Conference on Security Challenges for Europe

36th MAG Meeting

Arms Control Symposium

Conference on Foreign Terrorist Fighters
On Thursday October 13th, 2016 the 36th meeting of the Multinational Advisory Group (MAG), RACVIAC’s steering committee, was held at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation under the chairmanship of Brigadier General Nazmi Cahani, Land Force Commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Albania.

In his opening address to the members, associate members and observers, RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk presented his Interim report providing the participants with information regarding the work of the RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation in the first eight months of the year. He said that it was a good period in terms of our activities as well as our financial situation. “We continued to build on, strengthening the achievements of my predecessors. Despite some hurdles, we were able to stabilize our budget as much as possible, thanks to timely transfer of membership contributions, partner countries’ financial support to our program, additional project based resources and serious saving measures. We elevated the quality of our workshops and increased our connectivity.”

Ambassador Berk thanked all MAG countries, international organizations, other participants and partners for outstanding support and cooperation during the last year and invited them all to continue to support RACVIAC in the following years. He underlined the importance of the ownership of the organization and suggested that members keep in mind the role to be played by RACVIAC in South East Europe in regards to international security initiatives.

Over the course of the meeting participants also heard presentations by the Programme Managers from each of RACVIAC’s pillars and the C-WMD Network Leader, who
Meeting of MAG Points of Contact
held in RACVIAC

A Meeting of Point of Contacts of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation Multinational Advisory Group was held in RACVIAC on 19 January 2017, with the aim of discussing details of RACVIAC 2017 Programme.

At the opening of the Meeting RACVIAC Director Ambassador Haydar Berk welcomed the representatives from member countries, associate members and partnering organizations saying that the Centre greatly appreciates their outstanding support and cooperation.

He pointed out that RACVIAC's main goal in the forthcoming period is to increase the quality and visibility of activities in terms of upgrading the level of participants and ensuring a more active engagement of the Members and Associate Members.

Following the introductory address by RACVIAC Director, RACVIAC Programme Managers Col Erhan Kılıçaslan (Cooperative Security Environment), Mrs. Ana Ežova Kržaloska (International and Regional Cooperation) and Mr. Ivan Hostnik (Security Sector Reform) presented the Programme for 2017 within their respective Pillars and projection for 2018. Mrs. Ivana Barbara Blažević presented the developments in the C-WMD project as well as its roadmap for the future.

In a continuation meeting was focused on a discussion regarding specific aspects of member countries' and contributing partners' participation related to the academic and financial support to activities. This opportunity was used to share information on the current stage of ongoing preparation for jointly organized and hosted activities.

Later on Major Jasminka Šoić, Chief of Administration and Finance Cell, provided information regarding the realization of the budget for 2016 and projections for the budget 2017.

Closing the event Ambassador Berk thanked the representatives for all the recommendations and suggestions received mentioning that RACVIAC counts on their active participation and cooperation in the future too.
On Thursday September 1st, 2016, Lieutenant Colonel Matthew Denny, Chief of the Office of Defence Cooperation at the US Embassy visited the Deputy Director of the RACVIAC- Centre for Security Cooperation, BG Gordana Garašić. The meeting focused on future opportunities for cooperation and possible US support.

Common areas of interest were discussed, such as C-WMD, where cooperation has already been established. Furthermore, cyber security, challenges connected to foreign terrorist fighters or border security management, were mentioned as some of the contemporary challenges that South East Europe is facing. It was concluded that RACVIAC, as a vehicle for fostering dialogue on security matters, constitutes the right platform for dialogue and cooperation.

On Thursday September 1st, 2016, Mr. Pjer Šimunović the Head of the Office of the Croatian National Security Council visited the Director of the RACVIAC- Centre for Security Cooperation, Ambassador Haydar Berk. Dr sc Aleksandar Klaić, Assistant of the Head of the Office of the Croatian National Security Council and Deputy Director of RACVIAC, BG Gordana Garašić also attended the meeting.

The meeting focused on possible future opportunities for cooperation on security matters of mutual interest. Since harmonization and the implementation of information security measures and standards is closely connected to cyber security and other security threats, interest was expressed in establishing a structured relationship that all members can benefit from.

It was noted that the Office of the Croatian National Security Council has the expertise and lessons learned from the Croatian process of Euro-Atlantic and European integration and they are already providing advice to RACVIAC member countries on their path to European integration. It was also concluded that using RACVIAC as a platform for further exchange of information and lessons learned can only strengthen the entire process.
On Tuesday September 13th, 2016, Director of RACVIAC-Centre for Security Cooperation, Ambassador Haydar Berk together with BG Gordana Garašić, Deputy Director of RACVIAC visited General Mirko Šundov, Chief of the General Staff of the Croatian Armed Forces. RA Robert Hranj, Director of the General Staff of the CAF and Col Branko Tubić, Deputy Head J5, General Staff of the CAF also attended the meeting.

The meeting focused on exchange of information on future activities of RACVIAC. Ambassador Berk thanked to General Šundov for the invaluable support of the CAF. It was agreed that there are possibilities for further strengthening RACVIAC’s cooperation with the CAF, especially with the Croatian Defence Academy.
Delegation from OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina Visit RACVIAC

On Thursday September 15th, 2016, Mr. Paul Martin the acting Head of the Security Co-operation Unit at the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina visited the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in the company of project officer Mr. Samir Bašić.

The guests were greeted by RACVIAC Deputy Director, Brigadier General Gordana Garašić, and members of the RACVIAC staff. Following a brief introduction Mr. Martin was given a briefing on the RACVIAC - Centre for Security cooperation which was followed by a presentation of work being conducted by RACVIAC's three pillars.

RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk, joined the meeting to discuss possible future cooperation between the two organizations where it was agreed that synergy between international organizations can have a mutually beneficial effect in terms of efficient use of budgetary funds and overall outreach.

Following a more detailed discussion on cooperation regarding individual projects the delegation from the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina was given a tour of the RACVIAC facilities.

In November 2014, RACVIAC and the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina cooperated to conduct a regional conference on "Floods in South East Europe - Lessons Learned and Ways Ahead" and then again in October 2015 to organize a conference on "UN Resolution 2178/14 Dealing with the Problem of Foreign Terrorist Fighters".

