In this quarter RACVIAC conducted seven activities on CSE, SSR and IRC, approaching summer break with 12 activities conducted altogether.

INTERVIEWS:

Mr Valentin Inzko,
High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ms Marina Pendes,
Deputy Minister, MoD of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ms Zdenka Cebasek-Travnik,
Republic of Slovenia Human Rights Ombudsman
Indonesian Ambassador visited RACVIAC

On 10 April 2012, H.E. Mr Agus Sardjana, the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to the Republic of Croatia, accompanied by Mr Simson Ginting, Minister Counsellor, visited RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. The occasion for the visit was the desire expressed by H.E. Mr Sardjana to make personal acquaintance with RACVIAC’s mission, aims and organization. The guests were welcomed by the Director of RACVIAC, Ambassador Nikola Todorcevski, and senior RACVIAC staff members. In addition to the presentation on RACVIAC’s history, organizational structure, mission and achievements given by RACVIAC’s PR Officer, the Indonesian delegation and their hosts engaged in a very interesting discussion on RACVIAC’s activities and plans for the future, particularly on the topics of irregular migration, climate change, etc. The Indonesian Ambassador extended his congratulations to RACVIAC for the great work it has undertaken to assist strengthening of peace and stability in the region.

Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified the new Agreement on RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in May 2012.

By doing so, Bosnia and Herzegovina has become the sixth country out of nine Member States which signed the Agreement.
SEECP Defence Ministerial, April 2012, Belgrade

On 11 and 12 April 2012 there was a SEECP Defence Ministerial Meeting, which took place in Belgrade, Republic of Serbia, under the Serbian South East European Cooperation Process (SEECP) Chairmanship-in-Office. The Meeting focused on enhancing mutual cooperation in the region aimed at resolving the surplus arms and ammunition issues. The Meeting gathered Defence Ministers or Deputy Ministers from 11 countries, as well as representatives of 6 international and regional organizations. RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation was represented at the Meeting by the Director, Ambassador Nikola Todorcevski, and Planning and Liaison Officer for South-Eastern Europe, Major Sasa Konjevic.

The distinguished participants recognized the regional character of the surplus arms and ammunition issues. In that regard, satisfaction with RACVIAC's performance in the past, particularly in terms of solving surplus arms and ammunition issues, was reiterated both in the Joint Statement and in individual addresses of the Meeting participants. Furthermore, support for, as well as high expectations from, RACVIAC's future activities were expressed. Ambassador Todorcevski, in accordance with RACVIAC mission and goals, and in line with RACVIAC's previous activities in the field of surplus arms and ammunition, expressed RACVIAC's readiness to be a part of the implementation of the activities emanating from the Joint Statement of the SEECP Defence Ministerial Meeting.

Vienna Document 2011 activity held in Germany

The Director of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Ambassador Nikola Todorcevski, and the staff officer for CSE, LtCol Konstantinos Alexopoulos, attended the “2012 Contacts in Germany” - Vienna Document 2011 activity, held in Schleswig - Holstein, Germany, from 23 to 27 April 2012. By organizing this event, Germany fulfilled its obligations pursuant to the Vienna Document 2011, hosting 63 inspectors from 33 countries. Apart from them, RACVIAC, NATO and OSCE representatives took part in it. This was the third event of such kind to be organized by the German Arms Control Verification Centre since 2006.

The event started on 23 April with a visit to the Jagel Air Base at the 51 Reconnaissance Wing “Imelmann” and continued the following day with the demonstration of the new types of major weapon and equipment systems at the Kai-Uwe von Hassel barracks at the Kropp and Jagel Air Base. Through the static and dynamic display, the German Federal Defence Force presented a new type of multirole armoured vehicle - GTK Boxer and UH Tiger attack helicopter.

A visit to the Kiel Naval Base Command on 26 April was a complete novelty of this Vienna Document activity. The Navy is excluded from the Vienna Document and so far only Italy, as one of the 56 signatory members, has granted a visit to the navy facility on a voluntary basis.
Deputy Head of Mission of Swedish Embassy visited RACVIAC

On 15 May 2012, the Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Sweden to the Republic of Croatia, Minister-Counsellor Erik Hammarskjöld, accompanied by Ms Madeleine Lyberg visited RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation on 15 May 2012 in order to make personal acquaintance with the Centre. The distinguished guests were welcomed by RACVIAC Deputy Director, Colonel Zeljko Cepanec, and senior RACVIAC staff members. The guests were provided with a brief presentation on RACVIAC's history, mission, annual programme of activities, the completed process of transformation and plans for the forthcoming period.

The Swedish delegation engaged in a comprehensive discussion with RACVIAC staff members on RACVIAC's activities, regional security cooperation issues, arms control issues and confidence and security building measures. They expressed their appreciation of RACVIAC's efforts to contribute to regional stability and security.

Head of International Cooperation, Danish Tactical Air Command, visited RACVIAC

On 04 June 2012, Mr Ove Urup-Madsen, Head of International Cooperation, Tactical Air Command Denmark, visited RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. Mr Urup-Madsen was welcomed by RACVIAC Deputy Director Colonel Zeljko Cepanec and International and Regional Cooperation with focus on Euro Atlantic Integration Pillar’s Subject Matter Experts. The occasion for the visit to RACVIAC was the discussion on the possibilities of further cooperation in the area of Search and Rescue.

After the presentation on RACVIAC mission, organizational structure, current situation and achievements, Mr Urup-Madsen and his hosts engaged in a detailed discussion on RACVIAC's Programme of Activities for 2012, focusing on the Search and Rescue Course planned for November 2012.
First official visit of Belgian Ambassador to RACVIAC

The Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to the Republic of Croatia, H.E. Ms Nancy Rossignol, visited RACVIAC on 26 June 2012. The occasion for the visit was the desire expressed by H.E. to make personal acquaintance with RACVIAC’s mission, aims and organization.

The Director of RACVIAC, Ambassador Nikola Todorcevski, together with the RACVIAC Programme Managers and Subject Matter Experts, welcomed the distinguished guest, while Maj Sulo Mustafaraj (AL), Subject Matter Expert for the CSE, delivered a presentation on the history, mission, annual programme of activities and accomplishments of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.

