



**European Initiative for the Exchange of Young Officers inspired by Erasmus
58th IG, ATHENS**

Dr. Ioannis RAGIES, HAA

Chair, LoD-5

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- Discussion of a set of ‘guidelines’ addressed to all Higher Military Education/ Training Institutions concerned, in relation to a “new EU commitment” towards the ESDC/IG Framework.
- Discussion of a new “closer cooperation/coordination framework” between ESDC/IG and other ESDC structures/Bodies (EAB, SC)
- Discussion of a formal text to function as an “institutional/ legal road - map” concerning the Initiative.



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- EU Common security and defence policy /CSDP is an integral part of EU's common foreign and security policy /CFSP.
- ESDP is included in EU External Relations (European External Action Service/EEAS)
- ESDP still depended on Political decisions (of EU m-s)
- ESDP is also part of EEAS
- European Council & Council of the European Union take decisions relating to the CSDP by unanimity (Article 42 of the TEU).



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- "Military Erasmus", an initiative undertaken by EU m-s, aims at developing the "exchanges between members of the Armed Forces, EU future military leaders and teachers / instructors during their initial education and training
- The Initiative is implemented by the m-s on a purely voluntary basis -retain full autonomy with regard to military training (?)
- Its Functioning is thus depended on political decisions, directions and oversight



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- The Implementation Group (2009) is a task-oriented configuration of the European Security and Defence College's Executive Academic Board/EAB.
- Overall goal is to harmonize EU's Basic Officer Education and to increase interoperability and, thus to increase Europe's security.
- IG is working to promote a European Security and Defence Culture by spreading the idea among the Officer Cadets and Students participating in the Basic Officer Education



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- Current and future challenges can be better managed together.
- It is clearly related to an education for the Union's Common Security and Defence Policy /CSDP.
- The implementation of the initiative is driven by the key idea that exchanges of young officers during their initial training form the cornerstones for the emergence, in the longer run, of the increased interoperability -critical element for European security and defence.



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- EU leaders call for the work in the area of security and defence to be accelerated
- EU leaders are committed to taking more responsibility for the EU's own security and, in the field of defence, pursuing a strategic course of action and increasing the EU's capacity to act autonomously.



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- ✓ Basic Officer Education Institutions (BOEI) in the European Union cover a wide spectrum of Institutions
- ✓ It consists of Defence Universities, Military, Naval, Air Force Academies and Schools
- ✓ Especially in a highly uncertain strategic environment, BOEI becomes as, probably, the most critical element/ parameter in EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy/CFSP
- ✓ EU Armed Forces will be required, if necessary, to defend the Citizens of the Union.



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- ✓ To achieve a 'higher-level' functioning & effectiveness', we need to 'upgrade' and 'enhance' institutional 'connectiveness' among current ESDC structures.
- ✓ Political {Diplomatic} Interventions and Interference are not allowed
- ✓ Participation to EMILYO should be considered, by EU m-s, Ministries and Institutions, is a 'prerequisite' to enhance a real EU common security and defence policy



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Thanks for your attention!!!