MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE
OLAE BĂLCESCU" LAND FORCES ACADEMY
SIBIU, ROMANIA

European Security and Defence College

Co-funded by the European Union

Sibiu, 2026

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Web: www.armyacademy.ro

Dear Commandants, Dear Rectors,

"Nicolae Bălcescu" Land Forces Academy of Sibiu is pleased to invite you to the first edition of the ***BIP: Media Literacy and Information Resilience***, which will take place from **22 to 26 March 2027**.

The module is designed to develop participants' ability to analyse, verify and use information critically and responsibly in today's media and digital environment, and to recognise disinformation and information operations targeting military personnel. It combines an e-learning phase with a residential phase in Sibiu. Participants who successfully complete the module will be awarded **3 ECTS credits**.

We warmly encourage your students to take part in this engaging academic experience, in which they will work alongside peers from our academy and partner institutions to develop creative and critical problem-solving strategies, as well as practical skills in source verification and safe social media use.

The Land Forces Academy will provide accommodation, and meals free of charge for the duration of the module. Please note that travel expenses to and from Sibiu are to be covered by the sending institutions.

There is no participation fee. All participants from EU countries must hold a valid European Health Insurance Card or equivalent health/travel insurance.

The registration deadline is **12 February 2027**. Please send the completed Registration Form (attached) to international.relations@armyacademy.ro (POC: Asst. Prof. Corina Mitrulescu, PhD).

Further details, including a brief description of the module and practical information, are enclosed.
We look forward to welcoming your students to Sibiu and to our academy.
Yours sincerely,

Colonel Dumitru TODOSIUC
Commandant (Rector) of "Nicolae Bălcescu" Land Forces Academy of Sibiu

Registration Form

Data protection:
Your data will be used for necessary internal administrative procedures only.
They will not be published in any case!

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Remarks:	I want to participate in the:
- Please fill in the yellow fields only or mark with an **X** - Fill in 1 form for 1 person - Send this application form to: international.relations@armyacademy.ro	**Media Literacy and Information Resilience** **BIP ID 2025-1-RO01-KA131-HED-000315261-3** **22 – 26 March 2027***

Gender	Rank	Family name / Surname	First name / Given name

Date of birth	Nationality	Passport (ID) number*	Passport validity until

Branch of Service (if available)	Sending institution	I want to participate as		
		Officer	N.C.O.	Cadet
		☐	☐	☐
Year of study				

My phone number (if available)	My e-mail address
Postal address	

Arrival date in Sibiu	Arrival time in Sibiu (if possible)	By plane	By train	By car	By bus
		☐	☐	☐	☐

Departure date from Sibiu	Departure time from Sibiu (if possible)	By plane	By train	By car	By bus
		☐	☐	☐	☐

Need for accommodation in LFA campus	
Yes ☐	No ☐

Special dietary or food requirements due to medical or religious reasons		**If yes**, please specify food you cannot eat	**Additional remarks** (Need for special equipment, special travel arrangements ….)
No	Yes		
☐	☐		

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*** Deadline for submitting the Registration form: [12th February 2027]**

* Please enclose the photo of your Passport/ID on the next page of this registration form:

Please integrate a copy of your passport / ID hereinafter:

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE
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Media Literacy and Information Resilience

22 – 26 March 2027 • Sibiu, Romania

WHEN	WHERE	CREDITS	LANGUAGE
22–26 March 2027	**Land Forces Academy**	**3 ECTS**	**English**
e-learning beforehand	Sibiu, Romania		no participation fee

1. About the module

The module prepares future military leaders to deal with information in the contemporary media and digital environment. Participants learn to:

- critically analyse, verify and responsibly use the information they encounter;
- recognise attempts at manipulation, disinformation and information operations directed at military personnel and units;
- apply verification and critical-analysis habits in their daily duties, training and operational communication.

2. Format and workload

The module is blended: an e-learning phase completed before arrival, followed by a residential phase in Sibiu with topic sessions, case studies, practical exercises and syndicate work. The working language is English.