U.S. AMBASSADOR TO CROATIA, H.E. JULIETA VALLS NOYES ATTENDS CLOSING OF C-WMD EVENT AT RACVIAC

On Wednesday September 21st, 2016, the U.S Ambassador to Croatia, H.E. Julieta Valls Noyes visited the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation to attend the closing of the C-WMD Network which began on September 19th, 2016. The event was planned and executed with the support of the U.S. European Command (USEUCOM), U.S. Defence Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), and the Republic of Croatia Ministry of Defence.

In his closing address RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk, noted that the overall objective of the three year process is enhancing cooperation and security against WMD proliferation within SEE. Through this process a C-WMD network is to be formed and by 2018, the process of strategy...
He went on to say that this will be followed by implementation and coordination which may prove to be an even more difficult task.

Addressing the participants Ambassador Noyes said that "protecting our citizens is the most basic responsibility of each of our governments. The proliferation of weapons of mass destruction - weapons that can pose enormous consequences not only to one nation but to entire regions - is one of the greatest threats facing us today. Countering this threat requires comprehensive and coordinated national and international responses". Noting the complexity of borders in Europe and the emergence of asymmetric threats, she added that "this is why your work here this week, and continued collaboration upon your return to your countries, is so important to the entire region".

In conclusion Ambassador Noyes pointed out that "this cooperation could not have taken place without leadership from the Republic of Croatia and RACVIAC". She thanked RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Berk and Deputy Director, Brigadier General Garašić for their leadership and efforts noting that RACVIAC's efforts are making a difference in the region.

Following the closing session of the C-WMD Network event, in the company of LTC Matthew Denny, Chief of the Office for Defence Cooperation at the U.S. Embassy, Ambassador Noyes paid an office call to RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk and Deputy Director, BG Gordana Garašić.

The South-Eastern Europe Defence Ministerial meeting was held in Rome on 18 October 2016. RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk, attended the meeting under RACVIAC's Observer status with the SEDM process. The Ministers took up the developments in the SEDM process and reviewed the current challenges in the region. The Ministers, in their Joint Statement, welcomed the efforts of the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation as an important international organization in the SEE Region dealing with security issues, playing a leading role in the areas of confidence and security building measures, security cooperation and counter terrorism efforts. They stated to further promote and support the activities organized by RACVIAC with the aim to enhance the security dialogue in the SEE region.
Delegation from Austrian Institute of Technology and Zagreb University visit RACVIAC

On Monday October 24th, 2016, the RACVIAC - Centre for Security cooperation was visited by Dr. Ivan Gojmerac from the Austrian Institute of Technology, Dr Elisabeth Pergler and Dr Helmut Aschbacher from the FH Campus 02 of the University of Applied Sciences in Graz Austria, Mr Josef Binder of the Binder company and Dr. Maja Matijašević from the University of Zagreb Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing.

The delegation was provided with a briefing on the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in which they were informed on the functioning of the Centre as well as its Programme development. Dr Gojmerac provided the RACVIAC staff with a presentation on the Austrian Institute of Technology and research and development they conduct aimed at contributing to the advancement of industry and security.

During discussion following the presentations areas of possible cooperation were discussed including possible collaboration in projects funded by the EU.

During the afternoon the delegation from Austria and members of the RACVIAC staff, headed by Deputy Director

Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Visits RACVIAC

H.E. Park Won-sup, the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Croatia visited the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation on Tuesday October 25th, 2016. This visit was the Ambassador's first to RACVIAC and provided him with an opportunity to gain information on the functioning of the Centre and the work it does.

The meeting began with a RACVIAC briefing in which Ambassador Won-sup was provided with information regarding the Centre, its mission and activities, manner of financing and main areas of interest within the RACVIAC Pillars, which are reflected in the projects being implemented through the 2017 Programme. During the discussion RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk, provided the guest with additional details regarding the Centre and its projects while security issues affecting South East Europe were also discussed.

Signing the RACVIAC’s guest book Ambassador Won-sup wrote: "I am very pleased to pay a visit to the Centre for Security Cooperation with a view to starting contacts and cooperation between the Embassy of the Republic of Korea and the Centre."
French Ambassadors to Croatia Visit RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation

On Wednesday November 16th, 2016, the French Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia H.E. Corinne Meunier and H.E. Philippe Meunier visited the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. The Ambassadors met with RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk and Deputy Director Brigadier General Gordana Garašić. Following a short briefing on the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Ambassador Berk informed the guests about the current state of affairs at RACVIAC. Topics of discussion included programme development and implementation as well as the main projects being conducted at RACVIAC.

Ambassador Meunier thanked her hosts for receiving the French delegation and recalled that she had participated in a few MAG meetings in the first few years after RACVIAC's establishment. She said that she was glad to see that RACVIAC had succeeded in its initial mission and that efforts were made to capitalize on this success.

RACVIAC Deputy Director Attends Panel Discussion on Women, Peace and Security

On November 22nd, 2016, the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia to the OSCE, UN and International Organizations in Vienna organized a panel discussion on the issue "Women, Peace and Security". Ambassador Dubravka Plejić Marković invited NATO Secretary General Special Representative for WPS, Ambassador Marriët Schuurman and RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation Deputy Director, BG Gordana Garašić as panellists. Discussion was held in the NATO Caucus format in order to exchange views and best practices in the area of integration of gender perspective in the security sector.

In spite of the institutional efforts that NATO undertakes through NATO/EAPC Policy for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and the Action Plan, there are still barriers for women's meaningful participation in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building. There are a number of opportunities for cooperation between the OSCE and NATO on this issue that will be explored.

RACVIAC's activities on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 were introduced, and the benefits that the region of South East Europe can have from lessons learned, nationally or from peace support operations.

Some of the conclusions of this informal session included: Leadership’s commitment is needed; cooperation and information exchange with civil society; pre-deployment training of all personnel; we should deploy more women in peace support operations at all levels; more appointments of women to decision-making positions (creating a critical mass), and gender perspective should be integrated in routine, daily business and become “the new norm”.

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On December 13th, 2016, representative of the Minnesota National Guard MAJ Clay Forbes, and Mr. Michael Johnson Director of Graduate Studies - MS in Security Technologies, University of Minnesota visited the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.

They met with RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk and the RACVIAC staff. Following a short briefing on the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Ambassador Berk informed the guests about the current state of affairs at RACVIAC.

