



**European Initiative  
for the exchange  
of young officers  
inspired by Erasmus**



**Common Module  
CSDP Olympiad**

**Regulation  
on how to  
present  
essays**



## **Author's note:**

On initiative of Cyprus and by decision of the Implementation Group for the European Initiative for the exchange of young officers inspired by Erasmus the Common Module CSDP Olympiad was approved in 2011.

The CSDP Olympiad takes place every two years. EU Member States holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union are encouraged to conduct the CSDP Olympiad according to the rules agreed within the Implementation Group.

For students – ear-marked to participate in the CSDP Olympiad – the first step is to pass Autonomous Knowledge Units (AKUs), in parallel, students must write an essay referring to a selected CSDP topic. The essays are to be authored according to the *“Regulation on how to author & evaluate Essays”*.

The essays are to be presented during the CSDP Olympiad's residential phase. The present regulation describes how these presentations should be conducted and how & in which fields points could be achieved.

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## **2. Aim and Purpose of the Regulation**

### **2.1 Aim of the Regulation**

The aim of this regulation is to assure a fair preparation for the presentations of the essays.

If Officer Cadets / Students follow this regulation, they can achieve the most possible points for their essay-presentations.

### **2.2 Purpose of the Regulation**

The purpose of this regulation is to provide guidelines for Officer Cadets / Students but for commission members (jury members) as well. When reading this regulation it should be clear how many points for which parts of the presentation could be achieved.

This regulation determines also the values' calculations for essays and essay-presentations which could be achieved during the different phases.

### 3. Calculations for achieving Points

For the first part, the points of the **essay's result** are taken: ..... **0-100 points (50%)**

During the residential phase each Officer Cadet / Student is to present his/her essay. Officer Cadets / Students are divided into syndicates; within each syndicate neither persons from the same country should be present, nor just those ones who received most or fewest of all essay-points. A good "mixture" of persons – also males and females – should be state of the art of a syndicate.

The **essay presentation** within the syndicate ("first round") has a value of: ..... **0-50 points (25%)**

For the second round ("final round") eight to ten Officer Cadets / Students are foreseen. It is up to the Implementation Group upon consultation with the CSDP Olympiad organisers to find a fair system for the second round's participants.

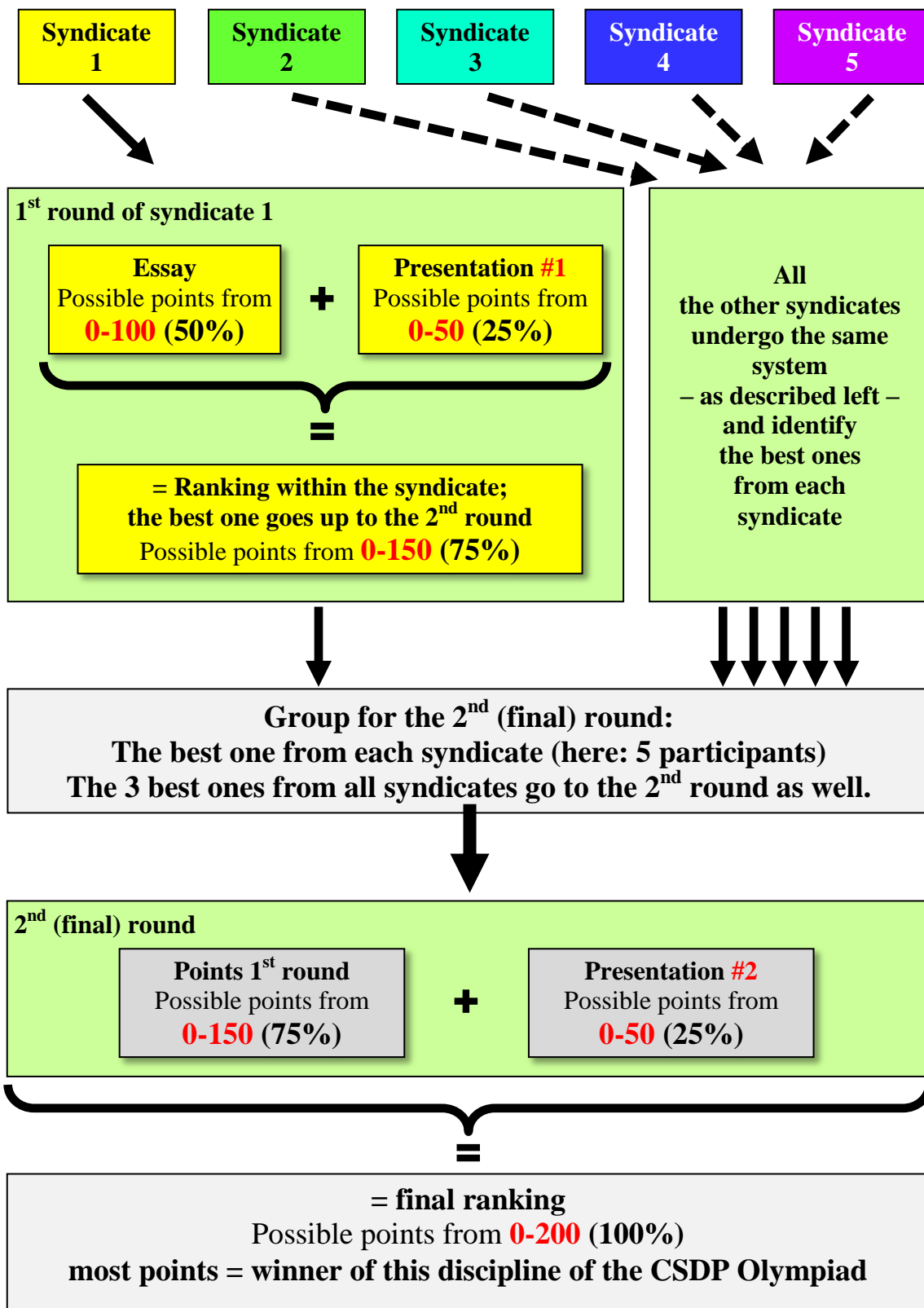
Examples:

