Overview

“Peer Review Seminar on OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security”

SSR-F1-S-16
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Dates
1st - 3rd February 2016

Venue(s)
RACVIAC Facilities, Military Barracks “Vitez Martić”
Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, Zagreb, Republic of Croatia

Background
The OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security was adopted in 1994 and it presents one of the main OSCE mechanisms to address the global security challenges. In that light “The Code of Conduct” has played a vital role for the OSCE participating states in their transition process to develop democratic governments and pertinent defence and security institutions. All participating states commit themselves to “at all times provide for and maintain effective guidance to and control of its military, paramilitary and security forces by constitutionally established authorities vested with democratic legitimacy”. The main tools of the CoC are the annual exchange of information by means of Participating States’ implementation reports including countries of South East Europe.

The idea to organise the Seminar originates from the RACVIAC Strategy 2012-2015 that highlights the security cooperation in the SEE region as one of the most important objectives.

The 2016 Peer Review Seminar on the OSCE Code of Conduct in South-Eastern Europe is a part of a series of similar events which became a RACVIAC midterm project co-organised and supported by the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre. The event series started in 2012 with a Seminar that had the main purpose to raise awareness about commitments and to discuss experiences and challenges regarding practical implementation and then continued with the Seminar for parliamentarians in 2013, a similar Workshop in 2014 and a Conference in 2015 that supported the implementation of the CoC values and standards in the SEE region and beyond, thereby expanding knowledge about its main purpose.

Purpose & Objectives
The main purpose of this event is to facilitate consultations with experts on the implementation of the values and standards outlined in the OSCE Code of Conduct (CoC) in SEE countries during the reviewed period. The primary aim is to bring together experts from the executive branch who will analyse past experiences in the implementation of the OSCE CoC in SEE (“peer” format event).

Participation
Approximately 35 representatives - experts from the executive branches, OSCE Missions in SEE, representatives and experts from governmental and non-governmental organization, as well as experts from various national institutions. Experts from relevant UN, NATO and EU departments are invited to take part in providing relevant information on the subject matter too.

Methodology
The event is designed as a Seminar and it will be conducted as a series of individual expert consultations and group discussions. The Seminar working language will be English.

PoC
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