CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

ARMS CONTROL SYMPOSIUM

Organised by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation

Dates
2-4 December 2015

Venue
Rakitje, Zagreb, Republic of Croatia

Background
The Arms Control Symposium holds a significant status within the CSE Pillar activities as it represents an event where the main Pillar topics can be discussed in one place. Within the CSE Pillar in particular, the key priorities range from conventional Arms Control treaties, the reduction of security threats from CBRN materials to aspects of physical security and stockpile management. The Symposium aims to cover these main topics, review recent developments in the ever-changing political and security arena. It also gathers experts from the region and beyond on the topic of Arms Control (Heads of Verification Centres, Heads of departments of MFA or MoD).

Purpose & Objectives
Reflecting the political ambition to uphold the existing conventional Arms Control treaties, RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation is organizing an Arms Control Symposium, which is taking place from 10 to 12 November 2015 on RACVIAC premises.

The purpose of this event is to build on the experience of last year's symposium and to present the latest developments in Arms Control, with the aim to open up new perspectives on confidence-building measures for peace and stability in Europe. An important element of its overall aims is the updating of any relevant information regarding Arms Control issues and discussing the way ahead. The aim is also to organize a parallel meeting of the Heads of Verification Centres of the SEE region.

The objectives of the Symposium are to examine:

- *The military capabilities in future conventional Arms Control;*
- *The role of Arms Control in resolving the remaining security issues in Europe;*
- *New Arms Control Requirements from a military perspective;*
- *Future Arms Control and modern force capabilities.*

The Symposium will serve as a platform for discussions on the fundamental role of Arms Control treaties as a cornerstone of European and SEE security. Participants are encouraged to give their own opinions and also the national view of the Arms Control issues in their own countries.

Three participants (one of them being the Head of the Verification Centre of the respective countries) from each of the following countries: Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro and Republic of Serbia and one participant from Romania and Republic of Turkey each are kindly invited to attend the Symposium. In addition to the above-listed, attendees from all other associate members, observers and participants are invited to attend the activity.

Participants should either be representatives of Ministries, political institutions and national authorities, responsible for the implementation of Arms Control treaties, or experts in the field of Arms Control. The speakers at the Symposium will represent national institutions/agencies or other relevant international organisations.
Methodology

The event will take place in the form of a Symposium, followed by a podium discussion. It will last one working day.

The working language of the Symposium will be English. Member States are kindly informed that RACVIAC encourages all lecturers to submit written essays on their area of expertise to be referred to during their presentation at the RACVIAC activity. Most prominent and current essays will then be published in the “RACVIAC Compendium – Assortment of RACVIAC Prominent Lecturers’ Insights” that will be issued at least once a year, preferably at the beginning of the year for the year preceding, but with an option and aim to become semi-annual if input and interest of the targeted audience is satisfactory.

Understanding the additional effort and time needed to be put into writing this essay, RACVIAC will stimulate it with an amount of 100 euros per essay. The essays should comprise at least 1500 words and should be submitted electronically and in the hard copy version to RACVIAC before the actual lecture or presentation is given. The author of the submitted essay should give his/her written permission to RACVIAC to publish the essay in the “RACVIAC Compendium” waiving future claims or compensations towards RACVIAC.

Point of Contact

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*Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.*