

Miroslav Hadzic

SECURITY SECTOR EXPERT FORMATION: ACHIEVEMENTS AND NEEDS IN SERBIA

1.8 Assessment of Security Sector Expert Formation

1.8.1 How Are the Different Experts Prepared for Their Tasks and Assignments – and How Well?

No exact data exists in FRY about the number of experts on security and defence issues. The Centre for Civil-Military Relations will prepare a questionnaire which will show what has been done until now and what will be further done in the field of security sector education. Over the last few years, many foreign experts in Yugoslavia have dealt with this topic.

The federal and republic assemblies have committees for defence and security, but those are not specialised services. Members of committees are also members of Parliament. They are politicians, not experts – they lack specific knowledge and a professional background. Also, they do not have permanent expert support services.

The President of FRY has an advisor for security and defence, but there is no evidence of his participation in the proposal for security sector reform. Also, the MoD has specialised services, but the public is not informed about their activities in this process.

In civil society, the growth of interest in defence and security sector is noticeable, but a lack of experts in this area still exists. Only one NGO (Centre for Civil-Military Relations) in FRY systematically deals with this topic.

There are only a few journalists who specialise in defence and security topics. The majority of journalists observe this topic on a daily basis.

Many of them do not have an opportunity to attend specialised courses. The Centre for Civil-Military Relations, in cooperation with the Media Centre, organised courses on this theme three years ago. The Media Centre will organise training courses for journalists in 2003. One part of the training will be defence and security issues.

1.8.2 What Courses Would Be Needed?

It is necessary to create a specialised programme that will include, among others:

- Security integration of FRY in the Euro-Atlantic community
- Budget planning and control of budget
- Conversion of the military industry
- Training for work on conditions of democratic control and oversight

Participants in courses will be Member of Parliament, parliamentary staff, representatives of the MoD and the Yugoslav Army, members of political parties, NGO activists, journalists and students.

1.8.3 What Possibilities for Expert Formation Do Exist?

There is no precise insight into specialised educational programmes in this field. As far as has been known over the last year, the Centre for European Security Studies, the University of Groningen, in cooperation with the Institute for European Studies, Belgrade, organised two workshops on security Sector Reform for members of Parliament, parliamentary staff, journalists, representatives of the MoD and Yugoslav Army and experts on civil society.

The OSCE Mission to the FRY organised two workshops 'Legislative efficiency in Security Sector' and 'Democratic Control of Armed Forces and Implementation of Code of Conduct' in October and November of 2002.

The Centre for Civil-Military Relations will hold ten workshops on ‘Democratic Control of the Army of Yugoslavia’, regarding security sector reform and modern civil-military relations, in ten towns in Serbia and Montenegro in 2003. Also, the Centre, in cooperation with G17+, will organise a winter school, ‘The Security Sector Reform’, in March 2003, for representatives of the MoD and the Yugoslav Army, members of the parliaments, members of political parties, NGO activists, journalists and students.

1.8.4 What Possibilities for Expert Formation, which You Would Consider Necessary, Are not Available and Who Would Ideally Offer Them?

There is a need for a specialist educational programme⁵³ which would include experiences of other countries in security sector reform, civil-military relations, legislative oversight, armed forces reform, respect of human rights in the security forces, role of civil society and media in the democratic control of the armed forces and the importance of joining the Euro-Atlantic community.

It should prepare scientific research, analysis and a report on security sector conditions. Regional cooperation in this field is also necessary.

1.8.5 What to Do?

We recommend organising specialist courses for:

- armed and security forces (in this case, cooperation with the state is necessary);

⁵³ Centre for Civil Military Relations, in cooperation with DCAF, has prepared an educational programme for officers of the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and General Staff HQ. This programme was not accepted by the former chief of General Staff of the Yugoslav Army.

- members and staff of parliaments, political party activists and government officers;
- actors of civil society;
- university students (specialist studies);
- journalists.