



CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION



Activity Overview

“Search and Rescue’ - Basic Aeronautical SAR Course“ IRC-M1-C-18

RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, HR-10437 Bestovje,
Republic of Croatia
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Dates 26-28 February 2018

Venue Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, HR-10437 Bestovje, Republic of Croatia

Background The “*Search and Rescue’ - Basic Aeronautical SAR Course*” is intended as a capacity building endeavour for a new generation of experts involved in the subject of search and rescue. This Course is a replication of earlier successful efforts in this direction conducted jointly by RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation (hereinafter RACVIAC) and the National Protection and Rescue Directorate (NPRD) of the Republic of Croatia.

Based on the assessment of the current situation and the constant need for capacity building and improvements in the specific fields of expertise (Search, Rescue and Protection), RACVIAC and NPRD have committed themselves to developed a set of tailor made activities that will address certain issues in this direction, as part of wider cooperation in the SEE region in monitoring and implementing civil emergency measures.

Search and Rescue (SAR) refers to the search for and provision of aid to the citizens who are in an emergency situation or imminent danger. In order to ensure successful Search and Rescue operations, close coordination and cooperation among different institutions is crucial.

RACVIAC has recognized the importance of efficient SAR structures, national and regional alike, as a security issue that should be further discussed and explored. In that regard, this event will bring together regional representatives with the knowledge of and experience in supporting SAR capacity building in the SEE countries, *thus providing the necessary expertise and best practices delivered by the Joint Aviation Authorities Training Organization (JAATO).*

Purpose and Objectives The purpose of the Course is to encourage the further development of regional cooperation on Search and Rescue issues and to promote enhancement of the existing national SAR structures through the exchange of information and sharing of available training opportunities and relevant SAR exercises.



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The objective of this activity is to increase the capacities of the relevant public institutions in civil emergency response as well as to further enhance the cooperation among homologue institutions in South East Europe. More specifically, *the activity will focus on the ways how to explore concrete needs of each participating SAR institution related to aeronautical SAR, in order to launch comprehensive regional SAR development actions.* In addition, this activity will also focus on encouraging and developing possible regional and cross-border cooperation through SAR operations.

The event is envisaged as an active forum that will provide an opportunity to exchange experiences and best practices, but also to address the common challenges. The activity will be utilized to explore potential future steps in the field of Protection and Rescue in South East Europe and *initiate the establishment of a regional Search and Rescue Functional Network with the aim to enhance mutual assistance among Search and Rescue services* and optimize the use of Search and Rescue resources in case of disasters.

Participation The Course will include mid-level representatives (civilian or military) in the relevant institutions in South East Europe dealing with Search and Rescue activities: Defence/Armed forces, National RCC authorities, National Directorates for Protection and Search, Civil Aviation Authorities, Ministries of the Interior, Civil Emergency Management Authorities, etc.

In addition, attendees from invited Associate Members, Observers and participants may participate in the activity.

The respective national authorities are invited to nominate only participants with the necessary professional background and official responsibilities as SAR service personnel.

Methodology The event will last two working days and will comprise lectures, presentations and discussions. The working language will be English.

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