THE HALKI SUMMER SEMINAR 1992

Cooperation and Security in Europe, the Mediterranean and the Balkans



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n° Inv. 12267 13 OTT. 1992

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COOPERATION AND SECURITY IN EUROPE, THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE BALKANS Hellenic Foundation for Defense and Foreign Policy Halki, 2-14/IX/1992

- a. Conference schedule
- b. List of faculty and participants
- 1. "The Maghreb and Mediterranean security: summary"/ Claire Spencer
- "International political, ideologic and psychological problems in the framework of the Black Sea cooperation zone"/ Victor Nadein-Raevskij
- "Romania: the evolution of the economic climate in the process of transition from the central planned economy to the market economy"/ Violeta Ciurel
- 4. "Peaceful regulation of inter-ethnic conflicts is the guarantee of stability in the region: summary"/ Ashot Hovakimian
- "Russian policy in the Balkan region: summary"/ Elena Victorovna Eliseeva
- 6. (Romania) / Anda Christina Filip

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THE HALKI SUMMER SEMINAR 1992

2-14 September 1992 - Halki, Greece

Cooperation and Security in Europe, the Mediterranean and the Balkans

Conference Schedule

Wednesday 2 September

14.00 Assembly point at the Piraeus harbour, Agios Spiridonas Church

16.00 Departure (with F/B "Rodanthi") / Registration (on board)

18.00 Official Opening

Welcome Address Michael SIOPSIS,

Secretary General,

General Secretariat for Youth,

Athens

Presentation of the Halki Project

Prof. Thanos VEREMIS.

Director.

Hellenic Foundation for Defense and Foreign Policy [ELIAMEP],

Athens

Dr. **Shai FELDMAN**, Senior Research Associate, The Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies [JCSS],

Tel Aviv

Dr. Christophe CARLE,

Research Fellow,

Institut Français de Relations

Internationales [IFRI],

Paris

21.30

Welcome Dinner

Thursday 3 September

9.00-12.00 Panel Discussion: The New European Security Setting

Chairman: Prof. Thanos VEREMIS,

Director, ELIAMEP,

Athens

Panelists: Prof. Bo HULDT,

Director-Designate, International Institute for

Strategic Studies [IISS],

London

Prof. Michael STÜRMER,

Director,

Stiftung Wissenschaft und

Politik [SWP]. Ebenhausen

Alexandr YAKOVENKO,

Head.

NATO, WEU and NACC Dept., Directorate for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Moscow

15.00 Arrival at the island of Rhodes (via Paros, Santorini, Crete and Carpathos)

15.00-17.00 Sightseeing in Rhodes

20:15 Departure for the island of Halki

21:15 Arrival at Halki (accommodation arrangements)

Friday 4 September

SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE MIDDLE EAST

09.00-13.00 SESSION I: Introduction to the Middle East and the Mediterranean

Chairman: Dr. Shai FELDMAN

JCSS, Tel Aviv

Panelists: Prof. P.J. VATIKIOTIS,

Emeritus Professor, School of Oriental

and African Studies [SOAS],

University of London

Dr. Roberto ALIBONI,

Director.

Istituto Affari Internazionali [IAI],

Rome

Dr. Christophe CARLE

IFRI, Paris

13.00-18.00 Lunch and Afternoon Break

18.00-20.00 SESSION II: Workshop

Chairman: Prof. P.J. VATIKIOTIS,

SOAS, University of London

Participants: Sameh ABDALLAH,

Head,

Al Ahram Office, Athens

Christina PAPADOPOULOU,

PhD. Candidate, Fondation Nationale des sciences Politiques,

Paris

Claire Catherine SPENCER,

Consultant,

Rockefeller Foundation,

New York

Stephanos VALLIANATOS,

Center for Islamic and Turkish Studies,

Athens

Samuel Nathan WIEDERMAN,

Research Assistant, JCSS, Tel Aviv

Saturday 5 September

10.00-13.00 SESSION I: The Arab-Israeli Peace Process

Chairman: Prof

Prof. P.J. VATIKIOTIS,

SOAS, University of London

Panelists:

Dr. Shai FELDMAN,

JCSS, Tel Aviv

Prof. **Sari NUSSEIBEH**, University of East Jerusalem

(No Afternoon Session)

Sunday 6 September

(No Morning and Afternoon Sessions)

Excursion to Alimia (or Tilos)

21.00

Dinner and Keynote Address

(TBA)

Monday 7 September

09.00-13.00 SESSION I: Security and Arms Control Issues in the Mediterranean

Chairman:

Dr. Christophe CARLE,

IFRI, Paris

Panelists:

Dr. Shai FELDMAN.

