Overview
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Annex A

Conference “Gender in Border Management/Peace and Security: Promoting Women’s Role”

RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, CROATIA
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Dates 20 May 2013
Location(s) RACVIAC Facilities at the Military Barracks "Vitez Damir Martić", Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, Croatia

Background According to the OECD Handbook on Security System Reform, effective and integrated border management services are critical to ensuring the safety and security of citizens, promoting regional stability and facilitating trade and development. This fits with the environment that prompted putting forward the UNSCR 1325 and related Resolutions and highlighting gender equality and the role of women in peace and security.

As one of its major fields of interest, RACVIAC SSR mid-term programme aims to address the protection and promotion of human rights, gender equality and the role of women. Thus, this will be the first event tackling specific aspects of the broader gender agenda. At the outset, this round table will attempt to clarify why gender is so important for the border management. The integration of gender issues into border management reform processes enhances operational effectiveness by: improving the prevention and detection of human trafficking and smuggling, strengthening the protection and promotion of human rights, creating more representative border management institutions, and enhancing local ownership, oversight and collaboration.

In providing border control, the activities can have potentially positive and negative consequences for the relevant actors, the local population in the area of operation, the general security environment, the enjoyment of human rights and the rule of law.

To ensure higher level of human rights protection and the rule of law as the responsibility of border management institutions, an effective and gender-responsive human trafficking training has to be established and the recruitment of women in border management agencies enhanced, which leads directly into the battleground of the UNSCR 1325 and related Resolutions.
### Purpose & Objectives

The purpose of this activity on Border Management and Gender and Women in Peace & Security is two fold;

- Firstly, it aims to bring together representatives from South East Europe (SEE) and provide them with relevant general information on the new trends in border management deriving from the needs of the SEE countries, as viewed through the implementation of international (UN, EU, NATO) policies and resolutions within the process of Euro-Atlantic integration;
- Secondly, the event will provide an opportunity for the participants from ombudsman institutions and human rights protection institutions, ministries of internal affairs, ministries of security, representatives of NGOs, as well as experts from various national institutions and think-thanks to exchange relevant information on the subject matter.

The main objectives of the round table are:

- to direct participants’ attention to the importance of border management,
- to outline why gender is important for security and border management,
- to outline how and why relevant UN, NATO, EU regulations should be considered while dealing with border management, and how gender can be integrated into border management,
- to exemplify integration of gender into border security through the exchange of national experiences (legislation, education and training on border management and gender).

### Participants

Approximately 30 participants, primarily from national parliaments/human rights and/or gender equality ombudsman institutions, ministries of interior or security (and/or border police), ministries of defence. Representatives of the civil society, NGOs and national institutes and think-thanks as well as experts from relevant UN, OSCE, NATO, EU, DCAF and SEESAC departments.

### Methodology

The event will comprise speeches and presentations outlining the importance of integrating gender into border management and thus achieving the implementation of UN, EU and NATO regulations.

The working language will be English.

### POC

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