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Civil-Military Approach in EU Crisis Management 18 - 20 October 2011

IRC-03-S

EXTERNAL REPORT

Background

Both military and civil authorities have their own assets for responding to crisis situations. However, they frequently have to cooperate and pool their capabilities. More specifically, in order to ensure an integrated use of available resources in a crisis situation, steps such as interoperability, support synchronization, unification of efforts and definition of a common strategy should be further elaborated, which means that civil-military Crisis Management has to be integrated with the overall emergency management approach. A comprehensive civil-military approach in Crisis Management leads to the establishment of a framework for an effective handling of a crisis situation, including defining the basic strategies, assumptions, policies, operational goals, objectives and mechanisms.

During the negotiation process for EU membership, candidate/potential candidate countries are expected to accept the *acquis* in a number of fields, including the CFSP and CSDP of the EU. This implies the implementation of different EU strategies and other relevant reforms. In that sense, sharing the experience gained during the process of acceptance and implementation of EU standards in Crisis Management with and among SEE countries is of vital importance for their future accession to the EU.

Acknowledgements

RACVIAC would like to thank the Ministry of Defence (MK) and the Technical Assistance Information Exchange Instrument (TAIEX) of the European Commission for their organizational and financial contributions which made this event possible. The Centre extends its appreciation to all the speakers and participants who took an active part in the seminar.

Purpose

The purpose of the seminar was to support and foster joint cooperation in the field of civil-military approach in Crisis Management among SEE authorities, as part of the overall security cooperation in SEE. The event aimed to increase awareness of the importance of harmonized civil-military approach in Crisis Management among SEE countries in order to ensure a higher level of preparedness for prospective crises and to harmonize practical and operational solutions with EU standards and regulations in this field.

Objectives were:

- to present and discuss the parameters of the civil-military approach in Crisis Management;
- to analyse security risks and experience gained from the applied approaches;
- to present the progress and achievements of established civil-military bodies;
- to learn from the experiences of other countries in this field;
- to foster EU integration of the SEE countries by exchanging opinions;
- to work towards reaching the possible synergies between civil and military capabilities in Crisis Management.

Venue and participation

The seminar was held at RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation, from 18 to 20 October 2011. It was organized as a three-day event, two of which were working days. The seminar gathered a total of 41 participants, from SEE's EU candidate and potential candidate countries.



Family photo

The Programme

Mr Milan Janicijevic, the seminar Moderator, welcomed all the participants on behalf of RACVIAC Staff, after which he gave the floor to RACVIAC Director Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski for his opening remarks.

RACVIAC Director pointed out that considerable progress has been ensured in the field of EU Crisis Management through a workplan developed to promote synergies between the EU civilian and military capability development and the importance of concentrating on a concrete delivery of capabilities leading to operational improvements. During the negotiation process for EU membership candidate/potential candidate countries are expected to accept the *acquis* in a number of fields and implement different EU strategies and other relevant reforms. In this regard, Ambassador Todorčevski underlined that sharing the experience gained during the process of acceptance and implementation of EU standards in Crisis Management, which is an important part of the CFSP/CSDP, through activities such as this seminar, is of vital importance for SEE countries' future accession to the EU.



From left to right: Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski, Prof. Pieter Volten, Ms Gordana Naumovska and Mr Zandee

The event keynote speaker was Ms Gordana Naumovska, Assistant Head of International Cooperation Department in Crisis Management Center (MK). Ms Naumovska delivered a presentation on Crisis Management as a new security concept, and its conceptual, normative and organizational setup. She highlighted the following goals of the Crisis Management system:

- Developing a Crisis Management system which enables timely and efficient prevention, early warning and reaction in case of any kind of risk, threat and danger;
- Improving the coordination of intelligence community, including the quality of information necessary to assess the risks to security;

- Coordinated and efficient use of resources in crisis situations;
- Civil-military cooperation.

The event proceeded with a lecture by the Chairman of the Centre for European Security Studies, Professor Pieter Volten (University of Groningen). He addressed the topic "Civil direction of the military: Essential but often overlooked dimension". In his lecture, Professor Volten pointed out that the civil direction of the military was the core of a system of democratic governance in defence policy making, which is based on four aspects of democratic style of civil-military relations:

1. A clear vision of authority between the head of state and head of government;
2. Executive oversight of the Army through defence ministries;
3. A popular perception of civilian and democratic control of the armed forces;
4. Legislative oversight of the defence organization.

