

**55th meeting of the Implementation Group
for the European initiative for the exchange of young officers
inspired by Erasmus (EMILYO)
21 and 22 September 2022
Sintra, Portugal
Draft minutes**

- 1) The chair and the ESDC Secretariat welcomed 75 participants from 19 EU Member States and 42 institutions.
- 2) **Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted with the addition of the following items:

 - a) offers from the TMA (AT)
 - b) offers from the RNDC (BG)
 - c) offers from the Spanish BOEIs (ES)
 - d) offers from the Hellenic BOEIs (GR)
 - e) offers from the Italian BOEIs (IT)
 - f) offers from the Polish BOEIs (PL)
 - g) offers from the Armed Forces Academy of General Milan Rastislav Štefánik (SK)
 - h) international events organised by the PMA (PT)
- 3) **Approval of the minutes**

The group approved the minutes of the 54th meeting. The approved minutes are available at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/872>.
- 4) **GAREA statistics and recommendations**

The chair highlighted the fact that the GAREA statistics are the highest ever, despite the fact that out of 65 BOEIs only 28 reported back. He then expressed his gratitude to the IG members and strongly encouraged the group to pass the missing data and the recommendations on to ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu and harald.gell@inode.at by 26 September 2022 (24:00 hrs). Furthermore, he clarified that they should report only the incoming students and staff at their institution and the number of training days as well. He also asked them to be very careful not to duplicate the reports (e.g. if a common module is part of an international semester, record each person only once). Finally, he went through the recommendations that had already been sent and asked the group to endorse them. All of the recommendations were adopted unanimously. The GAREA statistics template can be found at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/182>.
- 5) **Evaluation of IG events**

Ass. Prof. Nikolaos Karadimas (LoD-4 chair) presented the final questionnaire which was the result of a very productive work process during iMAF 2022.

The aim of the questionnaire is to evaluate several aspects of an IG training activity incorporating 6 separate fields of assessment. The main focus of the questionnaire is on the evaluation of the learning outcomes. More information

can be found on <http://emilyo.eu/node/1191>.

6) CSDP Olympiad

The chair briefly presented the results of the 6th CSDP Olympiad. He then opened the door of the next iteration which will be organised in 2024 (7th CSDP Olympiad). Bearing in mind that Hungary holds the Presidency of the Council of the EU (2nd semester 2024), the National University of Public Service (NUPS) could be considered as a prospective organizer. However the location has not been determined yet. Over the upcoming 56th IG meeting, the group should decide on the 10 essay topics and launch the 7th CSDP Olympiad. Further information can be found at http://www.emilyo.eu/olympiad_csdp.

7) EUMACS

The UoD representative briefly updated the group on the upcoming EUMACS 2022.

The SAFA representative announced that the 2023 iteration would be held in San Javier (ES) at the premises of the SAFA. More information will be communicated in the upcoming IG meetings.

8) iMAF

The chair informed the group that the new 2021 agreement has been signed by all 22 BOEIs in 2022. He then announced that both the Cyprus Security & Defence Academy (CSDA) and the VASIL LEVSKI National Military University (NMU) of Bulgaria have officially expressed their interest in becoming members of the iMAF family. Both candidacies were unanimously accepted.

The HAFA representative briefly presented the upcoming iMAF 2023 which will be held by the Hellenic BOEIs (HMA, HNA & HAFA) in Athens (GR) from 22 to 23 May 2023.

The HCAFA representative announced that the 2024 iteration would be held in Brasov (RO) at the premises of the HCAFA. More information will be communicated in due course.

9) Update by the IG chair on all lines of development (LoDs)

The IG chair presented the roles, objectives and achievements of the Member States and their participating institutions for each LoD (all presentations are temporarily available at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191>).

a) LoD-5 – Legal framework

The IG chair asked, once again, the IG representatives to encourage their hierarchical superiors to adopt the legal framework of the initiative. He explained that this could be done through an official statement to the ESDC Secretariat or by notifying the Steering Committee.

b) LoD-6 – Strategic communication

The chair updated the audience on the ongoing drafting of the Strategic Communication Plan (SCP). The team then discussed the 5 chapters of the SCP which are the Glossary of Terms, Background – Scope, Target Audience(s), Stakeholders and Goals. It was agreed that work would be continued at the 56th IG meeting in Gdynia (Dec 2022).

c) LoD-7 – Financing the Initiative

The chair presented the feedback of an inquiry sent to all BOEIs. The primary goal of this questionnaire was to examine the ways in which institutions are structured, the sources used to finance international activities and whether or not the current structure serves the

internationalisation process. The presentation can be found on <http://emilyo.eu/node/1191>.

d) LoD-8 – Common modules/evaluations and offers

- AT, BG, CY, EE, ES, GR, IT, LV, LT, PL and SK reported on past events and announced upcoming offers (www.emilyo.eu/node/878).

