



European Security and Defence College
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Origin: Implementation Group

**66th meeting of the Implementation Group
for the European initiative for the exchange of young officers inspired by Erasmus
(EMILYO)**

**02 - 05 June 2025
at the Romanian Naval Academy "Mircea cel Batran" in Constanța / Romania**

Draft Minutes

- 1) Welcome address by RNA Commandant (Rector), Rear Admiral Alecu TOMA and the Chief of Naval Forces of Romania, Vice Admiral Mihai PANAIT.
- 2) The Chair and the ESDC Training Manager welcomed 105 participants from 19 EU Member States and Norway representing 43 different institutions.
- 3) **Approval of the minutes**
The members of the IG approved the minutes of the 65th meeting. The approved minutes are available at <https://www.emilyo.eu/approved-meeting-minutes>.
- 4) **Adoption of the agenda of the 66th IG Meeting**
The agenda was adopted, with the addition of the following items:
 - a) Albanian Request for cooperation.
 - b) Past and future offers from the institutions.
- 5) **Update the Pool of Lecturers**
The Chair of the IG requested from the Members of the IG to update their lecturers on the Pool of Lecturers. The template is available at <https://www.emilyo.eu/templates>, is to be sent to harald.gell@inode.at and will be uploaded to the secure area on the EMILYO website.
- 6) **Update on the new EMILYO Website**
The Chair of the IG requested from the Members of the IG to send the documents they want to upload on the EMILYO website to Vice Chair Cristi Moldoveanu: mcrristi@gmail.com, to Chair Harald Gell: harald.gell@inode.at and to LoD Chair KostasTsanakas kotsanakas@gmail.com only for publication to EMILYO Social Media.
IG Members can also **request access to the secure area** of the website, by sending an email to the ESDC Military Erasmus Coordinator Christoforos.CHRISTOFOROU@eeas.europa.eu.
- 7) **Decision on the format of uploading Institutions offers on EMILYO Website**
The IG Members agreed to use the Mobility Offers Calendar (detailed by types of mobility) only from now on (<https://www.emilyo.eu/mobility-offers-multiplier-events2>)

8) Information about Lines of Development (LoD)

The Chair provided a brief update on the status of all the Lines of Development (LoDs), and specifically regarding:

LoD 2 & 8: The revision procedure for Common Modules is finalised. These LoDs will now apply the same procedure to modules currently lacking "Common" status, with the aim of elevating their status.

LoD-03: Coordinate with LoD 12 and LoD 13 to share relevant materials via links.

LoD-05: Encourage outstanding countries to sign the Framework Agreement to facilitate EMILYO mobilities. This topic was also mentioned during EUMACS 2025.

LoD-06: Finalise the "Information Awareness" Module and forward it to the plenary for approval as a Common Module.

LoD-09: Create a system for accessing both future and past projects.

LoD-15 & 16: The Chair requested volunteers to chair LoD 15 (International Medical Semester) and LoD-16 (EU Military Academy).

LoD-17: Agreed to appoint Lt Col Daniel MICHALSKI from the Polish Air Force University as LoD-17 Vice-Chair.

9) Past and future contributions of IG members

Representatives of the institutions presented past and future contributions of Military Erasmus activities. All presentations are available at <https://www.emilyo.eu/temporary-documents>.

10) Update on the ESDC Guidelines for the new academic year 2024-2025

The ESDC Military Erasmus Coordinator provided the IG members with updates on the following ongoing procedures:

- a) Co-financing of EMILYO activities by the ESDC, followed by a question and answer session with IG members.
- b) Submission of contributions for EMILYO for the 2025-2026 academic year.
- c) ESDC network members' guidelines.

The ESDC Training Manager reminded all IG members of the requirement to inform the Chair and the ESDC Military Erasmus Coordinator prior to accepting participants from non-EU Member States in any activities organised under the Military Erasmus Initiative.

11) Meeting IG Chair, Vice Chairs and LoD Chairs:

In parallel to point 9 and 10, the meeting with the IG Chair, Vice Chairs, and LoD Chairs took place.

