

Meeting of the ESDC
European Union Military Secondary Schools Forum
(EUMSSF)

Draft Minutes

5th Meeting – 14 January 2021 (13.00 - 15.00)
(Virtual)

Venue: Webex virtual environment
Chair: Lt. Col. Symeon ZAMBAS, CY

1) Welcome and round table

The ESDC secretariat welcomed the participants; all 24 participants from 15 different schools were invited to introduce themselves.

2) Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted by the Forum.

3) Introductory remarks

The Chair presented the main objectives of the Forum and described in detail the specific tasks of the 5th meeting.

4) 1st Olympiad: state-of-play and next steps, including the ceremony

*ESDC recalled the essay competition deadline of **1 February 2021** for the jury to **select and rank three winners**;*

*The Forum agreed to **postpone** the date of the **special ceremony awarding the three winners of the competition** to the 7th EUMSSF Meeting (proposed date 7 to 8 September 2021).*

5) The European Union for Secondary Schools pilot course 28 June – 1 July 2021

*The Chair invited Forum members to **indicate whether they intend to send Teachers/Instructors** to attend the course, and to provide **an indicative number of participants. 20 -25 participants are expected.***

6) Erasmus + Funding opportunities: newly approved programme 2021-2027

Mr Yassen SPASSOV, Policy Officer Erasmus+, European Commission, DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture briefed the Forum on the new programme 2021-2027. It seems that the best option would be the accreditation of the schools by Erasmus, which would secure multiannual funding for the targeted activities of the Forum with only a minimal administrative burden. A workshop in the context of the next meeting would be organised with the aim of guiding the institutions through the application step-by-step.

7) Summer schools: state-of-play

The Chair asked Forum members to check the possibility of offering places at their summer schools and to inform the ESDC Secretariat accordingly by 31 March 2021.

8) Way forward and agenda topics for the next meeting of the EUMSSF

The Forum agreed to schedule the **next (6th) Meeting** of the Forum in a virtual environment for 7 May 2021 on the Webex platform and with an extended duration (09.30 to 14.00);

The Forum also agreed to schedule the **7th EUMSSF** on 7 and 8 of September 2021 as a physical meeting in Brussels.

9) AoB

10) Publicising the EUMSSF's work

The minutes, agendas, Rules of Procedure and all other relevant document will be uploaded onto the Military Erasmus webpage at: www.emilyo.eu, specifically <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1389>.

In order to provide a better overview, **all requests are summarised in the table below:**

Request:	Send to:
All institutions are invited to express their interest in hosting future meetings.	
All institutions are invited to provide information no later than 31 March 2021 on whether they run a summer school open to participants from other schools	simone.coccia@eeas.europa.eu & SECRETARIAT-ESDC@eeas.europa.eu
All institutions are invited to inform the ESDC Secretariat if the School is willing to send Teachers/Instructors to attend the course and to provide the exact number of participants by 31 March 2021	

All institutions are invited to express their interest in acting as coordinators and/or participating as members in a project under Erasmus+ no later than 31 March 2021	
All institutions are invited to give feedback on the feasibility of inviting Afghan students to study at military high schools	
All institutions are invited to suggest topics for the agenda of the 6th EUMSSF meeting no later than 15 April 2021	