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CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

NEWSLETTER



Dayton Article IV Course

Diversity and Inclusion Conference

Cyber Security Course

C-WMD Workshop

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CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

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Albanian Ambassador and Defence Attaché Visit RACVIAC



On Friday 03 February 2017, H.E. Ilir Melo, the Ambassador of the Republic of Albania to the Republic of Croatia and Albanian Defence Attaché Colonel Leonard Coku visited RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.

The guests met with RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk and Deputy Director, Brigadier General Gordana Garašić. Ambassador Berk informed the guests about RACVIAC ongoing work and future plans, touching upon the long-term partnership RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation has had with the Republic of Albania.

Taking into account RACVIAC mission and its role in the region, H.E. Ilir Melo availed himself of this opportunity to reassure RACVIAC of Republic of Albania's partnership and continued support. He showed interest in RACVIAC current activities and plans for the forthcoming period adding that the Republic of Albania, as a RACVIAC Member, will indeed continue to support RACVIAC in the times to come thus fulfilling the mutual goal of enhancing security and cooperation in the SEE region. ●

Ambassador of Romania Visits RACVIAC

On Thursday, 09 February 2017, H.E. Mr. Constantin-Mihail Grigorie, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Romania to the Republic of Croatia, accompanied by Mr. Florian Antohi, Minister Counsellor, visited RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.

The guests were welcomed by RACVIAC Director Ambassador Haydar Berk, Deputy Director Brigadier General Gordana Garašić and RACVIAC senior staff members.

After a presentation on RACVIAC, Ambassador Berk provided an explanation related to the development of RACVIAC Programme of activities, activities planned for 2017 and plans for the future.

Expressing the readiness to remain a reliable Member and supporter of the Centre, Ambassador Grigoriu said that Romania, as an initiator of the Energy Security Project,



which was launched in 2015, will continue to contribute to the Centre in the field of energy security, in order to share experiences at the regional level and facilitate a common understanding of the concept of energy security in SEE.

Ambassador Grigoriu showed interest in RACVIAC activities particularly related to Cyber Security and Border Management and expressed his willingness to strengthen cooperation between RACVIAC and Romania. ●

FINANCIAL AGREEMENT FOR 2017 SIGNED WITH FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY



On 14 February 2017, H.E. Thomas E. Schultze, the German Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia, and H.E. Haydar Berk, RACVIAC Director, signed the Financial Agreement between RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the Federal Republic of Germany for the year 2017.

With this Agreement, the Federal Republic of Germany allocated funds which will be used to support RACVIAC activities, covering the costs of seminars, courses and workshops, especially within RACVIAC Cooperative Security Environment (CSE), with focus on Arms Control Pillar.



RACVIAC's CSE Pillar, that contributes to enhancing confidence and cooperation among the security forces in the region, focuses primarily on the training and education of arms control experts in order to lay the groundwork for implementing Arms Control agreements and treaties such as the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control (Dayton Article IV) and Convention on Cluster Munitions as well as the Physical Security and Stockpile Management Seminar and the Arms Control Symposium. Additionally, this year the Gender Training of the Trainers Course will be supported by Germany in order to enhance the implementation of the gender perspective in the security sector in SEE.

The Federal Republic of Germany, an Associate Member of RACVIAC, has been a constant and invaluable supporter of the Organization since its inception not only in financial terms but also when it comes to expertise. ●

Second Informal Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP

The informal meetings of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP Participants was held in Zagreb, on 2-3 March 2017 under Croatian Chairmanship. RACVIAC - Center for Security Cooperation was represented by Director Ambassador Haydar Berk, and Deputy Director BG Gordana Garašić.

RCC and a representative from EEAS were also present at the meeting. SEECP Countries' representatives exchanged views on the current situation and the latest developments in SEE and they discussed ways and modalities in which SEECP cooperation experience can be used best to overcome present challenges and maximize the joint opportunities, particularly in the sector of connectivity, communication, transport and energy. It was stated that no single country can solve the challenges and fight against the threats such as: terrorism, radicalization, foreign terrorist fighters, uncontrolled and irregular migration. The only solution is cooperation but it must be pragmatic and better connectivity. The EU enlargement process must stay



open for all countries who will meet the necessary standards, and the same goes for membership in NATO.

During his statement Ambassador Berk emphasized the important role that RACVIAC plays in the region concerning the security and stability through dialogue and cooperation. The priority is to improve awareness, cooperation and building of capacity especially in the areas of countering terrorism, countering WMD, foreign terrorist fighters, cyber security, border security and management, security sector transformation including the integration of the gender perspectives in the security sector. At the same time, the traditional activities in the Arms Control area are being conducted. RACVIAC is the only organization in SEE conducting courses on subregional Arms Control and on verification and compliance of the Vienna Document 11. In order to cope with the threat of foreign terrorist fighters Ambassador Berk suggested that short-and long-term rehabilitation and reintegration programs and mechanisms to deal with those individuals who have

been identified and prosecuted as foreign terrorist fighters and particularly with their families should be established. So far, effective mechanisms to tackle this issue do not exist. ●

From the Informal Meeting of the SEECP Ministers of Foreign Affairs Joint Statement:

SEECP Participants..."7. Appreciate the efforts of RACVIAC-Centre for Security Cooperation as an important international organization in SEE dealing with security issues, and playing a leading role in the areas of confidence and security building measures, security cooperation, counter-terrorism and contributing to the Euro-Atlantic processes. We will further promote and support the activities organized by RACVIAC with the aim to enhance the security dialogue in SEE."

Changing the Discourse Among Men on Gender Equality - "Barbershop"



The Permanent Mission of Iceland to the OSCE organized, with the support of Canada, Croatia, Norway, San Marino, Slovenia and the OSCE Gender Section an event on 7 March 2017 in Vienna on Changing the Discourse Among Men on Gender Equality. It was done within the framework of the concept called "the Barbershop" which was developed by Iceland at the United Nations in New York in 2015 in cooperation with Surinam. The main idea behind the concept is to provide a setting for men-to-men discussions about their own role, privileges and behaviors in realizing women's rights and gender equality.

The key speaker at the event was Dr. Michael Kimmel, a noted scholar on men and masculinities and a distinguished Professor of Sociology at Stony Brooks University at New York.

The Deputy Director of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, BG Gordana Garasic, participated in the first panel as a speaker sharing her experience on being a woman in a men's world and what can be done in order to "walk the talk" when we speak of equal opportunities.

The Changes have to start with leadership and it has to be

held accountable. The same is true for corporate environment and the environment in international organizations. Human resources agencies and departments have to find ways to fight "the unconscious bias" when recruiting, selecting for promotions and top assignments. The example of recruiting for the symphony orchestra was given to illustrate the point: in the USA the gender ratio of students in musical academies is 50-50, but almost 70 percent of those hired are men. Only after an experiment where students auditioning were hidden behind a curtain and a carpet on the floor (so committee couldn't hear the clapping of high heels!), the ratio of hired students was 50-50.

Other speakers at the Barbershop included Col Magnus Bratt, Military Adviser of Sweden to OSCE, Robert Baker, Senior Partner and Global Client Director at Mercer, London, UK, Terje Hagen, Director, Department of Human Resources, OSCE, Jean-Francois Lacasse, Deputy Permanent Representative, Delegation of Canada and Islandic Ambassador to OSCE Greta Gunnarsdottir. ●



37th MAG Meeting held in Bosnia and Herzegovina



On 6 April 2017 the 37th MAG Meeting, the semi-annual meeting of RACVIAC Steering body the Multinational Advisory Group (MAG) was held in Jahorina, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Meeting was organized by the Chairmanship of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It was officially opened by the current MAG Chairperson Ambassador Branimir Mandić from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Welcoming the participants Ambassador Haydar Berk, Director of RACVIAC, thanked all MAG countries, other participants and partners for their outstanding support and cooperation during last year emphasizing that their continuous support will undoubtedly further strengthen and broaden RACVIAC activities aimed at fostering dialogue and cooperation on security matters in South East Europe.

The Meeting Agenda consisted of a brief presentation of the Director's Annual Report for 2016 which was provided by Ambassador Haydar Berk, who highlighted the most important points in the reporting period.

Pursuant to the Agenda the Meeting continued with a session related to detailed information on the realization of the RACVIAC 2016 Programme, the current status of 2017 Programme and projections for 2018, delivered by the Programme Managers from each RACVIAC Pillar and the C-WMD Network Programme Leader.

In addition to that RACVIAC Chief of Admin & Finance Cell informed MAG about all relevant issues regarding RACVIAC Budget for 2016 and 2017, as well as projections for 2018 and beyond. The last presentation was given by the Deputy Director who informed the participants about the implementation of the organizational structure and provided a brief overview of the current RACVIAC personnel situation. ●



GREEK AMBASSADOR

Visits RACVIAC



On Wednesday, 12 April 2017, H.E. Mr. Stavros Tsiepas, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Hellenic Republic to the Republic of Croatia visited RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.

