VIENNA DOCUMENT 2011
FORMATION/UNIT COMMANDERS’ COURSE

Hosted and sponsored by Hungary

Dates
25 June - 01 July 2016

Venue
Budapest, Hódmezővásárhely, Kecskemét, Hungary

Background
In order to facilitate the implementation of the provisions of the Vienna Document, RACVIAC has been organizing Vienna Document courses for the countries of the South East European region since 2001. At the 28th MAG Meeting, Hungary suggested that RACVIAC organize a Vienna Document 2011 Formation/Unit Commanders’ Course on the territory of Hungary, as its contribution to the regional Confidence- and Security-Building Measures (CSBMs). RACVIAC and the respective Hungarian authorities are going to carry out this task in close cooperation. The activity will also involve the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Hungarian Arms Control.

Purpose & Objectives
The purpose of this course is to provide participants with a theoretical overview of the Vienna Document 2011 (VD ’11), providing a comprehensive analysis of both the theoretical and practical level of the implementation of these activities. It is organized in the spirit and the letters of the VD’ 11. The course objectives are:

• To overview the specified elements of the VD ’11 highlighting the most comprehensive and commonly followed rules and procedures of its execution;
• To provide the participants with information about the current situation regarding the implementation of the “Visit to an Air Base and Visit to a Military Facility or Formation” of VD ’11;
• To focus on the duties and responsibilities of the personnel to be engaged in the implementation of the aforementioned arms control document, thus demonstrating the real spirit of the confidence- and security-building measures
• To train the participants employed as visitors/evaluators or escort team members in the subjects related to the planning and conducting of such activities based on best practices;
• To deepen contacts between the representatives of national organizations, agencies engaged in the accomplishment of arms control and/or security- and confidence-building measures;
• To provide the participants, especially during the practical part of the course, with an opportunity to exercise or “observe” the real events, thus showing the fields and ways of working in the future in this form of co-operation on the national, regional and the international level.

Participants
Approximately 20-25 participants, three (3) 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 (1) from Romania and Republic of Turkey (each). In addition to the above-listed, attendees from all other Associate Members, Observers and Participants are invited to attend the course.

Participants should be Commanders of Formations/Units reported under Paragraph 10 of the VD ’11. Participants are expected to have basic knowledge of the VD ’11 and/or other arms control regimes and CSBMs. Lecturers will represent national arms control agencies or verification centres.
Methodology

The course is designed as a combination of theoretical lectures and practical activities planned to be carried out in Budapest (the theoretical part), Hódmezővásárhely (“Visit to a Military Facility or Formation”) and Kecskemét (“Visit to an Air Base”), Hungary. The invited lecturers/experts will cover a wide range of topics, giving a comprehensive and detailed overview of the relevant parts of the VD ’11. A short question and answer session aimed at clarifying possible uncertainties will follow the presentations. The practical part should provide an excellent opportunity for the participants to gain experience in carrying out the Formation/Unit Commanders’ duties when receiving a VD ’11 inspection or evaluation visit. The working language 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 the writing of 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.