The Belgian Ambassador and her hosts engaged in a very interesting discussion on RACVIAC’s activities and plans for the future. Based on her previous professional experience, H.E. Ms Rossignol showed particular interest in RACVIAC’s activities with regard to arms control, especially mine clearance. She also expressed her interest in gender issue mainstreaming in security sector. Ms Ambassador repeated her willingness to create a cooperative relationship between RACVIAC and the Kingdom of Belgium.
Interview with Mr Valentin Inzko, High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, conducted on the occasion of Democratic Control of Armed Forces Seminar

Since you took part in the RACVIAC Seminar on the Democratic Control of Armed Forces, let me start by asking you how you would assess the procedures of the Committee on Defence and Security, Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with regard to the current processes of democratic control over the defence sector?

Currently, the Joint Committee on Defence and Security of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Parliament conducts its oversight activities on the basis of a few provisions in the 2005 Law on Defence and the Rules of Procedure of the Parliamentary Assembly. Despite this limited legal framework, the Committee has conducted a number of oversight activities, most notably the ongoing investigation into the destruction of surplus ammunition, weapons and explosives. In its current composition, the Joint Committee has engaged in the challenging task of developing a law on parliamentary oversight in the areas of defence and security. The drafting process is almost complete and the law is expected to enter parliamentary procedure this autumn.

In your opinion as the High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, what are the current challenges/priorities for Bosnia and Herzegovina?

First of all, political leaders need to build on the progress we saw during the first few months of this year, to continue, on the basis of compromise, to deliver concrete results, in particular in fulfilling conditions related to the processes of Euro-Atlantic integration. This also means that leaders should refrain from divisive rhetoric, including references to the future dissolution of the state. Underlying all this is the need for the parties to strictly respect the Peace Agreement and to stop challenging the foundations of this country. Another crucial priority is to get the economy going to create jobs and to increase revenue for improvements.
of social, health and education services.

And finally, there is the longer term challenge of fully reintegrating the country socially, economically and politically. The country does not need to be centralised, but it must pull together and work as one in the interests of all.

RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation is a regional organization, a platform for security cooperation in the SEE. Do you think there are some possibilities of steps forward in the regional cooperation and in which segments in particular? (For instance, we have been hearing a lot about the pooling and sharing lately.)

Regional cooperation-whatever segments of society the cooperation encompasses-is welcome and to be encouraged. RACVIAC is a good example of a sensible area in which to cooperate regionally. A country should pursue its security interests in conformity with its neighbours. Security is indivisible-if one country goes its own way, the collective well-being of its neighbours will be placed in question. Secondly, in these testing financial times, finding ways to cooperate-for instance by pooling and sharing assets-gains importance if the public costs could be lowered by such cooperation.

You have recently stated that after several years, Bosnia and Herzegovina finally has reasons for optimism. Could you elaborate on what exactly you meant by this?

At the beginning of this year, a new cross-party dialogue and a readiness to compromise put an end to political stagnation in the country. What is important is that the dialogue continues and that agreements are reached on the many issues that need to be tackled for the lives of citizens to improve and for the country to join the EU and NATO.

In addition, we need to see the different layers of government in the country working more effectively together rather than working side by side or pulling in different directions.

I am an optimist in this respect. I believe that with the ongoing support of a fully united International Community, Bosnia and Herzegovina will be one of the success stories of the 21st century.

Bosnia and Herzegovina have been accomplished?

The role of the international community, and by extension that of the High Representative, is today certainly no longer the same as ten or even five years ago. Over the last few years, the international community has increasingly been applying the ownership principle: we believe that elected representatives at all levels must take greater responsibility for the future of their country than in the past, while of course fully respecting the Constitution and the Dayton Peace Agreement. Since taking office, I have used my powers very sporadically and carefully, allowing local politicians to take the lead and reach the necessary compromises to move the country forward. At the same time, the EU has reinforced its presence in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which I warmly welcome.

Developments over recent years and months have shown that Bosnia and Herzegovina still faces many challenges and that the progress that has been made since 1996 is not irreversible. For example, repeated statements by politicians challenging the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country only serve to spread fear and uncertainty about the future among ordinary people and to delay the progress that Bosnia and Herzegovina will inevitably have to make towards Euro-Atlantic integration. For this reason, the High Representative still has a vital role to play to safeguard the Peace Agreement and in so doing allowing the EU Delegation to focus its energies on advancing the EU agenda. In this respect, the roles of the High Representative and the EUSR are complementary.

Mr Valentin Inzko is an Austrian diplomat, born in Klagenfurt in 1949.

After obtaining a PhD degree in law from the University of Graz and finishing the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, he entered the Austrian diplomatic service in 1974.


Between October and December 1992, he was a member of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe mission to the Sandzak region in Serbia. He served as the Austrian ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1996 to 1999, followed by a post at the federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Vienna between 1999 and 2005. In 2005, he was appointed the Austrian ambassador to Slovenia.

In March 2009, he became the seventh High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

He is married to opera singer Bernarda Fink and has two children.
We are witnessing the fact that women are increasingly employed in the Armed Forces and Police. Do you consider this a trend towards a drastic change of a women’s place and role in society, notably in security institutions, or primarily yet another consequence of the financial crisis we have been facing over the last few years?

It is rather difficult to answer this question precisely. I do hope women choose these occupations because they actually want and like these types of jobs, and that is what is most important. However, the importance of permanent employment cannot be simply dismissed at the time of the financial crisis. It is a fact that after the defence reform process and introduction of professional military service, the percentage of women in the Armed Forces has significantly increased. There is an increasing number of women, even the highly educated ones, who are enlisting in the army, which is especially evident during vacancy announcements. Therefore, this is neither a taboo nor exclusively a male occupation. I think women can find their place in the Armed Forces and even build a successful career. I am especially pleased to see that in addition to an increasing interest among women, in the recruitment rounds women are ranked among top three for qualifications and physical performance alike.

In 2010 RACVIAC was involved in Perspektiva project, which resulted in a document “Guide through Personal Transition” aimed at facilitating transition of military personnel in Bosnia and Herzegovina. To what extent does this Guide really facilitate the transition for you and how far have your reached or at what stage is the project now?

I am familiar with the fact that RACVIAC conducted some activities on the resettlement of military personnel within the framework of conferences and seminars of the Working Group (WG1) at which the participants shared their experiences and the lessons learned. We are particularly grateful to you for the help you provided through an active participation in developing a brochure “Guide through Personal Transition”. However, over the previous years, the MoD...
of Bosnia and Herzegovina took various important steps at the national and international level to prepare for the process of transition. As early as 2008, the Action Plan and Transition Policy were adopted, followed by the adoption of the Transition Programme “Perspektiva” a year later. In the same year, the Rulebook on Transition and Resettlement was developed, personnel analysis completed, and three resettlement centres established. For the realization of the NATO “Perspektiva” Programme, the MoD earmarked one million of Convertible Marks in the budgets for 2010, 2011, and 2012, respectively. Since early 2010, the MoD discharged some 2000 professional soldiers who are assisted in their re-integration into civilian life through the implementation of the NATO “Perspektiva” Programme as the authentic programme. The process is in its final implementation phase and should be completed by the end of this year.