The specific topic of their interest were activities related to cyber security which were organized by RACVIAC and partners over the last few years, as well as about the plan of the activities for the next year. The possibilities for future cooperation on this important area were discussed too, and both sides expressed their readiness to exchange more information and expertise in the coming period.
Representative of IAEA and RACVIAC discuss future cooperation

On 17 January 2017 Mr Thierry Pelletier, Senior Nuclear Security Officer, Division of Nuclear Security, Department of Nuclear Safety and Security of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), payed a visit to RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in order to discuss future cooperation between the two Organizations.

Mr Pelletier was welcomed by RACVIAC Director Ambassador Haydar Berk, Deputy Director Brigadier General Gordana Garašić, and RACVIAC staff members.

After a short introduction Mr Pelletier was given a briefing on RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in which emphasis was put on the Programme of activities that are planned to be conducted by RACVIAC three Pillars in 2017.

Mr Pelletier then presented RACVIAC staff with an outline of IAEA’s current projects and activities.

During the meeting discussion focused on exchange of information on possible future cooperation and areas of common interest especially in the field of C-WMD Network and activities related to the area of nuclear security in general.

It was agreed that synergy and coordination between the two Organizations will enhance the further development of nuclear security architecture and strengthen the regulatory level and harmonization process in SEE region.

This represents additional step extending the scope of the C-WMD Network, which is a project launched in RACVIAC in 2015 with the aim of facilitating the development of national strategies to counter the weapons of mass destruction.
From January 24 to 26 2017 RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation (hereinafter: RACVIAC) organized a working visit in Vienna, AT.

RACVIAC Director Ambassador Haydar Berk was invited by the current Romanian Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC), to be a keynote speaker at the 42nd Meeting of the FSC. Ambassador Haydar Berk presented RACVIAC and its activities in 2017 and spoke about the challenges and expectations concerning South East European Security. Other keynote speakers on the same topic were Ms. Zdravka Busic, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Republic of Croatia and Ambassador Simona Miculescu, Representative of the Secretary-General, United Nations Office in Belgrade. Among the representatives who took the floor, Mrs. Pavlina Rehor, Counselor at the EU Delegation to the OSCE, in her Statement on behalf of the EU highlighted RACVIAC's important role in South East Europe by fostering security, dialogue and cooperation, and also appreciated the close cooperation between the OSCE and RACVIAC in promoting and implementing the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security.

The delegation, consisting of Director Ambassador Haydar Berk, Deputy Director BG Gordana Garasic, and PLO Col Ágidius Daniel Muhr, took the opportunity to meet with BG Reihard Trischak, MoD AT, Mrs Rasa Ostrauskaite, OSCE Co-ordinator of Activities to Adress Transnational Threats, and Mr Juan Carlos Lentijo, Deputy Director General at the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security in the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and exchanged views on the future cooperation in activities organized by RACVIAC.

From the Statement of H.E. Haydar Berk, RACVIAC Director, at the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation N°842, Vienna, 25 January 2017:

...As we look at to the security landscape, most of the traditional challenges and risks remain, but asymmetric risks and threats we increasingly face today such as terrorism including Foreign Terrorist Fighters phenomenon, regional conflicts, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, cyber-attacks, hybrid threats are unpredictable and complex in nature and require comprehensive and rapid responses. Furthermore, they are also accompanied by sources of instability such as irregular and uncontrolled migration, climate change and related food, water and energy scarcities, global competition for energy and natural resources, cultural intolerances, which, if not remedied, may jeopardize our stability and security. As no single country is capable of tackling all these risks and challenges to security by itself, concerted efforts among relevant actors are of vital importance and relevant for the sake of greater synergy, harmonization and complementarity. This makes work of RACVIAC aimed at strengthening security dialogue cooperation in Southeast Europe all the more important. RACVIAC is the only organization in the region which covers all these security issues in a comprehensive, and integrated manner and, in an extensive geographical area. It is the only organization in the region conducting courses on subregional arms control (Dayton Article 4) and on verification and compliance of the Vienna Document. We consider a regional approach to security as a crucial element in strengthening confidence and security building measures. The strength of our organization depends on its high adaptability to the needs of the region vis a vis the contemporary challenges. I am referring to a strategic geography extending from Turkey to Slovenia...
A workshop titled Nuclear Security Detection Architecture was held at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation beginning on Monday September 12th, 2016. The event was organized in cooperation with the United States Department of Homeland Security, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, the United States European Command and the Republic of Croatia.

Countering weapons of mass destruction encompasses a wide variety of issues amongst which lies the unavoidable question of nuclear security. The C-WMD Network is launching a series of five workshops promoting nuclear security detection architecture principles and concepts to raise awareness and provide partner nations with the knowledge and tools to develop, implement, and sustain indigenous national-level detection capabilities.

The purpose of this first Workshop was to raise awareness of NSDA principles, terms, and concepts to establish a foundation for nuclear security coordination and NSDA development. The objective was to build nuclear security detection architecture awareness and enable partners to begin the process of strategy development, including identifying competent authorities, establishing a coordinating mechanism, and conducting a national inventory of detection capabilities.

In his opening address RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk, thanked all partners that took part in the organization of the event and welcomed all experts participating. He noted that "this event is closely tied to our National Strategy development workshops and the intention is that both activities in the end give all the information, support and assistance for the countries in the Region to adequately counter WMD threats".

Addressing the participants Mr. Amir Muharemi, Croatian Assistant Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, noted that "this event confirms the crucial role of RACVIAC as a recognizable forum that promotes security dialogue and facilitates coordination and cooperation, both at the regional and international levels". He added that "Croatia has taken an active and responsible approach to international cooperation. As a country that neither possesses nor develops WMDs, Croatia is a party to all global treaties on non-proliferation. We are determined to foster regional initiatives in this area and our position is that all South-East European countries should be involved in regional efforts."

The Workshop lasted five working days and consisted of lectures, table top exercises, and the use of various tools and templates to facilitate practical application of the concepts discussed.
C-WMD Network organized fifth meeting of the national working groups titled C-WMD National Strategies “Border Security: Emerging Threats and Challenges”

The fast-changing nature of security challenges has fundamentally transformed the very fabric of our security environment, pointed out Croatian Assistant Minister of Defence, Mr. Nikola Brzica.

Project is also to create a Network of people responsible for C-WMD topics in their country. When I see a lot of familiar faces here I can say that we have succeeded in this goal as well.”

