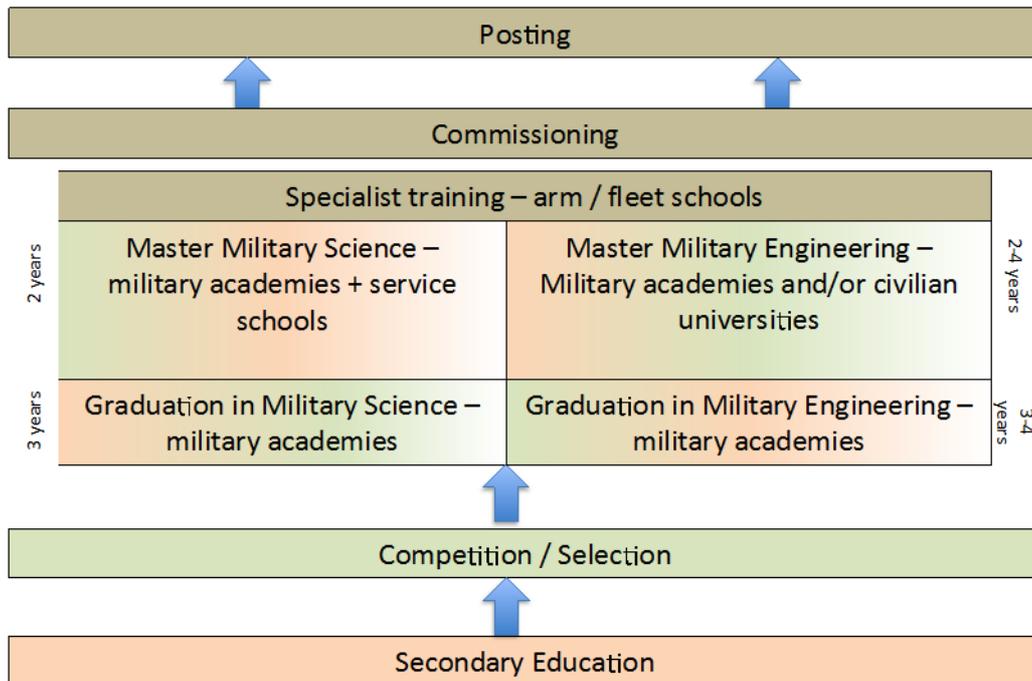




PORTUGAL

How to Become a Military Officer in the Portugese Armed Forces:



The basic education and training of the Portuguese Navy, Army, Air Force and Gendarmerie (*Guarda Nacional Republicana*) take place in three respective academies, which provide both academic and vocational teachings. Army and Gendarmerie officers are jointly educated and trained at the Military Academy.

The three academies have fully implemented the *acquis* of the European Higher Education Area and every future officer of the Portuguese armed forces must complete a Master curriculum. This Master, especially for engineers and medical officers, is possibly organised in cooperation between an academy and a civilian higher education institute. The length of the education thus depends on the nature of the profession and the service.

The vocational training, including the basic military training, is organised mainly by the academies themselves. However, especially during the last year(s) of the basic curriculum, it may also be jointly organised by the academies and the branch schools.

The national education and training actors currently investigate the possibilities for modernizing military higher education in creating a unique Military Higher Education Institute, which would be in charge for the basic education and training of the officers of the four services as well as their education and training at the advanced level.

Academic curricula

Graduation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Military Sciences - GNR (Gendarmerie) - Administration Science - GNR - Military Engineering - Signals Engineering - Medicine (with civilian university)
Master	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Military Sciences - GNR - Administration Science – GNR - Military Engineering (with civilian university) - Signals Engineering (with civilian university) - Medicine (with civilian university)

