

Newsletter



Ambassadorial meeting held in RACVIAC

Symposium on Mine Action

Conference on

“Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs-CIRTs-CSIRTs)”

Conference on Parliamentary Oversight:

**Annual meeting of Regional Parliamentary Defence
and Security Committees**

31st MAG Meeting Held In Belgrade, Serbia

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Visits to/outside RACVIAC

Technical Agreement signed between RACVIAC and Nordic Center for Gender in Military Operations

A delegation of the Nordic Center for Gender in Military Operations (NCGM)- NATO Department Head concerning Gender headed by Jan Dunmurray, the first Commander of NCGM visited RACVIAC on Monday, 7 April 2014 concerning the signing of a Technical Agreement between NCGM-NATO Department Head concerning Gender, Sweden and the RACVIAC - Center for Security Cooperation in regards to the NCGM Gender Training of the Trainers (GTotT) Course, that was held in RACVIAC from 19 to 29 May, 2014.



CDR Jan Dunmurray first commander NCGM and RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandić

The visit spanned a Signing Ceremony, a tour of the RACVIAC facilities and a working lunch, during which the two delegations discussed the details of the Agreement underpinning the GTotT Course.

The visit began with the Signing Ceremony which included a fine-tuning phase of the Technical Agreement between NCGM and RACVIAC. At the Ceremony, the Programme Manager for Security Sector Reform Pillar, M.Sc. Branko Kromar wished the NCGM delegation a pleasant stay in Croatia, saying that RACVIAC was not a tabula rasa in this field and stressing that the topic was of great interest for the SSR Pillar in particular. On his part, RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandić emphasized that RACVIAC as a whole will continue working on different aspects of the gender issue and always include countries of the region in this field.

CDR Dunmayer concluded by saying that NATO agents through Courses such as GTotT can learn how to be agents of change in their field of work. He added that he and his delegation were glad to visit RACVIAC where, after the Signing Ceremony, they were led on a tour of the RACVIAC facilities in which the GTotT Course took place in May. ■

RACVIAC Delegation Attends meeting on UNSCR 1540 Activities and Implementation Practices in Vienna, Austria

A RACVIAC delegation consisting of Deputy Director Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop and Planning and Liason Officer for Western Europe and International Organizations, Col. Ferdinand Klinser, attended a meeting of International and Regional Organizations on UNSCR 1540 implementation practices and activities, held in Vienna, Austria from 7 -11 April 2014.

The event was organized by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the Conflict Prevention Centre of the Secretariat of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). During the course of the event Staff and experts from the secretariats of more than 20 international and regional organizations discussed how to enhance cooperation and information-sharing, and to identify synergies that can be exploited on issues of implementing resolution 1540 for the benefit of their respective Member States.

RACVIAC planning and Liason Officer Col Klinser provided participants with an overview of the RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation and informed them of the organization's strategic objectives as well as activities conducted related to UNSCR 1540: a seminar on Regional Commodity Identification Training for Dual Use and Military Goods and a seminar on Effective Practices of the Implementation of UNSCR 1540.

It was noted that the RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation can act as bridge between the planning and implementation levels bringing information directly to those involved in hands-on implementation of 1540.

Col Klinser also briefly informed participants of an initiative that is in the development phase to create a new pillar/centre within RACVIAC that would exclusively deal with non-proliferation issues. ■

Ambassadorial meeting held in RACVIAC



HE Ms Vesna Pusic, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia

An ambassadorial meeting was held in RACVIAC on Friday April 11th 2014. The purpose of the meeting was to inform RACVIAC members and partners of the current state of affairs at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, of challenges and plans for the future.

Special guests at the meeting included First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, HE Ms Vesna Pusić and Deputy Minister of Defence of the Republic of Croatia Ms Višnja Tafra. The meeting was also attended by more than 20 ambassadors accredited in the Republic of Croatia as well as numerous military attaches.

RACVIAC Director Branimir Mandić opened the meeting by giving the floor to First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, HE Ms Vesna Pusić. In her address Ms Pusić noted that she was impressed to hear that Arms Control has advanced to go beyond the stipulation of various treaties noting that this is a significant step forward. She said that with countries in the region having a European perspective there has emerged a sense of responsibility for the region, by the region, and that RACVIAC contributes to this. Ms Pusić added that RACVIAC is growing stronger pledging her support and her compliments to the leadership. Signing the RACVIAC guestbook, Ms Pusić wrote that she was glad to return to RACVIAC once again, an institution that is constantly improving and of which she is proud.

In her address Deputy Minister of Defence of the Republic of Croatia, Ms Višnja Tafra, said that Croatia is proud of RACVIAC as an outstanding international organization, truly owned by all of its member and participating states. "The success of RACVIAC is the success of us all, and that gives us a reason to be satisfied today", said Ms Tafra. She added that RACVIAC is a regional success story. "It is the proof of our invested efforts and an example of good regional cooperation". Furthermore, she noted that it is Croatia's ambition to take this project to an even higher level at which the policy component will be additionally strengthened. In

conclusion she reaffirmed that the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia will maintain full support to the work of this organization.



Following addresses by the guests, RACVIAC director ambassador Branimir Mandić noted that the Centre has advanced significantly since the signing of the new RACVIAC agreement. He informed the distinguished guests of an initiative in the development phase to create a new pillar/centre within RACVIAC that would exclusively deal with non-proliferation issues. Finally RACVIAC Deputy Director Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop gave a presentation on the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, providing details on the RACVIAC programme, the functioning of the organization, its budget and plans for the future. ■

3rd class of Higher Security and Defence Studies from the National Defence School of the Republic of Serbia visited RACVIAC

The 3rd class of Higher Security and Defence Studies at the National Defence School of the Republic of Serbia visited RACVIAC on April 22nd 2014 in conjunction with their study trip to the Republic of Croatia.

RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Branimir Mandić welcomed the guests expressing his great pleasure to receive such a distinguished delegation. He then gave the floor to Col Mate Jelić, the Director of the National Defence School of the Republic of Serbia.

Col Jelić gave a brief overview of the 3rd class of students attending higher security and defence studies, pointing out that this generation includes several ministers and foreign students.

Following a brief presentation on the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, deputy director Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop presented the CSE (Cooperative Security Environment) pillar. He noted that the pillar presents one of RACVIAC's core functions dating back to its establishment, originally as an arms control verification implementation assistance centre. General Jakop provided information on activities conducted by the pillar placing special emphasis on the Open Skies Aerial Observation Course, which is a flagship event of the centre and remains the only practical course available regarding the implementation of the Open Skies treaty.

Programme manager for the IRC (International and Regional Cooperation) pillar, Ms Marija Žužek, addressed the guests next providing information regarding the activities within the pillar. She specifically pointed out the project oriented approach to activities being introduced within her pillar in several areas, including cyber security, building integrity, energy security and search and rescue, to name a few. She noted that through coordination with RACVIAC partners duplication will be avoided and that each project, upon completion will provide a tangible result in the form of a publication.





The floor was then given to programme manager, Mr Branko Kromar, who presented the work of the SSR (Security Sector Reform) pillar. Mr Kromar particularly pointed out activities involving border management, education systems in South East Europe, smart defence and pooling and sharing and civil military relations. He noted that in the future his pillar will be streamlining its scope of activity in order to provide an even better quality product to those attending RACVIAC activities.

Director Mandić concluded the briefing speaking about RACVIAC's future. He noted that a new strategy will be adopted covering a six year period in order to support longer term projects. He added that activities within these projects will be created through constant communication with partners. He also briefly mentioned an initiative to

create a pillar/centre within RACVIAC to deal exclusively with non-proliferation issues in cooperation with the Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs and the US Proliferation Security Initiative. Furthermore, director Mandić emphasized that RACVIAC has become recognized as a brand in security cooperation and the model could be presented to other regions including North Africa and the Black Sea basin.

In conclusion the floor was opened to the students attending the 3rd class of Higher Security and Defence Studies who posed several questions regarding the functioning of RACVIAC and its steering mechanism MAG. ■

Students from Ban Josip Jelačić War College of the Republic of Croatia visit RACVIAC

Students from the Ban Josip Jelačić War College of the Republic of Croatia visited the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation on May 5th 2014.

RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandić welcomed the guests underlining the outstanding cooperation between the Centre and the Croatian Military Academy adding that it was a part of the RACVIAC strategy. Director Mandić informed the guests of cooperation RACVIAC continues to foster in the south east European region adding that the Centre has proven to be useful to the region for numerous years hosting more than eleven thousand participants at its activities.

Following Director Mandić, Colonel Miro Colić from the Ban Jelačić War College addressed those present noting that he was glad to be back at RACVIAC. He said that cooperation with RACVIAC over the years has been exemplary and valuable adding that the Croatian Military Academy has an interest in maintaining cooperation with the only international organization situated in the Republic of Croatia.



