

52nd meeting of the Implementation Group for the European initiative for the exchange of young officers inspired by Erasmus (EMILYO)

8 and 10 November 2021
 Brussels
Draft minutes

1) The chair and the ESDC Secretariat welcomed 59 participants from 17 EU Member States and 35 institutions.

2) Adoption of the agenda

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

- a) offers from the TMA (AT)
- b) offers from the NMU (BG)
- c) CM Winter Warfare by the EMA (EE)
- d) offers from the SAFA (ES)
- e) international semesters 2022 by the AMSCC (FR)
- f) offers from the HAA (GR)
- g) offers from the HAFA (GR)
- h) offers from the SAMS (IT)
- i) international spring semester 2022 by the MAL (LT)
- j) offers from the MUT (PL)
- k) international events organised by the PMA (PT)
- l) offers from the AFAHC (RO)
- m) international events organised by the MTA (RO)
- n) discussion on the introduction of the LoD chairs' session and the duration of the IG meeting

3) Approval of the minutes

The group approved the minutes of the 51st meeting. The approved minutes are available at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/872>.

4) Administrative instructions

The ESDC's TM updated the IG members on the Administrative Instruction II financing activities 2022. This document sets out the basic principles and regulates the financial framework for the co-financing of activities under the auspices of the ESDC. It covers all training and educational activities after 1 January 2022.

5) LoD chairs' session and the lengthening of the IG meetings

There was a proposal to introduce an LoD chairs' session in order to better coordinate the plenary session. It was agreed to run the meeting in parallel with the newcomers' workshop. The ESDC's training manager would chair the LoD chairs meeting, while the IG chair would remain responsible for the newcomers' workshop. In addition to that and in view of the continuously increasing workload

of the group, the IG chair proposed extending the IG meetings from 1.5 to 2 days.

At that point the ESDC TM took the floor and tabled the idea of organising the 55th IG meeting (Sep 2022) in Sintra (PT) at the PrAFA premises, back to back with the 2nd ME of the IAFS. The IG members accepted both proposals unanimously.

6) 6th CSDP Olympiad

The chair provided a short update on milestones reached and further steps to be taken. The FASFA representative delivered a short presentation on the administrative aspects of the Olympiad. Further details would be communicated in due time. Since the writing phase of the Olympiad had already been initiated, the chair reminded the group that all essays must be submitted to the ESDC TM and FASFA PoC by 26 November 2021.

7) iMAF

The PMA representative briefly presented the conclusions of the iMAF 2021. Given the fact that the door for iMAF 2023 had been open since the 51st IG meeting, the chair called on the BOEIs once again to express their interest in organising the 2023 iteration. In that respect, the ESDC's TM communicated the intention of the Hellenic institutions (HMA, HNA & HAFA) to organise the iMAF 2023 in Athens (GR). This would be confirmed at the 53rd IG meeting.

8) 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>):

a) LoD-2 – Development of competences

The LoD-2 working session took place in parallel with the LoD-8 meeting. The chair delivered a presentation closely linked to 'Bloom taxonomy and SQF-MILOF' as food for thought for the 'Train the Trainer' session.

b) LoD-5 – Legal framework

The IG chair asked members to encourage their superiors to adopt the legal framework of the Initiative. He explained that this could be done through an official statement to the ESDC Secretariat or by notifying the Steering Committee.

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

The SpAFA representative confirmed the intention of her institution to organise EUMACS 2023 in San Javier, Spain from 8 to 10 November 2023.

d) LoD-7 – Financing the Initiative

The LoD session started with a critical analysis of the ESDC's presentation about Administrative Instruction for Financing Activities in 2022. This opened the discussion about the possible different sources of financing for participation in international activities, using internal sources and external sources (such as Erasmus+ funds or bilateral agreements with civilian or military institutions on a reciprocal basis).

It was also proposed by the chair and fully accepted by the members to invite the Erasmus+ coordinator of the MULF (Wroclaw) to the 53rd IG

meeting in order to explain the new Erasmus program (2021-2027), with a focus on the possibilities for initiating short mobility for students.

e) LoD-8 – Common modules/evaluations and offers

- AT, BG, EE, ES, FR, GR, IT, LT, PT, PL and RO reported on past events and announced upcoming offers (www.emilyo.eu/node/878).

