

CENTER FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION AND EARLY WARNING

**Project Location(s):** BUCHAREST , KISHINEW, KIEV

**Project Name:** CRISIS MANAGEMENT - TRILATERAL APPROACH –CM-TA

**Overall budget of the project (USD):** 20 000 euro

**Funding Requested from Black Sea Trust (USD):** 20 000 euro

**Duration of the project:** 5 months

**Organization:**

**Organization Contact**

**Person:**

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<b>Project Summary</b> (no more than 6 lines): This project aims to illustrate the security dilemma and the role of the perception in crisis management decision in the Black Sea Region, especially in the Trilateral sub-region of Romania, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. We emphasize the importance of perception in the decision making during crisis for each actor and we wish to develop a basic assessment of the situation of the crisis decision making mechanisms in Romania, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine and the needed changes and reforms..		
Have you <i>applied</i> to the German Marshall Fund before?	YES, date _____	NO X

Have you received a grant from the German Marshall Fund before?	YES, date _____ amount _____	
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Please fill in the table below.

Country where registered	Romania
Registration number	15160182
Date of registration	2003
Registered as: (e.g., foundation, association, governmental organization, public administration institution etc)	Association, NGO

## Project Description

**Problem Analysis-** What is the context in which the problem occurred? What is the problem/part of the problem your project will address? What are the causes of the problem, and what are its effects? Why is it important to solve this problem? Please briefly explain only the situation that is **directly related** to your project.

**This project aims to emphasize the role of the crisis management in the Wider Black Sea Region taking into account the NATO and EU expansions. After the communism was dismantled and Soviet Union fell, Eastern and Central European countries went through profound changes. Romania, as well as neighbor Ukraine and Republic of Moldova, were characterized by the rise of new democratic structures for democracy and free market economy institutions which were built from the ground and which contained a new elite meant to replace the old one. With regard to NATO and EU expansion, the Black Sea Region becomes a neighbor region very important to the organizations, where effective and legitimate civilian crisis management and civil protection become important issues on the public agendas of individual nations as well as international organizations. Civilian crises can all too easily escalate into political crises or lead to the outbreak of violent domestic or international conflicts.**

**The internal as well as external political effort characterizing Romania, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine regarding the European and Euro Atlantic integration represented a good opportunity in shaping the development of regional policies, especially in the Wider Black Sea Region. Taking into consideration all written above, we consider that we have the opportunity to initiate an important research in the field of crisis management decision and perception emphasizing the way crisis management is reflected in the public**

agenda in Romania, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine in the last years and nowadays, revealing a panoramic view of the difficulties and priorities in the near future of the region. This is why we consider that this research can represent a useful tool for the policy makers, governmental officials, and leaders of civil society as well as for representatives of the mass-media in Romania, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

The value of this study is strengthened by the trilateral address of a crisis that affects all three actors and the way that each one perceives both the crisis in itself and the decisions of others, in a good exercise to see how a security regional complex reacts and how the security dilemma is acting in this trilateral framework.

This study offers comparative and analytical elements in adopting superior techniques in evaluating decisions that involve remarkable costs at regional level. In the same time, the authors wish to encourage constructive criticism, comparative approach as well as raising the quality of public debates on these fields of interest.

The research team is composed from 6 experts, two of them from each partner organisation in Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova with respective teams involved in the project.

**Goal/Objectives:** Describe specifically what you want to achieve with this project to address the problems described above. Please list your objectives (1. 2., 3...). The presented objectives need to be specific, clear, measurable and realistically achievable within your project time frame.

The policy paper which will result due to this project aims to produce new and useful knowledge and create better conditions for civil crisis planning and crisis management in Romania, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, as parts of the Black Sea Region. This project is designed in order to offer a wide image of what crisis management is in the area comprising Romania, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

We consider this subject to be a feasible one as the Wider Black Sea Region represents an important area for the Euro Atlantic territory, border and neighborhood and any crisis developed at the edge of this area would inevitably affect the entire region (meaningless of the fact that the actors in the

region are already or are on the way to become members of any Euro Atlantic construction).

When we say crisis we think, first of all at any event that could affect the fragile equilibrium of every region, in this case starting from even a national event triggering the crisis. A crisis would threaten the interests of decision makers limiting the reaction time for taking and implementing a decision as well as taking by surprise the decision makers with the simple and unsuspected start of the crisis<sup>1</sup>. Even if the crisis is due to governmental decision makers, economic trouble, natural disaster or biological security, the crisis management should always be taken into account by emphasizing the role of planning, preventing and intervening in case of a real crisis.

