

European Military Secondary Schools Forum (EUMSSF) Launch Meeting

European Security and Defence College
Rue Belliard 100, Brussels,

15 October 2019
9.00 - 17.30

Draft minutes

1) Welcome and *tour de table*

The ESDC Secretariat welcomed the participants present. The Head of the ESDC, Dirk Dubois, addressed the Forum members and expressed his strong support for the EUMSSF initiative.

2) Adoption of the agenda

The Forum adopted the agenda.

3) Introductory remarks

Symeon Zambas, on behalf of the ESDC Secretariat, presented the structure and activities of the ESDC and gave an overview of the proposed role of the European Military Secondary Schools Forum (EUMSSF). The Forum will be held under the auspices of the ESDC and will work towards:

- promoting a common security and defence culture,
- creating common modules to be included in school curricula (e.g. EU history, EU core values, the Lisbon Treaty, CSDP, the EU Global Strategy, etc.),
- exchanging best practices,
- creating partnerships and common projects,
- facilitating exchanges of trainers and trainees.

Harald Gell, on behalf of the Military Erasmus Implementation Group, presented the European initiative for the exchange of young officers (Military Erasmus), which inspired the creation of a similar initiative targeting secondary schools. The achievements and lessons learnt over more than 10 years of the Military Erasmus initiative will support the creation and further activities of the EUMSSF.

4) Presentations by the participating institutions

The participants presented the institutions they represent:

- Military Secondary School for Leadership & Security at the Theresan Military Academy (Austria)
- Military High School and College of the MoD in Moravská Třebová – Army and Air Force (Czech Republic)
- Military School Nunziatella – Army (Italy)
- Military School Teulié – Army (Italy)
- Military School Douhet – Air Force (Italy)
- Military School Morosini – Navy (Italy)
- Colégio Militar in Lisbon (Portugal)
- National Military Schools Network (Romania), comprising:
 - Military School Tudor Vladimirescu - Comm&Info HQ
 - Stefan cel Mare – LandF HQ
 - Mihai Viteazul – AirF HQ
 - Dimitrie Cantemir – Logistic HQ
 - Alexandru Ioan Cuza – NavalF HQ

France's representative expressed his interest in and approval of the EUMSSF initiative via a letter. On behalf of the stakeholders in French military secondary education, he subscribed to the EUMSSF principles and objectives and communicated his readiness to exchange with the Forum on its outputs.

Representatives of countries that have no military secondary schools gave an overview of the state of play with regard to secondary education in their country.

5) Funding opportunities, by DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture

Kristijan Vukelic from DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture briefed the Forum on the funding opportunities available in school education under the Erasmus+ programme. Specifically, the Forum may rely on:

- *Key Action 1*
 - *Staff mobility for pre-primary, primary and secondary general education*
 - *Pupil mobility in the form of group exchanges and study periods or traineeships for individual pupils*
- *Key Action 2*
 - *Partnerships for cooperation, including small-scale partnerships (decentralised)*
 - *Partnerships for innovation (centralised)*
 - *Online platforms for virtual cooperation: eTwinning and School Education Gateway*
- *Centralised actions in Key Action 3 and Jean Monnet*
 - *Policy support and dialogue with stakeholders at European level*
 - *Jean Monnet: new action promoting teaching and learning about the EU in schools*

6) Rules and procedures of the EUMSSF

The Forum discussed, amended and adopted its Rules of Procedure (RoP). The attached RoP will come into effect and guide the future work of the Forum as soon as the time allowed for the silence procedure elapses.

7) Roadmap and agenda topics for the next meeting

The Forum discussed the way ahead and agreed to try to alternate the hosting of future meetings among the participants. An official invitation letter will be sent to those Forum members that need one in order to participate in the meetings. The letter will be sent upon request before the meeting. Forum members have been invited to express their interest in hosting future meetings and to provide the ESDC Secretariat with information regarding the main calendar dates for their respective institutions (beginning/end of **autumn/winter and spring/summer academic semesters**).

The next meeting will be held in mid-January (date to be confirmed) and will be hosted by the Colégio Militar in Lisbon. The meeting will be devoted to outlining a work plan for the Forum and developing a partnership project to be submitted for funding under the Erasmus+ programme. Forum members have been invited to express their interest in being appointed as coordinators and/or members of such a project.

8) Chairperson

The Forum elected the ESDC Military Training manager, Lt. Col. Symeon Zambas as Chairperson of the EUMSSF for the next two years.

9) Publicising the EUMSSF's work

For the time being and until the creation of a separate digital platform, the minutes, agendas, Rules of Procedure and other relevant documents will be uploaded on the Military Erasmus webpage, available at: www.emilyo.eu, in particular <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1389>.

To provide a better overview, all requests are summarised in the table below:

Request:	Send to:
All the Institutions are invited to express their interest in hosting future meetings.	Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu
Mark in blue and red the autumn/winter and spring/summer academic semesters of your institution. Create new lines if necessary. (http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1389)	Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu
All the Institutions are invited to express their interest in being appointed as coordinators and/or participate as members in a project under Erasmus+.	Symeon.ZAMBAS@eeas.europa.eu