



CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION



## Overview

Annex A

### Civil-Military Relations: Seminar on P(M)SCs III SSR-03-S

RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, HR-10437 Bestovje, CROATIA  
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**Dates** 07-09 April 2015  
**Venue(s)** RACVIAC facilities at the "Vitez Damir Martić" military barracks  
Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, Republic of Croatia

#### Background

A range of writers and observers have monitored the increase in private security provisions across the world in the last two decades. In 1999 the Confederation of European Security Services (CoESS) estimated that there were more than 500.000 guards working for 10.000 Private Security Companies. Today, with the eastern expansion of the EU, that number may well have more than doubled. Within South-Eastern Europe (SEE) the industry has grown even more rapidly from very modest beginnings in the early 1990s. A study commissioned in 2005 and researched by the non-governmental organisations entitled Saferworld (UK) in collaboration with local civil society partners found that there are now around 200.000 private security guards working in the SEE region. The key conclusion of the Study was that regulatory authorities of each country, together with the most progressive members of the industry should collaborate to develop and implement comprehensive but workable regulations and voluntary guidelines to ensure the highest standards are maintained within the sector. As a result of this process in April 2014 the European Union's Public Procurement Directive was adopted which must be incorporated into the national legislation of the EU member countries. And what is most important, since the launching of the Directive, a manual on Buying Quality Private Security Services was adopted by the CoESS with the support of the European Commission. The main message of this manual is: in order to buy quality private security services it is not the standard of the "lower - best price" but the standard of the "best value product" that needs to be put forward.

To ensure a higher level of rule of law and human rights protection in the SEE region, which is the responsibility of Private Security Companies (PSCs), in 2013 RACVIAC started cooperating with DCAF Geneva on promoting values and provisions of the Montreux Document and the International Code of Conduct for Private Security providers in SEE. Both the Montreux Process and the adoption of the ICoC for PSCs were initiated by the Government of the Swiss Confederation with the support of the International Committee of the Red Cross. In cooperation with the representatives of

17 states, PSCs affirm their responsibility to respect human rights and fulfil humanitarian responsibilities towards all those affected by their business activities. As a consequence of these processes in Europe and wider in the SEE region we can stress the importance of the agreement and of the launching of the Sarajevo Code of Conduct and Sarajevo Client Guidelines for Procurement and Private Security Companies, which were supplied with SEESAC's financial and technical support in September 2006.

The Seminar on P(M)SCs III is the third seminar in a series of similar events that has become a RACVIAC mid-term project focusing on the changes in Civil-Military Relations (CMR) and the effects of privatisation.

## **Purpose & Objectives**

The main reason to organise once again in 2015 a third seminar on this important topic is the need to continue reviewing and analysing the new developments concerning the phenomenon of the changing nature of Civil Military Relations as a result of the ongoing privatisation process in this increasingly important part of the Security Sector. An additional reason is the interest of the participants expressed during the last Seminar on P(M)SC II, which took place in RACVIAC in April 2014, to continue exchanging information among the interested public in the SEE region.

The main objectives of the seminar are to support the promotion and implementation of the standards of the democratic control of the armed forces and to support the implementation of the new EU Directive on Public Procurement from April 2014 in SEE. In view thereof, the seminar will focus on the next items on the Agenda:

- Public interest and privatisation
- Outsourcing - to what extent?
- Deregulation of the Private Security Sector - to what extent? Between necessity and reality!
- The Montreux Process – the Montreux Document on PMSCs - current status
- Code of Conduct on Private Security Companies - current status
- OSCE Code of Conduct and P(M)SCs
- EU's Public Sector Directive 2014-2024 - implementation in the national legislation of the SEE countries, members or candidates for membership in the EU
- Manual: " Buying Quality Private Security Services " - best value
- EU Directive on Critical Infrastructure Protection - how to implement it?

## **Participants**

Approximately 30 participants from RACVIAC members' parliaments, the national Ombudsman institutions for human rights protection, ministries of internal affairs, ministries of justice as well as representatives of Associations of P(M)SCs and NGOs, managers from P(M)SCs as well as experts from various institutions and think-tanks. Experts from relevant DCAF, OSCE, EU and CoESS departments are invited to take part in providing relevant information on the subject matter. In addition to the above-listed, attendees from all other associate members, observers and participants are invited to attend the seminar.

**Methodology**

The seminar will include keynote speeches outlining the importance of the law, practice and governance of Private (Military) and Security Companies in Security Sector Reform, followed by presentations on national implementation of action plans. The working language will be English.

**POCs**

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