- a) The IG Chair, the Vice Chairs, and the LoD Chairs discussed the achievable points for the 8th CSDP Olympiad's essay competition. Points will be moved from the essay to the presentation phase. The IG Chair will revise the regulation and will provide a proposal to the IG during the next meeting.
- b) During the knowledge competition a physical challenge should be included – depending on the possibilities on the spot.
- c) The meetings for LoD-04, LoD-05, and LoD-07 will be moved from the 3rd to the last meeting of the year for the purpose of having an equal number of LoD meetings during each IG meeting.
- d) An overview about the LoDs' strategic, operational, and tactical goals including their meetings is available at <https://www.emilyo.eu/lines-of-development>.

12) ESDC New Logo

The Chair requested that all members use the new ESDC logo in their documents of the activities that are organised under the auspices of EMILYO. The ESDC logo is available at <https://www.emilyo.eu/logos>

13) Procedure for the prolongation of the sitting IG chair

The sitting chair – Colonel Harald GELL – and all non-IG members left the room. The ESDC Training Manager informed the IG members about the procedure. There was only one nomination, which was the existing chair; the members had to decide unanimously if they approve the prolongation of Colonel Harald GELL.

The oldest LoD chair – Captain (N) Nedko DIMITROV – took the floor and asked the IG members if they agree to the prolongation of Col GELL for the next 2 academic years as the IG chairman.

All members decided unanimously to accept the prolongation of Colonel Harald GELL for the academic years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 and appointed the ESDC Training Manager to add this as a decision point in the next EAB and SC meetings.

14) EMILYO Annual Report 2023-2024

The Chair introduced the revised form, highlighting its simplified design. Members were requested to complete the forms (available at <https://www.emilyo.eu/templates>) for the 2024-2025 academic year by **27 June 2025**. The forms should be sent to harald.gell@inode.at and to christoforos.christoforou@eeas.europa.eu.

15) EUMACS 2025

The Chair reported about the EUMACS 2025 and EUAFA-CC 2025 held at the MUT Warsaw and PAFU Deblin from 27-29 May 2025. As it refers to the Implementation Group, the following points were agreed with the Commandants/Superintendents:

- a) Procedure for structured Lessons Learnt (incl. how to fight / protect against UAVs). Eventually create a new LoD.
- b) Check, if the CM UAV is that what we need? A kind request was passed to HAFA.
- c) Check, if we can / should / must implement the optronic field. A kind request was passed to the Vice Chair Technical Support.
- d) Integrate / facilitate more competitions (sports, such as Olympiad) facilitating the “*will to win*”.
- e) Need for Hybrid Operations & Space. The Chair informed that LoD-20 and LoD-21 are working on that.
- f) Need for a Combined Joint Semester. The Chair informed that LoD-16 (currently frozen) worked on that. We just need an institution to organise it.
- g) Need for an “*innovation network*”. A kind request was passed to the Chairs of LoD-13 and LoD-14.

16) DIMAS (Digital Mathematics)

The project-coordinator from the University of Turin informed about the project and the importance of Digital Mathematics for the Defence and Security education (Electronic warfare and cybersecurity, military leadership, logistics for defence and security, Artificial Intelligence for defence and security, and technical systems for defence and security).

17) Future CSDP Olympiads and EUMACS

The Chair informed the members that the CSDP Olympiad 2026 and EUMACS +EUAFA-CC 2026 would be held in Cyprus. EUMACS +EUAFA-CC 2027 will be organised by the Hellenic Air Force Academy in Greece. Italy and Latvia were kindly requested with deciding, which countries would organise EUMACS 2028 and the CSDP Olympiad 2028.

18) 8th CSDP Olympiad 2026, Paphos Cyprus

The 8th CSDP Olympiad will be held in Paphos, Cyprus, from 15 to 19 June 2026. The Chair briefed members on the ongoing procedures and timelines. Subsequently, the ESDC Training Coordinator, representing the Director of the Cyprus Security and Defence Academy, provided an update on the Olympiad's current status and administrative details.

