44th meeting of the Implementation Group
for the European initiative for the exchange of young officers
inspired by Erasmus (Emilyo)

10-11 December 2019

in Bucharest

Draft minutes

1) The chair and the ESDC Secretariat welcomed the 74 participants from 17 EU Member States and 40 institutions.

2) Adoption of the agenda

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

a) Outcomes of the second gender seminar by BG NDU

b) Non-Common Module: Infantry Officer Winter Warfare Basic Module by EE EMA

c) New certificate template by EL HAA

d) Common Module: Biosafety & Bioterrorism by EL HMACSO

e) Offers from PL MUT

f) IMLA project: Intellectual Outputs Package by PL MULF

g) European Universities Project – videoconference with DG EaC

h) Common Module: Leadership B by CY National Guard

i) iMAF 2020 by RO LFA

j) EMilEW for students

k) Common Module: Maritime Security by EL HNA

l) 2020 offers by PL MULF

m) International Semester by RO MTA.

3) Approval of the minutes

The group approved the minutes of the 43rd meeting. The approved minutes are available at: http://www.emilyo.eu/node/872.

4) Update by the Chair on all lines of development (LoDs)

The Implementation Group (IG) chair presented the respective roles,

objectives and achievements of the Member States and their participating institutions for each line of development (LoD) (all presentations are temporarily available at http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191).

In particular:

a) LoD 3 – Development of IDL

The Chair informed the group that the Strategic Partnership Project (SPP) and International Military Leadership Academy (IMLA) projects had been finalised (the document explaining how to get the material for the SPP is available on the Emilyo homepage: http://www.emilyo.eu/node/988). The IMLA material can be requested from the LoD 9 – chairman during the IG meetings (space of > 100 GB).

b) LoD 4 – IT platform

The redesign of the Emilyo website was in progress and further information would be presented during the next meeting.

c) LoD 6 – National implementation of the strategic communication programme

- The chair asked the IG members to submit more reports written by cadets/students describing their experiences with training activities under the initiative.

- EU Military Secondary Schools Forum (EUMSSF). The forum held its first meeting in Brussels on 15 October, at which it agreed on its rules of procedure and elected Lt Col Symeon ZAMBAS as its first chair. The IG chair presented Emilyo to the newly established forum, focusing on the lessons learned and sharing the best practices of the IG.

d) LoD 7 – Financing the initiative

The Erasmus+ programme had proved to be one of the best tools for co-financing not only cadets' and trainers' exchanges but also the IG's participation. The pool of trainers needed to be expanded to facilitate more trainer exchanges.

e) LoD 8 – Common modules/evaluations and offers

- AT, BG, BE, CY, EE, EL HR, IT, PL, PT and RO presented the results of their exchange events and/or announced upcoming offers (http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191 & http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878).

- In a letter dated 21 September 2019, the Chief of the CY National Guard (NG), General Ilias LEONTARIS, conveyed his thanks and congratulations to all of the sending institutions and the cadets and trainers who participated in the fifth edition of the Leadership B common module held in Cyprus from 2-13 September 2019, praising their excellent performance. CY announced that the CY NG would hold the Leadership B common module again the following September.

- A template for a teacher and cadet/student certificate had been created by the Hellenic Army Academy and adopted by the group.

LoD 8 meeting outcomes:

- Update of the common module database and finalisation of the evaluation report format (to be adopted by the IG). The report was based on the ESDC evaluation report and was adapted to the IG's needs.

- A new common module procedure was proposed as follows:

  The regular procedure:

  1) Present a new common module in accordance with the LoD 2 criteria.

  2) Run a pilot course as a provisional common module following the IG's approval.

  3) Present the results, an evaluation report and any comments to the IG plenary session.

  4) The IG approves the amended and final version, which is given common module status.

  The alternative procedure is:

  1) Propose a new module/seminar/activity to the IG.

  2) Run it at least once.

  3) Present the new curricula in accordance with the agreed format, evaluation reports and comments.

  4) The IG approves the final version of the module and it receives common module status.

