



Centre for Security Cooperation

Annex A

Overview

“A Decade of Peace Support Operations (PSO): South Eastern Europe (SEE) - from Consumers to Producers of Security”

Dates	16-17 October 2012
Venue	RACVIAC, Rakitje, Zagreb, Croatia
Background	<p>The initial idea for organizing a Conference entitled “A Decade of Peace Support Operations (PSO) in South Eastern Europe (SEE): from Consumers to Producers of Security” stems from one of the main conclusions of the seminar “Security Sector Reform (SSR) in the Context of Peace Support Operations (PSO), Top-Down Approach” held in the Peace Support Operations Training Centre (PSOTC), Sarajevo, in the period of 12 – 15 December 2011.</p> <p>In the year 2012 the majority of the SEE countries are celebrating 10 and some even 15 years of participation in Peace Support Operations (PSOs). In this period the countries of the region went through the process of security and defence system transition, using tools of security sector reform. Thus, today they are not only consumers, but also producers of security. The analysis of the standards achieved in security sector over more than 10 past years, along with the expenditures and troop contributions of the SEE countries, which are all Partnership for Peace members and some NATO members, proves the aforementioned hypothesis.</p> <p>The upcoming Conference has been envisaged as a third event in the long-term project addressing principal aspects of SSR in the context of participation of the SEE countries in Peace Support Operations.</p> <p>We believe that the Conference of this kind can enhance the understanding of and involvement in the execution of SSR activities in the PSO mission areas on one hand, as well as the understanding of SSR and SSR related activities by the state structures deploying personnel to international Peace Support Operations, on the other.</p>
Purpose & Objectives	<p>The main objective of the Conference is to proudly present the efforts and results of the SEE countries in PSOs in the period of more than ten years and to increase the visibility of the SEE countries in the very important segment of both national and international relations, which PSOs undoubtedly are.</p> <p>The Conference is aimed at providing participants with the analysis of regional and national strategies, plans and efforts of the SEE countries in PSOs over more than ten past years, with the focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Theoretical and conceptual approach to the phenomenon of PSO through the engagement after post-conflict transition;- Effects of participation in PSOs;- Historical facts and data on participation in PSOs;- Legitimacy issue of PSOs;- UN, NATO, EU and OSCE operations and missions.

The second group of objectives of the Conference is to present national analyses of participation in PSOs, with the focus on:

- Participation of SEE countries in PSOs;
- Troop contributions and new forms of engagement in PSOs;
- Defence expenditures in PSOs;
- Gender and PSOs;
- Future modes of engagement in PSOs.

The main purpose of the Conference is to confirm the hypothesis that over more than 10 past years of their contribution to numerous PSOs, the SEE countries have become the providers of security, obtaining legitimacy and visibility within the international community. Being small nations and operating in the extremely demanding post-conflict and current crisis environment, the SEE countries have contributed perhaps even more than could have been expected considering their economic strength.

Participants The Conference targets the following audience:

High military and civilian officials from Ministries of Defence and General Staff;

High officials from Ministries of Foreign Affairs;

Representatives of Parliamentary Defence and Security Committees;

High representatives from UN, NATO, EU and OSCE departments for PSO are most welcome to give their organisations' insight on the participation of the SEE countries in PSOs.

Detailed specification of national participation in the Conference will be provided in the Invitation letter.

Total number of participants: 30 - 35.

Methodology The Conference will comprise general overviews in the first panel and presentations given by national delegations in the second panel. The Conference will be concluded by a plenary session.

National representatives are expected to prepare and deliver presentations related to the participation in PSOs, highlighting positive and negative experiences and the lessons learned.

The working language will be English.

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