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Russian Defence Attaché visits RACVIAC

On Wednesday May 20th, the Defence Attaché of the Russian Federation to Croatia, Colonel Sergey Molodkov, visited the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in the company of his assistant, Lt. Col Evgeny Polyakov. The Russian delegation was welcomed by RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Branimir Mandić, his deputy Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop and members of the RACVIAC staff.

Colonel Molodkov thanked those gathered for welcoming him and giving him the opportunity to visit the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. He underlined the significance of RACVIAC for security cooperation in South East Europe and thanked the RACVIAC management for giving Russia the opportunity to participate at the Mine Action Symposium held in Biograd, Croatia in late April.



Following a brief introduction to staff members present, the Russian delegation was given a briefing on the work of the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. This was followed by a discussion in which Programme managers spoke about the specific areas of interest within their respective pillars and the main focus of projects to be conducted. Planning and Liaison officers also spoke about their work on enhancing the work of the pillars in terms of relations with other countries and organizations.

In conclusion Colonel Molodkov thanked the staff for providing him with interesting information regarding the work of the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation wishing them all the best in the important work that they do.

The meeting was followed by an office call with Ambassador Mandić. ■

RACVIAC Deputy Director meets with Head of International Military Cooperation at the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia

The head of the department for International Military Cooperation at the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia, Captain (naval) Milan Konjikovac, met with the Deputy Director of the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation on Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop on Tuesday June 23rd. During the meeting cooperation so far between the Serbian Ministry of Defence and RACVIAC was confirmed and an analysis of RACVIAC activities to date was conducted, as well as the contribution of the Serbian Ministry of Defence in the work of the Centre.



Captain (naval) Konjikovac emphasized the dedication of the Serbian Ministry of Defence to regional cooperation, as well as cooperation with RACVIAC, in which Serbia has the status of full member, being the best manner in which to preserve stability and security in the region. Furthermore, he noted that in 2015, representatives of the Ministry of Defence and other institutions in the Republic of Serbia participated in more than 15 RACVIAC activities and hosted two.

Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop underlined the important role RACVIAC plays as a regional international organization, for advancing cooperation and security on the South East European region which is reflected in its 15 years of activity, and in the adoption of its Strategy 2020 in April 2015 at the 33rd session of the Multinational Advisory Group (MAG) RACVIAC.

It was mutually concluded that Serbia is a significant factor to stability and cooperation in the region, as an active participant in all activities and meetings of MAG/RACVIAC. In this sense, the Serbian Ministry of Defence will continue the trend of good cooperation with the Centre for Security Cooperation and be a constructive partner in building trust in the region. ■

OPCW Director General H.E. Ahmet Üzümcü visits RACVIAC

On Monday September 21st, 2015, H.E. Ahmet Üzümcü, the Director-General of the Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) visited the RACVIAC - Centre for Security cooperation. H.E. Üzümcü was accompanied by OPCW Deputy Chief of Cabinet, Aamir Shouket, and members of the the Division for International Security at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, Ms Mihaela Barić - Division head and Ms Ivana Štajcer.

The delegation was received in an office call by RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandić and Deputy Director Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop followed by a meeting with RACVIAC staff.

Opening the meeting with the RACVIAC staff H.E. Üzümcü noted the cooperation between his organization and the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation adding that it can be built upon to do more. He said that he was impressed with the number and scope of activities RACVIAC conducts each year.

Following a short briefing on the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Deputy Director Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop took the opportunity to describe the process of program development within RACVIAC, a process that takes into account the needs of countries in the region and is constantly refined through feedback.

Program manager Colonel Muharrem Gülcan, who heads the Cooperative Security Environment Pillar, took the opportunity to go over cooperation that his pillar has had with the OPCW to date noting also that it could be expanded. Assistant activity manager, Vedrana Djukarić added to this noting that feedback from activities conducted shows that participants would like to see more practical aspects of implementation of the Chemical Weapons Treaty.

Ms Ivana Barbara Blažević explained events taking place in development of the the C-WMD network, while also underlining possible cooperation with the OPCW.



H.E. Üzümcü then took the opportunity to provide the members of RACVIAC staff present with information regarding activities being conducted in two areas: destruction of chemical weapon stockpiles and efforts under way in Syria. He noted that in destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles progress has been significant and by 2020 99% of stockpiles will have been destroyed. Discussing Syria, H.E. Üzümcü noted that the chemical weapons program has been discontinued and production facilities destroyed while chemical weapons have been removed and mostly destroyed.

In conclusion Deputy Director Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop presented H.E. Üzümcü with a RACVIAC medallion and asked him to sign the guest-book.

In his entry into the guestbook OPCW Director-General, H.E. Ahmet Üzümcü wrote:

"I am very pleased to have had the opportunity to visit RACVIAC HQ. Our cooperation over the past ten years has been outstanding. I believe that we should continue to expand our joint activities which will certainly be mutually beneficial. I wish every success in your future endeavours. Congratulations for your fifteenth anniversary." ■

RACVIAC representatives attend Regional Anti-corruption Initiative conference in Chisinau, Moldova

On 28 September 2015, RACVIACs' Deputy Director, BG Zdravko Jakop and LtC Josip Mlakic, Activity Manager from the IRC Pillar, participated in a regional Conference titled „15 Years of Reforms: What Worked Best“, organized on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative (RAI) and National Anti-corruption Centre of the Republic of Moldova.

The conference was an opportunity to review the results of reforms on anti-corruption in South-east Europe during the past 15 years, at the same time celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the RAI.

The conference was designed as a session looking into the main barriers that policy makers from SEE encountered when designing and implementing anti-corruption reforms, providing an opportunity for participants to discuss possibilities to reduce the influence of different obstacles in implementing anti-corruption strategies and plans. ■



German defence attaché visits RACVIAC



The defence attaché of the Federal Republic of Germany to Croatia, Lt Col Janus Kaschta, made his inaugural visit to the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation on Wednesday September 30th, 2015 in the company of assistant defence attaché MSgt Stanko Zupčić.

The visit of German delegation began with an office call to RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandić and Deputy Director BG Zdravko Jakop.

Following the office call a meeting was held with RACVIAC staff. Following a quick introduction the German delegation were given a briefing on the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation which was followed by a discussion.

Programme managers presented the activities within their respective pillars paying particular attention to the exceptional contribution that the Federal Republic of Germany has made to the Centre since its foundation.

Lt Col Kaschta thanked the RACVIAC staff for receiving him and briefing him on activities within the Centre noting that the Federal Republic of Germany will continue efforts to support dialogue and cooperation in the region through RACVIAC. ■

Croatian president Ms Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović refers to RACVIAC in her address to the 70th UN General Assembly



In her address to the UN General Assembly on September 30th, 2015, Croatian President Ms. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović underlined several problems faced globally related to security. In her speech she spoke of global, regional and national aspects of actions that must be undertaken to respond to these challenges.

Among other initiatives she pointed out that the Republic of Croatia is the host nation of the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.

"Croatia is fully committed to promoting peace and stability globally, but even more so regionally. We host the regionally owned organisation RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. This Centre has an important mission in fostering dialogue and cooperation on security matters in South-east Europe, with a focus on harmonising their norms and standards and thus facilitating their rapprochement to the EU and NATO." ■

MAG

33rd Meeting of the Multinational Advisory Group held at RACVIAC

The 33rd Financial and Multinational Advisory Group (MAG) meetings were held at the RACVIAC - Centre for security Cooperation on April 21st and 22nd, 2015, under the chairmanship of Ms Vesna Batistić Kos, Assistant Minister of Foreign and European affairs at the Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs.

Ms Batistić Kos congratulated RACVIAC for 15 years of work in strengthening security cooperation in South East Europe and noted that it was an honour for Croatia to be the host of such a unique organization. She underlined that Croatia supports the modernization of RACVIAC in accordance with modern security challenges as well as the interests and needs of the member states.

During the meetings representatives were provided with latest information regarding the work of the Centre, including a financial report and a report on the status of manpower. Several regulatory documents were adopted as well as a Strategy for the period until 2020.

Representatives also chose a successor for the position of Director currently being filled by Ambassador Branimir Mandić from Bosnia and Herzegovina. As of October 2015 the new director of RACVIAC will be Ambassador Mr. Haydar Berk of Turkey. ■



Defence Resources Management: “Transition of Military Education Systems in SEE II”

10-13 March, 2015

Introduction

This Seminar was the second in line in a series of RACVIAC activities on the Transition of Military Education Systems in SEE which addressed the different aspects of the evolving process of military professionalization in SEE countries. This is a topical issue in the SEE region as a whole and will continue to be so for as long as the countries of the region will aspire to fulfil the requirements needed to become full members of the EU and/or NATO. The Seminar elaborated on such aspects of the ongoing process of military professionalization and its impact on civil-military relations in the past, present and future as are the changes in CMR in the last two decades, contemporary challenges in military education in the world and the ways to resolve them (with national examples in SEE), the Bologna Process (between theory and reality), integration of the military education systems in the public sphere, legal aspects of the



status of the professional military and impacts on the educational system and the future perspectives for military education and challenges in the 21st century.

The Seminar lasted two working days and gathered 33 participants from 11 countries. Presentations and speeches were given by presenters from the Baltic Defence College, Theresan Military Academy, University of Liege, the University of Ljubljana, Military Academy "General Mihailo Apostolski"-Skopje,

Croatian Defence Academy, University of Zagreb and the University of Defence in Belgrade.



33 participants from 11 countries and participants attended the seminar

The event proved to be of high importance for all countries and their representatives in the SEE region, providing an opportunity to exchange experiences and promote further actions in the field of defence systems and enhance mutual understanding and collaboration in the field of military education. The participants and lecturers were very proactive and willing to share experiences and discuss future challenges concerning this important area in view of the Euro-Atlantic integration processes and the current economic and financial context.

Activity Background

RACVIAC and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia have both recognized the importance of the regional approach and cooperation in this highly specific area, where the countries of South-Eastern Europe should together identify present-day and future challenges concerning this important area in view of the Euro-Atlantic integration processes as well as the ongoing economic and financial circumstances. Planned, organised and executed by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, the Seminar was a product of a joint effort between RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia and was conducted on the premises of the Slovenian Military Schools Centre in Maribor, Republic of Slovenia. It began on Tuesday, 10 March 2015 with a Welcome Dinner and spanned the next two working days (Wednesday and Thursday) until its official closure on Thursday afternoon, 12 March 2015.

Participation

Among the participants were the representatives of the ministries of defence and foreign affairs, academics, parliamentarians, experts from military academies and the ministries of defence as well as universities / faculties for Electric Engineering and Computing and social studies. Represented were the Republic of Albania, Republic of Austria, Kingdom of Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Croatia, Estonia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia¹, Montenegro, Republic of Serbia, Republic of Slovenia and Kosovo*.

Activity Overview

The main purpose of this second Seminar on the topic of Transition of Military Education Systems in SEE was to address different aspects of the evolving military professionalization process and its impact on civil-military relations in the past, present and future. On day two of the Seminar a very important topic, which is crucial for the success of the implementation process of the so-called Pooling & Sharing or Smart Defence policies, was tackled in depth. Such interaction and partnership and good cooperation between the representatives of the military education institutions in SEE at the executive level, that has the responsibility for the implementation processes, is of crucial importance for the success of this concept.

Following the participants' arrival on the first day a Welcome gathering and Dinner took place, which were attended by H.E. Ambassador Branimir Mandić, Director of RACVIAC and activity participants.

The working part of the Seminar was launched in the Slovenian Military Schools Centre in Maribor, SI and was opened by Col Valter Vrečar, Commandant of the Slovenian Military Schools Centre, followed by remarks by H.E. Ambassador Branimir Mandić, Director of RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation. Among the guests of honor in the opening part of the Seminar was also Mr Boštjan Hodžič, the representative of the Office of the President of the Republic of Slovenia, who welcomed the participants, stressing the importance of the Seminar topic and wishing the participants a successful Seminar.



Col Valter Vrečar, Commandant of the Slovenian Military Schools Centre, SI

In the morning session of the first working day the participants discussed the subject of European military systems and their integration. Why to Europeanise our officers' education already at a basic level, what are the instruments of this kind of europeanisation, how effectively are these instruments being implemented in the military education and what are the remaining challenges were the principal topics of the first presentation delivered by Mr Sylvain Paile, Senior Researcher at the Department for Political Science at the University of Liege. Col Dr Harald Gell, Head of International Office and Senior Lecturer at Fachhochschule-Bachelor Programme at the Theresan Military Academy in Wiener Neustadt, on the other hand, outlined the Vision of the Operational Aspect of Europeanising the Initial Officers' Curriculum. That there is no longer any dilemma about whether to have closed military education systems or to cooperate with civilian education programmes but to try and reach synergy and develop a joint theoretical background and joint scientific research, adopt the educational system for the generations Y & Z and have a joint degree, was the subject of the presentation delivered by Mr Uroš Svete, PhD, Head of Defence Studies at the Faculty of Social Studies at the University of Ljubljana. Mr Svete's presentation also paved the way for Working Part I of this seminar.