19) EUMACS 2026, Paphos Cyprus

The EUMACS 2026 will be held in Paphos, Cyprus, from 15 to 17 June 2026. The ESDC Training Coordinator, representing the Director of the Cyprus Security and Defence Academy, gave a presentation with administrative details.

20) Presentations by LoD Chairs

The LoD Chairs presented the outcomes of the LoD sessions that took place on the first and second day of the meeting as follows:

a) Joint LoD-01 System of Equivalences, LoD-02 – Development of Competences & LoD-08 – Common Modules

The LoD-02 Chair presented proposed module from LoD-11 (International Naval Semester) and 8 revised modules from LoD-12 (International Air Force Semester). These revisions were made according to the adopted procedure, which involved aligning the Goal and Learning Outcomes with the qualification requirements of SQF MILOF. (Module content remains at the discretion of the Course Director.)

LoD-02 Proposal: The IG is requested to approve the potential future common module "Hybrid Threats – Protection and Enhanced Resilience of Critical Infrastructure" from HSU/Hamburg

The LoD-8 Chair provided an update on the CMs database and the progress of module revisions in accordance with SQF MILOF. The Chair reported 12 inactive (frozen) CMs that have not yet been revised.

LoD-08 Proposal: It is proposed that the existing CMs "Maritime Security," "Maritime Leadership," "Military Ethics A," and "Military Ethics B" be replaced by the newly proposed "Maritime Security," "Naval Leadership," and "Military Ethics," respectively.

The review process for modules developed within the framework of the International Technical Semester should continue.

b) LoD-03 – Development of IDL

Strategic and operational goals reaffirmed: emphasis was placed on supporting Common Module implementation with e-learning and increasing inter-institutional awareness of available content and open-access channels such as the ESDC ILIAS platform, NATO JADL, and MOOCs.

E-learning content mapping: current e-learning resources across institutions were reviewed. Academies possess various materials (e-books, presentations, videos, etc.) with significant potential for broader sharing and collaboration through a centralized database.

Next steps agreed: institutions will be requested to complete a form (to be shared at the next Brussels IG meeting) identifying their e-learning content and Points of Contact (POCs). This information will then be integrated into a shared database hosted on the EMILYO webpage.

c) LoD-05 – Framework

The new Chair welcomed seven participants representing three EU MS (FR, RO, SK) plus EMILYO partner Norway and observer country Canada.

The situation, purpose and aim of the EMILYO “framework” as well as the mandate with tactical (current), operational (1-2 years) and strategic (end state) objectives were discussed. The participants discussed why certain MS have not opted in yet and how to convince them; what the benefits and challenges are for those MS who have and a possible revision of the existing framework

A questionnaire to have feedback from political, MoD and institutional levels as well as template letters will be submitted to the IG and all BOEIs for approval before being sent out.

d) LoD-06 – Strategic Communication

The acting chair of LoD-06, welcomed 16 members and 33 cadets from different institutions.

During the LoD-06 the following points were discussed:

- Revision of content, learning outcomes, and working hours for the future CM Information Awareness course.
- Feedback from cadets/students on enhancing EMILYO's visibility beyond the current group:
 - Create short videos to share our message.
 - Visit military schools for in-person explanations.
 - Form a team of academy students to represent the work group and serve as its "face."
 - Produce concise podcasts (approximately 5 minutes) outlining the modules.
 - Invite a sports influencer to boost visibility among civilians and encourage cadets to participate in the Erasmus program.
- Benefits of establishing an EMILYO Students' Society.

e) Joint LoD-09 – Future Projects & LoD-14 – Research and Development

During the LoD-09 meeting, the idea of Future Generation Projects (FGPs) was introduced, with examples such as the MilVocab app, the Cadet Scientific Society (under the auspices of EMILYO and EDSC), and Cultural Heritage Projects. FGPs are designed and created by cadets/students to be developed and executed by other cadets/students. The aim of FGPs is to enhance soft skills and key competences for the lifelong learning of future officers, including, for example, competence in science and technology, digital literacy, and multilingual competence. The need for an update of the project database was briefly discussed; due to time constraints, further discussions followed later.

