



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Secretariat

Conflict Prevention Centre

3 October 2007

Seminar on Democratic Control of the Armed forces and
the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security

**Podgorica, Republic of Montenegro
27-28 September 2007**

REPORT

The Conflict Prevention Centre, in co-operation with Switzerland, organized a seminar on the “Democratic Control of Armed Forces and Implementation of the OSCE Code of Conduct” in Podgorica, Montenegro, on 27-28 September 2007. The seminar was directed to Montenegro authorities dealing with politico-military aspects of security and was hosted by the Parliament of Montenegro. It was attended by around 50 participants from Montenegro and other OSCE participating States, research institutes and OSCE institutions.

The purpose of the seminar was to promote awareness of the parliamentary responsibilities outlined in the Code of Conduct primarily among the members of the newly established Parliamentary Defence Committee of Montenegro. It also aimed at fostering dialogue and co-operation between the country’s parliamentarians, ministries and senior military personnel involved in the oversight of the armed forces, in order to promote full implementation of commitments stemming from the Code of Conduct and assist Montenegro in fulfilling these commitments.

During the two-day seminar, expert speakers gave insights into practical experiences, current issues and future initiatives to promote the implementation of the Code. These were followed by lively discussion and exchange of views related to the democratic control of armed forces. The seminar proved successful in raising awareness about the Code in Montenegro. It was coupled with an address of the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to the Montenegro Constitutive Committee, which for its part increased publicity that the seminar received.

The CPC wishes to thank the Parliament of Montenegro for hosting and supporting the seminar. We would also like to extend our thanks to the Government of Switzerland for the generous extra-budgetary contribution, which enabled us to organize this event. In addition, our thanks go to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, participating states that sent expert speakers to the event, as well as to the OSCE Mission to Montenegro that assisted us in the practical arrangements of the seminar.