



**CENTRE FOR SECURITY  
COOPERATION**

**“ADAPTED CFE TREATY  
ORIENTATION COURSE, C-08”**

**17 – 21 November 2008**

*Sponsored by the Federal Republic of  
Germany*

**I. INTRODUCTION**

In accordance with the RACVIAC programme 2008 the Training & Verification Division organized and executed an Adapted CFE Treaty (ACFE) / Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) Orientation Course **C-08** during the period of **17– 21 November 2008**. It was conducted in two parts: the theoretical, comprising lectures and presentations, and a practical part, which took place in Croatia (**RACVIAC / Rakitje, and at the 91<sup>st</sup> Air Base Pleso in Zagreb**). The Course working language was English.



***Course Participants***

The Course was organised at the time of the 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signature of CFE Treaty. The four-day Course provided the participants with the opportunity to meet their colleagues from the SEE region as well as to meet representatives/experts from different countries, organizations and agencies, all dealing with the execution of arms control and CSBM regimes for years.

**II. PROGRAM/METHODOLOGY**

The Course was conducted as a combination of lectures (presentations) and practical activities, which included an ACFE Inspection. The theoretical phase took place in RACVIAC/Rakitje and the practical phase at the 91<sup>st</sup> Air Base Pleso in Zagreb.

The purpose of the Orientation Course was to provide participants with the basic theoretical overview of the **CFE and the ACFE**, focusing on the duties and responsibilities of the personnel engaged in the implementation of the aforementioned arms control document, giving a comprehensive analysis of theoretical and practical level of the implementation of the activities and issues related. The course objectives were:

- To provide historical background of the CFE Treaty, describing the circumstances from the time of its development and establishment up to its adaptation period.
- To overview the fundamental elements of the ACFE/CFE Treaty highlighting the most comprehensive and commonly followed rules, requirements and procedures of their implementation.
- To provide the participants with the information on the current situation in this field of activities.
- To deepen contacts between representatives of national organizations, agencies to be engaged in the accomplishment of recent and future arms control activities.
- To provide participants with the opportunity to exercise or “observe” the real events, particularly during the practical part of the Course, thus adding a real value to the efforts of the SEE region in building security culture and environment, as well as showing fields and ways as how to work in the future as a platform for co-operation on national, regional and international level.
- To provide guidelines on how to work in the future as a platform for co-operation on national, regional and international level.

**Participation**

18 participants - AL (3), BA (3), HR (1), MK (3), MD (3), ME (3), IT (2) and SI (2) -, 5 lecturers - BA (1) DE (1), HU (1), IT (1) - and

6 instructors (local escort) were involved into this activity.

### **Overview of the Course**

Ambassador Nedžad Hadžimusić and Mr. Sönke Lorenz, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the German Embassy, opened the Course.



***Opening Remarks***

The invited lecturers covered all the topics in most efficient manner, and presented a comprehensive and detailed overview of the relevant parts of the Treaty taken for investigation. However, there was only a very a short discussion (“questions and answers”) period after presentations, the provided time was enough for clarification and for providing sufficient answers to set questions and comments. At the end of the second day there was a “plenary session” that offered room for additional discussions.



***Experts of the Course***

Five lecturers supported the activity by delivering presentations on the following topics:

#### ***Major Holger Sasse from Germany***

1. « *Historical Importance of the CFE Treaty, Basic Overview, Main Figures and Data about the Implementation* »

2. « *Basic Overview, Added Value of the Adapted Treaty in the Arms Control and Confidence/Security Building Measures* »
3. « *Basics of Implementation of Inspections. Inspections to be carried out at Object of Verification and the Challenge Inspection*»

#### ***Maj Árpád Csányi from Hungary***

1. « *Notifications and exchange of information according to CFE/ACFE*»
2. « *Equipment Recognition and Its Importance. Conventional Armament and Equipment Subject to the Treaty, Treaty Limited Equipment, Look-a-Likes*»

#### ***Colonel Ranko Đukanović from Bosnia and Herzegovina***

« *Historical Importance of the Dayton Peace Agreement, Basic Overview, Main Figures*»

#### ***Colonel Manlio Scopigno from Italy***

« *The CFE Treaty and the Adapted CFE Treaty – a Device for Stability in SEE* »

#### ***LtCol Yusuf Erdogdu from Turkey***

« *Contents, Main Components and Protocols, Basic Definitions. Commonalities and Connections between the CFE Treaty, CSBMs and the Dayton Peace Agreement* »

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the Course, participants were actively engaged in performing a field exercise. Two teams – Inspector Team and Escort Team - practiced the preparation of a “Mission” for accomplishment of a real inspection under the supervision of the lecturers.



***Playing the Game***

On 20<sup>th</sup> November participants conducted a real-like inspection of the CFE/ACFE. They performed duties as members of Inspection or Escort Teams during the inspection at 91<sup>st</sup> Air Base in accordance with the following procedures:

- Request for Inspection (with all Formats);

- POE Procedure, Declaration of First Site; Site Briefing, Questions & Answer, Declaration of OOV;
- Inspection;
- Debriefing;
- Preparation of Inspection Report and Summary of Inspection Report.



### ***Equipment Recognition***

The practical part of the Course provided participants with the opportunity to exercise the real events and real life situations as members of the Inspector & Evaluation Team, adding a real value to the efforts of the SEE region in building security culture and environment.

The cooperation with the involved branches (especially with Service Branch) was at the proper and correct level in providing accommodation, food, course material, transportation, reimbursement etc. They proved timely and well-organized support even in unexpected situations, as it was the case with the changed flight schedule for some of our participants.

### **III. SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Course proved to be successful by the experts and participants' assessments provided at the end of the event. Although the majority of participants, coming from national arms control agencies or verification centres already had some/basic knowledge about the CFE and/or other arms control regimes and CSBMs, there were some part-time inspectors and "new arrivals" amongst them. It must be underlined that all the participants were attracted by the topics and highly motivated during the course.

This course, especially the practical part of the course, provided participants with an excellent opportunity to get familiarized with CFE/ACFE Treaty and "play the role of Inspector/Escort Team" members very similarly to the real life events.

Issues to be highlighted:

- The invited lecturers covered the most relevant theoretical part of the ACFE/CFE. Their professionalism and experience were highly appreciated by the participants. According to the participants' remarks the lectures and the instructors proved to be well appreciated.
- Participants were interested and highly motivated during the Course.
- Generally, the participants were satisfied with the topics chosen and with the Course itself. They suggested holding similar courses in the future, including some syndicate work and even more detailed theoretical part as well.
- With regard to the Course duration, it was recommended to extend the duration of both, theoretical and practical part in order to enable more time for the preparation of a "real mission/inspection".
- During practical phase participants showed an exceptional professionalism in performing their mission and demonstrated a remarkable cooperation, thus approaching the standards of the real Inspection.
- The practical phase of the Course was well-organized thanks to the professionalism and preparedness of the 91st Air Base staff (local escort), as well as very good and close cooperation between RACVIAC and Croatian Ministry of Defence. For the future possible courses it is recommended to follow these procedures while arranging the practical phase as well.
- It was also recommended to organize more specified course, such as Equipment Recognition Course in the future.

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