Key points of the LoD-14 meeting discussion:

- Evaluate how to better promote existing conferences, e.g., the "Language, Security and Technology" Conference at MUT.
- Creation of a Scientific Committee: a pool of experts.
- Evaluation of publishing common proceedings for the different existing conferences (Naval Academy Portugal, Military Technical Academy Romania, Military University of Technology Poland, Air Force Academy Romania, etc.).
- Presentation of the scientific research conducted at the Romanian Naval Military Academy.

f) LoD-10 – Gender Mainstreaming

The LoD-10 Chair welcomed 16 participants from 10 countries. The following topics were discussed:

- Results and Outcomes of the 4th CM "Gender Perspectives in Security and Defence": This course module was held at HCAFA/Brasov, Romania, from 7-11 April 2025 as part of the IADS. Key details highlighted included: 21 participants and 8 lecturers (3 international Gender Experts from BG, PT, and GR, and 5 national lecturers). The experts shared topics related to the role of gender perspective in security and defence. Excellent participant feedback on the achievement of Learning Objectives and lessons learned was noted.
- Outcomes of the 6th Erasmus Gender Seminar, which was held at HCAFA/Brasov from 3-4 April 2025. The event brought together military leaders, academics, and professionals from across Europe to explore gender issues in the military, share best practices, and highlight role models shaping the future of gender equality in defence and security.
- Future steps and development ideas: Discussions included planning for the next editions of the CM GPSD and Gender Seminar, with potential host academies. Future creation of a BIP CM GPSD was also discussed, along with the expectation for approval of the Erasmus Strategic Partnership Project "*Military Gender Awareness*".

g) LoD-11 – International Naval Semester (INS)

During the LoD-11 workshop, 16 participants from 9 EU Member States, representing 9 European Naval Academies, attended.

As a result of the project implementation, 6 modules have been organised to date. These modules facilitated the exchange of 72 students. Additionally, 3 transnational meetings and 2 events (1 in Italy and 1 in Romania) were conducted, with over 100 teachers and experts attending. Between June and August, the final 2 HASS courses will be organised by the partners, involving 16 student exchanges. Further events are scheduled for the coming months. The development of the STEM course has reached 100% completion, and the HASS course is at 60%. All 12 courses were defined and approved as common modules under the LoD-08 framework.

h) LoD-12 – International Air Force Semester (IAFS)

The LoD-12 meeting brought together 10 participants from five military institutions. The Chair of LoD-12 announced that all syllabi were aligned with SQF-MILOF and would be available as common modules. The discussion then moved to planning the forthcoming International Air Force Semester, and the participating academies presented their schedules, anticipated mobilities, and requests for instructor mobilities. The Chair revisited the issue of the grade conversion system. Through discussions, it was concluded that the conversion system is working, and if cadets are not content with their grades, an opportunity to retake exams could be a possibility to improve their grade at their home institution. Finally, the next agenda items were discussed.

i) LoD-13 – Science and Technology Education

There were 20 representatives from 13 institutions across 10 countries: AT TMA, BG NMU – Shumen, BG NMU – Veliko Tarnovo, CA MoD, ES SAFSA, GR HAFA, HR DSU, IT MoD, PL AWL, PL WAT, PT PMA, PT PAA, RO ANMB, RO MTA. Five subjects were discussed:

- Common Module IMINT/GEOINT Analysis: This module will be hosted by MTA in Bucharest, from 23 June to 04 July 2025.
- KA2 project Digital Mathematics Applied in Defence and Security Education – DIMAS: A request for a second survey addressed to teachers was discussed.
- Common Module Ballistics (internal, external, terminal): A proposal for chapters and elaboration of the draft curricula were discussed.
- Integrated Avionics and Weapon Systems: Simulation, Testing and Field Deployment for UAV Platforms: The elaboration of the draft curricula for this Common Module was discussed.
- Innovation Network: The first round of debates concerning the innovation network took place.

