“Building a Cyber Resilient Society in SEE”
(IRC-04-P)

Date 12-14 May 2015
Location Ohrid, MK

Background Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and the use of cyberspace, just as in the rest of the world, play a crucial role in the South East European (SEE) region as well. The pursuit of modernization, Euro-Atlantic integrations and the need for foreign investments have, among other things, urged the SEE countries to invest in the development of ICT. In this context all governments from the SEE region have pledged that they will invest efforts in developing appropriate e-governance. Therefore, cyberspace has become the dominant place for social, economic and political activities in the SEE region. However, the growing dependence on cyberspace in SEE has not been matched by a parallel focus on cyber security.

Having in mind the goal of enhancing cooperation on security in South East Europe (SEE) within the regional and broader international framework and ways of contributing to the advancement of the countries in the region on their path towards the EU and Euro-Atlantic integrations, RACVIAC will organize in Ohrid, in collaboration with the Military academy “General Mihailo Apostolski”-Skopje, and sponsored by the Federal Republic of Germany, an event dedicated to the topic of cyber security.

The aim of this workshop is to gather policy makers and public administration professionals from SEE in order to discuss global, regional and individual countries’ challenges, needs and perspectives in building cyber resilient societies and to set up a platform for future regional cooperation in this context.

The conclusions of the workshop will influence the five month research study which is planned to be conducted from May-October 2015.

Purpose & Objectives The purpose of this event is to bring together policy makers and public administration professionals from SEE in order to debate the individual countries’ challenges and needs for effective cyber security.

The objectives are:

- To identify clear cyber security priorities and responsibilities and determine who, when, where and how is responsible for implementing effective cyber security activities in SEE countries.

- To become familiar with contemporary trends, dynamics and best practices in cyber security and building resilient societies in general in NATO, EU and other partner countries in order to contextualize them for SEE nations

- To understand the importance of the role of the human factor in building cyber resilient societies in SEE
- To compare and analyse how respective SEE countries’ social, organizational (structural) and cultural perspectives and dynamics influence social cyber resilience

- To analyse technical aspects of resilience in cyberspace with a focus on critical information infrastructure protection in SEE countries

- To discuss the importance of the international legal aspects of protecting civilians and their property and economic continuity during potential cyber conflict

- To initiate and develop a network of future dedicated personnel ready to improve regional cooperation in the context of building cyber resilient societies in SEE

**Participants**

The total number of participants should be up to 30. The participants should represent each of the following countries: AL, BA, HR, ME, MK, RO, RS, and TR. They should be senior cyber security policy development experts (not exclusively from the IT sector) and representatives of the academia (social sciences and/or IT sciences). In addition to the above-listed, attendees from all other associate members, observers and participants are invited to attend the activity.

**Methodology**

The workshop will last for two days and will be conducted as a combination of presentations followed by Q&A sessions and group work on small project development. The official working language will be English.

**Point of Contact:**

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