



European Security and Defence College

Doc: ESDC/2026/163

Date: 25 April 2026

Origin: EUMSSF

20th European Union Military Secondary Schools Forum Meeting 23 April 2026

*Colégio Militar
Lisbon, Portugal*

Chair: Colonel Symeon ZAMBAS

Draft Minutes

The Director of the Colégio Militar, Colonel Alexandre Moura, welcomed 24 EUMSSF members from 6 EU MS, Ukraine, and Armenia, representing 13 different institutions, to the school's premises, and wished for a fruitful meeting and conclusion of the 4th edition of the Course on EU History and Core Values.

The Chair of the EUMSSF, Colonel Symeon Zambas, thanked the Colégio Militar for hosting an EUMSSF meeting for the 5th time and for organising the 4th edition of the Course on EU History and Core Values in Lisbon, with high-level speakers and standards.

Decision points

1. Adoption of the Agenda of the 20th EUMSSF meeting

The agenda of the meeting was adopted (ESDC/2026/052) and uploaded to the EMILYO website.

2. Adoption of the minutes of the 19th EUMSSF meeting

The 19th EUMSSF meeting minutes were approved (ESDC/2025/357) and uploaded to the EMILYO website.

Information points

3. Information by the Chair of the EUMSSF

The Chair informed the Members of recent and upcoming events and activities and gave an update on the *Membership status*.

a. Upcoming Events and activities:

- 1) *International Military Skills Camp (July 2026), Diham, Romania (Colegiul Național Militar "Ștefan cel Mare")*
- 2) *EU Institutions (Pilot) (May 2027), Bruges-Brussels, Belgium (SiVi)*
- 3) *EU History and Core Values (April 2027), Alba Iula, Romania (Colegiul Național Militar "Mihai Viteazul")*
- 4) *4th CSDP Olympiad (October 2027), Pafos, (Cyprus Security and Defence Academy)*

b. EUMSSF Membership Status as of April 2026:

- 1) *18 Members from 10 EU Member States*
- 2) *3 Associate Network Members (ANP) from Ukraine and Armenia*

The EUMSSF Coordinator informed the Members of the removal of the General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy from Lithuania; as they were observers, they informed the ESDC that they would not take part in this initiative. Nevertheless, they forwarded all details of the EUMSSF initiative to the Lithuanian Secondary School to examine the possibility of joining.

Furthermore, the Serbian Military Vocational Secondary School "1300 Kaplara" is officially removed from the EUMSSF as an ANP, as they have been inactive for more than three years.

4. Information by the Coordinator of the EUMSSF

The new ESDC EUMSSF Coordinator informed the Members of Training opportunities for the Staff of the EU Military Secondary Schools. The chair proposed that Members consider participating in one of the ESDC Orientation Courses (introductory course to the EU/CSDP), as a starting point. Below are the planned ESDC Orientation courses until the end of August 2026. If there is interest in participation, please contact the EUMSSF Coordinator for more information. List of with the ESDC Orientation Courses from 1 May – 31 August 2026:

nr	Start	Finish	City	Country	Institution
1	18/05/2026	22/05/2026	Paris	France	Institute for Higher National Defence Studies
2	01/06/2026	05/06/2026	Sarajevo	Bosnia and Herzegovina	National Defence Academy; Serbian Peacekeeping Operations Centre
3	01/06/2026	05/06/2026	Madrid	Spain	Centro Superior de Estudios de la Defensa Nacional
4	15/06/2026	19/06/2026	Brussels	Belgium	National College of Home Affairs of Romania

5. Information/Presentations by the EUMSSF Institutions

The EUMSSF representatives presented the past and future EUMSSF activities, as follows:

- a. 2nd edition of the Course on International Military Skills Camp will be organised by the National Military High School Ștefan cel Mare from 26-31 July 2026 in Diham, Romania.
- b. 1st edition of the Course on EU Institutions (Pilot) will be organised by SiVi, May 2027, in Bruges-Brussels, Belgium.
- c. 5th edition of the Course on EU History and Values will be organised by the Colegiul Național Militar "Mihai Viteazul", April 2027, in Alba Iulia, Romania.

Moreover, the Veiligheid en Vakmanschap VEVA RoC School delivered a presentation on the National Resilience Training (NWT) programme.

6. EUMSSF 4th CSDP Olympiad: Timeline-Regulations.

The Chair informed the members about the new proposal for organizing the EUMSSF Olympiad, aligning it with the structure of the Military Erasmus (EMILYO) Olympiad. The new format will consist of an essay competition, a cover page competition, and a knowledge competition in a residential phase.

The EUMSSF coordinator presented the timeline and the way forward for the 4th CSDP Olympiad, which will take place in Paphos, Cyprus in October 2027, as follows:

- a. An email with the new draft EUMSSF CSDP Regulations, will be sent to the members by the end of June 2026 for review. Also, members will be requested to submit proposals for the topics of the essays.
- b. Deadline for sending essay topic proposals, and comments on the draft EUMSSF CSDP Olympiad Regulations, 01 September 2026.
- c. During the 21st EUMSSF Meeting, on 11 September 2026 the members will approve and adopt the new regulations and vote on the 10 final essay topics.
- d. Deadline for nominating participants (up to 2 students per school) and evaluators (at least 1 evaluator per school), 30 September 2026.
- e. Beginning of the E-Learning Phase (asynchronous) for the students who will participate in the essay and cover page competition, 30 September 2026.
- f. Deadline for completing the E-Learning Phase, 19 December 2026
- g. Deadline for sending Cover Page competition proposals and for essay submission, 26 February 2027.
- h. Essays Evaluation 1-31 March 2027
- i. Adoption of the results of the Essay Evaluation, voting for the winner of the cover page and approval of the list of participants for the Residential Phase, during the 23rd EUMSSF meeting, in April 2027, in Alba Iulia Romania.
- j. Residential Phase, in October 2027.

7. 21st EUMSSF meeting on 11 September 2026.

The representatives from the SiVi School, gave a presentation on the 21st EUMSSF meeting, which will be held at their premises in Bruges on 11 September 2026.

8. Points for the agenda for the next EUMSSF meeting on 11 September 2026

- a. Approve the new EUMSSF CSDP Olympiad Regulations
- b. Select and approve the essay topics for the 4th CSDP Olympiad
- c. Presentation by the Colégio Militar, on the 4th edition of the Course on EU History and Core Values, held in Lisbon from 20-24 April 2026.
- d. Presentation by the National Military High School Ștefan cel Mare on the 2nd edition of the Course on International Military Skills Camp, held in Diham from 26-31 July 2026.

Members are kindly requested to send any points for the agenda of the next EUMSSF meeting by 17 July 2027.

9. Any Other Business

- a. The Military-Sports Lyceum of Armenia, offered to host the 22nd EUMSSF meeting in Armenia during the first week of December 2026. More details will be presented in the next meeting in Bruges.

- b. All presentations are uploaded to the EMILYO website.

Planned EUMSSF Meetings Academic Year 2026-2027

11 September 2026, Bruges, Belgium

04 December 2026, Dilijan, Armenia

XX April 2027, Alba Iulia, Romania