RACVIAC Deputy Director Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop



The students were then given a presentation on the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation by Deputy Director, Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop, a graduate of the Ban Josip Jelačić War College himself. Following a short break, General Jakop gave an additional presentation on arms control, covering the various treaties in place and their implementation. In conclusion the students were given a presentation by the commander of the Croatian Training Centre for International Military Operations, which shares the Vitez Damir Martić barracks with RACVIAC. ■

RACVIAC Organizes Drive to Collect Humanitarian Aid for Those Affected by Flooding



Cpl Zeljko Golec and Mr Darko Urek delivering donations

Taking into account the difficult situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Serbia due to flooding, the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation organized a humanitarian drive on Thursday May 22nd, 2014 to collect aid for those affected.

RACVIAC would like to thank all those that took part in providing food, water and materials; or money which was used to purchase such materials. On Friday May 23rd, 2014, RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandic, Programme Manager Marija Zuzek, Public Affairs Officer Capt. Branko Lozancic and drivers Mr. Darko Urek and Cpl. Željko Golec delivered the aid collected to the embassies of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Serbia and to the Croatian Red Cross.

We hope that our small contribution will assist those who have been affected by flooding and help them begin the process of returning to their homes.

The flooding in the three mentioned countries only drove home the message of how useful RACVIAC activities can be in providing a platform for dialogue and cooperation, in particular those activities related to Search and Rescue. ■

Romanian Delegation visits RACVIAC

On Monday May 26th, 2014, a Romanian delegation headed by Mr Adrian Davidoiu, Director General for Strategic Affairs at the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs visited the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.

Upon arrival the Romanian delegation had an office call with RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandic followed by a meeting in the briefing room of the main building. Public Affairs Officer Capt. Branko Lozancic provided the guests with a general presentation on the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation after which Director Mandic informed them on current events taking place at the Centre.

Director Mandic noted that RACVIAC has completed legal framework necessary for functioning after signing the Host Nation Agreement with the Republic of Croatia and a Technical Agreement with the Croatian Ministry of Defence last year. He underlined the good cooperation RACVIAC has with other regional and sub-regional organizations noting that this is essential in preventing duplication and achieving synergy.

Finally, he added that RACVIAC will be celebrating its 15th anniversary next year and has good reason to be proud of the achievements it has made. At the celebrations marking the Centre's 15th anniversary a new RACVIAC Strategy will be launched that is intended to be a short but useful document. In an effort to meet the needs and requirements of member countries, the strategy will focus on a project oriented approach to activities with each pillar focusing on around five fields.

Mr. Davidoiu thanked Director Mandic for providing information on the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and noted that he believes it is time for a consolidation of regional platforms. He underlined the importance of maintaining synergy and avoiding duplication in efforts as well as focusing on projects that may find funding from other international forums.

Following the formal part of the meeting the Romanian representatives remained behind with members of the International and Regional Cooperation Pillar to discuss the Energy Security project.

The delegation ended their visit with a lunch hosted by Director Mandic. ■



Mr Adrian Davidoiu, Director General for Strategic Affairs at the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandic

RACVIAC attends Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), in Vienna, Austria

RACVIAC Planning and Liaison Officer for Western Europe and International Organizations, Colonel Ferdinand Klinser MSD, attended the open-ended intergovernmental working group intersession meeting to report about its implementation practices and activities, held in Vienna, Austria from 26th 29th May 2014 and organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), RACVIACs international and supportive MoU partner.



During the course of the event representatives of 41 State Parties, 4 Signatory/Observer States, 9 Observer States, 7 Intergovernmental Organizations discussed how to assist the Conference in promoting and supporting the implementation of the Firearms Protocol, coordination with other relevant international and regional organizations, best practices in the areas of training and enhance cooperation and information-sharing, capacity-building and awareness-raising strategies to prevent and combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and to identify synergies that can be exploited for the benefit of their respective Member States.

Several developments at the international level have contributed to advance global efforts to combat the illicit trafficking in and manufacturing of firearms, their parts and ammunition. Of notable importance was the conclusion in April 2013 of the United Nations Conference to Negotiate an Arms Trade Treaty and the adoption by the General Assembly of a legally binding Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). The ATT covers nine categories of conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, whereas the Firearms Protocol covers firearms, their parts and components and ammunition. The ATT focus on measures to regulate the licit trade and prevent and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms and to prevent their diversion to the illicit market or for unauthorized end use including the commission of terrorist acts. The Firearms Protocol focuses on the criminal justice responses to the illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and to their negative impact on socio-economic development, security and well-being of people, countries and regions.

In 2011, the UNODC launched its Global Firearms Programme (GFP) with the aim to raise awareness, promote adherence to and support the implementation of the Firearms Protocol by providing technical and legislative assistance to Member States. The Programme focuses on the following areas:

Awareness-raising and promotion of the ratification of the Firearms Protocol, Development of specialized tools, Legislative development to strengthen the legal and regulatory framework on firearms and promote regional harmonization of laws and practices, Capacity-building, training and technical support to reduce the availability of illegal firearms, strengthen the regulatory framework on firearms, especially in marking, record-keeping, transfer controls, collection and destruction of firearms, training and capacity-building with a view to strengthening criminal justice responses and to promote effective international cooperation and information exchange for combating illicit trafficking in firearms and related offences, Increased knowledge on transnational firearms trafficking patterns and enhanced civil society engagement.

UNODC developed the Model Law against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms as a tool to assist State parties in translating the treaty language of the Organized Crime Convention and the Firearms Protocol into domestic legal provisions, and to assist them in strengthening their legislative regimes on firearms in a manner consistent with the Firearms Protocol. The Model Law's broad range of provisions covers both the preventive firearms control measures such as manufacturing, record-keeping, deactivation, international transfers of firearms and related brokering activities, and the penal and procedural measures derived from the Firearms Protocol and the Transnational Organized Crime Convention. The Model Law also complements the Legislative Guides for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and was translated into all official languages of the United Nations and disseminated to all relevant organizations.

The Model Law was used as a reference for the development of legislative and regulatory modules of the International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS) that provide clear, practical and comprehensive guidance to practitioners and policymakers on fundamental aspects of small arms and light weapons control. The Model Law was further used by UNODC in the process of providing legislative support to the countries from Latin America and West Africa as a harmonization tool for their new legislation on firearms control.

Among other duties, such as participation and contribution with relevant expertise and experience in several syndicate meetings and discussions, the event appeared to be an excellent and prominent platform for RACVIAC planning and Liaison Officer Col Klinser to present to the 41 representatives of the State Parties including the European Union and 7 Intergovernmental Organizations such as Interpol, Eurojust, OSCE, WCO etc. a detailed overview of the RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation, the organization's strategic objectives, its Main Areas of Interest with focus on the New Strategy 2020 as well as activities conducted. ■

Coordination Meeting Held in Split, Croatia for Upcoming Coastal Search and Rescue Event

A delegation from the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, headed by Deputy Director, Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop held a coordination meeting in Split, Croatia on June 3rd, 2014 in preparation for the upcoming Coastal Search and Rescue event scheduled for September 29th to October 2nd 2014.



Upon their arrival the RACVIAC delegation, which also consisted of Planning and Liaison Officer for South East Europe, Ms Ivis Nocka and Subject Matter Expert Iljmi Selami met with the Croatian Navy Commander, Rear Admiral Robert Hranj. Rear Admiral Hranj expressed the Croatian Navy's readiness to cooperate with the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and offered their full support for the event.

During the preparatory meeting for the Coastal Search and Rescue event, the RACVIAC delegation met with Lt. Colonel Ove Urup-Madsen from the Tactical Air Command of the Kingdom of Denmark, the Commander of the Croatian Coast Guard, Commodore Marin Stosic and 1st Lieutenant Tomislav Dukic from the Croatian Armed Forces.

Brigadier General Jakop informed the participants of the meeting on RACVIAC's Regional Search and Rescue project as

a continuation of a series of activities organized on the topic in cooperation between RACVIAC and Tactical Air Command of the Kingdom of Denmark. He noted that RACVIAC and the Danish Tactical Air Command stand ready to support these efforts by continuing to provide a platform for the countries in the South-East European region in reaching their common goals in the field of search and rescue.

All participants welcomed the initiative for cooperation aimed at organizing such an event. They expressed their willingness and readiness for active participation in order to make the event succeed. It was also noted that this is regarded as a good base for cooperation between the institutions and organizations that they represent. ■

RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Branimir Mandic, Addresses Forum for Security Cooperation within OSCE, in Vienna Austria

On June 4th 2014, RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandic presented the work of the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation during the Moldovan chairmanship of the 756th Meeting of the Forum for Security Cooperation within the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, OSCE, in Vienna Austria. Director Mandic presented current events taking place at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and in regional cooperation immediately following the address by the Minister of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Zekerijah Osmic.

During his presentation Director Mandic strongly advocated the strengthening of regional cooperation and offered the significant experience the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation has gained regarding Article IV of the Dayton Agreement to others in the region.