- **LoD-2 & LoD-8 meeting outcomes**

Since the LoD-2 chair was absent due to unexpected professional commitments, both sessions took place in parallel and were coordinated by the LoD-8 chair.

The following NCMs were presented and adopted as CMs:

- 1) 'Gender Perspectives in Security and Defence' CM;
- 2) 'Crisis Management Operations (CMO)' by National Defence Academy of Latvia (NDAL).

e) LoD-9 – Future Projects

The meeting started with an update on the state of play of the European Military University Network (EMUN) project. The chair then presented the plan in the areas of teaching, research, networking and the environment. Particular emphasis was placed on the fact that this will be a network of autonomous military universities, and not a single entity project. The attendees agreed to present the project at the EUMACS 2022 in Brno. The document itself - the presentation – can be found on <http://emilyo.eu/node/1191>.

f) LoD-10 – Gender mainstreaming

The session started with a discussion on a questionnaire related to gender perspectives, drafted by the Portuguese Gendarmerie, with the request that this be filled in by the LoD - 10 members. The meeting then continued with an update on the progress of the MGS project. It was also announced that the 3rd transnational project meeting (TPM) will be held in Turin (October 2022) and the upcoming LTTs, as well as the Multiplier Event (ME), would be held in June 2023.

Most of the time and work within the group were devoted to the planning of the pilot Common Module 'Gender Perspectives in Security and Defence', which will be held by the Theresan Military Academy (TMA) in Austria (November 2022). Various scenarios were discussed and considered. Finally, it was suggested that this be organised twice a year, by any other BOEI that is represented at the IG meetings.

g) LoD-11 – International Naval Semester (INS)

The meeting started with an overview of the INS curriculum. Emphasis was placed on the following statements:

- A delay should be factored in for a number of several syllabi that need to be developed by some of the partners. This work is to be completed in the following few months, by the date of the next IG meeting in Poland;

- In the 56th IG meeting, the partners will check and approve the final version of the syllabi, which are to be implemented in the academic year 2023-2024, as planned;

- The partners are to keep to the initial plan of applying with 2 projects in

the upcoming call of strategic partnerships in February 2023.

In order to respect the initial roadmap, the partners agreed upon the following deadlines for the development and implementation of INS modules:

- by 30 November 2022 – the syllabi in INS form should be delivered by each responsible institution;
- by 5 December 2022 – syllabi approval during the 56th IG meeting;
- by 28 February 2023 – the INS project under the Erasmus+ SPP call should be submitted under the coordination of the 'Mircea cel Bătrân' Romanian Naval Academy (RNA);
- by September 2023 – course content should be delivered and approved, and be planned and carried out among the partners in the following academic year.

Adhering to the EMILYO imperative, RNA committed to submitting a joint project in the 2023 Erasmus+ call for strategic partnership projects (SPPs), namely: “Common Curriculum Harmonization for Navy Education – the International Naval Semester curriculum framework development”. For the 2024 call for Erasmus+ SPPs, the next proposal to be submitted is worded as follows: “Joint Naval Training Network to value the common curricular frame for Navy cadets”.

h) LoD-12 – International Air Force Semester (IAFS)

The chair presented the project's management activities, the preparation of the final report and the outcomes of the audit held by the Hellenic Erasmus Agency (HEA) in July 2022. The point was also made that the HEA had suggested to HAFA that it launch an SPP focused on the development of a common Master studies programme. The proposal will be carefully examined in the forthcoming LoD-12 meetings. Subsequently, the e-learning packages were presented with an emphasis on how they could be incorporated into any Learning Management System (LMS). Moreover, various administrative details were discussed regarding the evaluation of the IAFS. In particular, it was agreed that the questionnaires developed during the IAFS will be used as a role model to evaluate the modules, the instructors and the infrastructure of each institution. In addition, the feedback (evaluation information) will be reviewed on an annual basis (February IG meeting) to update the syllabi where necessary.

i) LoD-13 – European Common Technical Semester for Defence and Security (EuCTS_DS)

The chair updated the participants on the achievements and the future activities of the project. The participating institutions designated the teachers responsible for all subjects and they continued working on both the content and the didactic material. The upcoming activities of the project are the following: Learning/Teaching activity “Electronical Engineering and Computer Science” and the 1st ME (September 2022, NMU-BG), Learning/Teaching Activity “Military Science” (October 2022, FASFA-FR): Learning/Teaching activity “Interdisciplinary Scientific Project” (February 2023, HAFA-GR), Learning/Teaching Activity “Basic Engineering” (April 2023, MTA-RO), the 2nd ME (May 2023, HAFA-GR) and Learning/Teaching activity “Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering” (June 2023, MUT-PL).

j) LoD-14 – Research and Development (R&D)

Due to the absence of the LoD-14 chair, both sessions (LoD-13 & 14) took place in parallel and were coordinated by the LoD-13 chair.

