



Brussels, 12 June 2023

**To: The Permanent Representatives of Member-States to the European Union**

**CC: The Permanent Representatives to the Political and Security Committee**

**Subject: Invitation to the 19<sup>th</sup> Common Security and Defence Policy High-Level Course 2023-2024 'MANUEL MARÍN GONZALEZ' - Update**

Your Excellencies,

The European Security and Defence College (ESDC) is proud to announce its 19<sup>th</sup> Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) High-Level Course 2023-2024. The course consists of four residential modules: Brussels (25-29 September 2023), Madrid (20-24 November 2023), Paris (22-26 April 2024) and Thessaloniki (17-21 June 2024).

This edition of the ESDC's CSDP High-Level Course will be named after **MANUEL MARÍN GONZALEZ** in recognition of his commitment to establishing a lasting educational and cultural legacy through the far-sighted initiative of the Erasmus Mobility Programme.

The course will address the main policies, developments and trends of the Common Foreign and Security policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence policy. It will provide a forum for in-depth debate on current and emerging CSDP issues.

Participants should be senior civilian officials (including diplomats and police officers) or military officials from the EU Member States, candidate countries, relevant EU institutions, bodies and agencies, or CSDP missions and operations.

The ESDC is committed to an inclusive, diverse, gender-sensitive and anti-discriminatory environment. We therefore encourage you to nominate candidates from groups which are likely to be under-represented.

On behalf of the EU Member States and the national institutes contributing to the 19<sup>th</sup> CSDP High-Level Course, you are invited to submit your nominations no later than **14 July 2023**. For further details, please refer to the attached annexes.

Holger OSTERRIEDER  
Head of the ESDC

Attachments:

Annex 1 – Administrative arrangements

Annex 2 – Curriculum of the 19<sup>th</sup> CSDP High-Level Course 2023-2024 'MANUEL MARÍN GONZALEZ'

## Administrative arrangements

### 19<sup>th</sup> CSDP High-Level Course 2023-2024 ‘Manuel Marín González’

#### **PART I. ORGANISATION**

##### **Structure of the course**

The course encompasses four residential modules held in Brussels, Madrid, Paris and Thessaloniki. Each module lasts one week (Monday morning to Friday noon), and focuses on different strategic aspects of the CSDP. The minimum time between residential modules is calculated to allow participants to complete the e-learning phase.

The course uses the European Security and Defence College’s (ESDC) e-learning system, ILIAS, running on a platform operated by the ESDC. All course participants must prepare for each residential module by completing the relevant preparatory e-learning phases. Registration in the ILIAS system and completion of the e-learning course are mandatory. Participants who fail to complete the e-learning assignments associated with each residential module by the time the residential module ends will not be invited to participate in the next residential module.

The preparatory **e-learning phase** of the **course starts on Friday 11 August 2023** for the first residential module. The course **ends with the last residential module on Friday 21 June 2024**, with a graduation ceremony organised in Thessaloniki, Greece.

As in previous years, the 19<sup>th</sup> CSDP High-Level Course 2023-2024 ‘Manuel Marín González’ will receive support from the EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS), through the participation of its senior analysts in panels or by delivering stand-alone presentations, during all the residential modules, and through EUISS’s co-organisation of the fourth residential module.

## **Module 1 – Brussels**

The residential part of the 19<sup>th</sup> CSDP High-Level Course (HLC) 2023-2024 'Manuel Marín GONZÁLEZ' starts with the module in Brussels, jointly organised by the Belgian Royal Higher Institute for Defence and the Egmont Royal Institute for International Relations, from **25 to 29 September 2023**.



The **Royal Higher Institute for Defence (the RHID)** is the reference body of the Belgian Ministry of Defence in the field of security and defence.

The RHID assumes two interlinked roles in supporting the Ministry of Defence and the nation. First, it acts as a 'think tank' on security and defence. It pursues the objectives of deepening and disseminating knowledge by organising conferences, colloquia and seminars as well as publishing papers by researchers. The first module of the CSDP High-Level Course is 'High Studies for Security and Defence'. This module takes the form of residential seminars and visits and provides training in these fields for high-level personnel in both the civil and defence sectors, promoting reflection, debate, and networking among participants. Through national and international partnerships, the RHID has developed an extensive network to exchange ideas and experiences.

Second, in its role as a 'smart hub' and 'honest broker' for scientific and technological research, it is responsible for managing and facilitating the scientific and technological research programme of the Ministry of Defence, including the field of security and defence studies. More than ever, the RHID looks forward to promoting growth in Belgian scientific and technological research in the defence and security domain, restoring and reinforcing the links between government, academia and industry in this regard, and promoting and facilitating Belgium's and Belgian Defence participation in national and international research programmes.

### **Contact**

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**EGMONT - The Royal Institute for International Relations**

is an independent think tank based in Brussels. Its interdisciplinary research is conducted in a spirit of academic freedom. Drawing on the expertise of its own research fellows, as well as that of external specialists, both Belgian and foreign, it provides analysis and policy options that are designed to be as operational as possible.



Benefiting from the role of Brussels in the global arena and from the prestigious setting of the Egmont Palace, the institute offers an ideal forum for participants to exchange views with other specialists and with a well-informed public made up of representatives from the political, economic and academic spheres, the media and civil society. Conferences, colloquia and seminars nurture the work of the research fellows. The Institute has also developed specialised training activities.

Contact

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**Module 2 - Madrid**

Module 2 will be held in Madrid from **20 to 24 November 2023**, organised by the National Defence Advance Studies Centre (CESEDEN).