A joint statement adopted by EU member countries included strong support for new developments in the work of the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and efforts invested in adjusting its program to the current needs of countries in the South East European region.

In this context RACVIAC was recognized by the OSCE as an important partner in advancing cooperation in the field of security. ■

Japanese Ambasaador to Croatia, H.E. Mr Keiji Ide visits RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation



Japanese Ambassador to Croatia H.E. Mr Keiji Ide

The Japanese Ambassador to Croatia, H.E. Mr Keiji Ide visited the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation on Wednesday June 11th, 2014. The Ambassador was greeted by RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Branimir Mandic, Deputy Director, Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop and members of the RACVIAC staff.

The meeting was opened with a brief introduction by each of the staff members present and a presentation about the work of RACVIAC given by Public Affairs Officer Capt. Branko Lozancic.

During discussion that followed Director Mandic informed the Japanese Ambassador about current developments taking place at RACVIAC. He noted that RACVIAC has stabilized its budget and is proud of the communication it has with its member countries and partners. He added that nine MOUs have been signed with other organizations dealing in security cooperation with the network constantly expanding to avoid duplication and achieve synergy. Director Mandic also pointed out that RACVIAC has achieved permanent communication with the EU and NATO through contact countries Croatia and Austria respectively.

Elaborating on the progress of work at RACVIAC, Director Mandic pointed out that a project approach to activities is being adopted adding that this will be reflected in the new RACVIAC Strategy 2020 which will be launched at a celebration next year marking the Centre's 15th anniversary. Under the Strategy each pillar within RACVIAC will cover 4 or 5 fields containing projects regarding cyber security, energy security, search and rescue and border management, just to name a few.

Deputy Director, Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop informed the Japanese Ambassador about challenges RACVIAC is facing and noted that the Centre is always looking for new sources of expertise.

H.E. Mr. Ide thanked the representatives present for receiving his visit noting that he is proud to be the first Japanese Ambassador to visit the Centre. He said that he considers it important to promote cooperation in all fields including security adding that Japanese Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe, recently gave a speech in NATO in which he said that NATO and Japan are natural partners.

H.E. Mr. Ide said that he was impressed by the Centre's efforts to support regional cooperation and noted that Japan has similar initiatives in its region including cyber security, energy security and coping with disasters.



Left to right: RACVIAC Deputy Director Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop, Japanese Ambassador to Croatia H.E. Mr Keiji Ide and RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandic

In conclusion the Japanese Ambassador left copies of speeches by Japanese Prime Minister Abe and a copy of the new Japanese National Security Strategy for the RACVIAC staff. Signing the guestbook H.E. Mr. Ide wrote that he hopes to start cooperation and develop our joint efforts for peace, stability and prosperity for all of us. ■

Delegation from American University in Bosnia and Herzegovina visits RACVIAC

A delegation from the American University in Bosnia Herzegovina (AUBiH) led by its president Mr Esmir Ganic visited the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation on Monday June 16th, 2014. The purpose of the visit was to enhance cooperation under the Memorandum of Understanding between the two organizations.

RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Branimir Mandic welcomed the guests. Following introductions by all staff members present Mr Esmir Ganić briefly informed those gathered of the history of the American University in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He noted that it was founded in 2005 and is an American accredited university based in Sarajevo and Tuzla. Briefly going over the various programs at the university, he also noted that they strive to concentrate on employment for their students upon graduation.

A presentation on the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation was then given by Public Affairs officer Capt. Branko Lozancic. Following the presentation each of the RACVIAC program managers informed the guests of their respective pillars and projects being developed within them.

Denis Prsic of the American University in Bosnia and Herzegovina then took the floor providing the RACVIAC staff with further information on AUBiH programs and development, pointing out two conferences recently organized: a conference on Cyber Security and a conference on International and National Security. He also announced a forthcoming conference on Industrial Security and Intelligence for the fall of this year.



AUBiH president Mr Esmir Ganic and RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandic

During the second half of the meeting, AUBiH representatives, RACVIAC program managers and planning and liaison officers discussed details of further cooperation under the memorandum of understanding between the two organizations. ■

RACVIAC delegation conducts coordination visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina



A RACVIAC delegation consisting of Director, -Ambassador Branimir Mandic, Programme Manager for International and Regional Cooperation, Ms Marija Zuzek and Activity Coordinator, Mr Iljmi Selami conducted a coordination visit in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina on June 17th 2014.

The visit was to coordinate the upcoming activities in the field of Building Integrity and Fighting Corruption and Floods.

On Tuesday June 17th, the delegation was welcomed at the premises of the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI) where preparations were conducted at a working meeting regarding the upcoming conferences on Building Integrity and Fighting Corruption that will be conducted during November 2014 and April 2015 in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*. These conferences will be

organized jointly by the Ministry of Justice of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI) and RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.

Furthermore, the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI) and the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, recognizing the mutual interest to establish effective cooperation in the areas of common interest and having in mind the importance of a synergy in action for safeguarding and improving regional security and good governance, signed a Memorandum of Understanding during the meeting.

Later in the day the delegation visited the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina where a working/coordination meeting was held regarding the upcoming event on Floods that will be conducted during November 2014 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The event is jointly being organized by the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. ■



* Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.

RACVIAC attends Fifth meeting of the Programme Steering Committee to review and identify developments and challenges within the UNODC Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe (2012-2015)

Monday, 30 June 2014, Vienna International Centre



RACVIAC Planning and Liaison Officer for Western Europe and International Organizations, Colonel Ferdinand Klinser MSD, attended the Fifth meeting of the Programme Steering Committee to review and identify developments and challenges within the UNODC Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe (2012-2015) which was opened by Mr. Yury Fedotov of the Russian Federation Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Director-General of the United Nations Office in Vienna (UNOV) holding at the same time the rank of Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The Regional Program for South Eastern Europe for the period of 2012-2015 (RP) focuses on the so-called "Balkan Route" region, the major route for the illicit trafficking of heroin from West Asia into Europe. The RP was endorsed by the participating countries and launched on 23

May 2012 by the UNODC Executive Director Mr. Yury Fedotov. The RP has three Sub-Programs. Its Sub-Program 1 foresees comprehensive interventions in law enforcement and drug trafficking areas, which will focus on countering the Afghan heroine route going through the Balkans, based on the UNODC expertise in this area. RP's Sub-Program 2 is aimed at improving justice and integrity in the countries, while Sub-Program 3 is aimed at health consequences of drug abuse. The Regional Program is an institutional priority for UNODC.

The Regional Program is fully integrated, in line with the Integrated Programming Approach launched by UNODC in 2009 and confirmed by resolutions issued by UNODC's governing bodies.

The Program foresees a notional budget of approximately USD 14.6 million (for the period 2012-2015). Donors for UNODC's interventions in South Eastern Europe have so far included: the EU, Germany, Italy, France, Turkey, Belgium and the UN funds. Some funds are co-sponsored by the Paris Pact Initiative.

To corroborate UNODC's strong efforts in the Region the current ongoing projects "Regional Program for South Eastern Europe 2012-2015 - Countering Illicit Trafficking and Organized Crime for Improved Governance, Justice and Security 2012-2015" and "Support for the Integrated Programming Unit to promote multidisciplinary and cross-sector technical cooperation" demand to be highlighted.

This concrete meeting was dedicated to report about the Progress of the Regional Programme since the last PSC meeting, its implementation, developments and challenges, practices and activities.

The sessions of the meeting dealt with the Review of partnership opportunities and the role of the Programme Steering Committee, Statements by the regional organizations, Coordination at country level with existing assistance mechanisms and new fund-raising opportunities, Identification of immediate priorities, Review of the existing work-plan for the second half of 2014, Review of communication and coordination arrangements, Network, local coordination and regular communication, reporting and feedback and was concluded with an essential wrap up.

Among other duties, such as participation and contribution with relevant expertise and experience in several side-meetings and discussions, the event appeared to be an excellent and prominent platform for RACVIAC Planning and Liaison Officer Col Klinser to present a detailed overview of the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, the organization's strategic objectives, activities conducted and results achieved, its Main Areas of Interest with focus on the New Strategy 2020 and the way ahead based on the envisaged enlargement of cooperation with our prestigious MoU Partner UNODC and others. ■

31st MAG Meeting Held In Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

The 31st semi-annual meeting of the RACVIAC steering body - Multinational Advisory Group (MAG), was held in Belgrade in the Republic of Serbia on April 17th 2014, under the chairmanship of MAG Chairperson, Major General Milan Mojsilović. The Meeting gathered representatives from the majority of RACVIAC member states and representatives of the UNDP/SEESAC and UNODC.

The MAG meeting itself was preceded by a budgetary meeting held at the same venue on April 16th, where representatives from MAG member countries discussed financial issues pertaining to the work of RACVIAC.