Croatian Assistant Minister of Defence, Mr. Nikola Brzica noted that “the fast-changing nature of security challenges has fundamentally transformed the very fabric of our security environment. The spectrum of challenges and threats that we face not only encompasses those familiar to us, like nuclear weapons, but also new and emerging threats, ranging from foreign fighters to mass migration and climate change.”

Based on the agreed Roadmap for the development of national strategies to counter the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, building upon previous meetings and in light of new challenges concerning border security, the C-WMD Network in RACVIAC organized the fifth meeting of the national working / drafting groups which began on September 19th, 2016.

RACVIAC welcomes the continuous support from U.S. European Command (USEUCOM), U.S. Defence Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), and the Republic of Croatia in the planning and execution of this activity.

In his opening address RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk, said that “On behalf of RACVIAC and the whole team of experts I would like to remind you that we are here to support you not only during these Workshops but also throughout the year. One of the objectives of this
Mr. Brzica went on to encourage all “to maintain strong political momentum to enhance our further cooperation in order to achieve the harmonization of our individual efforts that will enable us to develop and strengthen adequate capabilities to anticipate, detect, and disrupt those threats”.

In conclusion Mr. Brzica assured all that the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia will make every effort to support further cooperation in this field.

The activity lasted 4 working days, and consisted of presentations, panel discussions, a table-top exercise in smaller breakout groups, and a round table discussion.

Field Study Trip:
Floods Prevention and Protection Systems in Lower Austria

From September 26th to 28th 2016, the RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation, in cooperation with Austrian Authorities, organized a Field Study Trip on Flood Prevention and Protection Systems in Lower Austria. In 2014 and 2015, RACVIAC in cooperation with its bilateral partners and international organizations organized events on flood related topics in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Belgrade, Republic of Serbia. The conclusions from both events emphasized the necessity for closer and more effective regional collaboration in controlling and protecting against floods in the light of the EU Floods Directive. Therefore, it is of key importance to protect against the vulnerability of river flow infrastructure by joint preventive measures and flood readiness.

The event lasted for 3 working days, and it was a combination of theoretical presentations and practical demonstrations of flood prevention systems. It was held in the Fire Brigade School in Tulln, where the participants started their activities with a walkthrough visit to the Fire Brigade School training facilities. The next day included a series of presentations aimed at introducing participants to the different organizational aspects of key elements of the disaster relief system in Lower Austria, with an emphasis on flood prevention and protection. Furthermore, participants had the opportunity to learn about the practical and effective use of the “mobile” flood protection system and how it is used. They then visited the City of Mautern, where they viewed an annual exercise on utilization of the mobile flood protection system along the Danube River, the City of Krems, viewing the torrent and avalanche protection system, and finally the City of Dross, viewing the decentralized artificial water storage basins.

During the last day of the event, participants had an opportunity to visit the National Response Centre in the Ministry of Interior in Vienna and to observe how the entire disaster relief system is integrated at the state level.
“Building a Cyber Resilient Society in SEE” Advanced Training Course was organized with the aim to provide military and civilian personnel with high-level knowledge, skills and experience required for describing and evaluating the risks and threats of cyber space, improving cyber defence measures and providing advice to decision makers.

The Cyber Security project at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation continued with a new event that opened on Monday October 17th, 2016, titled Building a Cyber Resilient Society in South Eastern Europe Advanced Training Course. The course is the result of a workshop held in April 2016, where, in cooperation with the General Mihajlo Apostolki Military Academy, Skopje, experts from the South East European region gathered to develop an advanced training course programme that was tailored to the needs of the individual countries.

In his opening address, RACVIAC Director Ambassador Haydar Berk highlighted that the activity is supported by the NATO SPS Programme and partially sponsored by the Federal Republic of Germany at the same time welcoming the defence attaché of the Federal Republic of Germany, Lieutenant Colonel Januz Kaschta.

He noted that RACVIAC has given high priority to this field and it will continue as one of the main focuses of interest for RACVIAC, having in mind its topicality not only in the South East European region, but globally as well.

Ambassador Berk noted that the close regional cooperation among South East European countries through dialogue and various forms of cooperation, is a strong response to today’s challenges to international security and defence policy, leading to the building of confidence and security among the countries and development of synergy among the activity participants. "These Cyber Security activities are fully dedicated to overcoming the common contemporary security challenges and threats", said Ambassador Berk.

Over the course of the event participants heard a series of lectures and discussion related to various aspects of Cyber Security.
The reform of the security sector has become one of the major topics of international concern regarding crisis management and post-conflict recovery during the last decade. The focus on traditional security actors has been complemented by a more comprehensive view on human security bringing physical, social and economic security and safety of individuals to the center of attention.

In order to meet these requirements, international organizations such as EU, OSCE, NATO started to develop appropriate capabilities. The result of this process was the adoption of UN SCR 2151 which stresses the national ownership over the Security Sector Reform processes, and at the same time gives a global legitimacy to a Security Sector Reform domain. In this way, SSR primarily aims to create a secure environment that is conducive to economic development, poverty reduction, good governance and, in particular, the growth of democracy and institutions based on the rule of law. This includes the establishment of an efficient civilian oversight over the security actors.

A seminar under RACVIAC’s Basics of Security Sector Reform (SSR) series titled SSR and International Organizations was held at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, beginning on Thursday November 3rd, 2016. The event was organized in cooperation with the Austrian Ministry of Defence and Sports, the OSCE, the UNDP and the George C. Marshall Centre.

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The seminar was designed to introduce participants with existing SSR outlines within UN, OSCE, OECD, EU and NATO frameworks, and thus provide a unique comparative analysis of the subject matter within slightly different contexts. The aim was to point out specific solutions when it comes to required basic SSR processes. Participants were provided with an overview of the concepts, principles and strategies for SSR and learned about the approaches of international organizations, familiarizing themselves with SSR through case studies and best practices.

In his opening address RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk noted that the United Nations, defines Security Sector Reform as a “process of assessment, review and implementation as well as monitoring and evaluation led by national authorities, that has as its goal the enhancement of effective and accountable security for the state and its peoples, without discrimination and with full respect for human rights and the rule of law”. He added that, together with the states, international organizations have assumed increasingly relevant responsibilities in SSR agenda setting and development. It should also be always taken into account the fact that reform of the security sector must be a nationally owned process, it can only be assisted and not implemented from outside; thus the role of supranational organizations should be focused on assistance in the democratic transformation of the security sector, initiated and developed by the State. Only through cooperation among different bodies, and respecting the limits of involvement, an effective and responsible reform can be envisaged in this sector.

