

## Report on Graduate Travel-Research Grant

Thanks to the Graduate Travel-Research Grant awarded by the Centre for European Studies at Carleton University from June 20 until July 3, 2009 I conducted research interviews in Warsaw and Brussels. My doctoral dissertation addresses the Europeanization of Polish security and defence policy within the 1999-2009 timeframe. I have talked with Polish officials who handle - or have done so in the past - European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) issues at relevant ministries in Warsaw and who have been posted to EU institutions in Brussels, as well as analysts. Several individuals I interviewed had in the past or currently hold senior positions within their respective organizations.

In Warsaw I interviewed a former deputy minister of national defence, an officer at the General Staff, officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, analysts at the Polish Institute of International Affairs, a staffer at the Office of the Committee for European Integration, an expert at the Ministry of Economy and a former staffer at the presidential National Security Bureau. I was also able to conduct research at the National Defence Academy, as well as procure a number of books, including memoirs by leading politicians involved in security policy decision-making, which are inaccessible in Canada. While in Warsaw, I was also privileged to have been allowed to sit in at a lecture on the role of the European Defence Agency (EDA) in capabilities generation given to the officers of the general staff by Brigadier-General Jon Mullin, EDA Capabilities Director, during his official visit to Poland.

In Brussels, I interviewed officials from the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, including experts in the EU Military Staff and DG E VIII, a senior official in EDA, as well as civilian and military experts from the Polish Representations to the EU and NATO. I also established contact with several staffers from the DG RELEX European Commission.

In light of the paucity of literature on the impact of the EU on Polish security and defence policy since the 2004 accession and a general cloak of secrecy surrounding defence issues in general the interviews have been extremely valuable in supplementing scarce information on this subject, pointing out new areas for inquiry and assisting me in confirming or revising some of my assumptions. It seems I was correct in conceptualizing Europeanization more broadly than a mere "EU-ization" - *as a process at the domestic level in which member states' policies, institutions and ideas are affected by new practices, norms, rules and procedures resulting from the emergence of a European system of security governance*. The internationalization of the armed forces and the socialization experience garnered through the adaptation to NATO have to an extent helped Poland adjust to the demands posed by the development of the ESDP, whilst in some ways also constraining policy. I have been able to observe first-hand the "Brusselization" effect when conversing with Polish officials seconded to the EU institutions or involved in a two-way transmission (and, indeed, translation) of EU and national security policy. Changes are discernible, though the longer acculturation to the NATO environment will delay the corresponding impact of the EU on the national security apparatus and procedures. Thanks to the interviews I have scaled down my ambitions of mapping the transformation in the defence industry under the pressures of European-level restructuring. My empirical chapter on the civilian capabilities generation would benefit further from interviews at the Polish police HQ and the military gendarmerie, which I have not been able to accommodate due to scheduling difficulties. I will look for another grant opportunity, if possible, to complete research in this area.

I would like to thank the very helpful staff at the Centre for European Studies who have made my research travel possible – Professor Robert Gould, Olga Arnaudova and Natasha Joukovskaia. Words of appreciation are due also to my supervisor Dr. David Long for his unswerving support.