

Implementation Group

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**Meeting of the Implementation Group for the
European initiative for the exchange of young officers
(inspired by Erasmus)**

on 25 February 2014, 09.30 to 15.00 hrs

Draft minutes

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Due to the sickness absence of the Chair of the IG, the meeting was chaired by the Head of the ESDC.

The Agenda has been approved unanimously.

2. Draft Minutes - approval

The IG adopted the draft Minutes of the meeting on 12 December 2013 (Document IG/2013/013 rev.1).

3. Presentation of the "booklet on cadets"

The project team manager of the booklet on cadets, Paolo Verzone, presented the photo booklet project on European cadets and young officers which so far includes photos from many European Military Academies and Institutes. The team's aim was to raise awareness of this project and to get some support for finalising it at relevant European academies.

It was concluded that the team can address the ESDC Secretariat as appropriate which would help them in this case to make easier contact with relevant military academies of the Member States. Access to specific military academies would remain subject to bi-lateral contact between the project team and the military academy.

4. Presentation of the "Extended Hand Project"

A team coming from ACT NATO presented the "Extended Hand Project" (intercultural online video dialogues where small groups of cadets engage with people from foreign countries). It could be used not only for military but also for police, also in the context of European missions and operations.

The IG took note of the presentation and concluded that those training actors interested in using this tool should directly contact the contact person for the initiative who is Serge Da Deppo (serge.dadepo@gmail.com, tel +1(757)747-3747).

5. Greek Presidency of the European Council. Update on the initiatives

The Greek representatives presented an update on their initiatives in particular on the state of affairs of the 2nd Olympiad providing details on the final residential part taking place in Athens in May. They informed the IG that 4 cadets did not deliver their papers. The Board agreed that they will not take part in the final competition in Athens.

The Secretariat informed the IG members about the state of affairs as regards the evaluation of the papers..

6. LoD 2 – Way ahead and current state of activities

This point has been dealt together with the IG Chair who was connected with the Group via a phone call.

The IG Chair started to introduce the essence and key points of his working paper on the "Comparison of Courses based on Competences". He underlined that progress on the LoD2 and the proposed way ahead will also be a condition for the envisaged development and establishment of an IT platform.

Following the discussion, the Group could not reach an agreement on the way ahead and on the competence tree as proposed in paragraph 5 of the working paper.

The members of the group have been invited to provide as soon as possible their written comments and suggestions on this including on the descriptors at the Annex of the working paper to allow the IG to come back on this subject in its next meeting on 9 May with the aim to finalise this **by the 11 of April**.

The Chair also asked the IG members to consider taking the lead of the LoD2 after the previous lead had left the Group.

The Secretariat has distributed an updated list of LoD 2 POC.

7. LoD 6 - Exchange Opportunities – Newsletters way ahead

With view to the elaboration of an IT platform (LoD4), for which Bulgaria has declared its intention to lead the work, Mr. Sylvain Paile (University of Liège) has presented a proposition for gathering the data which the platform shall contain. This would be made basically through an update of the Compendium of the Officers Basic Education, which was published in 2011. The IG in principle agreed on the project and the method proposed, for which the collaboration of all the EU education and training institutions would be required.

The Chair, in his capacity as Head of the ESDC, explained that the implementation is also subject to available financial support for this approach and that he is searching for possible solutions.

As regards the Newsletter, for the time being it is going to be published further on regular basis, likely with the Secretariat in lead after the arrival of Symeon Zambas in the ESDC Secretariat.

8. Lod 7 – Mobility of military staff

Czech Republic has informed the IG about the initiative which involves the mobility of military staff from Academies and Institutes of Czech Republic, Austria, Romania and Hungary and the benefit of possible participation of other MS.

9. Lod 8 - Common modules and curricula revision

Austria has presented in details the initiative called "International Semester Military Leadership" which will be offered to all Member States starting with September 2014 and a new Module called "Basic Military English". The IG has agreed on these initiatives.

The IG has approved the re-revised version of the LOAC-Module (Document IG/2014/003).

The representative of the Italian Air Force Academy proposed an initiative "Leadership and Agility in Complex Environments" which will take place from 19 to 23 May 2014 at the Italian Air Force Academy in POZZUOLI – NAPLES (ITALY). The IG agreed on the proposal as a pilot activity. After evaluation the IG will consider to adopt this course as a new Common Module.

The representative of the Italian Army presented the results of the CSDP Common Module which took place in December 2013 and presented the CSDP Common Module which will take place from 5 to 9 May 2014 at Training Command and School of Applied Military Studies, Post Conflict Operation Study Centre of Turin. The IG gave its support to the initiative.

10. Work plan - preparation for 2014

The IG discussed and updated the work plan for the next academic year. A new version will be circulated by the Secretariat.

11. Update on ESDC developments

The IG members have been informed on most recent developments regarding the implementation of the new Council Decision including among others:

- the recruitment of new ESDC Secretariat staff, in particular the arrival of the Military Expert in the Secretariat on 3 of March;
- the adoption by the Steering Committee of the new Rules of Procedures of the IG;
- the finalisation of the Erasmus information booklet.

12. List of IG Members

The Secretariat has distributed an updated list of IG members.