“Nicolae Bălcescu” Land Forces Academy, Sibiu, Romania

BIP Mountain Challenge Competition 2026
(from 19 OCT 2026 to 23 OCT 2026)

Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programme – Sibiu, Romania





Statistics - Participants

Country	Total	Military Male	Military Female	Civilian Male	Civilian Female
AT					
BE					
BG	12	12	-	-	-
CY					
CZ	6	6	-	-	-
DE					
DK					
EE					
EL/GR					
ES	6	6	-	-	-
FI					
FR					
HU					
HR					
IE					
IT					
LT					

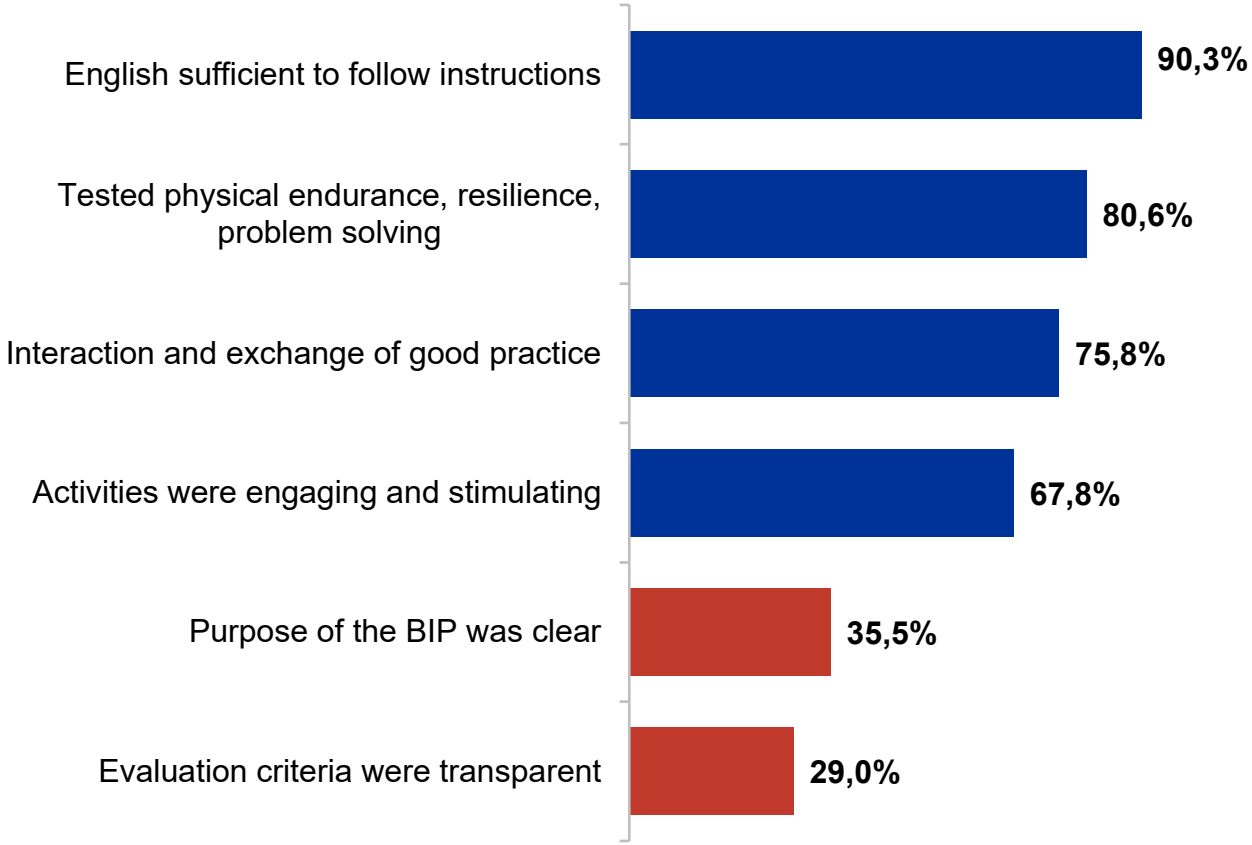
Country	Total	Military Male	Military Female	Civilian Male	Civilian Female
LU					
LV	6	3	3	-	-
MT					
NL					
PL	17	16	1	-	-
PT					
RO	6	6	-	-	-
SE					
SL					
SK	5	4	1	-	-
NO					
CH					
US	6	6	-	-	-
CA	7	6	-	1	-
UA					
other					

Total: 71 participants

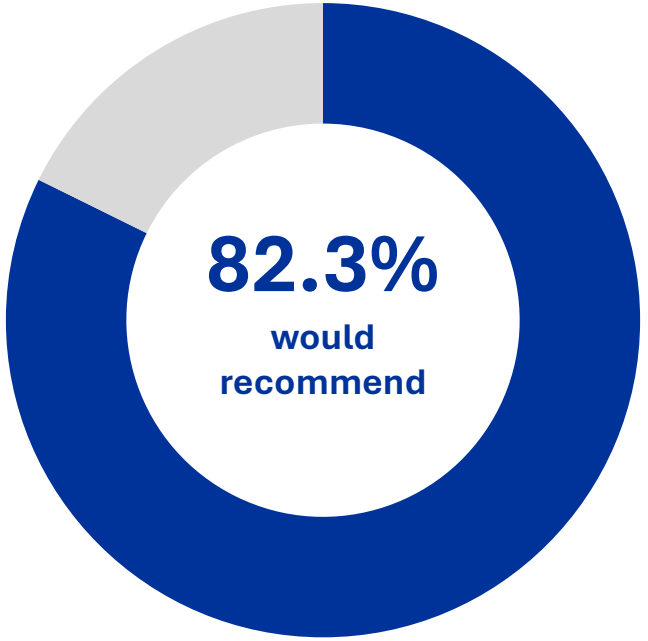
12 teams from 12 institutions in 9 countries

Evaluation
scale from 1 (worst) to 6 (best)

Share of respondents rating 5 or 6 (of 6)



Overall evaluation



62 respondents
82.2% felt actively involved
96.8% fully agreed they completed the assigned tasks

Lessons Learnt / Changes for the next Event

What worked well

- Demanding mountain setting which tested endurance, resilience and teamwork
- Strong international exchange: 12 teams from 9 countries
- Military Skills Course and Alpine Military Challenge were the most appreciated events
- 82% of participants would recommend the competition

Changes for the next edition

- One approved rulebook (events, scoring, penalties, equipment) sent in advance and kept unchanged
- Liaison officer per delegation and a calibration briefing for all referees
- Electronic scoring with automatic penalty calculation;
- Realistic schedule with time buffers, rest periods and planned water/food supply points
- Single information package: schedule, maps, rules, equipment list
- More weight on military skills: map-and-compass navigation, quality of execution
- Documented risk assessment per activity (abseiling, night and slippery terrain); clear national-flag protocol

Moments from the Competition








European Security and Defence College

thank YOU for YOUR attention!