- If five syndicates are created, the best ones from each syndicate and the three best second places may go up to the second round – then there will be eight participants for the second round.
- If more than one Officer Cadet / Student achieve the same points (essay points and presentation points added together results in the same number of points) then both persons go up for the second round.

The **essay presentation** of the second (final) round has a value of: .... **0-50 points (25%)**

In total, **100% (200 points)** can be achieved. The Officer Cadet / Student who achieves the most points is the winner of this discipline of the CSDP Olympiad.

The next page illustrates the system which is described above.



Sketch 1: System for the rounds of presentations.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sketch created by the author.

## 4. Composition of the Evaluation Commissions

### 4.1 Evaluation Commission for the first Round

- Commission members should have a certain expertise on how to evaluate presentations.
- Within each syndicate at least **five** commission members have to be present. If possible, Implementation Group members are part of these commissions.
- The CSDP Olympiad organisers assure such a composition of the respective commission, that members do not evaluate Officer Cadets / Students from their own country.
- More commission members are better – if more commission members are present, it must be an odd number.
- Within each syndicate commission a “head of commission” is to be identified. The organiser of the CSDP Olympiad assures that the head of commission receives a list of the syndicate (Officer Cadets / Students with their names and the points achieved for their essays).
- The head of commission organises that the sequence of the presentations within the syndicate is drawn by lot.
- During the presentations, spectators can be present – but not those Officer Cadets/ Students who are going to present.
- Each commission member fills-in the evaluation sheet (see last page of the present regulation). The **average** number of points from all commission members results in the final points for one Officer Cadet / Student. **The best and the worst results (points of two commission members) are to be deleted.**
- At the end of all presentations the head of commission announces the results in front of all syndicate members.

## 4.2 Evaluation Commission for the second (final) Round

- Commission members should have a certain expertise on how to evaluate presentations. **If possible**, the Head of European Security and Defence College (ESDC), the Chairman of the Implementation Group, the Training Manger of the ESDC and the chief organiser of the CSDP Olympiad should be members of this commission.
- At least **five** commission members have to be present.
- More commission members are better – if more commission members are present, it must be an odd number.
- Within the commission a “head of commission” is to be identified. The organiser of the CSDP Olympiad assures that the head of commission – or a person who is responsible for the calculations – receives an electronic list (Officer Cadets / Students with their names and the points achieved for the first round).
- The head of commission organises that the sequence of the presentations within the syndicate is drawn by lot.
- During the presentations all the Officer Cadets / Students who did not reach the points for the final round have to be present – other spectators could be present as well – but not Officer Cadets / Students of the final round (just the Officer Cadet / Student who is presenting).
- Each commission member fills-in the evaluation sheet. The average number of points from all commission members results in the final points for one Officer Cadet / Student. The best and the worst results (points of two commission member) are to be deleted.
- At the end of all presentations the head of commission announces the results in front of all.



## 5. Evaluation paper for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> (final) round

Officer Cadet's / Student's NAME, Forename	Country

Evaluator's (Commission Member's) NAME, Forename	Country

<b>Syndicate number (just for the 1<sup>st</sup> round) →</b>	
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No.	Description	Achievable points	Points achieved
01	The Cadet/Student <b>introduces</b> him-/herself ([rank] / name / country / service / institution).	<b>2</b>	
02	The Cadet/Student mentions which <b>topic</b> he/she is presenting.	<b>2</b>	
03	The <b>problem</b> and/or the <b>research question(s)</b> are mentioned.	<b>2</b>	
04	Which <b>methodology</b> is used to solve the problem is mentioned.	<b>2</b>	
05	The <b>results</b> are described.	<b>4</b>	
06	The Cadet/Student mentions his/her <b>own opinion</b> onto the result(s). He/she discusses the result(s) from different points of view.	<b>8</b>	
		<b>Total: 20</b>	
07	The entire presentation has a <b>clear structure</b> (e.g.: table of contents – main part – summary).	<b>4</b>	
08	The entire presentation has a certain <b>quality of visualisation</b> (sketches / pictures / graphs / etc. are used – not just reading from a paper or the slides).	<b>4</b>	
09	For each slide, which contains sketches, graphs, tables, or pictures – the <b>source</b> is mentioned (on the slide or verbally). <i>For each missing source – 1 point less. Negative points are not possible.</i>	<b>4</b>	
10	The Cadet/Student has a clear and <b>understandable language</b> .	<b>2</b>	
11	The Cadet/Student is able to convince the evaluators about the importance of the topic (or non-importance of the topic) with <b>clear arguments</b> .	<b>8</b>	
12	The Cadet/Student complies with the given <b>time-limit</b> (10 min.). <i>Each minute more or less than 10 min. results in 2 points less.</i>	<b>8</b>	
		<b>Total: 30</b>	
13	<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	