Overview
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“European Union External Border Regime”

RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, CROATIA
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Dates
11 – 13 September 2013

Location(s)
RACVIAC Facilities at the Military Barracks "Vitez Damir Martić", Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, Croatia

Background
Although not the first event dealing with the issues of EU border security, the Conference entitled “European Union External Border Regime” is definitely the first Croatian project activity aimed at looking into the new EU member country’s post-accession border security situation within a short time after 1 July 2013.

The Conference concept has been developed in cooperation between the Alumni Association of George C. Marshall Republic of Croatia, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Office in Croatia and RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation.

Purpose & Objectives
The purpose of this joint Conference project lies in the original idea that the Croatian joining the EU border security system ought not to be looked at as the closure of the individual transformation processes but rather as the opening of the consequent full-member EU transformation phase in the area of border security system transformation.

The process of the Croatian EU accession is therefore to be continued and complemented by all the steps of national adaptation, particularly in view of the EU border security system development towards the new and emerging as well as less-than-apparent challenges to come.

A complementary intention behind the original Conference concept has been to draw general attention to the case of the Republic of Croatia as the most recent example of the EU internal border security system development.

The Conference is aimed at bringing together representatives from the countries of South Eastern Europe (SEE) whose international position is going to change with the Croatian EU status in terms of becoming front-line countries bordering the new EU area.
The main objectives are:
- to outline border security system of the Republic of Croatia in view of the required implementation of the EU external border regulations,
- to discuss the issues, challenges and problems concerning the newly-established Croatian border regime system with Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia as well as with the EU Member Countries,
- to look into the rationale for the implementation of the provisions of the EU border system regulations in view of the present status of the Republic of Croatia as the Schengen area foreground country,
- to provide participants with the opportunity to outline national considerations on the new Croatian - EU border security system regime,
- to provide participants from the regional non-EU countries with a platform for discussion and to propose further development and improvement of the current EU border traffic regulations and regime,
- to present individual cases of national border security system challenges in view of regional requirements and issues pertaining to respective countries,
- to exchange national experiences of the SEE countries in implementing the EU border regime on the national level.

Participants
Approximately 30 participants from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Ministries of Economy/Trade, Ministries of Interior, Ministries of Agriculture, Chambers of Commerce/Economy and Customs Directorates. National participation and financial arrangement will be specified in the Invitation Letter and Administration Information.

Methodology
The Conference will take the form of four panels with keynote speeches outlining the current D+75 situation in terms of the implementation of EU regulations and relevant national and international practice as well as moderated plenary presentations and discussions. The working language will be English.

POC
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