



## **RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation**

### **Conference: Promoting Security Strategies and Emerging Policy Priorities in SEE**

**03-05 December 2012**

**IRC- 07-CF**

#### **Background**

The evolving security environment in the early twenty-first century creates new challenges for all, including the South East European (SEE) countries. To ensure security and meet the expectations of our citizens, we must be ready to shape events. Global challenges and key threats to security and stability in the twenty-first century are: threats of a politico-military nature, terrorism, organized crime, illegal immigration, discrimination and intolerance, threats to cyber security and energy security, environmental degradation and climate change. Respect for and compliance with international law and principles of the United Nations Charter and other relevant strategies, such as the European Security Strategy (ESS), adopted by the European Council in December 2003, and a new Strategic Concept for the Defence and Security of the Members of NATO, adopted at the NATO Summit in Lisbon 2010, remain central to the efforts to prevent and combat threats to stability. These documents and strategies have established principles and set clear objectives for advancing the security interests based on core values. However, despite all that has been achieved, their implementation remains a work in progress, particularly with regard to the effectuation of common objectives and full protection of the universal and perpetual values of individual liberty, democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

#### **The objectives**

- To review the achievements of the EU security strategy, NATO strategic concept and the strategies of other organizations;
- To present measures needed in order to mitigate the negative impact on security;
- To present achievements and current

emerging policy priorities in the participating countries;

- To exchange views on the challenges encountered within the national security policies in the SEE countries;
- To highlight and promote further security co-operation among the SEE countries.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Conference was to give an overview and share lessons learned on security strategies and emerging fundamental policies and priorities in the participating countries.

#### **Aim**

This event aimed to contribute to a more cohesive and effective international and regional security cooperation in responding to global threats and challenges.

#### **Event Organizer**

The event was planned, organized and executed by RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation.

#### **Venue, duration and participation**

The Conference took place in RACVIAC from 03 to 05 December 2012. It was organized as a three-day event, two of which were working days, gathering a total of 51 participants: senior decision-making officials and experts from the relevant ministries dealing with the event topic and nominated by the contributing countries from the SEE region, representatives of NATO HQ Brussels, NATO HQ Sarajevo, UNDP Mission in Croatia, UNODC from Vienna, OSCE from Vienna, OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, SEESAC, professors from the

University of "SS Cyril and Methodius", Belgrade Centre for Security Policy, Centre for Security Studies from Sarajevo, Centre for Peace Studies from Zagreb, Institute for Democracy and Mediation from Albania, Faculties of Political Sciences, participants and representatives from RACVIAC Member countries and university students.



*Family Photo*

### **Agenda and Opening**

The Conference comprised speeches and presentations given by the representatives of the above-mentioned institutions, as well as national presentations, exchange of views and experiences and open discussions. The Conference started on 03 December with a welcome reception at the Barbara Club. The first working day was opened and moderated by the acting IRC Pillar Programme Manager, Mr Milan Janičević, who announced a welcome address by RACVIAC Director Ambassador Branimir Mandić. After expressing a warm welcome to the prominent guests on behalf of RACVIAC, Ambassador Mandić said he was proud to note that Southeast European countries already had substantial cooperation experience and they are now in the position to unselfishly share their experience and lessons learned with other countries even beyond the region. The Director reiterated the message that has been sent many times: “the best way to meet the challenges is by working in cooperative partnerships with neighbours and other nations”. In that light, the Ambassador emphasized that RACVIAC strived not only to maintain, but also to further extend the cooperative approach to overall security issues in the SEE region, as reflected in RACVIAC Strategy 2012-2015. As regards the importance of security strategies, the RACVIAC Director highlighted the following part from the EU Security Strategy: “Coherent policies are also needed regionally,

especially in dealing with conflicts. Problems are rarely solved on a single country basis, or without regional support”. He said that the event aimed to contribute to a more cohesive and effective international and regional security cooperation in responding to global threats and challenges.



