



NATO Studies Center newsletter

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Opening of the first International Course of the NATO Senior Executive Master

- February 9, 2004

*Address by
H.E. Ion Iliescu,
President of Romania,
in the opening of the Ceremony
(abstracts)*

■ The fact that I am here again, together with you, is not incidental. A few days ago, the process by which all NATO members concluded on the accession protocol of our country and of the other candidate countries invited on the occasion of the Prague Summit, in November 2002, was ended.

■ Being here, at the NATO Studies Center is



a great opportunity for me to mention again the seriousness with which our country has regarded the accession process, the road that had to be covered in order to obtain the statute of member of the Alliance. It is a moment of crucial importance in the recent historical evolution of Romania, which responds to a number of objectives of the national secu-

rity strategy established by a remarkable national political consensus, over a decade ago.

■ I would say that this is a very appropriate moment to highlight the results with which we enter this new stage, regarding the so-called human interoperability, the training of human resources, of the people that will work within the Alliance. Weapons and

technical equipment are important for a modern army and we must provide the necessary resources for these. It is also important to highlight the significance of human resources able to ensure Romania's capacity to act as a strong NATO ally on the new security border of Central and South-Eastern Europe.

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WE ARE ONE YEAR OLD!

• *Established in November 2002, soon after the NATO Summit in Prague, the NATO Studies Center began its most important program, NATO Senior Executive Master, in January 2003.*

On the 9th of February 2004 we organized a special ceremony celebrating one year in the service of education on security in Romania, launching the international course of the NATO Senior Executive Master Program. The event enjoyed the participation of the President of Romania, HE Ion ILIESCU, and of our first group of international students coming from: Armenia, Moldova, Ukraine and Serbia-Montenegro.

On this occasion Mr. Ion ILIESCU also handed the graduation diplomas to the second cycle of course attendants of our educational program.

Training

81 graduates of the NATO Senior Executive Master Program.

Research activities

themes ranged from political and military aspects of "out of area" concept to the transformation of military structure in the context of a new security environment posing new challenges, risks and threats.

Publications

*Strategic Issues Review, 4 issues;
Policy Briefs, 1 issue;
Occasional Papers, 1 issue.*

*International conference, 1, 27-29
June 2003.*

»»» 7% took up positions within Romanian Mission to SHAPE or within the group of Military Observers for EU Missions in Macedonia

»»» 18% were promoted in their positions in Romania

OUR GRADUATES FROM MoD

»»» 18% were hired as experts within the Romanian structures dealing with euro-Atlantic integration

The remaining graduates are in the MoD's data base for future positions in NATO integrated command structures or within the ministry.

Opening of the first International Course of the NATO Senior Executive Master - February 9, 2004

*The address of H.E. Ion Iliescu,
continuing from page 1*

I am glad to learn that the NATO Studies Center has made a new and important step in its development, the year 2004 representing also the debut of the first international cycle, within the framework of this program, being trained, together with Romanian students, students, officers and civilians, from the new South Central and South Eastern Europe. This way, a leap has been made

from a national higher education institution to a regional, multinational one. Within the following series, an increasing number of students will be trained, in Romania and in other countries from the Balkans, Black Sea, Southern Caucasus or Caspian Sea regions.

In this extension of the activity of the institution I see not only a reward of the results obtained until now but also an international recognition of the quality of the Romanian educational system, of its ability

to make an efficient transfer of expertise in the surrounding regions. This accomplishment is the result of a fast dynamics in the evolution of the NATO Studies Center and I would like to congratulate for this both the management, the academic staff and the graduates, who managed to distinguish themselves and to honor the quality of this school.

I would like to end by congratulating you on the occasion of the opening of the first international cycle of NATO Senior Executive Master and by wishing good-luck to the new students. I express my strong belief that this center of training, of strategic and security studies from Bucharest will make an important contribution to the strengthening of a regional academic community dedicated to identifying and implementing optimal solutions of cooperation in the security and defense areas.



The International Course of the NATO Senior Executive Master was opened by the President of Romania, H.E. Ion Iliescu followed by an address of the President of the NATO Studies Center, Prof. Vasile Secares.

A representative of the graduates of this course, Ms. Monica Malcoci (MoD) expressed the thoughts of the graduates, regarding this academic program.

I would like to stress the great value of the lectures given by officials and specialists from NATO or other centers of expertise related to the Euro-Atlantic issues. The open dialogue with these important figures has determined the dynamic and up-to-date

character of the issues discussed, on an international level. Within this context, we had the occasion to "take the pulse" of NATO, at its headquarters in Bruxelles, during our excellent organized study trip.

