Overview

“Gender Perspectives and Security in South-Eastern Europe”
SSR-H2-16-CF
RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, HR-10437 Bestovje, CROATIA
Tel.: 00385 1 333 0 803, Fax: 00385 1 333 0 809, www.racviac.org

Dates 6 - 8 April 2016
Venue(s) RACVIAC facilities at the "Vitez Damir Martić" Military Barracks
Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, Croatia

Background Resolution 1325 is the first UN Security Council Resolution that deals specifically with the influence of war on women and girls, and the contribution of women to conflict resolution and sustainable peace. In large part, UNSCR 1325 resonates the unfortunate events during the conflicts of the 1990s. After the adoption of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Security and Peace, it took more than a decade for its instruments to be translated into national policy agendas, including countries of South East Europe. Over time, the SEE countries have either adopted, started developing or chose not to adopt a special document. No evidence exists as to which extent these policies have contributed to UNSCR 1325 expected results since the design, implementation and monitoring differs from country to country. Thus, RACVIAC and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung as traditional programme partners have decided to join resources and support the Gender National Focal Points' networking process in SEE, ultimately enhancing existing gender equality efforts, primarily within the context of the contemporary security challenges for Europe and beyond.

Purpose & Objectives The Conference purpose is to continue to address the gender equality topics regarding the progress made to implement UNSCRs 1325 and corresponding resolutions in the countries participating in RACVIAC. This specific event follows the 2014 Gender Conference Conclusions when the requirement for periodical events of this particular nature was clearly established. The 2016 Conference mission is threefold: to convene a relevant Subject Matter Expert forum; to support professional development for two key execution groups involved in the National Plan implementation, both at the operational (NFP) and tactical level (Gender Instructors); to suggest some specific tools for monitoring of the implementation of UNSCR 1325 NAPs as the major topic. The main Conference objectives are:

- To enable exchange of relevant information and the latest experiences;
- To encourage participatory monitoring - strengthening of accountability;
- To engage different levels of key actors - building of an all-inclusive approach;
- To build consensus over the current status of the implementation of UNSCR policies and how they can be supported through a regional framework;
- To enhance a comprehensive, consultative and action-oriented review which will include a dialogue with the relevant stakeholders.

Participation Approximately 35 participants in total, consisting of Subject Matter Experts (preferably from the security sector institutions), national gender focal points and individuals working on gender training within the security sector (primarily military gender instructors). Terms of national participation and financial arrangements will be specified in the corresponding Invitation Letter and Administration Information documents.

Methodology The event is designed as an expert forum and it will be conducted in the form of conference panels and subsequent conference workshops. The Conference working language will be English.

POC Col Davor KIRALJ, SSR Activity Manager, Tel: 00 385 (0)1 333 0 853, E-mail: dkiralj@racviac.org