On April 17th the MAG meeting was held beginning with RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Branimir Mandić presenting his annual report highlighting RACVIAC's achievements over the past year. A presentation by each of the RACVIAC Programme Managers followed where they provided the MAG members with information regarding the programmes in each of their pillars for 2014, 2015 and beyond. MAG members were also given a presentation by Planning and Liaison officer Col Ferdinand Klinser on the achievements of the Programme Development Group as well as a roadmap for the development of the RACVIAC Strategy 2015-2020.

RACVIAC Deputy Director, Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop presented the personnel situation within RACVIAC. He emphasized that a lack of

seconded personnel still presents a challenge to the Centre and encouraged member countries to provide secondees to fill vacant positions. General Jakop also noted that in order to bridge the lack of personnel RACVIAC has taken on two volunteers from Croatia and one intern from Romania, while also contracting an assistant working in the Cooperative Security Environment pillar.

Speaking as a special guest, the commander of the CBRN Training Centre in the Republic of Serbia, LtCol Ivan Lazarević, presented the organization he commands.

In other business the members discussed changes to the MAG Terms of Reference and agreed to form a working group in that regard to be led by RACVIAC management.

Furthermore members discussed the proposal to form a non-proliferation centre/pillar within the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. As a result, the MAG members endorsed an initiative to build a WMD network.

In conclusion, it was decided that the next MAG meeting would be held at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, in Rakitje, Croatia on October 9th and 10th 2014. ■

1st Working Group Meeting of Legal Experts on MAG Terms of Reference held at RACVIAC

The 1st Working Group Meeting of legal experts on MAG Terms of Reference was held at RACVIAC on July 12th 2014. The gathering began on Wednesday July 11th with a welcome dinner at the Barbara Club at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in Rakitje, Croatia. The Working group held deliberations throughout the day and their results will be presented to the MAG members. ■



Symposium on Mine Action

In cooperation with the Federal Republic of Germany, the Government of the Republic of Croatia - Office for Demining and the Croatian Mine Action Centre (CROMAC).

22-26 April 2014, Zadar (Petrčane), Croatia



From April 22-26, 2014 RACVIAC conducted a workshop on the Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Ottawa Convention Seminar in the last few years. The workshop was merged into a much bigger event: Mine Action 2014. The symposium was conducted as a continuation of the International Symposium and the Equipment Exhibition "Mine Action 2014" series, and was the 11th Symposium in the series. The purpose of the Symposium was to provide a forum for discussions on security issues in the context of the Humanitarian Disarmament Treaties while focusing on technologies, both those that are available, as well as new and upcoming ones. It provided an opportunity for all those involved or interested in mine action to broaden their contacts with the interested parties from both the private and public sectors on the national and international levels, by sharing their experiences and problems - both technological and managerial.

The Symposium was conducted with the assistance of six (6) lecturers: Ms Dijana Pleština (HR), Col Rafael Jimenez Sánchez (ES), Prof Kenneth Rutherford (US), Mr Dorijan Maršić (SI), Mr Chris Clark (UK) and Mr Håvard Bach (NO). It was carried out as a combination of lectures and presentations, consisting of two blocks, entitled "Introduction into Humanitarian and Security Conventions - Ottawa Convention," and "Introduction into Humanitarian and Security Conventions - Convention on Cluster Munitions" respectively, followed by questions and answers, completed by a short discussion. This Symposium was designed with the goal to share expertise, experience and information. The Symposium also provided a favourable environment and atmosphere for valuable and focused discussions.

It began with a welcome address by RACVIAC Deputy Director, Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop, followed by the opening remarks and lecture by Ms Dijana Pleština, Director of Office for Demining, Government of the Republic of Croatia. Ms Pleština gave an overview of the issue, emphasizing the role of cluster munitions. In her presentation she put special emphasis on the important influence of the so-called not-influential sector.

During the RACVIAC Symposium on Mine Action the following topics were presented: "CID International Demining Centre, Spain", delivered by Col Rafael Jimenez Sanchez (CID Intl. Demining and EOD Centre, Spain), "History and Milestones of the Movement to Ban Landmines" by Professor Kenneth Rutherford, PhD (Director, Center for Intl. Stabilization and recovery, James Madison University), "A Historical Overview of the Application of Cluster Munitions" by Mr Chris Clark (Mine Tech International, UK), and "A Historical Insight Into the Legal Aspects and the Milestones of the Oslo Treaty" by Mr Håvard Bach, (Norwegian People's Aid).

According to the feedback received after the Symposium, the participants were highly satisfied with its execution. It was successful, very interesting and very well organized, they stated, adding that in the future they would like to hear more about both topics. They appreciated the idea of merging two activities into one, in the framework of a bigger event (Mine Action 2014), having an occasion to listen to all lectures, to take part in the field demonstration and take a closer look at the demining machines and other equipment.



Ms Dijana Pleština, Director of Office for Demining, Government of the Republic of Croatia

Thanks to the cooperation between RACVIAC and the co-organisers, high-level lecturers took part in this Symposium. Their professionalism and experience, as well as their presentations were highly appreciated by all participants. ■

CMR Seminar: “Private (Military) Security Companies II” (P(M)SC)/National Security Sector

28-30 April 2014, RACVIAC - Rakitje, Croatia



From April 28 - 30, 2014 RACVIAC conducted its second seminar on Civil Military Relations Seminar on Private (Military) Security Companies. This was the second time that the RACVIAC SSR Pillar addressed the issue of Private security and its role in national economies and national security or the State. The purpose of this second event was to re-open the issue and pave the ground for regular, annual follow-up activities for the benefit of all actors involved in Private security, as well as broader and regional security.

Private security providers play an increasingly important role in protecting both non-state and state clients and assets. Considering the importance of this division of clients, as well as the diverse nature of the responsibility of both partner sides it is clear that a firm and fair regulation must be put in place for the benefit of success of private businesses and the fulfilment of national interests.

What needs to be taken into consideration in this regard is ensuring a high level of human rights protection and the rule of law because this is what harmonisation of the interests of private security and the State is really all about. On the international level, there are two documents that aspire to be the overarching regulation pertaining to Private (Military) security: The Montreux Document and the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers. Crucially important in this regard is the national regulation which, under the umbrella of the two mentioned documents, can be called upon when need be and provide a sustainable and comfortable framework for the smooth operation of Private security and the State.

The Seminar was planned and executed by the RACVIAC - Centre for Security cooperation, with the indispensable support generously provided by Croatian and international experts during the whole preparatory period. It brought

together a total of 41 participants, including nominees from RACVIAC Member countries; AL, BA, HR, ME, MK, and RS; presenters from DCAF Geneva, the Hungarian academia, the George C. Marshall Center, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, the Belgrade Centre for Security Policy, regional experts and entrepreneurs in the field of Private security from Slovenia and Croatia as well as the hosting organisation.

The event was opened by RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandić, followed by introductory addresses given by Ms Ines Krajčak, Assistant Minister at the Ministry of Interior, Republic of Croatia and Mr Zlatko Garelić, Defence Adviser to the President of the Republic of Croatia. The Assistant Minister of Interior Ms Ines Krajčak discussed the most important novelties proposed in respect of the current Private Protection Act in Croatia, such as the possibility to establish the Croatian Chamber of Security Guards and the Financial Institutions Security Act, while the Defence Adviser to the President of the Republic of Croatia Mr Zlatko Garelić focused his presentation on the question to what extent the democratization of P(M)SCs is actually possible, given the fact that without provision of security any sort of development in a particular society would not be feasible.

The activity was conducted within the framework of four panel discussions: “History, Global Trends and Rapid Growth of the P(M)S Sector and Impact on Civil Military Relations”, the Most Appropriate Roles for P(M)SCs, „National Experiences in the Implementation of P(M)SC Regulations“ and „Options for the Effective Regulation of P(M)SCs at the International Level.“

It has proved evident that this second event on Private security was a relevant action dealing with a sensitive issue consisting of a triangle: private industry, the Government and national interests. As Mr Robert Mikac PhD had reiterated: What is really needed is the public debate on the issue, especially on critical infrastructure protection, while new topics such as human rights and gender should be addressed. Mr Ben Buckland of DCAF pointed out: The field of critical infrastructure protection (uniting all three angles of the triangle) clearly needs information sharing and the usefulness of international and regional standards in ensuring that private security involved in these activities are operating effectively, efficiently and in accordance with precise regulations, human rights and other relevant standards. The fact that the Private security in the area moved from near-total absence to a major employer and security provider today deserves comprehensive expert research lecturers and their personal experience attracted participants' attention and generated open discussion on all aspects of the OST. ■

Interview with Mr. Ben Buckland - DCAF

During the course of the CMR Seminar on "Private (Military) Security Companies, RACVIAC Public Relations officer Capt. Branko Lozancic took the opportunity to interview Mr. Ben Buckland from the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces a prominent lecturer at the event.

Please tell us a bit about yourself?

