

I. Project name

The russian-georgian war: impact on the change of the international relations

II. Timeframe and Location

<i>Phase/Activity</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Implementing organization</i>
<i>PHASE 1 Preparing study Russian-Georgian war Trips and research</i>	<i>ROMANIA, Georgia Ukraine, Moldova</i>		<i>2009</i>	<i>CPCEW</i>
<i>Conference</i>	<i>ROMANIA</i>	<i>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i>	<i>8 October</i>	<i>CPCEW</i>
<i>PHASE 2 Preparing study Russian-Georgian war 2 years after</i>	<i>ROMANIA</i>		<i>February-April</i>	<i>CPCEW</i>
<i>Organising conference</i>	<i>ROMANIA</i>		<i>March-April</i>	<i>CPCEW</i>
<i>Conference</i>	<i>ROMANIA</i>	<i>Bucharest</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>CPCEW</i>
<i>Publication Policy Paper</i>	<i>ROMANIA</i>	<i>Bucharest</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>CPCEW</i>

III. Project Executive Summary

MAIN ARGUMENT: The Russian-Georgian war in August 2008 has raised numerous questions about the future of the Wider Black Sea Region, and even the new changes that such a move is showing in the International Relations architecture: are we moving back to spheres of influence, exclusive intervention areas, at least for Russia, do we have a new Russia aiming and capable of becoming a global power again, what is the space of the global balance and of the relations EU/Russia, what is the perception of the countries in the region linked to their future and to the relations with Russia.

In this respect we already drafted an assessment of the decision making in crisis during the Russian-Georgian war after study tours in Georgia, Ukraine, Republic of Moldova, working with experts in the region. Now our aim is to see what happens after one year of Obama administration, what is the situation two years after in a final conference that also will point out Romania's perception on the war and on the processes that developed afterwards.

GENERAL ASSESSMENT: Romania held one of the longest borders of NATO and EU with the neighboring states, the biggest part of them being aspirants to membership. Since NATO's and EU's main role in the area is projecting regional and global security, this fact is of first importance for Romania's perception of its security and the security of its neighboring countries

The new strategic concept that NATO is drafting nowadays to be approved in the next Lisbon summit is of most interest for Romania, as an Alliance member at its border, but also for all the countries in the post/soviet area, member of the Partnership for Peace program, of the Eastern Partnership of the EU program, and the lessons learnt from the war in Georgia, as long with the effects in time of this crisis become the center of our study.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT: The main purpose of the project is to increase the awareness of the Romanian public and to the countries in the region on the decision making

system during crisis and the consequences of the Russian-Georgian war. The follow up of the situation in the International Relations, after the election of president Barack Obama, the resuming of the relations with Russia by the EU and NATO, the formulation of the reset politics between US and Russia and the perspective of the adoption of the new NATO Strategic Concept are in the forefront of our objectives

The Project should offer the following tangible results:

- contributing to a deeper understanding in Romania of the role of the Russian-Georgian war in the changes of the nature and architecture of the International Relations
- providing to the public and officials lessons learnt and the good practices from the decision making during the Russian Georgian war in the countries like Georgia, Ukraine, Republic of Moldova, Romania
- presenting a study according to the CRISMART methodology in assessing and analyzing the system of decision making in the four countries.
- stimulating NGOs, think tanks and experts from the region to share visions and perspective of the situations of the Russian-Georgian war and the post Russian-Georgian war changes in the international community approach to Russia
- stimulating NGOs, think tanks and experts from the region in **proposing improvements** in the areas where the countries seams to make hesitation or error in managing the crisis and the post-war period
- consolidating the positive approach and the expertise of the Romanian Administration, Academic Research and Civil Society networks, in the Wider Black Sea Region, in projecting common security through cooperation.

(b) Draft Program or Project Outline (i.e. structure, timelines, etc.)

1. Preparing the study on the decision making during the Russian Georgian war, Romanian's perception, effects in time, lessons learnt and good practices from the Georgian, Ukrainian and Republic of Moldova's experiences.

February-April 2010, 14 international experts, 5 Romanian experts.