JCSS, Tel Aviv

Dr. Maurizio CREMASCO,

Senior Fellow, IAI, Rome

George KATSIRDAKIS, Defense Planning and Policy Division, NATO.

Brussels

13.00-18.00

Lunch and Afternoon Break

18.00-20.00

SESSION II: Workshop

Chairman:

Prof. Sari NUSSEIBEH,

University of East Jerusalem

Participants:

Dr. Shai FELDMAN,

JCSS, Tel Aviv

Nicholas PROTONOTARIOS

Defense Economist, IISS,

London

Tuesday 8 September

09.00-13.00 **S**

SESSION I: Prospects for Cooperation and Confidence-Building in the Mediterranean

Chairman:

Dr. Maurizio CREMASCO.

IAI, Rome

Panelists:

Ridha ABDHELHAFIDH

Chief Controller of Public Services, Prime Ministry,

Tunis

Dr. Roberto ALIBONI, Director, IAI, Rome

Dr. Christophe CARLE,

IFRI, Paris

Petros LIACOURAS, University of Athens

Ana Beatriz JANEIRO MARTINS.

Senior Research Fellow, Centre for European Policy Studies [CEPS], Brussels

13.00-18.00 Lunch and Afternoon Break

18.00-21.00 SESSION II: Prospects for Cooperation in the North-Eastern Mediterranean

Chairman:

Dr. Victor NADEIN-RAEVSKY,

Research Fellow,

Institute of World Economy and International Relations [IMEMO], Russian Academy of Sciences,

Moscow

Panelists:

Blaga STOLANONA BOUKEVA,

Economic Editor,
Reporter 7,

Sofia

Violeta CIUREL,

Senior Lecturer,

Academy of Economic Studies,

Bucharest

Levan GOGOBERIDZE,

Deputy Chief, US Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Tbilisi

Ashot HOVAKIMIAN,

European Dept.,

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Yerevan

Aylın ÖZMAN AKINÇI.

Bilkent University,

Ankara

Elena VICTOROVNA-ELISEEVA.

Scientific Editor and Researcher,

IMEMO, Moscow

Wednesday 9 September

COOPERATION AND SECURITY IN EUROPE AND THE BALKANS

09.00-13.00 SESSION I: The New European Security Framework

Chairman:

Dr. Roberto ALIBONI,

Director, IAI, Rome

Political and Security Implications of the Maastricht Treaty

Prof. Michael STÜRMER.

Director, SWP, Ebenhausen

The Role of NATO

George KATSIRDAKIS,

Defense Planning and Policy Division.

NATO, Brussels

The Role of the WEU

Dr. Maurizio CREMASCO,

IAI. Rome

The Role of the US

Maria Rosaria ALONGI,

Deputy Director

for European Studies,

Center for Strategic and International Studies [CSIS]

Washington, D.C.

The Role of Russia

Alexandr YAKOVENKO,

Head,

NATO, WEU and NACC Dept., Directorate for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Moscow

13.00-18.00

Lunch and Afternoon Break

18.00-20.00

SESSION II: Workshop

Chairman:

Dr. Jérôme PAOLINI,

Institut Français des Relations Internationales [IFRI], Paris

Panelists:

Alexis SEYDOUX,

Researcher, IFRI, Paris

Mercedes GRACIA ALDAZ, Editor, El Periodico, Madrid

Guergui DIMITROV,

International Organisations Dept, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sofia

Thursday 10 September

SESSION I: Developments in the Balkan Countries 09.00-13.30

Chairman:

Prof. Thanos VEREMIS,

Director, ELIAMEP,

Athens

Dr. Franz-Lothar ALTMANN,

Deputy Director. Südost -Institut,

Munich

Spyros ECONOMIDES,

Lecturer in

International Relations

LSE, London

Dr. F. Stephen LARRABEE,

RAND Corporation,

New York

Carol REED,

Free-lance journalist

13.30-18.00

Lunch and Afternoon Break

18.00-20.00

SESSION II: Workshop

Chairman:

Prof. Duygu SEZER,

University of Bilkent,

Ankara

Albania

Agim NESHO,

Director,

Centre of Scientific

& Technical Documentation,

Academy of Sciences,

Tirana

Bulgaria

Blaga STOIANOVA BOUKENA,

Economic Editor,

Newspaper Reporter 7.

Sofia

Romania Anda Christina FILIP,

Romanian Association of International Law and

International Relations [ADIRI].

Bucharest

Turkey Aylin TAFTALI [Ms]

Researcher in

European Community In-

stitute,

University of Marmara,

Instabul

Friday 11 September

09.00-13.00 SESSION I: The Yugoslav Crisis

Chairman: Dr. Evangelos KOFOS,

Consultant on Balkan Affairs,

ELIAMEP, Athens

Dr. John ZAMETICA,

Lecturer,

University of Westminster,

London

A Croatian View Ast. Prof. Ksenija JURISIC,

Faculty of Political Science,

University of Zagreb

A Serbian View Ast. Prof. Jelica STEFANOVIC.

Faculty of Political Science, University of Belgrade

13.00-18.00 Lunch and Afternoon Break

18.00-20.00 **SESSION II: Workshop**

Chairman: Maria Rosaria ALONGI,

CSIS, Washington, D.C.

Participants:

Pascale GAUCHER.

E.C. Commission, Brussels

Krenar LOLOÇI,

Law Faculty,

University of Tirana

Spiros POLYCANDRIOTIS,

E.C. Commission, Brussels

Marina VICHOU,

Journalist, Messimvrini,

Athens

Dr. John ZAMETICA,

Lecturer,

University of Westminster,

London -

Saturday 12 September

09.00-13.00 SESSION I: The EC vis-a-vis Eastern and Southeastern Europe

> Chairman: Prof. Loukas TSOUKALIS.

Faculty of Political Science, University of Athens & College of Europe, Brugges

Panelists:

Dr. Franz-Lothar ALTMANN,

Deputy Director, Sudost-Institut.

Munich

Roberto ALIBONI

Dr. Jérôme PAOLINI,

IFRI, Paris

13.00-18.00 Lunch and Afternoon Break

18.00-20.00 SESSION II: Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

> Chairman: Prof. Christos ROZAKIS,

> > Member.

European Commission for Human Rights, Council of Europe,

Strasbourg

Panelists:

Dr. F. Stephen LARRABEE,

RAND Corporation,

New York

Dr. Victor NADEIN-RAEVSKY

Research Fellow. IMEMO, Moscow

Sunday 13 September

19.00

(No Morning Session)

18.00-19.00 Concluding Remarks

Assoc. Prof. Yannis VALINAKIS

Deputy Director, ELIAMEP,

Athens

Dr. Shai FELDMAN,

Senior Research Associate, JCSS,

Tel Aviv

Dr. Christophe CARLE, Research Fellow, IFRI,

Paris

Award of Certificates Viron POLYDORAS,

Deputy Minister.

20.30

Farewell Reception

Monday 14 September

10.00 Departure from the Halki harbour

12.00 Arrival at Rhodes

12.00-17.00 Free time

17.30 Departure of participants from the Rhodes harbour (F/B "Patmos")

Tuesday 15 September

10.00 Arrival at the Piraeus harbour

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THE HALKI SUMMER SEMINAR 1992

2-14 September 1992 - Halki, Greece

Cooperation and Security in Europe, the Mediterranean and the Balkans

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10. Petros Telesphoros NACOUZIS

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Emeritus Professor, School of Oriental and African Studies [SOAS], London

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Lecturer in European Security, University of Westminster, London

UNITED STATES

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Deputy Director of European Studies, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, D.C.