My name is Ben Buckland I'm a Project Coordinator in DCAF in Geneva working on the Montreux Document relating to private military and security companies.

Can you please tell our readers firstly about the definition of private security companies?

The simplest definition is that they are business concerns that provide military and or security services irrespective of how they describe themselves. Beyond that I think we can make a distinction between a few different categories: PSCs, private security companies, perform functions like guarding, guarding personnel, facilities, designated sites and properties. This can include in complex emergencies or complex environments as well as in places that we are perhaps more familiar with such as guarding a hotel or guarding a bank. Private military companies, by contrast, perform functions in support of the military, the kind of logistical support that's unique to the armed forces and maintenance and operations of weapons' systems and military training. Yesterday we also heard about what we could perhaps call another category: private intelligence. These are companies that maybe fit under one of those existing categories but because of the range of activities that they're engaged in, including (as we discovered with Edward Snowden) surveillance and so forth, maybe they should be considered as a completely different category. Finally, there's always a lot of discussion about mercenaries, they're different again, they're defined very restrictively in additional protocol 1 to the Geneva conventions: to be a mercenary, you need to be not a national of any parties of the conflict, you have to be employed with an aim of being directly involved in combat and motivated by a desire for personal gain, and you must be doing all these things to be considered a mercenary. So it's really a restrictive definition and most of what we're talking about, people don't really fall within that category.

Can describe the role of DCAF and the efforts of the international community to achieve effective regulation of PMSCs at the international level?

DCAF's been involved in two key initiatives, firstly we're involved in the Montreux process and then we've also been involved since the beginning in the elaboration of the Code of Conduct and more recently in the setting up of the International Code of Conduct Association that was established in September last year. Firstly to talk a little bit about the Montreux document, this is an initiative of the Swiss government and the ICRC, which brought together initially 17 states in 2008, but also industry representatives, academic experts and nongovernment organizations to clearly articulate the pertinent international legal obligations regarding PMCs and also to debunk a misconception that was very prevalent at the time that private contractors were operating in a legal vacuum. Five years later there's now 50 states plus three

international organizations that have endorsed the document. The Code of Conduct on the other hand, while the Montreux document focuses on states, the Code of Conduct is really aimed at companies. Having said that it's a multi-stakeholder initiative. The Code of Conduct Association has three pillars, a government pillar, a civil society pillar and an industry pillar, represented each by four board members. The three pillars negotiated a set of principles which set out standards of human rights in IHL for PSCs and translated existing principles into rules that companies can apply to their operations. There are two parts to it, first of all it's a public commitment by companies to policy and management rules, things like vetting, training of personnel, grievance procedures, weapons management and corporate good practices and it talks about how these can be included in contracts and so forth. Secondly, it outlines core human rights obligations such as prohibition of torture and human trafficking, rules on use of force and detention. By committing to the International Code of Conduct companies also commit to a future oversight mechanism which is currently being setup and this is the International Code of Conduct Association that I referred to that's going to do that. It is multi-stakeholder, there's a board of 12 people (four from each of the pillars) and they're currently developing procedures for certification for monitoring and also for complaints processes. People will actually be able to go to the Association and complain about the activities of companies. That was launched in September and hopefully it will begin certifying companies in the next year or so.

Can we expect a UN Security Council resolution or something similar regulating the field?

I think we can divide international efforts into two tracks, there's I guess what we would perhaps call the Soft Law Track which includes the Montreux Document, the Code of Conduct and then other related initiatives such as the voluntary principles on business and human rights that DCAF's also involved in. And then a kind of Hard Law Track that's working towards, for example, a convention on the use of mercenaries. A Security Council resolution would probably fall into that second category and from what I've seen, while some states for example South Africa, are interested in a binding international convention on this issue, there's not a huge amount of traction elsewhere. I think one area in which some more Hard Law could be very useful is in closing some of these judicial accountability gaps where sometimes PMSCs commit violations but it's unclear in which jurisdiction they should be prosecuted and maybe some international instrument that helps to address some of those gaps would be helpful. But the likelihood of it, I think, is pretty slim at the moment.

What are the current challenges in the implementation of the Montreux process and the International Code of Conduct?

I think, as we talked about in the report that DCAF prepared for the Montreux + 5 conference, we identified six key challenges relating to the Montreux Document. More broadly I'd say, there's a

general challenge which is encouraging more and more states to endorse the document. Currently there's, as I said, 50 plus three international organizations, but clearly there's a lot of states, particularly in parts of Africa and South America that haven't endorsed the document where I think endorsement would be really helpful. In terms of specific implementation challenges, just very briefly, first of all a lot of states still don't precisely define which functions PMSCs can and can't do. They say, for example, that they shouldn't do inherently governmental functions but it's unclear exactly what those inherently governmental functions are. So that's a key challenge to really define those accurately. Secondly, extraterritorial applicability of legislation is often inadequate. In most Montreux states there's pretty good domestic legislation on PMSCs but it's often not clear that that applies when, for example, a Croatian PMSC is operating abroad or on board a ship whether that domestic legislation applies to the actions of that PMSC. Thirdly, a lot of states have an authorization system, some kind of body that's responsible for licensing and contracting, but a lot of the time that body just doesn't really have the resources, either the people or the money that it needs to really do its job and it's a pretty complicated job. Background, checks, issuing permits, this kind of thing, requires a lot of resources and a lot of the time those institutions don't have the resources and without them they really are just rubber stamping companies. Fourth, standards are pretty low as a basis for authorizations and contracts and licences. I think the Montreux document talks a lot about the fact that price shouldn't be the only thing that's used when they're choosing a PSC, but that states should take into account past conduct, training levels and things, but unfortunately, in a lot of places minimum standards don't really exist. Fifth, there's still pretty weak monitoring of compliance with authorizations and contracting licences. So a lot of states don't even have a system in place for revoking licences if it's discovered that a PMSC has been involved in misconduct. Then six, as I eluded to before, there are still big gaps in legal accountability and judicial liability which often prevent victims of PMSC misconduct from seeking or obtaining justice. So I think they're the key challenges relating to the Montreux Document, relating to the Code of Conduct, it's really early days, so it's going to be interesting to see how the Association operates once it gets up and running, once it starts certifying companies. What will happen once companies are members? At some point a company is going to get kicked out of the Association. How that's going to happen? I think all of these things are going to be really closely watched and are going to be very interesting for observers to see whether it becomes an effective way of regulating these companies.

What do you see as the key steps forward?

I think we need more research, on one level this is still a pretty new topic, it's still not really known exactly how these companies are operating in a lot of countries, how regulation is working, what the best models for regulation are. It's clear from the discussions that we've had here that PMSCs are involved in a lot of "new activities," that aren't really well understood, intelligence gathering for example. Even in activities, for example detention, where PMSCs have been active since the early 80's I think it's still

unclear what the positive and negative sides of that are. Whether PMSCs should be involved in that at all and if they shouldn't what the arguments against it are and if they should, how should they act in a way that ensures that human rights are respected and so forth. I think there's a lot of research questions that have yet to be answered. I think there's a lot that can be done in terms of tool development, some states don't yet have legislation on PMSCs or have legislation that needs to be reformed and I think Montreux states can really do a lot in identifying good practices in legislation and coming up with some model law provisions, for example guidance for states that are involved in the legislative process, I think can really help bring standards up and help everyone kind of meet a minimum standard. Also I think as we saw in this event here, there's also a lot of space for states to share knowledge and share good practices. As we saw in the discussion about critical infrastructure protection, it seems like there's a lot of common issues not just within the Balkans but also around the world and more opportunities like this one at RACVIAC for people to come together and discuss those issues and share problems but also solutions. I think that can be very important.

The Convention for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons has almost achieved universality, can we expect this initiative to come close to that? What efforts are being done to achieve possible universality in the future?

I would like to hope that everyone could endorse the Montreux Document just because it's important to emphasize that it doesn't entail any new obligations. All it does is restate existing international humanitarian law and human rights obligations. Most of which are accepted as customary international law. These are obligations that are already binding on all states. So endorsing the document really should be uncontroversial for all states. It's been slow progress getting to 50, but I would like to think that in the future we could get everyone on board. In terms of involvement in the International Code of Conduct Association, again I see it as uncontroversial. I think that everyone should be involved, however I think some states are still holding out for a binding international legal regime and while that's still possible, that may prevent them from fully committing to the association process.

How do you see the role of organizations such as RACVIAC in assisting in the implementation of such initiatives?

I think the role of RACVIAC is really important, this is the second year that I've been here and it's very clear that the discussion has moved on already from last year. The level of knowledge in the region has improved immensely and it's really clear that there's some regional issues that are important to companies and states in the region such as critical infrastructure protection and an institution like RACVIAC is a great place for security companies, NGOs and academic experts, but also state to come together and discuss those regional challenges in an open and constructive way. I really hope it continues to do so and I'd really like to come back next year. ■

Conference on

"COMPUTER EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS (CERTS-CIRT-CSIRTS)"

06 - 07 May 2014, Rakitje, Croatia



From May 06 - 07 2014, RACVIAC conducted a conference on Computer Emergency response Teams aimed at presenting cooperation among regional CERTs and how it could be further enhanced.

