

Overview

Annex A

“New Security Challenges for South-Eastern Europe”

SSR-10-CF

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Dates	10 th to 12 th December 2014
Venue(s)	RACVIAC facilities at the "Vitez Damir Martić" military barracks Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, Croatia
Background	<p>The subject event is a continuation of the last year joint Conference on the “European Union External Border Regime” which was the first RACVIAC’s activity to be developed in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Office in Croatia, and the Alumni Association of the George C. Marshall Center, Croatia.</p> <p>The process of EU accession of the SEE countries, aspiring to full membership in the EU is to be complemented with all the necessary steps of adaptation at a national level, particularly in view of the EU Security Strategy. Thus, looking from a geopolitical point of view, the region must define a common political and security outlook vis-à-vis the new security threats that lie ahead, that are already arising or will possibly arise in the near future.</p>
Purpose & Objectives	<p>The purpose of this joint event is to continue addressing the transformation processes in South-Eastern Europe (SEE) in the view of the EU and NATO membership responsibilities and readiness in the area of security. The Conference is aimed at bringing together representatives from the SEE countries whose international position is shifting following Croatian entry into the EU in terms of becoming front-line countries bordering with the EU area. The main Conference objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ To outline new security challenges for Europe in general and SEE in particular (in view of the NATO and EU enlargement and recent developments in Ukraine);▪ To provide participants with the opportunity to outline national considerations on the above security challenges in SEE;▪ To look into the rationale for the implementation of the provisions of the current EU Security Strategy in view of the increasing illegal migration and related threats to the Southern Mediterranean EU-member countries;▪ To provide participants from NATO and EU member states and the Schengen aspirant Croatia and other regional non-EU countries with a platform for discussing the challenges posed by Illegal migration from Northern Africa and the Middle East and other related issues;▪ To assess the needs for a sound financial basis for the necessary procurement of military equipment to assure the minimum safety of EU and NATO member states (Pooling & Sharing / Smart Defence);▪ To provide participants with the opportunity to outline national efforts to provide a financial basis in view of their ongoing or expected future contributions to regional security and stability.
Participation	Approximately total of 30 participants, subject-matter experts preferably from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Ministries of the Interior, Ministries of Defence, Ministries of Economy, and Ministries of Finance. Terms of national participation and financial arrangements will be specified in the corresponding Invitation Letter and Administration Information.
Methodology	The event is designed as an expert forum and it will be conducted in the form of conference panels. The Conference working language will be English.
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