Over the course of the event participants heard a combination of lectures and national presentations and engaged in group discussions within three panels: Concepts, Principles and Strategies for SSR; SSR and International Organisations’ Approaches; National Experiences in Implementing SSR.
An Arms Control Symposium was held at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation beginning on Tuesday November 8th, 2016. The event was organized with the support of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The purpose of the event was to build on the experience of last year's Symposium and to present the latest developments in Arms Control, with the aim to open up new perspectives on confidence-building measures for peace and stability in Europe. The idea was to bring together all relevant players coming from the "Arms control family" and give them the opportunity to discuss and share ideas on the future of arms control in Europe and the region. An important element of its overall aims was the updating of any relevant information regarding Arms Control issues and to discuss the way ahead. The aim was also to organize a parallel meeting of the Heads of Verification Centres of the SEE region.

In his opening address RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk, emphasized that RACVIAC is very proud to be able to provide the platform for constructive dialogue and close cooperation. He added that we have repeatedly stated, a regional approach to security issues is a crucial element of peace and stability in the region and beyond. "It will also serve as an excellent tool for increasing cooperation, openness and transparency amongst our countries", said Ambassador Berk.

Addressing the participants Mr. Marcus Bleinroth, the Head of Unit of Conventional Arms Control at the German Federal Foreign Office thanked RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation for the invitation and for hosting the event adding that the Arms Control Symposium is a uniquely suited forum to discuss current issues in the area of arms control.

Mr. Bleinroth underlined three issues: Recent German activities in the area of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) where he noted that Germany is actively promoting a Global Alliance against SALW proliferation; the German initiative for a relaunch of conventional arms control in Europe as a means of risk-reduction, transparency and confidence-building; and Germany's presidency of the Convention of Cluster Munitions which began in September, noting that within just a few years 100 states parties to the convention have been reached and that they have set themselves the goal to reach 130 states parties by 2020. ●
A seminar on the implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions was held at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation beginning on Tuesday November 15th, 2016. The event was organized in cooperation with the Government Office for Mine Action of the Republic of Croatia.

The Convention on Cluster Munitions was opened for signature in Oslo, Kingdom of Norway, on 2 December 2008. By February 2010, 30 ratification procedures that were required were completed and the Convention entered into force on 1 August 2010, thereby becoming an international legally binding document.

RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk addressed the participants at the beginning of the event noting that the issue of cluster munitions is a matter of serious concern not only for the South East European region but the whole world as well. Countries and international organizations have addressed this issue several times, making sincere efforts to eliminate the threat.

Among the distinguished guests and lecturers present were H.E. Ellen Berends, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Republic of Croatia, H.E. Susan Cox Ambassador of Australia to the Republic of Croatia, H.E. Ambassador Henk Cor van der Kwast the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the Conference on Disarmament, Disarmament Ambassador at large; Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (Geneva), H.E. Olive Hempenstall Ambassador of Ireland to the Republic of Croatia and Mr Hrvoje Debač the acting Director of the Government Office for Mine Action in Croatia.

The purpose of this Seminar was to share the latest developments related to the implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

The objectives of the Seminar were: To provide the participants with an overview of the First Review Conference of the Convention on Cluster Munitions held in Dubrovnik, Republic of Croatia, on 7-11 September 2015; To inform the participants about the results of the Sixth Meeting of States Parties (6MSP) to the Convention on Cluster Munitions which took place in Geneva, Switzerland from 5 to 7 September 2016; and to provide a forum for discussion on the implementation of the Convention in South Eastern Europe with a focus on the progress made in the destruction of stockpiled cluster munitions, the need for broader universalization efforts, particularly in the light of continued use of cluster munitions in armed conflicts and, finally, to emphasize the overall commitment to implement the Dubrovnik Action Plan in the next five years with a special focus on international and regional cooperation and needs for support from outside the region.
On Wednesday November 23rd, 2016, a conference titled Foreign Terrorist Fighters Challenges for South Eastern Europe: An Integrative and Complementary Approach to Counter Terrorism and Violent Extremism was held at the RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation. The event was organized in cooperation with the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) and with the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina. It was a follow up event to the Conference on Foreign Terrorist Fighters held in October 2015 in Sarajevo Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In his opening address, RACVIAC Director Ambassador Haydar Berk said that we first began to hear the news about so-called “Foreign Fighters” in 2012, indicating those who have left their countries to fight in Syria or Iraq. The adoption of Security Council Resolution 2178 (2014), at a high-level meeting of the Security Council in September 2014 brought the issue of Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) to the forefront of the international agenda.

He went on to say that in fact, what we are facing is not a new type of threat, but another face of terrorism. And, the only way to cope with terrorism is closer cooperation between the states. In other words, the international community should act as a united front against all forms of terrorism. There could be no justification for terrorism, and that the fight against terrorism cannot be selective. We need to work together against any form of terrorism and any terrorist organization, without exception. We should also avoid using religious attributions or adjectives, as terrorism has no religion, ethnicity or nationality. This is important not to play into the hands of terrorist organizations.

The European Union has developed a strategy against this threat, RACVIAC also has a role in the Counter Terrorism initiative of the European Union. Applying security and legal measures are and will not be enough to cope with this challenge. Short and long-term rehabilitation and reintegration programs for those individuals who have been identified and prosecuted as FTF, which also requires close cooperation with their families. Development and adoption of such programs, based on the positive experience, will be one of the main goals of our future activities in this area, said Ambassador Berk.

Addressing the participants RCC Secretary General Mr Goran Svilanović said “Radicalization, violent extremism, terrorism and foreign terrorist fighters all these connected problems are not new. In the last couple of years, South East Europe and Europe as a whole are facing increased levels of these security threats.”

"These challenges prompted a greater attention to security and rule of law at the national and regional levels, calling for an enhanced cooperation. As an all-inclusive, regionally-owned and driven cooperation framework, the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) continues to pursue its mandated mission. As a part of it, we recently put a new emphasis on the area of Stability and the Rule of Law, and refocused our activities in Security cooperation. At the same time, we continue to coordinate and support the SEE initiatives and task forces for a better response to the region’s needs. This event, which is result of cooperation between RACVIAC, the RCC, and the OSCE Mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina is proof of a practical answer to a pressing need for deeper and
more pragmatic, results-oriented cooperation and coordination in counter-terrorism, prevention and countering of violent extremism in South East Europe.”