The activity was a continuation of a series of events dedicated to the topic of cyber threats and critical information protection where CERTs (CIRTs, CSIRTs) are recognized as a key instrument as they act as security service providers for the government. A very good level of cooperation among CERTs (CIRTs, CSIRTs) and different entities, in terms of critical information protection, exists but there is still room for improvement of cooperation between CERTs (CIRTs, CSIRTs) on the national and regional level.

Knowing that the Internet doesn't recognize national borders this cooperation has become a necessity with regard to information sharing and incident response. Trying to implement their capabilities, it is understandable that CERTs (CIRTs, CSIRTs) face some challenges or barriers regarding mutual cooperation, which are mainly political, financial, organizational and legal in nature.

The purpose of this event was to bring together representatives and equivalent representatives of CERTs (CIRTs, CSIRTs) from the SEE region in order to facilitate the exchange of experience and regional cooperation. Moreover, the aim was to expose the participants from the SEE region to experiences of experts from international organizations and countries of the region.

The conference objectives were to update participants on new developments in cyber security; enable participants to exchange knowledge, experience and know-how, as well as to facilitate networking among them and to raise awareness of the importance of cooperation in response to cyber threats on the national and regional level.

In his opening address RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandić noted: "We are aware that many steps are undertaken on a national, regional and global level to prevent cybercrime, but we are also witnesses that the rate of cybercrimes and the cost of prevention are on the rise. A lot of theoretical work has been done in the field of cyber security but real protection can be expected from those who implement theories and who do physical operational work on the ground. Many countries have recognized how important this is and that's why they created cyber response units, computer response teams, incident response teams, etc. on a national level. However, when it comes to this kind of threat, it is impossible for one nation to protect itself without close cooperation with its neighbors and cooperation on a global scale. To make cooperation as strong as possible, not only in cyber security but also in some other security domains, we face challenges or barriers which are mainly of a political, financial, organizational and legal nature. The best way to overcome those obstacles is to communicate with each other, and act together."

The event was conducted in a series of panel discussions lead by lecturers prominent in the field: - I Cooperation among regional CERTs, and how it could be further enhanced - by Mr. Gorazd Božič, Head of SI-CERT, who acted as Chairman of the European CERT Group TF-CIRT from 2000-2008; II Strategic values of CERT teams, models and legal basis for cooperation by Ms. Andrea Dufkova, an Expert in network and information security from the European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (ENISA); III The role and importance of information clearinghouse and coordination point for information security on the national, regional and global level by Mr. Predrag Pale from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing University of Zagreb; IV CERT-EU Overview and lessons learned by Mr. Freddy Dezeure, Head of CERT-EU; IV Cyber security strategy as a "Must" for the SEE Region by Col Metodi Hadji-Janev, Associate professor of law and the Vice Dean at the Military Academy „General Mihailo Apostolski“ Skopje; VI Advanced Cyber Defence Centre (ACDC) project - Mr. Darko Perhoč, of the Croatian Academic and Research Network (CARNet) and Head of HR-CERT.

National presentations were also given on the current status, challenges and perspectives of national CERTs-CIRTs-CSIRTs. During this session, it was recognized that the level of development of Computer Emergency Response Teams CERTs is not the same in different countries. It was evident

from the presentations that in some countries, CERT teams are very successful in their work and have very good cooperation with other CERTs and similar organizations on the global level but on the other hand some have only recently begun establishing CERT teams.

In conclusion RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandic said „I hope that we have recognized the importance of cooperation and information sharing as important tools which facilitate the work of CERTs and their employees because joint efforts in this area bring joint solutions and better results in both prevention and repression of cyber crime. The designated employees of national/governmental CERTs should examine ways of promoting the importance of their work, the risks stemming from cyber crime and the importance of cyber security, especially in order to animate decision makers and politicians to overcome certain challenges. In accordance with the conclusions of this event we should continue with activities which have aimed to fulfill the joint needs of the countries of the SEE Region, related to combating cybercrime

and ensuring cyber security. RACVIAC will also support the efforts on cyber security among SEE Region countries, especially the countries which have not yet adopted strategies on cyber security and didn't establish their CERTs.” ■



INTERVIEW

Interview with Mr. Freddy Dezeure from CERT-EU

During the course of the conference on “Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs-CIRTs-CSIRTs)” held in RACVIAC from May 06-07, RACVIAC Public Affairs officer Capt. Branko Lozancic took the opportunity to interview Mr Freddy Dezeure the head of CERT- EU.



Mr Freddy Dezeure the head of CERT- EU

Can you please briefly explain the role of CERT EU?

Our mandate is to help to protect the EU institutions against cyber threats. Our clients are 60 organizations, all the EU institutions, bodies and agencies. We don't have a mandate to coordinate things in the members' states, we don't have a mandate to build up infrastructure or competencies in the Member states either, that's more the mandate of ENISA and the objective or the task of

the member states themselves. We're very happy to help wherever we can in a realistic manner. So this is why I said in my presentation that I'm happy to invest a day or so for every national CERT that wants to get some help. It's like a goodwill effort to invest a little bit in the community. Our job is to help protect the governmental institutions on the EU level.

What are your thoughts and recommendations regarding the RACVIAC Cyber Security Project?

I think a project like this which aims to create confidence and trust between a number of specialized parties, in order to exchange information and mutually increase the security of the different parties is, for sure, very welcome. It's good to have this type of collaboration set up. It's good to have funding for such collaborations and to make sure that people can meet regularly, physically. Because in all the collaborations inside security, trust is one of the key factors for success and trust can only be built by knowing the people, by meeting the people, by meeting them physically, by meeting them regularly. These meetings stimulate the creation of this trust, but it also stimulates the exchange of information between the different parties. In general, when these types of groups are setup and nurtured, automatically after some time, things start flowing and collaboration starts working. Collaboration can then lead to different parts and then you can think about how to nurture these parts. If you have a collaboration that starts on tools for example, that people would

use similar tools in their different infrastructures then you can think about funding and the setting up of those tools. In general I think it is a good start to have people meeting each other to talk about the threats they see, to talk about how they deal with it, to talk about the setup of infrastructure, how they develop skills, how they train the people, how they raise awareness, how they draw the attention of the political masses on the importance of taking certain initiatives. All of these different elements I think are part of the picture and to deal with them in an organized manner, I think is a very positive endeavour.

Could you please tell us what you expect of CERTs in the regions and what you can offer?

CERT EU is a small operational team and we have setup and we run an operation. In order to run the operation we have a certain number of skills, a certain number of tools, a certain number of procedures and infrastructures that we have in place. For the benefit of future potential partners we are very willing to share the experience of setting up a CERT ourselves. To share that experience with other organizations, countries that have to go through the same experience themselves. When we started three years ago we went to see about fifteen mature national CERTs in order to learn from them. In general it was a very short meeting lasting an hour or two, not more, because everybody is very busy doing their operational work, but these two hours were incredibly valuable for us. When we went there we said „What is the type of ticketing system you use or whatever procedure can you share with us? The manual of procedure, can you tell us which sources you use? Can you tell us how you work with sharing information?“ It was like an injection of knowledge and experience from these mature CERTs into us and this helped us and gave us a kind of boost kick-start into setting up CERT EU. So I am very happy and willing to do something similar for other organizations that are also in their starting blocks and help them to setup. The second part of it is that to do our work we need information. We need information about threats, incidents, vulnerabilities and breaches. That information we get from our trusted partners. So I am hoping that in South East Europe there are a number of CERTs that are already mature, that are possible valid sources of information for us. But even the other ones that are starting to setup, they will become useful sources of information for us. So, we would like to establish a functional collaboration with them and we want to do that in a hands-on pragmatical manner. That means we need to know who to speak with, we need to have an encrypted channel with them, we need to have their email addresses, we need to have their IP ranges or ASN numbers, if they would like to share information in a technical manner or a practical manner.

The conclusions of the meeting should provide a way forward for South East European countries. What would you suggest that we concentrate on?

On practical things. On small steps forward, on things that you can do together. I gave a number of examples in my presentation, in setting up specialist groups with a specialist in malware reversing for example. You can think about how the specialists, like the ones that are doing log analysis for example, bring the

people together on a regular basis. So that they exchange experiences with each other. So this is one of the examples, setting up an information sharing channel, an encrypted IRC channel, information sharing platform. All these practical things to make collaboration happen. Things like the workshop of today are a good first step because people need to meet each other and they need to gel, they need to have a human contact. But then afterwards you also have to do more than just talk about it. You have to do it, you have to implement things. To do little practical things together. Other examples, if you look recently at the vulnerabilities of Heartbleed or the Internet Explorer vulnerability of last week, I'm sure that every single country in the region has tried to figure out what to tell their users, or what to tell their citizens. Probably all of them have done the analysis themselves and have written the texts themselves and have published it them themselves. These are little examples where you can say „Talk to each other. What do you think about it? Have you prepared something already that we can reuse, that we can repackage“? Because everybody has limited resources and it's a very good objective to try to make these people work together in order to make the best of the resources that you have.

