



Name of the event	Common Module Common Security and Defence Policy
Institution, which organised the event	Theresan Military Academy
Country of the organiser	Austria
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Common Module on Common Security and Defence Policy

From 24 to 28 October 2022, the Theresan Military Academy conducted the Common Module CSDP in Wr. Neustadt. Military personnel and students from twelve nations took part in this module. Austria participated in the CSDP module with the class of General Körner. This is the oldest class at the academy, which will be sent out to the troops next year. The module focused on international cooperation and the exchange of young officers in the context of current international relations.



Getting to know each other and networking



The week was opened with a lecture by the Secretary General of the Federal Ministry of Defence, Dr. Arnold Kammel. The officer cadets started with a sports event, which ensured a successful start to this international module. Through a game of dodgeball, the international guests had the opportunity to get to know each other. Furthermore, the cadets of

the Theresan Military Academy gave a guided tour through the oldest military academy in the world. The evening of the first day ended in the award ceremony of the dodgeball competition, which took place in the military academy casino during the ice-breaker event.



Fulfilling the mission together

On Tuesday, the focus was on syndicate work, where the officer candidates had the opportunity to discuss defence-related topics in the context of the European Security and Defence Policy. The syndicate groups were mixed, so that different approaches to military issues could be discussed. Interesting discussions arose, which were then presented to the plenum. Various experts supplemented the knowledge of the officer candidates afterwards with their additions. This was particularly interesting for young future officers, as training is usually dominated by Austrian approaches.

Immersion into Austrian customs and culture

In the middle of the week a trip to Vienna took place. The syndicates got a guided tour through the military museum and the Vienna city centre. Since this tour was right on Austria's national day, the international students had the perfect opportunity to engage with Austrian culture. International relations were tightened during a joint lunch, and the relaxed atmosphere helped the module participants to get to know each other and the different military cultures better.

Share experiences among each other

On Thursday, various officers shared their operational experiences and tips for multinational operations with the participants. Highlights were presentations on operations in Afghanistan and Bosnia. This day was complemented with further syndicate work tasks. International missions are part of the basic tasks of the Austrian military, thus real mission experiences from the international environment are an important addition to this module and gave up-to-date insights into the future mission of the officer cadets.



All good things come to an end

After an exciting week filled with many new experiences, the CSDP module ended on Friday with a closing ceremony. From the perspective of the officer candidates, it was an extremely valuable week to sharpen skills and abilities in working with soldiers from other nations.