Parliamentary oversight of security sector is also one of the areas of intensive cooperation between Bosnia and Herzegovina and RACVIAC and we have been organizing several activities on that topic for several consecutive years. What are currently the main challenges in the defence system reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina with regard to the NATO accession process?

It is true that for several years now the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina has hosted the conferences on parliamentary oversight of security sector organized together with RACVIAC.

This is our way of showing that we devote great attention to this important issue - the issue of effective parliamentary oversight over security and defence sector, as well as to the regional cooperation in the area.

These conferences are good occasions for the parliamentary commissions and competent officials working in security and defence institutions to share the best practices and search for a long-term progress in this domain.

As regards the challenges, I would say that the creation of political will is a constant challenge that we put a lot of effort into, but it is equally challenging to ensure the necessary resources, both material and human.

We have been responding to these challenges, sometimes more and sometimes less successfully. However, for me there is no alternative to NATO and EU integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and finally I see Bosnia and Herzegovina fully integrated into these structures.

Since the MAP, as a key programme on the path to NATO alliance, has not been put into effect for Bosnia and Herzegovina yet, the issues, or one issue in particular the one concerning prospective immovable defence property are currently being resolved in order to remove obstacles to participation in the MAP.

In view of the draft Agreement confirmed by the Council of Ministers and the decision that is pending adoption by the Parliament, I believe all the obstacles will be removed and the efforts and activities aimed at NATO membership intensified.

The budget has been adopted and although it does not allow for the MoD’s plan and programme to be fully implemented, it does represent a significant step forward, considering that in 2011 we were operating based on the Decision on Provisional Financing.

Ministry of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina has had excellent cooperation with RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. In what areas do you think this cooperation could be enhanced or intensified; How can RACVIAC assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in a faster and easier EU and NATO integration?

You are right in saying that the Ministry of Bosnia and Herzegovina supports RACVIAC and that we have an excellent cooperation. As you know, three of our officers have been members of RACVIAC staff for some time now. In addition to that, Bosnia and Herzegovina makes a financial contribution to covering RACVIAC operational costs. We consider the project and cooperation with this regional Centre for Security Cooperation to be part of a long-term, mutually beneficial process.

RACVIAC is an indispensable platform of efficient regional cooperation which is not only an essential precondition for the EU and NATO integration process, but also the best preparation for all the participants to simply transfer cooperation instruments from the regional to a wider European and Euro-Atlantic context in the future.

Ms Marina Pendes has been a Deputy Minister for Policy and Planning at the Ministry of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA) since 2012. Prior to this she held the following positions: Deputy Minister of Defense for Resources Management of BA from 2004-2012; Minister of Physical Planning, Restructuring and Return of the County of Central Bosnia (Županija Središnja Bosna); Head of Department at the Telecommunication Centre in Vitez, and independent constructor in a company TRZ, Travnik.

She is very active in the social and political life of BA, and has been actively involved in several international and regional events on gender issue.

Ms Pendes holds an academic degree from the Military-Technical Faculty, Zagreb, Croatia.
Interview with Dr. Zdenka Cebasek-Travnik, Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia

Ms Cebasek-Travnik, could you please provide us with some information about the Human Rights Ombudsman in the Republic of Slovenia: what are the Ombudsman’s tasks, relation with the Parliament in terms of mandate, responsibilities and financing?

The institution of the Human Rights Ombudsman in the Republic of Slovenia was established by law according to the provision of the Constitution. The institution has been active since 1995, and I am the third Ombudsman and the first woman to hold the post. The Ombudsman’s term of office lasts for 6 years. It is interesting to note that the Ombudsman is elected at the proposal of the President and it is the only position that requires a two-third majority of votes in the Parliament. The scope of the Ombudsman’s activities is defined by law. The Ombudsman deals with the cases in which the rights of an individual or a group of people have been violated by the civil service and/or public service bodies or employees or the local authorities. The Ombudsman does not act upon the cases for which there are ongoing court proceedings. We may only keep track of the progress of the proceedings, but, naturally, we can by no means influence the outcome and the court ruling. All other governmental, public and local authority bodies are open to our “investigation”. We also protect the citizens’ rights in the proceedings before the Armed Forces and Security Agencies. It should be noted that this is not the practice employed by Ombudsmen in all countries. Personally, I have a good cooperation with the military, at all levels. We are usually provided with everything we ask for and there are generally no problems in this regard. We do experience minor problems when we give some guidelines or recommendations that are a bit hard to accept or require lengthier implementation period. Still, the outcome is always positive in the end and some steps forward are made.

Human rights and liberties are terms with a wide range of meaning. Content-wise, what should an Ombudsman do?

Content-wise, it is not stipulated what an Ombudsman should do. Personally, I have set the following priorities for my term of office: children, the elderly and people with special needs. As I am a psychiatrist by profession and have developed a feeling for human adversities, I have to say that I have started dealing with the issue of poverty in a systematic manner as early as 2007. I have to admit that this raised many eyebrows, because Slovenia was not hit by the financial crisis at the time. However, it was evident as early as then that poverty prevented some persons from exercising their fundamental human rights. The second area of my interest is violence on all levels, from traffic violence and domestic violence to peer violence, bullying, mobbing, etc. I am interested in the phenomenon of violence in general and how legislation can help curb it. My third priority is environmental protection, i.e. the issues of pollution and remediation of polluted areas.

What are the most common reasons people contact you and which are some of the most common groups that approach you, seeking help and protection from the Ombudsman?

I would say it depends on the situation and issues involved. There are always some groups of citizens who are more vulnerable in a given period. It all depends on a number of factors and it is never possible to make exact predictions. A few years ago we were dealing with the cases on account of thousands of people having been “erased” from the Slovenian Book of Citizens in 1992. We are still often approached by people due to excessively lengthy court proceedings. Last year cases of social injustice became more frequent.
**INTERVIEWS**

*Could you give us some specific examples of cases where the intervention of the Ombudsman was required with regard to human rights violations in the Armed Forces?*

Virtually all cases were connected to Labour Law. One of the cases, also published in the English version of our 2010 Annual Report, was dealing with the procedure of recognizing the right to absence from work on grounds of occupational injury. An initiator informed us about the problem when his employer, the Ministry of Defence, did not recognize his right to absence from work on grounds of occupational injury. Since his rights were not recognized due to inadequate action on the part of his superiors, the case was pointed out to the Ministry of Defence and the opinion of the Ombudsman was communicated. The Ministry undertook to improve the procedures of reporting occupational injuries. All the problems the initiator had encountered were remedied after our intervention and the initiator was able to exercise his rights.

