

**53<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Implementation Group  
for the European initiative for the exchange of young officers  
inspired by Erasmus (EMILYO)  
21 to 23 February 2022  
Brussels  
Draft minutes**

- 1) The chair and the ESDC Secretariat welcomed 63 participants from 20 EU Member States and 36 institutions.
- 2) **Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted with the addition of the following items:

  - a) offers from the TMA (AT)
  - b) offers from the NMU (BG)
  - c) offers from the CSDA (CY)
  - d) offers from the UoD (CZ)
  - e) offers from the Spanish BOEIs (ES)
  - f) offers from the FASFA (FR)
  - g) offers from the Hellenic BOEIs (GR)
  - h) offers from the Italian BOEIs (IT)
  - i) nomination of the 8<sup>th</sup> Honorary Member (Major-General João Vieira Borges, PhD)
  - j) international events organised by the MUT (PL)
  - k) update on the DIGICODE project by the MUT (PL)
  - l) international events organised by the PMA (PT)
  - m) update on the Digitalization in Defence Higher Education project by the AFAHC (RO)
  - n) international events organised by the MTA (RO)
- 3) **Approval of the minutes**

The group approved the minutes of the 52<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The approved minutes are available at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/872>.
- 4) **Prioritisation exercise 2023 & administrative instruction 2022**

The ESDC's TM updated the IG members on the prioritisation exercise 2023 and the Administrative Instruction II (financing activities) 2022. The relevant documentation would be uploaded on the EMILYO password-protected area.
- 5) **Honorary membership**

Major-General João Vieira Borges, PhD, President of the Portuguese Commission of Military History and member of the National Defence Strategic Concept Working Group, was made the 8<sup>th</sup> Honorary Member of the Implementation Group.
- 6) **CSDP Olympiad**

The FASFA representative delivered a brief presentation on the administrative

aspects of the 6<sup>th</sup> CSDP Olympiad. Since the first-round evaluation had been completed, it was communicated that eight out of 39 essays were in a need of a second evaluation. It was agreed that the second-round evaluation would be carried out by the LoD chairs and the final paper results announced at the May IG meeting in Larnaca. Given the fact that the essay competition is directly connected to the Presidency of the Council of the EU, the chair opened the door of the 7<sup>th</sup> CSDP Olympiad by inviting Belgium and Hungary to express their interest in organising the 2024 iteration. Further information can be found at [http://www.emilyo.eu/olympiad\\_csdp](http://www.emilyo.eu/olympiad_csdp) (folder: "Administration").

## **7) iMAF**

The LFA representative briefly presented the upcoming iMAF 2022. The chair once again asked the BOEIs to express their interest in organising iMAF2023, which was still pending. In that respect, the ESDC's TM confirmed that the Hellenic institutions (HMA, HNA & HAFA) would organise iMAF 2023 in Athens (GR).

There was also a request from the Cyprus Security and Defence Academy (CSDA) to become a member of the iMAF family. According to the RoP, decisions on new members would be made once a year at the September IG meeting. It was therefore agreed to discuss the candidacy in September 2022.

## **8) Update by the IG chair on all lines of development (LoDs)**

The IG chair presented the roles, objectives and achievements of the Member States and their participating institutions for each LoD (all presentations are temporarily available at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191>):

### **a) LoD-2 – Development of competences**

The working session took place in parallel with the LoD-8 meeting. The LoD-2 chair delivered a presentation on 'How to align common modules qualification requirements with the SQF-MILOF'. The CMs qualification requirements were explained, together with the five-step approach aligning the qualification requirements with the SQF-MILOF. CSDP CM, the IMINT/GEOINT Analysis course and 'Gender Perspectives in Security and Defence' CM were discussed and aligned with the SQF-MILOF during the last part of the session.

### **b) LoD-4 – IT platform**

The possibility of adding a new feature to the main menu of the EMILYO web page was discussed during the plenary session. This new feature (a menu button) would be linked to a user-friendly database file that would contain the research fields of the BOEIs. In conjunction with LoD-14 and LoD-9, this file would allow staff at the BOEIs to have a clear picture on what areas of research their colleagues are working on, allowing them to share good practices by participating in common projects. This proposal would be further discussed at the 54<sup>th</sup> IG meeting in Larnaca (May 2022).

### **c) LoD-5 – Legal framework**

The IG chair asked members to encourage their superiors to adopt the legal framework of the Initiative. He explained that this could be done through an official statement to the ESDC Secretariat or by notifying the Steering Committee.

### **d) LoD-6 – Strategic communication**

The MoD of the Republic of Cyprus proposed changing the name of the LoD-6 from National Implementation to Strategic Communication, in line

with its purpose for existing. In addition, Major Christoforos Christoforou was nominated as the chair of the LoD-6. The IG accepted both proposals unanimously. As a result, the LoD-6 was re-activated during the 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the IG, with the primary task of promoting the EMILYO at the strategic level.

**e) LoD-7 – Financing the Initiative**

The LoD session started with a critical analysis of the new ERASMUS programme and in particular the Blended Intensive Programmes (BIPs). This new flexible framework can be seen as an opportunity for the BOEIs to use Erasmus+ funds to finance the short-term SMS (Common Modules). Eligibility criteria must be respected, notably: BIPs have to be developed and implemented by at least three higher education institutions (HEIs), there must be combined virtual and physical mobility, a minimum of three ECTS must be awarded to the students, physical mobility must be from five days to 30 days and with a minimum of 15 participants. To do so, the existing Common Modules should be revised and brought into line with the eligibility criteria.

**f) LoD-8 – Common modules/evaluations and offers**

- AT, BG, EE, ES, FR, GR, IT, LT, PT, PL and RO reported on past events and announced upcoming offers ([www.emilyo.eu/node/878](http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878)).

- **LoD-8 meeting outcomes**

The chair briefed the participants on the following topics:

- 1) The Common Modules database.
- 2) Participation in the SQF-MILEG recent meetings (Kick-off meeting and first meeting) and the plan to align Common Modules qualification requirements with the SQF-MILOF.
- 3) Finalisation of two new Common Modules: the IMINT/GEOINT Analysis course, proposed by the MTA (RO), and Gender Perspectives in Security and Defence, proposed by the LOD-10 chair, while the latest version of CSDP CM was adjusted in accordance with the SQF-MILOF package.
- 4) The new ERASMUS+ BIPs with information about the recently launched call and the participation of the University of Turin in cooperation with the IT-Army Education and Training Command and School of Applied Studies.

**g) LoD-9 – Future Projects**

The meeting began with a short update on the inquiries submitted linked to the European Universities Initiative. Then, the conclusions from the activities carried out so far were presented. The chair announced the next stages of the preparation phase of the “Erasmus+ Programme (ERASMUS) Call for proposals Partnerships for Excellence - European Universities - ERASMUS-EDU 2022-EUR-UNIV 30 NOV 2021”. A project would be created within the IG for the 2023 call. The need for further cooperation was also highlighted. It was agreed that the BOEIs would apply to the team working on the Joint Long-Term Strategy by the end of March. Work on the document would commence in April 2022.

**h) LoD-10 – Gender mainstreaming**

Most of the meeting focused on the development of the CM “Gender Perspectives in Security and Defence”. The draft module description prepared by the chair was presented during the 50<sup>th</sup> IG meeting (June 2021). Since then, it has been commented on and debated by a number of participants. Thanks to the recommendations from various experts, the chair brought to the table the final version of the module incorporating minor changes that had been made.

The group then elaborated on the 4<sup>th</sup> Gender Seminar that would be organised in May 2022 in Larnaca (CY). The topic of the seminar would be “How to teach Gender in the military”. In addition, several issues were discussed and finalised, such as the programme, the panels and the working groups’ sessions.

The working session concluded with a short update on the progress of the Military Gender Studies (MGS) Project. The MGS handbook was being developed and a first draft would be ready in due course.

**i) LoD-11 – International Naval Semester (INS)**

As the LoD chair had stepped down, the IG chair asked CDR Patrizio PERIN from the ITNA to act as interim chair and therefore called on the BOEIs to nominate a chair for this LoD.

Regarding the development of the INS, the Project Leader (MA Monika WYSOCKA) expressed her concerns about developing this project this year. The Naval Institutions, who had previously confirmed their commitment to the INS, decided to start developing the INS out of the margins of the partnership and in that sense they agreed on the following actions:

- 1) To share the syllabus of the modules before the next meeting;
- 2) To propose the modules that each academy wants to develop or present at the upcoming IG Meeting in Larnaca;
- 3) To define the work group for each module;
- 4) To define the digital platform.

Finally the members discussed the possibility of future developments for the LoD-11, such as a partnership for the exchange of training and the Maritime Simulators and Training Facilities Network for Enhancing the Exchange of Good Practices and Digital Learning.

**j) LoD-12 – International Air Force Semester (IAFS)**

The chair presented the project's progress, focusing on the feedback from the Hellenic Erasmus Agency on the evaluation report. Subsequently, the forthcoming events were presented with the emphasis on the ‘Train-the-Trainer’ event and the last Transnational Meeting of the project. Both would be held in March at the premises of the PrAFA. The chair then confirmed that the implementation of the IAFS would begin in the next academic year (Oct 2022). The announcement was followed by a presentation of the tentative implementation plan on HAFA’s side, which was discussed among the participants.

**k) LoD-13 – European Common Technical Semester for Defence and Security (EuCTS\_DS)**

The chair informed participants about the achievements and the future activities of the project. The partner institutions designated the teachers responsible for all the subjects and they started elaborating both the content and the didactic material. Given the fact that the project had already fallen behind schedule due to the pandemic, the chair proposed extending the project until 31 May 2023. The project partners would propose new dates for organising the intensive study programmes and multiplier events, which would be approved in the margins of the upcoming online meeting on 1 March 2022.

