

# COMMON MODULE

## ‘BIOSAFETY AND BIOTERRORISM’

*Reinforcing collaboration between cadets and civilians  
from all over the world*

The Common Module ‘Biosafety and Bioterrorism’ was hosted with great success in Thessaloniki, Greece, on 24-28 February 2020 by the Hellenic Military Academy of Combat Support Officers (HMACSO). In the context of the European Initiative for the Exchange of Young Military Officers, cadets and civilians from different countries had the opportunity to extend their knowledge and strengthen their skills in detecting bioterrorism hazards and acting in accordance with HACCP principles in order to eliminate foodborne pathogen outbreaks.



This module was made up of two parts: theoretical seminars and on-the-job training. These seminars were presented by academics and specialised military personnel.

The participants had the opportunity to learn about the prevention of foodborne poisoning and how to react in the event of a gastrointestinal outbreak. Moreover, recognising biological warfare and bioterrorism as well as the job-related biological risks is particularly important. Also, the participants of this module learnt how to prevent a biological warfare outbreak. During visits to food manufacturers, they were able to watch how packaged food is produced in accordance with safety and quality standards and protocols.



In addition to gaining knowledge, the cadets and the students from different parts of Europe had the opportunity to communicate with each other and to exchange ideas, experiences and opinions. The foreign cadets were also able to visit the city of Thessaloniki and to enjoy its beautiful sights and appreciate its hospitable people.



Participating in a Common Module is a once in a lifetime experience, which will help anyone to extend not only their knowledge but also their horizons. Even more important is the chance to meet up with army and university students from different countries. The future is in the hands of the next generation!



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