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RAND Corporation, New York

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Journalist, Correspondent for American and European magazines and newspapers

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Division of Youth and Sport Activities, UNESCO, Paris

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79. Constantinos LOIS

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Journalist, Newspaper Elefterotypia, Athens

81. Dimitrios TRIANTAPHYLLOU

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82. Marina VICHOU [Ms]

M.A. West European Politics, Essex University Journalist, newspaper *Messimurini*, Athens

ADDENDUM

83. J.Riley SEVER

Press Attache USA Embassy

84. Spyros Economides

Lecturer, LSE

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B:BLIOTECA

Workshop Session I The Middle East and the Mediterranean

The Maghreb and Mediterranean Security (Summary by Claire Spencer)

The roots of instability in the Maghreb are demographic, economic and socio-political. Only the rise of Islamism as a protest movement and an increase in external migration have had overspill effects beyond the immediate region. Military threats are contained within the region itself, and are confined to the low-intensity conflict in the Western Sahara and the maintenance of domestic peace against Islamist insurgents. Since the mid-1980s, there has been an increase in popular uprisings against regimes which, despite recent moves towards democratization, have witnessed few changes since the independence of the Maghreb from France.

The common link between the domestic demonstrations and riots of Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia, is the youthfulness of most insurgents. Rapid demographic increases have combined with insufficient levels of economic growth to satisfy the employment market, which in tune has provoked reactions against the lack of real political and economic liberties within the region. Surplus labour also represents a pressure on neighbouring European states, as the number of North Africans attempting to enter the European Community has risen.

The growth of Islamic activism is a symptom as much as a cause of this unrest. Its roots are varied, and not entirely new to the Maghreb, but Islamism combines a national appeal with the most rejectionist form of opposition to current political systems and leaders. Incremental, and even rapid changes in the official system have done little to address fundamental dislocations in Maghrebi societies. These include the limited distribution of economic and political gains since independence, the failure of constitutions to safeguard civil liberties, and few attempts to integrate the concerns of the growing numbers of educated young within official systems. Underlying this are forms of patronage and clientelism which not only dominate relations at the upper echelons of power, but permeate the whole of society.

In the short term, the resolution of Islamist threats to political establishments is the most immediate concern to the leaderships of Tunisia and Algeria. In both states, the confrontation between radical Islamists and security forces has narrowed the political field and hindered the development of more moderate and cohesive alternatives. Opening the debate to moderate Islamists is one way of breaking down these extremes. Addressing the root causes of Islamist dissent and official corruption will take longer, and requires broaderbased support than accompanied recent attempts in Algeria to bring past transgressors to trial. The influence of Islamism has been limited in Morocco by the special position occupied by King Hassan II, as a spiritual as well as temporal leader. Islamist reactions to widespread corruption nevertheless exist, and have combined with the volatility of popular protests to prompt constitutional reforms.

Military solutions have little history in the Maghreb, army leaders preferring to control events from behind the scenes. The current military-backed regime in Algeria has a narrow legitimacy, which will lead to an increasing reliance on force if the democratic process is not re-started within two years. Expectations of positive change have been raised since the opening of political systems in the late 1980s, which in turn has focused official attentions on addressing the most pressing of economic problems.

Economic growth has been largely posited on the response of European trading partners, accounting for 75% of trade relations. Short term debt has limited the availability of public funding to create new employment and generate domestic food supplies, around 25-30% of which is imported. Despite competing demands, it is in the long-term interest of Europe to assist in economic restructuring programmes, rather than face the consequences of deterring larger numbers of migrants. The future stability of the Maghreb will be increasingly determined by popular demands and pressures, the external effects of which will only be limited by the development of more stable political and economic systems.

