

iMAF 2015 in Sibiu / Romania

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The international Military Academy Forum (iMAF) 2015 was held in Romania. The goal of the event was to gather ideas for a common European semester foreseen to be conducted during the basic officer education.

The event was organised by the 5 iMAF-partners which are:

- General Tadeusz Kosciuszko Military Academy of the Land Forces, Wroclaw Poland.
- National University of Public Service, Budapest – Hungary.
- Nicolae Balcescu Land Forces Academy, Sibiu – Romania.
- Theresan Military Academy, Wiener Neustadt – Austria.
- University of Defence, Brno – Czech Republic.

105 persons from 24 institutions and 16 countries followed the invitation to come to Sibiu and to contribute to the elaborations foreseen.



(Photo: LFA Sibiu)

The forum lasted three days and consisted of intensive work in international syndicate groups and cultural and social activities. The focus of the syndicate work was the exchange of ideas between different nations, ranks and organisational functions. Our role as Officer Cadets was to provide our point of view on the implementation of a common international semester. Main focus was the required competences of cadets before entering the semester and the acquired competences afterwards.



(Photo: LFA Sibiu)

In between the syndicate works, partner institution hosted a topic break where they served country specific delicacies. The aim of those breaks was to broaden the culinary horizon of the guests. Our role as Officer Cadets was to serve coffee and chocolate cake during the Austrian topic break.

Every evening, the Romanian hosts conducted a cultural program which focused on the Romanian town Sibiu. Activities included a visit to the Brukenthal art museum and the Sibiu film festival as well as an official dinner at the officers' mess in the town centre.

On the last day the Chairman of the Implementation Group, Col Dr. Harald Gell, summarized all the elaborations and presented the agreed pre-conditions for an international semester as well as the contents.

The benefit of this iMAF for us Officer Cadets was the improvement of our English language skills, the increase of our intercultural competence and a deeper understanding of the internationalisation process of European Armed Forces.