*Opening, Ambassador Branimir Mandić*

### **Keynote speech**

Following welcome addresses, the Conference participants had the privilege to listen to a keynote speech delivered by Mr **Rok Kosirnik** from the Force Planning Directorate, NATO HQ Brussels. Mr Kosirnik referred to the NATO Strategic Concept 2010 and went on to explain the current security environment, the meaning of defence and deterrence, which is based on an appropriate mix of nuclear and conventional capabilities, and remains a core element of overall strategy and crisis management accentuating the greatest responsibility of the Alliance to protect and defend territory and populations against attacks. Finally, in the context of promoting international security through cooperation and NATO Open Door Policy, Mr Kosirnik noted that NATO sought its security at the lowest possible level of forces. NATO’s enlargement has contributed substantially to the security of Allies, while the prospect of further enlargement and the spirit of cooperative security have advanced stability in Europe more broadly.



*Keynote speaker Mr Rok Kosirnik*

After the keynote speeches, **Mr Sandro Knezović, PhD**, from the Institute for International Relations, Zagreb (HR), delivered a presentation on the Achievements of European Security Strategy - Croatian Point of View.

Mr Sandro Knezović outlined the historical emergence and development of European Security Strategy, emphasizing its main achievements and the main factors contributing to the achievements of the European Security Strategy from the Croatian point of view.

**Mr Rohan Maxwell**, Head of Politico-Military Advisory Section, NATO Headquarters Sarajevo, delivered a presentation on "Maintaining a Safe and Secure Environment and Euro-Atlantic Integrations". In the context of the role of NATO Headquarters Sarajevo, Mr Rohan Maxwell shortly described history retrospect of NATO's role and current developments in the PfP Programme and NATO accession.



*Mr Rohan Maxwell*

The next presentation was entitled "OSCE Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in the Twenty-First Century". It was delivered by **Mr Robert Hampshire** from the OSCE Political-Affairs Office. The presentation covered transnational threats, explaining how transnational threats had become an issue for the OSCE. Mr Robert Hampshire set out the OSCE's comparative advantage and outlined Political Strategies and Decisions such as the OSCE Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in the 21st Century. Furthermore, Mr Robert Hampshire explained the OSCE's capacity to address security and stability issues and linking OSCE mission to the reality of the security dimensions.



*Mr Robert Hampshire*

**Mr Sorin Sterie**, former Director of the Stability Pact's Working Table on Security Issues, delivered the presentation on "Regional Security Cooperation Mechanisms". Mr Sterie started his presentation by providing the Stability Pact context and the post-Stability Pact situation. He highlighted the mechanisms of interests in the SEE region and Regional Security Cooperation initiatives such as the SEDM: Southeast European Defense Ministerial, Adriatic Charter (A5), The SEEC – Western Balkans Security Cooperation Forum, RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation in SEE, SEESAC and DPPI Secretariat. Finally, he presented current and potential mechanisms in the SEE.

**Prof. Dr. Lidija Georgieva** from the University "SS. Cyril and Methodius", Skopje (MK), delivered a presentation on the topic of "The Consideration of Security Issues and Impacts in the SEE Countries acceding to the EU". Prof. Dr. Georgieva presented a survey on security issues and their impact towards the SEE countries integration process. In that light, she approached the mentioned survey from the angle of complex security and from the angle of community security. Subsequently, Prof. Dr. Georgieva expressed her opinion that the countries from the SEE should have more common goals and joint efforts. In such doing, the players should have a more critical and open communication, which would contribute to recognizing the real needs and a more sincere collaboration.



*Prof. Dr. Lidija Georgieva*

**Mr Diman Dimov**, Project Coordinator, UNODC Vienna, delivered a presentation on the “Trends and Emerging Policies Related to Terrorism and Organized Crime”. He highlighted the latest trends in organized crime and presented details on drugs, human trafficking and firearms trafficking. Furthermore, he outlined the content of UNODC Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe, its guiding principles and the implementation status.