We would like to thank the management of the Center, the academic staff, the administrative staff, who made possible the successful accomplishment of our studies. We wish good-luck to the new series of students who will enrich the big NATO Studies Center family, of which we are happy to be members of. We proudly look at the graduate diplomas offered to us today, as to our presentation cards, trusting they will facilitate the recognition of Romanian expertise within the Euro-Atlantic community.



Today's Europe, Tomorrow's Europe. An Overview of Young People

NATO Studies Center organized, with the kind support of the European Commission, an international seminar concerning European Union's enlargement and youth policies in Bucharest (6 - 9 November, 2003).

The funding was provided by the international organization in Brussels, and the conference was coordinated by professor Vasile SECARES, President of NATO Studies Center, who addressed the participants an welcoming speech and chaired the panel of debates during the first working day, plus an enthusiastic team of former students of the NATO Senior Executive Master program.

The seminar also took advantage of the presence and experience of Professor Cornel CODITA, who chaired the panel "European Integration and NATO Membership" during the third day of the event and offered a perspective of the security environment of East-European Area and its implications on the wider continental and Euro-Atlantic region.

The participants came from different European countries, members of the EU or accessing ones - France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania - and brought their important contributions both during the workshops of the seminar, but also during the inputs of the invitees, due to the interactive

It is an honour and a joy to have all of you join us on the occasion of this very special ceremony of the NATO Studies Center. It is a privilege and - let us say - a pride that the President of Romania is for the second time among us - after his attending the International Conference of the Center and last year graduation ceremony. The part the President holds in the foreign policy and defense area and the significant contribution he brought all these years to the completion of the NATO integration make his presence here, undoubtedly, a strong support for the activity of this new institution. We feel, thus, encouraged to continue following the path started by the NATO Studies Center after the Prague Summit and I would like to thank the President for this.

The NATO Studies Center is, among others, a component of a brand new institutional environment emerging in Romania in connection with our NATO integration, hence regarding our new status, interests and goals as members of the Euro-Atlantic Community, our new security and defense policy. The solutions and tools developed during the last years are committed to another philosophy and other standards. Our forces are in Afghanistan and Iraq, accomplishing missions for which nothing in our history or tradition seemed to have prepared us. All this was possible by changing almost everything on hand, promoting or adopting, with our ally's support, new ideas and mentalities, creating new institutions.

The NATO Studies Center was thought to be, since the beginning, a part of this political, ideological and institutional revolution - not always properly understood - ongoing today in Romania. A year is not much. But this year a training programme

compatible with the Alliance's objectives and standards was set up within the NATO Studies Center, a programme that offer the students an unprecedented exposure for Romania to the NATO expertise, information and inside knowledge, to direct contacts with high rank officials of our country, NATO officials and specialists from various NATO member countries. There were about 90 specialists trained in this programme and I am able to say that most of them know and can; they will feel at home in the NATO structures.

After one year the NATO Studies Center has its place on the continuously changing map of the Southeastern institutions, initiatives and programmes the new NATO security frontier consists of. We already exist on this map; we work on this map and I believe "the new frontier" can be a good guideline for our concerns and efforts at the NATO Studies Center. We were able to do this, we are able to work on the new frontier due to the exceptional support from the NATO headquarters (the Public Diplomacy Division), due to the help of so many friends from the International Secretariat to whom I would like to thank once again now, but also to our partners from the NATO Defense College in Rome or the Marshall Center in Garmish. I believe that the results obtained during this year justify their confidence and the hope they vested us with, since the beginning, a year and a half ago.

The NATO Studies Center was most certainly placed on the developing map of the institutions working in the national security field also. This was possible mainly because of the exceptional cooperation with the Ministry of National Defense and the support of Minister Pascu was essential, the support of the Ministry of foreign Affairs, Minister Geoana and, last but not

Opening address President of the NATO Studies Center, Vasile SECARES, Ph.D.

least, the Presidential Administration and its chief, presidential counsellor Talpes.

After one year the NATO Studies Center enters a new stage. The regional dimension we had in mind for a long time becomes real today with the debut of the international cycle. Along with Romanian officers and civilians, specialists from South-eastern Europe, the Balkans, Black Sea area, Caspian and Caucasus and probably Central Asia will be trained here. I do believe that internationalisation is the most important challenge the Romanian academic system is facing nowadays. Furthermore, the geopolitical revolution that is currently transforming the South-eastern Europe map creates an enormous opportunity. As far as we are concerned - I am referring to the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration - we consider that without an internationalisation strategy we would continue to work with provincial means and standards in a provincial institution. We want to place

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framework in which the event has been designed.

The debates within the workshop converged towards the idea that the security of the Euro-Atlantic region will be consolidated once the 7 new members of NATO give their full support to the new missions of the Alliance.

As regarding the European Union enlargement, the participants agreed on the necessity of accomplishing the process through new accessions in the organization, Romania and Bulgaria in 2007, as part of a larger - scale stability of the European continent, in terms of economic, social or defence improvement.

