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Some thoughts on the concept of EU Military University

The foundation of the European Military University will further promote existing ideas and practices on mobility, interoperability, training and education of future military officers at European Level. European Military University can reach out beyond borders, aiming to further promote EU values and share best practices in military training and education.

Having served for 35 years as a Professor at the HAFA (15 of them as Dean), 30 years as a principal national representative in NATO/AGARD/RTO/ PEP and AVT panel, I believe that I have the experience to realize and foresee that the road map which ESDC has initiated, and we have the pleasure to see it materialized, is an extremely important one for the harmonization of the education of young officers in Europe.

I believe that the platform for the creation of the **European Military University or European University of Security and Defence** already exists and is well-expressed within the lines of development and implementation of Military Erasmus Program and European Security and Defence College Modules and approach to a common future officers' education.

At this point, we need to go beyond the existing cooperation between Military Academies and look into the potential of transforming the institutional cooperation through a systemic, structural and sustainable change.

I think that the international semester is an excellent starting point, though it may present practical difficulties to harmonize the academic program of various Academies at a specific period of time, compared to the more global and with more degrees of freedom following proposal. The idea/aim is to create a European Military University implemented by joint structures. Within this new Organization, founding and participating Military Academies will share resources and have the chance to build creative and innovative educational activities.

Of course, there are issues that need to be addressed in connection with the academic program and the modules that will be taught as part of the academic curriculum. In this direction, the idea of Common modules can be extended to all main Academic Subjects that participating Academies will agree to be included in their Bachelor (180 ECTS) or Diploma (240 ECTS) Curriculum.

There is a number of academic subjects, **Common/Common Modules**, which can form the basic common education curriculum for all future European officers and could be included in all the participating Academies. All participating Academies would be willing to include subjects like: Military Ethics, European History, Military Leadership, Law of Armed Conflicts, Safety Culture, Basic Military English or Aviation English (for the Air Force Academies), International Organizations, Cyber Security, Defence and Security Economics etc.

Additionally, depending on future officers' specialization, the academic curriculum should include **Specialization Modules** as well, on subjects like: Electronic Warfare, Aerospace Law, Aviation Meteorology, Maritime Security. **New Common Modules** should also be developed on topics, which today are already included in some Academies' academic program, like: Mathematics, Operational Research, Aerodynamics, Thermofluids, Structures, Mechanics, Materials, Manufacturing, Electromagnetism, Radars, Signal Processing, Weapon Systems, Propulsion Systems, Control Systems, Information Technologies, Software Languages, Telecommunications, Avionics, etc.

All the above mentioned subjects, along with any other academic subject which will be agreed between the participating Academies, will form the pool of the Common Modules, which can be used to construct the Curriculum of a specific program of studies, corresponding at least to 180 Academic ECTS. This program will lead to the degree of the European Military University with the corresponding specialization depending on the Common Modules taken during the years of Studies.

The steps just described, by default, will establish the idea and form the basis of implementation of the European Military University by converting the regional participating Academies as legal parts of the European Military University (System) under the auspices and the recognition of the EU.

The foundation of the European Military University will promote the idea of Europe and the common defence and security culture even further.