The guest was welcomed by RACVIAC Director Ambassador Haydar Berk, Deputy Director Brigadier General Gordana Garašić and members of RACVIAC staff.

After a presentation on RACVIAC, Ambassador Berk provided an explanation related to the RACVIAC Programme of activities planned for 2017 and plans for the future. Ambassador Berk emphasized that the Centre, apart from the training and education that it provides, serves as an excellent platform for SEE countries to exchange knowledge, ideas and the lessons learned. Networking is another important aspect of RACVIAC overall aims aimed at harmonizing the practices, rules and procedures in getting to know each other and cooperating more efficiently on different security matters, he added.

Talking about the increasing security challenges such as migration and border management Ambassador Tsiepas said that the cooperation and establishment of trust among the countries is crucial, particularly by sending experts and sharing of best practices. Expressing the readiness to remain a reliable Member and supporter of the Centre, Ambassador Tsiepas said that Greece will explore ways how to contribute more actively. ●

RACVIAC DIRECTOR VISITS THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

On 18 April 2017 Ambassador Haydar Berk, Director of RACVIAC, upon the invitation of H.E. Andreja Katič, Minister of Defense of the Republic of Slovenia, made a working visit to the Ministry. During the meeting, H.E. Minister Katič highlighted that Slovenia will continue to support RACVIAC endeavours in strengthening regional security with available resources and capabilities. Ambassador Berk expressed his thanks and appreciation for the strong support that Slovenia is providing to RACVIAC and for Slovenia's active participation in the meetings and workshops. Ambassador Berk underlined the importance of increasing RACVIAC connectivity and cooperation with NATO, the EU, OSCE and other relevant organizations and institutions.

He emphasized that the organization is in a continuous process of adapting its activities according to the needs of the regional countries. Thus RACVIAC activities cover regional and global security challenges through a wide spectrum of activities ranging from CBMs, security sector reforms and gender perspectives to countering transnational security threats such as terrorism, proliferation of WMDs, organized crime, all forms of illicit trafficking and cyber security.

Ambassador Berk attended a working lunch hosted by the Director General of the Defence Policy Directorate Mr. Aleš Mišmaš, where the security situation in the region and RACVIAC efforts were discussed. Ambassador Berk also met with Matej



Marn, Political Director/Director-General for Common Foreign and Security Policy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ambassador Berk acquainted Political Director Marn/Director-General for Common Foreign and Security Policy, with the ongoing RACVIAC activities and projects.

Political Director Marn expressed satisfaction with RACVIAC excellent work, and confidence in more active participation of MFA in RACVIAC activities. Since Slovenia will assume the presidency of SEECP in the second half of 2017, Slovenia will continue to promote and support the activities organised by RACVIAC. Ambassador Berk underlined the importance of the regional ownership and that RACVIAC will continue, through the implementation of its Programme to strengthen confidence and trust, thus promoting cooperation and stability in the SEE region. ●

Balkan Symposium of

German Defence Attachés

A two-day Balkan Symposium, gathering German defence attachés based in the SEE region, started at RACVIAC - Centre for Security on Monday, 24 April 2017, with the purpose to discuss the current security and political situation in the region.

RACVIAC Director Ambassador Haydar Berk, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of the Republic of Croatia, Chief of the General Staff of the Croatian Armed Forces, and H.E. Mr. Thomas Eberhard Schultze, German Ambassador to Croatia, attended the Symposium Opening ceremony.

The second day of the Symposium started with a presentation on RACVIAC. Ambassador Berk provided an explanation related to the RACVIAC Programme of activities planned for 2017 and plans for the future. Ambassador emphasized that the Centre serves as a platform for SEE countries to exchange knowledge, and harmonize practices, rules and procedures as well as for capability development in the security field. Networking is another important aspect of RACVIAC overall aims aimed at getting to know each other and cooperating more efficiently on different security matters, he added.

Talking about the increasing security challenges such as migration, terrorism and cybercrime Ambassador Berk said that they represent the most important topics RACVIAC is dealing with currently, thus enhancing cooperation and establishment of trust among the countries.



At the end Ambassador Berk took once more the opportunity to express his appreciation to the Federal Republic of Germany as an Associate Member of RACVIAC for being a reliable, and invaluable supporter of the Centre, both financially and in terms of expertise, ever since its inception. He also thanked to the German authorities for choosing RACVIAC premises for their Symposium. ●

Charge d'Affaires a.i. of the Turkish Embassy visits RACVIAC



Ms. Günay Babadoğan-Ertan, Charge d'Affaires a.i. of the Turkish Embassy visited RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation on 5 May 2017. She met with Ambassador Haydar Berk, Director of RACVIAC and Brigadier General Gordana Garašić, Deputy Director. RACVIAC Programme during the forthcoming period and cooperation with the Turkish authorities were taken up during the meeting. ●

CROATIAN WAR SCHOOL

VISITS RACVIAC



The 19th generation of the Croatian "Ban Josip Jelačić" War School, led by Colonels Miro Čolić and Željko Akrap, visited RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation on 9th May 2017.

The visit was part of the School's Studies Program and its purpose was to familiarize students with RACVIAC as the only international organization located in the Republic of Croatia. The students were welcomed by RACVIAC Director

Ambassador Haydar Berk, Deputy Director BG Gordana Garašić, and senior staff members.

Following the presentation covering the history, mission and role of the Centre Ambassador Berk provided an explanation related to the development of the Programme of activities and most recognizable projects being conducted at RACVIAC, in accordance with its Strategy 2015-2020. Talking about the increasing security challenges such as migration, terrorism and cybercrime Ambassador Berk said that no single country can cope with them alone emphasizing that the regional and international cooperation is of utmost importance.

The 19th generation of the War School has 15 members: 11 members of the Croatian Armed Forces, one official of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, one official of the Ministry of Interior, one member of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and one member of the Army of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*.

The "Ban Josip Jelačić" War School was established in 1998 as the highest-level military school in the Republic of Croatia that is offering education for senior officers and civil servants of the Republic of Croatia and other countries. ●

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

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia visits RACVIAC

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia H.E. Mr. Davor Ivo Stier visited RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation on 19 May 2017. Minister Stier was welcomed by Ambassador Haydar Berk, Director of RACVIAC and Brigadier General Gordana Garašić, Deputy Director.



At the meeting with Ambassador Berk he was briefed on the activities of the Organization covering regional and global security challenges through a wide range of topics and in particular on those related to enhancing regional cooperation, networking and capacity building in the field of counter terrorism, cyber security and Arms Control. Ambassador Berk expressed his gratitude on behalf of the Organization for the strong support that Croatia is providing to RACVIAC. H.E. Minister Stier emphasized that Croatia will continue to provide strong support to the Organization. ●

Fourteenth Chemical Weapons Convention Workshop

01-03 February 2017, Rakitje, HR



“The Chemical Weapons Convention Workshop” as a traditional project activity carried out by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in cooperation with the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), was conducted from 31 January till 03 February 2017.

The purpose of the Workshop was to discuss the relevant issues related to the CWC and provide a broad overview of the CWC implementation procedures with a specific focus on the legislative aspects, requirements as well as administrative and regulatory measures in implementing the Convention. Additionally, OPCW seeks to gain a clear understanding of the administrative measures that are currently in place in the different countries in the region and of the mechanisms deployed by them.

The participants (14) came from the following countries: Republic of Albania (3), Bosnia and Herzegovina (1), Republic of Croatia (2), the former Yugoslav Republic of

Macedonia*(1), Montenegro (3), Republic of Serbia (2) and Kosovo**(2). They were both senior and junior military officials and civilians, dealing with related issues.

The Workshop was conducted with the assistance of two (2) lecturers: Mr Guy Valente (Project Officer, OPCW) and Mr Carol Peterfi (Chemical Weapon Munitions Specialist, OPCW).

It was carried out as a combination of lectures and presentations followed by questions and answers. This Workshop was designed with the goal to share expertise, opinions and lessons learned, to identify problems and find possible solutions, as well as to explore the ways ahead. The Workshop also provided a favourable environment and atmosphere for valuable and focused discussions.

The Workshop began on 01 February 2017 with the Welcome address of Director of RACVIAC, Ambassador Haydar Berk, followed by the Opening remarks of Mr Guy Valente, Project Officer, on behalf of OPCW.