The seminar benefited of the presence of

Bruce JACKSON, (US Committee on NATO) who delivered a highly appreciated input on the importance of the stabilization of the peripheral areas of the European continent.

The content of the seminar was highly improved by the presence of Mr. Leonard Orban, State Secretary in the Ministry of European Integration, Mr. Radu Damian, State Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth, Mr. Cristian Jura, State Secretary in the General Secretariat of the Government and Mrs. Daniela Garbea, Director in the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth, their inputs being very appreciated by the international participants.

NATO Studies Center addresses warm thanks to all the domestic governmental institutions, especially Mr. Cristian Rizea, Director of the National Agency for Supporting Youth Initiatives, who offered their support and assistance to the organizing team, by sending their representatives to deliver valuable notions on the youth policies in Romania and Europe and important info on the enlargement process of the EU and the institutional dialogue between Romania and the organization.

*Clara Marinov – Faculty Adviser,
Victor Vevera – Graduate,
NATO Studies Center*

Study Visit

Between 21st -25 th of January , the third cycle of course attendants of the NATO Senior Executive Master Program made a study visit to Brussels.

The program of the visit included NATO HQ, SHAPE, and Romanian Mission to the EU. The course attendants had the pleasure of meeting high NATO officials and discussing with them on the latest developments concerning NATO issues and international security in general.

Anamaria Dulamita, one of the courses attendants declared: *We, the graduates of the third cycle of students of the NATO Studies Center, Bucharest, were very impressed by the visit at NATO HQ in Brussels. Besides the presentations, the program allowed us to talk to*

We want to thank the company Johnson and Johnson which sponsored part of the costs of this visit.

the NATO officials, visit the library and get a glimpse on what NATO HQ is really like. All these are very helpful in our preparation.

The agenda was very challenging in terms of themes and discussions. It allowed us further increase our knowledge on NATO transformation and the Alliance challenges. We deeply appreciate that most of the issues presented were complementing the ones we had already studied.

On the whole, our visit to NATO HQ was a memorable experience for which we thank the organizers.

Working Visit

Between 18th-20th of February 2004, the President of the NATO Studies Center paid a working visit to NATO Hq, Brussels.

The program of the visit included meetings with Mr. Jean Fournet, Assistant Secretary General, Public Diplomacy Division, Mr. Jamie Shea, Deputy Assistant Secretary General, Public Diplomacy Division, Mr. George Katsirdakis, Director, Partnership and Cooperation, as well as Colonel Jonathan Parish Ukari and Mr. Alexandros Papaioannou from the Policy Unit.

On the same occasion, Mr. Secares had the pleasure of meeting HE Ambassador Bogdan Mazuru, Head of the Romanian Mission to NATO.

Besides the NATO HQ, Mr Secares also visited the Center for European Policy Studies, Brussels.

Opening Address – Vasile Secares

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SNSPA - which we are going to redefine as the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration - on this new South-eastern Europe map. The NATO Studies Center is the tip of the spear. It designs the path. Together with this programme we will also develop other components - in the framework of a School for governance sciences - aimed to address the forming South-eastern Europe elites.

I do believe that the regional development of the NATO Studies Center is a process of utmost importance. Together with the training component we have in view a serious research and analysis effort regarding NATO strategic and security issues in South-eastern Europe, as well as in the Middle East and the eastern part of the Black Sea, Caspian and Caucasus. We intend to cooperate closely with partners in the region: the Balkans, Turkey or Israel but also Armenia or Georgia. We have to develop ideas and solutions able to represent a real contribution to the NATO agenda in the area.

I would say that so far the evolution of the NATO Studies Center is a pleading in itself for the development of new approaches or solutions - including at institutional level. We have no chance with what we

have known, what we have been doing, and the old rules. The NATO Studies Center has tried - and will try all the harder in the future - to make a specific contribution to the creation in Romania of a security community able to put together institutions and people from politics, security, business, academic and media otherwise not meeting on this field, in order to think together, ask questions and find answers together. The NATO Studies Center itself would have not been possible without a partnership with the private business; without the support of Rompetrol, SIF Muntenia, S&T or other companies lots of things could not be done. This partnership will be essential for our regional path.

A new series of graduate students will be handed the diplomas today from the President of Romania. The international cycle starts now the training programme that the participants will finish when the new NATO security frontier will be firmly set and maybe talks about the new wave will start. I do not think there can be a clearer connection between an educational programme/an executive programme and the actual political course or the security destiny of a region. It is a destiny that the NATO Studies Center proudly, and I dare to say professionally, assumes. Thank you!



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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

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PUBLICATION

The NATO Studies Center publishes:

- Occasional Papers;
- Newsletter;
- Volumes focused on NATO new challenges and issues

COORDINATION

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