The National Defence Advance Studies Centre (CESEDEN) is the main joint military educational centre of the Spanish armed forces. CESEDEN is responsible for providing higher national defence studies, as well as carrying out research and strategic analysis tasks, and the promotion and dissemination of defence culture. To further develop its particular role of teaching studies leading to postgraduate degrees, CESEDEN has established collaborations with relevant universities, national and international think tanks, centres of thought and other public and private corporations, through relevant agreements. CESEDEN contributes to the convergence of the different social sectors in the common objective of Spanish national defence.

### Contact

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### Module 3 – Paris

The third module will be organised in Paris from **22 to 26 April 2024** by the French **Institute for Higher National Defence Studies** (IHEDN).

IHEDN is a public establishment with an inter-ministerial dimension, placed under the supervision of the Prime Minister. Its mission is to promote a defence culture, to participate in the strengthening of national cohesion, and to contribute to the development of strategic thinking on defence and security issues. IHEDN offers various training courses ranging from a national programme, comprising a common base open to all its auditors (senior civil or military officials, from all sectors of activity) and five majors allowing participants to deepen their knowledge on specific issues (armament and defence economy, defence and security economy, maritime issues and strategy, defence policy, digital sovereignty and cybersecurity) to European and international studies, regional programmes, youth programmes and specialised programmes.



### Contact

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### Module 4 – Thessaloniki

The last residential module of the CSDP HLC 2023-2024 will be held in Thessaloniki, Greece, from **17 to 21 June 2024** and will be co-organised by the Hellenic Supreme Joint War College (HSJWC), together with the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS).



The main mission of the HSJWC is to provide senior officers of the three branches of the armed forces with joint training at operational and strategic level

as well as academic training on key geopolitical issues. The HSJWC seeks to expand the skills of senior leaders necessary for success in the modern operating environment. Training principles are based on realistic, high-quality and multi-faceted education. Continuous cooperation with military and academic institutions ensures the active participation of officers in upcoming research projects by monitoring operational changes in the field of combat due to new technological innovations and promoting a common military culture among them.

#### Contact

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The **European Union Institute for Security Studies** (EUISS) is the Union's Agency analysing foreign, security and defence policy issues. Its core mission is to assist the EU and its Member States in the implementation of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), including the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) as well as other external action of the Union. The Institute also acts as an interface between the EU institutions and external experts to develop the EU's strategic thinking. The EUISS was set up in January 2002 as an autonomous agency under the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) to foster a common security culture for the EU, support the development and projection of its foreign policy, and enrich the strategic debate both inside and outside Europe. Based in Paris, with a liaison office in Brussels, the EUISS is an integral part of the structures that underpin the CFSP/CSDP.



#### Contact

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#### ESDC Secretariat Contact

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## **Methodologies**

### **Preparatory e-learning phase**

This phase provides a general overview of the CFSP/CSDP and related EU policies and concepts. It allows all course participants to attain a similar level of knowledge and understanding of the EU and of the main subjects of the CFSP/CSDP, how the EU institutions work and the role they play in the CFSP/CSDP.

The content of the preparatory e-learning phase is delivered through four 'autonomous knowledge units' (AKUs) available within the ESDC's e-learning system. The study on these units (estimated to take between two and three working hours per AKU, depending on the individual's level of preparation/expertise in CFSP/CSDP matters) facilitates regular/effective learning in the subsequent residential modules. For example, at the end of the e-learning phase for residential module 1 in Brussels, the participants should be able to: identify the significant historic steps leading to current CSDP developments; explain the main features of the EU Global Strategy; and assess the functioning of the EU in general and the role of the relevant EU institutions and CFSP/CSDP-related structures in particular.

In preparation for residential modules, each participant can adapt his or her individual study according to their own professional experience and preparation and to the time available. The e-learning instrument provides sufficient flexibility to adapt this preparation phase to individual needs. **It is mandatory both to follow the online course and to take the tests incorporated within these e-learning phases.**

### **Residential modules** (Brussels, Madrid, Paris and Thessaloniki)

Residential modules balance active, passive and reflective learning with opportunities to network and share best practices. In general, interactive learning methods are used throughout the residential modules. These include group sessions followed by discussions in plenary. The focus is on deepening participants' knowledge of the various issues and on giving them the chance to discuss issues in a wider context and with key players working on those issues within the EU.

The topics and methods in each module reflect the learning outcomes and are further developed by the module leader, as needed, in close coordination with the relevant training manager in the ESDC Secretariat.

Whenever appropriate, study trips and visits are organised to places of interest in line with the learning outcomes of the course. Case studies and exercises are carried out to help participants see and learn how theory is put into practice within the context of actual CSDP-related activities.

### Group work in the CSDP High-Level Course

The ESDC uses a blended approach to learning that includes e-learning, lecture-based discussions, panel discussions, exercises and group work.

Group work provides an opportunity to discuss topics with other course participants and, where possible, subject-matter experts. Each group of course participants will be composed in a way that ensures that as many different perspectives as possible are taken into account.

### Evaluation

The course is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model. It uses 'level 1' evaluation (evaluation based on participants' satisfaction with the course) through feedback on the residential modules.

The module leaders provide an evaluation report, based on the standard template for ESDC evaluation reports, for each individual module. With the support of the ESDC Secretariat, the final evaluation report is presented to the ESDC's Executive Academic Board and the Steering Committee. It includes lessons identified and learnt, as well as recommendations on how to further develop and improve the course.

In order to complete the course, participants must accomplish all learning objectives, which are evaluated based on their active contribution in the residential modules, including the group sessions and practical activities, as well as on their completion of the e-learning phases: course participants must complete the autonomous knowledge units (AKUs) and take the tests (mandatory), scoring at least 80% in the incorporated final test. However, no formal verification of learning outcomes is planned; the proposed European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) score is based on participants' workload only.