Professor Davor Petrinović, PhD, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, University of Zagreb, HR

Among the topics discussed in it was the new model of military university education in the Republic of Croatia, which has supplemented the former Cadet program and presents a milestone in the development of new Study programs for the Croatian Armed Forces, as stressed by Mr Davor Petrinović, PhD, in his presentation on the cooperation between the University of Zagreb and the CDA (the Government of the Republic of Croatia project). Two study programs have been established so far, Dr Petrinović underlined: the Military Engineering Programme (ME) and Military Leadership and Management Programme (MLM). Though much has been done, there is still a lot of work ahead, stressed the Professor at the Faculty of Engineering and Computing at the University of Zagreb, HR and Coordinator for

¹ Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence. (In accordance with Arrangements regarding regional representation and cooperation.)

the ME Study Program group, before giving the floor to LtCol Metodi Hadji-Janev, PhD, Associate University Professor and Vice-Dean of the Military Academy «General Mihailo Apostolski»-Skopje, who painted a complex picture of contemporary challenges in Military Education. This was followed by Mr Sylvain Paile's expose on «Modelling the European Initial Officers' Education and Training Systems» in which he discussed the proposed, existing models of classification of military education systems in the EU today. This was also the last presentation of the day, which ended with a sightseeing tour of the city of Maribor and a reception, hosted by Dr Andrej Fištravec, Mayor of the City of Maribor, at the «Old Vine House». At the end of day one, the participants also attended the Seminar Dinner, which was hosted by Mr Primož Šavc, Director General, Defence policy Directorate at the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia. On day two more concrete aspects of regional cooperation were explored, such as Euroatlantic integration and confidence and security building measures, starting with a veritable success story, the case of the Baltic states. Mr Augustine Meaher IV, PhD, Dean of the Baltic Defence College outlined the fundamentals of regional cooperation in professional military education through the example of the Baltic Defence College, which is equally owned and jointly managed by Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia, is a regional and multinational institution and combines military and civilian personnel. Modern and future-oriented the Baltic Defence College can be cited as an example of a higher education institution which is ideal for attaché education. Expanding on the forms of confidence and security building measures in the region through cooperation in the field of military education, Col Goran Dikić, Vice rector of the University of Defence in Belgrade, RS in his presentation underlined that these may encompass a wide array of measures: courses organized on a local level, courses organized through the support of the international organizations, joint exercises, exchanging personnel such as students and instructors at military academies, military schools and war colleges, joint projects and publishing of papers, participation in Europe Defence Projects and competition of military athletic teams.



Mr Augustine Meaher, PhD, Dean of the Baltic Defence College, ES

The working part of day two also included national examples in SEE on the transition of the military education systems in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Croatia, Montenegro, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia²,

² Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.

Republic of Serbia and Republic of Slovenia. The latter was given by Ms Mojca Grašič, Advisor for education and training to the Chief of Staff, SAF, stressing the importance of quality as a result of the transition of the military system in the Republic of Slovenia. This was followed by a presentation given by the Vice-Dean of the Macedonian Military Academy, LtCol Metodi Hadji-Janev, PhD, on the future perspectives of military education and their 21st century challenges in a globalized world. These include hybrid threats and modern understanding of security which, among other things, depends on the political system, economic development, cultural perspectives, scientific development and the environment, stated LtCol Hadji-Janev, PhD. Day two introduced the participants to an outstanding example of regional cooperation the Baltic Defence College and some ideas on how to reform our educational systems according to the needs of each specific country in these financially very problematic times. The main conclusion was that SEE countries must cooperate not only in the field of military education reforms but in the area of reform of the economic processes too.

Summary and Recommendations

While participants' proposals related to academic issues included the suggestion to continually meet and share information on military training and education in order to make progress in this area, there were also proposals to make this activity an annual event. Some of the participants also pointed out that RACVIAC may consider sending members of its permanent staff to other events related to this topic in order to avoid possible duplications and having a panel on regional cooperation in regards to military education and the prospects of establishing a regionally-owned Defence College in a five-year perspective.

At the end of the Seminar BrigGen Zdravko Jakop, Deputy Director of RACVIAC also expressed his first impressions and proposals for future work on the substance and issues covered during the two-day Seminar on Transition of Military Educational Systems in SEE, held in the Military Schools Centre of the Slovenian Armed Forces in Maribor, in cooperation with the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia.



Closing remarks by BrigGen Zdravko Jakop, Deputy Director of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation

Brig Gen Jakop once again stressed that the main purpose of the second Seminar on Transition of Military Education Systems in SEE was to address aspects of the evolving military professionalization process and its impact on civil-military relations in the past, present and future, and it was fully achieved.

During the Seminar an important issue, crucial for the success of the implementation process of the so-called Pooling & Sharing or Smart Defence policies had been tackled, he added. Interaction and partnership, good cooperation between the representatives of the military educational institutions in SEE at the executive level, who are responsible for the implementation processes, is of crucial importance for the success of such efforts, BrigGen Jakop underlined.

Deputy Director of RACVIAC used the opportunity to thank especially RACVIAC partner institution and the representative of the Military Schools Centre of the Slovenian Armed Forces Col Valter Vrečar and his team for accepting the responsibility and obligation to support the preparatory part and also the

executive part of this Seminar.

He said that he strongly believes that RACVIAC can serve as the best example platform for regional cooperation in the area of defence resources management with a focus on military educational systems in order to organize such high level events in the future as well. RACVIAC in the year 2016 has an ambition to continue with this project and support the implementation of the so-called EU Pooling & Sharing policy, recognized by NATO as "Smart Defence" Policy in South East Europe, he announced.

Finally, BrigGen Zdravko Jakop expressed his sincere gratitude to each and every one of the participants for taking part in the Seminar. This is recognized also as an unequivocal sign of appreciation for the activities organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. ■

Compiled by SSR Pillar
RACVIAC

Civil-Military Relations: Seminar on Private (Military) Security Companies III

8-10 April, 2015



Abstract

In order to support the promotion and implementation of the standards of the democratic control of the armed forces and the implementation of the new EU Directive on Public Procurement from 2014 in SEE countries, RACVIAC SSR Pillar addressed the issue of private security for the third year in a row.

Initiated in 2013 by the SSR Pillar, this year's event focused on the implementation of international regulation by addressing the topic of private security in national legislatures, the specific national and regional context of private security, as well as the current status and recent developments in the regulation of private security. Additionally, national experiences, lessons learned, challenges and the concerns of the private security industry were addressed during the seminar.

The seminar strove to support the efforts to adopt effective regulation both on the international and national levels and simultaneously provide the private security sector and the state with a comfortable operational framework.

As an international foundation whose mission is to support the international community in pursuing good governance of the security sector, DCAF promotes transparency and accountability of the private security sector at international, regional, and national levels. On this basis, DCAF has partnered with RACVIAC in the organisation of the seminars on private security regulation since 2013.

A vital impulse to continuing the exchange of information among key stakeholders and the interested public in the SEE region was also given by the participants who took also part in last year's seminar.

Activity Background

On the international level, there are two documents that provide guidance and good practices for national regulation of private (military) security companies: The Montreux Document and the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers.

Crucially important in this regard is the national regulation which, under the umbrella of the two mentioned documents, can be called upon when needed and provide a sustainable and effective regulatory framework. While, on the one hand, the seminar discussed the promotion and the implementation of the more effective private security regulations, participants also focused on the implementation of the new EU Directive on Public Procurement from April 2014 in SEE.



The seminar brought together a total of 32 participants from RACVIAC Members, Associate members and experts in the field of Private security

Activity Facilitators

Planned and organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and DCAF Geneva and executed by RACVIAC Centre for Security cooperation on its premises, the event was a successful cooperative effort between RACVIAC and DCAF Geneva. It began on Wednesday, 8 April with a Welcome dinner and encompassed the next two working days. The seminar was officially closed on Friday, 10 April 2015.

Activity Venue, Duration and Participation

The seminar was conducted in RACVIAC facilities for two working days and ended on 10th April 2015.

It brought together a total of 32 participants, including nominees from RACVIAC Member countries AL, BA, HR, MK, RS and TR and Associate member SI, presenters from DCAF Geneva, the Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy, the Hungarian academia, the Kingdom of Spain, the Belgrade Centre for Security Policy, Transparency International Bosnia and Herzegovina and regional experts and entrepreneurs in the field of Private security from the Republic of Slovenia and the Republic of Croatia.



Mr Arnold Kammel, PhD, Director of the Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy

Activity Description and Content

The seminar was opened by Ambassador Branimir Mandić, Director of RACVIAC, followed by introductory addresses given by Ms Anne-Marie Buzatu, Deputy Head of Public-Private Partnership Division, Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), Dr Arnold H. Kammel, PhD from the Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy and Mr Emsad Dizdarević from Transparency International Bosnia and Herzegovina. While Ms Buzatu first stressed that RACVIAC and DCAF were created to respond to similar challenges in the security sector and that they could provide detailed information on regional needs and good practices, Mr Arnold H. Kammel, PhD, Director of the Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy then underlined the fact that the level of P(M)SCs regulation on the national and EU level is never sufficient.



Ms Anne-Marie Buzatu, Deputy Head of the Public Private Partnership Division, DCAF Geneva

He went on to say that what is especially lacking is the absence of any kind of regulation for P(M)SCs working outside of the EU and that the EU should take the leading role in the registration and licensing of P(M)SCs, should the EU MS agree on the common definition of P(M)SCs. Focusing in particular on the regional level, the next speaker, Mr Emsad Dizdarević of Transparency International Bosnia and Herzegovina, said that it is especially important to address this issue in the SEE region, as it is a post-conflict area.

In Session I, entitled "Current Trends and Challenges in the P(M)S Sector" the participants were introduced to the cases of evolution of the deregulation process and possibilities for deregulation of P(M)SCs in the Republic of Slovenia as well as the Controversial Institutionalisation of P(M)SCs in Hungary and, finally, the new research project on "Private Security in the Western Balkans" which was launched last year by DCAF together with the Belgrade Centre for Security Policy (BCSP), Belgrade, the Centre for the Study of Democracy (CSD) Sofia, the Kosovar Centre for Security Policy (KCSS), Pristina, and the Institute for Democracy and Mediation (IDM), Tirana, and which will conduct research on private security in the Republic of

Bulgaria, Republic of Albania, Republic of Serbia and Kosovo¹. The aim of this project, as explained by Ms Franziska Klopfer,



Ms Franziska Klopfer, Project Coordinator, Operations Southeast Europe, DCAF Geneva

Project Coordinator, Operations Southeast Europe, DCAF, was to see how the sector evolves at the national level, who shapes it and how it is regulated and why. In continuation, Mr Sandro Knezović, PhD,



Mr Sandro Knezović, Phd, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Development and International Relations, HR

Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Development and International Relations, Zagreb, HR gave an expose on the priorities in the way forward in regards to the deregulation of the public sector, which is currently facing various challenges. Dr Knezovid stated that the

framework for public-private partnership should be defined by the public sector and that the process in connection to critical infrastructure is at the moment developing in the totally opposite direction of total liberalisation.

Notwithstanding the fact that there are many examples of good practices in public-private partnerships in critical infrastructure protection, the policy recommendations of the Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy similarly call for a more holistic,

all-hazards approach, which is focused on long-term resilience and based on unified taxonomy, metrics and risk management, centralised in a limited number of bodies, inclusive of the cyber-dimension and internationally bounded with clear rules about the role of P(M)SCs, said Dr Arnold Kammel, Director of AIES. After a presentation on the case of the Zagreb airport which focused on the interconnection between Private Security and Public Affairs, the audience was also briefed on the strengthening of implementation and good practices of the Montreux Document (by Ms Anna Marie Burdzy, Project Officer, DCAF Geneva) and the challenges posed in regards to ICOCA (Ms Anne-Marie Buzatu, Deputy Head of Public Private Partnership Division, DCAF). Day two, moderated by Robert Mikac, PhD, Head of Sector for Civil Protection Commander of the Civil Protection of the Republic of Croatia, National Protection and Rescue Directorate, kicked off with a discussion on the new EU Public Procurement Directive, which is specifically aimed at streamlining the bureaucratic process, small and medium-sized enterprises and social clauses in regards to P(M)SCs. Presentations on regulating private security companies were also delivered by Dr Eduardo Cobas Urcelay, Secretary General of APROSER, ES and President of CoESS Working Committee for Social Dialogue. Dr Cobas Urcelay elaborated on the 'do's' and 'don'ts' of selecting private security, specifically the current prevalence of selecting the contractors based only on price considerations which, he said, carries inherent risks of the so-called "race to the bottom" that is noticeable in the EU in the past 4-5 years. Dr Cobas Urcelay outlined that a better balance



Mr Eduardo Cobas Urcelay, Secretary General APROSER, ES

between the relative importance of quality over price is needed to remedy the situation. In the next presentation on the Sarajevo Code of Conduct Mr Emsad Dizdarević of Transparency International Bosnia and Herzegovina made a point of stressing that for best public procurement legislation it is paramount that it be as strict as possible and made as attractive as possible for the clients through using tools and giving proper arguments. Next up was the Q & A session which paved the way towards

¹ This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence. (In accordance with Arrangements regarding regional representation and cooperation.)

Panel 3 Roundtable Discussions on Guiding Questions: National Policies and Regulations, in which the participants were invited to give national presentations related to the national experiences with P(M)SCs in MK, BA, HR, HU, RS and SI. During the Panel, the presenters spoke about the legislation, problems and various other issues in connection to P(M)SCs in their respective countries. In the concluding session, Ms Anne-Marie Buzatu, Deputy Head of Public Private Partnership Division, DCAF Geneva pointed out that in the last 10 years, the perspective in connection to this topic has shifted dramatically from how to ban mercenaries to how to integrate them into society. For quality private services, she added, lines of communication need to be



Mr Branko Slak, President of the Chamber for development of Slovenian Private Security

constantly open. Ms Buzatu also stressed that improvement is needed in the oversight mechanisms that monitor P(M)SCs as well as the effective means to handle disputes specifically tailored for places where the rule of law is not strong.