- **LoD-8 meeting outcomes**

The chair briefed the participants on the following topics:

- 1) The relationship between SQF-MILEG and IG.
- 2) A pilot version of the SQF-MILOF familiarisation course was organised by CASD in Rome from 30 June to 1 July 2021. A standard version of this course would be offered by the ESDC on an annual basis.
- 3) The MTA (RO) announced that a new non-common module, IMINT-GEOINT Analysis Course, would be organised as a pilot in the near future. A very first draft of the curriculum was presented, followed by an open discussion with a focus on the development of the curriculum.
- 4) The CM database was commented on and updated in accordance with the GAREA 2020-21 statistics.

f) LoD-9 – Future Projects

The meeting began with a new project proposal from the LoD-14 chair under the title 'European Military Research Network Platform'. This platform would be a form of collaboration and communication between IG members in the field of science. In view of the importance of exchanging information, it was highlighted how necessary it was to create a tool for coordinating and synchronising information flow associated to research activities, which is the basis for the development and improvement of the didactic process.

Next, the representative of the MUT presented a solid proposal on research and cooperation areas. In connection with the project presented previously and requests for information submitted by various domains (LoD) of the IG, a discussion commenced on whether there is a need to create a common database for the entire IG. The group agreed on the following:

- The IG is in desperate need of a common database.
- The LoD chairs should meet and discuss the details of developing a common database.

The last point on the agenda was the European Universities Initiative. The LoD-13 chair took the floor and presented the conclusions from both meetings, Syndicate 5 European Universities: 'Way ahead', which took place in the margins of the IMAF 2021 and the virtual meeting on 26 October. It was agreed that they were still working on the main concept of that project. Therefore, it was of paramount importance for the IG members to support it. In that respect, the LoD-9 chair proposed sending out a request to the IG members asking them to submit their questions about the project. After analysing the responses, the group would prepare a very first draft of the project and a questionnaire (survey) to be sent out to the IG members. Depending on the replies, the LoD-9 would amend the draft proposal and get the green light from the IG for it to be presented to the

Rectors/ Commandants.

g) LoD-10 – Gender Mainstreaming

The working session started with a presentation on the progress of the project “Military Gender Studies”-MGS. The news from the 1st TPM that took place at the PMA in Lisbon (23-24 September) was also shared. The MGS handbook was being developed and a first draft would be ready by mid-January 2022.

The group then discussed the 4th Gender Seminar that would be organised as a ‘pilot’ in May 2022 in Larnaca (CY). In addition, the TMA would be the first BOEI to integrate the module in the international semester, starting in autumn 2022. A topic would be needed for this gender seminar. The organiser would make the final decision on the topic. The course directors would be Col. Nevena Atanasova and Maj. Christoforos Christoforou.

Most of the session focused on the development of the CM “Gender Perspectives”. The draft module description prepared by the chair and previously commented on by some members of the LoD was debated. All participants were active in the conversation about each part of the module. The IG chair sent recommendations on the content of the module (working hours, the number of ECTS etc.). The module descriptors would be revised in the coming months in order to get the green light from the IG (Feb 2022).

h) LoD-11 – International Naval Semester (INS)

The group agreed to form a strategic partnership for European naval institutions, the INS. Poland (project leader), Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Romania were 100% committed to the partnership. Spain formally communicated its intention of being an ‘observer’ and not a full member of the partnership. All the institutions should communicate to the project leader three responsible persons for coordination, administrative and course aspects. Further steps would be taken in the coming weeks.

i) LoD-12 – International Air Force Semester (IAFS)

The chair presented the progress of the project, focusing on the first-year report and the third Intellectual Output (IO) currently under development. Subsequently, the forthcoming pilot events of the project were presented with the emphasis on the ‘Train the Trainer’ event (tentative schedule). The chair then officially communicated that the implementation of the IAFS (according to the decision of the partnership on the latest TPM) would begin in the next academic year (October 2022). Finally, the participants discussed the implementation of the project after the conclusion of the development phase.

j) LoD-13 – European Common Technical Semester for Defence and Security (EuCTS_DS)