The ESDC Executive Academic Board takes these factors into account when considering the awarding of certificates to participants.

## **PART. II PARTICIPANTS**

### Selection

- The CSDP High-Level Course is open to participants from all EU Member States, relevant EU institutions, bodies and agencies, CSDP missions and operations, and selected candidate countries.
- Selection of the course participants is the responsibility of the sending parties. The selected participants should be senior officials dealing with strategic aspects of the CSDP who have a clear leadership potential, in particular in the field of the



CFSP/CSDP. The CSDP HLC audience should be a well-balanced mixture of civilian and military participants, including with backgrounds in diplomacy and law enforcement. Member States may also nominate suitable academics, members of non-governmental organisations, and members of the business community.

- The ESDC strives for a gender-sensitive and inclusive environment in all its courses, activities and day-to-day work. Only in an inclusive environment can all people, and therefore the ESDC and its partners, reach their true potential. We do not and will not discriminate on the basis of race, colour, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation in any of our activities or operations. The ESDC and the training institutions will not tolerate any conduct that violates these values.

### **Security Clearance**

- An **EU security clearance at 'confidential' level is mandatory**. All participants should be in possession of such security clearance at the start of the course (August 2023), or the process should be sufficiently advanced to allow the security clearance certificate to be issued by mid-September 2023 at the latest. The security clearance should be valid for the entire duration of the CSDP High-Level Course (up to and including June 2024).
- The participation of representatives from candidate countries is subject to the existence of a security agreement with the EU at the start of the course and holding a valid security clearance.

### **Nomination**

- EU Member States and EU institutions, bodies and agencies are invited to nominate up to two participants (please note: the ENLIST nominators will use personal email accounts when nominating participants and not functional/generic mailboxes). EU Member States are invited to nominate participants representing all three major CSDP pillars at national level: diplomacy, defence and internal affairs. Senior participants working in CSDP missions and operations are encouraged to attend. If Member States and EU institutions, bodies and agencies wish to nominate additional participants, a selection depending on the remaining capacity will be made according to predefined order of priority defined by ENLIST nominators.
- Applications are to be submitted by designated nominators via the ESDC's secure registration system ENLIST, **no later than 14 July 2023**. Registration will not be final until confirmed by the ESDC Secretariat. The selected participants will receive a confirmation message by **31 July 2023** at the latest.

## **Registration**

- After confirmation, course participants will be required to:
  - ▶ Fill in their personal data in the ENLIST system as soon as possible, using the login credentials provided automatically by ENLIST upon confirmation.
  - ▶ Send the copy of – or a certificate proving – an **EU security clearance** at '**confidential**' level or higher. A copy of the valid security clearance or the corresponding certificate should be provided by the course participant or the relevant security officer to the EEAS Security Accreditation Office by email to [EEAS-SECURITY-CLEARANCE@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:EEAS-SECURITY-CLEARANCE@eeas.europa.eu) with the ESDC's dedicated mailbox ([esdc-hlc@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:esdc-hlc@eeas.europa.eu)) in copy at the latest by **8 September 2023**, indicating clearly that the document is intended for participation in the 19<sup>th</sup> CSDP High-Level Course 2023-2024.
- The ESDC Secretariat will provide the login credentials for the ESDC e-learning platform ILIAS to all confirmed participants in due course.
- Communication between participants, the module leaders and the ESDC Secretariat will be via email and the e-learning platform ILIAS. Course participants are encouraged to set up their ILIAS account so that they receive the communications from the ESDC via the 'HLC Forum' feature.
- Once the registration period has ended and all participants have been confirmed, any withdrawal from the course should be communicated by the appointing authority to the ESDC Secretariat, and to the national delegate at the ESDC Steering Committee, for information.

## **Attendance**

- Course participants must be available for the whole course, which includes the e-learning phases as well as four residential modules. The participants may be invited to sit in panels/discussions during the residential module together with experts supporting the course. As an opportunity to share knowledge and expertise, the contribution of personal or institutional experience on a specific topic during the course will be much appreciated.

## **Language**

- The course follows the CSDP language regime: the working languages during the entire HLC are English and French, without interpretation. The course participants will not be asked to prove their language ability, or to produce a related certificate in order to be accepted for the course.

### **Additional info**

- For all information or support requests, the ESDC Secretariat's Training Manager, Ms Maria Penedos, should be contacted via **Maria.Penedos@eeas.europa.eu**, indicating in the subject line that the communication refers to the CSDP High-Level Course 2023-2024.
- The ESDC Secretariat does not make any arrangements concerning international travel, local transportation, accommodation and meals, and the cost thereof. These costs are to be covered by the sending authorities, unless otherwise indicated in the programme or module's administrative instructions.
- Wherever possible and in coordination with the relevant module leader, course participants may be encouraged to book accommodation in a single, specified hotel during residential modules to facilitate networking and community building. Participants are also invited to take full advantage of the networking opportunities in the form of group work and social events during the residential modules.

### **Certificate of attendance**

Availability will be considered an explicit selection criterion: each participant should be able to attend all four residential modules of the course and to complete all e-learning phases.

A certificate signed by the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy will be awarded to the participants who complete the full course (e-learning and residential phases).