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“Events such as these are necessary in order to sensitize the Members as regards their rights and obligations under the CWC, and are also crucial for sharing of ideas and strengthening of bilateral relationships in the region”
said Mr Guy Valente, Project Officer, Assistance and Protection Branch of the OPCW.

the feedback from last year's CWC Seminar attendees, Mr Peterfi provided an overview of the equipment used by the Inspectorate, with particular attention being paid to the newest tools in use. Immediately after that came the next presentation, delivered also by Mr Peterfi, under the title “OPCW Rapid Reaction and Assistance Mission: Receiving International Assistance in Crisis.” During that presentation a question was raised: If there were a CW incident in your country, how might the OPCW be of assistance? This section covered the specialist response capability of the OPCW and how to ensure the best coordination.

Finally Mr Peterfi and Mr Valente together tried to find the response to the questions of multi-agency coordination from the perspective of international organisations working in war zones. The title of the presentation was “OPCW in Syria: Coordination challenges and the lessons learnt.”

The second working day was reserved almost exclusively for national presentations (AL, BA, HR, ME, MK, RS), apart from the “Case Studies in Multi-Agency Response” moderated by Mr Valente, during which two hypothetical chemical emergencies were examined. ●

During the first working day (Wednesday, 01 February 2017) the following topic was presented: “The Chemical Weapons Convention and the OPCW - The Way Ahead”. During this presentation Mr Guy Valente gave an updated overview of the CWC with particular emphasis on the recent developments and on the relationship between OPCW and the member states. During the presentation - “Effective Command and Control ” that followed, Mr Valente informed the participants about the dimensions of multi-agency response that present the greatest challenges, as well as focusing on the strategies for overcoming those challenges.

In the afternoon the work continued with Mr Carol Peterfi's presentation “Technical Review of OPCW Equipment.” Based on



PEER REVIEW SEMINAR ON OSCE CODE OF CONDUCT



16 - 17 February 2017, Rakitje, HR

The OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security was adopted in 1994 and it presents one of the main OSCE mechanisms to address the global security challenges.

From 16 till 17 February 2017 a „Peer Review Seminar on OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security“ took place at RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. This two-day event was organized in cooperation with the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre and with the financial support of the Federal Ministry of National Defence and Sports of the Republic of Austria.

The main purpose of event was to facilitate consultations with experts on the implementation of the values and standards outlined in the OSCE Code of Conduct in SEE countries during the reviewed period. The primary aim was to bring together governmental experts who will analyze past experiences and discuss the implementation of the OSCE CoC in SEE among themselves ("peer" format type of event).

Opening the Seminar H.E. Haydar Berk, RACVIAC Director, said: "No matter how deeply the countries of South East Europe are engaged in Security Sector Reform, the OSCE Code of Conduct will continue to be a valuable tool in keeping track of the democratic changes they have made. He also stressed that, „at its core, the Code of Conduct also imposes upon the participating States the commitment to co-operate, including through the development of sound economic and environmental conditions, as well as to counter tensions that may lead to conflicts. By organizing this event our intention was to continue to facilitate your consultations with the OSCE experts on the implementation of the values and standards outlined in the Code for 2016 as the most recent reviewing period“, added Ambassador Berk.

OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation Coordinator for the Code of Conduct LtCdr Vučić Bošković said that "RACVIAC is widely recognized as an organization that contributes to the security and stability of SEE and this peer review Conference has been seen as an additional confidence



security building measure which compensates for the lack of analysis of the (Code of Conduct) questionnaires, due to financial and human resources limitations in most participating States, to assess voluminous replies independently, and due to limitations of the CPC that in accordance with its mandate it can only provide statistical data excluding any assessments.”

Mr Christian Wägli, on behalf of the OSCE Secretariat, Conflict Prevention Centre, underlined that *“Code of Conduct remains an unparalleled norm-setting instrument*



H.E. Andreas Wiedenhoff, Austrian Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia: „RACVIAC has, in its work, succeeded to continuously adapt to new challenges and to represent this regional spirit on a daily basis.“

for the democratic control of the Armed forces in the OSCE area and beyond” and that this is an excellent opportunity to discuss an information exchange and to hear how it is being compiled in the SEE region.

H.E. Andreas Wiedenhoff, Austrian Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia said that *“Today, we live in a completely different security environment compared back to 2000. This is true globally, but also in the RACVIAC region itself. Our world has become more complex, difficult and insecure. Challenges are largely transnational. Thus, the responses can generally not only be national. Strong regional co-operation is the way forward. This makes the work of RACVIAC all the more important. RACVIAC has, in its work, succeeded to continuously adapt to new challenges and to represent this regional spirit on a daily basis”* pointed out Ambassador Wiedenhoff.

The Seminar gathered more than 30 participants from the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Croatia, Kosovo**, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, and Republic of Serbia, as well as several experts from OSCE and DCAF.

The OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security was adopted in 1994 and it presents one of the main OSCE mechanisms to address the global security challenges. In that light "The Code of Conduct" (CoC) has played a vital role for the OSCE participating states in their transition process to develop democratic governments and pertinent defence and security institutions. All participating states commit themselves to “at all times provide for and maintain effective guidance to and control of its military, paramilitary and security forces by constitutionally established authorities vested with democratic legitimacy”. The main tools of the CoC are the annual exchange of information by means of Participating States' implementation reports including the countries of South East Europe.

"The 2017 Peer Review Seminar on the OSCE Code of Conduct in South-Eastern Europe (SEE)" is a part of a series of similar events which became a RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation midterm project co-organized with and supported by the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre. The event series was initiated in 2012 with a Seminar that had the main purpose to raise awareness about commitments and to discuss experiences and challenges regarding practical implementation and then continued with the Seminar for parliamentarians in 2013, a similar Workshop in 2014 and a Conference in 2016 that supported the implementation of the CoC values and standards in the SEE region and beyond, thereby expanding knowledge about its main objectives. ●

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Border Security and Management Seminar

01 - 03 March 2017, Skopje, MK



The topic of border security and management caught special attention during the unprecedented flow of migrants in 2015 and the challenges that for law enforcement authorities have become increasingly diversified. Border security and management is a matter of national sovereignty and responsibility of the States, however, such challenges nowadays can be effectively prevented and tackled through interagency and international cooperation only.

"The Border Security and Management Seminar", organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and hosted by MK Ministry of Defence was conducted on 01-03 March 2017 in Skopje, MK.

The Seminar was a continuation of the border security and management event series jointly conducted by RACVIAC,

DCAF Office Ljubljana and the OSCE Border Security and Management Unit and consisted of two parts: lectures and discussions on the first day, and the study field trip to a refugee camp on the second day.

The purpose of this joint event was to continue addressing the challenges in border security and management, to identify current and future challenges and to support the implementation of the Border Security and Management Concept of the OSCE Participating States in South East Europe, and other international and regional initiatives.

The aim of this activity was to raise the level of efficiency of the border management authorities in SEE and foster mutual cooperation in mitigating current and potential security threats.

The Seminar was opened by Ms. Elizabetha Chupovska Ristova, State Secretary of the MoD of MK, and BG Gordana Garašić, Deputy Director of RACVIAC - Centre of Security Cooperation.

In their Welcome address they highlighted the current global challenges concerning this topic and underlined that no country alone, no matter how big or how small, can resolve such intensive cross-border challenges alone

nowadays, and, furthermore, that interagency and international cooperation is demanded more than ever before. The State Secretary also mentioned that MK as the current „Key Factor on the Balkan Refugee Route“ is very happy to have a group of experts present and the possibility to exchange information and experiences and build trust.

Ambassador Nina Soumalainen, Head of the OSCE Mission in MK, then gave a presentation on the work of the Mission.

“The current and future challenges are to build a modern proactive police force that will be able to deal effectively with threats and that OSCE is engaged in police development and reform on the one hand, and building of capacities on the other hand”, said Ambassador Rasa Ostrauskaite, Head of the Transnational Threats Department, OSCE.

The Seminar Keynote speech was delivered by Ambassador Rasa Ostrauskaite, Head of the Transnational Threats Department in the OSCE. Amongst others she stressed that the current and future challenges are to build a modern proactive police force that will be able to deal effectively with threats and that OSCE is engaged in police development and reform on the one hand, and building of capacities on the other hand. One very important achievement has been the formation of the National Focal

Points' Network (now existing in 52 countries of the OSCE) that enables direct and immediate exchange of information.

After the Seminar Opening, several experts from different countries and different organizations presented international experiences and new initiatives. National experiences and intensive discussions also marked the first day.

The second day was characterized by a Field Visit to the Refugee Camp “Vinojug” in Gevgelija, situated next to the border crossing point with the Hellenic Republic. Here the Seminar participants got an overview of the living conditions in a refugee camp and the procedure of crossing the border to enter the camp. In addition the head of the refugee camp described the experiences, challenges and problems encountered during the unprecedented flow of migrants in 2015, including the consequences for the law enforcement authorities and the Lessons Learned.