*What is being done by the Institution of the Ombudsman in order to eliminate the barriers that, for instance, prevent women from taking a more active part in politics and the political spheres of society? What can an Ombudsman in the Republic of Slovenia do to improve gender equality?*

Until recently there was a Government Office for Equal Opportunities in the Republic of Slovenia (note: the Office for Equal Opportunities was abolished in March 2012), so the Human Rights Ombudsman did not have any special objectives in this regard. We have come across some individual cases in the course of our practice, although not very frequently. The reason for this is that these cases were probably referred to the Government Office for Equal Opportunities. I am afraid that there is unfortunately not much that an Ombudsman can do with reference to such cases in a systematic manner. The laws are there and they are quite well written, though not always implemented.

*You mentioned the difference between the private and public sector. Do you perhaps have a general overview as to in which sector the situation is worse? Is it the private sector?*

The problem is that an Ombudsman has no authority over physical and legal entities which are “not the state”. As regards the discrimination in state institutions, I can give recommendations and ask the institution to take measures against the identified discrimination. I would say the situation is definitely worse in the private sector. There is far greater number of cases in which gender equality standards are breached in the private sector. In this sector the employer has great authority and may, for instance, fire women who have children or pregnant women, claiming they have been made redundant. In the public sector things do not exactly work that way. Unfortunately, the Ombudsman has no access to the private sector.

*Considering that 2012 has been declared the Year of the Family, let me ask you what your experiences are when it comes to the protection of the rights of children, women and families?*

Children represent some of the most numerous and vulnerable groups in almost every society. Slovenia is currently going through a transition period: the new Family Law was rejected in a referendum on 25 March 2012. As an Ombudsman, I endorsed this Act, not because 2012 has been declared the Year of the Family, but because the Draft Act incorporated a lot of what we have been proposing for years. Since the Act was not passed, this will unfortunately have a detrimental impact on the most vulnerable group - children, while it is primarily this group the Act aimed to protect. We are forced to tackle some problems all over again and what is worse, children will not get from the Act what we had expected them to get, because the law will not be discussed again in the Parliament during the next 12 months. It is only the next generation who will benefit from it, provided the problems are resolved.

On 20 December 2006 dr. Zdenka Cebasek-Travnik was appointed the third Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia. She started her six year term in February 2007;

• 1995 - 2000 Head of the Alcoholism Treatment Center Ljubljana, University Psychiatric Hospital Ljubljana;
• 1995 till February 2007 Assistant, Chair of Psychiatry, School of Medicine, University of Ljubljana;
• 2000 - 2004 Deputy Director for Education, University Psychiatric Hospital Ljubljana;
• 2004 till February 2007 Assistant Director for Education, University Psychiatric Hospital from 2004 until February 2007;
• 2007 The Human Rights Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia.
The 27th MAG & Budgetary Meeting, the first semi-annual meeting of RACVIAC’s steering body - the Multinational Advisory Group (MAG) to take place after the new Agreement entered into force, was held in the Albanian town of Durres from 17 to 18 April 2012.

The Meeting was organized by the MAG Chairmanship of Albania and it gathered the majority of MAG Member countries. As usual, the Budgetary Meeting was held on Tuesday, 17 April, and it gave MAG representatives the opportunity to discuss all relevant issues regarding RACVIAC’s Budget for 2011 and 2012, as well as projections for 2013 and beyond. On the following day the 27th MAG Meeting took place. It was officially opened by Brigadier General Zyber Dushku, Deputy Chief of General Staff of Albanian Armed Forces and the MAG Chairperson.

The Meeting Agenda consisted of a brief presentation of Director’s Annual Report 2011 provided by the Director of RACVIAC, Ambassador Nikola Todorcevski, followed by the presentations on RACVIAC’s annual 2011 and 2012 programmes for each of RACVIAC’s three pillars, delivered by Lieutenant Colonel Stefan Miene, Mr Branko Kromar, M.Sc., and Mr Milan Janicijevic. In addition to that, Major Sasa Konjevic informed MAG about further steps to be taken with regard to the possibility for RACVIAC to serve as a regional platform for cyber security related activities. The last presentation was given by the Deputy Director, Colonel Zeljko Cepanec, who informed the participants about the current financial issues in the functioning of RACVIAC, as well as about the current personnel situation in the Centre.

Since the term of duty of the current RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Todorcevksi is expiring in October 2012, upon the recommendation of Members, MAG approved the appointment of Ambassador Branimir Mandic, a nominee of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Assistant Minister for Multilateral Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as the new Director of RACVIAC in the period of October 2012 to October 2015.

Pursuant to the invitation by the MAG Chairperson, the representatives of Kosovo* took part in the MAG Meeting under Agenda Item AOB as special guests and expressed their interest in obtaining the Observer status in RACVIAC.

The complete Chairman’s Conclusions of the 27th MAG Meeting can be found on: http://www.racviac.org/downloads/2012/27_mag_conclusions.pdf

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.
Conference on CSDP held in Belgrade

Co-organized by RACVIAC, EU Commission TAIEX Instrument and Serbian Ministry of Defence

RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, in co-operation with the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia and the TAIEX Instrument, organized a Conference entitled: Integration and Contribution of SEE to Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) of the EU, which was held in Belgrade from 09 to 11 May 2012.

Different concepts of crisis management and the necessity for harmonisation with regard to CSDP standards have increased the need of EU candidate and potential candidate countries in the pre-accession phase pertaining to the procedures, management, capabilities, knowledge, etc.

The purpose of the event was to contribute to regional security cooperation in South Eastern Europe as an important tool in promoting European integration efforts of the region. The Conference has also contributed to the recognition of the importance of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)/Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) as part of the SEE countries' integration in the EU.

The event was opened by the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Serbia, H.E. Mr Dragan Sutanovac, Ambassador Vincent Degert, Head of Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia, and Ambassador Nikola Todorcevski, RACVIAC Director.

Ambassador Todorcevski said that one of the main challenges for the EU in the filed of security and defence policy in the future was to enhance coordination and coherence between different policy areas and actors to help ensure a comprehensive approach to crisis management. He also pointed out to the importance of this event in terms of adopting a comprehensive approach, relying on the experiences presented to the participants by distinguished speakers form the European Union with regard to different issues on the relations between CSDP and national security and defence in our region, future expectations and needs.

