



CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector

“New Security Challenges in SEE”



Co-Funded by Austria and Norway

Dates	14 - 16 December 2009
Venue	RACVIAC, Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, Croatia
Background	<p>Parliamentary oversight of the security sector is a new phenomenon in Europe. It was not until 1989 that both Western European states with a long democratic tradition and new democracies in Eastern Europe started implementing oversight mechanisms. Various countries have adopted different systems of security sector oversight, as reflected in differences in legislation and institutions involved. Parliamentary tools for exercising oversight of the security sector are Security Committees. Their efficiency is directly dependent on their capabilities to work in accordance with the following preconditions: clearly defined constitutional and legal powers, customary practices, resources, expertise and political will.</p> <p>With this seminar RACVIAC tries to serve as a forum that helps in building and developing a common understanding on the implementation of the above-mentioned Parliamentary tools on security issues in SEE Region.</p>
Purpose & Objectives	<p>The purpose of the Conference is to bring together representatives of Parliamentary Security Committees to produce a regional forum designed for comprehensive discussions on “New Security Challenges in SEE”, which are common in the work of Parliamentary Security Committees in Southeast European countries and can be basis for standardization in this field. The objectives are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To discuss new security challenges in SE Europe, which are common in the work of Parliamentary Security Committees in SEE countries• To define new security challenges in the way that could be acceptable for all countries in the region• To discuss and propose adequate parliamentary tools to react to those challenges• To discuss possible ways how to react to new security challenges in the sense of regional cooperation in this area.• To discuss possible ways of Military Preparation for future integrations into international security organizations• To Examine the best international practices in parliamentary oversight of the security sector• To share experience on effective Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector among countries in SEE region, with the aim to find mutually acceptable courses of action
Participants	<p>Approximately 35 participants, namely three from each of the following countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Moldova, Montenegro and Serbia. Representatives of the other MAG countries as well as NATO, OSCE, RCC and DCAF are also invited. The conference is designed specifically for parliamentarians who are members of Security Committees, civilian officials working in the field of defense, military and law enforcement officers, judicial authorities, representatives and academics.</p>
Methodology	<p>The conference will comprise speeches by key role officials, followed by Question& Answer sessions. A moderated panel discussion will close the conference. During the Conference, working language will be local and English with the simultaneous interpretation.</p>
POC	<p>Lieutenant Colonel Konstantinos ALEXOPOULOS Tel.: 00 385 1 333 0 822, Fax: 00 385 1 333 0 829; E-mail address: kalexopoulos@racviac.org; web: www.racviac.org</p>

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