**European Security and Defence College**  
**Doc:** ESDC/2023/039  
**Date:** 24 February 2023  
**Origin:** ESDC Executive Academic Board

## Curriculum

To be reviewed by <i>February 2024</i>	Activity number <b>1</b>	<b>19th CSDP High Level Course</b> <b>2023-2024 'Manuel Marín GONZÁLEZ'</b>	ECTS <b>8</b>
CORRELATION WITH CTG/MTG TRAs			EQUIVALENCES
Civilian Training Area n. 2 : Leadership & Management, 29: EU Integrated Approach Military training Discipline n.1: Operations Planning for CSDP, 8: Leadership & Management			SQF-MILOF <b>Level 2</b> Focus; POL CIV-MIL
<u>Target audience</u> <p>Participants should be senior experts from the EU Member States, candidate countries and EU institutions, bodies and agencies (military and civilians, including diplomats police and border guard officers) who are either working in key positions or have a clear potential to achieve leadership posts, in particular in the field of the CFSP/CSDP. Suitable academics as well as members of NGOs and the business community may be invited to participate. The audience should be a well-balanced civilian/military mix.</p> <p>Course participants must be available for the whole course, which includes eLearning phases and residential modules, and must be ready to contribute with their specific expertise and experience throughout the course. Participants have to be security cleared to at least EU CONFIDENTIAL level.</p> <p>It is recommended that course participants have attended the ESDC CSDP orientation course.</p>		<u>Aim</u> <p>The overall aim of the CSDP High Level Course (HLC) is to prepare selected senior experts from EU Member States, candidate countries and EU institutions for leadership positions in the application and development of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) policy, crisis management and capability development, within the wider context of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), and enable them to cooperate effectively with the various actors in this field. The course aims to broaden participants' knowledge and understanding of the EU security and defence architecture, the integrated approach to the CSDP as a key tool of the CFSP, current and anticipated policy, missions and operations, as well as to increase their awareness about new threats and other horizontal issues.</p> <p>The training delivered via both the eLearning platform and during the residential modules promotes a common European security culture and aims to foster the network of future leaders involved in the strategic aspects of the CFSP/CSDP.</p>	
<u>Open to:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EU member States / institutions</li> <li>Candidate countries</li> <li>International Organisations</li> </ul>			

Learning outcomes	
Knowledge	<p>LO1. identify the long-term objectives of CFSP/CSDP and explain the major characteristics of the <i>EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy</i> (EUGS); as they are analysed in the EU Strategic Compass</p> <p>LO2. outline the responsibilities/roles of the EU Institutions, Agencies and internal structures in the CFSP/CSDP;</p> <p>LO3. describe the military and civilian capability development process within the CSDP;</p> <p>LO4. describe the decision-making process for CSDP missions and operations, including planning and force-generation aspects;</p> <p>LO5. distinguish between the different aspects and elements of CSDP and crisis management: prevention, preparedness, response (civilian and military CSDP missions and operations), communication, lessons learned, education and training; and the major actors'</p>

Knowledge	<p>roles in the provision of civilian and military capabilities required for CSDP missions and operations;</p> <p>LO6. describe the interlinkages between CSDP and the area of Freedom, Security and Justice (FSJ), as well as with the Commission's related activities outside the EU's borders;</p> <p>LO7. outline the effects of horizontal issues on the conduct of CSDP missions and operations, in particular human rights, protection of civilians, gender, irregular migration (border control, monitoring missions/operations), transnational crime, climate security, energy security, cyber security, hybrid threats, critical infrastructure protection, terrorism, etc.</p>
Skills	<p>LO8. evaluate the various EU interests and values mentioned in the EUGS;</p> <p>LO9. express views on the relevance of key horizontal issues for the implementation of the CSDP;</p> <p>LO10. develop possibilities for the further engagement and coherence of EU Institutions, Services and Agencies in EU capability development (e.g. European Commission, EEAS, EDA, EU SatCen), as well as partners;</p> <p>LO11. consider the value of inter-institutional coordination and international cooperation with state and non-state actors in the context of crisis management;</p> <p>LO12. use knowledge in relation to future developments in the CFSP/CSDP and take ownership of the content of the course as a whole and integrate and take on board the value of the course.</p>
Responsibility and Autonomy	<p>LO13. assess the functioning of the EU in general and the role of the relevant EU Institutions and CFSP/CSDP-related structures in particular and the general capacity and ability to contribute to the effectiveness of the CFSP/CSDP;</p> <p>LO14. promote the strengths and explain the weaknesses of current features of the CSDP as well as foreign affairs and security policy development;</p> <p>LO15. discuss current and future CFSP developments;</p> <p>LO16. assess the challenges relating to the European approach to capability development (including that of exploring potential civilian-military synergies);</p> <p>LO17. assess European civilian and military capabilities, including those of dialogue and mediation, available to support the EU's integrated approach;</p> <p>LO18. analyse the state of affairs of European armament cooperation, including industrial and technological aspects;</p> <p>LO19. analyse the dynamic of the EU's decision-making process from the perspective of planning mechanisms and procedures for missions and operations; assess the EU's operational engagement in various regional areas in relation to the EU's strategic objectives;</p> <p>LO20. analyse the overall contribution of the EU's operational commitments in support of the EUGS implementation.</p>

### Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes

The course is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: using *level 1 evaluation (based on participants' satisfaction with the course)*. *Evaluation feed-back* is given in the level 1 evaluation on the residential modules. In order to complete the course, participants have to accomplish all learning objectives, which are evaluated based on their active contribution to the residential modules, including their group working sessions and practical activities as well as on their completion of the eLearning phases: course participants must finish the autonomous knowledge units (AKUs) and pass the tests (*mandatory*), scoring at least 80% in the incorporated test/quiz.

**However, no formal verification of the learning outcomes is foreseen; proposed ECTS is based on participants' workload only.**

The Executive Academic Board takes these factors into account when considering the award of *Certificates* to participants. Module leaders provide an evaluation report for each residential module. The Course Director is responsible for overall coordination, with the support of the ESDC Secretariat, and drafts the *final evaluation report* which is presented to the Executive Academic Board.

