



European Security and Defence College
Doc: ESDC/2024/312
Date: 02 December 2024
Origin: Implementation Group

64th meeting of the Implementation Group for the European initiative for the exchange of young officers inspired by Erasmus (EMILYO)

**18 - 20 November 2024
Shumen, BULGARIA**

Draft Minutes

- 1)** Welcome address by Brigadier General Ivan Georgiev Malamov, Rector-Commandant of the Vasil Levski National Military University.
- 2)** The Chair and the ESDC Training Manager welcomed 90 participants from 17 EU Member States and Norway representing 34 different institutions.
- 3) Approval of the minutes**
The members of the IG approved the minutes of the 63rd meeting. The approved minutes are available at <https://www.emilyo.eu/approved-meeting-minutes>.
- 4) Adoption of the agenda of the 64th IG Meeting**
The agenda was adopted, with the addition of the following items:
 - a) Voting on 10th Honorary Member of the IG;
 - b) Request from Ukraine;
 - c) Statement: participation Non-EU Member States;
 - d) Statement: next IG Chair;
 - e) Preparation of uploads on EMILYO website;
 - f) 65th IG meeting, CSDA Larnaca, Cyprus;
 - g) 68th IG meeting, HMASCO, Thessaloniki, GREECE;
 - h) Presentation for 3 new common modules (TtT)
 - i) Past and future offers from the institutions.
- 5) Update the Pool of Lecturers**
The Chair of the IG, request from the Members of the IG to update their lecturers on the Pool of lecturers on the secure area on the EMILYO website.
- 6) Update on the new EMILYO Website**
The Chair of the IG, request from the Members of the IG to send the documents they want to upload on the EMILYO website to Vice-chair Cristi Moldoveanu: mccristi@gmail.com, to Chair Harald Gell: harald.gell@inode.at and to LoD Chair KostasTsanakas kontsanakas@gmail.com only for publication to EMILYO Social Media.
IG Members can also **request access to the secure area** of the website, by sending an email to the ESDC Military Erasmus Coordinator Christoforos.CHRISTOFOROU@eeas.europa.eu.

7) Information about Lines of Development (LoD)

- a) The chair gave a short briefing about the status of the LoDs and asked for volunteers for unoccupied chairs (LoD 1, 3 and 5). He explained the procedure for establishing a new LoD.
- b) The LoD Chairs should be present during all IG meetings, even if not conducting an LoD.
- c) Future nomination letters must include the financing for the LoD Chair's presence in the 4 IG meetings per year.

8) Past and future contributions of IG members

Representatives of the institutions presented past and future contributions of Military Erasmus activities. All presentations would be temporarily available at <https://www.emilyo.eu/temporary-documents>.

9) Project Proposal on Military Sports Competition

The representative for the Romanian Land Forces Academy, briefed the Members on a new project proposal on Military Sports Competition. Members welcomed the proposal and they are invited to contribute to this project. A dedicated session will take place during the next meeting with more details.

10) Update on the ESDC Guidelines for the new academic year 2024-2025

The ESDC Military Erasmus Coordinator, briefly informed the IG members about the co-financing of the EMILYO activities from the ESDC and he answered to questions of the IG members. The ESDC Training Manager reminded all IG members that they are required to inform the chair and the ESDC Military Erasmus Coordinator whenever they would like to accept participants from non-EU countries in all activities that are organised under the Military Erasmus Initiative.

11) Presentation of the Linguistic Association from the Polish Military University of Technology

Cadets from the Military University of Technology in Warsaw presented briefly their history, activities and projects in regards their Linguistic Association, which include, among others:

- 1) Organising seminars and webinars with experts dealing with security and language of interoperability;
- 2) Organising student scientific itinerant conference within the project Language-Security-Technology: 2022 at MUT in Warsaw, 2023 Military Technical Academy in Bucharest, 2024 Bulgarian Air Force Academy in Pleven. The next edition will take place at the University of Defence in Brno in 2025 and the Air Force Academy in Brasov in 2026;
- 3) Cooperating with the International Relations Office at MUT, e.g. as liaison officers.

The presentation of the organisation was seen as a potential starting point for a debate on creating a network of similar student organisations from military academies. This network would enable collaborative international activities. The organisations, led by cadets, benefits from the guidance of a scientific tutor. IG members are invited to share their insights on the proposal to establish a Military Student Scientific Organisation (Cadet Scientific Society) under the IG's auspices. This platform would empower cadets to have their own voice at European level.

12) Next Implementation Group Chair 2025-2027

The mandate of the Chair of the Implementation Group, Col. Harald GELL, ends this academic year. The Chair himself informed the members that he is placing his nomination for another term, as he reaches the age limit for retirement. The ESDC Military Erasmus Coordinator briefed the members about the procedures for selecting a new Chair.