The crisis evaluated is the one created by the Russian attack in Georgia, in the night from 7 to 8-th of August 2008. The event was perceived differently by all three countries as a crisis: in the Republic of Moldova it was a crisis of the future of the Transnistrian negotiations with a high level of expectance by the local public due to a strong campaign supported by the current authorities. The reaction would have to deal also with the position of the separatists from the Eastern districts of the Republic of Moldova. Moreover, the Republic of Moldova could be the next target due to the lack of capabilities to defend itself even in front of the separatists. For Ukraine, the crisis was the one of "the second in line" in the target of the postsoviet countries running for NATO, together with the internal crisis of the split on a position towards the events. Finally, Romania was involved as a NATO and EU border country in this region and a stable supporter of Georgia's and Ukraine's accession in the MAP as well as the constant support for the Republic of Moldova that could be the next targets since they all expose vulnerabilities where Russia could operate.

**Beneficiaries** Who are the direct and indirect beneficiaries of your project?

The beneficiaries of this project will include institutions, policy makers, academics, individuals and social groups affected by this issue's existence as well as think tanks interested in researches of this kind The above mentioned beneficiaries represent both the authorities and the communities in Romania, Moldova and Ukraine. Aiming to all of these groups in several countries will

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<sup>1</sup> C.F. Hermann ("On International Crises and national Security" în T.Kolodziej și P. Morgan eds. Security and Arms Control, New York: Greenwood Press, 1972, p.359



3	Meeting with all the experts for reviewing the Research Drafts (Bucharest)			X									
4	Finalising the Policy Paper			X									
5	Printing the Policy Paper				X								
6	Launching the Policy Paper in BUCHAREST , KISHINEW, KIEV					X							

**Partnerships** If you are implementing this project in partnership with another organization/institution, please describe their role in the project.

**Ukraine: Institute for Euro Atlantic Cooperation – partner and think thank**  
**Republic of Moldova: The Institute for Public Policies – partner and think thank**

**Both partners will be part of this project in terms of research, as well as the organising association. Each of the three will have an expert investigating crisis management sources in every country participating to this project and interviewing policy makers delegated with the crisis decision.**

**Community Involvement** In what ways will stakeholders participate in the implementation of the project?

**The results of the study will be launched in the media of the three countries and will be discussed with interested part at the launching moment, in an open conference. The analysis will contain as primary sources interviews with government officials and policy makers in the area of crisis management in each of the three countries taking part in the project, But also the public perception of the matter through existing expert and journalist opinions and opinion polls.**

**Local Resource Mobilization** What are the existing local resources/community assets that can be used for this project? Also, please tell us about use of volunteers or local fundraising efforts associated with this project.

**The Center for Conflict Prevention and Early Warning achieved experience in implementing several projects as vast as this one and this is why we can affirm that it has the necessary background to implement a new project of this kind. The center has the space and the necessary IT support in order to develop the**

project. Our organization also cooperates frequently with volunteers, offering an important human resource for the project implementation. The dissemination of the project results is already assured through the organizations partners' network. The volunteers will be used in local teams for realizing the assessment and partner organizations in Ukraine and Republic of Moldova will cover their respective administrative costs through local found raising.

Please tell us how this project will **link and bring citizens closer to their governments.**

If this is a regional project, please tell us how this project will **enhance regional cooperation and collaboration.**

**Between the three organizations there is an older cooperation begun with other several regional projects. This project introduces as a new element the cooperation of decision making authorities. This cooperation not only improves the information or the exchange of ideas at regional level but we also links the communities with the rational for decision making in key issues that affect the whole society.**

**By disseminating the results of this research in the proper way we can firmly say that we will improve not only the regional cooperation between members of the civil society but we will also improve the cooperation between the civil society and the decision makers.**

Please describe any **potential risks** involved in implementing your project and what is being done to minimize these risks.

**As organisers, we are expecting a potential risk in a lack of answer from the Moldavian or Ukrainian authorities to our questionnaire, a risk that we may reduce by the choice of experienced partners. Our partners are organising and developing a tight cooperation with the involved authorities. Through their activity they have proven to be serious and to develop fundamental points of view regarding the way we can improve reality and the lessons we will learned through this project.**

## **Expected Results**

**Outputs**      What will be the outputs of your activities?

- 1. Policy Paper with the basic assessment of the situation of the mechanisms in Romania, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine and the needed reforms and updates in terms of crisis management.**
- 2. Public debates involving the Policy Paper resulted from this project**
- 3. Dissemination of the analysis through decision making actors.**