

**36<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Implementation Group for the  
European Initiative for the Exchange of Young Officers  
inspired by Erasmus**

**on 9-10 November 2017**

**EC Building LOI / LOI 130. B  
Rue de la Loi 130, 1040 Bruxelles (1<sup>st</sup> day)**

**EEAS 9A Rond Point Schuman, 1046 Bruxelles (2<sup>nd</sup> day)**

**Draft minutes**

1) The chairman welcomed the 31 participants from 17 EU Member States and 27 Institutions.

2) **Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted.

3) **Minutes approval.**

The group approved the minutes of the 35<sup>th</sup> meeting.

4) **Update by the Chair on all LoDs**

The Implementation Group (IG) Chair presented the respective objectives, achievements and roles of the states and their participating institutions for each line of development (all presentations are temporarily available on: <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191>).

In particular:

a) **LoD 2 – Development of competences:** The agreed descriptors, which will be used for all new module descriptions, are available on: <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/976>. The Chairman – as well as the Head ESDC – presented them to the European Military Academies Commandants' Seminar (EMACS 2017).

b) **LoD 3 – Development of Internet Distance Learning (IDL):** New IDL modules completed via Strategic Partnership (SP). Access would be possible soon via the EMILYO homepage.

c) **LoD 5 – Framework:** The Chairman explained its importance to the EMACS 2017.

IG members were asked to continue to request the adoption of the revised LoD 5 framework via their chains of command.

- d) **LoD 6 – National implementation of the programme – Strategic Communication:**
- The ESDC Military Training Manager has participated in and given a briefing on the Initiative at the NATO Annual Discipline Conference for Military Contribution to Peace Support 01-02 November 2017, in Geneva.
  - The Chairman gave a detailed outline of the Initiative to the EMACS 2017, 17-19 October 2017, in Tartu.
  - The Chairman sent a letter to the EUMC Chairman and he will send a letter to all Commandants / Superintendents before Christmas.
  - The Hellenic Army Academy, the Hellenic Naval Academy, and the Hellenic Air Force Academy reported that the planning of the event for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary had been officially approved as proposed at the previous IG meeting. Further information and a more detailed schedule would be presented at the IG meeting in February 2018. Registration would take place via the EMILYO webpage.
  - The ESDC Secretariat nominated for the award of the title of the first honorary IG member the EU Military Committee Chairman, General Michael KOSTARAKOS. Supporting the nomination, the ESDC Secretariat referred to his strong and diachronic support of the Initiative in the context of the EUMC by including the Initiative several times in the Agenda of the Committee meetings, giving the floor to the Chairman of the Initiative, to the ESDC Military training manager but most importantly using his personal time to promote it. The Hellenic Army Academy strongly supported his nomination, noting that General KOSTARAKOS, when Chief of the Hellenic National Defence General Staff, contributed substantially to the Initiative, as he issued orders by which the 3 Hellenic Academies were to implement at least one Common Module and to follow the necessary steps to ensure alignment with the Bologna Process. The results of his efforts are the European Month, in which the Hellenic Academies have implemented one Common Module for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row, new Common Modules that have been adopted by the IG and last but not least the implementation of the International Semester from the Hellenic Army Academy. The group voted and unanimously decided to award General Kostarakos the first honorary IG membership.
- e) **LoD 8 – Common Modules/offers**
- **Fourth 'CSDP Olympiad':** The residential phase of the Olympiad would take place in Bulgaria from 21-24 May 2018. The 46 cadets from 14 MS are on the thesis - writing part. The deadline for cadets to submit their thesis is **8 December**. The deadline for the cover page competition will be extended until 31 December 2017.
  - The Hellenic Air Force Academy (HAFA) presented the draft curricula of three modules: Space Applications for Security and Defence, Military Ethics – Part I and Part II. The three curricula will be discussed in detail in February meeting.
  - The Swedish National Defence University (SNDU) presented the draft curricula of two modules: Irregular Warfare and Military Strategy. Unless silence is broken by 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017 CoB, the two curricula will be adopted as 'common' (attached docs).