- Since a common module revision procedure would have to be launched, some criteria were indicated to the IG to help prioritise the work. The procedure would start from the oldest common modules. For those common modules related to ESDC topics (CSDP and maritime) the procedure would be postponed to the EAB revision procedure (February session) while the common modules which are part of the army academies' semester would be submitted to the procedure at the end of the current academic year.

- The idea of offering a new 'Train the Trainers' seminar was put forward, so as to share knowledge, suggestions and best practices with the increasing numbers of new IG members.

f) LoD 9 – Future projects

The main topic was once more an exploration of the possibility of engaging the IG members in the European University project. During the discussion, the group had the opportunity to get some answers and clarifications via videoconference from DG EAC and from a representative of the University of Bucharest, which was a member of an approved European University project. During the LoD 9 meeting the members were given the opportunity to discuss the European University project and identify the core elements/possibilities to be further explored:

- the IG as the programme board;

- combining all existing initiatives into one project (e.g. common modules);

- virtual-network-type organisation;
- willing partners (at least three higher education institutions)
- 80/20 financing rule (in kind);
- all levels of education (BA, MA, PhD);
- the CSDP DocSchool should be included as PhD level.

As regards the possibility of engaging with projects under the European Defence Fund, the group considered that, instead or in advance of each military academy acting individually, the ESDC could explore the possibility of taking the first step and organising a capacity-building workshop with one provider, which would be open to all military academies. This could be a full-day workshop involving mostly practical and some theoretical elements to increase the capacity of selected staff. Back-to-back bilateral session with interested military academies which already have projects in mind could also be an option. The ESDC Secretariat would come back with a more concrete proposal at the next meeting.

g)   LoD 10 – Gender mainstreaming

The LoD 10 chair presented to the IG the results of the second Erasmus+ staff mobility gender seminar, hosted by Vasil Levski National Military University in Veliko Tarnovo from 9 to 11 October 2019. The results of the seminar and the answers received to the questionnaire were the basic drivers of the discussion within the LoD 10, which agreed on the following future steps:

- Organising a 'train the trainers' course or seminar (which could be part of the next LoD 10 meeting – Erasmus gender seminar);
- Creating a new common module on gender perspectives with the expected outcomes;
- Collecting information from ALL military academies and universities;
- Applying for common projects, including research, scientific conferences, cadet seminars, 'train the trainers' courses, etc.;
- Offering the cultural awareness common module and including in the associated evaluation survey some questions concerning the implementation of gender equality, in order to receive feedback from the cadets.

The LoD 10 chair informed the meeting that she had not received adequate responses to the questionnaire. She underlined the importance of this basic information in enabling further steps to be taken and asked that the group respond to her as soon as possible at nevena_atanasova@abv.bg.

h)   LoD 11 – International Naval Semester (INS)

The LoD 11 meeting allowed for further development of the INS. In particular, at the request of the Spanish Naval Academy, the name of the 'Naval Electronics' module was changed to 'Naval Sensors (Technical)'. Leaving the contents of the module unchanged, this would allow for formal recognition by the University of Vigo.

In the next semester, the LoD 11 group would work to define the final version of the learning outcomes related to the modules, which would hopefully be approved at the next IG meeting.

A step forward was also made on the implementation of the 'Strategic Partnership' within Erasmus + Key Action 2. The LoD 11 group decided to give the leadership to the Polish Naval Academy. The project partners remained to be confirmed.

i) LoD 12 – Air Force International Semester

At the internal LoD 12 meeting, the chair highlighted the objectives of the meeting, namely to finalise the participating institutions and the curriculum of the international semester, and to discuss and clarify administrative issues related to the project.

The Dean of the Aviation Faculty (NMU-BG) said that they had been in touch with the office of the European Commissioner responsible for Youth and Innovation, who had promised to provide assistance with the process of obtaining the Erasmus Charter as soon as possible. For the time being, they would participate as an associated partner. By 15 January they would know whether the newly formed Bulgarian Air Force Academy would be taking part as an associated or a full partner.

The representative of the French Air Force Academy announced that the officials of his institution had decided not to join the project at present, due to the more technical orientation of their curriculum and the intensity of the French cadets' training path.

