



Name of the event	<b>Common Module CMO/PSO A</b>
Institution, which organised the event	<b>Theresan Military Academy</b>
Country of the organiser	<b>Austria</b>
Year of the event	<b>2021</b>
Date of the event (from-to)	<b>29 November - 03 December 2021</b>
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From November the 29<sup>th</sup> to December the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Common Module “*Basics of Crisis Management Operations*” took place in Wiener Neustadt, Austria, in the Theresan Military



Academy, which was the organiser-Academy. This one-week Common Module of international character was attended by cadets from various European Military Academies, such as Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Italy, Czech Republic, Croatia, Romania as well as 2 cadets from US Navy and 3 civilian students under the “European Initiative for the Exchange of Young Officers - inspired by Erasmus” of the European Security and Defence College. The HMACSO actively participated with two 4<sup>th</sup> year cadets, one from the economical and one from the medical

branch. Mainly, the Common Module revolved around a wide spectrum of topics associated with fundamental principles regarding crisis management procedures and was conducted with all mandatory COVID-19 protocols being strictly applied.

The aforementioned Common Module combined both lectures by Austrian Officers and syndicate work sessions. The topics presented were related to parameters such as the Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC), the legal challenges in multinational operations, the leadership in multinational peacekeeping operations, and ways of handling wounded or killed in action soldiers. Additionally, cadets were encouraged to discuss and analyse major aspects of the crises European countries have been undergoing. Such group works included the migration crisis in Northern and Southern Europe, the challenges and risks



posed to the European Union by non- European countries as well as a comparative study of the different ways each national army is structured and how they all cooperate into common protocols of action in cases of EU-operations.

During the educational procedures, the multinational synthesis of the syndicates proved to be of great significance, taking into consideration both the teamwork accomplished and the



exchange of various ideas and opinions, leading to the forging of friendship bonds, genuine feelings of deep estimation and mutual respect and a common understanding as members of the wider European family. Aside from this, it has to be underlined that a truly intense sense of alliance was inspired by realising the common threats different European countries have been confronted with and by sharing the view of a much more powerful and effective in crisis management Europe. On the last day of the educational week, an examination procedure based on the taught content took place so as to certify cadets'

sufficient knowledge on the subjects and their participation.

To conclude, as far as the HMAESO cadets, in particular, are concerned, cornerstones of their experience from this common module were the important enrichment of knowledge on the topics approached, the acquaintance and the intensification of the cooperation with cadets from other countries and the entailed social horizons' broadening in parallel with the warm hospitality in the facilities of the TMA and the steps made towards the direction of constant self-improvement in multiple levels. Quite as importantly, the participation in this common module set the foundations concerning the participation in operations as those studied in the module and the maximisation of the contribution of future European officers to them.

