



CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

Annex A

Overview

International Conference „ Public and Private Security Companies in Critical Infrastructure Protection”

SSR-F1-CF-18

RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, HR-10437 Bestovje, CROATIA

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Dates 27-28 September 2018

Venue The Westin Zagreb Hotel, Izidora Kršnjavog 1, Zagreb, Republic of Croatia

Background The importance of Critical Infrastructure (CI) increases the more industrially developed a country is and the more dependent it is on the undisturbed functioning of CI both on its own and on the territory of other countries. The modern world has become highly dependent on certain sectors of CI such as the energy sector, communications, road and transport systems, finance, the Internet and public services and every disruption in functioning leads to serious standstills and difficulties for individuals, the society and business entities as well as the functioning of the State.

Key actors in strengthening resilience and CI protection are the owners or managers of CI, the public and private sector, the academic community and the citizens, while special place is reserved for private security companies that have a significant stake in the CI protection system owing to their knowledge, experience and resources.

Through the Directive COM (2006) 786 the European Commission set out the principles of the European Program for Critical Infrastructure Protection (EPCIP). With this Directive all European Member States were obliged to incorporate the EPCIP into their national statutes. In 2008 the Council Directive 2008/114/EC stated that all Members are responsible for identification, designation and protection of European CI on their territory, which also implies the protection of national CI as a part of the same concept.

Purpose and Objectives Modern trends in the development of the CI protection field have various forms, from protecting the physical infrastructure to cyber protection and development of models in those specific fields.

The aim of this Conference is to provide an interdisciplinary approach to the representation and application of modern methods in the protection of National and European CI through the display of normative regulation, key activities of the protection stakeholders and development of the model of education and exercises.

The Conference is the 6th event in a series of similar events that has become a RACVIAC mid-term project focusing on the changes in Public and Private Partnership and the effects of privatisation. The Conference will be co-organised by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the company TECTUS - Business Services and Publishing, in cooperation with the journal *Zaštita*.

Participation The Conference is aimed at bringing together practitioners, creators of public opinion, owners or managers of CI, representatives of private security companies, researchers from all corners of Europe with special emphasis on the area of South East Europe.

Approximately 50 participants from RACVIAC Members' ministries and governmental agencies and the representatives of Private Security Companies and NGOs as well as experts from various institutions and think-tanks invited by RACVIAC and TECTUS will attend the event. Experts from DCAF and EU departments are invited to take part in providing relevant information on the subject matter.

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

Methodology The Conference is designed as a series of speeches and presentations given by high-level speakers from International and national organisations and ministries, followed by discussions and expert consultations. The working language will be English.

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