



CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

Cooperative and Security Environment with Focus on Arms Control Pillar

Vienna Document 2011

- Efforts to Revitalise Confidence and Security Building -
Verification and Compliance Course

13-17 October 2014, Rakitje, Croatia

Organised with the financial contribution of the Verification Centre of the Bundeswehr and with the support of the Republic of Slovenia.

Introduction

The Vienna Document 2011 - Efforts to Revitalise Confidence and Security Building - Verification and Compliance Course is a part of the traditional project activity carried out by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.



LtCol Muharrem Gülcan, Mr Tamás Lattmann, BrigGen Zdravko Jakop and CDR Michael Runde

The aim of the course, which was organized with the financial contribution of the Bundeswehr Verification Centre of the Federal Republic of Germany and with the support of the Republic of Slovenia, is to introduce participants to the new content of the Vienna Document 2011 in general, with

a special focus on Article IX (Compliance and Verification), Inspection and Evaluation, giving a comprehensive, theoretical and practical analysis of the implementation of these activities. It was organized in the spirit of the Vienna Document 2011, focusing on constraints and obligations arising from the aforementioned parts of document.

The workshop participants came from the following countries: Republic of Albania (3), Bosnia and Herzegovina (3), Republic of Croatia (2), the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* (2), Montenegro (2), Poland (1), Republic of Serbia (1) and the Republic of Slovenia (2). The participants were both senior and junior military personnel and civilians dealing with arms control or VD2011- related issues.



Course participants

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

Vienna Document 2011 Course

The workshop was conducted with the assistance of six (6) lecturers: LtCol Cecilia Montes de Oca (DTRA, US), Mr Marijan Barić (MFEA, HR), LtCol Marijan Jozić (MoD, HR), CDR Michael Runde (BWVC, DE), Mr Tamás Lattmann, PhD and LtCol (ret.) László Szabó, PhD (National University of Public Service, Budapest, HU).



Airbase visit on the practical work day

It was carried out as a combination of lectures and presentations followed by questions and answers, completed by syndicate work and a practical work day for evaluation. This course was designed with the aim of sharing expertise, opinions and lessons learned, identifying problems and teaching methods, as well as correcting the possible mistakes. The course also provided a favourable environment and atmosphere for valuable and focused discussions.



First working day

Execution

The course began on 14 October 2014 with the opening address of RACVIAC Deputy Director. Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop noted that RACVIAC – Centre for Security

Cooperation has been organizing Vienna Document courses for the countries of the South East European region since 2001. This year RACVIAC is able to respond again to the challenges of being the first in the region to plan and carry out the Vienna Document 2011 (VD'11) Compliance and Verification Course, reflecting the changes of the New Vienna Document 2011 adopted in December 2011.



Group photo with the hangar in the background in Cerklje

He added that the respected lecturers invited from the national arms control agencies, international organizations or verification centres, as well as the members of the academia of the Republic of Croatia, Hungary, Federal Republic of Germany and the United States, who have a wide range of experiences in this field. Their sound knowledge and experience, he said, are a guarantee of quality and success of the Course. Furthermore, he expressed special thanks to the Republic of Slovenia for being the host of the practical part of the course.

The course began with an introductory presentation by Commander Michael Runde (DEU Navy) who briefed the participants with an Overview of the Vienna Document 11 (historical background, previous agreements, the need to make regular updates, etc.), positioning it onto the “genealogical tree” of arms control.



In the control tower

During the day the audience could listen to lectures delivered by LtCol Marijan Jozić “*The role of the Vienna Document 2011 as part of CSBMs from the NATO point of view*” (from the point of view of NATO), Mr Marijan Barić “*Vienna Document 2011—inspections in Ukraine and the overall situation (recent events)*” (from the point of view of the MFEA HR in the light of the crisis in UA), then LtCol (ret.) László Szabó, PhD (about the geopolitical questions in general and the geopolitical aspects of the treaty), Mr Tamás Lattmann, PhD (the legal aspects of the treaty).

The second working day was consecrated to the preparation, and in this spirit was delivered the presentations from the three presenters: CDR Michael Runde, LtCol Marijan Jozić and LtCol Cecilia Montes de Oca (“*National experience in the planning and conduct of a Chapter IX Inspection*”). The presentations were followed by syndicate work, separating the participants into three groups (escorting, inspecting and evaluating teams).

On the last working day the participants have visited Cerklje Airbase and conducted a practical exercise at the 15. Aviation Regiment in Slovenia. The commander of the base and his colleagues has shared comprehensive information with the participants – according to the instructions and in the spirit of the Treaty. The whole visit’s atmosphere was an extremely friendly one, together with the closing ceremony, with lunch, exchanging of gifts and certificates.



CDR Michael Runde

Conclusion

The lecturers professionalism and experience, as well as their presentations, were highly appreciated by the participants. According to the participants’ evaluation, the course was successful, very interesting and well organized. Most of the participants were members of national authorities



Group photo in Cerklje AB, SI

The participants were highly motivated during the course and they showed deep interest in the subject matter.

This event proved to be a good example of a strong cooperation between RACVIAC and the Verification Centre of the Bundeswehr respectively. RACVIAC, in cooperation with its partner of this successful event, will continue to promote the issue of the Vienna Document in particular, and arms control in general.

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