The event gathered more than 120 participants, coming from Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, France, Montenegro, Portugal, Romania and Serbia, as well as representatives of RACVIAC and EUFOR. In the course of six panels and the exchange of views with the lecturers from the EU, the implementation of the CSDP policy was endorsed, as well as future and foreseeable cooperation on CSDP among the SEE countries.

The main conclusion of this event, which was one of the largest events ever organized by RACVIAC and its partners, was that despite different national positions on the CSDP, all EU candidate and potential candidate countries from the region had the same strategic path towards the EU membership.

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* Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.
The Workshop on the Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions was held in RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation from 16 to 18 May 2012. This was the fourth time that RACVIAC and the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia jointly organized an event dedicated to Cluster Munitions.

Convention on Cluster Munitions is a very important achievement of the so called Oslo Process, which started in February 2007 when 46 of the 49 participating states agreed that before the end of 2008 they would establish a new, legally binding instrument prohibiting cluster munitions. The Convention was signed in Oslo on 3 December 2008 by representatives of 94 countries. By February 2010, the required 30 ratifications were achieved and the Convention entered into force on 1 August 2010, thereby becoming international legally binding piece of legislation.

With a view to encouraging the States Parties to the Convention to fulfil their international obligations under the Convention and recognizing the need for international cooperation and assistance, RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia decided to co-organize a Workshop on the implementation of the Convention in South Eastern Europe.

This Workshop was designed as a forum gathering experts from the ministries of defence and foreign affairs, armed forces, national mine action centres, governmental offices for demining and various governmental and non-governmental organisations: Cluster Munitions Coalition, International Committee of the Red Cross, United Nations Development Program, Bundeswehr Verification Centre, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, International Trust Fund to Enhance Human Security, Norwegian People's Aid, South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Trust Fund for Humanitarian Demining of Croatia "Croatia without Mines" as well as the representative from Permanent Mission of the Lebanese Republic to the UN Office in Geneva.

The purpose of this Workshop was to share the latest developments related to the implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions in SEE, with a particular focus on the obligations of the States Parties to the Convention and national strategies, implementation plans, progress reports and needs for support from outside the region. A significant part of this activity was dedicated to clearance, stockpile destruction and victim assistance. The Workshop started with the opening speeches delivered by Ms Vesna Batistic-Kos, PhD, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, Ms Dijana Plestina, PhD, Director, Croatian Government's Office for Demining, H.E. Mr Henrik Ofstad, Norwegian Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia, Mr Zdravko Modrusan, Head of the Croatian Mine Action Centre and Ambassador Nikola Todorcevski, RACVIAC Director.

This workshop has proved that the countries are continuing with their efforts and making further steps in eliminating the danger caused by cluster munitions. At the same time, the presentations clearly showed that in the SEE countries there are still stockpiles and areas contaminated or suspected of contamination with cluster munitions. Therefore, clearance and destruction of stockpiles remain important and urgent tasks.
The Dayton Article IV Course was conducted from 28 May to 01 June 2012 at RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. Following the well-established practice of the previous years, this course was co-organized with the Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office for Article IV of Annex 1-B of the Dayton Peace Accords.

The purpose of this Course was to instruct the designated individuals coming from the four State Parties on how to successfully perform their duties as inspectors and/or escorts pursuant to the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control and to establish a common understanding of the Agreement in order to foster mutual trust and confidence, as well as transparency during the performance of inspections.

The course was designed for military officers and non-commissioned officers dealing with the conduct of Arms Control inspections pursuant to the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control, from the four State Parties, as well as for representatives from national Arms Control Agencies, Verification Centres, and other agencies and international organizations dealing with the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The opening lecture of the Course was provided by Dr Heinz Vetschera, an Academic Lecturer in Peace Support Operations Training Centre on Sarajevo (PSOTC). Dr Vetschera delivered a comprehensive lecture on Arms Control Scope and Limits, as well as on activities and organization of the OSCE. In his opening address, Dr Vetschera said that Arms Control itself is the military side of cooperative security policy and therefore it needs a minimum of political will and cooperative counterpart to cooperate with.

The course, gathering approximately 30 participants coming from Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Germany, Montenegro, Poland, Serbia, Switzerland and OSCE, consisted of a theoretical and a practical part. The theoretical part included lectures about the history of Arms Control and the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, role, tasks and responsibilities of the Office of the Personal Representative of the OSCE CiO for Article IV. Special focus was given to the Protocols on Reduction, Protocol on Existing Types (POET) and inspections of Declared Sites.

The practical part included a training inspection on a declared site in Bjelovar, Barracks "BILIGORA", which enabled the participants, divided into two teams, to practice both the roles of inspectors and escorts. Each team conducted a training inspection - one in the role of the inspection team and the other in the role of the escort team in the selected OOI (Objects of Inspection) under the following procedures:

- Preparation of the inspection
- Execution of the inspection
- Debriefing - evaluation of the inspection - lessons learned.

It is worth mentioning that so far 670 inspections have been conducted under Article IV of Annex 1-B of the Dayton Peace Accords, whereby every declared unit has been inspected twice.
"Investigative Journalism and Data Protection" conference held in Pula

Co-organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), Croatian Radio-Televison and European Association of Public Media in SEE

A two-day conference entitled “Investigative Journalism and Data Protection”, jointly co-organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Regional Cooperation Council, the European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe and the Croatian Radio and Television, was conducted in the period of 29 31 May 2012 in Pula.

The conference was a follow-up activity to the Conference on Public Media and Security in SEE, held at RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation in November 2011, aimed at promoting and increasing cooperation by using dialogue, information exchange, transfer of knowledge, views and ideas, as well as at disseminating international standards related to investigative journalism and data protection and building a more open, transparent and stable environment in the SEE region.

As public service media (PSM) themselves are one of the most important pillars of democratic societies, their role is of utmost importance in the South East European (SEE) countries as well. The SEE is part of European landscape and its PSM should be advocates and promoters of positive changes - this has been strengthened by the establishment of the European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe, the activities of which are strongly supported by the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) and RCC.

RACVIAC and RCC work to promote mutual cooperation and European and Euro-Atlantic integration of South East Europe in order to stimulate development in the region to the benefit of its people. The strategic goal of their media development activities is to bring about change, which would foster development of the media sector in the SEE towards free, professional and responsible media in the region.

