

THE “MARITIME SECURITY MODULE” EXPERIENCE

With regard to the recent participation of the Hellenic Naval Academy in the Military Erasmus on the subject of "Maritime Security", some basic information and feedback will be evaluated in order to improve the programme, make it more interesting and extend participation. The Erasmus programme was well-organised in terms of respecting the timetable and following predefined procedures.



Regarding the lectures attended by participants, these were extremely interesting and covered a whole range of discussions. The lecturers from the EU and from Greece were all very experienced in their respective sectors and always ready to answer every question put to them.



Regarding the practical part of the Military Erasmus, the scenario of the boarding of a vessel was something new that all the participants saw for the first time. It helped them to understand the themes that had been discussed in the previous lectures, thereby further intensifying their understanding. The participants were also given the opportunity to attend the procedure of the boarding of a vessel and have all their questions answered about this matter. Due to the great appeal of this scenario for the participants, it is proposed to add more such procedures and slightly reduce the number of lectures, that were not so familiar with the cadets. Furthermore, observers could participate in similar scenarios in order to experience and better understand the procedure.



With regard to the simulation organised by the Institute of Research & Training on European Affairs (I.R.T.E.A.), this procedure gave the participants the opportunity to examine contemporary social problems of the European Union, to identify with the views and interests of the countries they represented, and to work as a whole under the European Council's rules in order to arrive at a common decision to resolve these matters. It was very appropriate to include such an activity in the Military Erasmus programme because it maintained a high level of interest and gave the opportunity for an exchange of views among the participants.



Finally, the free time schedule of the participants was also well-organised in terms of the time available and the places the participants visited and spent their leisure time. Also the tours that took place to Floisvos and the Acropolis museum were very constructive, and participants had an opportunity to learn about an important part of the Greek history. It was something that all students took part in with great interest by and it received many positive comments.