



**Minutes of the 17th EUMSSF Meeting
Colégio Militar
Lisbon, 27 March 2025**

1. Opening of the Meeting

The Chair, Colonel Symeon Zambas, opened the 17th meeting of the EUMSSF and warmly greeted all participants (see Annex I – List of Participants). He extended a special welcome to the Ukrainian military secondary school, attending the Forum for the first time. The Chair expressed gratitude to Colégio Militar for hosting, for the third consecutive year, the Course on EU History and Core Values, which continues to bring together military and civilian students from across the Forum's network—this year representing seven different EU Member States and twelve member institutions.

Colonel Zambas highlighted the progress achieved by the Forum since its establishment in 2019, underlining the transparency, openness, and collaborative spirit that characterise its work.

2. Welcome by the Host Institution

The Director of Colégio Militar, Colonel Alexandre Moura, welcomed all participants to Lisbon and the school. He underlined the importance of initiatives like the EUMSSF and reaffirmed Colégio Militar's strong commitment to European collaboration and values. He wished participants a productive meeting and a pleasant stay in Portugal.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Following a tour de table, the agenda was adopted without amendments.

4. EUMSSF Network: Membership Update

Lieutenant Colonel Taras Hrytsevych, Deputy Head for Academic Work at the Kruty Heroes Lviv Lyceum for Intensive Military and Physical Training (Ukraine), delivered a presentation introducing his school. Following the presentation, the Forum welcomed the Kruty Heroes Lyceum as a new member of the EUMSSF.

5. **Presentation of the Romanian Pilot Initiative**

Professor Monica Buculei from the Romanian National Military High School "Ștefan cel Mare" presented their newly approved curriculum for an International Military Skills Camp, which will be organised in July 2025. The curriculum was previously endorsed by the Executive Academic Board during its meeting on 19–20 February 2025. (See Annex II for the programme)

6. **Essay Writing Olympiad – Status Update**

Ms Maria Penedos (ESDC) provided an update on the 3rd Essay Writing Olympiad, informing participants that evaluation is still ongoing. Due to the number of submissions and coordination with evaluators, the announcement of results is postponed by one month and is now expected by 30 April 2025.

7. **Future Meeting Dates and Hosting Offers**

The Forum confirmed that the 18th EUMSSF meeting will take place in Brussels on 12 September 2025, back-to-back with the Award Ceremony of the 3rd Essay Writing Olympiad.

Commander Francesco Mercone, representing the Italian Navy Military School "Francesco Morosini", offered to host the December meeting in Venice, Italy, with the exact date to be confirmed, likely in early December 2025.

8. **Any Other Business**

No further topics were raised under this item.

Annexes:

- **Annex I** – List of Participants
- **Annex II** – Presentation of Lyceum Kruty Heroes Lviv Lyceum for Intensive Military and Physical Training (Ukraine)
- **Annex III** – Programme: International Military Skills Camp – Romanian Military High School