Dr Robert Mikac, Head of the Sector for Civil Protection Commander of civil protection of the Republic of Croatia

Concluding remarks and future actions

In her concluding remarks, Ms Anne-Marie Buzatu, Deputy Head of Public-Private Partnership Division, Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), pointed out that the discussions in the seminar had shown that:

- considerable progress has been achieved in how PSC regulation is understood and nowadays there seems to be more agreement on how PSCs should behave and how their services fit into the larger paradigm of public security;
- good practices, for example in ensuring quality in state procurement of private security, are emerging in the region;
- oversight mechanisms could still be improved to regularly verify that PSCs are actually implementing the systems and policies that aim to prevent incidents that undermine public security;
- the importance of having effective means of handling disputes and grievances should not be neglected.

Ms Buzatu thanked the organisers of the seminar and ended by underlining the importance for opportunities for dialogue and exchange between different stakeholders, such as this seminar had provided. At the end of the second day of the third seminar on P(M)SCs also Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop expressed his impressions of the substance of the two-day Civil-Military Relations seminar on „Private (Military) Security Companies III“ organised by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in SEE in cooperation with DCAF Geneva. First of all, he thanked the DCAF team of experts, Ms Franziska Klopfer, Ms Anne-Marie Buzatu and Ms Anna Marie Burdzy from Switzerland. He also expressed thanks to Dr Eduardo Cobas, Secretary General of APROSER and President of the COESS Social Dialogue Committee. In continuation, BG Jakop presented his thoughts on the two-day seminar:

- The main goals and objectives of the third seminar on P(M)SCs, as a continuation of RACVIAC mid-term activities, in the year 2013 initiated and started project, focusing on the changes in Civil-Military Relations (CMR) and influenced by the rapid growth of the private (military) security sector, were successfully achieved.
- The first important set of objectives - to attract high-ranking participants, representatives of the highest national authorities and representatives of national regulators (Ministries of Interior, National Associations for Private Security Companies, Chambers of Commerce....) - was fully achieved too. This fact means that RACVIAC, which organised this seminar, has been recognised as a platform for security cooperation, bringing together the representatives of state authorities and managers from private security companies to discuss some sensitive but pertinent issues in the area of CMR.
- It is very important to stress that in this year, this third seminar on P(M)SCs has also been recognised by several PSCs working in SEE as a good starting point to exchange on good practices in the implementation of regulation from the international level onto the national level. The seminar was also significant in that it discussed issues relevant for countries that are approaching or entering full membership

in the European Union and implementing European standards for private security providers in the national legislations of the countries in SEE.

- The second set of objectives (to give national presentations on the National Policies and Regulations, with examples of good practices) was also successfully achieved.
- Besides the aforementioned objectives, one of the main objectives of the Seminar was also to increase the visibility of RACVIAC as a platform for Security Cooperation in South-Eastern Europe, not only in the national security sector but also for National Associations for the development of Private Security Companies.
- Being small nations and operating with limited resources within the extremely difficult post-conflict and current financial and economic crisis environment, an opportunity arose in this seminar to identify some future areas of cooperation where the implementation of higher legal and other standards deriving from the Montreux Document, International Code of Conduct on Private Security Providers and the EU legislation can be implemented in the area of Private Security in South-Eastern Europe in the future. Here,

one must stress the importance of the implementation of the main message from the new EU public procurement directive (2014), and, as a consequence, the reasons behind the process of public procurement reform, which point out the importance of quality over price, and also the following: the establishing of the importance attributed to different categories of quality, the relative importance of specific quality criteria under each category, as well as the scoring of the different criteria in order to determine the "best value" provider.

As has been unanimously expressed by some of the most active participants, it is worth organizing a follow-up event in 2016. RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in SEE is an international organization which will in this year celebrate its 15 Year Anniversary and has assured the participants of the seminar that RACVIAC will do its best to put this important issue in the Programme for the year 2016. ■

Compiled by the SSR Pillar

Proliferation Security Initiative, Table-Top Exercise

*Held at the RACVIAC
15-17 April, 2015*

This was the first event organised within the newly MAG-approved project of the C-WMD Network in RACVIAC whose aim is to facilitate the development or refinement of Countering WMD national strategies and action plans with willing partners in South East Europe.

The C-WMD Network welcomes the support provided by US EUCOM in the planning and execution of the Proliferation Security Initiative event in implementing the project. PSI has a long history in supporting cooperation in the field of counter-proliferation.

The 2015 Table-Top Exercise was a continuation of the successful PSI TTX held in Zagreb in 2013, where participants highlighted the need for developing a legal framework to foster coordination and

interoperability among partners and within nations. They concluded that the best way to strengthen security is by enhancing national measures and cooperating at the regional level. RACVIAC proposes to conduct three events per year to assist nations within South East Europe develop their strategies and action plans. ■



SYMPOSIUM ON MINE ACTION

Organised in cooperation with the Federal Republic of Germany, the Government of the Republic of Croatia - Office for Demining and the Croatian Mine Action Centre (CROMAC).

27-30 April, 2015

Introduction

With this Symposium, RACVIAC is seizing the opportunity to merge again in the framework of a much bigger event "Mine Action 2015" - the Workshop on the Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Ottawa Convention Seminar into one Symposium, supported financially by the Federal Republic of Germany.



RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandić

This Symposium as a whole was conducted as a continuation of the International Symposium and the Equipment Exhibition "Mine Action 2015" series, and was the 12th Symposium in the series, dealing with the topic of cluster munitions in particular.

The purpose of this Symposium was to provide a forum for discussions on security issues in the context of the Humanitarian Disarmament Treaties while focusing on technologies, both those currently available as well as the new and upcoming ones.

The Symposium provided an opportunity for all those involved or interested in mine action to broaden their contacts with the interested parties from both the private and the public sector, on both the national and the international level, by sharing their experiences and problems, both technological and managerial.

The participants (7) came from the following countries: Albania (2), Bosnia and Herzegovina (1), the Former Yugoslav Republic of

Macedonia* (1), Montenegro (2) and Russia (1). They were both senior and junior military officials and civilians dealing with related issues.

The Symposium was conducted with the assistance of three (+1) lecturers: Ms Amelie Chayer (Policy Manager, International Campaign to Ban Landmines / Cluster Munition Coalition), Mr Norman Lizano Ortiz (Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Costa Rica to the United Nations Office in Geneva), Cdr. (GEN) Wolfgang Heuer and Mr Herbert Simon (MoD, DE).



Ms Amelie Chayer, Policy Manager, International Campaign to Ban Landmines / Cluster Munition Coalition

It was carried out as a combination of lectures and presentations, followed by questions and answers, completed by a short discussion. This Symposium was designed with the goal to share expertise, experience and information. The Symposium also provided a favourable environment and atmosphere for valuable and focused discussions.

Execution

The Symposium began on 29 April 2015 with the welcome address of the Deputy Director of RACVIAC, Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop, followed by the opening remarks and a lecture which was given by LtCol Jörg Rauber, defence attaché of the Federal Republic of Germany in the Republic of Croatia, who proved also to be an excellent moderator.

After the opening presentations, the floor was given to Ms Amelie Chayer as the first presenter.

Ms Chayer gave a brief overview of the activities of the ICBL/CMC itself as well as an introduction to the threats that must be fought against. We can find the problem of the cluster munition on almost every continent, with some examples of highly

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



LtCol Jörg Rauber, defence attaché of the Federal Republic of Germany in the Republic of Croatia and BrigGen Zdravko Jakop, RACVIAC Deputy Director

contaminated areas, like Kosovo or Karabakh and the Western Sahara. He highlighted that the 94% of the victims are civilian casualties. Worldwide, there are 55.000 casualties in total. The 40% of the victims are children (where the status is recorded).



Mr Norman Lizano, minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Costa Rica to the United Nations Office in Geneva

The next presenter, Mr Norman Lizano (Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Costa Rica to the United Nations Office in Geneva) informed the participants about the The Fifth Meeting of States parties to the CCM (Convention on Cluster Munitions) and the Costa Rican presidency. The meeting was held in San Jose, Costa Rica, on 02-05 September 2014.

At the end the floor was given to Cdr. (GEN) Wolfgang Heuer (Federal Office of Bundeswehr Equipment, Information Technology and In-Service Support (BAAINBw), MoD, Federal Republic of Symposium on Mine Action Germany), with the support of the expert on the issue, Mr Herbert Simon. The title of his presentation was "Cluster Munitions: Stockpile Destruction."



Cdr (GEN) Wolfgang Heuer, MoD, Federal Republic of Germany

The audience got an overview of the details regarding the destruction facility, the destruction process, the cluster munitions themselves, the financial side (f. e., the total cost of stockpile destruction of DE cluster munitions was ca. 44M EUR!), the destruction technologies and, last but not least, the risks and lessons learned.

Conclusion

According to the feedback received, the participants were highly satisfied with the execution of the Symposium and found it very interesting and very well organized. They appreciated the idea of merging two activities into one, in the framework of a bigger event (Mine Action 2015), which afforded an opportunity to listen to all lectures, take part in the field demonstration and take a closer look at the demining machines and other equipment.

Thanks to the cooperation between RACVIAC and the co-organisers, high-level lecturers took part in this Symposium. Their professionalism and experience, as well as their presentations, were highly appreciated by all participants.

Most of the participants were members of national authorities dealing with relevant issues in their countries and they considered it valuable for their future work.

The participants were highly motivated during the Symposium and they showed deep interest in the subject matter.

This event proved to be a good example of strong cooperation between RACVIAC and the Office for Demining of the Government of the Republic of Croatia and CROMAC. RACVIAC, in cooperation with its partners in this successful event, will continue to promote the issue of the prohibition of mines and cluster munitions with all of the means it has at its disposal. ■

Compiled by the CSE Pillar

CYBER SECURITY

Building a Cyber Resilient Society in SEE

Ohrid, MK
13-14 May, 2015

The workshop „Building a Cyber Resilient Society in SEE" was held on 13th - 14th May 2015 in Ohrid, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*. The event was jointly organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the Military Academy "General Mihailo Apostolski" with the support of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The morning session on 13th May 2015 was opened by Dr Metodi Hadji-Janev, Col, Vice Dean for education and Research, Head of the Social Science Department at the Military Academy "General Mihailo Apostolski", who introduced the keynote speakers.

In their opening remarks the Deputy minister of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Ms Dragana Kiprijanovska, RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandić and the Dean of the Military Academy "General Mihailo Apostolski"-Skopje, Dr Orce Popovski, Col, welcomed all distinguished lecturers and experts from the countries of the



The aim of the workshop on "Building a Cyber Resilient Society in South-Eastern Europe" was to represent a platform for sharing of experiences at the regional level and to clarify the perception of and facilitate a common understanding of the concept of a "Cyber Resilient Society" in the region, beginning from the areas that are really vulnerable and have real potential for possible venues of action.

The event attempted to identify clear cyber security priorities and responsibilities and determine who, when, where and how is responsible for implementing effective cyber security activities in SEE countries.

Besides the representatives of the RACVIAC member countries and the Military Academy "General Mihailo Apostolski"- Skopje, the workshop was supported by the OSCE representative and cyber security experts from respective academic institutions from the region who participated in the workshop too.

South East European region who supported the event by taking part in it as well.

Deputy minister Ms Kiprijanovska said:

"It is our common responsibility to strengthen the legislative framework concerning cyber security and establish institutional mechanisms to permit effective responses and coordinated action on national, regional and international levels. In order to protect cyber space, the coordination of national security strategies, cooperation between the public and the private sector and engagement of all actors must become a high priority".

Ms Kiprijanovska also emphasized the importance of learning how to keep safe our virtual information and how to keep ourselves protected against cybercrime and cyber espionage.

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

In addition, she called for regional and international cooperation in this regard and highlighted the need for common tools and strategies to combat this very serious issue.

At the end, Ms Kiprijanovska emphasized the importance of this meeting and congratulated the organizers for launching this important topic which will be a great challenge in the future.

Ambassador Mandić expressed gratitude to the Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Foreign Affairs for hosting the event. He also expressed his thanks to the Military Academy "General Mihailo Apostolski"-Skopje which was the co-organizer of the conference and the Federal Republic of Germany for supporting RACVIAC in organizing activities related to cyber security.

Referring to RACVIAC mission to foster dialogue and cooperation on security matters in South-Eastern Europe he stated that threats coming from cyber space can easily provoke political and economic instability and, consequently, prevent the proper functioning of the state.

Having in mind the goal of enhancing cooperation on security in South East Europe (SEE) within the regional and broader international framework and ways of contributing to the advancement of the countries in the region on their path towards the EU and Euro-Atlantic integrations, RACVIAC will continue to serve as a platform for policy makers, experts and analysts to identify and discuss solutions and exchange of best practices on issues related to cyber security.

Events such as this one are a good opportunity to promote a transparent dialogue about the various aspects of regional cyber security, based on a common strategic vision, the needs and potentials of the region.