The final list of participating institutions would consist of three full partners (EL PT, RO) and one associated partner (BG).

Representatives from the Bulgarian, Hellenic, Portuguese and Romanian Air Force Institutions then discussed issues concerning the curriculum as well as the administrative part of the project. The curriculum was subsequently finalised by changing one course (from Cyber Security to Cyber Warfare Defence) and adding two new courses (Cyber Warfare Offence and Military Leadership 'C'). It was also decided that the final proposal would be presented during the February 2020 IG meeting

j) LoD 13 – Establishment of an International Technical Semester

The second meeting of LoD 13 was attended by 14 participants from Poland, Greece, Bulgaria, France, Slovakia, Spain and Romania. The main conclusions of the meeting:

- The 'Ferdinand I' Military Technical Academy would apply for Erasmus+ KA2 financial support, as project leader.

- The project partners would be the following academies: 'Vasil Levski' National Military University in Bulgaria, the Hellenic Air Force Academy, the Military University of Technology in Poland, and the French Air Force Academy. The other participants expressed their interest in supporting future LoD 13 activities. Firms within the national defence industry (INCAS from Romania) would also be included in the consortium as associated partners.

- The title of the project would be 'European Network of Technology Universities for Defence and Security'.

- The main activities of the project would be: setting up networks of teachers in technical military education fields (ballistic systems and energetic materials, mechanical and civil engineering, computer science and cybersecurity, electronic engineering and electronic warfare, and basics of engineering and military science); establishing the curriculum for a common international technical semester; preparing the learning materials; an online platform (web page and e-learning tool); an intensive programme; and transnational meetings and multiplication events.

- The main structure of the international technical semester would include the following modules: interdisciplinary scientific project; basic engineering; military science; electronic engineering & computer science, and mechanical engineering.

- The draft of the application form would be finished before 31 January 2020.

- The next LoD 13 meeting would take place in February 2020 in Brussels, during the 45th IG meeting.

The LoD 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 presentations and/or meeting minutes are temporarily available at http://www.emilyo.eu/node/970.

5) Fifth CSDP Olympiad

The Croatian Defence Academy (CDA) representative updated the group on the state of play of the Fifth CSDP Olympiad.

The 40 participating cadets, from 15 Member States, completed the e-learning phase and submitted their essays. The essay evaluation results should be presented during the next IG, on 18-19 February 2020.

The cover page competition resulted in seven proposals. The IG voted for the design by Cadet KERN of the Austria TMA.

The ESDC Secretariat once again suggested to the institutions that they send the participating cadets to attend a CSDP common module abroad, which would be both an incentive and a great opportunity for them to increase their knowledge of the CSDP.

6) Proposals for the agenda for the 45th IG meeting in Brussels

The group proposed that the following items be included on the agenda: updates on the CSDP Olympiad, European universities, presentations on modules and common projects.

7) Work plan

- The next meeting (the 45th) would take place in Brussels from 18-19 February 2020. On Monday 17 February, from 16.00 to 18.00, there would be a workshop for new IG members; all of the necessary administrative details and documents are available at http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878.

- The 46th IG meeting would take place in Sibiu Romania from 18-19 June 2020, back to back with iMAF 2020.

8) AOB

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

Request:	Send to:
Comment on the LoD 5 paper (framework). 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. (See http://www.emilyo.eu/node/982 – LoD 5)	Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu or announce in the Steering Committee
Mark in blue and red the **autumn/winter and spring/summer academic semesters** of your institution. Create new lines if necessary. (http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191)	harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at
Create a '**pool of lecturers**' list for your institution, listing lecturers who are willing to teach abroad, preferably under Erasmus+. (http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191)	harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at
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. (See http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878)	harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at
If you want to post **any documents** on the Emilyo homepage, send them **in a single PDF document.**	harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at
Encourage **cadets or students to write a report** on an event with international participants. Please include pictures. (See http://www.emilyo.eu/exchange_experience)	harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at
Nominate a chairperson for a line of development which has not yet been assigned one.	harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at & Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu