



INVITATION TO THE

European Union Military Academies Commandants' Seminar Pafos, Cyprus, 15 - 17 June 2026 (Activity number 25-26/EMILYO/EUMACS/1)

Dear Rectors, Commandants and Commanders,

The Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union is pleased to invite you to participate in the European Union Military Academies Commandants' Seminar, which will take place in Pafos, Cyprus, from 15 to 18 June 2026. Furthermore, on 17th June 2026, the European Air Force Academies Commandants' Conference (EUAFAC 2025) will take place.

Both events are organised by the Cyprus Security and Defence Academy (CSDA), within the framework of the European Initiative on the Exchange of Young Officers (inspired by Erasmus – EMILYO) in the context of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) and under the auspices of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The Seminar will feature a series of presentations, debates, and the latest insights into enhancing international cooperation among higher education military institutions. A dedicated sessions on Lessons Learnt from Ukraine and Artificial Intelligence will be held during the event.

The event will take place at the Aliathon Resort Hotel. The Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the EU has pre-arranged adequate number of rooms in three hotels (5* Almyra, 5* Annabelle, and 4* Aliathon) in Pafos. However, participants have the choice to book any other hotel near those three.

Transportation will be provided to and from the official airports, hotels, and event venues throughout the seminar. Please note that travel and accommodation costs remain the responsibility of the sending institutions. Further details regarding the itinerary and registration process will follow.

Please do not hesitate to contact the points of contact for this activity: Mr. Christoforos Christoforou (Christoforos.Christoforou@eeas.europa.eu) and Mr. Andreas Patsalides (apatsalides@mod.gov.cy).

We look forward to welcoming the delegations, consisting of two members (1+1), to the beautiful city of Pafos.

Colonel Harald GELL

signed in the original

Chairman of the
Implementation Group of
EMILYO

Colonel (A) Symeon ZAMBAS

signed in the original

Director of the Cyprus Security
and Defence Academy
(CSDA)

Mr Fergal Ó REGAN

signed in the original

Head of the European Security
and Defence College
(ESDC)

Annexes

Annex A. Tentative Programme

Annex B. Administrative Information

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

Sunday, 14 June 2026	
All Day	Arrivals – Transport to the Hotels (meeting point at Airport’s CY Presidency desk)
Monday, 15 June 2026	
NLT 15:00	Arrivals – Transport to the Hotels (meeting point at Airport’s CY Presidency desk)
18:45 – 19:00	Transport from the Hotel to Ancient Roman Odeon
19:00-20:30	Opening Ceremony
20:30-22:30	Icebreaker
22:30	Transport to the Hotel
Tuesday, 16 June 2026	
09:00-09:30	Registration
09:30-10:00	Opening Remarks
10:00-10:15	Family Photo
10:15-12:30	EUMACS Plenary
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-17:00	Workshop on Disinformation in the Era of Permacrisis
19:30-22:00	Official Dinner
22:00	Return to the Hotel
Wednesday, 17 June 2026	
09:00-12:00	In parallel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Union Air Force Commandant’s Conference • Army Commandants’ Workshop • Navy Commandants’ Workshop
12:00-13:00	EUMACS Closing Ceremony
13:00-14:30	Lunch
14:30-17:30	Free Time
17:30-18:00	Transfer to Paphos Archaeological Park
18:00-20:00	Cultural visit: Tombs of the Kings and the Pafos Mosaics (House of Dionysos)
20:00-22:00	Hosted dinner in a traditional Cypriot Tavern
22:00	Return to the Hotel
Thursday, 18 June 2026	
All Day	Departures – Transport to the Airport

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

*The present information is provided for preliminary briefing purposes. Following the selection of participants, a detailed Practical Information Note (PIN) will be circulated in due course, containing comprehensive guidance and instructions, **including the procedures required for registration in the Presidency-related systems, as the activity is organised under the auspices of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union.***

The upcoming Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union (January – June 2026) is pleased to invite you to participate European Union Military Academies Commandants Seminar, which will take place in Pafos, Cyprus, from **15 to 18 June 2026**. Furthermore, on 17th June 2026, the European Air Force Academies Commandants' Conference (EUAFA CC 2025) will take place.

These events are organised by the Cyprus Security and Defence Academy (CSDA), within the framework of the European Initiative on the Exchange of Young Officers (inspired by Erasmus – EMILYO) and under the auspices of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC).

Participants: Rectors, Commandants and Commanders (plus 1)

Registration & Deadline: Participants are kindly requested to register by filling in the "Registration Form" before 01 April 2026 using the following link:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/EUMACS-2026>

This event is held under the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the EU. Following this registration, you will receive an email from the Presidency after 6 April. This email will include a Practical Information Note (PIN) and a link to the NOVENTO application, along with an access code. You will need these to provide your remaining administrative details, such as travel arrangements, transportation requests, and accommodation.

Note: **Please do not book flights and accommodation before receiving confirmation of registration.**

Language: Working language is English

Course Venue and Accommodation: The event will take place at the Aliathon Resort Hotel. The Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the EU has pre-arranged adequate number of rooms in three hotels (5* Almyra, 5* Annabelle, and 4* Aliathon) in Pafos. However, participants have the choice to book any other hotel near those three.

More details regarding the venue, the accommodation options and the transportation from the airport to the hotel, will be communicated at a later stage to the registered participants within the *Practical Information Note (PIN)* mentioned above.

Transportation: The Cyprus Presidency and the hosts will provide airport transfers and ground transportation during the event.

Arrival/departure: participants are expected to arrive in Pafos before Monday 15 16:00 June 2026. The EUMACS will start with the Opening Ceremony on Monday 15 June 2026 at 19:00 and finish on Wednesday 18 June 2026 at 17:00. The departure day is 18 June 2026.

The legal points of entry to the Republic of Cyprus are the international airports of Larnaca and Paphos and the ports of Larnaca, Limassol, Latsi and Paphos, which are situated in the area under the effective control of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus. Entry to the territory of the Republic of Cyprus via any other port or airport in the area of Cyprus in which the Government of the Republic does not exercise effective control (Turkish occupied area) is illegal.

Costs: Travel and accommodation costs remain the responsibility of the sending institutions.

Meals: Will be covered by the organizers.

Social events: An icebreaker, hosted by the Cyprus Presidency, will take place during the first day after the Opening Ceremony of the 8th CSDP Olympiad and EUMACS (Monday, 15 June 2026). An Official Dinner hosted by the Cyprus Presidency on 16 June 2026.

Dress Code: Opening/closing ceremony, Icebreaker: Best Uniform/Business Attire

Official Dinner: Smart casual

EUMACS: Military service uniform/Business (civilian personnel)

Liabilities and Insurance: In case of medical emergencies, the costs shall be covered by the participant's medical insurance provided by the sending country/organisation. The organisers do not provide health or accident insurance for participants taking part in the event.

Cultural Visit: On the afternoon of June 17th, a hosted visit to the Pafos Archaeological Site will take place. Participants will have the opportunity to explore the Tombs of the Kings and the Pafos Mosaics (House of Dionysos), which date back to the 4th century BC. Dress code Civilian, leisure

Points of Contact:

Ministry of Defence/Cyprus Security & Defence Academy:

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