The participants were police force officers and civilian officials responsible for border security from the ministries of foreign affairs, ministries of defence, ministries of interior, ministries of finance, representatives of the customs, drug control and border guard national services from SEE countries. In addition, there were lecturers from Austria, Slovenia, DCAF, and OSCE. ●



Vienna Document 2011 Course



05-10 March 2017, Budapest and Szolnok, HU

The Vienna Document is a key instrument of confidence-building between the 57 OSCE participating States. It is based on the Helsinki Final Act of 1975 and was adopted in 1990 after the end of the Cold War. The Vienna Document was last updated in 2011. It includes measures for greater military transparency (e.g., in exercises and manoeuvres), military confidence-building (e.g. building up contacts) and conflict prevention (e.g., preventing military accidents). All OSCE participating States make use of this instrument to build military confidence.

In order to facilitate the implementation of the provisions of the Vienna Document RACVIAC has been organizing Vienna Document courses for the countries of the South East European region since 2001. At the 28th MAG Meeting Hungary suggested that RACVIAC should organize a

Vienna Document 2011 Formation/Unit Commanders' Course on the territory of Hungary, as its contribution to the regional Confidence - and Security-Building Measures (CSBMs). RACVIAC and the respective Hungarian authorities recently executed this activity in close cooperation.

The purpose of the 2017 Course was to provide participants with a theoretical overview of the Vienna Document 2011 (VD '11), providing a comprehensive analysis of both the theoretical as well as the practical level of the implementation of these activities. It was organized in the spirit and the letters of the VD' 11.

The Course objectives were:

- To overview the specified elements of the VD '11 highlighting the most comprehensive and commonly followed rules and procedures of its execution
- To provide the participants with a possibility to conduct a training evaluation visit to one of the units in Hungary

- To focus on the duties and responsibilities of the personnel to be engaged in the implementation of the aforementioned Arms Control document, thus demonstrating the real spirit of the confidence- and security-building measures
- To train the participants employed as visitors / evaluators or escort team members in the subjects related to the planning and conducting of such activities based on best practices
- To deepen contacts between the representatives of national organizations, agencies engaged in the accomplishment of Arms Control and/or security- and confidence-building measures
- To provide the participants, especially during the practical part of the Course, with an opportunity to exercise or “observe” the real events, thus showing the fields and ways of working in the future in this form of co-operation on the national, regional and the international level.

Opening the Course, Mr. Gyorgy Rabai, Head of Defence Policy Section, HU MOD, *welcomed the efforts of RACVIAC - Center for Security Cooperation in fostering the dialog in the SEE region and emphasized the importance of conventional Arms Control and confidence and security building regimes in Europe.* He told the audience that we are going to show the real life at a real unit.

In her speech, BG Gordana Garašić, Deputy Director of RACVIAC - Center for Security Cooperation, emphasized the importance of the Vienna Document 2011 as the only document that is composed of politically binding confidence and security-building measures designed to increase openness and transparency concerning military activities conducted inside the OSCE's zone of application. *With the last issues of the VD' 11 the OSCE participating States expressed their will to restore trust and confidence*

in the politico-military dimension and called on the participating States to work in a spirit of openness and to foster cooperation by building mutual understanding. She emphasized the necessity to substantially update and modernize the Vienna Document in line with the changes in the security environment flavored with new technological developments in the military sphere.

The participants (33) came from: Albania (3), Bosnia and Herzegovina (3), Croatia (1), Hungary (12), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* (3), Montenegro (3), Romania (1), Serbia (3), Slovenia (1), Turkey (1) and Kosovo** (2). They were both senior and junior military officials and civilians, dealing with related issues.

The Course was conducted with the assistance of six (6) lecturers: LtCol Csaba Csoknyai (Senior Officer, HDF Training and Doctrine Centre, HU), LtCol Dietmar Köppen (Arms Control Staff Officer, Bundeswehr Verification Centre, DE), LtCol Thomas Krainz, MSc (Head of the Arms Control Section, MoD AT), LtCol Holger Schmuck (Senior Planning Officer, NATO SHAPE J-5), Col László Szatmári (Head of the MilRep/MAG of the Embassy of Hungary to the OSCE, UN and Other International Organizations in Vienna), LtCol Goran Todorović (Verification Centre, RS).

The Course, organised for the sixth time so far in Hungary, was designed as a combination of theoretical and practical activities carried out in Budapest (the theoretical part) and the 86th Helicopter Base in Szolnok (practical part - a training evaluation visit). It provided participants with the opportunity to gain both theoretical and practical knowledge of the Vienna Document 2011, to exercise an evaluation visit, thus adding special value to the Course.

By hosting this Course, as one of the most significant activities in RACVIAC CSE Programme, Hungary, as RACVIAC Associate Member, demonstrated its commitment and continuous support for the Centre and to the security of the SEE region. ●



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Diversity and Inclusion in the Security Sector Conference

13-14 March 2017, Zagreb, HR

„Actions should not focus only on bringing more women in security sector, but we need to recognize that advocacy by men at leadership positions is the most important factor for fostering gender inclusion and gender equality”

"Diversity and Inclusion in the Security Sector - Key Leadership Conference" organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung was held in „The Westin Zagreb Hotel", on 13 - 14 March 2017.

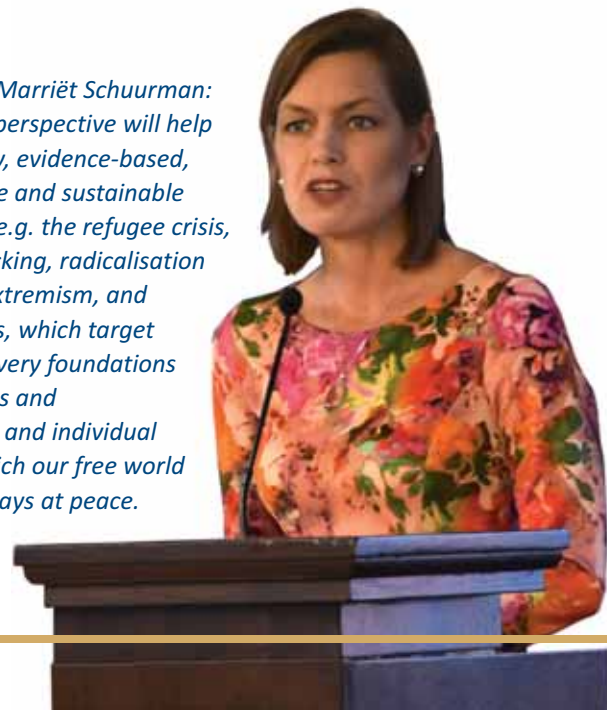
The purpose of this activity was to support the promotion of diversity and inclusion Management concepts in security sector institutions, with an emphasis on the integration of gender perspectives and equal opportunity policies by introducing different experiences and benefits that this approach generates in Security sector organizations in the context of initiated reforms and designated ongoing missions and objectives.

Welcoming the participants, RACVIAC Director Ambassador Haydar Berk said that *“It is obvious that there are still a lot of barriers, cultural, traditional and structural regarding the inclusion of diverse perspectives and expansion of the role and impact of women, especially in the security sector domain. However, I also believe that the*

mindset is the key to overcome issues present in this field. Actions should not focus only on bringing more women in the security sector, but we need to recognize that advocacy by men at leadership positions is the most important factor for fostering gender inclusion and gender equality”. He added that *“this is not only a women issue but an essential part of achieving good governance and building an effective security sector. It is a force multiplier”*.

On behalf of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Dr. Michael Lange said that inclusiveness and diversity management, especially socio-cultural diversity, represents a challenge for leadership to create an environment free of prejudices and inequalities.

Ambassador Marriët Schuurman:
“The gender perspective will help us to find new, evidence-based, more inclusive and sustainable responses to e.g. the refugee crisis, human trafficking, radicalisation and violent extremism, and hybrid threats, which target precisely the very foundations of equal rights and opportunities and individual liberty on which our free world thrives and stays at peace.



General Mirko Šundov, Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Croatia, in his Opening address spoke about the inclusiveness of women in the Croatian Armed Forces emphasizing their important role in all activities and tasks not only in Croatia but also in the missions and operations abroad. The General also mentioned that this Conference and related activities “*will contribute to strengthening the role of women in the security sector and in particular on leadership duties. I believe in, and I want to build the armed forces that will respect diversity and at the same time maintain the unity of the system in which everyone can achieve their full potential in accordance with their capabilities, while taking into consideration the need to maintain the appropriate operational skills*”, he concluded.



