Mrs Nada Šimić, Member of Service Personnel, ended her professional career. Her professionalism and devotion, as well as her sincere friendship, will be greatly missed by all of RACVIAC staff. Mrs Šimić was known for her energy, enthusiasm and positive attitude.

She has been a member of RACVIAC family from the very beginning of the Centre's establishment and has always had good cooperation and close contact with all her colleagues. Mrs Šimić will take up her well-deserved retirement, but we hope we will see her in the future in and around RACVIAC, since her home is in the proximity of our Centre. RACVIAC staff wish Nada all the best in her retirement days.





## Goodbyes & Hellos

After one and a half year at our Centre, Mr Ivan Mikulić is leaving his post of Language Specialist at RACVIAC. It has been a pleasure to have his expert help in linguistic issues, comprising proofreading of official documentation and correspondence, as well as written and oral translation. In addition to that, he significantly contributed to the creation of regular Newsletter, as well as took care of linguistic content on our website.

Mr Ivan Mikulić continues his career as a translator at the European Parliament in Luxembourg, and we hope that his experience of RACVIAC's international surroundings will prove beneficial at his new post. We take this opportunity to thank him for his cooperation and friendship during the time he spent at RACVIAC. We wish all the best to him and his family in the upcoming challenges.



Lieutenant Colonel Nedim Ulusan was born in Kütahya/Turkey in 1970. He graduated from the Military Academy in 1992 as First Lieutenant and from the Infantry School in 1993.

Lt Col Ulusan served as Platoon Leader in various units subordinate to the Turkish Land Forces until 2000 and as a Company Commander in Military Academy until 2002. Having graduated from the War College as staff officer in 2004, he held staff positions as Staff Officer at Chief of Operations and Training Department of 11th Infantry Brigade, and as Force Development Officer in Plans and Operation Department at Turkish Land Forces Headquarters. After completing his education at the Turkish Armed Forces Staff College in 2008, Lt Col Ulusan was appointed as a Commander of the Infantry Battalion, 51st Brigade.

Lieutenant Colonel Nedim Ulusan will serve at RACVIAC as a Programme Manager of the International and Regional Cooperation with focus on Euroatlantic Integration Pillar. He is married and has one daughter.

Captain Sulo Mustafaraj from the Air Forces of the Republic of Albania has been assigned as Subject Matter Officer in the Cooperative Security Environment Pillar at RACVIAC.

He was born on 29 October 1977 in Golëm, Gjirokastrë, Albania. Prior to joining RACVIAC, Captain Sulo Mustafaraj held a position of Chief of Air-Policing Section in the Air Sovereignty Operation Centre of Albanian Air Forces (ASOC) where he was responsible for coordination between Albanian ASOC, CC-Air Command, Izmir Turkey and NATO's Combine Air Operation Centers 5/7 CAOC-5/7.

Captain Mustafaraj graduated from Military Academy "Scanderbeg" in 1999 and in 2008 he finished Air Traffic Controller School (Tower, Radar Approach and ACC) in Rome, Italy. He lives in Ksamil, Saranda, with his parents, wife and daughter. His hobbies include music, languages, swimming and fishing.



## Forthcoming events

( October - December 2010)

Open Skies Treaty - Aerial Observation Orientation Coourse

24th MAG & Budgetary Meeting

10th RACVIAC Anniversary

The Recent De-mining Processes – National and Regional Approach,  
New Challenges

Towards achieving a substantial reduction in disaster losses:  
Southeast European perspective

Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM) Courses  
(Course I. & II.)

Human Resources Management Course (HRM)

The South-East Europe path towards the EU:  
Progress through reforms and the way ahead

Annual Workshop on Military Base  
Conversion

Strengthening Inter- religious and Inter- ethnic Dialogue  
in South-East Europe

# Photo gallery



Regional Conference on NATO Integration in SEE: Developing a Common Transatlantic Vision and Future Perspectives

Annual Workshop on Transition of Military Personnel (WG 1)



“STARLINK” Training of Trainers

Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector “Positive Experiences and Examples of the Parliamentary Committees for Security in SEE”



*10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*



Centre for Security Cooperation



*“to foster dialogue and cooperation  
on security matters in South East Europe”*