The representatives of the participating institutions actively engaged in discussions on all these topics, asserting their interest and intention to involve their respective institutions and specialists in each separate field.

j) LoD-17 – International Air Defence Semester

The Vice-Chair of LoD-17 was officially elected by the IG members.

The presentation of the feedback report following the pilot International Air Defence Semester (IADS) was postponed until the 67th IG Meeting.

Project members agreed to select 7 courses for the first iteration of IADS and to implement two-month cadet mobilities. They also agreed to categorize universities exchanging cadets in IADS into three tiers based on their involvement:

1st Tier: Universities that implement selected courses within their educational program.

2nd Tier: Universities that offer selected courses as an Erasmus semester.

3rd Tier: Universities that only send cadets to universities in the 1st and 2nd Tiers.

k) LoD-19 – International Logistics Semester

The LoD-19 - International Logistic Semester session was chaired by LtCol Małgorzata Grzelak, PhD, and attended by 10 participants from 5 countries: PL, RO, SK, ES, and BE. In conclusion, participants agreed on the future course of action.

One common module (CM), "*Logistics Supply Chain - NDU/AFA*," is currently under revision by LoD-19 and will be developed for the next meeting. The proposal for an International Semester was discussed, and a revision will be made. A coverage matrix of universities and CMs (availability) will also be developed.

l) LoD-20 – Space

The LoD-20 session, with 9 members from 7 institutions and chaired by Associate Professor Panagiotis Papakanellos (Vice Chairperson), reviewed the progress since the LoD's inception. This included continuous participation in IG meetings and the establishment of a dedicated community interested in space-related activities. Key achievements include the formulation and internal circulation of a Common Module (CM) draft, with feedback incorporated into the final version, which has now been submitted for approval. Discussions highlighted ongoing efforts to engage EU institutions like SatCen and potentially ESA. The Spanish Air and Space Force Academy announced plans to launch the CM in the summer of 2026. The group also discussed forming a Pool of Lecturers and encouraged Commandants and Academies' Staff to support wider participation in LoD-20.

m) LoD-21 – Hybrid Threats

Participants in the LoD-21 meeting were informed about the achievements so far and the near-future plans regarding the 1st Train-the-Trainers Module on Hybrid Threats and the 1st Common Module in parallel with the IADS semester. The TTT module will be held at HCAFA from 08-12 December 2025. The participants in the debate strongly agreed to promote the Hybrid Threats TTT and CM offers in the two following IGs.

Regarding the first common modules for cadets, they agreed that CMs should be organized as distinct extra-modules within IAFS and IADS at Henri Coandă Air Force Academy in Braşov (and elsewhere). These modules should be harmonised with teaching materials, bibliography, and the projects of BIPs and common modules in the area of Hybrid Threats (including a CM on critical infrastructure).

All presentations would be temporarily available at <https://www.emilyo.eu/temporary-documents>.

21) Honorary members

The Chair informed the members that proposing some personalities as honorary members is possible.

22) Implementation coordination

The IG Chair recommended that the members send their requests for EU academic semesters and also update their lists for the pool of lecturers and trainers.

23) IG meetings

The Chair informed participants of the IG meetings to be held in during the new academic year 2025-2026 and beyond as follows (in the late afternoon/early evening on the respective day before, the newcomers meeting will always take place):

- a) The **67th IG** meeting will take place at ESDC in Brussels, BE, **09-10 September 2025**, back-to-back with the **EAB** meeting;
- b) The **68th IG** meeting will take place at HMACSO in Thessaloniki, GR, **25-26 November 2025**;
- c) The **69th IG** meeting will take place at NDUC in Oslo, NO, **03-04 March 2026**;
- d) The **70th IG** meeting will take place at NDAL in Riga, LV, **25-29 May 2026** back-to-back with the **iMAF 2026**;
- e) The **71st IG** meeting will take place at ESDC in Brussels, BE, **08-09 September 2026**, back-to-back with the **EAB** meeting;
- f) The **72nd IG** meeting will take place at MAL in Vilnius, **01-02 December 2026**;
- g) The Chair invited the institutions to host IG meetings starting with the 73rd meeting in Feb/Mar 2027;
- h) The 74th IG meeting will take place at MTA in Bucharest, RO, **16-21 May 2027** back-to-back with the **iMAF 2027**.