The chair informed the participants about the achievements, the future activities of the EuCTS_DS and the conclusions of the iMAF 2021 on the project. Some short term proposals were also discussed (inviting other military academies/universities to be associated partners of the project consortium, organising an Erasmus week for the military technical subjects, enhancing teacher cooperation using the experience and knowledge of the project team to initiate new projects in more specific areas i.e. cyber security, artificial intelligence) along with medium and long term proposals (inviting as many institutions as possible to implement the

accomplishments of the project, creating new projects at joint master level for Technical Science, creating the new technical modules as a new opportunity for exchanges with the intention in the future of becoming part of the new projects, developing new methodology and tools to be able to provide technical education remotely). The project partners would finalise the descriptors and begin developing the learning materials in the coming months.

k) LoD-14 – Research and Development (R&D)

The following topics were discussed: i) developments since the last meeting in Brussels, ii) Rii forum 2022, iii) concept note for K2 action, iv) next steps.

The two twin theses between MUT and HAFA launched this year had already started running; several meetings were held between the involved parties.

The virtual meeting with the representatives of the Erasmus offices was held on October 8 and as a result, the common thesis form was populated with the first entries. It was agreed to put together a meeting with a similar agenda before the next IG meeting, this time addressed to the heads of research of each institute.

The Rii forum (<https://rii-forum.org/>) was announced and participants were invited to submit an abstract if they were interested in taking part. It was also agreed to prompt IG members to repeat this practice of setting up sessions related to the scientific interests of our community in the frame of established conferences where they are involved in the organisation.

All participants recognised the need to build a solid information system for information management. This was also the principal goal of the K2 strategic partnership concept note prepared and presented by the LoD chair based on the decisions of the previous LoD 14 meetings. Participants agreed to circulate the proposal among IG members and identify potential partner candidates.

l) LoD-15 – International Medical Semester (IMS)

The chair called once again on the BOEIs with similar training systems to attend regular LoD-15 meetings. He also presented the results of the LoD-15 templates, as completed by several EU Member States (Portugal, Bulgaria and Czech Republic). Lastly, he strongly recommended the participation of military medical students (and not only them) in the CM ‘Biosafety & Bioterrorism’ which would be held from 28 February to 4 March 2022 in Thessaloniki (GR).

9) Work plan

- a) The 53rd IG meeting would be held in Brussels from 21 to 23 February 2022, back to back with the EAB meeting. On Monday February 21 (from 16.00 to 18.00) a workshop would be held for new IG members and the LoD chairs' meeting. All the necessary administrative details and documents would be available at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878>.
- b) The 54th IG meeting would be held in Larnaca (CY), from 3 to 5 May 2022, back to back with the 4th Erasmus+ Gender Seminar.
- c) iMAF 2022 was scheduled to take place in Sibiu (RO) from 13 to 15 June 2022. More information would be made available in due course.

- d) The 55th IG meeting would be held in Sintra (PT) at the PrAFA premises in September 2022, back to back with the 2nd ME of the IAFS.
- e) EUMACS 2022 would be held at the Orea Congress Hotel in Brno (Czech Republic) on 12 and 13 October 2022.
- f) The 56th IG meeting would be held in Gdynia (PL) at the PNA from 5 to 7 December 2022.

10) AOB

Below is a summary of all requests made at the meeting.

Request	Send to
Presentations for the IG meeting: if you would like to present anything during the forthcoming IG meeting (plenary session), please send your presentation five days prior to the meeting.	harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at & ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu
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 done or initiated, try to get an answer from those responsible. (See http://www.emilio.eu/node/982 – LoD-5)	ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu or announce in the Steering Committee
Mark the autumn/winter and spring/summer academic semesters of your institution in blue and red. Create new lines if necessary. (http://www.emilio.eu/node/1191)	harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at
Draw up a pool of lecturers for your institution, indicating the names of those willing to teach abroad, preferably under Erasmus+. (http://www.emilio.eu/node/1191)	harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at
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 own website. (http://www.emilio.eu/node/878)	harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at
If you wish to have an administrative document posted on the EMILYO homepage, send it in a single PDF file .	harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at
Encourage cadets or students to write a report on an event with international participants. Please include pictures. (http://www.emilio.eu/exchange_experience)	harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at
Nominate a chair for an LoD that has not yet been assigned one.	harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at & ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu