

**47th meeting of the Implementation Group
for the European initiative for the exchange of young officers
inspired by Erasmus (Emilyo)
1 & 2 September 2020**

Draft minutes

1) The chair and the ESDC Secretariat welcomed the 67 participants (16 in person & 41 via Webex) from 15 EU Member States and 32 institutions.

2) **Adoption of the agenda**

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

- a) Discussion about iMAF 2020 & iMAF 2021
- b) Scheduling the 48th IG meeting
- c) Presentation, discussion & decision about new Common Modules (EMA/EE)
- d) Presentation of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- e) Nomination of a new LoD 9 chair
- f) Nomination of an LoD 15 (International Medical Semester) chair

3) **Approval of the minutes**

The group approved the minutes of the 46th meeting with the removal of a paragraph regarding the activities of the LoD 8, which was a misprint from the previous minutes. The approved minutes are available at: <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/872>.

4) **Update by the IG chair on all lines of development (LoDs)**

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

In particular:

a) **LoD 5 – Legal framework**

The last EU Member State wishing to opt in was Lithuania. The IG chair explained the importance of the legal framework to the members of the Group and asked them to continue to request its adoption via their chains of command.

b) **LoD 6 – National implementation of the strategic communication programme**

- It was confirmed that the European Union Military Academies Commandants Seminar (EUMACS) 2020 will be held at the Bundeswehr's Helmut Schmidt University in Hamburg from 29-31 October 2020. Invitations have already been sent out and all the

relevant documents are uploaded onto the Emilyo homepage (www.emilyo.eu/node/878).

- EUMACS 2021 will take place in Lisbon on the premises of the PMA from 27 to 29 May 2021.
- The representative of the University of Defence (Czech Republic) confirmed that the EUMACS 2022 will be held in Brno. More information will be announced in due course.
- All institutions should submit the details of their Press & Information Officers for inclusion on a list (to be created) in order to exchange reports, pictures and videos concerning exchanges.

c) LoD 8 – Common modules/evaluations and offers

- AT, BG, CZ, IT, FR, GR and PL announced upcoming offers (www.emilyo.eu/node/878). The residential phase will only take place if the COVID-19 situation allows. A decision will be made before the deadline for registration.

- **LoD-8 meeting outcomes**

The chair briefed the participants on the following topics:

- 1) Two new modules, the Infantry Officer Winter Warfare Basic Module proposed by the Estonian Military Academy and the Technologies in Cybersecurity module offered by the Military University of Technology, Warsaw (PL), have been refined and put under the silent approval procedure by the IG members;
- 2) the GAREA 2019-20 statistics have been inserted into the CM Database file;
- 3) the revision program was prioritised: the oldest CMs to be revised are the CSDP, CMO/PSO and 'How to meet the media';
- 4) a regulation on 'How to develop a Common Module' will be issued in order to assist BOELs in preparing a new offer for a CM;

d) LoD 7 – Financing the Initiative & LoD 9 – Future Projects

The Strategic Partnership Project approved by the Bulgarian National Agency – 'Hybridisation of Specialized English Learning for Security Professionals' (HELPSec) was presented. The coordinating country is Bulgaria, through the Rakovski National Defence College, and the other partners are the Military Academy of Portugal and the Swedish Defence University (SEDU).

Three proposals were presented and agreed by the IG members:

- 1) The establishment of a database including all the international projects developed by the military institutions that are members of the IG.
- 2) The creation of a database in which the institutions can define the areas of interest for cooperation.
- 3) The creation of a database in which the institutions will clarify their interest in finding partners in specific areas.

The databases will be updated before each IG meeting.

e) LoD 10 – Gender Mainstreaming

The chair informed the group about the next steps to be taken in the

creation of the new common module 'Gender perspectives'. The possible topics included in the educational offer will be key gender theories; gender diversity; social media, gender and the military; good gender policies and practices in the military, etc. The curriculum of the module will be elaborated further during the 3rd Erasmus Gender seminar, titled 'How to strengthen gender perspective within the European basic officer education'. The seminar will be held by the Estonian Military academy in February 2021.

Concerning the ongoing Strategic Partnership Projects, Assoc. Prof Sofia Menezes announced some good news: the project named 'Military Gender Studies Project' (MGS) has been approved by the Portuguese Erasmus Agency. The participating organisations are the Military Academy of Portugal (coordinator), the National Military University of Bulgaria, the University of Turin and the 'Nicolae Balcescu' Land Forces Academy (LFA) in Romania. The main activities of the project were discussed and amended during the meeting.

f) LoD 11 – International Naval Semester (INS)

The chair gave the group an update. EQF 7, English Naval Terminology Learning Outcomes, as well as the modules of the INS were discussed, revised and approved by LoD Members. The organisations taking part in the project are the Polish Naval Academy (applicant organisation) and the Naval Academies of Bulgaria, Greece, Poland, Portugal and Romania. The participation of the Italian and Spanish Naval Academies is expected to be confirmed. More information can be found on <http://emilyo.eu/node/158>.

g) LoD 12 – International Air Force Semester (IAFS)

