

**41st meeting of the Implementation Group
for the European Initiative for the exchange of young officers
inspired by Erasmus**

19-20 February 2019

**Albert Borschette Conference Centre
Rue Froissart 36,
1040 Brussels**

Draft minutes

- 1) The chair and the ESDC Secretariat welcomed the 63 participants from 17 EU Member States and 40 institutions presence in this 'record-breaking' meeting (concerning the number of participants), thanking them all for their active and fruitful contribution which resulted in a great number of training offers and exchanges.
- 2) **Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted with the addition of the following items:

 - a) Italian Naval Academy proposal for an International Semester.
 - b) Creation of new Line of Development (LoD 11 – International Naval Semester).
 - c) Italian Military Gymnasium – European School curriculum.
 - d) Presentation on gender issues by EEAS.
 - e) Presentation of the European Defence Agency.
 - f) Feedback on the Senior Cadet's seminar on leadership, feedback on the winter camp Morocco and presentation of the international fall semester by the Royal Military Academy in Brussels.
 - g) Feedback of the 10th anniversary and presentation of the common module maritime security by the Hellenic Naval Academy.
 - h) Presentation of the project "EMilEW" - 1st Erasmus Military English Week by the Military Academy Lisbon.
 - i) Presentation of the new Erasmus project "European Universities" by the Romanian Military Technical University.
 - j) Presentation of new ideas and way ahead for LoD 9 by the Polish LoD 9 Chairman.

3) Approval of the minutes

The group said that the minutes of the 40th meeting are considered approved since no one broke the silence procedure. <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/872>.

4) Update by the chair on all LoDs

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

In particular:

a) LoD 6 – National implementation of the programme – Strategic Communication:

- The Hellenic academies presented the outcomes of the 10th anniversary event organised in Athens from 7 to 12 November 2018 and followed by 163 participants from 13 EU MS, US and CA. The ESDC Secretariat will extend the period for receiving photos for the 10 years of the Initiative album **until 1 April**.
- Romania/“Nicolae Balcescu” Land Forces Academy informed the group about the upcoming EU Military Academies Commandants’ (EUMACS) Seminar 2019. The seminar will take place from 12 to 14 June 2019 in Sibiu. All services are invited to participate following the successful EUMACS 2018 event.
- Austria/Theresan Academy informed the group about the upcoming International Military Academic Forum (iMAF) 2019. The Forum will take place in Reichenau Castle in Austria from **20 to 23 May 2019**. For the first time it will be organised back-to-back with the 42nd IG Meeting, which will take place in the same venue from **23 to 24 May 2019**.

b) LoD 8 – Common modules/evaluations and offers:

- Italy/SA-Torino informed the group about the upcoming training offers:
 - CSDP common module from 4 to 8 March 2019;
 - Law of Armed Conflict common module from 6 to 10 May 2019.
- Austria/Theresan Academy presented the outcomes of the International Semester organised from 29 September to 20 December 2018 which has been followed in part or in full by 62 Cadets and students from 11 countries.
- Belgium Royal Military Academy presented an offer for an International Semester, 30 ECTS for Autumn 2019 and the outcomes of ‘leadership for senior cadets’ seminar 2019 organised in Brussels from 21 to 25 January and the ‘Winter camp’ organised in Morocco from 21 January to 1 February 2019, which were followed by 78 participants (30 foreign cadets) from 18 countries and 70 participants (14 foreign cadets) from 11 countries respectively.
- Cyprus/National Guard informed the group that for the fourth consecutive year Cyprus will organise the ‘Leadership B’ common module from 2 to 13 September 2019. The first week will be for training the trainers only.
- Greece/Hellenic Naval Academy informed the group about the upcoming

'Maritime Security of the EU' common module scheduled from 1 to 5 April 2019.

- Italy/Italian Air Force Academy presented the outcomes of the "Leadership and Agility in Complex Environment" (LACE) Common Module organised from 8 to 12 October 2018 and the details of the 2019 edition of LACE to be organised from 30 September to 4 October 2019 in Pozzuoli, Italy.
- Sweden/Defence University informed the group about the upcoming training offers:
 - Military Strategy common module from 1 to 12 April 2019
 - Irregular Warfare common module from 14 to 25 October 2019

c) LoD 9 – Future Projects:

Polish Military University of Land Forces (MULF) invited all the interested parties to convene at the first LoD9 meeting 18 September in Wroclaw, Poland.

d) LoD 10 – Gender Mainstreaming:

The Senior Gender Expert to the EEAS Principal Advisor on Gender, Charlotte Isaksson, gave a keynote speech to the group in the context of the creation of the LoD 10.

e) LoD 11 – International Naval Semester:

The Superintendent of the Italian Naval Academy (ITNA), Admiral Ribuffo, briefed the group on his Academy proposal regarding the content of an International Naval Semester and a detailed well-founded roadmap. Since November 2018 ITNA has initiated and arranged meetings with several Naval Academies, the IG Chairman, and the ESDC Secretariat with a view to discussing the different options with many potential partners before preparing the presented proposal. As a first concrete step forward ITNA will offer an International Naval Semester in English, in a modular structure, from the autumn semester of 2019. ITNA supported the candidacy of Cdr Patrizio Perin for the chair of LoD 11 and the IG accepted him unanimously. ITNA will host the first meeting of the LoD 11 in Livorno from 27 to 29 March 2019.

f) Air Force International Semester:

The ESDC Training Manager, Lt Col Symeon Zambas, has taken the lead temporarily and will coordinate the initial input from the Air Force Academies regarding requested module topics in an Air Force International Semester.

5) 5th CSDP Olympiad:

The 5th CSDP Olympiad will be hosted by the Croatian Defence Academy. The residential part will take place from 1 to 5 June 2020 in Dubrovnik. The group discussed and selected the 10 topics (see attached document) for the thesis-writing competition based on an ESDC suggestion of 15 topics.

The representative of MUT Warsaw questioned the number of CSDP Olympiad participants to be assigned per country and suggested that the

number should instead be assigned per institution. He argued that there is no logic in keeping places for countries which do not participate in the Initiative and most probably will not in the future, at the same time limiting numbers for others which are interested. With around 2 000 cadets now at MUT, assigning only one could be perceived internally as a form of preventing students from gaining knowledge about the CSDP. In its current format the Implementation Group is the group of Institutions/Academies that are willing to cooperate, rather than countries. Last but not least, he added that CSDP Olympiad has an evaluation stage, when it is decided which essay has met the criteria and the organiser/host nation then could determines how many students it can accommodate for the finals.

A discussion followed but no consensus was reached; the Chair of the group therefore decided to leave the rules of participation as they are.

6) European Defence Agency (EDA):

The EDA/Head of Unit Technology & Innovation, Panagiotis Kikiras, presented to the group the different EDA projects, tools, services and funding opportunities which could be utilised by the Military Academic Institutions.

7) Discussion of the pool of trainers:

In order to facilitate lecturer exchanges, IG members were asked 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). Non-academic instructors are also welcome.

8) Discussion of the academic semesters:

In order to facilitate exchanges, the chair asked the IG members to record the beginning and end of their summer and winter semesters in a Word document (available on the EMILYO homepage <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191>).

9) Proposals for the agenda for the 42nd IG Meeting in Austria:

The group proposed, including on the agenda: chair extension, updates on the CSDP Olympiad, logo, quality assurance procedures, Lines of Development charring, EUMACS 2019, iMAF 2019 outcomes, presentation of modules and common projects.

10) Work plan:

- All relevant information could be found on the EMILYO homepage. The next meeting (42nd) would take place in Reichenau Castle in Austria from 23 to 24 May 2019 back-to-back with the iMAF 2019.
- The 43rd IG meeting would be hosted by the Belgian RMA in Brussels from 3 to 4 September 2019.
- The 44th IG meeting would be hosted by the Romanian Police and Air Force Academy in Bucharest and Brasov from 9 to 12 December 2019.
- The 45th IG meeting would take place in Brussels from 18 to 19 February 2020.

- The Polish Military University of Land Forces offered to host one of the future IG meetings.

11) AOB:

- a) Portugal/Military Academy informed the group about the 1st Erasmus Military English Week in the context of a new project 'EMiLEW'.
- b) Romania/Military Technical Academy informed the group about the 'European Universities Initiative'. The group decided to invite an expert from DG EAC to present the project in the context of the 43th meeting in Brussels.
- c) Italy/CASD presented a new project regarding the Military School "NUNZIATELLA".
- d) Romania/Air Force Academy gave an update on their International Semester project under Erasmus+.

IG 2nd special day for Naval, Air Force, Technical and Medical Academies/Universities with a view to creating strategic partnerships resulting in common international semesters under Erasmus+ and LoD 10 1st meeting

(all IG members were invited)

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Draft Minutes

1) Medical:

The Hellenic Military Academy of Combat Support Officers and the German Bundeswehr Medical Academy in Munich discussed in detail the '**Biosafety and Bioterrorism**' Non-Common Module. The specific module curriculum, which is the first in the medical area, has been developed by the Hellenic Academy. The module curriculum will be discussed in the context of the next IG Meeting.

The Academies expressed their willingness to create partnerships and exchanges under the Initiative in the medical domain. They will exchange more information on a bilateral basis. They will contact other Medical Academies in the EU.

