



**20th Workshop
of the PfP Consortium Study Group
“Regional Stability in South East Europe”**

**“15 Years of Peace-Building Activities in the
Western Balkans –
Lessons Learnt and Current Challenges”**

23-26 April 2010

Chateau Rothschild, Reichenau / Rax

Outline and Programme as of 15 March 2010

Purpose:

The Study Group Regional Stability in South East Europe has been assessing the post-war development in the Western Balkan countries and its implications for the region and beyond since 1999. Embedded in the wider academic framework of both the PfP Consortium of Defence Academies and Security Studies Institutes as well as the security-political research in the Austrian Ministry of Defence and Sports, its main focus is to elaborate major conflict areas and propose possible solutions to local authorities and international actors alike. During the last two decades, the region of the Western Balkans has been on the daily agenda of Transatlantic, European and Austrian institutions with the goal of enhancing capabilities in the field of conflict management and peace support. Recent developments in the region have given rise to the main topic of the upcoming 20th workshop of the Study Group entitled “*15 Years of Peace-Building Activities in the Western Balkans – Lessons Learnt and Current Challenges*” to be convened at the Chateau Rothschild, Reichenau/Rax, Austria, from 23 to 26 April 2010.

Topic:

Since the signing of the Dayton Peace Accord in November 1995 and the end of the Kosovo war in June 1999, the Western Balkans has become an important area for international actors engaged in peace support activities to put their tools and concepts for building peace in war-torn societies to the test. Enormous financial and personnel resources have been invested from the international side since 1995. Their main goals were to help regional actors to overcome the ethno-territorial conflicts, to build, respectively rebuild, well-functioning state institutions, to foster the building of democratic political systems and to initiate cooperative processes between the former parties of conflict.

Accordingly, the range of international activities in the processes of peace-building has encompassed tools so widely diverse as the launching of various military and police missions (by the UN, NATO and the EU) with changing mandates and tasks, the setting up of protectorate powers in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo in order to “facilitate” and “accelerate” state-building, the creation of permanent structures for regional cooperation as well as of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY). The latter has played a significant, but politically controversial role regarding reconciliation. Starting in the year 2000, the perspective of integration into NATO and the EU has become a central factor of influence as far as internal reforms and their contribution to regional peace-building have been concerned for the majority of states and entities in the Western Balkans.

However, the results achieved after 15 years of peace-building engagement in the Western Balkans should evoke neither too euphoric nor too pessimistic attitudes. In terms of military security, the Balkan peace processes can be regarded as mostly successful. On the other hand, lasting tensions caused by ethno-political and/or territorial issues and differently perceived “truths” about the previous wars by regional actors paralleled by half-assed reforms conducted in political environments with partly continuing criminal networks further represent huge challenges in the processes of conflict transformation.

The upcoming workshop will address the following key questions:

- 1) Which lessons for international efforts in conflict management can be drawn from the experience in the Western Balkans regarding the attempts
 - to reduce political insecurity by supporting state- and democracy-building;
 - to establish a peaceful and cooperative security environment and
 - to overcome hate perceptions and to approach a climate of positive peace.
- 2) What is unique in regard to Balkan peace-building activities? Which elements could be useful for other post-war regions?
- 3) What has to be done in terms of security, political and economic means to improve the current overall situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo and in other parts of the region, which pass through a complex peace process?

Panels:

1) Lessons Learnt from Supporting State-(Re)building and Democratic Development

(Keywords: protectorates and other international tools; democratic engineering vs. local ownership; challenges in the process of democratic transition; “sticks and carrots” from outside; criteria for the “well-functioning” of institutions; corruption as a serious obstacle for institution-building; western criteria in a post-war environment; the meaning of “self sustainability”)

2) Lessons Learnt from Establishing a Peaceful and Cooperative Security Environment

(Keywords: experiences with different tasks of police and military missions; potential of EU and NATO/PfP integration processes; regional security cooperation; experiences with robust criminal networks)

3) Lessons Learnt from Fostering Transitional Justice and Reconciliation

(Keywords: importance of the ICTY / war crime issue; efforts and obstacles for confidence-building/reconciliation; human rights standards; dealing with ethno-political manipulation in the post-war period)

4) Current Challenges

(Keywords: preventing BiH from becoming a “failed state”; Kosovo in the post-status period; other peace processes in the region)

Preliminary Programme (as of 15 March 2010)

Friday, 23 April 2010

- till 18.30 Arrival of the participants
- 19.30 – 19.40 **Introduction**
Andreas F. WANNEMACHER, Directorate for Security Policy, Austrian Ministry of Defence and Sports, Vienna (conf.)
- 19.40 – 20.00 **Words of Welcome**
General Raimund SCHITTENHELM, Commandant, Austrian National Defence Academy, Vienna (conf.)
- 20.00 **Dinner Reception**
- Dinner Speech**
Hannes SWOBODA, Member of the European Parliament, Brussels (conf.)

Saturday, 24 April 2010

- 07.00 – 09.00 Breakfast
- 09.00 – 09.30 **Opening Session**
Ernst M. FELBERBAUER, Austrian National Defence Academy, Vienna (conf.)
- Introduction to PfP-Consortium Activities**
Benedikt A. HENSELLEK, Institute for Peace Support and Conflict Management, Austrian National Defence Academy, Vienna (conf.)
- Administrative Remarks**
Andreas F. WANNEMACHER, Directorate for Security Policy, Austrian Ministry of Defence and Sports, Vienna (conf.)
- 09.15 – 09.30 **Opening Statement**
MG Johann PUCHER, Director for Security Policy, Austrian Ministry of Defence and Sports, Vienna (conf.)
- 09.30 – 11.00 **PANEL 1: Lessons Learnt from Supporting State-(Re)building and Democratic Development**
- Chair:**
Predrag JUREKOVIĆ, Institute for Peace Support and Conflict Management, Austrian National Defence Academy, Vienna (conf.)
- Speakers:**
Michael SCHMUNK, Ambassador, Envoy for Universities, Foundations and Think Tanks, German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin: *“15 Years of Peace-, State- and Nation-Building: Basic Lessons from the Balkan Lab”* (conf.).
- Michael DAXNER, Berghof Conflict Research, Berlin: *“Hindsight is Easier than Foresight: Taking Stock of International Engagement in Kosovo”* (conf.)
- Žarko KORAIĆ, Member of Parliament/Former Serbian Deputy Prime Minister, Belgrade: *“The Serbian Experience in Dealing with Democratic Transition”* (conf.)

- 11.00 – 11.30 **Coffee Break**
- 11.30 – 13.00 **PANEL 2: Lessons Learnt from Establishing a Peaceful and Cooperative Security Environment**
- Chair:**
Gregor ZORE, Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces, Geneva (conf.)
- Speakers:**
Cornelius FRIESENDORF, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt, Frankfurt: *“Law Enforcement and the Military-Police Interface in Peace Operations: Lessons from Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo”* (conf.)
- Mladen NAKIĆ, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Zagreb: *“EU and NATO Integration: Their Impact on Regional Security and Cooperation”* (inv.)
- Ivan MILIĆ, Montenegrin Ministry of the Interior, Podgorica: *“A Montenegrin View on Regional Police Cooperation”* (conf.)
- 13.00 – 14.15 **Lunch Break**
- 14.15 – 15.45 **PANEL 3: Lessons Learnt from Fostering Transitional Justice and Reconciliation**
- Chair:**
Filip EJDUS, University of Belgrade/Department of Political Science, Belgrade (conf.)
- Speakers:**
Sonja BISERKO, Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia, Belgrade: *“Challenges in Reconciliation Processes – A View from Serbia”* (conf.)
- Žarko PUHOVSKI, University of Zagreb – Department of Philosophy/Austrian Study Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Zagreb: *“Challenges in Reconciliation Processes – A View from Croatia”* (conf.)
- Nena TROMP, International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, The Hague: *“The Role of the ICTY in Peace-Building”* (conf.)
- 15.45 – 16.15 **Coffee Break**
- 16.15 – 17.30 **Interactive Discussion**
- Chair:**
Franz-Lothar ALTMANN, Bucharest State University, Munich (conf.)
- 20.00 **Dinner**

Sunday, 25 April 2010

07.00 – 09.00

Breakfast

09.00 – 10.45

PANEL 4: Current Challenges

Chair:

Denis HADŽOVIĆ, Centre for Security Studies, Sarajevo (inv.)

Speakers:

Senad PEČANIN, News Magazine Dani, Sarajevo: *“Reflecting State- and Peace-Building in BiH”* (conf.)

Ilir DEDA, Kosovar Institute for Policy Research and Development, Prishtina/Priština: *“A Kosovar View on State- and Peace-Building in Kosovo”* (conf.)

Karin MARMSOLER, International Civilian Office, Prishtina/Priština: *“An International View on State- and Peace-Building in Kosovo”* (conf.)

Dane TALESKI, Central European University, Budapest: *“Internal and External Challenges for Macedonia”* (conf.)

10.45 – 11.15

Coffee Break

11.15 – 12.00

Interactive Discussion

Moderation:

Predrag JUREKOVIĆ, Institute for Peace Support and Conflict Management, Austrian National Defence Academy, Vienna (conf.)

12.00 – 12.15

Short Summary of the Workshop and Outlook

Predrag JUREKOVIĆ, Institute for Peace Support and Conflict Management, Austrian National Defence Academy, Vienna (conf.)

12.15 – 13.15

Lunch

Side Programme

Monday, 26 April 2010

Breakfast

Departure