



NATO Studies Center newsletter

02 / 2003



*Address by
H.E. Ion Iliescu,
President of Romania,
in the opening of the conference*

■ The significant NATO enlargement at the Prague Summit represents a victory of the optimistic vision of Europe as a space of shared solidarity, cooperation and integration, democracy and liberty, but also as a model of social and economic development in accordance with the citizens' needs and necessities.

■ By integrating the seven states invited to Prague, NATO grows stronger through increasing the coherence and consistency of the common defense space, thus gaining increased credibility. NATO enlargement in our region enhances stability in the Balkan area and speeds up the democratic process in a huge space, from the Baltic to the Black Sea.

■ As we stated several times before, our option for NATO - as well as the other invited states' - is not against other states and does not represent a threat. It merely expresses the will of the Romanian nation to protect and defend their interests and to find proper answers at the new risks and menaces towards international peace and stability.

■ In this respect, the promoting, information and study programs in the NATO area represent a long-term strategic investment in the field of a new political-military expertise, which fully integrates in the new Alliance

NATO and South-Eastern Europe After the Prague Summit International Conference, June 27-29, 2003, Bucharest

configuration.

■ In this context, the ending of the first cycle of the NATO Senior Executive Master Program offers me an opportunity to get into contact with the NATO Studies Center, an institution recently established to make its contribution to the improved training of those who will represent Romania in the structures of the North Atlantic Alliance. I learned with great pleasure about this initiative of some of my older fellow workers. It is obvious that the NATO Studies Center fills in an educational sector, which requires increasing attention from that state, as well as from the civil society.

■ The ones who will be trained here have to provide, together with military and intelligence experts, realistic models of the new threats towards security, to issue possible response patterns, to structure the future offer of Romania as regards the common efforts of the NATO members to increase the credibility and effectiveness of the Alliance concerning the response to unconventional threats, in asymmetrical situations and different contexts from the ones it has been designed for.

■ I would like to wish all the success to the academic staff involved in the activity of the NATO Studies Center and to the students, in their activity to turn this Center into a pilot institution meant to connect the whole Romanian high education system to the requirements of the accession process into the Euro Atlantic structures. I would also like to highlight that this institution can become a regional school for the training of experts in the invited or soon-to-be-invited countries to become members of the Alliance.

■ In the beginning of this road, please allow me to express, together with my renewed success wishes, my hope that the first series of graduates of the NATO Studies Center will constitute in a term of reference for the future series of students, an example of effective realistic approach in full agreement with Romania's national interests.

(abstracts / translation from romanian)



*The NATO Studies Center organized in June 2003, with the support of the NATO HQ, the international conference **NATO and South-Eastern Europe After the Prague Summit**.*

The event took place under the high Patronage of H.E. Ion Iliescu, President of Romania, who opened the conference and handed the diplomas to first graduates of the NATO Senior Executive Master Program in a Graduation Ceremony.

NATO and South-Eastern Europe After the Prague Summit



First Panel: NATO Enlargement and SEE Security After the Prague Summit

Second Panel: NATO Enlargement and Security Sector Reform in SEE After the Prague Summit

Third Panel: NATO and SEE - a Partnership for Education, a Partnership for Society

Brief

The third cycle of the "NATO Senior Executive Master Program" debuted on September 8th, 2003 in the presence of Mr. Ioan Mircea Pascu - Minister of National Defense and Mr. Ioan Talpes - Chief of the Presidential Administration and National Security Adviser to the President.

In early September 2003, the NATO Studies Center was honoured by the visit of:

- H.E. Ambassador Anton Denisovici Buteiko - Ambassador of Ukraine to Bucharest;
- H.E. Ambassador Dusan Francuski - Ambassador of Serbia and Montenegro to Bucharest;
- H.E. Ambassador Tihomir Ilievski - Ambassador of Macedonia to Bucharest;
- H.E. Ambassador Zelko Kupresak - Ambassador of Croatia to Bucharest;
- H.E. Ambassador Arne Ulland - Ambassador of Norway to Bucharest;
- H.E. Ambassador Pieter Jan Wolters - Ambassador of the Netherlands to Bucharest.