Mr Svilanović also informed the participants of a number of efforts being conducted under the Regional Platform for Countering Radicalization and Violent Extremism Leading to Terrorism established by RCC. In conclusion he noted that “I dare say that this conference represents a significant step forward in regional security cooperation in SEE.”

In the final opening address Mr Paul Martin, the Acting Head of the Security Cooperation Unit at the OSCE Mission to Bosnia Herzegovina, noted that a great deal has changed in the few short years since the challenge of Foreign Terrorist Fighters to the security of the region appeared, not to mention the past twelve months since the last conference in Sarajevo. He noted that many states were unprepared for the scale and momentum of this problem. Bosnia and Herzegovina was among the first in the region to respond with tough legislation introduced in 2014 making the joining of overseas paramilitary and para-police formations or supporting foreign terrorist fighters illegal. More effective intelligence acquisition, investigations and prosecutions helped to bring those who support terrorism to justice, and to perhaps deter those who would consider doing so. But until deterrent sentences and segregated prisons are the norm, legislation and enforcement alone will not be enough.

Mr Martin said that the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina supported these actions, but also recognized that they were only a part of the solution. To see a long term decrease in the number of people volunteering as FTF, the prevention of radicalization and extremism has to begin much earlier than when individuals try to board a plane or a bus. He added that their approach emphasizes the power of family and community-based support networks for those at risk of becoming radicalised. “Parents, friends, teachers, colleagues, religious leaders all have an essential role to play. Being a security actor in today’s world doesn’t have to mean wearing a uniform or working in a state agency.

Over the course of the conference participants participated in panel discussions aimed at addressing possible solutions and best practices in border management with a focus on identifying possible FTF on their way to and from war zones as well as identifying possible ways and means to establish adequate short and long-term rehabilitation and reintegration programs or those individuals who have been identified and prosecuted as FTF.
Private Military and Security Companies (P(M)SC) play an increasingly important role in the provision of security services within the region and beyond. Numerous states either host headquarters of P(M)SCs or rely on their services, either at home or abroad. Globally, there is a strong push to regulate and control P(M)SCs, as is manifested in several diplomatic initiatives, such as the Montreux Document or the Voluntary principles.

According to the Montreux Document on Private Military and Security Companies, the term describes “private business entities that provide military and/or security services, irrespective of how they describe themselves. Military and security services include, in particular, armed guarding and protection of persons and objects, such as convoys, buildings and other places; maintenance and operation of weapons systems; prisoner detention; and advice to or training of local forces and security personnel”.

On Tuesday November 29th, 2016, a seminar on Private (Military) Security Companies (P(M)SC): Regulating the Private Security Industry for the Public Good opened at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. The seminar was conducted in cooperation with DCAF Geneva, the Belgrade Centre for Security Policy and academic associates from the universities of Zagreb, Belgrade and Sarajevo.

In his opening address RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk said that this is the fourth Seminar in a series of similar events, which has become a mid-term project for our Centre and the Security Sector Reform Pillar in particular, analysing the changes in Civil-Military Relations (CMR) and the effects of privatization in this field.

"In the last two decades we have witnessed a constant shift toward the privatization of military and security operations. Many functions that were traditionally performed by public authorities and national armies have increasingly been transferred to Private (Military) and Security Companies (P(M)SCs). Moreover, international bodies, transnational corporations and non-governmental
organizations have also become clients of P(M)SCs”, said Ambassador Berk. He added that “efforts have also been exerted in the international sphere to address the issues this development might create at the the national and supranational level, namely the introduction of the Montreux Document in 2008 and the establishment of the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Providers; however, a lot has still to be done”.

Ambassador Berk noted that as far as South East Europe is concerned, the reliance on P(M)SCs services is uneven in the region. The same thing can be said about the acceptance of international norms at the national level, or the development of national rules and laws regulating the field concerned. "What is needed right now, and we at RACVIAC envisage it as a feasible outcome of this Seminar, is to lay the foundation for a meaningful collaboration between the regulatory authorities of the states and the representatives of the private security sector, to introduce and subsequently implement regulations that adhere to international standards, in order to ensure the lawful and professional behaviour of the members of the P(M)SCs and a regulated public procurement of security services from the private sector", said Ambassador Berk.

During her opening address Ms Maja Čavlović, the Advisor to the President of the Republic of Croatia for Defence and National Security said that it is very important to have an international recognition and agreement on the issue of regulating the behaviour of PMSCs. Already now the scope of the services they offer: from participating in combat operations, training, logistical support, consulting, intelligence capabilities and providing security are broad and in very high demand. It is likely that the demand for their services will only rise. This is why we have to make an international collaborative effort in order to provide protection to the civilian population, satisfy the demands of our military and police forces and set the appropriate rights and obligations for the employees of the PMSCs.

The purpose of the Seminar was to support the implementation of international legislation on regulating the P(M)SCs. As recommended in the OSCE Code of Conduct, the aim was to include special information regarding the contracting/outsourcing of private military and security services (P(M)SCs) and the respective legal status of such personnel. The main objectives of the Seminar were to promote international standards and give impetus to more effective regulation of P(M)SCs on the state level.

Ms Maja Čavlović, the Advisor to the President of the Republic of Croatia for Defence and National Security said that it is very important to have an international recognition and agreement on the issue of regulating the behaviour of PMSCs.
The purpose of the event was to continue to enable open expert debates on common security challenges in the context of initiated Security sector reforms and the required level of security integration for EU and NATO membership aspiring candidates, chiefly as cause-effect related processes. The main Conference objectives were to identify developing security challenges for Europe in general and SEE in particular; to facilitate a common platform for reviewing the newest geopolitical shifts and resulting national security issues in view of the existing EU foreign and security policy; to provide participants with an opportunity to share national considerations on recognized challenges and to foster dialogue and cooperation; and to support a scientific approach in developing national security policies.

The event was opened by the director of the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Ambassador Haydar Berk, the Head of the KAS Office in the Republic of Croatia Dr. Michael A. Lange and the KAS Team Leader for Europe and North America Dr. Lars Hänsel. The conference opening speech was delivered by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of the Republic of Croatia Mr Damir Krstičević.

