



Name of the event	Common Module “Biosafety and Bioterrorism”
Institution which organised the event	IT-Army Education and Training Command and School of Applied Military Studies-Turin University School in Strategic Sciences (SUISS) of the University of Turin
Country of the organiser	Italy (IT)
Year of the event	2021
Date of the event (from-to)	17-21 May
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The Common Module “Biosafety and Bioterrorism” was organised by the IT-Army Education and Training Command and School of Applied Military Studies-Turin in cooperation with the interdepartmental University School in Strategic Sciences (SUISS) of the University of Turin. It was hosted entirely virtually via the WebEx platform due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, from May 17th to May 21st 2021. This Common Module was attended by civilian students and young officers of the Italian Army and cadets from the Hellenic Military Academy of Combat Support Officers and the Hellenic Military Academy of Nursing, under the “European Initiative for the Exchange of Young Officers-Inspired by Erasmus” of the European Security and Defence College. The Common Module’s objective was to introduce the participants to the subjects of biosafety and bioterrorism.

This one week long module consisted of a number of interesting lectures based on a variety of subjects regarding biosafety and bioterrorism. The participants- both military cadets and young officers, as well as civilian students got in touch with the significance of bioterrorism and biosafety, as they understood the scale of the threat originating from various aspects such as food poisoning and water contamination. Furthermore, the participants got familiar with the “one health” term and antibiotic resistance, effectively having their self-awareness raised. Moreover, lectures regarding the food safety and EU quality standards and protocols processing as well as epidemiology of pathogenic enterobacteria and the management of gastrointestinal illness outbreak further enhanced the participants’ knowledge about biosafety. The module was concluded with a final exam, being preceded by a course evaluation questionnaire the day before.



In conclusion the HMAESO cadets had a unique experience that not only gave them the opportunity to deepen their knowledge but also highlighted the importance of raising European young officers and Cadet's awareness about biosafety and bioterrorism and the necessity of training in related subjects in order to be able to efficiently respond to emerging threats.