The first day of the Workshop covered the following topics:

- *"Contemporary trends and challenges in cyber security legal, operational and technical aspects"* - speaker: Mr Antun Matija Filipovic
- *"Building a cyber-resilient society by forging a partnership in SEE: Important task for future SEE strategists"* - speaker: Dr Metodi Hadji-Janev, Col
- *"The role of the human factor in cyber threats resilience"* - speaker Mr Predrag Pale;
- *"The importance of national due diligence in efforts to enhance cyber/ICT security in the context of regional and international security OSCE efforts related to enhancing confidence between states in the cyber arena"* - speaker: Mr. Ben Hiller

- *"Technical aspects of resilience in cyberspace with an emphasis on critical information infrastructure"* - speaker: Dr Mitko Bogdanoski, LtC.

Mr Antun Matija Filipovic, representing the College of Applied Science in Safety, Zagreb gave a presentation on the most important trends and challenges when it comes to cyber security. He also used very good examples from the present to illustrate how cyber-attacks can be dangerous and how much damage they can provoke. Mr Filipovic said that today there are four types of cyber-attacks, such as: interruption, interception, modification and fabrication. The perfect targets for those attacks are hardware, software, different data and communications.

In respect of those different types of threats he suggested that today there are various types of methods which serve as protection from these attacks. Among those it is important to mention the two most important protective methods being used today: the proactive method and the reactive method. The first one is about taking actions before the attack was even executed, and the second one is about taking action when the attack has already been launched.

The second part of his presentation focused on the legal aspect of cyber-attacks. He stated that cybercrimes can be divided into five categories: intrusive offences, content related offences, copyright and trademark related offences, computer related offences and combination offences.

The last part of his presentation was aimed at explaining some operational and technical aspects of cybercrimes, which was followed by his conclusions and interesting discussion between the participants.

Dr Metodi Hadji-Janev, Col, Associated Professor of Law, Vice Dean for Education and Research at the Military Academy "General Mihailo Apostolski" and Associated Member of the University "Goce Delcev" Stip focused his presentation on explaining the need for building a cyber-resilient society which can only be created if we have good cooperation between the countries of the region. Mr Metodi also said that the process of globalization has brought about many advances and improvements in all spheres of life but also made our society more vulnerable. So, in order to fully enjoy those improvements and be safe, we need a good system of protection from potential threats. He stated that there is an essential need to invest in cyber security. The first step in that process is to realize that the project is intended to raise the awareness among the countries and show them how important that is.

Col Hadji-Janev concluded his presentation by stating that *"Global Cyber Security Trends urge SEE societies to seriously consider cyber security threats. As we have seen,*

cybersecurity affects societies from different angles and in different ways. Therefore, building cyber resilient societies must be a strategic imperative for the SEE countries' strategists. Cooperation and partnership in achieving the strategic end with cyber resilient societies in SEE is a must for all SEE countries. This cooperation should be built in several sectors across the governance sector. They need to consider sharing of best practices and experience and focus on raising awareness, education and building capacities among the SEE societies".

Mr Predrag Pale, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, University of Zagreb. In his presentation Mr Pale talked about the human factor in different types of cyber threats and methods of protection. It is important to demonstrate how anyone using any type of new technology can be a perfect target for a cyber-attack. So, in order to do that, we need to raise the awareness among people, teach them how to protect themselves, create a culture based on that, impose certain discipline, get the information and the right infrastructure to be ready to protect ourselves at every moment.

Mr Ben Hiller, Cyber Security Officer, who is working within the Transnational Threats Department (TNTD) at the OSCE, reminded the participants during his presentation that all 57 OSCE States adopted the first set of Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) to reduce the risk of conflict stemming from the use of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs). Two UN Groups of Governmental Experts in 2010 and 2013 highlighted the unique role that CBMs can play to enhance transparency, co-operation and stability between States in cyberspace.

The CBMs are practical measures designed to reduce the causes of mistrust, fear, misunderstanding and miscalculations.

The CBMs focus on three principal areas:

- CBMs which allow States to "read" another State's posturing in cyberspace through activities such as the sharing of national views on cyber threats or military doctrines
- CBMs which offer an opportunity for timely communication between States including to defuse potential tensions by establishing channels for rising concerns
- CBMs which promote the exchange of information pertaining to national preparedness and due diligence to enhance national cyber/ICT security.

Active engagement by all OSCE participating States in the CBMs process is essential. This process needs to be supported by the relevant organizations on the regional, sub-regional and national level.

Dr Mitko Bogdanoski, LtC, Military Academy "General Mihailo Apostolski", Associated Member of the University "Goce Delcev" - Stip. Mr Bogdanoski began his presentation by introducing the audience with the newest advancement in technology and explaining how dependent we are on them. The most important consequence of those advancements is the system and networks' vulnerability due to destructive and disturbing attacks which are being launched by hackers all the time. He also explained that the perfect targets for hackers are the governments, the industry and the banks. He stated how today the most vulnerable are the financial and the energy sectors which can suffer enormous damage if they are being targeted by criminals.

Mr Bogdanoski also pointed out how the most alarming fact about cyber-attacks is that terrorists worldwide have started using modern technologies in order to fulfill their goals. The final part of his presentation was dedicated to providing solutions and countermeasures in order to fight the issue of cyber-crime and cyber terrorism.

The second day of the workshop covered the following topics:

- *"State responsibility for cyber operations and capacity of current legal frameworks to effectively regulate malicious interstate cyber activities"* - speaker: Mr Andraz Kastelic
- *"Protecting civilians from activities related to cyber conflicts while respecting the International Human Rights Law principles"* - speaker: Ms Ljubica Pendaroska
- *"Ensuring business and economic continuity in time of insecure cyberspace through building resilience in the economic sector"* - speaker: Mr Krenar Fortuzi
- *"EU anti-botnet platform advanced cyber defense center project"* - speaker: Mr Darko Perhoc
- *"Group work: small project development - Project methodology, objectives, and expectations"- presented by RACVIAC and the Military Academy "General Mihailo Apostolski" - Skopje.*

Mr Andraz Kastelic, Sheffield University of Law. Mr Kastelic' main focus was on explaining the basic cyber concepts in the legal context. He defined very well the difference between a cyber operation and a cyber-attack. He also tried to put cybercrimes in the context of international law and he provided a couple of examples in which cybercrime has been characterized as a serious breach of international law. In addition, he talked about the development of international law in regard to the cyber era. He concluded his presentation by saying that

"cyberspace made the attribution of an unlawful cyber operation orchestration close to impossible. In particular, the modern spoofing techniques have rendered the standards of attribution and proof within the context of traditional international law of State responsibility unattainable. However, as much as it is deemed unlawful to orchestrate a cyber-operation, neglecting or ignoring such an act may rightfully be labelled as internationally wrongful. States are not only responsible for the orchestration of unlawful cyber operations but also for failing to prevent them."

Ms Ljubica Pendaroska, Teaching Assistant at the Faculty of Law at the European University, MK (Corporate security and Crisis management Initiative - C3I). Mr Pendaroska's presentation was based on International Human Rights Law principles in regard to the cyber era and cybercrime. Cyberspace presents new opportunities and new challenges for states and the international community as a whole, while creating policies in different areas of social life, including human rights and freedoms, national defense, security and communication. She mentioned that it is an undeniable fact that cyberspace is not a "law-free" zone where anyone can conduct hostile activities without rules or restraint. Today the international community has been working very hard in order to create appropriate laws and regulations to protect everyone against unlawful cyber operations. But still there remain many other difficult and important questions about the application of international law of human rights to activities in cyberspace - for example, about the implications of sovereignty and neutrality law, enforcement mechanisms and the obligations of States concerning "hacktivists" operating from within their territory.

Mr Darko Perhoč, Head of the Croatian National CERT, made a presentation on The Advanced Cyber Defence Centre (ACDC) and the goals of the project.

ACDC delivers solutions and creates a pool of knowledge to help organizations across Europe fight botnets, and will provide tools and sensors to detect botnet related cyber threats and mitigate cyberattacks on networks, web sites,

end user computers and mobile devices¹.

Mr Perhoč explained in detail the ACDC architecture platform and practical use as well as ACDC and National CERT integration. More information regarding the ACDC can be obtained on <http://www.botfree.eu/>.

Taking into consideration that each country faces its own specific challenges and that they are more oriented towards national approaches rather than looking at the regional dimension, the spirit of working together, supporting and complementing each other should be more pronounced. In this spirit, RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the Military Academy „General Mihailo-Apostolski"- Skopje as partners presented to the national representatives the research project and invited experts to participate in it. The overall idea of research is to provide critical thinking and an analytical approach while addressing specific topics indicated in the document which was presented and delivered to all participants.

Conclusions and Recommendations

This event provided the opportunity for dialogue between the participants about the current situation in their respective countries as well as various aspects of regional cyber security.

They all agreed that National cybersecurity strategies and action plans are good tools and platforms in terms of responding to potential cyber threats and for development of cyber resilient societies.

Also, all participants emphasized that cooperation is of paramount importance for the development of the protective mechanisms as well as the creation of a stable regulatory framework, in order to establish a resilient and diversified society. This includes closer co-operation among the key players in cyber security, involving experts and policy makers including the private sector as crucial elements for establishing a Cyber Resilient Society in SEE.

It was agreed that the outcomes of the research project will be presented for the next event which will be organized in November 2015, and that the results will be used as a reference for further activities. ■

Compiled by IRC Pillar

¹ <http://acdc-project.eu/>

Building Integrity and Fighting Corruption

Zagreb, Croatia
18-19 May, 2015

RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative (RAI), and OECD Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (OECD ACN), in cooperation with the host of the event Ministry of Justice of Republic of Croatia, organized International Meeting on Effectiveness of Corruption Prevention Measures on May 18-19, 2015, in Zagreb, Croatia.

and RACVIAC, proved to be fruitful and brought together in the same room more than 90 representatives coming from 25 countries, 8 International Organizations and 6 NGOs. Mr. Dubravica said that RAI would keep growing and keep promoting partnerships that will contribute towards effective fight against corruption in the region of SEE and beyond, emphasizing this international meeting as an example of successful cooperation in the field of corruption prevention.



The meeting was organized around four important anti-corruption topics:

- the effectiveness of measures to prevent corruption;
- monitoring and evaluation of national anti-corruption policies;
- corruption risk assessments and action plans in public institutions and sectors; and
- anti-corruption assessment of legislation.

Ms. Olga Savran, ACN Manager, OECD Anti-Corruption Division, stated that by carrying out its mission, OECD Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ACN) acts a regional anti-corruption programme of the OECD Working Group on Bribery. Ms Savran said that this event was especially important due to collaboration with RAI and RACVIAC and thus bringing together countries that not always have the opportunity to exchange views among each other.

Mr. Davor Dubravica, Chairperson of the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative (RAI), opened the meeting by stressing out that the cooperation between RAI, OECD,



Ambassador Branimir Mandic, Director of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, welcomed the participants to this event by stressing the opportunity for states from the region and all parties to OECD Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ACN), to use this event for exchange of ideas on issues of mutual concern and to share the lessons learned so far. He pointed out that this meeting was a continuation of what was announced during the Conference held in Skopje on 25 November 2014. He reminded the participants that last year in Skopje RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative (RAI), in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Macedonia organized the Conference: "Trends

and Challenges in Implementing Anti-corruption Strategies". He said that the event had recognized the priorities and needs of the SEE countries in terms of efficient implementation of the Anti-corruption Strategies and Action Plans, with an emphasis on the monitoring mechanisms.

In the context of the conclusions of the last year's Conference, the key ingredients of a monitoring and evaluation mechanism were determined and would be presented in the publication: "Monitoring and Evaluation of the Implementation of National Anti-Corruption Strategies and Action Plans Methodology", shown for the first time in public during this event.

High Level Session: Main Achievements and Challenges in Preventing Corruption

Moderator: **Ambassador Branimir Mandić**, Director of Centre for Security Cooperation - RACVIAC

Mr. Ivan Crncec, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Justice of Croatia, welcomed the participants on behalf of the host country and the Ministry of Justice of Croatia. Mr. Crncec praised the role of OECD, RAI and RACVIAC in organizing this international meeting expressing his satisfaction as a representative of the host country to welcome such a big number of relevant professionals dealing with anti-corruption. He presented the latest efforts of the Croatian government in terms of reforms aimed at improving the effectiveness of the anti-corruption measures. Assistant Minister Crncec finally expressed his gratitude to the participants and organizers and invited all to use this event to learn from each other.

Minister Pawel Wojtunik, Head of the Central Anti-corruption Bureau (CAB), Poland, presented the Polish experience by explaining the organizational structure of the Bureau as a special service which combats corruption in the public and private sector, especially in the state and



local government agencies, as well as fights against any activity which might endanger the State's economic interests. Mr. Wojtunik presented the organization, its structure and historical background. He focused on the links between crime and corruption as two correlated phenomena that cannot be tackled independently. Mr. Wojtunik explained that the CBA is a special service with pre-trial police powers, entitled to conduct: operational activities, investigational activities, control activities, analytical and informative activities (including corruption prevention and information on anti-corruption). In criminal investigation, the CBA officers are entitled to use police powers which may be supported by special measures, such as: operational control, e.g. wiretapping, undercover operations, and technical surveillance.

Ms. Elena A. Panfilova, Chair of the Center for Anti-corruption Research and Initiative Transparency International - Russian Federation; and Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors, Transparency International, emphasized the importance of public - private cooperation, highlighting that events such as this international meeting, which are offering both governmental and civil society representatives to share their views, are very important for the future of the fight against corruption. Ms. Panfilova underlined that, unlike years ago, when all the measures against corruption used to be the same from country to country, from neighbor to neighbor, today we have specific programs built for the specific needs of a country, a city, or a sector. With this approach of tailor-made programs, the fight against corruption is taken to a new level and the effectiveness of the new anti-corruption strategies and action plans must prove to be much higher.