To that end, all members who wish to apply for the IG Chair position should send their nomination before the 65th IG meeting in Larnaca. In case we have more than one nomination, we will proceed to voting in the 66th IG meeting in Constanta. If there are no other nominations, the IG members will decide on the prolongation of the current Chair, Col. Harald GELL.

13) EMILYO Annual Report 2023-2024

The Chair presented the final statistics of the **Academic Year 2023-2024** and thanked the institutions for the amazing work, which has been done during the academic year as a result giving as the best statistics since the establishment of this initiative. In total, **4,652** cadets participated in military Erasmus activities, **221** events were held under the programme, and **151,779** days of training were conducted. At the end of the presentation of the statistics, the Chair requested from Members to fill-in the forms permanently. During the next meeting in Larnaca there will be a special point dedicated on how to fill the templates for the statistics.

14) Future CSDP Olympiads and EUMACS

The IG chair informed the IG members that the CSDP Olympiad 2026 and EUMACS +EUAFA-CC 2026 would be held in Cyprus. EUMACS 2025 +EUAFA-CC will be organised by the Polish Military University of Technology (MUT) and the Polish Air Force University (PAFU) in Poland from 27-30 (31) May 2025. EUMACS +EUAFA-CC 2027 will be organised by the Hellenic Air Force Academy in Greece. Italy and Latvia were kindly requested with deciding which countries would organise EUMACS 2028 and the CSDP Olympiad 2028.

15) 8th CSDP Olympiad 2026 Cyprus

The chair officially launched the 8th CSDP Olympiad by announcing that it will be held in Paphos, Cyprus, from 15 to 19 June 2026. He then presented the milestones, the way ahead, and the rules of procedure. In the upcoming IG meeting in Larnaca Members will vote for the selection of the 10 essay topics. The final list of the 15 essay topics was presented and Members were asked to contribute with new ideas and topics relevant to the latest developments in the area of Common Security and Defence Policy.

16) iMAF – International Military Academic Forum

The Romanian Naval Academy 'Mircea cel Batran' gave a presentation on iMAF 2025, which will be held at their premises in Constanta (Romania) from 02 to 06 June 2025.

The chair informed the IG members about the organisation of iMAF 2026 by the National Defence Academy of Latvia, the iMAF 2027 by the Military Technical Academy 'Ferdinand I' in Bucharest, Romania and the iMAF 2028 by the Slovak Armed Forces Academy 'General Milan Rastislav Štefánik'.

17) Presentations by LoD chairs

The LoD chairs presented the outcomes of the LoD sessions that took place on the first and second day of the meeting as follows:

a) Joint LoD-2 – Development of Competences and LoD-8 – Common Modules

The LoD-2 Chair presented **19** revised modules according to the adopted procedure: revision of the Goal and the learning outcomes in line with the qualification requirements of SQF MILOF (the content is left up to the Course Director). All the modules are attached.

The LoD-8 Chair provided an update on the CMs database and the prioritisation of CMs for revision according to SQF MILOF program creation. The Chair reported 17 CMs for the next period:

- 1) Battle Physical, Mental and Survival Training
- 2) IMINT-GEOINT Analysis Course
- 3) Military Strategy and Security In the Baltic Sea Region (A)
- 4) Senior Cadets' Seminar on Leadership
- 5) Troop Leading Procedures
- 6) 12 additional modules included in the International Naval Semester

b) LoD-6 – Strategic Communication

During the 64th IG meeting, on LoD-6, the following topics were discussed:

- 1) Update on the Military Erasmus Ambassadors and Promotion Corporate Gifts.
- 2) Information provided and request made for videos on the newly created YouTube Channel.
- 3) Update on the work done regarding the CM Information Awareness: it has been revised under SQF-MILOF directions, discussed during LoD 2/8 meeting and is waiting for approval during the next IG Meeting, in Cyprus.
- 4) Participants were made aware of all existing EMILYO Social Media and requested to disseminate them among their channels.

c) LoD-9 – Future Projects

The objectives of the LoD-09 were updated to focus on increasing the number of military universities involved in Defense and Security projects, developing a train-the-trainer module, and creating a common module for students in the field of "Project management for Defense and Security education."

It was proposed to publish a list of finished/ongoing projects on the EMILYO website, along with a template providing brief information about each project. Informative fiches for two projects were developed and will be uploaded.

