Transparency and Governance of Private Military and Security Services

May 30-June 1
Sié Chéou-Kang Center for International Security and Diplomacy
Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

3:30pm    Introductions and background for workshop participants

This workshop is part of an ongoing series of annual workshops aimed at enhancing the information available about private military and security services and their regulation. In addition to unveiling a new web portal that serves as an annotated guide to regulation, data and reports related to private military and security services, this workshop will explore recent developments in the governance of the private security sector.

4:00pm    Public Session: Overview Private Security Monitor and the State of Regulation

Welcome by Ambassador Christopher Hill, Dean of the Josef Korbel School of International Studies

The opening panel will outline developments in the regulation of private military and security services. The co-chairs will introduce the Private Security Monitor web portal and the panelists will discuss ongoing regulatory efforts and continuing challenges. We ask each panelist to speak for 10-15 minutes.

Co-Chairs:

- Deborah Avant, Sié Chéou-Kang Chair for International Security and Diplomacy, Josef Korbel School of International Studies
- Anne-Marie Buzatu, Coordinator, Privatisation of Security Programme, Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)

Panelists:

- Josh Dorosin, U.S. Department of State and Government member of the ICoC Temporary Steering Committee
- Jon Huggins, Director, Oceans Beyond Piracy
- Faiza Patel, Chair, UN Working Group on the Use of Mercenaries
Thursday, May 31, 2012

9:00am  International Code of Conduct: Governance and Oversight Mechanism

How have the different stakeholders participated in drafting the governance and oversight mechanism? What are the challenges encountered by the multi-stakeholder process? How is the charter likely to be revised? What are the hurdles to an effective governance and oversight mechanism? What is the way forward? We ask each panelist to speak for 5-10 mins so we have plenty of time for discussion.

Chair: André du Plessis, Project Officer, Privatisation of Security Programme, Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)

Panelists:

- Mark DeWitt, Deputy General Counsel, Vice President, Government and Regulatory Affairs, Triple Canopy, Inc. and Corporate member of the ICoC Temporary Steering Committee
- Josh Dorosin, U.S. Department of State and Government member of the ICoC Temporary Steering Committee
- Melina Milazzo, Advocacy Counsel, Law and Security Program Human Rights First

10:45am  Standards and Guidelines

ASIS International is leading an ongoing process to develop standards for private sector security providers in keeping with internationally recognized norms of civil and human rights. What does the standards drafting process entail? What are its strengths and weaknesses? What role are these standards likely to play in contracts? How should we best think of the relationship between the standards and the Montreux Document and the International Code of Conduct? Will standards reinforce these initiatives? Could they undermine them? How easy will it be to translate these standards to maritime settings? We ask each panelist to speak for 5-10 mins so we have plenty of time for discussion.

Chair: Renée de Nevers, Professor of Public Administration, Syracuse University

Panelists:

- Doug Brooks, President, International Stability Operations Association
- Chris Mayer, Director, Armed Contingency Contractor Policies and Programs at U.S. Department of Defense
1:00pm Governments as Clients and Regulator of PMSCs

What challenges do PMSCs pose to government regulation and enforcement? How have different governments approached these challenges? How do these efforts relate to the Montreux Document, the International Code of Conduct, and developing standards? Some governments are also clients of private security services while others are not. Does a simultaneous role as client and regulator help or hinder the regulatory process? We ask each panelist to speak for 5-10 mins so we have plenty of time for discussion.

Chair: Christopher Hill, Dean of the Josef Korbel School of International Studies and former U.S. Ambassador to Iraq

Panelists:

- Ren Xiaoxia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China
- Moshe Schwarz, Specialist in Defense Acquisition, U.S. Congressional Research Service
- Sabelo Gumede, Senior Researcher in Security Sector Governance, Institute for Security Studies, South Africa

3:00pm United Nations as a Client and Regulator of PMSCs

The UN working group on the use of mercenaries has as part of its mandate to develop basic principles to encourage respect for human rights by PMSCs. The Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Business and Human Rights also introduced principles relevant to the regulation of PMSCs. In addition, the UN hires private security companies to protect its enterprises. What are the challenges various part of the UN has faced with regard to private military and security services? Is there an effective relationship between the UN’s role as a regulator and its role as a client? We ask each panelist to speak for 5-10 mins so we have plenty of time for discussion.

Chair: Deborah Avant

Panelists:

- Faiza Patel, Chair, UN Working Group on the Use of Mercenaries
- Stuart Groves, Independent Security Consultant and former Senior Security Manager and Security Focal Point in the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- William Godnick, Public Security Program Coordinator for Latin America and Caribbean, United Nations
Friday, June 1, 2012

9:00am Companies as Clients and Regulators of PMSCs

It has become increasingly common for companies operating in violent areas to hire private security companies. Signatories to the Voluntary Principles also pledge to use these services in a way that respects human rights. How do companies decide about whether to hire PSCs and who to hire? Does their role as client also have regulatory implications? We ask each panelist to speak for 5-10 mins so we have plenty of time for discussion.

Chair: Don Mayer, Professor in Residence, Daniels College of Business, University of Denver

Panelists:

• Gerald L. Kloski, Manager, Corporate Security, Marathon Oil Company
• Meg Roggensack, Senior Advisor, Business and Human Rights, Human Rights First; NGO member of the ICoC Temporary Steering Committee

10:45am NGO’s as Clients and Regulators of PMSCs

Some NGOs have played a critical role in advocating the regulation of private military and security services. But other NGOs also hire private security providers for protection in the field or for security training and many humanitarian and development NGOs interact with private security providers on the ground. What are the challenges NGOs face with private security providers? What is the relationship between the roles of critic and client among NGOs? We ask each panelist to speak for 5-10 mins so we have plenty of time for discussion.

Chair: Larissa Fast, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Notre Dame

Panelists:

• Amaury T. Cooper, Deputy Director, Risk Management & Global Security, International Relief & Development (IRD)
• JJ Messner, The Fund For Peace
• Rebecca DeWinter Schmitt, Assistant Professor, American University School of International Service

12:00pm Lunch, Discussion of the Private Security Monitor Project, and Closing Remarks

This panel will be devoted to commenting on, and discussing future development of, the Private Security Monitor web portal.