

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

on 13 June 2013, 10.00 hrs (at Club Prince Albert, Rue des Petits Carmes 20, Bruxelles)

Draft Minutes

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted with a cancellation of the agenda point 11. on EUMS study on Training & Education.

2. Information by the Head of ESDC and the IG Chair

The IG was informed on the points discussed with the CEUMC. The IG Chair and the CEUMC agreed on two main ideas: - to prepare a 5 year report of the 'Military Erasmus' initiative and - to create more synergies between the IG and the EUMC Working Group.

The IG Chair introduced officially the new Chairperson Dirk Dubois, who will take his functions from next September.

The Head of the ESDC welcomed the new IG members and informed the IG on the new Council Decision establishing the ESDC and the implementation plan.

3. LoD 2 - discussion and way ahead

The LoD2 Chair informed the IG on the state of affairs and way ahead on the definition of a common Sectoral Qualification Framework (SQF), based on the "tree of competences" previously elaborated and on the discussions made in the last IG meeting. The document in support of the work of the LoD2 WG is available on Emilyo website.

She reported on the meeting held with the representatives from Frontex, who will soon start with a joint masters degree.

The LoD2 meeting followed on 14 June 2013 with the aim to come up with a realistic timetable for the LoD2 workplan.

The IG Chairman encouraged the active engagement of the national PoC's, reminding the need of information (qualifications, job descriptions, etc.) necessary for a realistic elaboration of the SQF, even if their academies could not be interested currently in the exchange programmes. He also emphasised that all IG members should play an active role in this respect.

4. LoD 6 - Exchange Opportunities – Newsletters way ahead

The LoD 6 chair presented the draft Newsletter. The Italian offer will be added to the Common modules and the final Newsletter will be published on EMILIYO.

The Chair raised the following points:

- he put a strong plea to the MS to provide more Common modules; In order to achieve this a member of the IG proposed to present the Common Modules curriculum to the EMACS meeting, taking place from 16 to 18 October 2013 in Lithuania.
- In order to have more common modules the chair suggested to propose a common time frame for the conduct of the modules. Some IG members reply that such practice has already been proven to be efficient. A suggestion to have the common modules in the week of 9 May, when the EU is celebrating Schuman's day was also considered.
- following the Cyprus initiative to have a CSDP Olympiad every two years and the Greek offer for the 2nd Olympiad in 2014, the third CSDP Olympiad could be organised in 2016 under the initiative of the next presidencies (NL and SK). He proposed that the POC from the NL or SK come in contacts with the Greek representatives in order to follow the preparations for the current CSDP Olympiad and emphasised that the preparations for the event should start 1 year in advance.
- The Newsletter should include an article with a positive experience from each Common module written by a young cadet, showing also photos from this experience and he asked the academies PoC's for their support in providing the article and to designate a "photo PoC" for each Common Module.
- He made a plea for more LOD 6 representatives. The Austrian colleague accepted to join the LoD6 team but more members would be welcome.
- Would be beneficial to combine the International Military Academic forum 2013 (iMAF 2013) to take place in Austria from 23 to 27 September and the preparations/finalisation of the 5 years report of the initiative

The IG had an exchange of views on the copyrights for publishing photos. A member of the IG suggested to think the way of communicating the initiative to the wider public and consider the use of the Social media, addressing better the younger generation.

5. LoD7 – Erasmus Intensive Programmes

The LoD7 Chair / CZ representative handed over the invitation to the LoD 7's meeting to be held in Brno on 15 October 2013 and presented the agenda (invitation to be distributed).

Mr Pirozzi from the European Commission presented to the IG the Erasmus programme 2014-2020 and how the charter works (presentation to be distributed). Among others the concept of "blended mobility" has been taken in consideration for future plans.

The IG had an exchange of views on the subject. A member of the IG suggested that MS should report to the IG which military academies implemented the Erasmus charter. He considered that this information could be useful for the 5-years report. He also suggested to have the available statistical data, that could be mutually beneficial, available to the IG.

Mr Pirozzi informed the IG that the European Commission plans to issue a brochure in a press conference by the end of 2013 with an overall report including all statistical data.

6. LoD 8 - Common Modules

The IG was informed on the state of affairs on the Common Modules

The Italian representative had a presentation on the Common module organised by the Scuola d'Applicazione dell'Esercito, taking place in Torino (IT) from 16 to 20 December 2013. The CSDP Common module will have 30 students, 10 places will be offered to EU MS students. The offer is included in the 8th Newsletter. An invitation will be forwarded by the ESDC Secretariat.

Austrian representative informed on the Common modules organised by Austria in the first week of December, the common module on the Law of armed conflict and the common module on PPI (all offers are in the Newsletter).

The IG members are invited to consider further offers from their Academies.

A side-issue of the common modules is related to the criteria to be adopted for delivering certificates with credits/workload. The Chair of the LoD 6 presented the outline for the certificates (to be distributed) for the CSDP Olympiad.

Following a debate on the ECTS awarded to the CSDP Common modules, the IG will revert to the CSDP Common module curriculum and it's review in it's next meeting.

7. CSDP Olympiad - information

Representatives from Greece informed the IG on the details concerning the second CSDP Olympiad competition organised under the Greek Presidency to the EU in 2014.

The CSDP Olympiad will be organised from the 7 to 9 May 2014. Deadline for registrations will be 15 August 2013. Details are available in slides (distributed).

The IG had an exchange of views on the lessons learned and the competition for the cover page. It was also suggested to define new questions for the knowledge competition.

Concerning the scoring of the papers, it was suggested that a third persons scores the paper if the two original scores differ significantly.

The MS are kindly asked to send the names of possible correctors of the competing papers.

8. Drafting the 5-year Progress Report since the establishment of the initiative – Development of the text and information on the way ahead

The initiative will soon celebrate its 5th year of existence and following a meeting of the IG Chairman with the CEUMC, a five year report will be drafted and prepared. The Chair drafted a template facilitating the drafting of the report from the MS. He asked the IG members to send their comments and contributions to the ESDC Secretariat and him directly (cesareciocca@libero.it) as he will take the responsibility to contribute in drafting and finalising the 5 years report.

9. EUMS study on Training & Education

Due to the need to do some further fine-tuning of the EUMS study, this agenda point was cancelled and will come back in the agenda of one of the next IG meetings.

10. Workplan

Greece proposed to have the IG meeting in the margins of the CSDP Olympiad, on the 9 May 2014 in Greece.

The IG updated the Workplan (distributed).

11. AOB

Austrian representatives handed over the invitation to the International Military Academic Forum 2013, to take place in Wiener Neustadt from 23 to 27 September 2013. (distributed by the ESDC Secretariat to the members of the IG on 7 June 2013). The deadline for registrations is 19 July and all the IG members and representatives of institutes are kindly invited to this event.

The IG meeting was followed by the meeting of the LoD2 Working Group on 14 June at 10.00 in the premises of the ESDC Secretariat .