2. Organizing the International Conference on the Russian-Georgian war, two years after, lessons learnt, good practices, the changes in the international stage, perception of the region countries on Russia, on their policies and the future of the respective countries and of the Wider Black Sea Region.

3 Romanian staffers from the Centre,

3. International Conference "The Russian-Georgian War: two years after"

120 participants, 14 foreign guests from Russia, Georgia, Ukraine, Republic of Moldova, US, UK, EU officials, diplomats, NGO, academics, Romanian authorities.

Last week April 2010.

**4. Editing, printing and launching the policy paper on the Russian-Georgian war
May 2010**

IV. Project Content

- Background/context of this project

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.

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, with inputs from Russia, Georgia, the US, UK and EU experts.

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.

- Activities to be conducted within this project

The activities described below are:

Preparing the policy paper on the decision making in crisis in the four countries

Preparing the conference with an international participation and inputs from the new lessons learnt and time effects of the Russian-Georgian war, including the inputs of the developments in the policies at the global level – election of President Obama in the US, new reset policy towards Russia, resuming EU and NATO relations with Russia, new Strategic Concept of NATO, revision of the Anti ballistic missile shield project, revision of the NATO enlargement policy towards Ukraine and Georgia – and at the regional level - elections in the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Ukraine.

- Target audience and beneficiaries of this project

As we have seen the target audience of the whole process is first the involved groups in the elaboration of such a paper, the contributors to such a theoretical and practitioner oriented paper and the decision makers. Also, through the media, the debates of the final conference will be reflected to the large scale of the people interested in the security matters, including their own security as well as the effective spending of their tax money. The policy paper will be circulated to both officials and decision makers as to the NATO officials and diplomatic community.

- Working language(s) and translation(s) of this project

English. *with Romanian as a second language for the policy papers.

V. Results and Evaluation of Results

What are the expected practical short- and medium-term results of this project?

Channeling a national debate, through designed groups, on the security issues of Romania and its vicinity. Lessons learnt and good practices for the officials, think tanks, NGO communities and officials of the countries in the Wider Black Sea Region from the Russian-Georgian war and the changes that it prompted in the next two years.

What are the anticipated long-term results of this project?

Rising awareness on the security issues that face Romania and the region, on the choices that the leadership of the countries in the region could make, on preparing to face new threat according to the perceptions of the respective public and the international changes of the environment.

What will be the local impact of this project?

It will introduce an important societal contribution to the elaboration of Romania's position on the decision making in crisis and on the future of the region, on the perception of the neighboring countries. It will show the public the complexity of matters and the fact that it can be involved in the process.

What will be the international impact of this project?

It will show international public the position of Romania's society and perception of the countries in the region on current developments during and after the Russian-Georgian war. It will also show the Romanian public interest in consulting the opinions and knowing the threat perception of the countries in the region as well as the arguments and reasons for their decisions during and after the crisis, the way that the lessons learnt are translated into practice, in reforming institutions, changing behavior and foreign policy, nuancing the alliances and agreements of mutual support. The developed process will give the international community the sense of a well established position, with important arguments and a serious process developed.

What methodology will the applicant use to evaluate this project?

Impact and opinions of participants, quality and acceptability of the policy paper, public debate on the findings, public media coverage, reactions of the diplomatic community and of the NATO/EU officials towards the debates, the conference and the final policy paper.

What indicators will the applicant use to measure the results of this project?

Number of participants, ideas debated, proposals and recommendations during the conference, number of participants at the regional conference, media coverage and debate of those ideas.

What follow-up is planned to continue tracking this project's impact after its completion?

The project itself is a follow up of the already developed research in the decision making during the Russian-Georgian war and is aimed at seeing the lessons learnt, good practices and changes that the war produced to the countries in the region and the countries involved.

VI. Participation

Preparation paper Russian Georgian war – 3 participants-NGO's representatives

Launch Russian Georgian War – 60 participants

Preparation paper two years after - 20 authors, 6 experts

Conference – 120 participants – Academia, students, experts, professors, media, diplomats