### **Main topic and content**

The course encompasses four residential modules, each of which lasts one week and will focus on specific strategic aspects of the CFSP/CSDP. All residential modules are preceded by a mandatory eLearning phase which provides course participants with the necessary theoretical background to actively participate in the residential phase. The time between the residential modules should allow a proper learning process using the eLearning platform ILIAS: all course participants have to prepare for each residential module by completing the relevant eLearning module.

Main topic	Suggested working hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested content
MODULE 1 <b>CFSP/CSDP Governance and Functioning of the EU</b>	50 (12)	1.1. Foundation of the CFSP/CSDP [ <i>preparatory eLearning</i> ]; 1.2. Overview of the CFSP/CSDP and related EU policies and concepts; 1.3. CSDP structures and strategic level decision-making; 1.4. EUGS implementation.
MODULE 2 <b>EU's Crisis Management Capabilities</b>	50 (6)	2.1. Civilian and military capabilities and capability development; 2.2. European Commission Defence Action Plan (EDAP); 2.3. Armament cooperation; 2.4. Regional approaches.
MODULE 3 <b>CSDP in Action</b>	50 (9)	3.1. CSDP in Action. CSDP Missions and Operations; 3.2. Regional approaches.
MODULE 4 <b>Future of the CSDP</b>	51 (10)	4.1. Future Perspectives of the CSDP; 4.2 HLC Exercise.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>201 (37)</b>	

<u>Materials</u>	<u>Additional information</u>
<p>ESDC Handbooks: CSDP; Cybersecurity</p> <p>Relevant AKU's available on ILIAS.</p> <p>Publications on CFSP/CSDP-related issues – supplemental material aimed at enhancing knowledge of a specific topic.</p> <p>HLC Exercise scenario and documents.</p>	<p><b>The Chatham House Rule</b> applies during all residential modules of the HLC: "participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed".</p> <p><b>The mandatory EU security clearance to "Confidential" level</b> should be valid for the entire duration of the HLC and participants must prove that they have an EU clearance certificate before the start of the first residential module (September).</p>

To be reviewed by <i>February 2024</i>	Activity number <i>1/1</i>	<b>19th CSDP High Level Course 2023-2024 'Manuel Marín GONZÁLEZ' (Module 1) Brussels, 25 - 29 September 2023</b>	<b>ECTS 2</b>
			SQF-MILOF Level 2 Focus; POL CIV-MIL

### Aim

The aim of the 1<sup>st</sup> module of the CSDP High Level Course (HLC) is to provide a general overview of the CFSP/CSDP and related EU policies and concepts. It offers an opportunity to all course participants to attain a similar level of knowledge and understanding of the EU and the main subjects of the CFSP/CSDP, how the EU institutions work and the role they play in the CFSP/CSDP.

The module focuses on the CSDP in the overall context of the CFSP. It will cover, inter alia, the relevant articles in the TEU, the EU Global Strategy and subsequent Council conclusions on its implementation, EU policy shaping, decision-making and inter-institutional cooperation in general. The module is designed to deepen understanding of how the EU institutions work and interact and what role they play in the CFSP/CSDP, to provide an insight into recent EU strategic-level documents and policies and to broaden understanding of EU decision-making processes at the political/strategic level and external action. It familiarises participants with the EU Institutions, the EEAS and relevant EU Agencies as well as other organisations/structures located in Brussels.

### **Learning outcomes**

Knowledge	LO1. list the main strategic CSDP issues currently on the table of the Political and Security Committee (PSC); LO2. outline the structure and priorities of the EUGS; as they are described in the EU Strategic Compass LO3. identify a number of long term objectives of the CFSP/CSDP; LO4. identify the roles and competences of the European Council, the Council of EU, the European Commission, EU Agencies and the European Parliament regarding foreign affairs, security and defence issues; LO5. describe the EU strategic political-military decision-making process in emerging or lasting crises; LO6. summarize the essence of the integrated approach; LO7. compare the relations the EU develops with the UN and with NATO; LO8. describe the priorities and functioning of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP); LO9. describe the interlinkages between CSDP and the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice;
Skills	LO10. critique the different views on the future of European defence; LO11. discuss the tools, methods, challenges and achievements of EU crisis management; LO12. propose elements of a future EU grand strategy; LO13. observe the public's perception of the EU's foreign policy; LO14. prepare StratCom suggestions to improve the EU's image with the public;
Responsibility and Autonomy	LO15. value the achievements obtained in the areas of CFSP/CSDP over the last decades; LO16. assess the strengths and weaknesses of current features of the CSDP as well as development; LO17. encourage initiatives to improve the implementation of CFSP/CSDP objectives.

### Evaluation of learning

The module is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: *course evaluation based on participants' satisfaction with the course and assessment of participants' learning progress*. The module is preceded by a mandatory eLearning phase which provides course participants with the necessary theoretical background to actively participate in the residential phase. Passing the tests during the eLearning preparatory phase is mandatory: participants must score at least 80% in the out-test/quiz incorporated within the module.

No formal verification of learning outcomes is foreseen. The proposed ECTS is based on participants' workload only.

### **Course structure**

The residential module is held over five days (one week), and gives an overview of the CFSP/CSDP and the related EU policies and concepts and focuses on the foundations of the CFSP/CSDP [preparatory eLearning phase], the CSDP structures and strategic level decision-making and the EUGS implementation.