A list of new ideas proposed by PL MUT and RO MTA was collected and will be published on the EMILYO website to identify potential partners interested in these research areas.

d) LoD-10 – Gender Mainstreaming

The LoD 10 Chair welcomed 21 participants from 11 countries. During the LoD meeting, the following topics were discussed:

- 1) The third edition of the Common Module "Gender Perspectives in Security and Defense" will be organised from 09-13 December 2024 in Athens, Greece, by the Hellenic Military Academy (HMA) and Hellenic Air Force Academy (HAFA).
- 2) The planned events for 2025 were described as follows: The next edition of the Common Module "Gender Perspectives in Security and Defense" will take place as part of the International Air Defense Semester at the Air Force Academy (AFA) in Brasov, Romania, from 07-11 April 2025. This will be followed by the 6th Erasmus Gender Seminar from 03-04 April 2025.

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

During the 64th IG meeting, on LoD-11, 12 participants from 7 EU Member States representing 8 European Naval Academies attended.

NAVY-INS-Tech project implementation:

Progress monitoring, task distribution, event planning, report preparation, and discussions have been ongoing. The intermediary report has been submitted, and major results have been disseminated among the partners. As a result, 4 modules have been organized during the past period, involving 64 student exchanges. Additionally, 3 transnational meetings have been conducted, with 8 teachers/experts exchanged among the partners.

The partners have been informed about the Erasmus+ exchanges/INS modules offered by the partners during the spring semester of the new academic year 2024-2025.

f) LoD-13 – European Common Technical Semester for Defence and Security (EuCTS_{DS})

There were 11 representatives of 6 institutions BG NMU, ES SAA, FR FASFA, GR HAFA, RO MTA, and SK AOS. Five subjects were discussed:

- 1) KA2 project **D**igital **M**athematics **A**pplied in defence and **S**ecurity education – DIMAS (preliminary presentation of the survey results);
- 2) Common Module IMINT/GEOINT Analysis, hosted by MTA in Bucharest, Spring 2025;
- 3) Elaboration of the Common Module Ballistics;
- 4) Discussion regarding the intention of the specialist from LoD-13 institution to support the development of a Common Module dedicated to AI for Defence and Security;
- 5) Scientific revision of the modules from International Technical Semester, EuCTS_{DS}.

g) LoD-14 – Research and Development

A joined session between LoD 14 and LoD9 occurred during the 64th IG meeting. Initially, a restatement of LoDs focus areas was given with the question of merging the two LoDs. The decision was to continue as such and run separately. It was also decided to introduce a new LoD chair in order to be able to expand the activities of the LoD and run a meeting during each IG meeting.

h) LoD-17 – International Air Defence Semester

During the meeting the following decisions were made:

- 1) the course materials were approved;
- 2) the duration of pilot semester was established;
- 3) the courses included in pilot semester were chosen;
- 4) the number of students sent/received for pilot semester was approved.

i) LoD-19 – Logistics

The 6th meeting of LoD-19 was attended by 11 participants from 6 countries: Bulgaria, Slovakia, Spain, Romania and Poland, representing 7 institutions.

Another 3 CM were discussed and will be revised before next meeting: Military Logistics Planning Process (NDU, ROM), Basic of Logistics (MUT, POL), Basics of Military Logistics Information Systems (RNDC, BG).

First proposal of International Logistic Semester was presented.

The future proposals for KA2 projects were discussed among LoD-19 stakeholders. It was decided to work together to rework the KA2 project proposal on Higher Education Institutions Contribution to sustainable Supply Chain Management (partners were chosen).

j) LoD-20 – Space

During the meeting, we conducted an in-depth discussion on the development of potential common modules for the LoD-20 Space initiative. We emphasized the importance of aligning these modules with shared objectives and operational goals. Particular attention was given to exploring various configurations for a common module that would incorporate practical training sessions at SatCen to ensure hands-on experience and operational relevance for participants. We also delved into the financial, organisational, and logistical aspects of implementing such a combined module, identifying potential challenges and exploring strategies to address them effectively. This included considerations of resource allocation, coordination among Academies, and ensuring the module's accessibility and practicality in real-world application.

k) LoD-21 – Hybrid Threats

The details for the first Train-the-Trainers Hybrid Threats Module (1st TTT HThM) were established: venue: 'Henri Coanda' Air Force Academy; period: 24-28 March, 2025; sending and uploading invitation: 25 November, 2024; deadline for confirmation: 15 January, 2025.

There were established: experts, target audiences, debate topics (elements of curriculum) the draft of the programme.

There were established the details regarding the Hybrid Threats Common Module: responsible people for presenting syllabi, common module relevant topics:

Information Operations (InfoOps), Social networks, Emerging technologies and AI, Military ethics in hybrid warfare and the related syllabi.

Future events, spring semester, academic year 2025-2026:

1st HThCM, Hellenic Air Force Academy,

1st HThDF, Henri Coandă Air Force Academy

All presentations would be temporarily available at <https://www.emilyo.eu/temporary-documents>.

