

**Call for Papers
International Conference**

«Culture and Security Sector Reform: Political, Strategic and Military
Culture in Transitional States»

CENTRE FOR CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONS

Sremski Karlovci, Hotel Danube, Serbia,

7-10 May 2009

1. Description

Security Sector Reform is recognized a central component of democratic transition. At its core, it involves the transformation of security actors and oversight mechanisms towards a model of democratic civilian control and at the same time a discursive and practical shift in policy-making. This is particularly true of those post-authoritarian or post-conflict states seeking to join Euro-Atlantic integration processes. Adherence to democratic norms of civilian control over the security sector has been a key condition for Euro-Atlantic integration of post-Communist states.

While SSR was at the centre of democratization efforts, it has more often than not concentrated on organizational structure, neglecting culture. Transformation efforts tended to be overwhelmingly focused on the restructuring of armed forces and other security actors, the establishment of legal and institutional frameworks for democratic civilian control, and to a much lesser extent the development of democratic security policy communities. However, the cultural aspect of transformation has often been neglected, leading to problems in policy-making and implementation. Little analysis of the inherited political, strategic and military cultures and their interaction and importance for the SSR process and for democratization as a whole was produced.

The aim of the conference is to explore the linkages between political, strategic and military culture in post-Communist states, and in particular in the Western Balkans. In doing so, it will seek to bridge the gap between structure and culture and offer to the academic and policy communities in the Western Balkans a better understanding of the salience of political, military and strategic cultures in the process of SSR. With this aim, we seek contributions that will address the issues of culture and SSR. The topics include, but are not limited to:

- Theoretical approaches to the study of political, strategic and military culture
- Political culture in the Western Balkans, comparatively and individual countries
- The transformation of military culture in post-Communist states
- The impact of Euro-Atlantic integration processes on strategic and military culture
- Factors influencing culture in individual states.
- The impact of culture on the Security Sector Reform in post-conflict and post-authoritarian countries.
- The role of military education in SSR

2. Organizer

Centre for Civil-Military Relations, www.ccmr-bg.org

3. Location and date

Hotel Danube, www.hoteldunav.co.yu Sremski Karlovci, Serbia, 7-10 May 2009.

Sremski Karlovci is a beautiful small town in Srem, Vojvodina. It is located between the Danube river, and the Holy Fruska Gora Mountain, and is within the close radius of Belgrade and Novi Sad. Sremski Karlovci is famous for its vineyards and excellent sorted vines and brandies.

Also, it is inscribed in European diplomatic history as a place where, following the two month Congress between Ottoman Empire and Holy League, Treaty of Karlowitz was signed on January 26, 1699. After the conclusion of the peace treaty, Sremski Karlovci became a border crossing between the Ottoman and Habsburg Empires. Thus, it symbolizes the divisions as well as the bridge between different civilizations which to this day mark the cultural profile of the region.

Transport from Belgrade (airport and city centre) to Sremski Karlovci and back as well as accomodation, meals and an organized tour of the town and its famous wineries will be fully covered by the organizers. There is also a limited number of travel grants available for international scholars (see application form).

4. How to apply?

Paper proposals and filled application forms should be written in English and submitted by e-mail to office@ccmr-bg.org by **15 March 2009** at the latest. Paper proposals should include the name of the proposer, title of the paper and a 200-300 word abstract. In case of acceptance, the full paper should be sent to the organizers by **3 May 2009**. Papers should not exceed 8000 words, and should use the Chicago reference style. Presentations at the conference should not exceed 15 minutes. Papers will be published in the Western Balkans Security Observer or in a specially edited publication.

For further information please contact: Mr. Filip Ejodus, fillip.ejdus@ccmr-bg.org and Dr. Ivan Zverzhanovski, zverzhanovski@mac.com .

Application form

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in Transitional States»

Centre for Civil-Military Relations
Sremski Karlovci, Serbia, 7-10 May 2009

Name
Surname
Biographical note of max. 100 words should include relevant publications, education or work experience.
Institutional affiliation
Funding: tick the box below
I would like to apply for funding for my travel expenses <input type="checkbox"/>
Please state where you will be flying from _____
Additional remarks

Please send this form to office@ccmr-bg.org by March 15, 2009