In your opinion what will be the main challenges in the future?

I think that when you start doing this you need to have the goodwill and the support of your political masters, whoever they may be. I think that in every single country the CERT may be reporting to the Ministry of the Interior or Ministry of Defence, but this kind of project that you try to foster must have the political support to go ahead and it's a valid goal. If that's the case, in the rest of it I think that all of the problems are practical problems that can be resolved. I don't see a big problem in doing this type of hands-on practical collaboration and cooperation. The challenges are challenges that are much broader, which are the complexity of the infrastructure, the vulnerability and fragility of the tools that we use. Whether it's the office automation tools, the network infrastructure, the backbone, the ISPs, all of the technical tools that we use are very complex and very fragile because they all have vulnerabilities. Some of them are known and some of them are unknown. So, the attack surface is very broad and difficult to master, it's a hell of a job to keep up with all of the different issues, the technical issues that we have to deal with. That's already a challenge in itself and it's made even more difficult or more complex by the fact that not all organizations or all actors have the intention or the goal to patch the vulnerabilities or to fix the problems. There is a real risk that we keep being confronted with state actors that, instead of protecting us or fixing the potential problems in the infrastructure, that they see it as an advantage or a potential opportunity to use these vulnerabilities to have control over information and to have control over infrastructure to create insecurity rather than security. It's not only a technical issue, I think that from a societal perspective we need to be able to come to a societal consensus that the state should be there to protect us rather than to maintain the vulnerabilities in the infrastructure. ■

Human Rights Protection: Gender Training for Trainers Course

19 - 29 May 2014, Rakitje, Croatia



The Gender Training of Trainers course was held at the RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation from 19 - 29 May 2014. The course was conducted in cooperation with the Nordic Centre for Gender in Military Operations and the Armed Forces of the Republic of Croatia.

The importance of the Gender aspect in Military operations had prompted NATO, as well as other national and multinational defence organisations to address, regulate and

implement the Gender issue, both on the duty level and on the level of participation in Peace Support Operations (PSO). According to the Review of the Practical Implications of UNSCR 1325 for the Conduct of NATO-led Operations and Missions (2013) a very important recommendation to NATO and all current and future Operational Partner nations is to “train trainers on UNSCR 1325 and gender mainstreaming, with the objective of supporting on-the-job training.”

The main purpose of the course was to instruct carefully selected participants in addressing and dealing with the implementation of the Gender issue in evolving Military operations and its impact on wider civil-military relations. This course provided participants with information and skills to plan and develop gender-oriented training programmes as well as to mainstream gender in other training or education curricula. Furthermore, the course sought to build a strong team of gender trainers across the region. The purpose and objectives of the course were in accordance with the curriculum of the Nordic Centre for Gender in Military Operations, NATO Head Department for the Gender issue.

The course was executed according to the official NATO certified NCGM programme and carried out by their Mobile Education and Training Team (METT). Participants that completed the course were fully certified to plan, organize and conduct training in gender related issues. ■



Conference on Parliamentary Oversight: Annual meeting of Regional Parliamentary Defence and Security Committees

In cooperation with the Joint Committee on Defence and Security of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatian Parliament and with the support of the George C. Marshall Center, Germany.

04 - 06 June 2014, Zagreb, Croatia



Effective parliamentary oversight is crucial in ensuring that the responses to new security threats are devised and implemented with full transparency and accountability towards the State and the Citizens. Otherwise, the outcome can turn into placing heavy strains on scarce resources, excessive or unbalanced political and economic influence in current economic crisis or worst, or into the ineffective State.

This Conference was a new meeting of Parliamentary Committees on Defence and Security from the area of South East Europe, in line with a series of events jointly organised by RACVIAC and the Joint Committee on Defence and Security of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The participants were Members of Parliament and Committee experts from six Parliaments from the South East Europe, namely Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia and Turkey.

Special benefit to the Conference on new security risks was the participation of Mr Nikita Smidovich from the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA).

Last but not least, the participation of Mr Anton Travner from DCAF Office, Ljubljana and Mr Rade Kovač, Ph.D, Assistant Director, Foreign Nationals Service, Border Police, BA was the opportunity for parliamentarians to become acquainted with operational effects of regional co-operation in border security matters.

The event started with the opening session in the Croatian Parliament and the first to welcome the audience were Mr Josip Leko, President of the Croatian Parliament, who pointed out the connection between the State and the well-being of its citizens through an accountable parliamentary framework, assessing the good framework, experience and even more important the political will of the Croatian Parliament in this

matter; Brigadier general Zdravko Jakop, Deputy Director of RACVIAC and Ms Dušanka Majkić, Chair of the Joint Committee on Defence and Security, Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, followed with their opening addresses.

They all highlighted co-operation and parliamentary oversight as crucial in the current state of economic and security affairs.

The event was conducted in a series of panel discussions. The introductory Panel was shared by Mr Nikita Smidovich from the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and Mr Rade Kovač, Ph.D, Assistant Director, Foreign Nationals Service, Border Police, BA. Mr Smidovich provided an excellent insight into global security challenges addressed by the UN SCR 1540 on the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and how the most important thing to do is to implement articles on terrorism in the national. Mr Kovač comprehensively addressed regional challenges in illegal migration and related risks and how co-operation can be beneficial in coping with that risk.

The conference continued with the following four panel discussions: I - countering corruption, extremism and illegal migration; II - small arms and light weapons (the challenge of storage) and re-considering conversion of military facilities; III - cyber, energy and border security; IV - the constraints in the sphere of economy.

This Annual meeting of Regional Parliamentary Defence and Security Committees was another event in the efforts of RACVIAC and the Joint Committee on Defence and Security of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina focused not only on Parliamentary oversight of the security sector but also on parliamentary capacity building and the role of Parliament and its relation with the Executive.



In his concluding remarks, Ambassador Mandić reiterated that the recent flooding and its consequences in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia constitute a serious reason to address this issue before the parliamentary Defence and Security committees. As confirmed by the participants, the main goals of the conference were achieved and once again it was proved that RACVIAC, as a regionally owned security organisation serves as the right platform for addressing and raising security issues in collaboration with the parliamentary community of its member states. ■

Dayton Article IV Course

In cooperation with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Office of the Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office for Article IV of the Dayton Peace Accords and with the support of the Federal Republic of Germany.

15 - 20 June 2014, Zagreb, Croatia; Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina.



The purpose of this Course was to instruct designated participants 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, confidence and transparency during the performance of inspections. s member states.

The Course objectives were:

- To inform and educate the participants about the General Framework Agreement for Peace In Bosnia and Herzegovina (Dayton Accords), with a particular focus on the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control, Protocol on Inspection.
- To train the participants in the roles of inspectors and escorts in the framework of the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control.

The Course was attended by twenty-seven participants from six countries and one organization, namely Albania (2), Bosnia and Herzegovina (5), Croatia (6), former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* (1), Montenegro (5), Serbia (2) and OSCE (5). They represented relevant Ministries and Agencies, as well as regional Verification Centres involved in the Arms Control Regime of Dayton Article IV.

The Course was opened by the Director of RACVIAC - Centre

for Security Cooperation, Ambassador Branimir Mandić and representatives of the four signatory countries of the Dayton Article IV Agreement. It lasted for 4 days and it consisted of a theoretical (first three days) and a practical (one day) part, with a debriefing at the end of the practical part. The theoretical part comprised lectures about the history of the Dayton Peace Agreement with a focus on Protocol on Inspection. The practical part included a training inspection on a declared site in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the barracks "KOZARA" in Banja Luka which enabled the participants, divided into two teams, to practice performing the roles of inspectors, escorts and 'OSCE guest observes'.

The theoretical phase included the following topics:

- Information about the Office of the Personal Representative of the OSCE CiO for Article IV, which was given by Major General Michele Torres, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV, Annex 1-B of the Dayton Peace Agreement
- Presentations on the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Dayton Accords) and detailed analysis of Article IV of the Agreement, Protocols on Reduction and Inspection as well as the POET
- Preparation of a training inspection on a declared site and practical advice about inspection and/or escort duties.

During the practical part, the participants were divided into two teams. Each team conducted a training inspection - one acting in the role of an inspection team and the other in the role of an escort team in the selected OOI (Objects of Inspection). The teams carried out the following procedures:

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

In order to keep the practical part as close to the 'real life inspection' as possible, the two teams performed a usual greeting at the border and were accompanied by the military police which permitted an undisturbed and easy execution of the exercise. This was made possible thanks to the generous help of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia and the Ministry of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina with whom RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation has always had very good cooperation.

