



CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION
DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION DIVISION

14th March 2008

“REGIONAL OWNERSHIP AND REGIONAL SECURITY”
(13-14 February 2008)

After Action Report

for external use

1. INTRODUCTION

The Seminar on *Regional Ownership and Regional Security* was held in RACVIAC in the period of the 13th –14th February 2008.



The seminar gathered participants with knowledge and experience in the field of regional ownership and regional security, representing relevant ministries, institutions, as well as parliamentary commissions directly involved in this subject. The seminar was conducted as a combination of lecturers and workshops.

The participants and lecturers were representatives from ten countries and three organizations as follows: Albania (4), Bosnia and Herzegovina (6), Bulgaria (1), Croatia (3), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia¹ (2), Italy (1), Moldova (3), Montenegro (3), Serbia (2), Slovakia (1), OSCE (1), Stability Pact (1), Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb (8).



¹ Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name

2. PROGRAMME/METHODOLOGY

The aim of this seminar was to discuss the concept of regional ownership by defining key elements as well as highlighting rights and responsibilities of the countries in the region and evaluating advantages and challenges in enhancing regional security. It covered the range of topics such as: *The link between regional ownerships, Responsibilities and rights of countries, Parliamentary involvement, Contribution of international organizations and its effects on Euro-Atlantic environment, Regionalism versus Internationalism*. Both, seminar and workshop proved successful and the participants were provided with the opportunity to discuss topics and generate fresh ideas on regional ownership and regional security.

His Excellency Pellumb QAZIMI, Albanian Ambassador in Zagreb gave



interesting presentation on the *Regional Security ownership* which he concluded by saying that the regional security ownership can be realized by: developing a clear vision; setting the clear goals for the EU and NATO integration; recognizing responsibilities; exercising responsibilities; having acknowledges; proceeding through lessons learned; using expertise; moving through programmes; taking the lead and following the results and products.



His Excellency Alessandro PIGNATTI MORANO di CUSTOZA, Italian Ambassador in Zagreb gave a presentation on *Regional co-operation in the context of the European Integration* summarizing the importance of fostering the regional cooperation among SEE countries, which are to become NATO and EU members. He concluded that the concept of regional ownership would give a new impetus to regional

cooperation by focusing on the agreed priorities in Southeast European (SEE) countries.

The following lectures were also given in this seminar: *Towards a Regionally Owned Co-operation Framework in South Eastern Europe* by Zoran KEKOVIC, PhD, Republic of Serbia, University of Belgrade; *Priorities for regional co-operation* by Colonel Kenan DAUTOVIC, Ministry of Defence of BaH, Partnership for Peace and NATO Adviser; *Advantages and challenges to enhance regional security* by Colonel Hamza VISCA, Head of International Cooperation Cell, J5 Joint Staff, BaH; *The role of RCC in facilitating regional co-operation in the perspective of European Integration* by Ms. Talia BOATI, Stability Pact; *Parliamentary involvement and responsibilities in the process of the Regional Ownership* by Mr. ZELJKO GRUBESIC, Expert Advisor, Joint Committee for Defence



and Security.

3. SUMMARY/CONSLUSION

Following a two-day seminar and workshop event in RACVIAC, all the participants agreed upon the need for establishing a common approach in the area of regional ownership and regional security.



Therefore, they proposed setting more common initiatives in the future. SEE region lacks a kind of regional security strategy at intergovernmental level, which would ultimately lead to establishing Regional Security System/Culture. No matter whether it would be a Treaty, Declaration, Charter with Protocols or Memorandum of Understanding, it would serve as a political platform. SEECR/RCC could serve as a good operational kick out.