Main topic	Suggested working hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested content
1.CSDP state of play	4	1.1. Overview of the current situation in CSDP.
2.Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy (EUGS) and its implementation based on the EU Strategic Compass	10 (3)	2.1. The structure and content of the EUGS; 2.2. Implementation of the EUGS and subsequent Council conclusions. 2.3 Overview the actions of the EU Strategic Compass
3. The CSDP and the EU leadership structure (Council, EEAS, Commission, Parliament)	14 (3)	3.1. The roles and structures of different EU Institutions and relevant Agencies in relation to CFSP/CSDP; 3.2. Critical discussion of respective roles and responsibilities.
4. Crisis Management	12 (6)	4.1. EU strategic level decision-making process in crisis management; 4.2. Crisis management concepts, tools and instruments; 4.3. Integrated Approach to Crisis Management.
5. EU international co-operation in the CSDP	6	5.1. EU-NATO; 5.2. Co-operation with IGOs (UN, AU, etc.); 5.3. Third Countries; 5.4. ENP.
6. CSDP – FSJ nexus	4	6.1. EU law enforcement / judicial cooperation agencies; 6.2. Europol, Eurojust and FRONTEX.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50 (12)</b>	

#### Materials

##### **Required:**

AKU 2: The EU Global Strategy  
AKU 3: Role of EU Institutions in the field of CFSP/ CSDP  
AKU 4: EU Crisis Management Structures and Chain of Command

##### **Recommended:**

AKU 1: History and Context of CSDP  
AKU 202: Integrated Approach  
Publications on CFSP/CSDP and EU Global Strategy, EU Strategic Compass, Supplementary material aimed at deepening knowledge of the topic.

#### Additional information

In order to facilitate discussion between course participants and senior EU personnel, the **Chatham House Rule** applies during all residential modules: "*participants in the CSDP HLC are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed*".



To be reviewed by <i>February 2024</i>	Activity number <i>1/2</i>	<b>19th CSDP High Level Course 2023-2024 'Manuel Marín GONZÁLEZ' (Module 2) Madrid, 20 - 24 November 2023</b>	ECTS <b>2</b>
			SQF-MILOF Level 2 Focus; POL CIV-MIL

#### Aim

The 2<sup>nd</sup> module of the CSDP High Level Course focuses on the rationale and challenges of the development of military and civilian crisis management capabilities. The module is designed to provide an insight into EU crisis management concepts, processes and tools, to update and broaden understanding of crisis management capabilities. In addition, it provides an insight into efforts to create synergies between civilian and military capabilities, the implementation of the Civilian CSDP Compact as well as into issues relating to European armament cooperation and procurement. It offers an opportunity to enhance understanding of major programmes conducted in an EU (European Commission and EDA) or multilateral framework. The module also provides an insight into a number of EU regional policies.

#### **Learning outcomes**

Knowledge	LO1. describe the military and civilian capability development processes, demonstrate an understanding of the relevant normative documents relating to crisis management and summarise the major actors' roles in the provision of military and civilian capabilities; LO2. describe the influence of the EDAP and EDF on research and development and/or capability development; LO3. explain the importance of human resources in civilian and military capability development process;
Skills	LO4. develop the potential for the further engagement of related EU Institutions and Agencies (e.g. European Commission, EDA, EU SatCen, FRONTEX) and partners in EU capability development; LO5. consider the value of inter-institutional coordination and international cooperation with state and non-state actors in the context of crisis management;
Responsibility and Autonomy	LO6. assess the challenges relating to Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), the Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD) and the European Defence Fund (EDF) as well as to the Civilian CSDP Compact; LO7. assess the implications and impact of Capacity Building in support of Security and Development (CBSD), European Defence Action Plan (EDAP), European Development Fund (EDF); LO8. assess the European approach to capability development (including that of exploring potential civilian-military synergies); LO9. assess the European civilian and military capabilities, including those of dialogue and mediation, available in support of the EU's comprehensive approach; LO10. respect intercultural differences; LO11. analyse the benefit of the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB) in national capability development for EU purposes; LO12. analyse the state of affairs of European armament cooperation, including economic and technological aspects.

#### Evaluation of learning

The module is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: *course evaluation based on participants' satisfaction with the course* and *assessment of participants' learning progress*. The module is preceded by a mandatory eLearning phase which provides course participants with the necessary theoretical background to actively participate in the residential phase. Passing the tests during the eLearning preparatory phase is mandatory: participants must score at least 80% in the out-test/quiz incorporated within the module.

No formal verification of learning outcomes is foreseen. The proposed ECTS is based on participants' workload only.

Course structure		
The residential module is held over five days (one week), and focuses on Civilian and Military Capabilities, Capability Development and armament cooperation, as well as on the regional approach to capability development.		
Main topic	Suggested working hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested content
1.Capability Development Process	14 (3)	1.1, Civilian capability development process. Civilian CSDP Compact; 1.2. Military capabilities development process; 1.3. EDA capability development plan; SCCs and OSRA; 1.4. Armaments cooperation and procurement: key issues, lessons learnt, best practices; 1.5. Military concepts in military capabilities;
2. Role of the EU Institutions and Agencies and EU Members States in capability development	12 (3)	2.1. Role of the Commission in the capability development ( <i>implementation of EDAP/EDF</i> ); 2.2. Role of EU Members States in capability development; EDTIB; 2.3. Role of the European Commission, EDA and multilateral cooperation as OCCAR; 2.4. Challenges of national capability development. Non-duplication of capabilities when dealing with NATO; 2.5. The challenge of coherence of the European Defence Fund (EDF), Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD); Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO); 2.6. Coordination with other EU actors and instruments in fragile and conflict-affected countries and between security (civilian CSDP Compact) and defence;
3. Force generation process: civilian and military	10	3.1. Military force generation process; 3.2. Civilian mission generation process, call for contributions for civilian CSDP missions, rapid deployment; 3.3. EU Battlegroups. EU Strategic Reserve, European military mobility;
4. Regional aspects of crisis management	5	Regional area(s) of relevance to the hosting countries
5. Field-visit	3	5.1. Field visit to the European Union Satellite Centre (SatCen):
6. World cafe	6	6.1. Working groups.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50 (6)</b>	