General Mirko Šundov:

“I believe in, and I want to build the armed forces that will respect diversity and at the same time maintain the unity of the system in which everyone can achieve their full potential in accordance with their capabilities, while taking into consideration the need to maintain the appropriate operational skills.”

The Conference Key-note speech was delivered by Ambassador Marriët Schuurman, the NATO Secretary General Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security. At the beginning Ambassador Schuurman explained why gender equality matters to NATO, saying that “*It is fundamental for what we are, for the world we defend, and hence for the transformation we embarked on in order to be up to the challenges of today*”. NATO's end-state of this approach “*is that gender literacy is a defining aspect of our professionalism; that gender analysis is a basic tool in the toolbox of every security provider and decision maker; that gender capacity is a core capability; that our institutions recruit and promote on the basis of merit, not gender - when we have moved from the 'first ever' female commander to female commanders and soldiers as the new normal, and a sign of excellence*” pointed out Ambassador Schuurman.

This two-day event gathered more than 80 participants, senior level executives from the national security sector institutions, national focal points, members of the diplomatic and academic community, civil society

organizations dealing with equal opportunity policies and corresponding components of human rights strategies in the security sector and Subject Matter Experts, such as Commander and Senior Military representative of NATO HQ in Sarajevo BG Giselle M. Wilz, DCAF Assistant Director and Head of Gender and Security Division Mr Daniel De Torres, Ambassador of Canada to the Republic of Croatia H.E. Mr. Daniel Maksymiuk, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights representative Ms Ewa Sapiezynska, George C. Marshall Center for Security Studies Professor CDR Andreas Hildenbrand, UNDP - SEESAC Senior Programme Coordinator Ms Bojana Balon, etc.

The event was conducted in the form of conference briefings, panel discussions and corresponding round tables regarding fundamental dimensions of diversity and inclusion in the security sector thus providing key leadership with the opportunity to understand the essential elements of diversity and inclusion concepts in the context of long-term benefits for their organizations, its missions, individuals - organization members and, ultimately, the society within which they act. The participants were also given the opportunity to share their own experiences in order to establish a wider picture on the given topics.



Diversity in the Security sector must be observed primarily as an advantage, and relevant national institutions must apply a comprehensive approach in this matter. This change of the mind-set requires an adaptable leadership that can leverage diversity and inclusion while maintaining the organization's cohesion based on equal opportunities, ultimately improving its operational capabilities. With key leadership understanding this paradigm, diversity can only increase the Security sector's agility and responsiveness in executing its present and what is more important, future institutional missions, tasks and objectives. The subject event was a continuation of the established series of annual activities launched in 2013, aimed towards enabling comprehensive discussions on diversity and inclusion challenges, strategies and policies for the Security sector in SEE. ●

Dayton Article IV Orientation Course



26-31 March 2017, Rakitje, HR

On 26-31 March 2017 the “Dayton Article IV Course” was held in Rakitje, Republic of Croatia, which was hosted by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in accordance with RACVIAC Programme 2017. The Course was organized with the financial support of the Federal Republic of Germany. The theoretical part was held on RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation premises while the practical part of the Course was held in two Croatian military barracks: '3. Gardijska Brigada KUNE' barracks in Đakovo and 'Našice' barracks in Našice.

The purpose of this Course was to instruct participants on how to successfully perform their duties as inspectors, escorts and/or OSCE guest observers 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.

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 within the framework of the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control.

The Course was attended by thirty seven participants, lecturers, and speakers from Bosnia and Herzegovina (4), Republic of Croatia (3), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*(1), Montenegro (3), Republic of Serbia (2), Republic of Slovenia (2), Republic of Turkey (1), Kosovo** (3), Italian Republic (1), French Republic (1), and RACVIAC staff (6). They represented the relevant ministries and agencies, as well as the regional Verification Centres involved in the Arms Control Regime of Dayton Article IV.

The Course was conducted with the assistance of five lecturers, coming from Bosnia and Herzegovina (2), Republic of Croatia (2), Federal Republic of Germany (1), Montenegro (2), Republic of Serbia (2), and the OSCE (1).

The Course lasted 4 days and consisted of a theoretical and a practical part, with a debriefing at the end of the practical part. Participants from Kosovo** took part in the theoretical part of the Course.

The first working day of the Course started on Monday, 27th March with the Opening remarks of H.E. Ambassador

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Haydar Berk, Director of RACVIAC. He pointed out that this Course represents one of the most important annual activities of the Organization, since it evidently makes a significant contribution to regional stability, transparency and trust. The Welcome address was followed by speeches given by the representatives of the signatory countries: Mr. Momir Brajić, Head of Department for NATO and PfP, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Igor Kuželka, Minister counsellor in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia, Mr. Milovan Lučić, 1st Secretary in the Embassy of Montenegro to the Republic of Croatia, and Mr. Ivica Škrinjarić of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia.

They gave national views on the history and development of the Agreement and outlined the path each country has taken in the process thus promoting the establishment of confidence and strengthening the security building measures in the region. Although it was a difficult and turbulent process, the Signatory countries are now the owners of the Agreement and stand ready to share their experience and lessons learned with other countries and regions.

Mr. Robin Mossinkoff, Head of the FSC Support Section in the Conflict Prevention Centre of the Secretariat of the OSCE addressed the participants as well in regards to the role of the OSCE within the Agreement. He presented the work of OSCE, both in general and in case of its role in the Article IV implementation process.

During the theoretical part of the Course the participants were presented with the following topics:

- Presentation on the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Dayton Accords) and a 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.



The practical part was conducted in two parts. In the first part all lecturers assumed the roles of escorts/inspectors and demonstrated how an inspection looks like while the participants remained in the roles of observers contributing with questions and remarks. In the second part the participants were divided into two teams and the roles were reversed to prompt participants to demonstrate what they had learned. The participants assumed the roles of inspectors, escorts, and OSCE guest observers, with instructors acting as observers.

During the Course the participants showed exceptional professionalism in conducting missions both as inspectors and escorts, thus demonstrating a spirit of cooperation and meeting the standards of a real Inspection.



After the wrap-up of the exercise the participants were given certificates of successful completion of the Course. They were highly motivated during the whole Course thus contributing to its overall success. They were then addressed by H.E. Ambassador Haydar Berk, Director of RACVIAC and BG Siniša Jurković, Deputy Commander of the Land forces of the Republic of Croatia.

The Course was very well organized due to excellent cooperation and relations between RACVIAC, the members of the Sub-regional Consultative mission, and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia, especially when considering the early commencement of preparations and meetings.

As has been announced, henceforward, each year, the practical part of the Course will be conducted in another signatory state. Bosnia and Herzegovina expressed its willingness to host in 2018 the practical part of the Course. ●



02-04 April 2017, Rakitje, HR

Basic Aeronautical Search and Rescue Course

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

On 02-04 April 2017 the “Basic Aeronautical Search and Rescue (SAR) Course” was held in Rakitje, Republic of Croatia. The Course was organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in partnership with the National Protection and Rescue Directorate (NPRD) of the Republic of Croatia.

The Course was a continuation of earlier efforts in this direction conducted over the course of the preceding years by RACVIAC, and was intended as a capacity building endeavour for a new generation of experts involved in the subject of search and rescue.

The purpose of the Course was to bring together SAR professionals from the SEE region and encourage further development of regional cooperation on various Search and Rescue topics. Furthermore, this Course served as an opportunity to promote the enhancement of the existing national SAR structures through the exchange of information and sharing of available training opportunities and relevant exercises related to SAR.

The “Basic Aeronautical Search and Rescue (SAR) Course” was designed based on the best international practices and delivered by the Joint Aviation Authorities Training Organization (JAATO).

The objective of the Course was to increase the capacities of the relevant public institutions in civil emergency response as well as to further enhance the cooperation among analogue institutions in South East Europe. More specifically, the activity focused on the ways how to explore the concrete needs of each participating SAR institution related to aeronautical search and rescue

situations, in order to launch comprehensive regional SAR development actions.

The Course brought together more than 40 representatives from RACVIAC Members, Associate Members and other participants, comprising civilian and military personnel of the relevant institutions from South East Europe dealing with Search and Rescue activities: defence/Armed forces, national RCC authorities, national directorates for protection and search, civil aviation authorities, ministries of the interior, civil emergency management authorities, etc.

During the Opening part of the activity RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk, said that *“this activity will be utilized to explore potential future steps in the field of Search and Rescue in SEE and initiate the establishment of a regional Search and Rescue Functional Network with the aim to enhance mutual assistance among Search and Rescue services and optimize the use of Search and Rescue resources in case of disasters. The close regional and wider cooperation among the SEE countries through dialogue and various forms of coordination is a strong response to today's challenges to international security and defence policy, leading to building of confidence and security among the countries”*, emphasized Ambassador Berk.