■ *Historic tendency towards democracy and coexistence in the region is supported by the strategy of Euro Atlantic integration and the Stability Pact, with its two principal pillars: establishment and consolidation of the democratic institutions and economic development*

(Mehmet Elezi, Albania)

■ *It is crucial to have NATO and EU involved in Moldova according to stabilization models applied in Macedonia, in Bosnia and to a certain extent in Albania, in 1997. Such an approach would certainly contribute to the potential solution of the Transnistrian conflict, situated at 1000 Km from the Russian border and at 60 km from the border of the enlarged EU and NATO.*

(Nicu Popescu, Moldova)

■ *I fell in the bad habit of calling this region "The Balkans". There can't be a worse name for a region in the world. The minute you say "The Balkans", you immediately think, "that is where the World War One and the World War Two started..." So, let's start by calling this region the South Eastern Europe. I*

see people in this conference are already doing that. This alone can help you attract business opportunities. There are approximately 125 million consumers within a 500-mile radius of where we seat: that is a big market. When multi-nationals companies look at countries and see 30 or 40 million people, they get very excited. If you can convince companies you have (or you can have) an integrated market of 125 million people, I think will see a lot more interest in the region.

(Philip Stephenson, Rompetrol Group)





Lord George Robertson of Port Ellen Special Lecture

*delivered by Mr. Mircea Geoana,
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Romania, in
the opening of the third cycle of the
NATO Senior Executive Master Program*

September 10th, 2003

■ I'm very glad, Mr. Rector, that you invited me to the opening of the NATO Executive Master Program. The fact that this lecture bears the name of Lord Robertson represents an acknowledgement of the great contribution that he had, not only in the destiny of Romania and the countries that have only recently joined the Alliance, but generally speaking, for the configuration of a more predictable European and Euro-Atlantic area, adapted to the new challenges and defiance. I promise that our Ministry and myself will carry on, as good friends, these programs. I'm glad that they succeeded and that they are so popular among the future generations of leaders of this nation.

■ I would like to express a few of my thoughts regarding what I believe it is fundamental for Romania in this decisive time for our full integration in NATO and EU, a few thoughts about Romania's strategic profile, not as candidate to NATO and EU, but as future member of two fundamental Western institutions. Who are we, what we want to do and how are we going to be perceived - as a new, but influential - we hope - member of these two important institutions?

■ I believe that we are now in the stage where we have to go beyond the regain of the credibility for our country. It has been a difficult process that is still not over. But out of which, in the large part, we are winners. We are regaining our credibility; we have to invest in our predictability. Romania is not allowed, as a NATO and EU member, and will not be forced by historical circumstances, to have a strategic profile in zigzag. We have to define, together as a society, whom we want to be and then to draw a predictable

line of foreign policy, decade after decade. It is the only way to build predictability and out of predictability, influence and dividends for the citizens of this nation in our new role. From credibility to predictability and influence. This is actually the triad we have to engage in. At a large extent, the first part is about to be achieved.

■ Secondly, we have to be realistic with ourselves; we have to be ambitious, but realistic. We have to know that Romania achieved a military and strategic profile. I would like to especially thank the ones in the state institutions that in the past few years made an incredible effort: the ones in defense, intelligence. But mainly to those institutions that invested in a strategic profile from a military point of view, with our important presence with troops, with peacekeeping forces, with volunteers and OSCE monitors, in NATO, in EU from the Alba operation up to present, in Afghanistan or Iraq. Step by step, we have to build other elements as well, elements of "soft-power", as the Americans and the British call them.

■ We have to try and see how we can have an economical base to sustain Romania's multi-regional ambition. We have to see how we can start to communicate cultural values, how we can bring back Bucharest and Romanian universities as interest centers for the youth in the neighboring areas. We have too seen how we can change Romania from a state, which receives assistance and experts and fundamental values into a state able to offer them. If not in the first step with resources, in a desire to offer to future generations what we achieved with so many difficulties. But here we are, after 15 years, as a member of the West,

and in a more practical sense, a member of the West after 2000 years.

■ This change in paradigm is very important for us if we want to build this predictability and influence. The first step has been well achieved and we have to build the others with a lot of wisdom and investment in ourselves and in the values that we believe in.

■ Thirdly, I would like to say a word about what I believe it will be a challenge ahead of us, both intellectually and politically. In the first place, besides the obligation with the Balkans and the Black Sea area, our definite historical obligation is, beyond any doubt, with the future of the Moldavian Republic as a European state. Its European destiny will obviously be Ukraine's European and North-Atlantic future. Ukraine is our largest and most important neighbor. Obviously, there are a lot of questions and a large debate in NATO, EU and US regarding the way in which Ukraine will join, one way or another, the united Europe that we are all dreaming at.

