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|  | <p style="text-align: center;">European Initiative for the exchange of young officers inspired by Erasmus</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Implementation Group</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Chairman</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Colonel Assoc. Prof. Harald GELL, PhD, MSc, MSD, MBA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Theresan Military Academy – Burgplatz 1 – 2700 WIENER NEUSTADT – AUSTRIA Mobile Phone: +43 - 664 - 622 2161 Office: +43 - 50201 - 20 - 29139 E-Mail: harald.gell@bmlvs.gv.at FAX: +43 - 50201 - 20 - 17250</p> |
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Brussels and Wiener Neustadt, the 18th of December, 2017

Letter of Information

to all Rectors, (Rector-) Commandants & Superintendents of
European Union Basic Officer Education Institutions

Dear Rector, dear (Rector-) Commandant, dear Superintendent!

As the Chairman of the Implementation Group (IG) allow me to pass this letter on behalf of all the IG Members to you.

Based on the 2008-decision of all European Union Ministers of Defence (2903rd External Relations Council Meeting) an Implementation Group was to be established for the so-called “**European Initiative for the exchange of young officers inspired by Erasmus**”, or with other names “Military Erasmus”, “Erasmus Militaire”, “EMILYO” (Exchange of MILitary Young Officers) or just in short “The Initiative”.

The overall goal is to harmonize the European Union Basic Officer Education, to increase interoperability, and to promote a European Security and Defence Culture, thus to increase Europe’s security. By the way, the IG’s success was mentioned in a speech of HR/VP Federica Mogherini on 13th December 2017.

The IG’s working meetings take place on a quarterly basis; meeting location is mainly in Brussels and may be financed via ERASMUS+; therefore it may not touch your institution’s or military budget.

Achievements so far can be downloaded from the EMILYO homepage. There, a short summary may give you an overview about our elaborations (www.emilyo.eu → About the Initiative → History – or just use the link: <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/27>).

Another possibility to receive first-hand information is the annual European Military Academies Commandants’ Seminar (EMACS). The next EMACS will take place at the Theresan Military Academy in Austria from 24th-26th (27th = optional) October 2018. For the first time **all EU Basic Officer Education Institutions’ Rectors, (Rector-) Commandants and Superintendents from all services** will be invited. You will receive the invitation in due time.



For our work it is essential that representatives from the Basic Officer Education Institutions with their valuable knowledge participate in the IG meetings. **My kind request to you is that you continue – or initiate – sending your expert(s) to our meetings on a regular basis.**

Dear Madam or Sir, allow me to thank you and your representatives who have contributed to the IG's elaborations so far. I wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you, your family and to your institution,

respectfully,



Col Assoc. Prof. Gell, PhD