In his opening address RACVIAC director, Ambassador Haydar Berk, underlined the fact that this year, for the first time, the event included representatives of the academic community in the process of considering national security policy at a scientific forum, where scientific works by representatives of institutions from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia and Serbia will be presented.

Welcoming those gathered the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Croatia, Mr. Damir Krstičević said that the topics of the conference, security and cooperation as well as security challenges for Europe, are complex and require mutual action by all European countries, adding that no single country can respond to these security challenges alone. Minister Krstičević emphasized the significant role played by RACVIAC and its contribution to regional cooperation in the field of security. “Since its inception 16 years ago, RACVIAC has played an important role as an international organization with regional responsibility for promoting regional cooperation and mutual values with an emphasis on peace, stability and democracy in South East
Europe”, said the minister. He went on to say that peace in Croatia’s neighboring countries is of utmost importance along with security, stability and the development of democracy, also underlining the importance of cooperation and mutual work on security issues.

Attending the conference were representatives from RACVIAC member countries, representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited in the Republic of Croatia and numerous high ranking officials from the security sector, including the Deputy Minister of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina Sead Jusić, the Director General of the Defence Policy Directorate at the Slovenian Ministry of Defence Aleš Mišmaš and the Assistant Minister of Defence of the Republic of Croatia Nikola Brzica, who took part as a panellist in the first panel on Security Challenges for Europe and Beyond along with RACVIAC director Ambassador Haydar Berk.

Three panel discussions were held on Security Challenges for Europe and Beyond, Euro-Atlantic Security - Challenges Vs. Capabilities, and Migration Challenges: Origins and Impacts. The second day of the event was dedicated to the conference scientific forum at which several representatives from scientific institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia and Serbia presented their works and relevant discussions were held. The scientific forum proved to be a good first step in the direction of supporting stronger inclusion of the academic community in the process of developing national security policies in South East Europe.

Mr. Damir Krstičević, Minister of Defence of the Republic of Croatia, said that the security challenges for Europe, are complex and require mutual action by all European countries, adding that no single country can respond to these security challenges alone.

PHOTO: MORH / I. Kopi
A sixth workshop of the national working groups on the development of counter weapons of mass destruction implementation plans and strategies, titled "C-WMD National Strategies - Legal Framework, Implementation Plans, and Strategic Linkages" was conducted in RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation from January 23rd - 25th 2017.

The activity was organized within the framework of the C-WMD Network as a result of continued cooperation between RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation, U.S. European Command (USEUCOM), U.S. Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), and the Republic of Croatia.

In his opening address RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk, said that "our first C-WMD Network workshop this year will aim to revise the main challenges in the development of national strategies and to point out the strategic linkages between the C-WMD Strategy and national strategic documents as well as international obligations". He stressed that "a wellwritten national Strategy should have a corresponding legal framework behind it in order to have a smooth implementation process". He added that RACVIAC "is happy to see so many people from different countries and national authorities standing ready to work together and bring to the table their specific knowledge that will assure a wellworking national strategy and, in the end, a more secure region."

Welcoming the participants on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, Mr. Amir Muharemí, Assistant Minister for Global Affairs, said that "a little bit more than three years ago, the countries of South-Eastern Europe unanimously concluded that the best way to strengthen our security is by enhancing national measures against proliferation as well as strengthening cooperation at the regional level." He pointed out that although none of the SEE countries possess weapons of mass destruction, it is important to underline the significance of good quality inter-agency cooperation. “Trafficking of WMD-related material flourishes in regions where legislation is insufficient, taking advantage of the gaps and lack of coordination between
the legislative and the executive aspects of the states’ authorities. The lack of effective counter-WMD national strategies and response plans, lack of coordination and preparedness, both at the national and the regional level, can have dramatic consequences for us all”, emphasized Mr Muharemi.

The purpose of this three-day event was to further support the development of national C-WMD strategies by reviewing the progress made so far, revising the main challenges in the process of strategy development, establishing linkages between C-WMD strategies and other relevant national policy documents, and by considering future implementation and action plans.

Following well established practice within the process, the event stated with national presentations showing the progress made since last workshop held in September 2016, followed by presentations, panel discussions and table-top exercises in smaller break-out groups.

The workshop gathered more than 50 participants, namely, national drafting team/working group experts from the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Bulgaria, Republic of Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Ukraine and Kosovo**. ●

* Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.
** This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence. (In accordance with Arrangements regarding regional representation and cooperation.)
Colonel Ägidius Daniel Muhr, MSD is seconded to RACVIAC as Planning & Liaison Officer for Western Europe and International Organizations by AT MODS for two years.

His previous assignment was Deputy Director of the Development Division at the Land Forces School in Eisenstadt. There he was responsible for the general development within five branches, Infantry, Engineer, Artillery, Reconnaissance and Armor. After three years training at the Military Academy in Wiener Neustadt he was posted to several infantry units where served in different levels. He served twice in a foreign mission in Kosovo and participated in several exercises abroad. From 2008 to 2012 Col Muhr was the AT MODS representative in the NATO Urban Operations Working Group.

Col Muhr holds postgraduate Master in “Security and Defense”. His is married, with a daughter and a boy and lives in the very eastern part of Austria. He likes gardening and sports, especially running, skiing and cycling.

Major Marija Čičak, joined the RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation as the Public Affairs Officer on 01 January 2017. Prior to this she was assigned as planning officer at the Croatian Armed Forces International Military Operations Centre. She began her military carrier in 1993 and was posted to different staff duties serving in several units. In 2004 she was sent to UN mission UNMOGIP in India and Pakistan where she served as a military observer for one year. This is Major’s Čičak second tour of duty in RACVIAC, at the same position. She holds bachelor degree in Public Administration.

She is married and has three children, and enjoys reading and gardening.