■ Fourthly, I would like to say a few things about our relation with EU in this period. Although we are mainly talking about NATO, we have to understand that this period of resettling of the transatlantic balances also has a very direct interest in Romania. It is extremely important for Europe, for the Alliance and for us that this new correct and predictable balance between an enlarged EU and enlarged NATO to be led as smooth and united as possible. We salute the fact that EU in 27, and we hope in 28, becomes a rising global player. There are two developments that we have to encourage intensely and predictably. Romania wishes to be an influential and respected member in a globally influential Europe. Since Romania is aware that this

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Study Visit

Between the 23rd-24th June 2003, NATO Studies Center organized a study visit to Brussels and Mons, where the first NATO Senior Executive Master Program graduates had meetings at SHAPE, Partnership Coordination Cell (PCC), Romanian Mission to EU and NATO Hq.

At SHAPE, the Romanian delegation was briefed on the new organizational structure of the Allied Forces based in Europe and on the future prospects of NATO's role in the current international environment.

The graduates had the opportunity to visit PCC where they met the PCC director and his staff. It was a very informative meeting and the graduates were very pleased to establish an open dialogue with the PCC representatives.

At the Romanian Mission to EU, they were warmly welcome by the Mr. Stefan Tinca and Ms. Alda Silveira Rey. She made an interesting and comprehensive overview of the European Commission and its growing role in the international arena.

The visit in Brussels ended with a series of briefings of NATO from the NATO HQ experts and the Romanian Ambassador to NATO. Mr. Eric Povel from the Public Diplomacy Division, a dear and old friend of the NATO Studies Center who was in charge

with the entire organization of the visit at NATO Hq, introduced the new NATO's agenda to the graduates.

NATO-EU relations and the prospects of transatlantic relations were thoroughly presented by Mr. James Appathurai from the Political Affairs Division.

Mr. Bruce Bach from the Defense Planning and Operations offered a detailed presentation on the prospects and challenges for NATO's military transformation and the manner in which the new invited nations to NATO are expected to play their role.

As NATO's crisis management role is increasing, the graduates were very interested in discovering what the future prospects of the Alliance are. Mr. Mihai Carp from the Political Affairs Division outlined the main directions to better and more efficiently manage all types of crisis situations.

H.E. Ambassador Bogdan Mazuru, Romanian Delegation to NATO, concluded the meeting at NATO Hq. He offered the graduates detailed information about the activity of the Romanian Mission to NATO and about the important role Romania assumed as a future member of the Alliance.

Arina DANILA
Ana Maria TOMA

Lord George Robertson of Port Ellen Special Lecture

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European ambition cannot be made against America, but together with America, and NATO may be the vector for Europe, the shuttle to take us faster to a more important global role. I also encourage you to also try to reject those attempts of creating false dilemmas and false options. Especially for the newcomers in NATO and EU. There is no contradiction between a strong, ambitious Romania in a more global Europe and Romania as a NATO player and a good friend of America. And I believe that this could be another dimension of this strategic predictable profile that I was talking at the beginning of my lecture.

■ A fifth dimension that I believe will be useful and I encourage you to take a close look at it in the next two years is the fact that, after 10 years, Romania will be back in the UN Security Council. Mr. Ambassador ENE a strong position in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the years that Romania was represented in the Security Council, even during the first Gulf War. It was an important moment for us and a clarifying moment for Romania, we became aware of the global problems and an influent and useful player of the West. We played well and I believe that it was the

moment that started strategic thinking for Romania and, equally, the beginning of closeness with the European and Euro-Atlantic structures. In 2004 and 2005, Romania will probably be the newest Security Council member. This will overlap a time when Romania will become a NATO member and a EU member in 2007. We had the OSCE chairmanship in 2001, which was useful, we are joining the Security Council, and we are taking the chairmanship of the Cooperation Process in South Eastern Europe (CPEE) next year. In conclusion we will be actively involved in the global problems, in the European problems, in the Euro-Atlantic problems, in the regional problems as a player. We will be a player, which by its international position and on its own behalf will positively influence the debates of these issues. It is a time in which we have to define the country's strategic profile. We have the opportunity to have a word in the European and Euro-Atlantic issues, but also in the global governance issues, of resettling the great strategic, political and cultural balance. It is an opportunity and a challenge for us and I'm glad that we will have more talent and more expertise for the huge challenge.

(abstracts / translation from romanian)



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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The NATO Studies Center enjoys the support and assistance of the NATO Headquarters, through the NATO Office of Information and Press, the NATO Defense College (Rome) and the "George C. Marshall" Center for European Security Studies (Garmisch).

PUBLICATION

The NATO Studies Center publishes:

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

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