Military specialisations

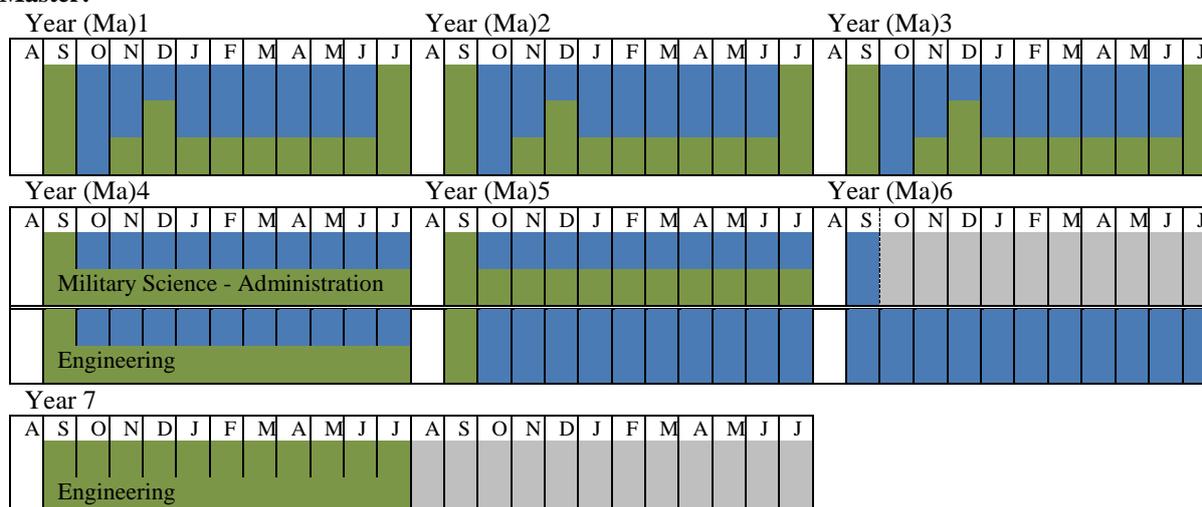
All specialties	Military Academy (Lisbon)
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Number of cadets first year: 39

Total number of cadets: 170

Organisation of the basic officers' education

Master:



Integration in the European Higher Education Area

Academic education:

Credit system			Learning outcomes (described and used)	Internal quality assurance mechanisms		External quality assurance mechanisms		Recognition of education taken abroad
Nature	Ba	Ma		Following the European Standards and Guidelines	Involving the students	National accreditation	Involving EQAR agencies	
ECTS	180	120	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N

Vocational training:

Credit system			Learning outcomes (described and used)	Internal quality assurance mechanisms		National accreditation	Recognition of training done abroad
Nature	Ba	Ma		Following the European Standards and Guidelines	Involving the trainees		
Work load	NK	NK	N	Y	Y	N	N

<u>Doctoral studies</u>	<u>Forefront expertise and research fields of the main institution</u>
The Military Academy does not organise the doctoral studies of the Portuguese officers within its structure.	The Military Academy is actively engaged in scientific research in the fields of <i>military science</i> and <i>military technology</i> .

An exchange culture

Number of military students sent abroad on an exchange in 2013-2014: none

Portugal and the Military Academy have a long practice of the exchange of students and trainers worldwide, notably in the training of officers for foreign armed forces (Angola, e.g.). More recently, the Military Academy has built a new strategy of the mobility of students, teachers and instructors in both academic and vocational aspects of the basic officers' education for developing the European dimension of these exchanges. It has implemented all the acquis of the European Higher Education Area and takes active part in the Initiative and the Erasmus programme in order to share the excellence of its education and training with willing European officers.

Context:

Erasmus charter signed	Member of fora	Use of the framework arrangement	Joint degrees with European military institutions
Y	N	Y	N

Practice:

Academic				Vocational			Practice of full-curriculum mobility	Common modules proposed	Offer of "international programmes"
Sends students	Hosts students	Exchanges staff	Exchanges with civilian	Sends students	Hosts students	Exchanges staff			
Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	CSDP	N

Learning of, learning in foreign languages

At the Military Academy, the future Portuguese officers are required to attend English classes three years out of the four years of their courses. The Military Academy, furthermore, progressively increases its offer of vocational training in English as well and regularly sends students to the common modules created within the framework of the Initiative.

Command of the English at the end of basic education and training (CEFRL/STANAG 6001):

	Speak	Write	Read	Listen/Understand
Master curriculum	SLP 3	SLP 3	SLP 3	SLP 3

Before and beyond basic education

The future military officers are recruited among the young nationals who are graduated from secondary education and who have successfully complied with medical, physical and psychological standards. In addition, they must pass an entrance exam.

In the course of their career, the Portuguese Gendarmerie officers will receive additional education and training at an advanced level: Captain's Career Course, Superior Officer's Course and other qualification courses.