Investigative journalism is an important tool through which journalists and the media as such foster public interest and contribute to an overall development and democratization of society, the field of security included.

The purpose for organizing the second event dealing with media, journalism and security arose out of a need to promote investigative journalism, foster journalist independence, while upholding and observing data protection principles and security related standards.

More than 30 participants, representing the SEE countries’ Ministries of Defence and the SEE public media services, as well as the representatives of the European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe, European Broadcasting Union, South Eastern European Media Organization, Regional Cooperation Council took part in this conference.

Formal opening addresses were delivered by Col Zeljko Cepanec, RACVIAC Deputy Director, Ms Nela Gudelj, Educational Centre, Croatian Radio-Television, and Ambassador Stanislav Daskalov, Deputy Head of Liaison Office in Brussels, Regional Cooperation Council.

Conference was divided into four sessions:

- Promotion and commitment to development and strengthening of investigative journalism, while respecting and obeying data protection principles;
- Investigative journalism and data protection in practice - media view;
- Investigative journalism and data protection in practice - view from security institutions;
- Integrated approach to military and media cooperation in field training.

Drawing attention to the importance of the interconnection between public media services and security issues, conference participants analyzed transparency of the relationship between the media and security, explored the role of the public media in crisis management operations, promoted freedom of expression and capacity building in the field of the media, fostered media pluralism and cooperation between regional public media services and state institutions, and shared information, views and experiences.
Round Table on Irregular Migration conducted

Co-organized by RACVIAC, EU Commission TAIEX Instrument and MK Ministry of Defence

Based on a long-term and continuous cooperation with Migrations, Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative - MARRI, RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation conducted a two-day Round Table entitled “Irregular Migration and its Effects on Security”, in Ohrid, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, in the period of 06-08 June 2012.

The prevention of and fight against irregular migration, trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, document security, asylum and the effects thereof on security are placed high on the agenda of law makers in various societies. Organized crime/smuggling networks involved in irregular migration and smuggling or trafficking in persons are also very often involved in other related organized criminal activities using already established links and channels (i.e. terrorism, drugs, weapons and vehicle smuggling, corruption, money laundering, etc.) and they pose a high level security threat to state sovereignty and internal security.

In order to successfully prevent and combat irregular migration, organized crime and their effects on security, many different measures and courses of action must be developed and implemented, such as improvements with regard to the following: legislation, co-operation with third countries, particularly the cooperation among neighbouring countries situated along irregular migration “routes”, capacity building, exchange of data/statistics, visa policy, integrated border management, travel and identity document security, establishment of a coherent common policy on readmission and return, integration, rules on stay and residence and permanent education and training systems.

In this regard, and with the aim to foster dialogue and cooperation on security matters in South East Europe (SEE), the subject matter of the Round Table on Irregular Migration and its Effects on Security was recognized both by MARRI and RACVIAC as a platform for strengthening the confidence and cooperation in the SEE region by building a more open, transparent and stable environment in the region, as well as by encouraging the exchange of information, views and ideas.

The purpose of this Round Table was to discuss the legislative aspects, standards, procedures and the main challenges faced by the SEE countries and international and regional organizations in their efforts to manage the complex and diverse phenomena of irregular migration, human trafficking, document security, crime and terrorism, and their effects on security.

The Round Table gathered more than 20 participants and lecturers from AL, BA, HR, ME, MK, RS, RO, and TR, mostly officials at decision-making level and experts representing relevant ministries, institutions and organizations dealing with irregular migration issues.

Opening the Round Table, RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Nikola Todorcevski, said that the countries of Europe were affected by a multitude of challenges and opportunities in the area of migration and its effects on security and in order to manage mobility in a secure environment, the countries needed to continue with their prioritized dialogue and cooperation in the EU, in the EU’s neighbourhood and beyond.

In accordance with the Round Table agenda, special attention was given to the regionally integrated approach aimed at successful prevention and combat of illegal migration; the current international and regional efforts towards refugees and internally displaced persons; and national legal aspects of irregular migration and the state’s policy options on irregular migration of the SEE countries.

* Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.
The Seminar on the Democratic Control of Armed Forces as Basic Principle of SSR: Regional Perspective was conducted at the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo, from 11 to 13 June 2012. The Seminar, co-organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Joint Committee on Defence and Security of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, NATO HQ Sarajevo and DCAF, was a continuation of the Conference on Parliamentary Oversight of Security Sector held in June 2011 in Sarajevo.

Effective parliamentary oversight has become crucial in ensuring that the new responses to security threats are devised and implemented with full transparency and accountability. In its absence, there is a danger of security services misinterpreting their mission and acting like a state within the state, either placing heavy strains on scarce resources, or exerting excessive political and economical influence.

There is no doubt that knowledge, both theoretical and practical, is one of the preconditions for successful work of the parliamentary representatives, members of the committees for parliamentary oversight over the security sector. The year 2012 saw several newly elected Parliaments in the South East European (SEE) region. This is the main reason for organizing a seminar on parliamentary oversight of the defence sector, which aims to explore conditions and mechanisms of security sector control, as well as the control of financial, human and material resources.

The main purpose of the Seminar was to give a broad introduction to enhancing parliamentary oversight of the security sector and to set out main principles and mechanisms related to this matter, as well as to give an overview of best practices in adopting legislation on parliamentary oversight over the security sector in the SEE region.

The Seminar gathered more than 50 participants, representing the defence / security parliamentary Committees, Ministries of Defence and Foreign Affairs from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Greece, Montenegro, Poland, Slovenia, and Serbia, as well as representatives from NTO HQ Sarajevo, OSCE Sarajevo, EUFOR-ALTHEA, and DCAF from Geneva.

The Seminar was opened by Ms Dusanka Majkic, Chair of the Joint Committee on Defence and Security, Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colonel Zeljko Cepanec, RACVIAC Deputy Director; as well as distinguished representatives of the international community present in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Mr Valentin Inzko, High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brigadier General (Ret) Harald Quiel, Director of Department for Security Cooperation, OSCE, Brigadier General Gary E. Huffman, Commander, NATO HQ Sarajevo, and Major General Robert Brieger, Commander, EUFOR-ALTHEA.

In order to strengthen security environment in increasingly volatile global circumstances enhanced partnership and cooperation is needed on all levels, ensuring parliamentary oversight over the security sector and including creation of the legislation frameworks, security policies and their enforcement.

