



***Protecting the Human Rights of Armed Forces Personnel:  
Old and New Challenges***

**13 – 15 April 2011**  
The Palace of Serbia, Belgrade

**AGENDA**

**The Conference is organized by the Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), with the support of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia**

Working languages at the Conference are Serbian and English.  
*(Simultaneous translation into German will be provided)*

## Wednesday, 13 April 2011

All day	Arrival of participants - transfer from the airport to the hotel Check-in at Hotel Moskva (Terazije Str. 20, Belgrade)
15.00 – 18.30	Registration (Conference registration will take place at the hotel)
19.00 – 21.00	<b>Welcome dinner, Hotel Moskva Restaurant, hosted by H.E. Amb. Theodor H. Winkler, Director of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) and Mr Saša Janković, Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia</b>

## Thursday, 14 April 2011

08.20	Meet in the hotel lobby for transfer to the Palace of Serbia
08.45 – 09.30	Registration of participants
09.30 - 10.30	<b>C o n f e r e n c e   O p e n i n g</b>  <b>Welcome remarks</b> <b>Mr Saša Janković, Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia</b> <b>H.E. Amb. Theodor H. Winkler, Director of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)</b> <b>Mr Dragan Šutanovac, Minister of Defence of the Republic of Serbia</b> <b>Mr Boris Tadić, President of the Republic of Serbia</b>
10.30 – 10.45	Group photo
10.45 - 11.15	Coffee break
11.15 – 13.15	<b>Panel 1: External and Internal Complaint Handling Processes</b> <i>Drawing from existing experiences and challenges, the objective of panel 1 is to focus on the relationship between external oversight institutions (e.g. ombudsman or parliamentary body) and internal military complaints-handling mechanisms. The panel will discuss how these two different arrangements intertwine to safeguard the rights of armed forces personnel.</i>  <i>Points for discussion:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>What are the comparative advantages and disadvantages of external and internal complaints-handling mechanisms?</i></li><li>• <i>What type of relationship exists or should exist between external oversight institutions and internal military complaints-handling mechanisms?</i></li><li>• <i>What obstacles and challenges are faced by external oversight institutions and internal military complaints-handling mechanisms, and how can these obstacles be addressed?</i></li></ul> Moderator: Kjell Arne Bratli, Parliamentary Commissioner of the Royal Norwegian Armed Forces, Norway Presentations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Belgium, Colonel Jacques de Keyser, Complaint manager and Lieutenant Colonel Claude Moerman, Deputy Complaint manager of the Armed Forces</li></ol>

2. Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr Boško Šiljegović, Parliamentary Military Commissioner
3. Finland, Mr Raino Marttunen, Principal Legal Adviser at the Office of the Parliamentary Ombudsman
4. Ireland, Ms Paulyl Marrinan Quinn, Ombudsman for the Defence Forces
5. Montenegro, Mr Šučko Baković, Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms
6. Netherlands, Ms Adriana Steheouwer, Deputy National Ombudsman
7. Serbia, Lieutenant General Petar Radojčić, Inspector General of the Ministry of Defence
8. Slovenia, Ms Zdenka Čebašek – Travnik, Human Rights Ombudsman
9. United Kingdom, Dr Susan Atkins, Service Complaints Commissioner for the Armed Forces

13.15 - 14.30

**Lunch**

14.30 - 15.00

Discussion and concluding remarks

15.00 - 16.00

**Panel 2: Military Unions and Associations**

*The objective of the second panel is to consider how states can respect the fundamental rights of armed forces personnel (i.e. the right of assembly) while at the same time take into account the specific requirements of military service.*

*Points for discussion:*

- *What is the nature of arrangements for military unions and associations where they do exist?*
- *What are the boundaries for activities of military unions/associations?*
- *What is the relationship between military unions/associations and ombudsman institutions with jurisdiction over the armed forces? How can military unions and associations cooperate with ombudsman institutions with jurisdiction over the armed forces?*

Moderator: Paulyl Marrinan Quinn, Ombudsman for the Defence Forces, Ireland

Presentations:

1. European Organisation of Military Associations (EUROMIL), Colonel (ret.) Bernhard Gertz, Vice President of the EUROMIL
2. Norway, Captain (Navy, Ret.) Kjell Arne Bratli, Parliamentary Commissioner of the Royal Armed Forces
3. Romania, Mr Valer Dorneanu, Deputy People`s Advocate
4. Serbia, Brigadier General Sladjan Djordjević, Assistant Minister for Human Resources of Ministry of Defense

16.00 - 16.30

Coffee break

16.30 - 17.00

Presentations from Panel 2 continued

5. Austria, Mr Paul Kiss, Executive Chairman of the Parliamentary Commission for the Federal Armed Forces
6. EUROMIL, Mr Poul Christian Sørensen, consultant at the Hærens Konstabel- og Korporalforening (HKKF) / EUROMIL

17.00 - 18.00

Discussion and concluding remarks

18.00	Transfer of participants to the hotel
19.30	Meet in the hotel lobby for transfer to the reception
20.00 -21.30	<b>Reception at the Club of the Serbian Army "Topčider", hosted by the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Serbia</b>

## Friday, 15 April 2011

08.00	Meet in the hotel lobby for transfer to the Palace of Serbia
09.00 - 10.30	<p><b>Panel 3: The Role of Ombudsman Institutions in the Protection of Rights of Armed Forces Personnel in Multinational Missions</b></p> <p><i>Panel 3 will focus on overcoming the challenges faced by ombudsman institutions when armed forces personnel are deployed to multinational missions.</i></p> <p><i>Points for discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What is the legal framework for the protection of the rights of armed forces personnel in deployments abroad?</i></li> <li>• <i>What is the role of ombudsman institutions in protecting the human rights of armed forces personnel in deployments abroad?</i></li> <li>• <i>What are the main challenges and obstacles for the effective protection of the rights of armed forces personnel in deployments abroad (e.g. the problems of extraterritoriality and multi-nationality)?</i></li> </ul> <p>Moderator: Hans Born, Senior fellow at the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), Switzerland</p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Austria, Mr Paul Kiss, Executive Chairman of the Parliamentary Commission for the Federal Armed Forces</li> <li>2. Estonia, Mr Indrek Teder, Chancellor of Justice</li> <li>3. France, Mr Gilles Grollemund, President of the Military Appeals Commission</li> <li>4. Germany, Mr Hellmut Königshaus, the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Armed Forces</li> <li>5. Ireland, Ms Paulyne Marrinan Quinn, Ombudsman for the Defence Forces</li> <li>6. United States of America, Mr Joseph Perez, Chief of Assistance &amp; Investigations at the U.S. European Command</li> </ol>
10.30 - 11.00	Coffee break
11.00 - 12.00	Discussion and concluding remarks
12.15 - 13.10	<p><b>Special addresses</b></p> <p><b>Mr Saša Janković, Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia, Chair</b></p>
12.15 - 12.25	<i>Results of the First Regional Conference on the Protection of Human Rights in the Armed Forces (Sarajevo, February 2011), Mr Željko Grubešić, Adviser to the Joint Committee of Defence and Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina</i>

12.25 – 12.55	<i>The Initiative to Establish an Ombudsman Institution Website and Handbook (follow up to the Vienna Memorandum 2010), Dr Hans Born, Senior fellow at the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)</i>
12.55 – 13.10	<i>Announcement of the Fourth International Conference of Ombudsman Institutions for the Armed Forces, Mr Pierre Daigle, Ombudsman for the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Forces</i>
13.10 - 14.00	<b>Closing ceremony Conclusions and adoption of the Declaration Mr Saša Janković, Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia</b>
14.00 – 15.00	Lunch
15.00 – 16.00	Guided tour of the Palace Serbia (for guest Ombudsman)
16.00	Transfer of participants to the hotel
19.30	Meet in the hotel lobby for transfer to the restaurant
20.00	<b>Dinner at the Little Bay Restaurant, hosted by Mr Saša Janković, Protector of Citizens of the Republic of Serbia</b>
22.00	Transfer of participants to the hotel