The last speaker to address the audience during the first working day was Mr Dignus Hendrik Zandee, Senior Research Associate, Clingendael Institute (Netherlands). He addressed the topic: "Overview of EU Crisis Management structure and tools". Mr Zandee emphasized that the EU had entered a new era with a unique potential to implement the 'Comprehensive Approach' and that the coming years should be fully exploited to bring about further change, through increased European cooperation, thus allowing for optimal and most effective planning and use of scarce resources – both civilian and military. In order to achieve this, Mr Zandee pointed out, the EU Member States should improve and pool the civilian and military capabilities needed to support Europe's external and internal security. However, this requires primarily political will, as well as the development of corresponding strategies, institutions, financing mechanisms and capabilities, which will allow political leaders to realize Europe's security ambitions.

Following the speakers' lectures the floor was open for participants' discussion and questions.



Working session

The second working day started with an address by Prof. Lidija Georgieva, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" (MK), on the topic: "Development of civilian-military capabilities". Prof. Georgieva

underlined that only a common understanding of the way in which efficient civil-military relations should be developed can lead to successful Crisis Management. The management of a crisis situation is a long-lasting process, and the development of a sustainable, long-term solution implies involvement of more parties: governmental, academics, NGOs etc. as well as the discussion of challenges, goals and results among state institutions and academy.

The next speaker was Mr Josip Sajko, Head of the National Protection and Rescue Directorate, Republic of Croatia. Mr Sajko delivered a speech on civil protection development in terms of civilian-military capabilities from the point of view of the Croatian national civil protection system. Addressing the seminar participants, he emphasized the importance of the implementation of EU standards as a basis of civil protection forces and the fulfillment of all obligations arising from EU membership.

The seminar proceeded with presentations by Lt. Col. Giuseppe Zirone (ITA CC) who presented the Italian Force of Carabineers, including its structure and tasks. Lt. Col. Zirone explained the mixed nature of "Carabinieri", being the police force (endowed with general policing functions) with a military status. He also gave an overview of the stability policing concept, as developed during international operations conducted by major organizations such as the United Nations, NATO, the European Union and the African Union, with a special emphasis on the role of the Carabineers both during missions abroad and in the homeland, and the way their experience could be used to develop policing capacities in other countries.



Working session

Subsequently, Mr Niklas Lindskog addressed the audience on the topic: "Development of civilian capabilities". The objective of the presentation was to use the Folke Bernadotte Academy as an example of a tool or mechanism created within a national setting to strengthen and increase effective contribution to Crisis Management. The function of the Academy is to coordinate and cooperate with civilian, police and military actors, hence making the tool multifunctional and relevant for a wide range of platforms and forums. The Folke Bernadotte Academy is an organization dealing with policy and research as well as with training, recruitment and mission support, which makes it a

relevant actor in all the steps within the process of Crisis Management. In the ten years of the Academy's existence, significant progress has been made in terms of the Swedish contribution to civilian crisis management and the level of cooperation and coordination among different crisis management actors.



Working session

The last speaker was Mr Branko Kromar, Slovenian Ministry of Defence, who gave an example of Slovenian contribution to the development of civilian-military capabilities in Crisis Management. During his lecture, Mr Kromar also covered the following topics: Decision-making process – a sensitive issue in CFSP/CSDP; European Battle Group (EUBG)/Multinational Land Forces (MLF); Validity of OSCE CoC; Research approach to the EU and Lisbon Treaty.

Following the lecturers' presentations, the participants were given an opportunity to engage in fruitful discussions.

Seminar closing remarks

The seminar entitled "Civil-military approach in EU Crisis management" was an event organized by the European Commission in RACVIAC. It contributed to fostering joint cooperation in the field of civil-military approach in EU crisis management among SEE authorities, as part of the overall security cooperation in SEE. The first working day was focused on the survey of the European crisis management structure and tools and the civil direction of the military. The second working day offered presentations on the development of civilian-military capabilities from national points of view and a case study on police development: The role of carabinieri corps in international missions.

The seminar successfully provided a comprehensive platform for exchanging experience and information on the common priorities of the EU integration in South East Europe. This event has proved that RACVIAC's efforts are part of the capacity-building process in SEE, in terms of fostering European standards and preparing the countries of the Region for accession to the EU.

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