



Implementation Group

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Date : 9 March 2011
Origin: SECRETARIAT

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

on 22 February, 14:00 hrs

in the 'Ecole Royale' building, Avenue Cortenbergh 115, 1000 Brussels

Approved Minutes

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted unanimously

2. Feedback from the meeting of LoD Chairpersons

The Chairman of the Implementation Group reported on the results of the meeting he had with the different Chairpersons of the Lines of Development. In general, a lot of emphasis was placed on financial aspects, in support of exchanges of cadets /young officers, teachers/instructors and even IG members. In the light that a solution on the European level will likely not easily be found, solutions at a national level could be considered.

The Emilyo website should be revised to see if it can be better structured and possibly made more attractive. A volunteer to operate as animator of the web site and forum would be useful.

LoD 1 is considered as completed successfully, including the revision of the Users Guide in order to further define/clarify the criteria for mutual recognition of vocational activities.

LoD 2 is completing its work plan, but would need more input from the different academies (including those not represented in the subgroup) about course curricula with the description of the learning outcomes in terms of knowledge skills and competences. The subgroup will try to present its results by midst 2011.

In LoD 6 no significant progress has been made, due to the fact that no chairperson has been identified. Nevertheless, a first Newsletter has been presented under agenda item 6, and the contacts with single service academies are planned according to the work plan under agenda point 7.

The meeting of LoD 7 subgroup in February was cancelled due to a lack of participants. Several members signalled continued interest in the project and a next meeting will be held in Brussels in September 2011, in the margins of the IG meeting.

Concerning LoD 8, the existing common modules are highly appreciated, as they offer more feasible opportunities to exchange a greater number of young officers, compared to the traditional semester-long exchanges. New topics should be identified amongst those that are already in the common to the Member States in the existing curricula, underlining that there is no need to 'invent' new subjects.

It was also clarified that these modules can also focus on single service subjects of interest. The Commandants Conferences and the Deans/Study Directors meetings can be the major references for identifying the most appropriate topics and identify potential issues.

The Framework Arrangement is starting to be used by several Member States. There is still some reluctance by some, fearing that the counterpart will not accept the Arrangement. The secretariat will compile and distribute an overview of all the Member States that have already signalled that they will use the Framework Arrangement. The Secretariat will also again send out a request to report to the Secretariat if the Member State wants to use the Framework Arrangement as a rule, on a case-by-case basis or does not want to use it. Notification should be sent once by an authority clearly authorised to do so.

3. Annual Report - Adoption

The Group revised the draft report presented by the Secretariat. The Secretariat will distributed the revised version together with these minutes to be adopted by a short silence procedure, with a view to forwarding it to the ESDC Steering Committee.

4. Common Curriculum on Law of Armed Conflicts - Adoption

Based on the comments made during the meeting, the LoD 8 subgroup will revise the draft curriculum. The revised version will be distributed by the Secretariat to be adopted under silence procedure.

5. Contact list in the different Academies/Military Universities

A list of points of contacts, working on international exchange programmes in the different academies was distributed by the Secretariat. The members are invited to further elaborate this list.

6. Exchange Opportunities - newsletter

Mr Sylvain Paile presented a draft Newsletter containing information on the different exchange opportunities. The aim is to complete the offers already made by the single services. Some additional volunteers for this project should be identified, so that the Newsletter can be published 4 times per Academic year, in sync with the IG meetings. The Newsletter will be distributed by the Secretariat to all IG members and will be posted on the Emilyo website. The members are also invited to publish this newsletter on the websites of the different training institutes of the Member States, and include appropriate links in the websites of the Commandants Conferences.

7. Work Plan

The work plan was further elaborated. A new Line of Development was suggested concerning the exchange of teaching staff and for research. A revised work plan will be distributed by the Secretariat.

Considerations will be made on the possibility to organise a ToT seminar in Brussels in the margins of the 1st module next CSDP HLC (Sept. 2011).

Regarding the Single Service Conferences, a Deans meeting of Naval Academies and the EUAFA Commandants meeting are already planned in May, while the annual EMACS will be hosted in Poland in October.

8. AOB

The were no points treated under this agenda item.

Done at Brussels,

For the Implementation Group:
The Chair,

(Signed)

Cesare CIOCCA

For the Secretariat,

(Signed)

Dirk DUBOIS