2) Naval Academies:

On the basis of a proposal created by the Italian Naval Academy, the Bulgarian, Hellenic, Italian, Latvian, Portuguese, and Spanish Naval Academies discussed the different possibilities for creating a new Strategic Partnership Project with a view to setting up a Naval-oriented International Semester. The Italian proposal describes the possible content of such a semester and is also provides a detailed and well-founded roadmap. The ESDC Secretariat once more underlined the importance of such a project, which is also directly related to work strand 5 of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS) – Action Plan, 'Maritime Security Research Education and Training', and the specific MS recommendations of the last two General Annual Reports on ESDC Activities (GAREA).

The Naval Academies adopted the following milestones for their future meetings:

- shape the strategic partnership;
- draft proposal on 28 March (meeting in Livorno);
- final draft during iMAF and 42nd IG meeting on 20-24 May 2019;
- spread information during EUMACS and ENASC;
- final decision during 43rd IG meeting on 3-4 September 2019 in Brussels.

3) Air Force Academies:

The Bulgarian, Hellenic, Italian, Latvian, Polish and Portuguese Air Force Academies expressed their strong interest in creating a new Strategic Partnership Project with a view to setting up an Air Force International Semester in the bachelor-level study period. The Air Force Academies adopted the following milestones for their future steps:

- each AF Institution must define common courses with a common pre-requisite base and inform the ESDC Secretariat accordingly;
- define LoD12 Chairman (by the end of March 2019);
- draft proposal and discussion during next EuAFAWG (April 2019);
- final draft at iMAF and 42nd IG meeting on 20-24 May 2019;
- March 2020 final proposal.

4) Technical Academies:

The Romanian Military Technical Academy “Ferdinand I” of Bucharest (MTA) and the Polish Military University of Technology, Warsaw (MUT) expressed their interest in organising a Technical International Semester in the framework of an Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership Project. There are also other military academies, such as “Vasil Levski” Military National University Veliko Tarnovo (Faculty of Shumen), Bulgaria, Royal Military Academy of Brussels, Belgium, Military Academies of Saint Cyr, France, etc., with faculties or departments of engineering, providing engineering programs for studies at bachelor or masters level, which could be interested in an international military technical semester. Up to the next IG meeting there will be some email exchanges among their IG representatives, focusing on partner identification and on common subjects and project ideas. As an example of this interest, MTA of Bucharest already organises a ‘Defence and Security Technical Systems’ International Semester in the period March–June 2019. During the 42nd IG meeting more information about this semester will be presented.

5) LoD 10 – Gender Mainstreaming:

The Chair of the LoD gave an introductory presentation to the group on gender mainstreaming and the role of women in security and defence and the challenges/obstacles, and the group decided to base their future work on the following actions:

- collecting information from the European military academies concerning whether gender topics feature in cadets’ education and the possibility of including gender-related issues in different academic disciplines;
- preparing recommendations to the military academies to train specialists and academic staff for gender equality training using the ESDC courses;
- searching for opportunities to prepare the common projects regarding gender equality education and research in the different military institutions;
- using IG events and meetings to increase sensitivity to gender topics in the armed forces and to attract more participants in LoD 10.

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

Request:	Send to:
<p>10 Years of the Initiative album</p> <p>All institutions are invited to send photos, with a short description of the illustrated event, date and source, to the ESDC Secretariat, by 1 April 2019.</p>	<p>Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu</p>
<p>Air Force Academies to define 10 possible common courses to be included in an International Semester and inform the ESDC Secretariat accordingly.</p>	<p>Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu</p>
<p>LoD 10 – Gender Mainstreaming</p> <p>QUESTIONNAIRE (attached doc)</p> <p>All institutions are invited to send their answers to the LoD Chair, by 12 April 2019.</p>	<p>nevena_atanasova@abv.bg</p>
<p>Comment on the LoD 5 paper (framework).</p> <p>The goal is for your institution or country to provide the ESDC with an official statement. If this has not yet been started, try to get an answer from those responsible.</p> <p>(See http://www.emilyo.eu/node/982 - LoD 5)</p>	<p>Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu</p> <p>or announcement in the Steering Committee</p>
<p>Mark in blue and red the autumn/winter and spring/summer academic semesters of your institution. Create new lines if necessary.</p> <p>(http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191)</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>Create a 'pool of lecturers' list for your institution, listing lecturers who are willing to teach abroad, preferably under Erasmus+.</p> <p>(http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191)</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>If you want to post a mobility offer on the EMILYO homepage, send the dates and a short description (in PDF format) – or a link if you post it on your homepage.</p> <p>(See http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878)</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>If you want to post any documents on the EMILYO homepage, send them in a single PDF document.</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>Encourage cadets or students to write a report on an event with international participants. Please include pictures.</p> <p>(See http://www.emilyo.eu/exchange_experience)</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>Nominate a chairperson for a Line of Development.</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at & Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu</p>