The chair was pleased to announce that the International Air Force Semester has been selected by the Hellenic Erasmus+ Agency for funding, following its 2020 call for proposals for Strategic Partnerships for Higher Education (Key Action 203). Furthermore, he informed the participants that the kick-off meeting of the project would be conducted as a VTC, given the current conditions with the coronavirus pandemic in Greece. Additional instructions on how to handle the situation will be provided in the coming weeks, in close consultation with the Hellenic Erasmus Agency. The preparatory activities of the project were summarised and presented, along with the delegation of duties and tasks among the participating BOEIs. For more information, please see <http://emilyo.eu/node/1393>.

h) LoD 13 – International Technical Semester (ITS)

The chair updated the group on the progress of the International Technical Semester Project. The application form for the Erasmus+ KA2 project has been submitted by the Military Technical Academy 'Ferdinand I' to the Romanian Erasmus+ National Agency for evaluation. The announcement of the evaluation results is expected in October 2020. In addition, a supplementary call for the Erasmus+ KA2 Strategic Partnership for Digitalisation has been launched by European Commission, with a deadline of 29 October 2020 (<http://emilyo.eu/node/1387>).

The representatives of the Military University of Technology (MUT) presented the progress made on the new module 'Technologies in

Cybersecurity', investigating possible future collaboration in that field. The pilot edition of the module will be conducted on the premises of the MUT in Warsaw in 2021 (<http://emilyo.eu/node/878>).

i) LoD 14 – Research and Development

The launch meeting of the LoD 14 took place in the framework of the 47th IG meeting. It was decided that the group would coordinate actions to establish research teams, to publish scientific results and to advertise its work. As a first step, bachelor thesis projects will be organised and supervised by academic staff from different Basic Officer Education Institutions (BOEIs) within the EU. These projects will run in parallel in more than one BOEI. Once a first round of such projects is completed, a peer review process will be set up to assess the outcomes and select the best among them to be published in a first special issue. At the same time, a set of other works will be prepared in poster formats and defended by the authors during conferences or meeting events.

j) LoD 15 – International Medical Semester (IMS)

The HMACSO nominated LtCol Ioannis KAZAKIS as the chair of the International Medical Semester LoD. The IG accepted his candidacy unanimously. As a result, the Medical LoD was launched during the 47th meeting of the Implementation Group.

5) CSDP Olympiad

- a) The representative of the Croatian Defence Academy (CDA) updated the group on the 5th CSDP Olympiad. The event will be held in Dubrovnik from 8 to 12 March 2021. Details are available at http://www.emilyo.eu/olympiad_csdp. The IG will not accept new participants, but those already accepted may participate, even if they have already graduated.
- b) The representative of the French Air Force Academy (FAFA) informed the group about the appointment of a new Rector-Commandant to the FAFA. He will brief her on the organisation of 6th CSDP Olympiad (2022) with a view to providing an official answer as soon as possible.

6) iMAF 2020

In line with movement restrictions in place and taking into account the deteriorating situation in Romania, the group, in close cooperation with 'Nicolae Balcescu' Land Forces Academy (LFA), decided to cancel this event. The iMAF 2021 will be held on the premises of the Military University of Land Forces (MULF) in Wroclaw, Poland (June 2021), back-to-back with the 50th IG meeting.

7) Workshop for Military Academies

One underdeveloped area of the Basic Officer Education is the R&D sector. In order to bridge the gap, BOEIs should be deeply involved in R&D activities. To achieve this, the ESDC decided to organise a workshop aimed at providing Military Academia with a basic knowledge of the EU funding schemes that are potentially suitable for security- and defence-related projects.

Taken in to account all the confinement measures in force and due to rapidly rising infection numbers across Europe, the group decided to conduct the event in a virtual format from 30 November to 3 December 2020. The maximum number of participants is set to 27. All the LoDs chairs and the IG members are invited to participate. Registrations will be assessed on a first

come, first served basis. More information about the event will be communicated in due time.

8) Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH)

The Erasmus+ Project Manager of the Department of European Educational Programmes, Mr Nikos Liolios, presented to the group the structure, the activities and the projects of the AUTH. In addition, he expressed his strong support for the initiative and indicated AUTH's intention to become a member of the ESDC network.

9) Work plan

- a) The 48th IG meeting will be held **residentially** in Brussels from 17 to 18 November 2020. On Monday, 16 November, from 16.00 to 18.00, a workshop will be held for new IG members; all of the necessary administrative details and documents are available at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878>.
- b) The 49th IG meeting will be held in Brussels from 23 to 24 February 2021 (workshop for IG newcomers on 22 February between 16.00-18.00).
- c) The iMAF 2021 will take place in Poland (June 2021).
- d) The 50th IG meeting will be held in Wroclaw (PL) in June 2021, back-to-back with iMAF 2021.

10) AOB

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

Request:	Send to:
<p>Comment on the LoD-5 paper (framework). The goal for your institution or country is to provide the ESDC with an official statement. If this has not yet been done or initiated, try to get an answer from those responsible.</p> <p>(See http://www.emilyo.eu/node/982 – LoD 5)</p>	<p>ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu</p> <p>or announce 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>Draw up a 'pool of lecturers' list for your institution, indicating the names of 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 wish 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 wish 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>(http://www.emilyo.eu/exchange_experience)</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>Nominate a chair for a line of development, which has not yet been assigned one.</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at & ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu</p>