- The Polish University of Technology (MUT) presented two upcoming offers, the sport and shooting games for cadets 8-12 May and the Common Module, Advanced Tech in Borders Surveillance, 18-22 June. Details are available on the EMILYO homepage (<http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191> and <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878>).
- The Spanish Academia General Militar presented the evaluation for Exercise Tierra 2017. The exercise took place in Saragoza from 19 June to 7 July and it would be offered again next summer for 15 international participants.
- The Chairman presented the results of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cadet Leadership Development Exercise (Military Leadership B), co-organized by Austria and the Cypriot National Guard in Cyprus from 11-22 September 2017 with the participation of 17 trainees and 8 trainers from 5 MS. He underlined the importance of this common module as it is part of the International Semester and the Train the Trainer part would 'produce' the necessary number of trainers. He also mentioned the very harsh conditions and the challenges of the climate conditions which makes this training one of a great value. The CY representative thanked all the participating Academies, trainers, and trainees for their excellent performance. CY will check the possibility of organizing the same training next September and inform the group in February meeting, accordingly.
- The IT Naval Academy presented the outcomes of the Seminar on Leadership for Midshipmen.
- The Hellenic Military Academy presented the outcomes of the International athletic-educational activity 'Leonidas Trophy' conducted from 12-18 September 2017.
- The Hellenic Military Academy announced the implementation of the International Semester as a whole, as the sixth semester of their Bachelor Academic programme from 26 February until 13 June 2018. The number of places for international participants was set at 20. The Chairman congratulated the Academy on being the first Academy to implement the SPP International Semester as a whole, emphasising that this is the ideal example of the way forward.
- Austria informed the Group about the results of several common modules organized by the Theresan Academy and about upcoming common modules and other exchange opportunities (information available on EMILYO homepage - <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878>).

## 5) ESDC eLearning

The ESDC Secretariat informed the Group regarding the ESDC eLearning procedures and the available Autonomous Knowledge Units.

## 6) EU Military Disciplines

EU Military Staff presented the 21 EU Military Disciplines which are functional training categories that in support of a military capability for CSDP military missions and operations. The ESDC Secretariat strongly suggested checking the possibility of creating new common modules inspired by these 21 disciplines to increase the added value of the IG outcomes and their relevance for other EU military training initiatives.

## 7) **DG Education and Culture**

A DG Education and Culture representative presented 'The strategic dimension of Strategic Partnerships from the European Commission's perspective' and the 'Opportunities and perspectives for Transnational Cooperation – Strategic partnerships in Higher Education'. The Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships application deadline under call 2018 is **21 March 2018**.

## 8) **Strategic Partnership Project (SPP)**

The Project Coordinator from MULF Wroclaw presented the SPP and updated the IG members on the current project implementation as follows:

- E-books are ready.
- E-learning & didactic materials for all modules are ready.
- All the material would be only available on the MULF's servers to the institutions in the EU responsible for officers' education.
- The implementation of the project outputs is planned as follows:
  - The education institution implements the International Semester as a whole, as one of their Bachelor Degree -level semesters.
  - The education institution implements, modules of the developed International Semester in various semesters throughout entire Bachelor Study Programme.
  - The education institution implements selected modules of the International Semester in their academic programme, and runs them as independent, one or two-week modules.

In a second presentation she elaborated on how to start a new SPP, how to apply, and what is important during project preparation.

## 9) **Update on the ongoing work on the 'Joint Master's Degree in CSDP'**

The IG Chair gave an update of the 'Interdisciplinary Joint Master's Study Programme on Common Security and Defence Policy' (120 ECTS), which would be offered jointly by three institutions – in Austria, Poland and the Czech Republic. The institutions in Austria and Poland had already signed the agreement; however, the Czech Republic is in the process of accreditation. The updated plan is to start with Winter Semester 2019.

## 10) **Update on iMAF 2018**

The Chair informed the Group that the iMAF 2018 would take place in Budapest from 18 to 21 June 2018. The topic was discussed at the LoD7 meeting in Brno, Czech Republic and would be the following:

- The results of Strategic Partnership Project (SPP) are enough?
- Which are the new threats we are facing?
- How can we identify the military tasks in the changing security environments?
- The need to change basic military education to respond to new threats and challenges.

## **11) Information about EMACS 2018 and 2019**

The Theresan Military Academy would host the EMACS 2018 in Wiener Neustadt, Austria from 24 to 27 October 2018. For the first time all services will be invited.

The Land Forces Academy in Sibiu, Romania, will host the EMACS 2019 from 12 to 15 June 2019.

## **12) Discussion on the pool of trainers**

In order to facilitate lecturer exchanges, IG members were requested to provide the ESDC Secretariat with lists of potential lecturers, with a view to creating a database in a restricted area on the EMILYO homepage. IG members who had not yet done so were invited to create this list and send it to the ESDC Secretariat ([Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu)). Non-academic instructors are also welcome.

## **13) Proposals for the agenda of the 37<sup>th</sup> IG meeting in Brussels**

The group proposed including on the agenda updates on SPP, EMACS 2018, 4<sup>th</sup> CSDP Olympiad, 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, presentation of modules and common projects. The 37<sup>th</sup> meeting would take place in Brussels on 20 (all day) and 21 (half day) February 2018.

## **14) Work plan – contributions/update**

All relevant information can be found on the EMILYO homepage. The next meeting (37<sup>th</sup>) would take place in Brussels on 20 February 2018 and a second half-day on 21 February to which all IG members were invited, with a view to creating strategic partnerships resulting in common international semesters – bringing together naval, air force, technical and medical academies/universities – under Erasmus+.