*Working session*

The first working day was closed with the presentation given by **Mr Krunoslav Katica**, DRR Consultant, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Zagreb (HR), who acquainted the participants with the UNDP mission in Croatia and its activities, presenting “Preventive UNDP Human Security Projects enabling Sustainable Development” and putting a special emphasis on the activities within Human Security Projects such as: SALW, arms collection campaign and Living Life Without Violence campaign. In addition, he presented the achievements of the Safe Community Programme and Disaster Risk Reduction project as part of the Regional Programme on Disaster Risk Reduction in South East Europe.

Mr Katica concluded his presentation by outlining future activities of the UNDP in Croatia.

The second working day, moderated by **Ms Đana Luša**, PhD, Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Political Science, Zagreb (HR), started with the presentation “A More Self-Centered Society in the Context of the Policy Priorities”, given by **Mr Marko Savković**, M. Phil., Belgrade Centre for Security Policy, Belgrade (RS). Mr Savković provided general information about the impacts of security in the Republic of Serbia, including the level of corruption, overall standard of living (quality of

life), budget deficit, effects of global recession and quality of managing irregular migration(s). He stressed the necessity to reach consensus on a number of issues and recommended a potential course of action.

The presentation by **Mr Davor Ćutić**, Ministry of Defence (HR), provided the participants with “Cooperative Defence Policy Priorities in SEE - Comparative Analysis”. Mr Ćutić outlined military expenditure, strategic documents and multilateral solutions in the SEE by giving detailed information and description of individual countries in the region. He stressed the necessity to build a shared understanding on how NATO can improve coordination of the allies’ capability contributions, through three components in particular: prioritization, specialization and cooperation in resource sharing on common requirements. He said it was necessary to work together in order to avoid needless duplication with the pooling and sharing initiative.



*Mr Davor Ćutić*

**Mr Foto Duro** from the Institute for Democracy and Mediation, Tirana (AL), delivered the next presentation entitled “The National Security Strategy of Albania in a Regional Security Context”. Mr Duro informed the participants about the National Security Strategies (Regional and Albanian Documents), the definition and strategy model. Subsequently, he explained security features in the SEE region, as well as threat and risk perceptions. Afterwards, he made a comparison between national security strategies and other strategic documents and concluded with the main points from the Albanian National Security Strategy.

The second working day proceeded with the presentation entitled “All Threats and All Government Approach to Security - from Rhetoric to Reality via Implementation and Policy Change -

MK Case" given by **Ms Gordana Naumovska**, Crisis Management Centre, Skopje (MK). Ms Naumovska presented the strategic framework and implementation of the National Security and Defence Concept (2003) and National Security Strategy (2008). Ms Naumovska went on to explain the functioning of the Crisis Management System, coordination and cooperation and risk approach methodology.

#### **Session: Presentations on the Emerging Policy Priorities in SEE Countries; National Points of View from the SEE Countries**

The second working day was closed with the session "Presentations on Emerging Policy Priorities in SEE Countries; National Points of View from the SEE Countries" given by the representatives of the SEE countries (AL, BA, HR, MK, ME, RS).



*Working session*

#### **Conference Closure**

At the end of the official part of the Conference, RACVIAC Deputy Director **Brigadier General Zdravko Jakop** addressed the participants. He expressed his belief that the established objectives were achieved through the contribution of distinguished speakers and prominent auditorium. He stressed that these objectives would contribute to a more cohesive and effective international and regional security cooperation in responding to global threats and challenges highlighted during presentations. General Jakop said that Southeast European countries already had substantial cooperation experience and they were now in the position to unselfishly share their experience and lessons learned with other countries even beyond the region, as proven by this event. He thanked once again everybody for their active participation in the event and cordially invited them to attend future RACVIAC events as well.

#### **Summary**

The Conference was an opportunity to give an overview of the achievements of security strategies of international organizations and to present emerging policy priorities in the participating countries. Furthermore, it allowed the participants to exchange views on the challenges encountered within national security policies in the SEE countries. The event also provided the opportunity to explore and discuss current security issues in the SEE region, which was deemed truly valuable. The attendees expressed their satisfaction with the composition of participants and lecturers, as well as with the overall organization of the event.

*Compiled by: Mr Milan Janićijević, Acting Programme Manager and Maj Kasim Podžić, SME, IRC Pillar, Activity Coordinator.*