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SESSION I: Future prospects for Cooperation in the Area: Regional Initiatives

Dr. Victor Nadein-Raevsky
Research Fellow
INSTITUTE OF WORLD ECONOMY
AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL, IDEOLOGIC AND PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE BLACK SEA COOPERATION ZONE

As a matter of fact, the integral parts of the two former empires arranged in Istanbul on the problem of Regional cooperation. Albania, Bulgaria, Greece and Turkey were parts of a huge Ottoman Empire. As for the others - Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Moldavia, Russia and Ukraine only a year ago were the members of the Soviet Union and before - parts of Russian empire.

Regretfully, but through the history of bilateral relations of the two empires there were 14 wars among them, mutual hatred and misunderstanding. Of course there were also periods of stable peace, of trade and exchange. Now the peoples of the countries of this region came to a logical conclusion that the only way for their future relations is cooperation, but not war. That is the most positive factor of the declaration, signed in Istanbul.

It is necessary to mark some objective obstacles on the way of the effective function of the "Black sea Common market" the road to which was paved by the Istanbul documents. First group of these obstacles is connected with the complex of international relations in the region and the nearby political arena. The second one can be seen in the bilateral relations of the eleven states. The third complex of problems can be seen in some ideological doctrines spoiling the bilateral relations and bearing potential threat to the situation in the region in the whole. And at last the forth group of potential threats to the system of the Black sea cooperation lies in the field of domestic policies of the countries involved. It is obvious that some of these obstacles may influence upon the situation together and some of them may be clearly seen as independent factor of the international or bilateral relations.

1. One of the main positive factors that makes it possible to turn from the era of confrontation to the stage of international cooperation in the field of the international relations is the fall of the totalitarian communist system, that lead in the past to the East-West confrontation and spoiled the international relations in the world. This bipolar system lead to the micro conflicts, involving the superpowers whose participation in these conflicts only aggravated the situation. At the same time this system, based on the factor of nuclear treat was a factor that stabilized the world system in the whole. Besides the macro level of the international relations we may point at the regional factors of instability. One of the oldest among them is the Israeli-Arab conflict, the Iranian attempts of the "Islamic Revolution" export, the crisis in Yugoslavia that is "domestic" and international at the same time, the Cyprus problem that is the "domestic", bilateral (for Greece and Turkey), regional and all-world problem (the UN peacekeeping forces, and UN diplomats are involved here).

2. The factors of the bilateral relations that may destabilize the new system of international collaboration lie in the field of regional conflicts, bilateral tension as we can see in the Greek-Turkish relations, in the Azerbaijani-Armenian conflict that is step by step involving new regional powers, etc.

3. One of the latest examples of ideological factor graving the bilateral and regional relations can be seen in the so called "Macedonian" republic that inherited from the communist regime nationalistic doctrines, insulting the national feelings of the Greek people. The best way for the solution of this severe misunderstanding and the growing confrontation is of course the solution of all the item on bilateral basis between Greece and Skopye.

Another example is the Pan-Turkic sentiments in the Turkophone republics of the former Soviet Union and Turkey. Of course Turkey and Russia have no common borders except for the one across the Black sea, but the growing nationalism in the Turkophone regions may become a serious obstacle in the relations of the two countries, if to take into consideration that about 10 million of the Turkic speaking peoples live on the territory of Russia. A very positive action of the last period is the position of the Turkish leaders who stress their negative attitude towards Pan-Turkism.

4. As for the third group of factors bearing the destabilizing potential it is necessary to mark the policy of the countries towards their national minorities that is still a problem for some of the regional states, their respect for the human rights of their own citizens, economic stability and the lack of the effective free market mechanism essential for the future "Black sea Common market" system that is only being developing now in Russia and other countries of the former Soviet Union.

The existence of serious obstacles on the way of creation of the new organization does not mean that it is necessary to leave the idea for the better times. On the contrary, countries involved may use their cooperation for the solution of not only the economic problems, but the political as well. Because the more common they will have in their interests they will have, the better mutual understanding through the growing interdependence they can achieve. May be in future a broad cooperation of Greek and Turkish businessmen on the huge markets of Russia and other former soviet republics will help to achieve a better mutual understanding in the solution of the bilateral problems.