Mr. Marin Mrcela, GRECO President, gave a presentation about the Corruption Prevention measures through GRECO's Experience. Mr. Mrcela started his presentation by stating the objectives of GRECO - to monitor compliance with the Council of Europe's anti-corruption standards, identify deficiencies and prompt reforms and promote and share good practices.

He said that today there are 49 member States to GRECO (awaiting EU soon to join). Further in his presentation, Mr. Mrcela explained more on GRECO's Four Evaluation Rounds done so far and provided some practical real-case examples from recommendations given to states during the different rounds of evaluation. The monitoring of anti-corruption strategies is essential for their implementation and improvement. But, the most important part to implement an anti-corruption strategy successfully is the political will. In his concluding remarks, GRECO's President put a special focus on the role of the

media stating that the fight against corruption without public is impossible.

Mr. Mrcela finished his presentation by raising the question of the importance of education in building new culture in the fight against corruption, asking the participants to think about the issue of when this new culture should start.

Roundtable Discussion:

This session was dedicated to countries' high level representatives who gave their own national experiences on:

- The key measures taken to prevent corruption.
- The key priorities of anti-corruption policies for the coming years.
- How to better assess the outcomes and impact of anti-corruption strategies.

Mr. Mevludin Dzindo, Assistant Director of the Agency for the Prevention of Corruption and the Coordination of the Fight Against Corruption (APIK), Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), shared the BiH experience by presenting the novelties introduced by the Anti-corruption Strategy and accompanying Action plan of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the period of 2015-2019. He highlighted that the Agency faced challenges in the implementation of policies and measures of the 2009-2014 anti-corruption strategy (ACS) and Action Plan (AP).

New approach in preparing the 2015-2015 strategy aims to overcome the identified challenges by being deductive, meaning to go from the general to the specific. First, all obligations from the anticorruption conventions that BiH has ratified, EU standards and best practices in the region in this scope, were identified and enumerated. Second, situation analyses were prepared as a "snap-shot" of the current anti-corruption situation, with major issues that had to be addressed. On the basis of these findings, specific general policies that BiH needs to implement in order to increase the efficiency in the fight against corruption were formulated and specific activities in the AP are created, with defined carriers of obligations and deadlines, indicators for success and financial indicators for their implementation.

Ms. Tatjana Babic, Director of the Anti-Corruption Agency of Republic of Serbia gave an overview of the development of Serbian national strategic documents in the past period with the package of anti-corruption laws harmonized with the multilateral conventions ratified by Serbia. Ms. Babic noted that the new anti-corruption Strategy obligates state authorities and other institutions to take a "zero tolerance" approach, and formulates goals to halt corrupt activities in politics, public finance,

privatization, the judiciary, police, spatial planning and construction, health care and media. The ACA was established as an institution with a strong preventive role that had been lacking in any authority which had theretofore dealt with corruption. Its main objective is improving the situation regarding this area, in cooperation with other public authorities, the civil sector, the media, and the public in general. Among other things, the ACA is authorized to work on development of integrity plans for, and in cooperation with, state authorities in preventive sense. These plans are aimed at reducing and eliminating risks of the emergence and development of corruption. While the Ministry of Justice is the coordinator in the implementation process, the Agency collects information on the experience and obstacles to the efficient implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan and submits a report on this to the Government of the RS. She emphasized that that the monitoring of implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan is under the competence of the Anti-Corruption Agency.

Mr. Idilir Peci, Deputy Minister of Justice of Albania, pictured the Albanian experience by emphasizing the need for comprehensive approach in the fight against corruption as an internationally accepted standard. He pointed out that corruption is a major obstacle to social development and state progress in general, and that corruption is marked as one of the key destabilizing factors for the process of European integration. Further, the new Albanian Anti-Corruption Strategy was explained highlighting the multi-dimensional interventions of the Government of Albania in the fight against corruption. New international cooperation projects are supporting the implementation of the comprehensive national Anti-corruption Strategy and the related Action Plan with a three-fold objective. Firstly, to improve the capacity of public administration, secondly, to increase private sector engagement, and thirdly, to contribute to changing perceptions of corruption, particularly among civil society with a special focus on youth. The monitoring of the ACS and its AP is done on quarterly basis, performed by the National Coordinator against Corruption - NCAC Secretariat based on the feedback from contact point's network. Main goals of the new strategy are: ensuring transparency and accountability through public scrutiny; modernization of procedures, with special focus on improving the quality of service delivery; strengthening inter-agency cooperation by further enhancing proactive investigation; assessing the risks in most vulnerable sectors: health and education; and enhancing prevention of corruption in public administration.

Mr. Driton Lajci, Advisor to the Minister of Justice of Kosovo*, spoke about Kosovo*'s experience in monitoring the AC Strategies implementation. He explained the structure of the latest Strategy 2012-2016 which is composed of seven priority areas: Political Sector; Local Government; Central Administration; Law Enforcement, Prosecution and Judiciary; Public Finances and their management; Public Procurement; Private Sector and Business Environment; and Civil Society and Media. As far as monitoring goes, in accordance with the general and specific objectives established for each priority sector in the Strategy, including both horizontal and vertical priorities of the Strategy, the Action Plan was designed to implement these objectives through specific and concrete anticorruption measures. It consists of specific action-plan objectives and measures, together with tangible success indicators and clear and realistic timelines. When the timelines are indicated as „ongoing", it implies that the progress in such measures is supposed to be reviewed annually, in co-operation with corresponding institutions. Besides the Agency, vital part of Kosovo*'s anti-corruption framework are the Office for good governance, each of the ministries with their own web sites, the public procurement agency, as well as media - press council of Kosovo*.

Mr. Yavor Siderov, Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister for European Policy Coordination and Institutional Affairs, Bulgaria shared the Bulgarian experience by presenting the current situation in Bulgaria in the area of anti-corruption as overhaul in anti-corruption policies. The many changes introduced simultaneously are all aiming at



improving the fight against corruption making it efficient and transparent process. The new five-year national Strategy contains 33 specific measures in six primary

areas, with the fight against corruption at the highest governmental levels a top priority. The other five target areas include establishing an effective anti-corruption system; combating political corruption; preventing corruption in the judiciary, ministry of the interior and supervisory authorities; eliminating "petty" corruption in everyday life; and creating an environment of public intolerance to corruption. Setting up a special body that will look into assets acquired by senior state officials and possible conflict of interests in their decisions is also part of the Bulgarian Government anti-corruption programme. Legislation defining the powers of the new anti-corruption body, which should resemble the Romanian AC agency, should be approved by parliament by the middle of 2015 and It should start operating at the beginning of next year. According to the strategy, by 2020, Bulgaria hopes to be a country where petty corruption is at European Union average levels, high-level corruption does not remain unpunished, anti-corruption institutions work efficiently and have a real deterrent effect, and perceptions and experiences of individuals and companies regarding the level of corruption in Bulgaria are significantly reduced.

Mr. Goran Milenkov, President of the State Commission for Prevention of Corruption of The Former Yugoslav



Republic of Macedonia*, highlighted that the Commission is autonomous and independent in performing the duties prescribed by law and it has a status of a legal person. Responsibilities of the State Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Law on Prevention of Corruption are: Adopting the National Programme for Prevention and Repression of Corruption and Action Plan for its implementation; Adoption of annual programs and plans

* This designation is without prejudice to position on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence. (In accordance with Arrangements regarding regional representation and cooperation.)

for the work of the State Commission; giving opinions on draft laws of importance for the prevention of corruption; Presents proposals to the competent authorities to control the financial and material operations of political parties, unions and civic associations and foundations; On the other hand, responsibilities of the State Commission under the provisions of the Law on Prevention of Conflict of Interest are: Adoption of the State Program and Action Plan for the prevention and reduction of conflict of interest; give opinions on draft laws important to prevent conflicts of interest and checking declarations of interest; review of cases of conflict of public and private interests determined by law; Submitting a report on its work and on the measures and activities undertaken to fight corruption to the Assembly, and to the Government and the media, cooperation with other state bodies in the prevention of conflict of interests. Other responsibilities of the State Commission are: in accordance with the provisions of the Law on Lobbying and in accordance with the provisions of the Electoral Code. Having in mind the setup of the Macedonian legal system for fighting corruption the SCPC is the main body that implements and monitors the AC Strategy and its Action plans on both state and local level.

Mr. Jaroslavs Strelcenoks, Director of Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau, Latvia, spoke about Latvia's experience in Monitoring and evaluation of AC Strategies and Action plans. The Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau of Republic of Latvia (KNAB) is the coordinating body for implementing the national programme. KNAB's strategy for 2013-15 focuses on institutions in charge of significant assets and resources, healthcare, the judiciary, law enforcement, and political party finance. KNAB works in cooperation with the Finance Police, State Border Guard and other institutions. Appropriate standards for the accountability and integrity of elected officials set an example for others, and are a crucial element in preventing high-level corruption.

Mr. Talgar Serikbayev, deputy head of the Preliminary Investigation Department at the Civil Service and Anti-Corruption Agency of Kazakhstan shared Kazakhstan experience by explaining the role of the Agency in Fighting with Economic and Corruption Crimes as the key body responsible for preventing, detecting and investigating different types of economic, financial and corruption crimes. The emphasis is placed on eliminating corruption preconditions and not on fighting its consequences. The key goals of the strategy are: forming an anti-corruption culture; fighting corruption in the public, quasi-public and private sectors; introducing the institute of public control; preventing corruption in judiciary and law enforcement bodies; developing international cooperation in fighting corruption; and monitoring the progress of the programme.

Session 2: Trends and Challenges in Monitoring and Evaluation of National Anti-Corruption Strategies

Moderator: **Mr. Davor Dubravica**, Chairperson of Regional Anti-corruption Initiative

Dr. Tilman Hoppe, anti-corruption expert, presented the Methodology on Monitoring and Evaluation of implementing National Anti-corruption Strategies and Action Plans, published by the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative (RAI).



He also presented the "Ten Principles of Effective Monitoring and Evaluation" which were endorsed by the conference as Regional Standards for effective monitoring and evaluation of ACS & APs. Further on, Mr. Hoppe's presentation focused around three main questions /messages: Message 1: Forget about fancy indicators. Where he explained why there is no perfect indicator and the whole issue over measuring complex social phenomena such as corruption. Message 2: The methodology of monitoring is very easy. And here Mr. Hoppe explained that everything that states should do is easily explained in the ten principles of effective monitoring and evaluation. Yet the human factor and political will are much more complex phenomena that cannot be summarized in a set of principles. And the third message comes as a consequence of what is already said - Message 3: "In monitoring, the methodology is not the main problem, but how it is implemented". With this Mr. Hoppe sent a clear statement for the states in the region and beyond, that the regional platform can do only that much as showing the best comparative approach, but it remains to the will of the individual states to bring any methodology to life by strictly following its principles.

Mr. Ronan O'Laoire, Associate Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer, UNODC, explained the monitoring impact of anti-corruption strategies. He started his presentation by presenting the status of UNCAC in terms of number of parties to the Convention, which is currently raised to 173 states. Also, chapters of the Convention were explained: Chapter II Preventive measures; Chapter III Criminalization & Law Enforcement; Chapter IV International Cooperation; and Chapter V Asset Recovery. Further on, Mr. O'Laoire gave the key elements of an Anti-Corruption Strategy: Starting with the drafting process, through preliminary analysis and diagnosis to actual anticorruption policy plan, and then focusing on effective implementation in order to finish with monitoring, evaluating and reporting. He finished his presentation by putting emphasis on the education, promotion of the implementation and increase in public support.

Ms. Anneli Sihver, Advisor at the Public Administration and Civil Service Department of the Ministry of Finance of Republic of Estonia spoke about design of integrity measures based on indicators.

Ms. Sihver explained the system of Coordination of Civil Service Ethics and the Coordination role of the Ministry of Finance which consists of: organizing work of Council of Ethics for Officials; developing civil service ethics infrastructure; organizing horizontal and organization-specific training courses; elaboration of central guidelines on ethical issues; advising organizations and officials on individual cases; and monitoring state of affairs of ethics via surveys.



Ms. Kätlin-Chris Kruusmaa, Advisor at the Ministry of Justice of Estonia gave a presentation on Estonia experience in monitoring anti-corruption strategy and its impact. She explained that the Ministry of Justice is

responsible for development and implementation of the AC Strategy, guided by the Anti-Corruption Act. The AC strategy for 2013-2020 has three broader objectives: promotion of corruption awareness; improvement of transparency of decisions and actions; and development of investigative capabilities of investigative bodies and prevention of corruption that could jeopardize national security. Speaking of assessment of the Strategy effectiveness, Ms. Kruusmaa explained that the Strategy results will be assessed on the basis of surveys - primarily the questionnaire survey "Corruption in Estonia: A survey of three target groups"; and international assessments and recommendations to Estonia - GRECO, OECD, UN, Transparency International.