Speaking on behalf of the NPRD Mr. Davor Spevec, Head of Sector at the State Information and Communication System of Protection and Rescue, underlined that *“next to quality cooperation, continuous education and training is also an important guideline for building a successful aeronautical Search and Rescue system for which NPRD, according to the recommendations of the International airline legislations, is trying to establish an education system which will cover all levels of system coordination and their associated functions with appropriate dedicated courses.”*



Based on the assessment of the current situation and the constant need for capacity building and improvements in the specific fields of expertise (Search, Rescue and Protection), RACVIAC and NPRD have committed themselves to develop a set of tailor-made activities that will address certain issues in this direction, as part of wider

cooperation in the SEE region in monitoring and implementation of civil emergency measures. This activity was the first in a row of similar activities that will be implemented in the next few years.

The Course lectures were delivered by Mr. Brian Brophy, SAR expert pilot with over 20 years of professional experience and a representative of the Joint Aviation Authorities Training Organization (JAATO).



During the SAR Course, Mr. Brophy elaborated on the notion of Search and Rescue, referring to the search for and provision of aid to the citizens who are in an emergency situation and imminent danger. In order to ensure successful Search and Rescue (SAR) operations, close cooperation among different institutions is crucial. Institutions that are dealing with SAR activities need to focus their efforts on identifying and listing the potential needs of their respective countries (e.g., education, exercise, coordination), and encourage and develop possible regional and cross-border cooperation through SAR operations.

The Course lasted two full working days and comprised lectures, presentations and discussions. The SAR expert from JAATO presented best international practices and gave a short briefing, “The Origins of Search and Rescue”, following the philosophy of Search and Rescue and main international SAR conventions and laws. In addition, participants had a chance to learn about international SAR boundaries and areas of responsibility as well as to elaborate on SAR manuals.

Participants also discussed national SAR plans, systems and procedures while sharing their expertise concerning the responsibilities and duties of a senior SAR manager. Mr. Brophy raised the question regarding the importance of Operational Control of SAR and Rescue Coordination Centres that play a crucial role in any emergency situation from initial search procedures to rescue planning for the future (followed by concrete, real examples from the field). At the end of the second day the participants had an opportunity to find out more about the latest versions of SAR satellites and radio distress beacons and see a short documentary on SAR agencies, facilities and assets and aircraft ditching and ditching assistance. ●

7th C-WMD National Strategy Development Project Workshop



THE ACTIVITY WAS A CONTINUATION OF A SERIES OF EVENTS ORGANIZED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE C-WMD NETWORK IN ORDER TO GO ON SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF C-WMD NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS.



The seventh C-WMD National Strategy Development Project Workshop entitled “Dual-Use Technology, Emergent Technology, and Terrorism” was conducted in RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation from 10 till 13 April 2017.

The activity was a continuation of a series of events organized within the framework of the C-WMD Network as a result of cooperation between RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, U.S. European Command (USEUCOM), U.S. Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), the International Counterproliferation Program (ICP), the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), and the Republic of Croatia.

With the aim to go on supporting the development of C-WMD National Strategies and Action Plans the purpose of this Workshop was to present the challenge that dual-use goods and emerging technologies pose to counterproliferation regimes, as well as to discuss emerging technology and intangible technology transfers and the proliferation aspects of terrorism. Furthermore, the event provided an opportunity to continue with the well-established practice of peer reviewing the progress in the development of C-WMD national strategies and to exercise concepts through a PSI table-top exercise.

In his opening address RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk, said that *this is a unique project in which we are joining our efforts to continuously improve our ability to face the shared security challenges. He stressed that RACVIAC, together with its partners, stands ready to continue to work together and assist the countries by bringing to the table specific knowledge that will assure a well-working national strategy and, in the end, a more secure region.*

Welcoming the participants on behalf of DTRA, Rear Admiral Scott Jarabek, DTRA Deputy Director, said that the joint effort of RACVIAC, DTRA, and the Croatian Government in creating national C-WMD Strategies is

„RACVIAC, together with its partners, stands ready to continue to work together and assist the countries by bringing to the table specific knowledge that will assure a well-working national strategy and, in the end, a more secure region“, said Ambassador Berk.

praiseworthy and essential, not only for the SEE countries but also for the safety of the entire world. He continued by saying *that many participating countries have completed their draft Strategies that are not only supporting their*



***Rear Admiral Scott Jarabek,
DTRA Deputy Director:***

„Many participating countries have completed their draft Strategies that are not only supporting their national interests but are mutually supporting on a regional scale as well.“

national interests but are mutually supporting on a regional scale as well.

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

The event was designed as an expert forum and it was conducted through open discussions, case studies, presentations by experts, and a four-phased PSI table-top exercise. ●

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24-28 April 2017, Rakitje, HR

WMD Cyber Crimes Investigations Course



„Cyber space, commonly recognized as the battlefield of the future, is perhaps already there. Therefore, it is of utmost importance to develop the capabilities in our region, to be well prepared to protect our countries' critical infrastructure, to detect and to take the necessary measures against illegal, criminal cyber activity, against terrorism or other forms of destabilizing attacks. “

Based on the conclusions of a series of events organized within the C-WMD Network, where cyber issues were identified as a common modern threat to our security, RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation in cooperation with the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) from the USA, and with the financial support of the Federal Republic of Germany, organized the "Cyber Security Course" related to WMD Cyber Crimes Investigations, from 24 till 28 April 2017.

The aim of the "WMD Cyber Crimes Investigations Course" was to instruct nontechnical investigators on the fundamental skills needed to exploit digital technology to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and misuse of dual-use materials and technologies. Furthermore, the goal was to improve the ties between the representatives of the relevant institutions from the SEE region, and to exchange information, transfer knowledge, views and ideas.

Moreover, the aim was to expose the Course participants to the experiences of experts from various U.S. government agencies who have the legal authority and the technical knowledge concerning cyber threats.

The Course participants were the representatives of the relevant ministries and agencies from the following countries: Albania (2), Austria (2), Bosnia and Herzegovina (2), Croatia (5), Montenegro (1), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* (2), Romania (1), Serbia (2), Turkey (5), Kosovo** (2), and RACVIAC Staff (1).

The Course lasted 5 days and consisted of theoretical and practical exercises done on computers.

Opening the Course Ambassador Haydar Berk, Director of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation said that „cyber space, commonly recognized as the battlefield of the future, is perhaps already there. Therefore, it is of utmost importance to develop the capabilities in our region, to be well prepared to protect our countries' critical infrastructure, to detect and to take the necessary measures against illegal, criminal cyber activity, against terrorism or other forms of destabilizing attacks.

Close regional and wider cooperation and networking is the only way to have a strong response to today's challenges to security, leading to building of trust and confidence, harmony and enhanced synergy in our region”, added Ambassador Berk.

Greeting the participants on behalf of the United States Defence Threat Reduction Agency Mr. Russell Dallas underlined that the cyber domain is very demanding since it changes all the time and touches everything in our lives, not only the investigations but the everyday aspect of our lives too.



The participants learned about the current cyber environment and the technologies presently employed by cyber experts to further criminal investigations. In doing so, the participants were introduced to and gained limited competency in cutting-edge, open-source software and tools that help investigators analyze the data from devices,

digital media, or social networks. The participants were also introduced to the technology of the future, including the use of the Darknet, botnets/malware, and cryptocurrencies.



During the Course the participants had an opportunity to analyse the methods and tools for preventing, deterring, detecting, and countering the threat of WMD proliferation by securely utilizing digital technology in support of WMD-related investigations.

The participants also learned how to use open-source tools and technologies that can be used to support ongoing investigations across a range of criminal activities. Throughout the practical part of the Course the participants learned how to gather intelligence using the web-based open sources tools, to collect and analyse seized digital evidence, and how cyber investigative techniques can be integrated with the “traditional” investigative techniques. In addition to this, the participants learned about digital forensics in order for investigators to locate potential evidence.

The Course proved to be worthwhile, as it provided an opportunity to the participants to exchange knowledge, discuss topics and generate ideas about cyber security with lecturers and individually.

The Course was very well organized due to excellent cooperation and relations between RACVIAC and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA). ●

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03-05 May 2017, Rakitje, HR



Industrial Security Workshop

The Office of the National Security Council, as the NSA of the Republic of Croatia, hosted a 6S Expert Working Group (6S EWG) Meeting on the topic of Industrial Security and the related issues on Cyber Security. The 6S EWG was held in RACVIAC, on 3 and 5 May 2017, organized by the Croatian NSA Office of the National Security Council. On 4 May 2017 there was an open Workshop in RACVIAC Format on the same subject, co-organised by the Croatian NSA Office of the National Security Council and RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.