The chair presented the past activities and he proposed new action to increase the number of the cadets and instructors involved in international mobility linked to the R&D activities. This action would include: updating the events' schedule with upcoming conferences and in-house journals as well; publishing the updated list of theses; presenting the research capabilities for each BOEI. The proposal to nominate cadets from the BOEI as Military Erasmus Ambassadors was also discussed. This would enable participation in conferences in the EMILYO framework.

k) LoD-15 – International Medical Semester (IMS)

The chair updated the group on the state of play of the project. The BOEIs and civilian universities data base creation is still ongoing. There are several difficulties in launching the project since the group is still mapping the European scheme for possible partners. As agreed, the letter was sent to the respective MoDs of all EU Member States via the Steering Committee delegates. However, this had not led to the expected outcomes.

l) LoD-16 – European Union Armed Forces Academy

The group discussed the possibilities for a more structured way in which to organise international semesters and the framework that could be used. The overall aim is to educate officers at European Union level, focusing on Armed Forces in this echelon. A new EU Leadership Model for young officers is to be developed. In addition, a new curriculum is to be developed based on this. The financial issue and the qualification of lecturers, as well as the pre-education of Cadets/Midshipmen, needs to be determined as well.

m) LoD-17 – International Air Defence Semester (IADS)

The 'Henri Coanda' Air Force Academy (HCAFA) proposed establishing a new LoD with a focus on the area of Air Defence. In addition, Col (AF) Laurian GHERMAN was nominated as the chair of the new LoD. The IG accepted both proposals unanimously. As a result, the LoD-17 was launched during the 56th meeting of the IG, with the primary task of developing a common programme of studies in the field of Air Defence.

10) Work plan

- a) The 56th IG meeting would be held in Gdynia (PL) at the premises of the PNA from 5 to 7 December 2022. On Monday 5 December (evening) a workshop would be held for new IG members, in parallel with the LoD chairs meeting. One week prior to the meeting (28 Nov. at 18:00 CET) a VTC will be organised with the LoD-Chairpersons. Invitation will follow.
- b) The 57th IG meeting would be held in Sofia (BG) at the RNDC from 28 February to 2 March 2023 alongside the ME of the HELPSec. On Monday 28 February (evening) a workshop would be held for new IG members, in parallel with the LoD chairs' meeting.
- c) iMAF 2023 would be held in Athens (GR) from 22-25 May 2023, back to back with the 58th IG meeting and the 2nd ME of the EuCTS_DS.
- d) The 59th IG meeting would be held in Brussels from 4-6 September 2023.

On Monday 4 September (from 16.00 to 18.00) a workshop would be held for new IG members, in parallel with the LoD chairs' meeting.

- e) EUMACS 2023 would be held at the San Javier Air Force Base (ES) from 8 to 10 November 2023.
- f) The 60th IG meeting would be held in Riga (LV) at the NDAL premises from 20 to 22 November 2023. On Monday 20 November (evening) a workshop would be held for new IG members, in parallel with the LoD chairs' meeting.

11) AOB

Below is a summary of all requests made at the meeting.

Request	Send to
<p>Presentations for the IG meeting: if you would like to present anything during the forthcoming IG meeting (plenary session), please send your presentation seven days prior to the meeting. Each presentation should not last longer than 5 minutes!</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at & ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu</p>
<p>Comment on the LoD-5 paper (framework). The goal is for your institution or country to provide the ESDC with an official statement. If this has not yet been done or initiated, try to obtain an answer from those responsible.</p> <p>(See http://www.emilyo.eu/node/982 – LoD-5)</p>	<p>ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu</p> <p>or announce in the Steering Committee</p>
<p>GAREA statistics & recommendations: Please transmit the missing data by 26 September 2022 (24:00 hrs).</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at & ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu</p>
<p>Mark the autumn/winter and spring/summer academic semesters of your institution in blue and red. Create new lines if necessary.</p> <p>(http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191)</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>Draw up a pool of lecturers for your institution, indicating the names of those willing to teach abroad, preferably under Erasmus+.</p> <p>(http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191)</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>If you wish to post a mobility offer on the EMILYO homepage, send the dates and a short description (in PDF format), or a link if you post it on your own website. (http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878)</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>If you wish to have an administrative document posted on the EMILYO homepage, send it in a single PDF file.</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>Encourage cadets or students to write a report on an event with international participants. Please include pictures.</p> <p>(http://www.emilyo.eu/exchange_experience)</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>

Nominate a chair for a LoD that has not yet been assigned one.

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