The Belgian Royal Military Academy, Spanish Army Academy and Polish Military University of Land Forces offered to host one of the future IG meetings in Belgium, Spain and Poland with possible dates, 4-5 September 2018, May 2019 and November 2019 (Poland), to be confirmed.

**IG 2<sup>nd</sup> special day for Naval, Airforce, Technical and Medical Academies/Universities with a view to creating strategic partnerships resulting in common international semesters under Erasmus+**

**(all IG members were invited)**

**10 November 2017 from 9.00 to 13.00**

**(EEAS 9A Rond Point Schuman, 1046 Bruxelles)**

**Draft Minutes**

- 1) The Project Coordinator from MULF Wroclaw gave to the interested Academies all the necessary material regarding the starting of a new SPP.
- 2) The ESDC Secretariat reminded the group that the Steering Committee of the ESDC, thus the 28 MS, based on the experience of the International Semester, promoted the creation of such a semester for naval and air force academies and technical universities.
- 3) The meeting was organized in three different groups as follows:
  - **Naval Academies**

The Hellenic, Bulgarian, Spanish and Italian Naval Academies and the Swedish National Defence University discussed the possibilities for creating a new Strategic Partnership Project with a view to setting up a Naval International Semester. The ESDC secretariat underlined the importance of such a project which is also directly related to work strand 5, 'Maritime Security Research Education and Training' of the **European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS) – Action Plan** adopted by the General Affairs Council (attached doc. 15658/14).
  - **Air Force Academies**

The Hellenic and Polish Air Force Academies discussed the possibilities for creating a new Strategic Partnership Project with a view to setting up an Air Force International Semester. They will intensify their bilateral communication, focusing on the possible content of such a semester and on identifying more partners.
  - **Time frame**

The Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships application deadline under call 2018 is 21 March 2018. It seems feasible for Naval and Air force Academies to prepare and submit the applications on time. If they are selected, they will receive funding and they will have 2 years to prepare the content of the semester. The Chairman, the ESDC Training Manager and the SPP Coordinator from MULF Wroclaw made themselves available for any further support.
  - **All the rest**

The rest of the group discussed the possibilities as regards important next steps to promote the Initiative. The outcomes were:

    - The Chairman should not only send a letter to all EU (Rector-) Commandants & Superintendents, but also to key personnel at MOD-level and/or General Staff. To identify the right persons, IG

members of the respective country will provide their names and postal addresses according to a form which is attached to the meeting minutes (see attached form).

- The list of (Rectors-) Commandants will be updated (attached form).
- More meetings will be conducted outside Brussels at Basic Officer Education Institutions (see item 14 of the first day).

To provide a better overview, all requests are summarised in the table below:

Request:	Send to:
<p><b>Comment on the LoD 5 paper (framework).</b> The goal is for your institution or your country to provide the ESDC with an official statement. If this has not been started yet, try to get an answer from those responsible. (See <a href="http://www.emilyo.eu/node/982">http://www.emilyo.eu/node/982</a> - LoD 5)</p>	<p><a href="mailto:Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu">Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu</a></p> <p>or announcement in the Steering Committee</p>
<p>Mark in blue and red the <b>autumn/winter and spring/summer academic semesters</b> of your institution. Create new lines if necessary. (<a href="http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191">http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191</a> )</p>	<p><a href="mailto:Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu">Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu</a></p>
<p>Create a '<b>pool of lecturers</b>' list for your institution, listing lecturers who are willing to teach abroad, preferably under Erasmus+. (<a href="http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191">http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191</a>)</p>	<p><a href="mailto:harald.gell@bmlvs.gv.at">harald.gell@bmlvs.gv.at</a></p>
<p>If you want to post a <b>mobility offer</b> on the EMILYO homepage, send the dates and a short description (in PDF format) – or a link if you post it on your homepage. (See <a href="http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878">http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878</a>)</p>	<p><a href="mailto:harald.gell@bmlvs.gv.at">harald.gell@bmlvs.gv.at</a></p>
<p>If you want to post <b>any documents</b> on the EMILYO homepage, send them <b>in a single pdf document.</b></p>	<p><a href="mailto:harald.gell@bmlvs.gv.at">harald.gell@bmlvs.gv.at</a></p>
<p>Encourage <b>cadets or students to write a report</b> on an event with international participants. Please include pictures. (See <a href="http://www.emilyo.eu/exchange_experience">http://www.emilyo.eu/exchange_experience</a>)</p>	<p><a href="mailto:harald.gell@bmlvs.gv.at">harald.gell@bmlvs.gv.at</a></p>
<p>Update the list of the Names, postal &amp; email addresses of the Commandants and Superintendents and to provide additional PoCs in MoDs and General Staffs</p>	<p><a href="mailto:harald.gell@bmlvs.gv.at">harald.gell@bmlvs.gv.at</a> &amp; <a href="mailto:Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu">Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu</a></p>