Phase	Course hours	Self-study hours	ECTS
E-learning (before arrival)	10	15	1
Residential phase in Sibiu	24	26	2
Total: 75 working hours	**34**	**41**	**3**

3. Topics

E-learning (before arrival)	Hours
Foundations of Media Literacy: definitions of media and information literacy; from propaganda to the digital information environment; the information environment as an operational factor for military leaders	**4**
Introduction to Media Literacy; Information Disorder (mis-, dis- and malinformation)	**2**
Synthetic Media and Deepfakes	**1**
Propaganda, Persuasion and Cognitive Bias	**1**
Hybrid Threats and Information Operations	**1**
Entry-level test	**1**

Residential phase in Sibiu	Hours
Introduction to Media Literacy: key terms; relevance for operational security and decision-making	1
Information Disorder (mis-, dis- and malinformation): typology, actors and motivations, case examples	3
Source Verification and OSINT Techniques: lateral reading, reverse image search, metadata analysis and geolocation; practical exercise	4
Synthetic Media and Deepfakes: AI-generated content, detection indicators, implications for command and OPSEC	2
Propaganda, Persuasion and Cognitive Bias: classic and digital techniques, cognitive biases, historical and contemporary examples	3
Hybrid Threats and Information Operations: case studies	3
Social Media Literacy and Operational Security (OPSEC): digital footprint, geotagging, safe social media use	2
Syndicate Work and Practical Exercises: analysis of media artefacts, group presentation of findings	4
Final presentation	2

4. Learning outcomes

Knowledge

- Explain key concepts of the information environment, including information disorder and its role in hybrid threats.
- Describe techniques of manipulation, propaganda and persuasion in traditional and digital media, including deepfakes.

Skills

- Apply basic open-source verification techniques (source triangulation, reverse image search, metadata and geolocation checks).
- Analyse a media artefact or social media campaign and identify indicators of manipulation or coordinated inauthentic behaviour.
- Apply sound OPSEC practices to personal and unit-related use of social media.

Responsibility and autonomy

- Exercise critical judgement before consuming, trusting or sharing information, including in operational settings.
- Advise peers and subordinates on safe media use and on recognising information operations directed against the unit.

5. Assessment

- **Observation:** participation in discussions and media analysis in syndicates and in the plenary.
- **Practical exercise:** verifying a set of authentic or simulated images, videos and social media posts, and presenting the findings to the group.
- **Final test:** individual presentation at the end of the module.

6. Who can apply

The module is open to cadets who are willing to take part and who meet the following requirements:

- English: CEFR Level B1 or NATO STANAG 6001 Level 2.
- At least one year of national (military) higher education.
- Basic digital literacy (routine use of internet browsers, search engines and common social media platforms).
- Completion of the e-learning units / AKUs on the topic before arrival.

Up to 15–20 participants will be admitted.

7. Practical information

Accommodation, meals and costs

- Participants who choose to stay on campus will be provided with accommodation and meals free of charge.
- Each room in the Academy accommodates 2–3 persons.
- There is no course fee.
- Sending institutions cover the travel expenses to and from Sibiu.
- EU participants need a valid European Health Insurance Card or other health/travel insurance.

Transportation

Participants make their own travel arrangements to and from Sibiu (airport, railway station, bus station, etc.).

Arrival: 21 March 2027

Departure: 27 March 2027

"Nicolae Bălcescu" Land Forces Academy provides free transport from the airport, railway station or bus station to the Academy and back. This transport must be requested in advance, preferably one week before arrival.

A taxi from the airport, railway station or bus station to the Academy costs between 10 and 15 EUR. Public transport is also available.

Uniform and dress code

- Arrival, departure, sightseeing and social events: civilian clothes.
- Opening and closing ceremonies: best dress uniform.
- Classes: combat uniform / service uniform.

Social programme

A guided tour of the Academy, an ice-breaker evening and a farewell dinner.

8. Registration and contact

Please fill in the attached Registration Form (one form per person) and send the completed form to:

international.relations@armyacademy.ro

Registration deadline: 12 February 2027

If your transport details are not yet known at this stage, you can send them later.

Any additional or updated information will be sent to the sending institutions in due time.

POC

Asst. Prof. Corina MITRULESCU, PhD

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