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ROMANIA

THE EVOLUTION OF THE ECONOMIC CLIMATE

IN THE PROCESS OF TRANSITION FROM THE CENTRAL PLANNED ECONOMY

TO THE MARKET ECONOMY

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After 1989, Romania, as an Eastern European country has been confronted with great economical problems because, as well as these countries, decided as an objective condition for the future progress, the transition from the central planned economy to the market economy.

This transition which has never been forseen by the economists, politicians or sociologists appears as a new phenomenon of the world economic and social history; it is also a novel experience and we are all the witnesses of it

Romania has already begun one of the most important periods in its history; it is a very difficult period of great changes of transition from an authoritarian structure based on state jownership to a completely different structure based on private ownership and creating new institution based on and supporting private enterprises.

The way choosed by Romania for this transition is the shock therapy. The Parliament and the Government have begun restructuring the economy according to the free-market principles. The legal basis for a market economy has been partly created and pat present Romania is on the way of large scale privatization of state property which is the most important condition for achieving the transition to a real market economy. In this respect, there have been enacted more than 140 laws in about two years; the most important are the privatization law, the law of land ownership, the law on banking activity, the law concerning the statute of the National Bank of Romania, the foreign investments law and so on.

The privatization has started in June 1992 and provides the free and equal distribution to the population of 30% of the state-own capital. It is envisaged that this process will represent a strong incentive for the economic agents. Prior to this date, certain companies belonging mainly to the light industry and tourism were offered for the process of "early privatization". Starting with this summer, about 6000 coomercial companies (estimated in value of 1460 billion lei, i.e. 53% of the value of assets in the Romanian industry) will undergo the privatization process. Other 340 commercial companies (1200 billion lei) will remain under the state control.

The privatization process includes also measures affecting housing, agricultural land (80% of the agricultural land will be owned by private persons).

In the same time, there have been adopted measures reffering to the liberalization of domestic prices and to the elimination of the state subsidies in more rounds. Similar measures have been adopted for restructuring of enterprises in the view of elimination the previous system of industrial centrals and conversion of state-owned enterprises into commercial companies and state-owned autonomous entities (so-called "regies autonomes").

The liberty granted to private initiative has been given birth to more than 300,000 new enterprises.

The liberalization of foreign trade was started by abolishing the state monopoly over this sector of the economy. It is presumed that in 1992, the private economic agents will achieve at least 50% of the export volume of Romania.

The liberalization of foreign exchange market which was made in parallel with the liberalization of foreign trade represents an other important measure in our economic reform. At present, it is used the rate of exchange daily estabilished by the banks participating at auctions.

For attracting foreign investments in Romania, the law includes provisions able to secure foreign investors guarantees and facilities as well as full and unlimited use of the results. A study drawn up by the Economic Commission for Europe (United Nations) places Romania and Hungary among the countries with the most permissive and liberal legislation for attracting foreign capital. Between 1990 and July 1st,1992 were set up 13,432 commercial companies with parteners from about 100 countries having a total capital of 390 million USD. The main flows of investors come from Western Europe (45%), Middle East (25%), Asia (17%) and North America (6%). Important partners are France, Great Britain, USA, Germany, Italy, Turkey, with activity mainly in services, commerce, building sector.

The developing of banking sector represents only a part of the financial reform. In this respect, in 1990, the functions of the National Bank of Romania have been separated by the functions of the other new-created commercial banks. The law governing the central and commercial banking activity creates a modern banking system in Romania which is still affected by the lack of the necessary banking infrastructure.

Although Romania has registered so far a significant progress in its transition to a market economy, it became evident that there are some limits in what can be achieved by the country alone without a substantial support from outside. The complex transition from a central planned economy to a market economy is not at all an easy task. The obstacles, many of them not even imagined at the beginning of the process have appeared, so that Romania is now confronted with certains problems, otherwise, common to all the ex-communist countries (decrease of production, deficits of the trade balance and of the balance of payments, increases of the inflation rate, unemployment etc.). However, at this moment of assessment of the potential of the Romanian economy it is necessary to point out that its unfavourable evolution (mainly during the last decade) as well as the difficulties it faces during this period of transition are a direct result of carrying out a thouroughly unsuitable economic model, which only succeeded to disturb an economic climate otherwise favorable.