Mr. Ruslan Stefanov, director of the Center for the Study of Democracy from Bulgaria, gave a presentation titled: Monitoring Anti-corruption Reforms: experience from Bulgaria and the EU Anti-Corruption Report. Speaking of EU AC Report, he stated that while some states have Strategy and AC agency, others do not. Also, he pointed that some European states see themselves as above the corruption problems that others are facing. On the other hand, when the SEE Regional Anticorruption Report on AC Strategies is in question, groups of sample indicators for particular objectives of the anticorruption strategy / programme are emerging. Group 1 includes indicators for assessment of the implementation progress of specific measures, included in the anticorruption Strategy / Programme. Group 2 focuses on monitoring and assessing anti-corruption effects of strategies / programmes; and Group 3 pays particular attention on monitoring and assessing the ultimate impact of the Strategy/Programme on public service delivery. Finally, Mr. Stefanov gave examples of proposed indicators, including measures in the public sphere: prevention and counteraction of corruption in the high ranks of power; measures in the economic sphere: public procurement and concessions; civic control and cooperation with civil society; assessment of the spread of corruption and the effectiveness of anticorruption policies.

Mr. Zurab Sanikidze, Director of Analytical Department at the Ministry of Justice of Georgia and Secretary of the Anti-Corruption Council of Georgia presented the monitoring and evaluation Methodology of anti-corruption strategic documents through the Georgian experience. Mr. Sanikidze gave an overview of the institutions for preventing and combating corruption in the Georgian legal system. He also presented the structure of the new Anti-Corruption Strategy & Action Plan 2015-2016 and gave overview of their strategic priorities. Speaking of the monitoring process and the monitoring Methodology, Mr.

Sanikidze explained it is accomplished in three stages: 1st stage: progress report and monitoring tool; 2nd stage: focused around the monitoring report; and 3rd stage: the evaluation report, aimed at assessing achieved results and their effectiveness/efficiency as well as analysis of existing situation, identification of gaps and challenges in the Action Plan implementation process.

Mr. Tilek Saiakbaev, Chief of the Corruption prevention policy department at the Ministry of Economy in Kyrgyzstan gave a presentation on measuring effectiveness of anti-corruption measures in Kyrgyzstan. He presented the role of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) as a component of the anti-corruption policy, and a key analytical tool. Mr. Saiakbaev noted that M&E allows the government to specifically measure the success in achieving the ultimate goals in the field of combating corruption and it strengthens the credibility of the state in front of the public by a clear awareness of the results of the implementation of anti-corruption measures. Mr. Saiakbaev also explained the procedure for assessment of the ACS and its stages.

Second day of the event started with the Presentation of **Mr. Valts Kalniņš**, researcher at the Centre for Public Policy "Providus", Latvia, presented Commentaries from countries, representatives of partner organizations on the OECD ACN Thematic Study "Prevention of Corruption in the Public Sector in Eastern Europe and Central Asia". Mr. Kalniņš presented the objectives of the Study and the questionnaires received from governmental and non-governmental parties from 20 different countries. Many common measures and practices can be derived as commonalities and trends, and among them Mr. Kalniņš mentioned: Mandatory or optional screening of (draft) laws; some new sophisticated risk assessment methodologies; usually what is monitored is the output, but not the outcome/impact. Also, institutionalized NGO involvement and monitoring of ACS by NGOs, a lot of training and awareness-raising campaigns whose impact is often unclear, as well as fragmented and limited whistleblowers protection, are commonly found as characteristics of the fight against corruption across countries. Mr. Kalniņš also gave few examples of innovative measures, such as Verification of the implementation of integrity plans with the help of client surveys, and web-based platforms for the elaboration of AC plans in Serbia, as well as thematic evaluation missions on the ACS measures by expert teams which are conducted in Romania. Mr. Kalniņš finished his presentation by presenting examples of well-designed measures such as Single "space" to render public services in Azerbaijan and Georgia, and also by providing a list of selected policy recommendations, which among others included the recommendation to publish budget data online in such detail and form that is relevant and useful for the citizens.

Session 3: Corruption risk assessments and institutional and sectorial action plans.

Moderator: **Mr. Roel Janssens**, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities / OSCE Secretariat



Ms. Nadja Kammerzell, Customs Attaché, Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the European Union, presented the share of revenues collected by Customs as a percentage of total revenues across countries, implicating why customs administrations are therefore particularly exposed to corruption. Ms. Kammerzell presented Legal framework for preventing and combating corruption, as well as the criteria for establishing the corruption risk. Ms. Kammerzell showed example from the so called „Risk atlas" in Germany, as well as the main elements of the internal and external audit. In the end, she concluded that risk mapping is a valuable tool in the fight against corruption. It helps already by preventing corruption instead of being limited to the prosecution of cases. The purpose of risk assessment is to analyze the different working areas with regard to their abstract and concrete risk for corruption, which safeguards are already in place, if these are sufficient or further safeguards need to be installed. Also, often it led to the successful defense and prosecution of attempts of bribery through economic operators.

Ms. Inese Rīta, Senior Investigator at the Financial Police department of State Revenues Service in Latvia gave a presentation about the Latvian experience in Corruption prevention measures in tax service and the results achieved. She explained the main tasks of the State Revenue Service, principles of good governance in the State Revenue Service, and the process of managing corruption risks from Identification of the risk of corruption, through risk analysis and assessment of corruption risk and prioritization, to specific actions and assessment. She also listed the nine different Measures to address the opportunities for corruption, and finished her presentation by listing the Internal rules for the prevention of conflict of interest, such as the "Guidelines for the heads of structural units to prevent opportunities for corruption" and the "Guidelines on the Application of staff rotation in the structural units of the State Customs Revenue Service".

Mr. Valentin Topoloiu, Preventing corruption officer at the Anti-corruption General Directorate of Ministry of Internal Affairs of Romania, had a presentation on Corruption risk assessment in the Ministry of Interior of Romania. He explained the role of the Anticorruption General Directorate and systematically elaborated the scheme of the organizational structure of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Mr. Topoloiu further explained the role of the Anti-corruption Studies and Prognosis Unit, and noted the difference between Risk The probability of a crime being committed and the harm it may cause; and Vulnerability weakness in the regulatory and control system of specific activities and the intention to commit a corruption crime. The Identification and description of risks as well as estimating the probability of risks materializing, assessing the impact, evaluating the efficiency of the measures in place for preventing / controlling corruption risks, assessment of risk exposure and classification and ranking of the risks according to the priority of intervention, were part of Mr. Topoloiu's presentation. He finished the presentation by explaining the types of control measures they employ.

Mr. Audrius Bereišis, Head of Anti-Corruption Assessment Division, Special Investigation Service, Lithuania, presented to the audience the Corruption risk assessment system and achievements in Lithuania by focusing the presentation on aspects of: the corruption risk assessment system, suggestions for eliminating corruption, results of corruption prevention, and as conclusion: what Lithuania has done and what must be done in the future.

Session 4: Anti-Corruption Assessment of Draft Laws and Legal Acts

Moderator: **Mr. Radu Cotici**, Head of RAI Secretariat

Dr. Tilman Hoppe, Anti-Corruption Expert presented the RAI/RCC Methodology on anti-corruption assessment of laws. He started by showing the map of countries that have corruption proofing in their anti-corruption systems. Next, Mr. Hoppe showcased the cycle of anti-corruption assessment of legislation explaining the key elements of the process of proofing, such as the scope of the legislation that is/will be proofed for corruption risks, prioritizing laws, timing i.e. when or at which moment of the legislative process the proofing is done, entity in charge or which governmental body to undertake the assessment, the structure of the report produced, how to ensure compliance with the report findings, and finally online publicity which is giving additional power of the report. In continuation of his presentation Mr. Hoppe provided examples of corruption risks including: regulatory gaps, lack of or unclear administrative procedures, or lack

of procurement procedures. Additionally he discussed the risk categories such as ambiguity which can be ambiguity in language or ambiguity in legal coherence. He finished by explaining the "Ten Principles of Effective Corruption Proofing".

Ms. Yeongmi Kim, Assistant Director of Corruption Impact Assessment Division at Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission, Korea, had a presentation on the Corruption impact assessment system of Korea. Ms. Kim focused her presentation on the meanings and functions of the corruption impact assessment - CIA in Korea, explained the background of the CIA Division, and how to work with CIA, provided examples on the process of selection of the laws to be assessed, listed the corruption-causing factors and finally presented the achievements of the Corruption



impact assessment system of Korea. Ms. Kim explained that the intent behind the legal analysis is to find out and remove corruption-causing factors (CCFs) starting from the beginning of the legislation process. She also highlighted that the adequacy of the burden of compliance is related to the level of costs/efforts which comply with the legal obligations and should be appropriate or else, people would bribe officials. Also, the same applies to the adequacy of the level of sanctions. The level of sanctions should be appropriate, as if it is too lenient, then people do not stop violating, while if it is too severe, people are prone to buying off officials. Ms. Kim closed her presentation by stating the achievements of the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission of Korea

that can proudly state the fact that the corruption impact assessment is easy to start and cheap to operate. Most officials can do it, if trained and they can always get help from experts/professionals of the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission of Korea.

Ms. Maria Popescu, Head of the Legislation and Anti-corruption Expertise Division at National Anti-corruption Center of the Republic of Moldova presented the effects of anti-corruption assessment of laws on legislative process in Moldova. She

started by stating that the National Anti-corruption Centre is a specialized body of the Republic of Moldova on prevention and combating corruption. Talking about the success rate of the Centre, Ms. Popescu stated that within four months of 2015, 203 files were transferred



to the Centre for processing representing 76% of all legislation. In these 203 cases, 448 corruption factors have been found, of which 290 were excluded by the authors which is 65% efficiency. Ms. Popescu concluded by stating that to a certain extent, the success of the National Anti-corruption Centre is much influenced by the fact that the division for anti-corruption assessment of legislation is working with the Office of the prosecution, on operational and investigative activities, with the Service for Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism and the Intelligence Unit. An important factor is that one institution is involved in the prevention of and the fight against corruption. This cooperation gives positive results.

Prof. Mykola Khavroniuk, Centre for Political and Legal Reforms, Ukraine, addressed the attendees explaining the anti-corruption assessment of legislation done by the civil society in Ukraine. Prof. Khavroniuk stated that the purpose of the examinations of the normative-legal acts and draft legal acts is the identification of the factors that contribute to corruption offenses. Examination under the Act may be mandatory or public. Mandatory anti-corruption examination in Ukraine is carried out by the Ministry of Justice, and by the relevant committee of the Supreme Office of Ukraine, as well as by the National Agency for prevention of corruption. Public anti-corruption expertise on the other hand needs the initiative of individuals, associations, legal entities and is carried out by any means other than the budget. The results are

subject to mandatory review by the originator of the relevant act. Talking on the results achieved, Prof. Khavroniuk noted that from November 2014 to date total 102 trained expert opinions were given. In 87% of the bills corruption risks were detected, a total of 670 found. The most common corruption-factors are collisions, latitude of discretionary powers, and Gaps in the rules of substantive law.



Ms. Munira Shoinbekova, from OSCE's Office in Tajikistan, gave a speech focused on the issue how to integrate anti-corruption assessment of legislation into the deeper policy of the state. She also presented a Methodology on anti-corruption assessment of laws produced for OSCE by TI experts joint with governmental representatives and independent researchers. Questioners were used for the creation of the Methodology which is making it to be grass-roots material but still remains a challenge how to implement the Methodology and to actually integrate the anti-corruption assessment in the curriculum of the government institutions. Ms. Shoinbekova noted that supporting the integration of anti-corruption assessments into the legal policy of Tajikistan through methodologies for public servants, and through the creation of an inter-institutional working group, will remain one of the priorities of the Office over the next two years in its efforts to assist Tajikistan in fighting corruption.

Wrap-up session

Moderators: **Ms. Olga Savran**, Manager, OECD Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia; **Mr. Davor Dubravica**, Chairman, Regional Anti-corruption Initiative

During the wrap-up session, all countries and NGOs representatives, speaking in one voice for one entity, answered two main questions asked by the moderators:

1. What is the one thing that they learned, or what left most impressions on them from the conference; and
2. What is the one thing that they think should be in focus for next year's event on anti-corruption.

The International Meeting on Effectiveness of Corruption Prevention Measures ended with the moderators of the final session listing the outcomes of the event and possible next steps, accompanied by big thanks for the host country for the great welcoming and gratitude to the participants for their active involvement in the fruitful discussions during the two days fulfilled with questions, discussions, speeches and presentations. ■

AGREEMENT ON SUB-REGIONAL ARMS CONTROL DAYTON ARTICLE IV - ORIENTATION COURSE

RACVIAC, Croatia
8-12 June, 2015



Introduction

The Dayton Article IV Course was held from 8 to 12 June 2015 in accordance with the RACVIAC 2015 Programme. The Course was organized with the financial support of the Federal Republic of Germany. The theoretical part was held in RACVIAC while the practical part was held in the Republic of Serbia, in the "Boško Palkovljević Pinki" Barracks in Sremska Mitrovica. It was carried out in the "local" language. Simultaneous translation into English was provided for the participants who don't know the "local" language.

The purpose of this Course was to instruct participants on how to successfully perform their duties as inspectors and/or escorts pursuant to the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control and to establish a common understanding of the Agreement in order to foster mutual trust, confidence and transparency during the performance of inspections.

The Course objectives were:

- To inform and educate the participants about the General Framework Agreement for Peace In Bosnia and Herzegovina (Dayton Accords), with a particular focus on the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control, Protocol on Inspection.
- To train the participants in the roles of inspectors and escorts in the framework of the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control.
- To inform participants on new developments since the Agreement was transferred to regional ownership.

