



European Initiative for the exchange of young officers inspired by Erasmus
Implementation Group
The Chairman

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Letter of Information

to all Rectors, (Rector-) Commandants & Superintendents of
European Union Basic Officer Education Institutions (EU-BOEIs)

Dear Rector, dear (Rector-) Commandant, dear Superintendent, dear Dean!

As the Chairman of the Military Erasmus (EMILYO) Implementation Group (IG) please allow me to pass this annual letter on behalf of all the IG members to you.

Based on the 2008-decision of all European Union Ministers of Defence (2903rd External Relations Council Meeting) an Implementation Group was to be established for the so-called “**European Initiative for the exchange of young officers inspired by Erasmus**”, or with other names “Military Erasmus”, “Erasmus Militaire”, “EMILYO” (Exchange of MILitary Young Officers) or just in short “The Initiative”.

The overall goal is to harmonise the European Union Basic Officer Education, to increase interoperability, and to promote a European Security and Defence Culture, thus to increase Europe’s security.

In fulfilling the above mentioned mandate, during the year 2021 the Implementation Group continued with the quarterly meetings, most of them were conducted in a residential format. The highlight was the 50th IG meeting, organised by the Henri Coandă Air Force Academy in Brasov/Romania.

The European Union Military Academies Commandants’ Seminar 2021 (EUMACS 2021) as well as the international Military Academic Forum (iMAF) were outstandingly organised by the Portuguese Military Academy in Lisbon.

In spite of a reduction of education activities – because of the pandemic during almost the entire study year 2020/2021 – the IG tried hard to keep the momentum. Please find below the statistics concerning Cadets’/Students’ exchanges of the past study years based on the data your institutions sent.

Study year	2014 / 2015	2015 / 2016	2016 / 2017	2017 / 2018	2018 / 2019	2019 / 2020	2020 / 2021
Number of Cadets’ / Students’ exchanges	787	973	1 505	1 303	1 704	2 199	1 143
Number of organised training days	n/a	n/a	7 214	17 008	61 640	24 360	23 483
Number of events (incl. international semesters)	14	17	25	67	104	89	55



Each year the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) creates the so-called GAREA (General Annual Report on ESDC Activities). The GAREA 2012-21 should reach you via the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, the Ministries of Defence, and your (military) chain of command within the next months. You may have a direct view to this report, which I already up-loaded onto the EMILYO-homepage, at: <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/874>.

This report comprises – among other recommendations – also the future goals for the Implementation Group based on the feed-back of all EU-BOEIs and which are:

- Return to prior pandemic mobilities for students, teachers and Staff as fast as possible, as long as the SARS-CoV-2-situation allows it. Develop in parallel online learning to keep the momentum and to provide pre-conditions of ERASMUS+ financial support for short students' mobilities.
- Integrate the SQF-MILOF elaborations into the descriptions of existing and future common modules, wherever possible.
- Develop clear guidelines for financial support of exchanges.
- Finalisation and implementation of the international semesters starting with pilot projects (Air Force, Navy, Technical) and initiating elaborations on an international medical semester.
- Develop clear guidelines for Basic Officer Education Institutions for the next European Universities call 2024.
- Increase Research & Development activities and collaboration, not only among Basic Officer Education Institutions, but also with civilian universities.

For example, following the GAREA recommendations, by the end of 2022 we will provide you with a document with clear explanations for your decision to be part (or not) concerning the European Universities project.

In 2022 we will continue with our quarterly IG meetings.

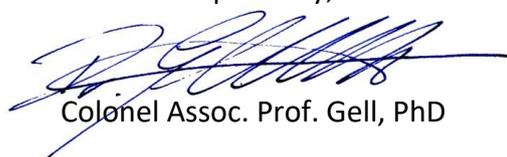
The “Nicolae Bălcescu” Land Forces Academy in Sibiu/Romania will organise the annual iMAF 2022 from 12-15 June 2022.

The University of Defence in Brno/Czech Republic will organise the annual EUMACS **for all services** from 12-13 October 2022. We would very much appreciate if you could participate in this promising event.

For all events you may find detailed information on our EMILYO homepage at: <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878>. For our work it is essential that representatives from **your** EU-BOEI with their valuable knowledge participate in the IG meetings. **My kind request to you is that you continue – or initiate – sending your expert(s) to our meetings on a regular basis.** The next IG meeting will be in Brussels from 21-23 Feb. 2022.

Dear Madam or Sir, allow me to thank you and your representatives who have contributed to the IG's elaborations so far and who have contributed to our common goals. **I wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you, to your family and to your institution,**

respectfully,



Colonel Assoc. Prof. Gell, PhD