The assesment of the potential of the Romanian economy has revealed that many of its braches require an urgent readjustment in order to reach the international levels of competitivity and to improve the living standard of population. Moreover, the process of industrial readjustment should be accompanied by substantial innovation efforts and by training the labour force.

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PEACEFUL REGULATION OF INTER-ETHNIC CONFLICTS IS THE GUARANTEE OF STABILITY IN THE REGION

SUMMARY

Armenia is traditionally connected with the states and people of Mediterranean and the Balkans. Practically in all states of the Mediterranean basin there live many Armenians, descendants of those who had a narrow escape from the genocide of Armenians of 1915 in the Ottoman Empire.

For the second time during this century, Armenians managed to restore their statehood on part of their historical motherland. The main aspect of Armenian foreign policy is to establish friendly relations with all countries and in the first place with its direct neighbours. Being a point of intersection between East and West and a boarder between Christian and Islamic Worlds, Armenia can play a great role in communicating and cooperating with the two civilizations.

All prospects and programmes of cooperation and development undergo great difficulties because of the incessant military aggression of the neighbouring Azerbaijan against sovereign Nagorno-Karabagh Republic.

It is considered in Armenia that the conflict in Nagorno-Karabagh can be solved only by peaceful, political means, by mutual concession and compromises. We highly appreciate any proposals of mediation, aimed at establishing peace and towards a just solution to the problem. Mediterranean and Balkan states can set up a special committee for preventing and forecasting international conflicts from the Balkans to the Caucusus.

Armenian authorities demonstrated more then once their good will and readiness to establish neighbouring relations with the Republic of Turkey, but unfortunately Turkey has lost its neutral position and openly takes Azerbaijan's expansionistic and neo-colonial aspirations under its protection.

Great responsibility in peaceful regulation of the conflict in the Balkans lies on the neighboring states, which must promote the quest for peace. In this connection one cannot but be worried by the desire of certain forces for the reinforcement of their influence in the southern parts of the former Yougoslavia and in Bosnia and Herzegovina and by their efforts to give inter-ethnic conflicts religious implication. These forces should reserve their one-sided and preconceived judgment of the situation in the Balkans and should not send their military contingents to those regions of the Balkans and the Caucusus where their actions could be hardly called neutral and peace-making.

Mediterranean, Balkans, and Caucusus must become a connecting link in communications between West and East, North and South. The Republic of Armenia is ready to make its valuable contribution to promote security and develop cooperation in the Black Sea-Mediterranean region.

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RUSSIAN POLICY IN THE BALKAN REGION

SUMMARY

The downfall of the totalitarian regimes in the Soviet socialist countries Union and other has changed geopolitical situation in Europe and in the Balkans. result of the disintegration of the USSR a new independent state - the Russian Federation was established and recognized as a successor of the former Soviet Union. The foreign policy of our state is just forming and its political concept is being elaborated. Russia has abandoned it's ideological approach to foreign policy affairs. Nevertheless the present Russian leadership has no complete and comprehensive concept of foreign policy based on perception of its national and state interests in the Balkan region. These Russian interests sometimes don't coincide with those of the former Soviet Union. For instance, now the Balkans are not of such strategic importance as during the Cold War period. Nowadays Russian positions and influence in the region have weakened.

Russian policy towards the Yugoslav crisis - a key issue in the Balkans today can hardly be called consistent, for government of Russia seeks to coordinate its actions with the Western countries. onthe one hand, and to pursue policy concerning the settlement of the Yugoslav conflict, on stages of this other hand. The main policy Croatia's recognition of Slovenia's and independence soon after EC's recognition of them, using its right of veto and voting against the expulsion of Serbia and Montenegro from the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, then joining in the United Nations' sanctions against Yugoslavia and finally recognition of Macedonia's independence. It should be stressed that Russian leadership's decisions to support the UN resolution as well as to recognize Macedonia's independence were estimated differently by various political and social groups of Russia society. The stand of Farliament towards Yugoslavia differs considerably from that of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

As for bilateral relations between Russia and the other Balkan states all of them are developing in their own way. For example, Russian-Turkish contacts have recently strengthened not only on a bilateral basis but also in the framework of subregional cooperation of the Black Sea countries. This Turkish initiative is considered to be useful and holds prospects for Russia.