The Course was attended by twenty-four participants and

lecturers from five countries and one organization, namely Republic of Albania (2), Bosnia and Herzegovina (5), Republic of Croatia (5), the Federal Republic of Germany (3) Montenegro (4), Republic of Serbia (3) and OSCE (2). They represented relevant Ministries and Agencies, as well as regional Verification Centres involved in the Arms Control Regime of Dayton Article IV.



The Course was opened by the Director of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Ambassador Branimir Mandić and representatives of the signatory countries of the Dayton Article IV Agreement. The Course was conducted with the assistance of five lecturers, coming from Bosnia and Herzegovina (1), Republic of Croatia (1), Montenegro (1), Republic of Serbia (1) and the Federal Republic of Germany (1).

The Course lasted 4 days and it consisted of a theoretical (first three days) and a practical (one day) part, with a debriefing at the end of the practical part. The practical part included a training inspection on a declared site in the Republic of Serbia, in the barracks "Boško Palkovljević Pinki" in Sremska Mitrovica, which enabled the participants, divided into two teams, to practice performing the roles of inspectors, escorts and "OSCE guest observers".

The Execution

The welcome address by Ambassador Branimir Mandić, Director of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation marked the opening of the Course. The welcome address was followed by the speeches given by the representatives of the signatory countries: Mr Momir Brajić, Head of Department for NATO and PfP, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of BA; Mr Kristijan Beljan, Head of Department for defence policy, Ministry of defence of the Republic of Croatia and Col Dražen Božović, Head of the Verification Center of Montenegro. They gave national views on the Agreement and the path each country took in the process. They stressed out the success the parties made through all of

these years, with a final transfer to the regional ownership that occurred last year. Mr Mathew Geertsen, Head of the FSC Support Section, OSCE addressed the participants as well. The FSC Support Section will take over the responsibilities of the closed Office of the Personal Representative of the OSCE CiO for Article IV .

The participants were presented with the following topics:

- Presentation on the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Dayton Accords) and a detailed analysis of Article IV of the Agreement, Protocols on Reduction and Inspection as well as the POET.
- Preparation of a training inspection on a declared site and practical advice about inspection and/or escort duties.

During the practical part, the participants were divided into two teams. Each team conducted a training inspection - one acting in the role of an inspection team and the other in the role of an escort team. The teams carried out the following procedures:

- Preparation of the inspection
- Execution of the inspection
- Debriefing - evaluation of the inspection - lessons learned

The realization of the practical part was made possible thanks to the generous help of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic



of Serbia with whom RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation has always had very good cooperation.

The Course was closed with the remarks made by the Commander of the inspected unit and RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Branimir Mandić, who delivered certificates to all participants and lecturers.

Conclusion

According to the assessments made by the participants, the Course proved to be a successful, very interesting and well organized event. The participants expressed their satisfaction with the topics chosen and considered the Course overall to be valuable for their future work. They all agreed on the necessity of conducting such courses in the future as well with the aim to contribute to the security and confidence building measures in the region.

The lecturers covered the theoretical part of the Agreement in an excellent way. Their professionalism and experience were highly appreciated by the participants.

During the practical part, the participants showed exceptional professionalism in conducting missions both as inspectors and escorts, thus demonstrating a spirit of cooperation and meeting the standards of a real Inspection. The experienced lecturers expressed very positive comments concerning the progress the participants made during the Course. During the next course, as discussed with the experts, the intention is to intensify the practical component of the Course. The participants will be introduced to the theoretical basis through the lectures, but they will be more encouraged to practice the inspection part in order to set out any possible difficulties that they may meet during the inspections in their future careers.

The practical part of the 2015 Course was well organized, much owing to the excellent preparation with regard to the declared site and close cooperation between RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia.

As has been announced, henceforward, each year, the practical part of the Course will be conducted in another signatory state.

In 2016 the intention is to organize the course in Montenegro, in the second half of March. ■

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE REPRESENTATIVES FROM DEFENCE AND SECURITY COMMITTEES FROM SEE PARLIAMENTS - FLOOD RELIEF

Co-organized with the Defence and Internal Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)

Belgrade, Republic of Serbia
29 June - 1 July, 2015

Abstract

On 29th June - 01st July 2015 RACVIAC- Centre for Security Cooperation together with the Defence and Internal Affairs Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) co-organized in the city of Belgrade, Republic of Serbia the Conference "Annual Meeting of Representatives of Defence and Security Committees from SEE Parliaments". The Conference panel topics were selected around previously established Flood Relief topics and based on the RACVIAC 2014 Sarajevo Conference on "Floods in South-Eastern Europe - Lessons Learned and Future Steps". The Sarajevo Conference conclusions included the following key requirements: building capacities in line with the EU Civil protection Mechanism; identifying specific areas of regional cooperation in flood prevention and readiness reflecting the EU Flood Directive; development of flood risk management as part of the integrated risk management system, including its regional level. Due to the fact that these conclusions require an institutional approach based on a clear political framework, the Belgrade Conference agenda was developed to support the established initiative and to identify future steps to be made jointly.

Thus, the Belgrade Conference agenda primarily discussed the following topics: "Flood Risk Management as a Component of an Integrated Risk Management System", "Joint Preventive Measures and Flood Readiness - the EU Flood Directive", "Building Capacities - The EU Civil Protection Mechanism", "Rescue and Protection Operations - Existing Legal Framework and Existing Mutual Agreements on Cooperation - the Way Forward". At the end of the Conference, the Conference Joint Statement (Annex A to this report) was accepted unanimously.

Activity Background

Following the severe floods in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia, Republic of Serbia and Republic of Slovenia in 2014, the European Commission, together with the French Republic and the Republic of Slovenia. Organised on 16th July

2014 the Donors' Conference to support the corresponding recovery efforts. One of the main conclusions of the Conference was the necessity of improving existing flood relief policies and regional coordination mechanisms. Close cooperation on these matters among the SEE countries has become imperative in order to ensure internal and cross-border action in flood mitigation management and disaster reduction and, thus, minimize the potential consequences on human security and well-being.

The Conference is a continuation of the traditional RACVIAC series of annual meetings of representatives of defence and security committees from SEE Parliaments



Conference Group Photo
The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, 30th June 2015

This 2015 Annual Meeting of the Representatives of Defence and Security Committees from SEE Parliaments, organized in partnership with the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia and in cooperation with and support from DCAF - the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces, represented an extension of these conclusions and addressed the identified topics in order to improve regional cooperation on disaster relief capacities, with a focus on flood prevention. Additionally, and, according to the minutes of the RACVIAC Sarajevo 2014 Conference on "Floods in South-Eastern Europe - Lessons Learned and Future Steps", the Belgrade Conference topics were handpicked in order to directly support a required unity of efforts, this time at the political level.

Activity Facilitators

Provision of expertise and overall organization were respectfully divided between RACVIAC as the Conference proponent and the supporting partners. All parties were at certain point included in organizational support, development of the agenda and speakers' invitations.

RACVIAC developed and presented an initial activity concept and corresponding programme to the remaining parties, which was then additionally improved through direct consultations.

Thus, all partner organizations were constantly engaged in the development of the event in line with the previously agreed and established main objectives.

The Conference itself was designed around four panel sessions chaired in turns by the leading representatives of the three partner organizations.

Mutual partnership between RACVIAC, the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia and DCAF Geneva was successfully utilized for the preparation and execution of this event, including the presence of the required versatile Subject Matter Experts



Conference opening - Welcome Addresses

(Starting from left)

Ms Teodora FUIOR, (addressing) Project Coordinator, Operations Southeast Europe, the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)

Ms Marija OBRADOVIC, Chairwoman, Defence and Internal Affairs Committee, the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia - Welcome Address

BG Zdravko JAKOP, MSc, Deputy Director, RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation - Welcome Address

Mr Ivan BARAS, Assistant Head of Sector for Emergency Management - Head of International Cooperation, the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia - Conference opening keynote speaker

Activity Venue, Duration and Participation

This was the fifth SSR 2015 Programme activity, originally planned to be executed by RACVIAC in May, but due to intensive activities of some of the parliamentary defence and security committees delayed for the end of June.

In total 45 participants from the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**, Montenegro, the Republic of Serbia, the Republic of Slovenia, and Kosovo*, including subject matter experts, members of RACVIAC and DCAF staff took part in the Conference.

The event itself had a standard Conference structure and lasted three working days, from 29th June to 01st July 2015.

Activity Description and Content

The Annual Meeting of Representatives of Defence and Security Committees from SEE Parliaments 2015 was organized around the Flood Relief topic, unanimously suggested by the parliament members at the previous joint annual meeting held in 2014 in RACVIAC, Rakitje, the Republic of Croatia.

The Conference was designed with the goal to provide members of SEE parliaments with the clear common understanding of the most important issues to be resolved in order to have efficient and effective flood prevention, preparedness, protection and relief systems, both at the national and the regional levels.

The joint work started on 29th June with the Conference opening during which welcome addresses were given by:

- Ms Marija Obradović, Chairwoman of the Defence and Internal Affairs Committee, the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia and host of the event;
- Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop, MSc, Deputy Director of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, and
- Ms Teodora Fuior, Project Coordinator of Operations in Southeast Europe, the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF).

This first working day was concluded with the Conference keynote speech, given by Mr Ivan Baras, Assistant Head of Sector for Emergency Management and Head of International Cooperation in the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia.

the Introductory Session opened the second day of the Conference. It included keynote presentations given by Mr Samir Agić, PhD, Assistant Minister and Head of the Protection and Rescue Sector within the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The main purpose of his exposé was to provide a necessary introduction to the main conference subject due to the fact that the entire event was developed around the 2014 Sarajevo conference conclusions and how the political level of decision-making can influence these processes.

The importance of flood prevention is unquestionable - Parliaments can and must support the provision of sufficient resources, financial, human and material ones primarily



Conference Introductory Exposé

Mr Samir AGIĆ, PhD, Assistant Minister - Head of Protection and Rescue Sector, the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina

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Ms Agić's presentation was immediately followed by the first panel on Flood Risk Management as a component of Integrated Risk Management System. It must be stressed here that all panels were designed as "parliamentary hearings" or, in other words, that each panel started with corresponding subject matter presentations after which participants had an opportunity to ask questions on specific topics of their interest. Panel I included a presentation by Mr Martin Angelmaier, Deputy Head of Department of Water Management in the Government of the Lower Austria, as an excellent example of well-arranged integrated system development following the experience of the Danube floods in 2013. The same topic on flood risk management was delivered by Col Katarina Štrbac from the Institute for Strategic Studies, the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia, who talked about Serbian military activities during the 2014 floods.



Subject Matter Expert Presentations - Panel I

(Starting from left)

BG Zdravko JAKOP, Deputy Director, RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation - panel I moderator

Mr Martin ANGELMAIER, Department of Water management, Government of the Lower Austria - keynote speaker

Col Katarina ŠTRBAC, PhD, Institute for Strategic Research, the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia - keynote speaker

Panel II spanned the topic of Joint Preventive Measures and Flood Readiness, primarily the importance of integration of the EU Flood Directive provisions. This panel was covered by two eminent officials: Mr Dražen Kurečić, Assistant Minister and Head of the Water Economy Department, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Croatia and Mr Dejan Komatina, PhD, Secretary of the International Sava River Basin Commission.

Specific areas of regional cooperation in joint flood prevention and readiness should reflect the EU Flood Directive and Water Framework Directive

Panel III was dedicated to the important process of Building Capacities within the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. An introduction to this topic was given by Lt Col Stjepan Domjančić, PhD, Head of the Defence Planning Service, Sector for Defence Policy and Planning, Defence Policy Directorate, the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia, who delivered a comprehensive exposé on the role of the military in emergencies, entitled: "Why Disasters have Become Militarized in Modern Times?"

Future efforts in building capacities should consider EU Civil Protection Mechanism (new EU model) and primarily include consolidation of regulations, adjustment of climate change and environmental protection policies, achievement of higher level of effectiveness and efficiency, etc., including intrastate and regional cooperation



Subject Matter Expert Presentations - Panel II

(Starting from left)

Mr Dejan KOMATINA, PhD, Secretary, the International Sava River Basin Commission - keynote speaker

Ms Marija OBRADOVIĆ, Chairwoman, Defence and Internal Affairs Committee, the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia - panel II moderator

Mr Dražen KUREČIĆ, Assistant Minister, Water Economy Department, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Croatia - keynote speaker



Subject Matter Expert Presentations - Panel III

(Starting from left)

Lt Col Stjepan DOMJANČIĆ, PhD, Head of the Defence Planning Service, Sector for Defence Policy and Planning, Defence Policy Directorate, the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia - keynote speaker

Ms Teodora FUIJOR, Project Coordinator, Operations Southeast Europe, the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)

Mr Branko KROMAR, MSc, (speaking) Programme Manager, RACVIAC SSR Pillar - panel III moderator

The final panel brought an opportunity for the Conference participants to discuss modalities of Rescue and Protection Operations within the context of the Existing Legal Framework and Existing Mutual Agreements on Cooperation.

Subject presentations in this round table were provided by Ms Sandra Nedeljković, Deputy Director of the Flood Affected Areas Assistance and Rehabilitation Office of the Republic of Serbia and Mr Jože Papež, MSc, Head of Development and Projects in Hidrotehnik d.d., Republic of Slovenia.

The main outcome of this panel was the possibility for the delegations to directly exchange individual visions on future cooperation modalities, the key reason behind the joint gathering in Belgrade.



