

INTRODUCTION

The success of the European experience in arms control and confidence-building has left some scholars and policy makers wondering whether the processes developed in Europe can be applicable and successful in other regions of the world.

The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) are examples of regional organizations, which focus in part on international security issues. They have been developing simultaneously on opposite sides of the globe and are undergoing significant transitions as new challenges and opportunities emerge in the post Cold War era.

This study compares the CSCE and ASEAN in terms of their organizational histories and structures as well as their experiences in the fields of arms control, confidence-building and verification. The aim is to establish whether there have been any similarities or linkages in these areas between the two organizations.