Probably, the Russian attitudes towards certain Balkan issues will be corrected and changed. It depends on a number of internal and external factors such as Russian domestic politics, development of the situation in the Balkans and so on.

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For the past two and a half, almost three years, since December 1989, Romania has been going through a difficult and demanding period of economic, political and even social transition and change. Economically, from a rigid, ultracentralized planned economy, with all it implies, to a flexible, more efficient, market-oriented one. Socially, from an artificially-induced homogeneous society, in which peasants, workers and intellectuals alike were molded into the so-called "superior, new type of man", to a more healthy, varied society based on strong moral principles. Politically, from the tyranny of autocratic communist rule to a free, modern democracy.

Unfortunately however, the inner difficulties and menaces of transition are accompanied by potential threats and sources of instability from outside. One has only to look at a map of Romania and its neighbors to see that it is practically surrounded by such dangers: of a political nature (the sometimes openly antagonistic attitude of Hungary in what concerns Transylvania and the Hungarian minority living in Romania); of a military nature (civil war in Yugoslavia and in the Transnistria region of Moldova); of an ecological nature (the technologically out-dated and unsafe nuclear plant at Kozlodui, Bulgaria).

Under all these circumstances, Romania's security concerns are legitimate and fully justified. With the breakdown of the Warsaw Pact Treaty, which in spite of all its injustices and constraints still ensured a certain stability in our part of the world, Romania and the other former socialist countries now find themselves in the situation in which a solid defence structure no longer exists.

Thus, in order to protect and increase its national security, Romania's foreign policy is conceptually based on five main pillars

- (1) the national element, which includes solid military training, efficient ties between the main institutions of state (Government, President, Parliament, Ministry of National Defence, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), national reconciliation and a revitalized economy.
- (2) bilateral relations, by building a network of cooperation and good neighborliness ties with all its neighbors, foreseeing emergency consultations in case of need. Treaties promoting such ties have already been signed with more distant, but influential countries on the continent, such as Germany, France,

Italy, Greece, Turkey, as well as with neighboring Bulgaria, and at the present moment negociations are under way with Russia, Moldova and Hungary.

- (3) development of the CSCE process, which, by including all European states, as well as the United States and Canada, and by tackling issues in their full complexity (political, economic, military, human rights, etc.), has real chances of becoming an efficient instrument for promoting and stimulating broad cooperation between all the member states.
- (4) cooperation with the main European economic, social and political institutions: with the EEE, by beginning negociations for association; with EFTA, through the Common Declaration for Cooperation, signed in December 1991; with the Council of Europe, by participating as an observer in the deliberations of the Parliamentary Assembly and finalizing the stages towards the acceptance of Romania as a full member; with WEU and NATO, by developing contacts, exchanges and concrete programs of cooperation (mainly of a scientific and educational nature), participating in the sessions of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council and of the North Atlantic Assembly.
- (5) encouraging subregional programs of cooperation in the Balkans, in the Black Sea region and along the Danube River, in accordance with the principles of the CSCE process, and with the goal of accelerating the development of participating countries and of narrowing, as soon as possible, the economic gap separating them from the other, more developed countries of Europe.

By creating a network of subregional economic cooperation programs, a certain stability is ensured in the respective region, inevitably contributing to the general stability of the continent. For now, more than ever, security no longer implies just political and military relations, but also economic power and well-being. From this point of view, subregional cooperation may be seen as a significant part of the efforts made by all the countries of Europe to create a single European space.

Each of the three distinct, but at the same time interdependent, forms of subregional economic cooperation - in the Balkans, in the Black Sea region and along the Danube River - of which Romania is an active and constructive partner, will be analized from the point of view of their structure, content and suggested aims.

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