The event, divided into several panels, elaborated several topics, such as “Civil Military Relations and the Democratic Control of Security Sector; “National Security under Parliamentary Scrutiny: Conditions for an Effective Oversight”, and Parliamentary Oversight of Security Sector: Good Practices from the Region. The last panel was dedicated to the most important legislative or institutional reforms implemented in the last years, allowing for a more effective parliamentary oversight of security in a country.

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CSDP related activity held in Skopje

In cooperation with the Ministry of Defence of former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* and the European Commission TAIEX instrument, RACVIAC conducted the activity “Common Security and Defence policy (CSDP) - EU’s Contribution to the Security and Involvement of SEE Countries” in Skopje, in the period of 11-13 June 2012.

The European Union’s Common Security and Defence Policy has been operational for more than six years. The Treaty of Lisbon has introduced quite a few institutional changes to the regime of foreign affairs and security policy and it is estimated that these innovations will significantly improve the decision-making and leadership on the issues of CSDP and, consequently, the effectiveness of the European Union as an international crisis manager.

The relevance of Common Security and Defence Policy and its role have been recognised as an important and successful instrument of the European Union. The CSDP missions and operations are framed within a coherent policy approach, operating on the ground as part of the EU family and building on necessary local ownership. The CSDP had a great achievement and played an important and specific role in strengthening the stability of the SEE region in line with its European perspective. In order to continue ensuring the added value and quality of CSDP policies, missions and operations, it is very important to have an overview of the past developments, current attainments and future perspectives of the CSDP.

The purpose of this multi beneficial event was to further promote a common understanding of the CSDP, as well as to develop a common security culture and efficient cooperation between the EU and SEE countries.

The event was opened by H.E. Mr Fatmir Besimi, Minister of Defence (MK), followed by speeches given by Mr Robert Liddell, Head of Political, Justice and Home Affairs Issues, EU Delegation in Skopje, and H. E. Ambassador Nikola Todorcevski, RACVIAC Director.

In his opening address, Ambassador Todorcevski said that common and synchronized adoption of demands, cumulated in the CSDP concept, could be one of the instruments stimulating effective reaching of Common Foreign Security Policy (CFSP)/CSDP standards as part of the EU integration. Different concepts of crisis management and the necessity for harmonization with regard to CSDP standards have increased the needs of the EU candidate and potential candidate countries in the pre-accession phase pertaining to the procedures, management, capabilities, knowledge, etc.

More than 50 participants, coming from various SEE countries, shared the information, views and lessons learned about the influence of the CFSP and CSDP on candidate and potential candidate countries in the process of accession to the EU and its benefits for the SEE.

Special emphasis was given to the civil-military cooperation in the EU crisis management with regard to building civilian and military capacities, development of more flexible framework for the partnership with NATO, and influence of the CFSP/CSDP on EU candidate and potential candidate countries from the perspectives of various SEE countries.

* Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.
After spending more than one year at our Centre, **Major Vladimir Plecko** left his position as the Operations Manager in May 2012. During his tour of duty, major Plecko supported numerous RACVIAC activities as an experienced and capable officer, never hesitating to use all of his knowledge and efforts to do his job at the highest level.

We would like to thank him for his work, cooperation and friendship. Major Plecko continues his professional career at the United Nations Mission in Syria, and we wish him all the best in the future.

### Forthcoming events

- Climate Change and Security
- Cyber Defence Strategies and Policies
- SSR and OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security
- Defence Source Management: Procurement & Outsourcing
- The Open Door Policy and Smart Defence in the Context of New NATO Strategic Concept
- Demographic Trends and Social Economical Challenges in SEE
- 28th MAG Meeting
- Collective Approach to Combating Terrorism and Organized Crime and Its Effects on Security
- SSR in the Context of PSO: Ten Years of SEE's Countries' Participation in PSO Missions
- Ottawa Convention Seminar
- Physical Security and Stock Pile Management (PSSM) Course
- Financial Aspects of Economic Crisis and Their Impact on Security Sector
- Search and Rescue
- Arms Control Symposium
- Private Security Companies /PMSC vs. National Security Sector
- Promoting Security Strategies and Emerging Security Policy Priorities in SEE
- EU Civil Protection Mechanism
INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Globalization, along with its consequences, has a higher or lower influence on every single area of human activity. While there are many benefits and positive consequences of globalization, they are accompanied by numerous unfavourable and negative effects and occurrences. Against such a backdrop, the security of countries in the modern world has become significantly different. Today countries are more interdependent than ever before, as no country, no matter how developed or powerful, is able to ensure security on its own any longer. In view thereof, in addition to the newly created security aspects of modern states, one should bear in mind several other aspects that were virtually non-existent in the previous perception of security:

- Physical, geographic distance has no longer any significance for many dimensions of security;
- Individuals and small groups can pose a threat and cause destruction as massive as those brought about by large conventional armies;
- Cyber space has become a new area of influence, an area for tackling numerous issues and a new area of security and defence in particular.

Furthermore, overall social changes are occurring at a pace unprecedented in human history. Still, apart from the current speed of overall social changes, it is more important to take account of the fact that all available indicators point to a conclusion that the change will continue to accelerate at an exponential, rather than a linear pace.

It is also worth noticing that technological changes reign supreme within overall changes, while within technological changes, the changes in the area of cybernetics have the greatest significance (kybernao - Greek - to govern, rule, steer - a collective name used since 1948 for the branch of science which studies the rules governing the rise and development of technology as compared to equivalent occurrences in medicine, sociology and biology).\(^1\)

Contemporary understanding of cybernetics is somewhat wider than that and encompasses all activities of generating, transforming, steering, controlling, and transferring different information, regardless of their origin and nature.

This analysis is aimed at unifying particular insights and experiences the author gained over the last two years while participating in some professional international seminars (mainly attended by ministers and experts from defence structures of NATO, PfP member countries and countries involved in the ISAF mission) and in some international scientific activities.

IMPACT OF CYBERSPACE ON DEFENCE AND SECURITY

Throughout a major part of human history, the defence and security of different forms of human community were provided from the land and water, while some hundred years ago the air acquired an important dimension in the warfare with air power becoming the third dimension of war. A few decades ago space became “the fourth dimension of war”, i.e. an area on which an exhausting and dramatic arms race as well as the so called “Star Wars” were taking place which determined the outcome of the Cold War and ushered in a new era in modern history, resulting in a new world order and globalization.

Cybernetics has become a very important dimension of globalization as a planetary arena of general political, economic, financial, cultural and other relations. Cybernetics has become integral to almost all kinds of human activities and communication and it increasingly moves outside the traditional boundaries of its domain.