24) Work plan

One week before each IG meeting, on a Monday, a VTC coordination meeting will take place at 18:00 CET with the IG Chair, Vice IG Chairs, ESDC Training Manager, LoD Chairs, and the organiser of the upcoming meeting.

25) Information for the 70th IG Meeting and iMAF 2026 in Riga LATVIA

The representatives of the Latvian National Defence Academy, gave a presentation on the 70th IG meeting and the iMAF 2026, which will be held at their premises in Riga from 25 to 29 May 2026.

26) Any other business 1 (AOB)

- a) IG members are asked to register for the next IG as soon as they receive the invitation and the link for better organisation.
- b) LoD-Chairs should indicate a proposal for duration of their LoD-session for the next IG meeting.
- c) The Chair informed about a request from Albania for bilateral cooperation. Interested institutions may get in contact with the ESDC Training Manager for receiving POCs.
- d) The Chair informed about the overlapping 20th ESDC anniversary and the 68th IG meeting. Those institutions, which would like to get an invitation, should get in contact with the ESDC Training Manager.
- e) Portugal proposed a new common module *“Education for sustainable development in a military context”*.

ANNEX A – Curriculum of the Common Module “Hybrid Threats – Protection and Enhanced Resilience of Critical Infrastructure”

27) Any other business 2 (AOB)

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

Request	Send to
Create the exchange (incoming) statistics for the academic year 2024/2025 (starting 1 Sep. 2024 – ending 31 Aug. 2025) according to the uploaded templates. https://www.emilyo.eu/templates	Send by 27 June 2025 to: harald.gell@inode.at christoforos.christoforou@eeas.europa.eu
Our intent is to invite an ERASMUS+ expert from the European Commission for the next IG meeting, in Brussels. In order to prepare this meeting, we kindly request sending maximum 2 important questions – which you have concerning ERASMUS+	Send by 31 July 2025 to: harald.gell@inode.at & christoforos.christoforou@eeas.europa.eu
Presentations for the IG meeting: if you would like to present anything during the forthcoming IG meeting (plenary session), please submit your presentation 7 days prior to the meeting . Each presentation should last no longer than five minutes!	harald.gell@inode.at & christoforos.christoforou@eeas.europa.eu mcrristi@gmail.com
Mark the autumn/winter and spring/summer academic semesters of your institution in blue and red. Create new lines if necessary. https://www.emilyo.eu/academic-semesters	mcrristi@gmail.com & harald.gell@inode.at
Draw up (or update) a pool of lecturers for your institution, indicating the names of those willing to teach abroad, preferably under Erasmus+. https://www.emilyo.eu/pool-lecturers (password-protected area). Template is available at: https://www.emilyo.eu/templates	mcrristi@gmail.com & harald.gell@inode.at
If you wish to post a mobility offer and/or administrative document(s) 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. https://www.emilyo.eu/mobility-offers-multiplier-events	mcrristi@gmail.com & harald.gell@inode.at
Encourage cadets or students to write a report on an event with international participants. Please include pictures. http://www.emilyo.eu/exchange_experience	mcrristi@gmail.com & harald.gell@inode.at & kontsanakas@gmail.com
Report your institution's highest celebration day of the year (date & short description). The purpose is sending congratulation messages.	jerzy.markowski@wat.edu.pl & harald.gell@inode.at
Basic officer education fact-sheets revision 2024 , as soon as possible. Template is available at: https://www.emilyo.eu/temporary-documents	fsandberg@mil.no harald.gell@inode.at & christoforos.christoforou@eeas.europa.eu