Conference Round Table - Panel IV

Moderated by

Ms Teodora FUIOR, Project Coordinator, Operations Southeast Europe, the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)

The second day was concluded with the distribution of the draft Joint Statement to be reviewed by individual delegations. The opportunity to submit possible proposals or remarks was given to all conference participants by the end of the day and no additional recommendations were provided. Thus, the Joint Statement (Annex A to this report) is considered to be accepted unanimously.

One of the key international / regional-level recommendations include the revision of the existing legal framework and mutual agreements on cooperation in a way that includes prevention and preparedness measures relevant to cross-border disaster risk management. This means that some new international risk assessments and instruments of flood protection should be incorporated in line with the mentioned EU Flood Directive

Conference Conclusions and Recommendations

The event was judged to be successful. It succeeded in being topical in view of the existing questions and coping with the latest and most critical challenges in the area of flood prevention, preparedness, protection and relief.

The main reason for this can be found in the fact that it managed to involve a comprehensive forum of experts, enabling members of SEE parliaments to get a unique opportunity to directly witness the latest experiences and unsolved issues in this field

that, by its nature, overcomes national boundaries and requires close bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

As it was stated during the concluding session by Ms Teodora Fuior, this gathering, for the first time, stepped away from exclusively military topics and tackled other elements of national security systems.

All dialogues were open and sincere and thus provided the Members of the Parliaments with the real impression of the current situation and their own responsibility to support the required efforts when the political decisions have to be made, primarily regarding sufficient resources and international cooperation.

Flood prevention and preparedness is of highest importance in this particular field of interest

BrigGen Zdravko Jakop underlined that all discussions led towards a single conclusion: the ultimate importance of well-developed and functional flood prevention and preparedness systems. This event provided good examples and suggestions for mutual cooperation; in this case, the parliaments are ultimately responsible to enable it through the establishment of an appropriate legal framework for the required practical application.

BrigGen Jakop announced two nominations for the 2016 annual parliamentary meeting, voiced at the margins of the Conference. The next possible topic and venue for the Annual Meeting of the Representatives of Defence and Security Committees from SEE Parliaments was suggested by the participants from the Parliament of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia** as well as the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In this context, a possible follow-up event that could perfectly sum-up the series of activities on floods, which conveniently started in Sarajevo, could also be a study trip hosted by the government of Lower Austria, which produced an excellent example of a highly successful flood protection system. This proposal has been discussed as an unofficial one at the margins of the Conference and was not presented during the Conference. RACVIAC will initiate the process of its formalisation and execution within the 2016 Programme and it will timely inform the Belgrade Conference participants about its final result. ■

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Effective Practices of the Implementation of UNSCR 1540

Organised in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia.

RACVIAC, Croatia
29-30 June, 2015



Introduction

The Seminar on Effective Practices of the Implementation of UNSCR 1540, co-organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MFEA) was a continuation of the unprecedented pilot project activity in 2013 regarding the nonproliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. The Seminar was organized with the aim of focusing on voluntary National Implementation Action Plans (NAP) for Resolution 1540 (2004), in particular, to discuss key elements of a voluntary NAP, invite Member States to share their experiences, lessons learned and national effective practices on the development, adoption and implementation of their NAPs, focus on national assistance needs, raise awareness of available regional activities in relation to voluntary NAPs and enhance cooperation with international and regional organizations.

The participants who attended the Symposium came from the following countries: Albania (2), Belarus (2) Bosnia and Herzegovina (3), Republic of Croatia (1), Hungary (1), Kazakhstan (1), Kosovo* (2), Kyrgyzstan (2), Moldova (2) Montenegro (2), Republic of Serbia (1), Tajikistan (3), the United States of America (1) and international organisations, such as the IAEA (1), OPCW

(1), OSCE (1), UNSC 1540 Committee (2), UNODA (2), UNODC (1), VERTIC (1) and WHO (1). They were both senior and junior military men and civilians dealing with 1540 resolution issues.

The Execution

During the first day (Monday, 29 June) the following topics were presented:

- In her presentation Ms Xiaodong LV, the 1540 expert of the UN 1540 Committee - one of 9 experts of the UN 1540 Committee - talked about different cases, giving an overview of the efforts and work of the Committee.

The items of the “1540 toolbox,” the “1540 matrix,” the national reports and the 1540 National Implementation Action Plan were also mentioned.



- *A Comprehensive Approach to Prevent the Proliferation of WMD: The Belarus National Framework Document on UNSCR 1540 Implementation* by Mr Vasily Pavlov, Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Belarus to the OSCE. Mr Pavlov talked about the National Framework Document (NFD) on UNSCR 1540 Implementation, providing explanations on the topic and why it is necessary to draft national implementation plans (for example to identify the loopholes in national legislature, improve the national export legislation, etc.), mentioning Belarus' contribution to the international non-proliferation efforts, the importance of the road map, calling it the essence of the NFD.

Ms Nelija Vržina (Second Secretary, International Security Division, Sector for NATO and International Security, Directorate-General for Multilateral and Global Affairs, MFEA HR) discussed the obligations arising from the UNSCR 1540, the UNSCR 1540, emphasizing the Republic of Croatia's special geographic position and shape and difficult borders.

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Ms Sabrina Pfiffner (UNODA) and BGen Zdravko Jakop

Ms Vržina talked about the institutions that are involved, governmental bodies, the strategy to be followed and the importance of the definition of the aim behind this strategy.

Once the national presentations were given (KG, ME, RS, BA) the following lectures were held:

- *1540 National Implementation Action Plans: Legislative and Regulatory Actions* by Dr Sonia Drobysz, Legal Officer, National Implementation Measures Programme, VERTIC. Ms Drobysz informed the participants about the UNSCR 1540-related legislative and regulatory framework (in bullets), giving National Action Plan examples (AM, BY, HR, KG, MK, ME, RS), talked about the implementing legislative and regulatory actions of NAP, the assistance of VERTIC - a non-profit organisation, established in 1986 in London- to develop and implement a NAP.
- *Legislative and Regulatory Framework: Preparing a NAP under the Current International Legal Environment: Questions and Answers* by Mr Tamás Lattmann JD PhD, Professor, Associate, National University of Public Service, Budapest. In his presentation Mr Lattmann gave an outline of the legislative and preparatory framework in general, provided the participants with information on the international legal background (relevant treaties, UNSC resolutions) and talked about the national reports.
- The IAEA's Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plans (INSSPs) by Mr Fei Liu, Division of Nuclear Security, Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, International Atomic Energy Agency. The presentation given by Mr Liu dealt with the question of Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plans as the main topic. His case study was the case of Afghanistan.
- The contribution of OPCW to the implementation of Resolution 1540 by Mr Danilo Campisi, Legal Officer (OPCW). Mr Campisi first showed a videoclip, then talked about the work of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division, the internship programme for legal drafters and national authority representatives (one week, four times a year), organised by OPCW. He informed the participants about OPCW's webpage, where one can find a legislative and support tool and a "reference corner" with documents by year, topics, etc.
- The OSCE: Facilitating UNSCR 1540 Implementation by Ms Adriana Volenikova, Associate project officer / UNSCR 1540,

OSCE Secretariat. Ms Volenikova talked about the mandate and co-operation framework, the OSCE support in facilitating 1540 implementation and the lessons learned on the part of OSCE. Ms Maria Lorenzo Sobrado, Programme Officer, Terrorism Prevention Branch, UNODC, informed the participants about their activity, showing UNODC's webpage, together with the counter-terrorism webpage.

- Global Health Security by Ms Antoinette Kaic-Rak, Head of WHO CO in the Republic of Croatia. Ms Kaic-Rak talked about the "Health Security" and the work of WHO regarding counter-terrorism efforts. During the second day (Tuesday, 30 June) first Mr Richard Cupitt, US UNSCR 1540 Coordinator's presentation was given. Mr Cupitt talked about president Obama's vision of nuclear security, the nuclear security summit's (NSS) preparation and outcomes, mentioning the NSS2016 website, the role of the non-governmental sector and the role of the industry. After that national presentations were given (AL, MD, TD), and, finally, after the closing ceremony, bilateral meetings were held with different parties, among others the representatives of RACVIAC and UNODA.

Conclusion

According to the feedback received via the questionnaire, the participants found it useful to hear more about the challenges in regard to implementing the plans, the comparisons of the 1540 plan and EU CBRN action plan, challenges in obtaining and delivering assistance, the identification of effective practices, the sharing of experiences, the regional cooperation, the practice and case studies.

Thanks to the cooperation between RACVIAC, the UNODA and the MFEA of the Republic Croatia, the presence of high-level lecturers was ensured once again. Their professionalism and experience, as well as their presentations, were highly appreciated by the participants.

According to the participants the seminar was highly successful, very interesting and well organized. Most of the participants were members of the national authorities and relevant organizations dealing with the UNSCR 1540 issues in their countries and they considered it valuable for their future work.

The lecturers originated from such far away countries as Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Thus, the central part of the Asian continent was very well represented.

During the bilateral meetings the co-organisers expressed an interest in organizing next time a course-like training, an event that would be mostly practice-oriented, perhaps a joint site visit, without defining a precise date for this activity.

On the whole, this event proved to be yet another good example of strong cooperation among RACVIAC, the UNODA and the MFEA of the Republic of Croatia. As the UNSCR 1540 requires every state to criminalize the involvement of various forms of non-state actors in weapons of mass destruction and related activities in their national legislation and, once in place, enforce such legislation, RACVIAC stands ready to support this global, universal obligation and, in cooperation with the partners involved in the execution of this successful event, to continue promoting UNSCR 1540 and the NIAPs. ■

Compiled by: **Mr Pál Bódogh-Szabó**, Activity Coordinator



LtC Kristina Pecirep

LtC Kristina Pecirep arrived at RACVIAC in September of 2015, where she will be acting as Operations Manager. In her previous position LtC Pecirep held the position of planning officer in the Croatian Armed Forces G-5 department where she performed various duties primarily related to CIMIC.

SgM Mario Sabol

SgM Mario Sabol arrived at RACVIAC in August of 2015 where he will be performing duties as the Paying Agent in the Admin and Finance Cell. SgM Sabol has been a member of the Croatian Armed Forces since 1993 and arrives from the Department for Planning J-5. He is from Varaždin, is married and the father of two children.



Ms Ana Ezova Krzaloska

Ms Ezova Krzaloska arrived in RACVIAC in August of 2015 from the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* as the new programme manager in the International And Regional Cooperation pillar. In her previous position Ms Ezova Krzaloska was the Assistant Head of International Cooperation department at the Ministry of Defence of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* with 16 years of experience in the field. Ms Ezova Krzaloska holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy, is happily married and has two sons.

Mr Bujar Maxhuni

Mr Maxhuni arrived as a new Activity Manager in RACVIAC's International and Regional Cooperation pillar in September 2015 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Kosovo** where he held the position of head of the Regional Affairs Department. In his previous work he served as the Deputy Ambassador of Kosovo** in Sofia, Bulgaria in charge of Public Diplomacy, Cultural and Economic Affairs. He holds a Master's degree in conflict transformation studies, is the father of three sons, a devotee of martial arts and a passionate collector of airplane models.



Mr Arlind Puka

Mr Puka arrived at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation from Albania in September 2015, where he is volunteering in the Security Sector Reform pillar. Mr Puka holds a Master of Laws degree from the University of Sunderland, United Kingdom. Among other activities he has worked for the Albanian Helsinki Committee and for the North of England Refugee Service, in the United Kingdom. We are confident that his stay in RACVIAC will be beneficial to both him and the organization.

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Mr Iljmi Selami

Mr Iljmi Selami arrived at RACVIAC in October 2013 working as an activity manager in the International and Regional Cooperation pillar where he was later seconded by his country as the programme manager. Mr Selami had to leave the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation early after being promoted to the position of Deputy Minister of Defence in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.* Mr Selami will be remembered as a reliable member of the staff and a good friend. RACVIAC wishes Mr Selami all the best in his new position.

Capt. Nevena Skender-Markić

Capt. Skender-Markić ended her three year tour of duty at the RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation in August 2015. Filling the position of Operations Manager, she will be remembered for her dedication and the energetic work atmosphere she created. Capt. Skender-Markić has returned to the Armed Forces of the Republic of Croatia where RACVIAC wishes her all the best in her future career and personal life.



Capt. Dražen Pečnik

Capt. Dražen Pečnik ended his three year tour of duty at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in August 2015. He will be remembered for his exceptional reliability and attention to organization reflected in his work as the Chief of the Service Branch. Capt. Pečnik is continuing his career within the Armed forces of the Republic of Croatia and we are sure he will provide an invaluable asset in his new position at the Overhaul Centre.

Mr Stefan Brajić

Mr Stefan Brajić completed his time as a volunteer at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in the spring of 2015, where he worked in the International and Regional Cooperation pillar. Mr Brajić arrived at RACVIAC from the American University in Bosnia and Herzegovina where he is completing a second Master's degree in the field of International and National Security. RACVIAC wishes Mr Brajić all the best in his studies and future career.



Mr Tin Kastelic

Mr Kastelic joined the RACVIAC team as an intern in the Security Sector Reform pillar in October 2014. In October 2015, his stay at RACVIAC came to an end. He will be remembered for his enthusiasm and desire to learn and cooperate in all fields of activity at the Centre. We are confident he will provide a true asset to any organization in the future and wish him all the best in his future career and personal life.

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