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\(^1\) Klaić Bratoljub, DICTIONARY OF FOREIGN WORDS IN CROATIAN, Nakladni Zavod MH, Zagreb 1982, p. 686
pertaining to several scientific disciplines. Within overall technological development, information technology and the use of information as well as processing thereof in different systems and networks have probably experienced the fastest and most intensive development. A total number of different devices connected to the Internet is growing at an exponential pace so in the course of 2010, for the first time ever, their number was bigger than the total number of people on Earth. In addition to specific devices that were designed and tailored for the connection to the Internet, there are more and more examples of traditional vehicles and devices, such as cars and television, being adjusted for potential online connection. In this regard, one might notice that the world is no longer simply a geographic entity, but an online and virtual one.

In human history research conducted for the needs of military and defence technologies has represented the basis of overall technological development, so in terms of the use and application of cybernetics, the defence and security structures play an important role as well. Considering the role cyberspace now plays within security and defence structures, processes and functions, it can be claimed that cyberspace has become the “fifth dimension of war”, while it has certainly become an immensely important security and defence space in every country in the modern world.

As in the modern world it is almost impossible to think of a single type of human activity without at least some kind of security system set in place as its integral component, thus any other type of security organization or function is unthinkable without an IT, or rather cyber, component as an important area thereof.

In the times to come we will undoubtedly see a growing presence and importance of cyberspace in the overall security structures and operations. This statement should be placed within the context of sensitivity of different structures, organizations and companies in overall social, political, governmental and business sphere to cyber threats.

The nature of cyber threats is more complex and they are harder to predict than other familiar security threats. Apart from the fact that geographic or physical distances play no part when it comes to cyber threats, it is even harder to determine who is behind these threats, as well as the motives and intentions thereof. Available security information indicate that there are some 2 million negative websites created each month that are used for generating viruses, hacking into different systems, money theft, etc. Cyber threats are often issued by non-state, low profile actors (connected to terrorism, crime or other types of security threats). Experience has shown that these actors are quicker and more ready to assimilate technological change than inert state structures (in terms of both security and defence), which is very important when it comes to deliberations on the prevention, protection and defence against this type of threats. The practice of police officers in some countries has confirmed the fact that almost every criminal activity today originates from websites. The use (or, rather, misuse) of cyber potentials for illegal and criminal purposes will only make things worse.

A particular problem with regard to organizing and undertaking measures aimed at countering cyber threats is presented by the fact that, unlike conventional warfare, this type of warfare is not legally regulated. Thus, not only that we are left in the dark as to who is behind these threats, but we are also left in the dark as to which rules to follow in this area of defence and security.

What is so far familiar with regard to cyber warfare is that these kinds of attacks are intended to use, disrupt or destroy cyber systems and information.

Responses to this kind of threat will require actions in several areas and directions.

Security and defence organizations will keep up with these trends and try to respond to these threats through further technological development and maintaining the level of expertise and training with regard to their structures and individuals that will guarantee continuous readiness to respond to these challenges.

Numerous organizational changes will probably occur within many security and defence structures with the aim to attach greater importance to the responsiveness to this type of danger at the institutional level - in terms of establishing organizational units with the exclusive competence over such matters within the organization. In some countries these changes have already taken place so at the level of the Ministries of Defence and the Chief of Defence there were additional posts of assistant to the Minister and assistant to the Chief of Defence designated with the aim to counter cyber threats, and some separate departments established with an exclusive competence for tackling cyber challenges.

As legal regulation of this particular area of security is still in its initial phase, some significant and quick steps
There can be an additional T added to the 4 Ts - Teamwork - all elements of security system in this domain of combat should be functionally connected, as should the governmental and private sector, as well as other state and social actors that find the interest and possibilities therein.

Training - constant training and expert knowledge in this area can contribute to efficient and frequent prevention of problems.

Testing - all products used for different purposes in this area should comply with particular safety standards.

Technology - the development of technology can help surpass the possibilities of those who intend or try to endanger major systems and networks.

There can be an additional T added to the 4 Ts - Transformational Thinking because a new and ever-changing context is an essential part of any thinking about security in general, particularly cyber security (this dimension can be, in a broader sense, incorporated in the second T - Training training and education can help the most to express and enhance this type of thinking).

When we take a closer look at this type of threat, we can easily conclude that in order to respond to it a very complex approach needs to be taken in every area technology, organization, practice, legal regulation, etc. Therefore, a comprehensive response cannot be given within specialized security structures in charge of this type of activities alone, but rather it requires the involvement of all security structures, as well as a great number of state and social structures that find their interests and possibilities in this area and can be a potential target of the attack.

**FINAL REMARKS**

With a dynamic social development and a growing complexity of security threats, cybernetic security has been increasingly gaining in importance - in terms of its responsiveness to growing security threats in this area, as well as in terms of its higher representation in responding to majority of other security threats. It should be anticipated that in the future the intensity of this threat would not decrease, but rather increase.

Responses to this type of threats posed to the security of modern countries will undoubtedly be dynamic, as the very nature of threats requires this. Through a comprehensive approach, modern security systems can, within national boundaries, increase the level of protection of all networks, systems and information that need to be protected. However, a complete response requires a more integrative approach at the national level this requires a close engagement between governmental and private sectors with the aim to secure critical infrastructure, while at the international level there should be cooperation between partners and allies aimed at the development and functioning of collective cyber security.

There will be some organizational and doctrinaire changes that will reflect the new reality. Some changes in theoretical terms will occur as well, so it might be presumed that cyber power will soon play an important part in the estimation of conventional power factors (for instance, one of the concepts of global power analysis emphasizes the significance of military, economic, technological and cultural factors).

While further changes can be anticipated with regard to cyber threats, this type of security will undoubtedly have a growing influence on the overall quality of security system, i.e. a country as a whole.

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Dr Cikotic was appointed Minister of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2007 after retiring from the army in 2004 as Brigadier. He began his military career in the education center in Zadar, Croatia after attending both military school in Serbia and military academy in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia.

In February 1993 Dr Cikotic was made commander of operational group Zapad of the 3rd Corps of the Army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Bugojno.

Cikotic served as the military attaché at the embassy of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United States in Washington, D.C. from December 1994 to 1997. Upon his return he became the head of the Doctrine, Training and Education Division, Joint Command. He went on to hold the Chief of Cabinet position as well as Deputy Commander and then Commander of the 1st Corps of the Federation Army in his military career.

From 2004 to 2007 he was CEO of OKI Ltd, in Sarajevo.

Dr Cikotic holds a PhD in Defense and Security from the University of Sarajevo and is fluent in English.
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