



# European Initiative for the exchange of Military Young Officers Inspired by Erasmus



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

## The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar „How to strengthen gender perspective within the European basic officer education“

2 March 2021 - Estonia

### GENDER EDUCATION IN THE EUROPEAN MILITARY ACADEMIES

Colonel Assoc. Prof. Nevena Atanasova – Krasteva, PhD

LoD 10 Chairperson, ERASMUS+ Coordinator

Vasil Levski National Military University

BULGARIA





# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY



## INTRODUCTION

Acknowledging the EU commitments to human rights, gender equality and gender, peace and security, each and every member of CSDP missions and operations have a personal responsibility to take these objectives into account in his/her work.

Leadership at various levels has a particularly central role in implementing the EU policy.

**COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION**



# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

To achieve **equality between men and women**, all activities and policies in the fields of legislation, education and all areas of human rights should be promoted and facilitated.

“Young people expect their countries to provide them with **opportunities to develop their abilities and talents**, to help their personal and professional realization so that they are prepared for adequate participation in all areas of life.’



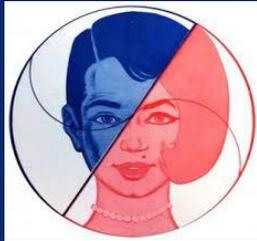
*Report on the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec (2007)13 by member States*



# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY



## GENDER MAINSTREAMING

“**Gender mainstreaming** is defined as a strategy to achieve gender equality by assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies and programmes in all areas and at all levels, in order to assure that the concerns and experiences of women and men are taken into account in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres.”

**BI-STRATEGIC COMMAND DIRECTIVE  
(BI-SCD) 40-1, NATO**



# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

In order for men and women to develop their full potential, it is particularly important during the time of their maturing and training **not to limit their capabilities by imposing gender-based obstacles.**

The presence of female military officers at various positions in the Armed Forces is a growing trend that requires up-to-date analyses and a consistent **gender equality training policy** to create a harmonious military working environment and professional relationships based on competencies and abilities, rather than gender.





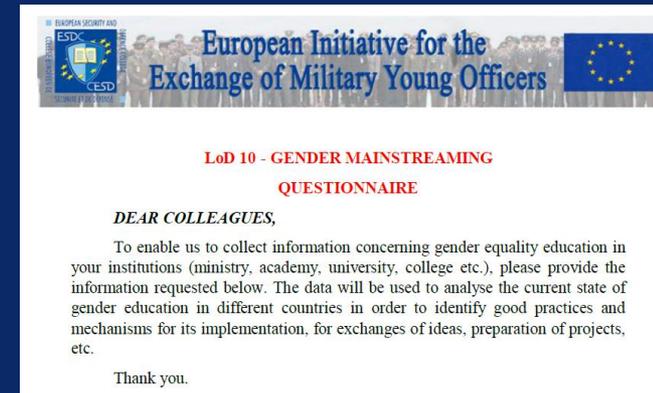
# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

## LoD 10 Gender mainstreaming - EMILYO

- collecting information from the European military academies concerning **the presence or absence of gender topics in the cadet education**;
- preparing **specialists and academic staff** for gender equality education training by using the ESDC courses;
- searching for opportunities to prepare the **common projects** regarding gender equality education;
- using IG events and meetings **to increase sensitivity** to gender topic in the Armed Forces.





# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

## Gender mainstreaming questionnaire

In the **Theresian Military Academy - Austria** the gender equality education is offered to the cadets and students on a regular basis and for the NCOs and officers as a part of their career courses at the Academy`:

- module Physical Education (theoretical and practical sports);
- module Leadership Training CMO/PSO;
- common Module Cultural Awareness.

There aren't **any differences** regarding the entrance exams for the military academy and there are not any quotas. The only **one difference** is that females have easier sport limits.



# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

## Gender mainstreaming questionnaire

In the **Spanish Army Military Academy (AGM)** in Zaragoza there is gender education by means of both subjects of the curricula and several seminars and lectures:

- in the first academic year the gender education is included as part of the “Basic Military Formation” - I and II part;
- in the third academic year the gender topic is part of the “Logistic focused on Defence”;
- in the fourth academic year the gender content is connected to the “Law”.

Each academic year AGM organizes series of conferences named Cervantes Chair, and meetings about the gender mainstreaming have been included in the last years of training.



# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

## Gender mainstreaming questionnaire

### Military University of Technology in Warsaw, Poland

The education is equal despite the gender but Military University of Technology (MUT) does not provide gender education and the University does not have lecturers, specialists and gender advisors.

MUT provides **gender equal policy**. Only the physical fitness entrance test is different for males and females. During the education period, physical fitness requirements and tests are different depending on gender. The requirements are standardized within the whole Polish Armed Forces.



# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

## Gender mainstreaming questionnaire

The **French Air Force Academy in Salon-de-Provence**, France doesn't offer gender equality education to the students, cadets, NCOs and officers.

The only difference between males and females is the scale for the sports entrance exam. During the military preparation the sports education and the tests are the same, but the scale is different for males and females.

.\_The French MoD has just launched a program on gender mix in the armies, to assure the gender equality in the ministry and to facilitate the recruitment, the loyalty and the evolution of the military females in the ministry.



# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

## Gender mainstreaming questionnaire

The **Hellenic Army Academy** provides education regarding the gender equality via the sociology subject which takes place every week at the Academy's classrooms.

The academy has lecturers prepared to provide this kind of educations but when the speeches in the amphitheater are taking place , we invite civilian academic experts to provide their advices.

The planned lectures in the amphitheater are taking place about 4 times per year.

The females have different physical fitness requirements.



# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

## Gender mainstreaming questionnaire

The **Bulgarian Armed Forces** are actively working on the actual implementation of gender equality policies. These activities include conducting military research, training and certification of gender equality, advisors in international courses, networking with non-governmental organizations in European armies, inclusion of gender equality issues in military academies and universities curricula and syllabi.

The **National Military University** in Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria, offers gender-issue education which is included as separate topics in the Leadership training modules.



# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

## BULGARIAN ARMED FORCES



There isn't a quota for "men" and "women" at the military academies and colleges.



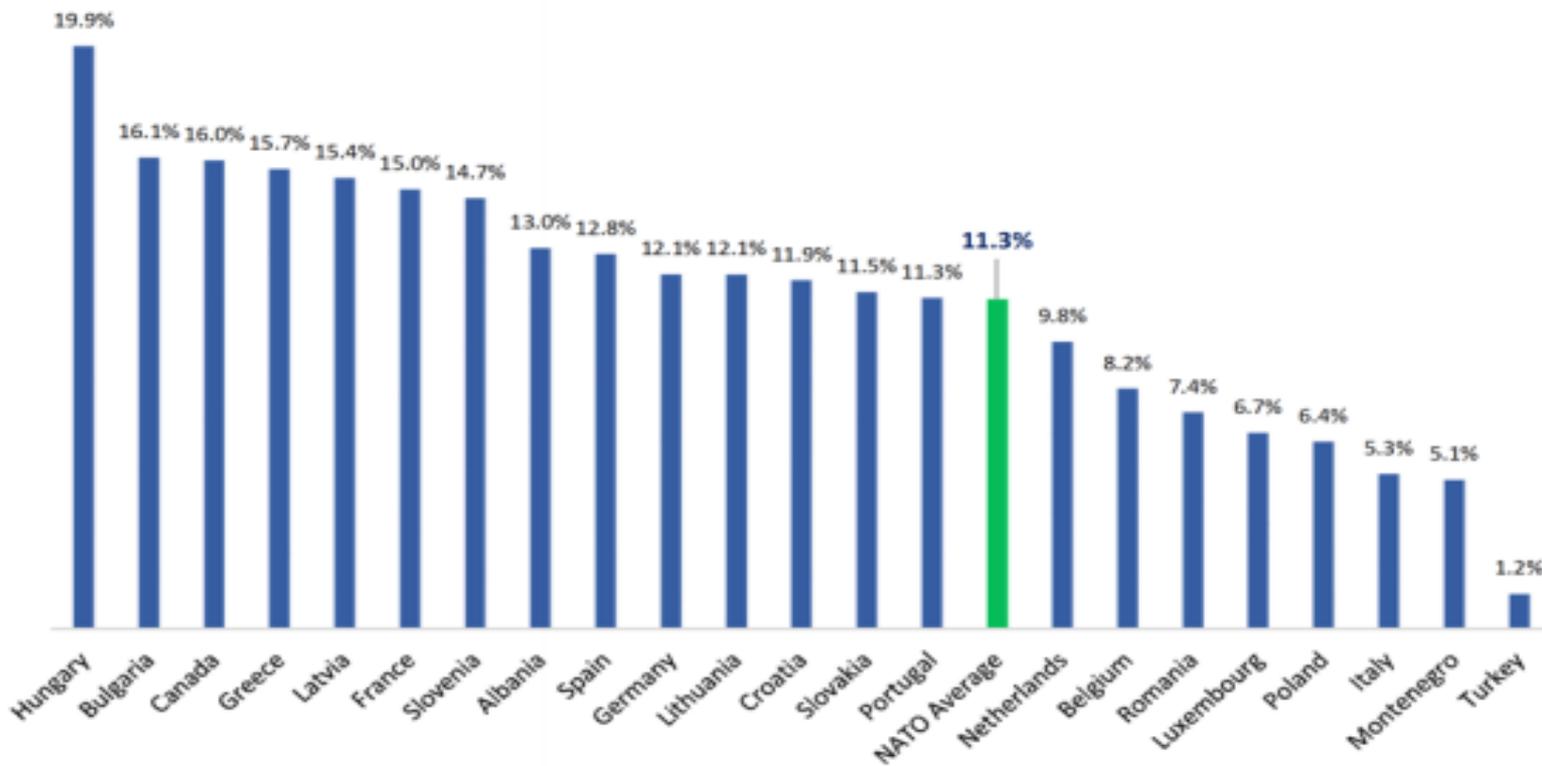
# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

## Representation of Men and Women in the Armed Forces -2018

Figure 3. Percentages of active duty military women in NATO Member Nations by country





# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

## Gender mainstreaming



- collect information from ALL EU military Academies, Universities and institutions connected to the gender education by using the questionnaire ;
- participation in the common projects including research, scientific conferences, cadets seminars, train of trainers course etc....
- **SPP “MILITARY GENDER STUDIES”** ;
- finalization of the Common module – “Gender perspectives”.

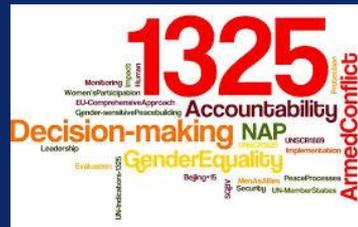


# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



## LoD 10 Gender mainstreaming WAY AHEAD.....

The members of the LoD 10 group agreed on the following goal:



Each graduate from the EU Basic military officer education institutions needs to know why men and women should serve together in the Armed Forces.



# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

## Gender mainstreaming

**Conclusion:** All states and defence ministries should respond adequately to the demands of the modern environment in military academies and universities and offer trainees attractive and interesting educational modules.





# The 3rd Erasmus+ Gender Seminar



ESTONIAN  
MILITARY ACADEMY

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