**l) LoD-14 – Research and Development (R&D)**

The following topics were discussed: i) what had happened since November, ii) the EDA update, iii) the next steps.

The two twin theses were still running while several meetings were held between the parties involved. As agreed in November, a virtual meeting among the Heads of Research of the BOEIs was held on 19 January. The projects/collaborations have proven to be very popular.

A short update provided on EDA activities related to research at European level. The most salient points were as follows: the Innovation P Contest, the OSRA (Overarching Strategic Research Agenda) concept and how to become a CapTech member in three steps: i) Find your CapTech of interest; ii) Contact your national coordinator; and iii) Contact the CapTech moderator (through your national coordinator reference).

All participants agreed to carry out the following tasks by the following meeting: 1) to establish a PoC list of research representatives; 2) to create a newsletter linked to upcoming research collaborations; 3) to provide a link to the common thesis form on EMILYO's web page, 4) to devise an institute presentation template which includes research-related info; 5) to organise EDA and EDF info sessions held by relevant representatives of these organisations; 6) to devise a template for students' research requests; and 7) to discuss collaboration opportunities with Doc School and give a summary.

**m) LoD-15 – International Medical Semester (IMS)**

The chair mentioned that there are ongoing discussions with interested medical institutions to sign bilateral agreements. Further information would be provided at the upcoming IG meeting in Larnaca.

**9) Work plan**

- a) The 4<sup>th</sup> Erasmus+ Gender Seminar would be held in Larnaca (CY) on 3 May back-to-back with the 54<sup>th</sup> IG meeting (4 to 5 May 2022). All the necessary documentation would be available at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878>.
- b) iMAF 2022 was scheduled to take place in Sibiu (RO) from 13 to 15 June 2022. More information would be made available at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878>.
- c) The 55<sup>th</sup> IG meeting would be held in Sintra (PT) at the PrAFA premises from 19 to 22 September 2022, back-to-back with the 2<sup>nd</sup> ME of the IAFS (on 20 September). On Monday, 19 September (from 16.00 to 18.00), a workshop would be held for new IG members in parallel with the LoD chairs' meeting.

- d) EUMACS 2022 would be held at the Orea Congress Hotel in Brno (Czech Republic) on 12 and 13 October 2022.
- e) The 56<sup>th</sup> IG meeting would be held in Gdynia (PL) at the premises of the PNA from 5 to 7 December 2022. On Monday, 5 December (from 16.00 to 18.00), a workshop would be held for new IG members in parallel with the LoD chairs' meeting.
- f) The 57<sup>th</sup> IG meeting would be held in Brussels in February 2023, back-to-back with the EAB meeting.

## 10) AOB

Below is a summary of all requests made at the meeting.

Request	Send to
<p><b>Presentations for the IG meeting:</b> if you would like to present anything during the forthcoming IG meeting (plenary session), please send your presentation <b>five days prior to the meeting.</b></p>	<p><a href="mailto:harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at">harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</a> &amp; <a href="mailto:ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu">ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu</a></p>
<p><b>Comment on the LoD-5 paper (framework).</b> The goal is for your institution or country to provide the ESDC with an official statement. If this has not yet been done or initiated, try to get an answer from those responsible.</p> <p>(See <a href="http://www.emilyo.eu/node/982">http://www.emilyo.eu/node/982</a> – LoD-5)</p>	<p><a href="mailto:ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu">ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu</a></p> <p>or announce in the Steering Committee</p>
<p>Mark the <b>autumn/winter and spring/summer academic semesters</b> of your institution in blue and red. Create new lines if necessary.</p> <p>(<a href="http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191">http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191</a>)</p>	<p><a href="mailto:harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at">harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</a></p>
<p>Draw up a <b>pool of lecturers</b> for your institution, indicating the names of those willing to teach abroad, preferably under Erasmus+.</p> <p>(<a href="http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191">http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191</a>)</p>	<p><a href="mailto:harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at">harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</a></p>
<p>If you wish to post a <b>mobility offer</b> on the EMILYO homepage, send the dates and a short description (in PDF format), or a link if you post it on your own website.</p> <p>(<a href="http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878">http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878</a>)</p>	<p><a href="mailto:harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at">harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</a></p>
<p>If you wish to have an <b>administrative document</b> posted on the EMILYO homepage, send it in a <b>single PDF file.</b></p>	<p><a href="mailto:harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at">harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</a></p>
<p>Encourage <b>cadets or students to write a report</b> on an event with international participants. Please include pictures.</p> <p>(<a href="http://www.emilyo.eu/exchange_experience">http://www.emilyo.eu/exchange_experience</a>)</p>	<p><a href="mailto:harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at">harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</a></p>
<p>Nominate a chair for a LoD that has not yet been assigned one.</p>	<p><a href="mailto:harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at">harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</a> &amp; <a href="mailto:ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu">ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu</a></p>