Overview

Confidence (and Security) Building Measures (C(S)BM):  
Oversight and Building Integrity, expanded

Montenegro, 17-19 September 2013

Dates  17 – 19 September 2013
Location(s) Montenegro. Location will be indicated in the Invitation Letter.

Background
The concept of Confidence Building Measures (CBM) and the later Confidence and Security Building Measures (CSBM) date back as far as the period of the Cold War. The CBM concept is somewhat wider because there were no major conflicts when that name was in use, while the concept of CSBM is narrower because it was inaugurated in the period of conflicts after the fall of the Berlin wall and thus was more military oriented. Throughout that period of several decades the bottom line was – to establish, bilaterally or multilaterally, means of communication with the aim of reducing the possibility of the outbreak of hostilities. The recent past of South East Europe, primarily the territory of the former Yugoslavia, although the rest of the territory is also not tension-free, is full of conflicts and different sets of various types of C(S)BMs are applied.

Purpose & Objectives
Currently, the SEE territory, both in its wider and narrower borders, definitely does not look as one with conflict potentials. While there are some risky areas and risky entities in this regard, they are not likely to escalate into conflict in the foreseeable future. However, the OSCE “Code of Conduct”, the Vienna documents and related security mechanisms should remain firmly planted in the political tissue of the SEE. On the other hand, there is a five-year period of different levels of economic and financial hardship shared with the rest of Europe, albeit with a stronger impact on the transition and post-conflict countries. The purpose of this event is to question whether CSBMs in the SEE should remain almost strictly defence oriented or they could expand to include broader aspects. Namely, is it perhaps valid to start shifting the focus from general arms control and notification measures to a more substantial and cost-beneficial level of defence co-operation? And could that be considered as a C(S)BM?
The main objectives are:
- to outline the current status of C(S)BMs under international documents and bilateral/multilateral agreements,
- to assess the implementation of C(S)BMs,
- to tackle the types of C(S)BMs,
- to tackle C(S)BMs on national level,
- to elaborate on possible new dimensions of the C(S)BM concept amidst current economic situation.

**Participants**
Approximately 30 participants from:
Ministry of Defence (Policy and Planning, Training and Education and Logistics),
Parliamentary Defence and Security Committees,
Ministry of Interior,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

National participation will be further specified in the Invitation Letter.

**Methodology**
The event will take the form of four panels outlining the history, C(S)BM concept, current developments and future of C(S)BMs in the SEE and will be executed through plenary sessions.
The working language will be English.

**POC**
Lt Col Neven Bajić,
Activity Coordinator (AC)
Tel: 00385 1 333 0 853
E-mail: nbajic@racviac.org