According to the assessments made by the participants at its end, the Course proved to be a successful, very interesting and well organized event. They participants expressed their satisfaction with the topics chosen and considered the Course overall to be valuable for their future work. They all agreed about the necessity of conducting such courses in the future as well with the aim to contribute to the security and

* Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.



confidence building measures in the region.

The lecturers covered the theoretical part of the Agreement in an excellent way. Their professionalism and experience were highly appreciated by the participants. The lecturers also acted as observers during the practical part in Banja Luka.

The importance of this Course for the region can also be seen in the participation of the official representatives of the signatory countries of Dayton Article IV. The significance is even greater in the present period when the Agreement is subject to a process of regional ownership.

Therefore, this Course has provided the necessary information and details on the current developments and the way ahead, thus keeping the interested parties updated on the current developments.

As has been announced, henceforward, each year, the practical part of the Course will be conducted in another signatory state which also attests good cooperation and transparency among the signatory parties, other countries in the region and RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. ■

SEMINAR ON EFFECTIVE PRACTICES OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNSCR 1540

In cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia.

26 - 27 June 2014, Rakitje, Croatia

The Seminar on Effective Practices of the Implementation of UNSCR 1540, co-organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MFEA) was a continuation of the unprecedented pilot project activity in 2013 regarding the

nonproliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

The Seminar was organized with the aim to enhance the effective practices of the implementation of UNSCR 1540 and attempted to show good practices and make new links between peers for future collaboration and exchanges. Moreover, the Seminar highlighted the importance of common action regarding nonproliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons as this remains a big threat for international peace and security.

During the first day of the seminar the following topics were presented:

- Update on the UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) by Mr Kai Kiessler, the 1540 expert of the UN 1540 Committee

- The 1540 Peer Review by Mr Nikita Smidovich, Senior Political Affairs Officer, UNODA
- Peer Review of the implementation of UNSCR 1540 and Croatian National Strategy on Non-proliferation of WMD outlined by Mrs Sanja Bujas-Juraga, Director for NATO and International Security, MFEA, HR.
- The UNSCR 1540 Peer Review as an Effective Practice/ Effective practices identified during Peer Review presented by Mr Łukasz Zieliński, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Poland to the United Nations in New York.
- A Peer Review mechanism for the Biological Weapons Convention An Innovative Approach by Ms Tiphaine Jouffroy, MFA FR.
- Peer Reviews: A Tool for Co-operation and Change - Analysis of an OECD Working Method by Ms Chantal Verger, Senior policy analyst, OECD.
- Connections between IAEA/UNSCR1540, the activities in support of UNSCR 1540, the peer reviews and the INSSPs (Integrated Nuclear Security Support Plans) Ms Heba Negm (IAEA).

On the second day the following lecturers' presentations were given: Ms Esther Felices Zubiri, Project Manager, Organization of American States Inter-American Committee against Terrorism; Ms Maria Lorenzo Sobrado, Programme Officer, Terrorism Prevention Branch, UNODC; Mr Quentin Michel, Professor, Joint Research Center, EC; Ms Marieke Van Doorn, Director of the International Law & Human Rights Programme, PGA; Mr O'Neil Hamilton, Regional coordinator for 1540 Resolution Implementation, CARICOM; Mr Danilo Campisi, Legal Officer, Implementation Support Branch, Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons; Ms Maria Ximena Espitia Meza, First Secretary, Coordination of Disarmament and Non Proliferation, MFA CO; Mr André Coore, Legal Officer, MFA JK; Mr Raphael Hermoso, Director for Peace and Security, DFA PH; Ms Shayna Steinger, First Secretary, Deputy US Special Coordinator for UNSCR 1540, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Security and Non-proliferation; Mr Raphael Hermoso, Director for Peace and Security, DFA PH; Ms Shayna Steinger, First Secretary, Deputy US Special Coordinator for



Mr Kai Kiessler, the 1540 expert of the UN 1540 Committee

UNSCR 1540, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Security and Non-proliferation.

At the end of the second day a round table discussion was held on the effective practices in supporting the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540. The final part of the seminar was devoted to the evaluation and the closing ceremony. After the closing ceremony the participants were provided with the opportunity to take part in bilateral and other meetings between participants.

Thanks to the cooperation between RACVIAC, the UNODA and the MFEA of the Republic Croatia, the presence of high-level lecturers was ensured. Their professionalism and experience, as well as their presentations, were highly appreciated by the participants.

The event proved to be yet another good example of strong cooperation among RACVIAC, the UNODA and the MFEA of Croatia. As UNSCR 1540 requires every state to criminalize the involvement of various forms of non-state actors in weapons of mass destruction and related activities in their national legislation and, once in place, to enforce such legislation, RACVIAC stands ready to support this global, universal obligation and, in cooperation with the partners involved in the execution of this successful event, to continue promoting UNSCR 1540 and the NIAPs. ■





Ms Ivis Nocka

Ms Ivis Nocka from the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Albania, joined the RACVIAC team as the new Planning & Liaison Officer for South Eastern Europe in April 2014. Upon her arrival Ms Nocka immediately fit in to the RACVIAC team and proved that she will provide a valuable contribution to the functioning of the RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation. We are very happy to have her as a member of our staff and wish her much success.

GOODBYES



SFC Vera Ivezić

RACVIAC bids SFC Vera Ivezić farewell following her 3 year tour as our Paying Agent. SFC Ivezić will be remembered for her dedicated work ethic and experience she brought to the Centre from her previous post teaching subjects related to women in peace

support operations (Human Rights; SEA; Child Protection; Women, Peace and Security; Gender and Equality in Peacekeeping). The RACVIAC staff has only fond memories of SFC Ivezić, both on the personal and professional levels, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her efficient work and sincere friendship.



Mr Darko Urek

At the end of June 2014 Mr Darko Urek ended his three year tour as RACVIAC's Chief of Car Pool. This was Mr Urek's second tour at RACVIAC, he will return to the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia where he has served for more than twenty years. He will fondly be remembered for his professionalism and reliability and willingness to assist all staff members in any task. We wish Mr Urek success

in his career and happiness in his personal life.



Ms Tanja Kozic

Ms Tanja Kozic began volunteering at RACVIAC in March 2014 for a second time in the Security Sector Reform Pillar. She was born on March 3rd, 1990 in Slavonski Brod, Croatia. She completed her secondary education at the Fra Marijan Lanosovic Secondary School and then obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Public Relations from the University of Political Science in Zagreb. She is currently completing her graduate

studies. During her time at RACVIAC Ms Kozic proved to be a professional individual that is easy to work with and pays meticulous attention to detail. We wish her all the best in her future career and believe that she will prove to be a valuable asset to any organization.



Ms Katarina Vukic

Ms Katarina Vukic joined the RACVIAC team in March 2014 for a second time as a volunteer working in the Security Sector Reform Pillar. She was born on July 12th 1988 in Dubrovnik. She is currently studying at the University Of Zagreb, Faculty of Political Science where she is preparing her graduate thesis on the Transformation of Political Systems in Asia: A Comparative Analysis of Taiwan, Thailand and South Korea.

In her work Ms Vukic proved to be a highly motivated individual with an outstanding ability to work independently, efficiently and effectively. We wish Ms Vukic all the best in her studies and have every confidence in her future success.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SSR-01-S	Consensus in decision-making: Strategy or Stalemate? (Basics of the SSR Series)	23-25 Sep
IRC-09-P	Regional Search and Rescue Seminar: "Coastal Search and Rescue and Mass Casualty Situations"	29 Sept – 02 Oct
SSR/IRC-01- CF	OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security: 20 Years Anniversary/Peer to Peer Conference	30 Sept-03 Oct
CSE-04-C	Vienna Document 2011 – Efforts To Revitalise Confidence And Security Building - Compliance and Verification Course	13-17 Oct
SSR/IRC-02- CF	Equal Opportunities: Implementation of the UN SCR 1325 and related UN SCRs - Differences between the Proclamation and Reality	21-23 Oct
IRC-08-P	Cyber Security /Continuation of Cyber Security project	21-24 Oct
CSE-06-S	Arms Control Symposium	04-06 Nov
IRC-02-CF	Building Integrity and fighting corruption	04-06 Nov
CSE-08-W	Event on Dual-Use Goods	11-14 Nov
CSE-12-C	Proliferation Pathways	17-21 Nov
IRC-06-S	Promoting Sustainable Development and Reduction of Illegal Migration and Human trafficking	18-21 Nov
SSR-10-CF	New Security Challenges to the European Union	25-27 Nov
IRC-10-P	NATO Advanced School on Cyber Defence	08-12 Dec
CSE-13-S	Effective practices of the implementation of UNSCR 1540	09-11 Dec
IRC-01-CF	European Security and Further Evolution in Southeast Europe	TBD
IRC-12-S	Event on Floods	TBD



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