

Activity Overview

"Peer Review Seminar on OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security" SSR-F1-S-17

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Dates 15-17 February 2017

Venue RACVIAC facilities, military barracks "Vitez Damir Martić"
Stari hrast 53, Rakitje, 10437 Bestovje, Zagreb, Republic of Croatia

Background

The OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security was adopted in 1994 and it presents one of the main OSCE mechanisms to address the global security challenges. In that light "The Code of Conduct" (CoC) has played a vital role for the OSCE participating states in their transition process to develop democratic governments and pertinent defence and security institutions. All participating states commit themselves to "at all times provide for and maintain effective guidance to and control of its military, paramilitary and security forces by constitutionally established authorities vested with democratic legitimacy". The main tools of the CoC are the annual exchange of information by means of Participating States' implementation reports including the countries of South East Europe.

The 2017 Peer Review Seminar on the OSCE Code of Conduct in South-Eastern Europe (SEE) is a part of a series of similar events which became a RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation (hereinafter: RACVIAC) midterm project co-organised and supported by the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre. The event series was initiated in 2012 with a Seminar that had the main purpose to raise awareness about commitments and to discuss experiences and challenges regarding practical implementation and then continued with the Seminar for parliamentarians in 2013, a similar Workshop in 2014 and a Conference in 2016 that supported the implementation of the CoC values and standards in the SEE region and beyond, thereby expanding knowledge about its main purpose.

Purpose and Objectives

The main purpose of the event is to facilitate consultations with experts on the implementation of the values and standards outlined in the OSCE Code of Conduct in SEE countries during the reviewed period. The primary aim is to bring together governmental experts who will analyse past experiences and discuss the implementation of the OSCE CoC in SEE among themselves ("peer" format event).

Participation

Approximately 30 representatives - experts from the executive branches, OSCE Missions in SEE, representatives and experts from governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as experts from various national institutions. Experts from relevant UN, NATO and EU departments are invited to take part in providing relevant information on the subject matter too.

Methodology

The event is designed as a Seminar and it will be conducted as a series of individual expert consultations and group discussions. The Seminar working language is English.

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