"6S Expert Working Group (EWG) + Workshop in RACVIAC Format (Industrial Security)" organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the Office of the National Security Council of the Republic of Croatia was conducted at RACVIAC from 03 till 05 May 2017.

The activity focused on different issues specific to various economic sectors within the field of industrial security as part of the government sector security policy, such as the defence sector or the IT sector. The Workshop also covered the topic of cyber security in the context of the industrial security area.

Opening the Workshop RACVIAC Director Ambassador Haydar Berk said that *"The 6S Initiative launched in 2013 by the Croatian and Slovenian National Security Authorities gathers most RACVIAC Members' Directors, and we thought that expanding it to all our Members would be beneficial, thus enhancing security cooperation and raising the level of information security standards in South-Eastern Europe, and in this case, applying it to the topic of industrial security. From RACVIAC point of view we see this activity as an excellent opportunity for further development of regional cooperation in the area of information security. This field perfectly fits in with other activities that RACVIAC is*

addressing on the basis of the needs and guidance of its Members against the most emergent threats to regional and international security as well as the transformation processes within the countries of SEE in view of the EU and NATO membership responsibilities and institutional readiness”, pointed out Ambassador Berk.

Speaking on behalf of the National Security Council of the Republic of Croatia Ambassador Pjer Šimunović said that the S6 Initiative is functioning as a forum for exchanging best practices and ideas and supporting each other on a joint way towards establishing stronger, advanced procedures related to functioning of national security authorities and designated security authorities which deal with security clearances, industrial security clearances, security of classified information, thus strengthening international cooperation, exchange of classified information, etc. He continued to say that “Industrial Security is one of today's most sensitive security policies and as we see in practice and in theory, it is getting more and more associated with cyber security and is very sophisticated and important. The presence of several Croatian companies is an important element of forging public and private national security partnerships in the certification and accreditation process and that of exchanging best practices and views”, concluded Ambassador Šimunović.

The Workshop gathered experts representing National

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Security Authorities from SEE countries, representatives of the General Secretariat of the EU Council, and Regional Cooperation Council, as well as several certified Croatian companies that gave presentations on Industrial Security issues.

The Meeting started the day before the Workshop in RACVIAC format with a presentation of the state of play in Industrial Security in 6S countries, followed by a discussion on FSC concepts regarding the vetting of legal entity personnel (selection, rationale), storage capability, and CIS accreditation.

The 6S Initiative (the Six States Initiative) was launched under the auspices of the Brdo-Brijuni Process by the Croatian and Slovenian National Security Authorities (NSAs) in 2013, focusing on encouraging security cooperation and raising the level of information security standards in the region. The Initiative gathers the directors of the NSAs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro, and Republic of Serbia, with Republic of Slovenia and Republic of Croatia as mentors.

The RACVIAC format of the meeting on the second day continued with the same topics regarding the state of play in the countries for an extended audience combining industrial security and cyber security issues. All 6S representatives participated together with the representatives from the EU GSC, RACVIAC, RCC (Regional Cooperation Council), Albania, Romania, and Turkey. RACVIAC Workshop also included selected Croatian certified companies: Ericsson Nikola Tesla, Microsoft, King ICT, Insig2, Diverto and Infigo, together with the representative from the University of Zagreb, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing. The topics covered e-Government services and security aspects, trusted cloud platforms, system integration, digital forensics and education, security assessment and penetration testing, the concept of “security by design” in industrial systems and the threat environment in different industrial sectors.

The third day was in 6S EWG format, together with the representative of the Council of the EU, GSC, Safety and Security, Information Security Unit. The topics on the third day included more detailed Industrial Security approaches presented by the Croatian, Slovenian and EU representatives.

Every year an NSA Director's level conference is held, and there is an annual plan that includes a series of expert-level activities involving representatives and experts from 6S countries. The topics that have been organized so far have been on the subject of security checks, accreditation of information systems and now the security of business and industrial cooperation. Several meetings were held under the auspices of the EC TAIEX program, in Sarajevo and Skopje, regarding the role of the NSAs in the field of cyber security, on the topic of physical security as well as national organization and resolution of cyber incidents. ●

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15-26 May 2017, Rakitje, HR

“The importance of the Gender perspective integration is slowly but steadily gaining appropriate recognition, and RACVIAC is contributing to this effort greatly by facilitating its resources and thus supporting this joint regional endeavour.”

In the period from 15th to 26th May 2017 RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation together with the Personnel Department of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Croatia, and the Nordic Centre for Gender in Military Operations (NCGM), with UNDP-SEESAC's support co-organized the "Gender Training of the Trainers" Course (GToT). The importance of integrating the gender perspective in military operations in order to increase operational effectiveness had prompted NATO, as well as other national and multinational defence organisations to address, regulate and implement this subject, both on the duty level and on the level of participation in Peace Support Operations (PSO).

This two-week Course prepares instructors and trainers to plan and conduct pre-deployment training and education for troops, units and individuals on gender perspectives in military operations. Its content is applicable in both national and international training and education for armed forces and defence organizations and provides the participants with knowledge on how to integrate the gender perspective in mission specific training as well as national basic training.

The subject Course was a direct result of four years of successful cooperation between the Nordic Centre for

Gender Training of the Trainers Course

Gender in Military Operations, the Armed Forces of the Republic of Croatia, and RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.

The GToT curricula was built based on the NCGM template certified by NATO with some improvements and adjustments being made in accordance with the lessons learned from previous similar training events held from 2014 onwards.

This year the Course continued to grow in terms of the regionally-owned aspect: the Course Director, Deputy Course Director and most of the syndicate leaders and instructors came from the SEE region, while only one syndicate leader was a representative of the Swedish Armed Forces. NCGM was represented with one observer who provided mentorship.



In total 34 participants from the SEE countries, including subject matter experts, members of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Croatia, NCGM, Swedish Armed Forces and RACVIAC staff took part in the Course.

The Course started on 15th May with the Course Opening ceremony during which Welcome addresses were given by:

- Ambassador Haydar Berk, RACVIAC Director;
- Col Davor KIRALJ, Head of the Sector for Development and Management of Human Potentials, Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia;
- Col Boženko Đevoić, Head of Education Cell, the Personnel Department of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Croatia;
- Lt Anu Käär, Course Mentor, NCGM.

Opening the Course Ambassador Berk said that *“this is already the 4th Course in a row organised by RACVIAC which shows the relevance of RACVIAC as a regional hub for gender mainstreaming in the South-Eastern European region”*. Relating to the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security Ambassador pointed out that *“today we should aim to contribute to the full implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution on Women, Peace and Security by making it an integral part of everyday business in both civilian and military structures. Our security institutions aim to yield a change in the mindsets and behaviors and promote awareness and positive changes,”* concluded Ambassador Berk.

Speaking on behalf of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia Colonel Davor Kiralj, Head of the Sector for Development and Management of Human Potentials, said that the *“Importance of the Gender perspective integration is slowly but steadily gaining appropriate recognition, and RACVIAC is contributing to this effort greatly by facilitating its resources and thus supporting this joint regional endeavour.”*



Col Davor Kiralj

The GToT Course was designed as a combination of lectures, corresponding individual and syndicate work, followed by a practical exercise and the final exam. Prior to their arrival the students were obliged to complete the NATO "ADL 169" online Course on

Operational Effectiveness by Integrating the Gender Perspective". Hence, they arrived with a common level of knowledge on the subject matter topics.

During the Course the students were introduced to the gender terms and definitions, the interlink between culture, religion and gender, the requirements, the learning objective and target audience analysis, international humanitarian law and human rights, framework and United Nations Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security. Students also learned how to apply the Gender perspective in Security

Sector Reform and Military Operations, how to prepare the lesson plan/training module, how to plan gender training at different levels, and how to identify the training requirements and learning objectives for different target audiences.

One part of the Course was dedicated to essential required teaching skills like conducting the learning assessment, making a good presentation, instructional strategies and methods and handling resistance in training situations.



The key event was the practical outdoor exercise on how to use role playing in gender integrated training, which was held during day six and was an opportunity for the students to apply the knowledge gained in combination with their own professional experience.

At the end the students had to pass a final exam thus confirming their own instructional qualities and professionalism.

The graduation ceremony was attended by Mr. Zoran Piličić, Assistant Minister for Human Potentials, Croatian Ministry of Defence, LtCol Birgith Andreassen, OIC Gender in Military Operation Department, NCGM, and RACVIAC Director and Deputy Director.