Colonel Erhan Kiliçaslan has been seconded to RACVIAC as Program Manager for Cooperative Security Environment with focus on Arms Control Pillar by Turkish General Staff since December 2016. His previous assignments included: the Asia Branch Chief of Foreign Relations Department in Turkish General Staff (2016); the Commander of Training Support & Exercise Battalion; Instructor of Tactical Lessons and Head of Project & Concept Development Section in Turkish Land Forces CIS School (2013-2016); Head of Ankara Communications Node, the far east static subunit of NATO CIS Agency located in Ankara (2009-2013); many services as Platoon and Company Commanders in various units including Signal Platoon Commander in Turkish Battalion Task Force located in Zenica/Bosnia and Herzegovina (1996-2009). All these assignments, fulfilled in success, have provided him a comprehensive experience on the implementation of military theoretical information on the field. He supported his military career by taking ITIL (Information Technology Infrastructure Library) courses, which is composed of strategy, design, transition, operation and continual service improvement. He holds postgraduate master’s degrees in International Relations and Sociology. Col KILICASLAN is married to Mrs Senay Kiliçaslan, they have one son, and lives in Ankara, TUR. He likes skiing, swimming and tennis.
Mr Nikica Krstas joined RACVIAC team as an intern at Security Sector Reforms Pillar in January 2017. Mr Krstas arrives from Croatia, currently doing thesis for his masters studies in international relations at Dag Hammarskjöld University College of International Relations and Diplomacy. He holds master’s degree from University of Rijeka, Faculty of Economics. Prior to joining RACVIAC team he was working at U.S. Embassy in Zagreb, volunteering in Transparency International Croatia and has been active in the Youth Atlantic Treaty Association (YATA) conferences and simulations around the world together with numerous attended seminars and courses on security and defense topics. His professional interests are foreign and security policies oriented towards South East Europe and Eastern Europe.

Col Franz Gaugl

After two years of service, Colonel Franz Gaugl, MBA MSD, left RACVIAC to take up a new assignment in the Austrian Armed Forces. He worked at RACVIAC as the Chief Planning & Liaison Officer for Western Europe and International Organisations. He was highly professional and devoted to his duty, never hesitating to give his best in the tasks assigned to him. During this time, he displayed extraordinary abilities and initiative. We would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all his work and friendship while wishing him success in his future career and private life.

Cpt Branko Lozančić

Following more then three years of duty as a Public Affairs Officer Captain Branko Lozančić ended his tour of duty on 31st December 2016. We would like to thank him for his dedicated work in the course of which he supported all RACVIAC activities, proving himself a very good colleague and a team player. He will be remembered for initiating the RACVIAC Compendium and Catalogue of activities. His exceptional professionalism and communication skills had a major impact on increasing the visibility of the Centre. Captain’s Loznacić devotion to duty at RACVIAC was highly appreciated and working with him was a genuine pleasure. We wish him continued success in his future career and his private life.

Ms Deborah Scubla

Ms Scubla from Italy joined the RACVIAC team as an intern in the Security Sector Reform pillar in September 2016. After three months of working and gaining experiences, her stay at RACVIAC came to an end in December 2016. In her work Ms Scubla proved to be a highly motivated individual with an outstanding ability to work independently, efficiently and effectively. She will be remembered for her enthusiasm and desire to learn and cooperate in all fields of activity at the Centre. We are confident that her stay at RACVIAC was as beneficial to her as it was to the organization and wish her all the best in her future career and personal life.
Cooperative Security Environment
(with focus on arms control)

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<th>No.</th>
<th>Topic / Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Chemical Weapons Convention Workshop &quot;Inter-Agency Coordination in Chemical Response&quot;</td>
<td>Venue: Rakitje</td>
<td>31 January – 3 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Vienna Document – Verification and Compliance Course</td>
<td>Host: HU</td>
<td>5–10 March</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control (Dayton Article IV) – Orientation Course</td>
<td>Host: HR</td>
<td>26–31 March</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Venue: Rakitje</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Arms Control Symposium</td>
<td>Host: BA</td>
<td>3-7 July</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Effective practices of the implementation of UNSCR 1540</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>13–16 September</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Physical Security And Stockpile Management Seminar</td>
<td>Venue: Rakitje</td>
<td>6-10 November</td>
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C-WMD Network

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<th>No.</th>
<th>Topic / Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>C-WMD Network C-WMD National Strategies – Dual-Use Technology, Emergent Technology, and Terrorism</td>
<td>Venue: Rakitje</td>
<td>10–13 April</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>C-WMD National Strategies – Emerging Technology Transfers</td>
<td>Venue: Rakitje</td>
<td>11 -14 September</td>
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International and Regional Cooperation
(with focus on Euro Atlantic Integration as well as on contemporary challenges)

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<th>Topic / Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Search And Rescue (SAR) Basic Course</td>
<td>Venue: Rakitje</td>
<td>2–4 April</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Cyber Security /Continuation of Cyber Security project/ Training on WMD Cyber Crimes Investigations</td>
<td>Venue: Rakitje</td>
<td>24–28 April</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>6S Expert Working Group+Workshop in RACVIAC Format</td>
<td>Venue: Rakitje</td>
<td>3-5 May</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Building Integrity and Preventing Corruption – follow up activity</td>
<td>Venue: ME</td>
<td>29 May – 1 June</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Energy Security</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>18– 21 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Search And Rescue (SAR) On Scene Coordinator Advanced Seminar / SAR in case of the aviation Accident</td>
<td>Venue: Rakitje</td>
<td>26 -28 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Cyber Security / Continuation of the Cyber Security project/ Advanced training course</td>
<td>Host: TR</td>
<td>23 - 27 October</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Implementation of the UNSCR 2178</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>27– 30 November</td>
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# Security Sector Reform

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Border Security and Management</td>
<td>Venue: Skopje, MK</td>
<td>27 February - 3 March</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Diversity and Inclusion in Security Sector - Key Leadership Conference</td>
<td>Venue: Zagreb</td>
<td>13 –16 March</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Gender Training of the Trainers Course (GToT)</td>
<td>Venue: Rakitje</td>
<td>15 -26 May</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Annual Meeting of the Representatives from Defence and Security Committees from SEE Parliaments</td>
<td>Venue: BA</td>
<td>5 –8 June</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>RACVIAC/KAS Conference on Security Challenges for Europe</td>
<td>Venue: Zagreb</td>
<td>22 -24 November</td>
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## Meetings of the RACVIAC Multinational Advisory Group (MAG)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>37th MAG Meeting</td>
<td>BA, Jahorina</td>
<td>5-6 April</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>38th MAG Meeting</td>
<td>Venue: Rakitje</td>
<td>11-12 October</td>
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“...fostering dialogue and cooperation on security matters in South East Europe...”

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