



**CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION**  
**Cooperative Security Environment Pillar**

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**VIENNA DOCUMENT 2011  
ORIENTATION COURSE  
CSE-A3-C-2016**

25 June - 01 July 2016, Hungary

**Hosted by Hungary**

**Co-sponsored by the  
Federal Republic of Germany**

**Introduction**

In accordance with the RACVIAC Programme 2016, the Cooperative Security Environment Pillar (CSE) from 25 June to 01 July 2016 organized and carried out the “Vienna Document 2011 Orientation Course”.



*Group photo*

The Course was carried out in Hungary in two parts. The theoretical part was held in one of the conference halls of the “Aquaworld” Hotel in Budapest, while the practical part took place at the Hungarian Defence Forces’ (HDF) 5<sup>th</sup> “Bocskai István” Infantry Brigade in Hódmezővásárhely and 59<sup>th</sup> “Szentgyörgyi Dezső” Air Base in Kecskemét. The working language of the Course was English.

The purpose of this Course was to provide the participants with a theoretical overview of the Vienna Document 2011 (VD ’11),

and give a comprehensive analysis of both the theoretical and 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 information about the current situation regarding the implementation of the “Visit to an Air Base and Visit to a Military Facility or Formation”
- 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 conduct in the future through this form of co-operation on the national, regional and the international level.

**Participation**

Twenty-one participants from eleven countries participated in the Course, namely

the participants from Albania (3), Bosnia and Herzegovina (3), Republic of Croatia (1), the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,<sup>(\*)</sup> (3), Italy (2), Montenegro (3), Poland (1), Romania (1), Republic of Serbia (2), Republic of Slovenia (1), and the Republic of Turkey (1).



*Course participants*

Lecturers represented national arms control agencies and verification centres of the Kingdom of Belgium [BACA] (1), Canada (1), Hungary (1), Kazakhstan (1), Slovakia (1), Kingdom of Spain (1), and the United Kingdom (1).

On the margins of the Course the RACVIAC Director, Ambassador Haydar Berk, met with Mr Péter Siklósi, Deputy State Secretary for Defence Policy and Planning at the Ministry of Defence of Hungary.

Ambassador Berk informed Mr Siklósi about the most prevalent topics of RACVIAC activities, such as the issue of foreign fighters, cyber-, border- and energy-security, appreciating Hungary's contribution as an Associate Member to the organization's work. Mr Siklósi assured Ambassador Berk regarding Hungarian MoD's further support as regards personnel, lecturers and contribution in kind, emphasizing RACVIAC important role in the region.

Ambassador Berk took this opportunity to invite the Deputy State Secretary to visit RACVIAC.

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<sup>(\*)</sup> Turkey recognises the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name

## **Overview of the Course**

This Course, which was organised for the fifth time in Hungary, was designed mainly for military personnel of the South East European region. The five-day Course provided the participants with the opportunity to meet their colleagues from the SEE region, as well as to meet the representatives/experts from different countries, organizations and agencies, all dealing with the execution of the VD '11 and/or other arms control regimes.

During the theoretical part, the following lecturers delivered presentations on different topics:

- Maj. Michael Barnett (Strategic Joint Staff Arms Control Verification, Canada): *“History and Structure of the Vienna Document 2011”*
- Maj. (ret.) Douglas Rule (UK): *“Joint Arms Control Implementation Group - JACIG UK”*
- Lt.Cdr. José A. Gómez (Spain): *“Trident Juncture 2015 Exercise – Observation of NATO Military Activities Hosted by Spain”*
- Major Arnur Akzhigitov (Department acting Chief, MoD, Arms Control and Inspections Support Center, Kazakhstan): *“Kazakhstan’s National Experience VD-2011, Ch. IV «Contacts»”*
- Maj Zsolt Pastorek, Slovak Verification Centre: *“Joint Vienna Document Activities. Slovakian and Austrian Experiences and Lessons Learned”*
- Cdt (OF-3) Frank Colman (Action Manager BACA/Gnd Ops International): *“Vienna Document: Chapter IV Contacts”*
- LtCol Csaba Csoknyai (HDF TDC ACD): *“History of the Hungarian Visits to an Airbase and Military facilities. Planning and Organising a Visit to an*

*Airbase and Military facility. The organisation process for the Hungarian Experience and Lessons Learned.”*

During the first day of the practical part of the Course the participants carried out an evaluation visit at the 5<sup>th</sup> “Bocskai István” Infantry Brigade in Hódmezővásárhely, which included the following:

- Base Commander’s Presentation
- Combat engineer demonstration
- Display of small arms and tour of the dormitory
- Tour of the maintenance hall
- Static display of major weapon and equipment systems
- Tactical demonstration at Dóc Shooting Range

A Military Band and Garrison Support Command’s demonstration ensued.

During the third day of the practical part of the Course (the second day was reserved mainly for the celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hungarian Arms Control Section), the participants carried out a similar evaluation visit at the 59<sup>th</sup> “Szentgyörgyi Dezső” Air Base in Kecskemét. The programme of the visit included:

- Base Commander’s Presentation
- Visit to the ejection seat workshop weapons’ workshop, Gripen hangar: static display, withdrawn aircraft and helicopters, soldiers' accomodation, medical centre, pilots' building
- Observation of the Saab JAS-39 Gripen fighter jets’ training flight
- “DEFECTOR” aircraft forced to ground by jets.

## **Conclusion**

The majority of the participants arrived with an in-depth knowledge of the VD ’11 and/or other arms control regimes and CSBMs, but there were lots of newcomers among them as well. They expressed satisfaction with the

topics chosen and said that they were impressed by the high level of knowledge of the lecturers.



*At HDF’s 59<sup>th</sup> “Szentgyörgyi Dezső” Air Base*

The theoretical and practical part of the Course were well-organized thanks to the professionalism and preparedness of the Hungarian hosts, as well as the close cooperation between RACVIAC and the Hungarian national authorities.

This Course 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.

According to the participants’ assessments, the Course proved to be successful and well organized. They regarded it as valuable for their future work and they all agreed on the necessity of conducting such Courses in the future too, with the aim to contribute to the CSBMs in the region.

By financing and hosting this Course, as one of the most significant activities in RACVIAC Programme, the Federal Republic of Germany and Hungary (both are RACVIAC Associate Members), demonstrated their commitment and continuous support to our Centre and the security of the SEE region.

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