

Common Module on CSDP 2017-2

From 20th - 24th November 2017 the Common Security and Defence Policy Module took place at the Theresan Military Academy (TMA). In this module, it is not only the goal to acquire as much knowledge as possible about the common security and defence policy, but also to make friendships and contacts with participants from other nations. Together with the TMA-class “Freiherr von Reischach, Officer Cadets from eleven countries – Austria, Bosnia Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and the USA – participated; all in all 72 persons.



Picture 1: The 87 Students & Instructors of the CSDP module 2017-2.

(Photo: Theresan Military Academy).

With the arrival of the international participants on Sunday the 19th Nov. 2017, the week began for some members of the class Freiherr von Reischach one day earlier. On Monday, the module started for all participants with the opening ceremony and a speech by the person in charge for the module, Colonel Assoc Prof. Harald Gell, PhD, in which he motivated everyone to think outside the borders of their own nation.

15 instructors from four different countries, namely Austria, Czech Republic, Greece, and Poland, conducted the lessons and lectures.

However, not only lessons took place during the module, activities and excursions were also offered on and off duty. A special highlight was a visit to the UNHQ in Vienna. There was also an in-processing party, a sports competition, and a guided tour of the castle. These activities were already prepared beforehand by the members of the class Freiherr von Reischach.



Picture 2: For better integration a multinational sports competition took place on the first day.
(Photo: Theresan Military Academy).

Throughout the week, the participants were divided into so-called syndicates. Within these syndicates, the group work took place during which specific tasks, e.g. preparations for presentations, were to elaborate.



Picture 3: Multinational syndicates had to elaborate specific tasks.
(Photo: Theresan Military Academy).

In order to come to a final assessment, the participants were judged during the "Syndicate Work" units and their presentations. Further, a final test was conducted.

On Friday, the 24th Nov 2017, the closing ceremony took place in the TMA's Knights' Hall, in which all participants were informed about their positive results. Seven participants were honoured separately for outstanding achievements and received a coin from the Institute of Basic Officer Education at the Theresan Military Academy.



Picture 4: The certificates were issued in the Hall of Theresan Knights.

(Photo: Theresan Military Academy).

After speeches by an international Cadet and a national one, Major General Mag. Pronhagl and Colonel Assoc. Prof. Gell, PhD handed over the certificates.

The CSDP module was again a great success this year. This module is a way to improve the cooperation between different – mainly EU – countries in the future.

Report by:

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Class of "Reischach"

on initiative of, and re-shaped by Col Assoc. Prof. Gell, PhD