<u>Materials</u>	<u>Additional information</u>
<p><b>Required:</b> AKU 36: Civilians CSDP Compact AKU 39: Armaments Cooperation</p> <p><b>Recommended:</b> AKU 15: Objectives and Purposes of European Armaments Cooperation</p> <p>Other publications on civilian and military capability development and on armament cooperation – supplementary material aimed at deepening knowledge of this specific topic aimed at deepening knowledge of this specific topic. Handbook on CSDP.</p>	<p>In order to facilitate discussion between course participants and senior EU personnel, the <b>Chatham House Rule</b> applies during all residential modules: "<i>participants in the CSDP HLC are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed</i>".</p>

To be reviewed by <i>February 2024</i>	Activity number <i>1/3</i>	<b>19th CSDP High Level Course 2023-2024 'Manuel Marín GONZÁLEZ' (Module 3)</b>  <b>Paris, 8 - 12 April 2024</b>	ECTS <b>2</b>
			SQF-MILOF  Level 2 Focus; POL CIV-MIL

Aim
The aim of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> module of the CSDP High Level Course is to provide a comprehensive overview of the EU's engagement in support of the CFSP including the planning and force generation processes for CSDP missions and operations, from both a conceptual and a practical perspective. The module also provides an insight into a number of EU regional policies and aims to increase awareness of the EU's and MS strategic relevance in the current security environment (i.e. <i>maritime dimension of the CSDP, migration security nexus, strategic communication, energy security, protection of critical infrastructure</i> ).

Learning outcomes	
Knowledge	LO1. explain/describe the CSDP planning mechanism at the strategic/operational level in order to cope with the challenges of dealing with security uncertainties; LO2. describe the process of drafting the core planning documents; LO3. outline the command and control options for CSDP missions and operations; LO4. review CSDP missions and operations (mandates, challenges and risks, achievements, lessons learnt and the way forward); LO5. provide an insight into relevant national and regional policies for participation in CSDP missions and operations; LO6. outline the effects of horizontal issues on the conduct of CSDP missions and operations, in particular human rights, gender issues, protection of civilians, irregular migration, terrorism and transnational crime, cyber security/defence.
Skills	LO7. consider the value of inter-institutional coordination and cooperation between various stakeholders/actors (state and non-state) involved in the planning and implementation of CSDP missions and operations; LO8. assess the outcome (monitoring and evaluation) of a CSDP mission or operation and the implementation of the lessons learnt and best practices; LO9. acknowledge the importance of cross-cultural competencies for participation in CSDP missions and operations (especially in regions and contexts where national, ethnic and religious identities matter).
Responsibility and Autonomy	LO10. analyse the inter-dependencies between the EU decision-making processes in the context of planning mechanisms for missions and operations; LO11. judge the EU's operational engagement in various regional areas in relation to the EU's strategic objectives; LO12. analyse the effectiveness of a regional comprehensive approach to crisis management; LO13. analyse the role of freedom, security and justice in a crisis management scenario; LO14. analyse to what extent the EU's operational engagement supports the achievement of its policy objectives (relevance of the current missions and operations); LO15. analyse civil/military coordination in the implementation of CSDP missions and operations (incl. roles, interdependences); LO16. examine challenges and opportunities for the EU Integrated Approach in the regional context (also: recognise the role of the EU Global Strategy for the CFSP in the context of CSDP missions and operations, in a regional context).

### Evaluation of learning

The module is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: *course evaluation based on participants' satisfaction with the course and assessment of participants' learning progress*. The module is preceded by a mandatory eLearning phase which provides course participants with the necessary theoretical background to actively participate in the residential phase. Passing the tests during the eLearning preparatory phase is mandatory: participants must score at least 80% in the out-test/quiz incorporated within the module.

No formal verification of learning outcomes is foreseen. The proposed ECTS is based on participants' workload only.

### **Course structure**

The residential module is held over five days (one week) and focuses on the planning processes for the CSDP missions and operations, as well as on the regional approach to security in Europe and beyond.

<b>Main topic</b>	<b>Suggested working hours (required for individual learning)</b>	<b>Suggested content</b>
1. The planning process for CSDP missions and operations – an integrated approach	16 (6)	1.1. Structures, planning documents, procedure and force generation; 1.2. Strategic review process of missions and operations; 1.3. Human rights, gender and ethics in CSDP missions and operations. Protection of civilians in armed conflicts; International Law applicable to CSDP missions and operations; 1.4. Command and Control of CSDP missions and operations. Code of Conduct and Discipline for CSDP Civilian Missions. Generic Standards of Behaviour for CSDP Missions and Operations; 1.5. Civil-military co-ordination in CSDP missions and operations.
2. EU Missions and Operations –from past to present	14 (3)	2.1. Financing mechanisms of CSDP missions and operations; 2.2. CSDP missions and operations: civilian/police and military dimensions, including lessons learnt; 2.3. EU-NATO cooperation in CSDP missions and operations; 2.4. CSDP operational commitments in the Eastern Neighbourhood 2.5. CSDP – FSJ nexus. EUNAVFOR and the FRONTEX maritime operations; 2.6. Maritime security dimension.
3. Security challenges in the Regions	10	3.1 Security situation in a selected region of interest; 3.2. Emerging threats and challenges: hybrid threats critical infrastructure protection, cyber security/defence, terrorism; 3.3. CSDP – migration nexus: EU external action in the CSDP context. Security and irregular and mass migration.
4. Field visit	4	4.1. Relevant CSDP related entity.
5. World cafe	6	5.1. Working groups.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50 (9)</b>	

<u>Materials</u>	<u>Additional information</u>
<p><b>Required:</b>  AKU 6: CSDP Decision Shaping/Making  AKU 11A: Gender and the UNSCR 1325  AKU 16: Protection of Civilians (PoC)  AKU 106c: H-CoE The changing security environment</p> <p><b>Recommended:</b>  AKU 17: Fragility and Crisis Management  AKU 106f: H-CoE Hybrid threats in the maritime field  AKU 106b: HoE The Landscape of Hybrid Threats</p> <p>Other publications on CSDP and EU Global Strategy – supplementary material aimed at deepening knowledge of the topic.</p> <p>Handbook on Cybersecurity</p>	<p>In order to facilitate discussion between course participants and senior EU personnel, the <b>Chatham House Rule</b> applies during all residential modules: <i>"participants in the CSDP HLC are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed"</i>.</p>

To be reviewed by <i>February 2024</i>	Activity number <i>1/4</i>	<b>19th CSDP High Level Course 2023-2024 'Manuel Marín GONZÁLEZ' (Module 4)</b>  <b>Thessaloniki, 17 - 21 June 2024</b>	ECTS <b>2</b>
			SQF-MILOF  Level 2 Focus; POL CIV-MIL

<u>Aim</u>
<p>The 4<sup>th</sup> module of the CSDP High Level Course provides a comprehensive review of the current state of play, progress made and further evolution of the CSDP in the context of EU external action. In this respect, cross-fertilisation with other actors involved in the EU external action will be considered. A special emphasis will be placed on the analysis of the future prospects in EU foreign, security and defence policy as well as the impact of horizontal aspects on the CSDP's implementation. Participants have an opportunity to enrol in a practical strategic-level exercise on EU crisis management planning and decision-making on a political and strategic level.</p>

Learning outcomes	
Knowledge	LO1. outline the implications of horizontal issues, and evolving security challenges in particular strategic communication and hybrid threats, security dimension of migration, energy security, climate security, artificial intelligence and disaster relief, with a specific focus on the operational engagement in a relevant neighbourhood of the EU;
Skills	LO2. apply the decision-making process during a scenario-based exercise, take ownership of the content of the course as a whole and integrate and take on board the values of the course; LO3. take into account horizontal aspects of the implementation of the CSDP;
Responsibility and Autonomy	LO4. analyse to what extent the EU's operational engagement supports the achievement of its foreign, security and defence policy objectives (relevance of the current missions and operations); LO5. analyse evolving trends to identify their influences on the future of the CSDP.

<u>Evaluation of learning</u>
<p>The module is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: <i>course evaluation based on participants' satisfaction with the course</i> and <i>assessment of participants' learning progress</i>. The module is preceded by a mandatory eLearning phase which provides course participants with the necessary theoretical background to actively participate in the residential phase. Passing the tests during the eLearning preparatory phase is mandatory: participants must score at least 80% in the out-test/quiz incorporated within the module.</p> <p>No formal verification of learning outcomes is foreseen. The proposed ECTS is based on participants' workload only.</p>

Course structure		
<p>The residential module is held over five days (one week) and focuses on the future of the CSDP and on the key horizontal issues. An HLC exercise at strategic level is organised during this module. All course participants have to prepare for the residential module by completing the HLC exercise scenario and the supporting materials.</p>		
Main topic	Suggested working hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested content
1. The Future of the CSDP	13 (3)	1.1. Challenges for the EU as a global player; 1.2. Demands for CSDP missions and operations; 1.3. The future of EU–NATO cooperation in security and defence.

2. CSDP in the Neighbouring countries and regions	8	2.1. Security situation in a relevant neighbourhood of the EU; 2.2. Global challenges, common responses; 2.3. Future of the European Neighbourhood Policy.
3. Key horizontal issues. Critical discussion of role and responsibilities in the CFSP / CSDP	9 (3)	3.1. Impact of natural, man-made and climate-driven disasters/crises on the overall European Union's security; 3.2. evolving security challenges and increasing resilience (strategic communication, hybrid threats, climate security, energy security, security dimension of migration, including FRONTEX and maritime operations and missions; 3.3. European Union's Energy Security Strategy.
4. Other policies	6	4.1. Security Sector Reform; 4.2. Emerging EU policy challenges and initiatives.
5. High-Level-Course Exercise	12 (4)	5.1. Exercise on crisis management procedures (at strategic level); simulation/table-top exercise.
6. Field visit	3	6.1. Visit to a relevant security and defence entity.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>51 (10)</b>	

<u>Materials</u>	<u>Additional information</u>
<p><b>Required:</b> Relevant AKUs (at least 2) based on the agreement between Module leader and the eLearning manager in the Secretariat, such as the following</p> <p>AKU 7: Impact of Lisbon Treaty on CSDP AKU 10: EU's mediation and negotiation capacities AKU 25: EU's Mutual Assistance Clause AKU 202: Integrated Approach</p> <p>The HLC exercise scenario.</p> <p><b>Recommended:</b> To be defined by the HLC module leader with support from ESDC Secretariat</p> <p>Other publications on CSDP-related issues – supplementary material aimed at deepening knowledge of the topic.</p>	<p>In order to facilitate discussion between course participants and senior EU personnel, the <b>Chatham House Rule</b> applies during all residential modules: "<i>participants in the CSDP HLC are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed</i>".</p> <p>Once HLC course participants have completed the course, they become members of the ESDC Alumni network and are regularly invited to seminars providing an update on CFSP/CSDP developments.</p>