This particular RACVIAC training activity is an excellent example of the highest possible level of cooperation and synergy achieved among the four main organizational partners in utilizing mutual resources and support. ●

Regional Workshop on Corruption Risk Assessment



30-31 May 2017, Podgorica, ME

According to the available international and regional assessments and reports (EU, Council of Europe, UNODC, Transparency International) corruption still poses one of the main challenges in South East Europe. Thus, continuous efforts in curbing corruption are needed, both regarding prevention and suppression, in order to reduce corruption and eliminate potential risks of any kind of misbehaviour.

Due to its specificities, the defence sector has been identified as one of the sectors with high risks for misconducts and corruption. The available analysis in SEE has revealed that there have been many cases of corruption related to the defence sector. Procurement in the defence sector, lack of transparency, conflict of interest, and lack of financial control make it susceptible to corruption, collusion, fraud and manipulation.

A two-day regional Workshop titled “Corruption Risk Assessment and Institutional Integrity”, co-organized by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative (RAI), with the support of the Ministry of Defence of Montenegro, was held in Podgorica, ME, from 30 till 31 May 2017.

This Workshop is a continuation of a series of activities previously organized by RACVIAC - Centre of Security Cooperation in cooperation with RAI and is intended as a capacity building endeavour for a new generation of experts involved in the subject of building integrity and fighting corruption.

The purpose of the Workshop was to increase the capacity of the ministries of defence in the field of corruption risk assessment and integrity, as well as to strengthen their cooperation with anti-corruption bodies.

It aimed at increasing awareness about the current anti-corruption mechanisms and tools, but also the needed legal solutions. During two days the participants gained a better understanding of the specific elements related to integrity plans, integrity measures, identification and mitigation of corruption risks, prevention of corruption in public procurement, financial control management, protection of whistle-blowers, etc.

Opening the Workshop on behalf of RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Ms Ana Ezhova Krzhaloska, RACVIAC Programme Manager in International and Regional Cooperation with a focus on Euro Atlantic Integration Pillar, said that: *“In accordance with RACVIAC mission to foster dialogue and cooperation on security matters in SEE region we see this Workshop as an excellent opportunity for further development of regional cooperation on Corruption Assessment and Institutional Integrity and to promote the enhancement of the existing national structures through the exchange of information and sharing of available training opportunities”.*



Ms Alma Adrović, Head of NATO & EU Department at the Montenegrin Ministry of Defence, said that “this topic requires attention of all of us focused on developing global partnership and active exchange of information in order to properly prevent and combat corruption. In today's world, corruption is a threat to stability, it is a crime of its own, and it supports the appearance of other crimes. It erodes trust in public institutions and political processes, and undermines the functioning of the markets.”

Greeting the audience Mr Davor Dubravica, Chairperson of RAI, stated that corruption presents one of the main challenges in the SEE and that anti-corruption is a priority for all the RAI member countries' governments. He emphasized that cooperation with others is crucial in joining efforts to curb corruption.

According to the available international and regional assessments and reports (EU, Council of Europe, UNODC, Transparency International) corruption still poses one of the main challenges in South East Europe. Thus, continuous efforts in curbing corruption are needed, both regarding prevention and suppression, in order to reduce corruption and eliminate potential risks of any kind of misbehaviour.

The importance of preventing corruption is recognized in Chapter II of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). It underlines the need to address the risks of corruption by adopting effective and coordinated

policies against corruption, a fair and transparent system of public procurement, strengthening the integrity of the public sector, as well as strengthening transparency and public reporting. A fundamental pillar for an efficient, transparent and effective system free of corruption is a public service staffed with individuals of the highest level of skill and integrity.

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Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative continuously works on building integrity in the public service sector and supporting governmental bodies in their efforts to move away from discretionary decision-making to rule-based political and administrative decision-making.

Being aware of the fact that integrity and the fight against corruption in the defence sector is a common challenge in the region, and considering that this specific topic needs to be treated multi-disciplinarily, Regional Anti-corruption Initiative (RAI) and RACVIAC have initiated joint activities in this field some years ago.

During two days the participants were familiarized with the additional knowledge about the relevant international standards and useful tools for prevention of corruption and got an oversight of the main regional stakeholders and actors, competent bodies and institutions. Additionally, they elaborated the relevant case studies and addressed the common challenges and problems as well as best practices and lessons learned in the field of building integrity. The Workshop provided an excellent opportunity to develop mutual contacts and networking among the participants from South East Europe and outline future actions in this field. ●



After two-and-a-half years in RACVIAC, **Colonel Davor Kiralj** ended his tour of duty in the Centre. It has been a genuine pleasure to have him as an Activity Manager in the Security Sector Reform Pillar. Colonel Kiralj generously shared his vast knowledge and experience in the field of defence resource management, democratic oversight and accountability, border security, gender equality etc. We would like to thank him for his remarkable contribution to the Organisation and smooth conduct of RACVIAC activities. Enthusiastic and devoted to his duty, he fulfilled all tasks very professionally and in a supportive and cooperative manner. Colonel Kiralj was not only an excellent staff member, but also a helpful and courteous friend to all of us. He will continue his career at the Croatian Ministry of Defence, where he will take up the position of the Head of the Sector for Development and Management of Human Potentials. Thanking him for his professional commitment and friendship, we wish him all the best in his future military career and private life.



NEWCOMERS



Mr Toni Požar joined the RACVIAC team as an intern in the Security Sector Reform Pillar in April 2017. Mr Požar is a dual Croatian-Slovenian citizen and is currently finishing his Bachelors studies in international relations at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Before coming to RACVIAC, he was very active at Model of the United Nations conferences as well as volunteering for the AFS International Programs office in Zagreb. His professional interests include international security and development as well as US domestic policy. After his internship, he will be starting his Master's program in international relations and diplomacy at the Spanish Diplomatic School in Madrid.

Ms Valentina Scaglia joined the RACVIAC team as an intern in the Cooperative Security Sector Pillar in May 2017. Ms Valentina Scaglia is an Italian residing in Canada, currently attending the McGill University in Montreal to obtain a Bachelor's degree double majoring in Political Sciences and History whilst minoring in International Development. Prior to joining the RACVIAC team Valentina worked as a volunteer during the refugee crisis for the Red Cross in Croatia and volunteered in the EXPO in Milan for the Save the Children NGO. She wrote articles for her school journal and attended various speech and debate competitions. She explored her political interests as a member of the McGill Model United Nations Delegation team, and as a participant in Human Rights, Security, Crisis, AdHoc, and Disarmament Committees in various international events and circuits. Her professional interests include languages, diplomacy, international relations, and war studies, with emphasis on European history and geopolitics.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Cooperative Security Environment (with focus on Arms Control)

No.	Topic / Title	Host / Venue	Date
1.	The workshop on “Enhancing Implementation of Articles 3 & 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions(CCM) in South East Europe: the Country Coalition Concept”	Rakitje	11-14 June
2.	Arms Control Symposium	Host: BA	3-7 July
3.	Effective Practices of the Implementation of UNSCR 1540	TBD	13–16 September
4.	Convention on Cluster Munitions	Rakitje	16 –20 October
5.	Physical Security And Stockpile Management Seminar	Rakitje	6-10 November

C-WMD Network

No.	Topic / Title	Host / Venue	Date
1.	Nuclear Security Detection Architecture Awareness - Workshop #2	Host: ME	25 -30 June
2.	C-WMD National Strategies – Emerging Technology Transfers	Rakitje	11 -14 September
3.	Nuclear Security Detection Architecture- Workshop #3	Host: AL	13-17 November

International and Regional Cooperation (with focus on Euro Atlantic Integration and contemporary challenges)

No.	Topic / Title	Host / Venue	Date
1.	Energy Security	TBD	18-21 June
2.	Search and Rescue (SAR) On Scene Coordinator Advanced Seminar / SAR in Case of the Aviation Accident	Rakitje	26-28 September
3.	Cyber Security / Continuation of the Cyber Security project / Advanced Training Course	Host: TR	23-27 October
4.	Implementation of the UNSCR 2178	TBD	27-30 November

Security Sector Reform / Transformation

No.	Topic / Title	Host / Venue	Date
1.	Annual Meeting of the Representatives from Defence and Security Committees from SEE Parliaments	Host: BA	5-8 June
2.	Conference on P(M)SC: Public-Private Partnership in Providing Security	Venue: Zagreb	19-20 September
3.	RACVIAC / KAS Conference on Security Challenges for Europe	Venue: Zagreb	22-24 November
4.	Advanced SSR Series / Defence Resources Management: “Modern Human Resources Challenges in the Security Sector”	Rakitje	4-7 December

Meetings of the RACVIAC Multinational Advisory Group (MAG)

2.	38 th MAG Meeting	Rakitje	11-12 October
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CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

**„...fostering dialogue and cooperation on
security matters in South East Europe...“**

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