18) Honorary members

The chair informed the members that proposing some personalities as honorary members is possible and he put forward the candidacy of LtCol (ret.) Dr. Dirk Dubois, former Training Manager for the IG, former Chair of the IG and former Head of the ESDC. The Members voted unanimously Dr. Dirk Dubois as the 10th Honorary Member of the Implementation Group.

19) Implementation coordination

The IG chair recommended that the members send their requests for EU academic semesters and also update their lists for the pool of lecturers and trainers.

20) IG meetings in 2024

The chair informed participants of the IG meetings to be held in during the new academic year 2024-2025 and beyond as follows (in the late afternoon/early evening on the respective day before, the newcomers meeting will always take place):

- a) The 65th IG meeting will take place at CSDA in Larnaca, CY, 25-26 February 2025.
- b) The 66th IG meeting will take place at RNA, in Constanta, RO 2-6 June 2025, back-to-back with the iMAF 2025.
- c) The 67th IG meeting will take place at ESDC in Brussels, BE, 09-10 September 2025.
- d) The 68th IG meeting will take place at HMACSO in Thessaloniki, GR, in November 2025, back-to-back with the EAB meeting.
- e) The 69th IG meeting will take place at NDUC in Oslo, NO, end of February or beginning of March 2026.
- f) The 70th IG meeting will take place at NDAL in Riga, LV, in May 2026 back-to-back with the iMAF 2026.
- g) The 71th IG meeting will take place at ESDC in Brussels, BE, September 2026, back-to-back with the EAB meeting.

21) Work plan

One week before each IG meeting, on a Monday, a VTC coordination meeting will take place at 18:00 CET with the IG chair, deputy IG chairs, ESDC Training Manager, LoD chairs, and the organiser of the upcoming meeting.

22) Information for the 65th IG Meeting in Shumen

The ESDC Military Erasmus Coordinator on behalf of the Director of the Cyprus Security and Defence Academy, Colonel Symeon Zambas, informed the members for the 65th IG meeting that will take place in Larnaca, CYPRUS from 25-26 February 2025 (newcomers' meeting on 24 February 2025).

23) Any other business 1 (AOB)

- a) The IG chair reminded the IG members that they are expected to nominate chairs for those LoDs for which the position is vacant (LoD-1, 3, 5, and 7)
- b) IG members are asked to register for the next IG as soon as they receive the invitation and the link for better organisation.
- c) LoD-Chairs should indicate a proposal for duration of their LoD-session for the next IG meeting.

24) Any other business 2 (AOB)

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

Request	Send to
<p>Create the exchange (incoming) statistics for the academic year 2024/2025 (starting 1 Sep. 2024 – ending 31 Aug. 2025) according to the uploaded templates. https://www.emilyo.eu/templates</p>	<p>Send In June 2025 to: harald.gell@inode.at christoforos.christoforou@eeas.eu ropa.eu</p>
<p>Presentations for the IG meeting: if you would like to present anything during the forthcoming IG meeting (plenary session), please submit your presentation 7 days prior to the meeting. Each presentation should last no longer than five minutes!</p>	<p>harald.gell@inode.at & christoforos.christoforou@eeas.eu ropa.eu mccristi@gmail.com</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. (See: https://www.emilyo.eu/lod-5-framework).</p>	<p>christoforos.christoforou@eeas.eu ropa.eu <u>or announce in the Steering Committee</u></p>
<p>Mark the autumn/winter and spring/summer academic semesters of your institution in blue and red. Create new lines if necessary. https://www.emilyo.eu/academic-semesters</p>	<p>mccristi@gmail.com & harald.gell@inode.at</p>
<p>Draw up (or update) a pool of lecturers for your institution, indicating the names of those willing to teach abroad, preferably under Erasmus+. https://www.emilyo.eu/pool-lecturers (password-protected area). Template is available at: https://www.emilyo.eu/templates</p>	<p>mccristi@gmail.com & harald.gell@inode.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. https://www.emilyo.eu/mobility-offers-multiplier-events</p>	<p>mccristi@gmail.com & harald.gell@inode.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>mccristi@gmail.com & harald.gell@inode.at</p>
<p>Encourage cadets or students to write a report on an event with international participants. Please include pictures. http://www.emilyo.eu/exchange_experience</p>	<p>mccristi@gmail.com & harald.gell@inode.at</p>
<p>Nominate a chair for an LoD that has not yet been assigned one.</p>	<p>harald.gell@inode.at & christoforos.christoforou@eeas.eu ropa.eu</p>
<p>Basic officer education fact-sheets revision 2024, as soon as possible template is available at: https://www.emilyo.eu/temporary-documents</p>	<p>fsandberg@mil.no harald.gell@inode.at & christoforos.christoforou@eeas.eu ropa.eu</p>