

Curriculum

To be reviewed by <i>February 2022</i>	Activity number 64	Senior Strategic Course	ECTS 3
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Target audience</u></p> <p>Participants should be top senior managers/members (equivalent to brigadier/general or equivalent ranks, State secretaries or equivalent, political and security directors etc.) from defence, security, police, diplomacy and industry from all EU Member States and from the EU Institutions: those that will make decisions on and implement strategy. In addition, selected academics will be invited and their work will contribute to the substance and to the image of EU strategy.</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 style="text-align: center;"><u>Aim</u></p> <p>The overall aim of the CSDP Top Level Strategic Course (TLSC) is to generate, stimulate and enhance a professional environment of exchange ideas and to transmit a senior level of knowledge, facilitating networking and critic approaches in selected topics. While the focus is more one on the comments and elaboration of strategic concepts than on classic presentations and q&a sessions, the course itself generates the environment meant to promote a common European security culture and aims to foster the network of current leaders involved in the strategic aspects of the CFSP/CSDP (the course is not intended to prepare the participants for a senior position). Throughout the intended audience, the course facilitates formal and informal interventions at a top management level and benefits from the positive experience deriving from their unique vision in a blended approach.</p>
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Learning outcomes	Promote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding of the “grand strategies” of the other great powers (US, China, Russia), the balance of power between them, and their views of the EU Understanding of the interplay between great power politics and instability in the European periphery Understanding of the ways and means available to the EU in the political, economic, and military dimensions of “grand strategy” Awareness of 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; Outline the influence of the EDAP and EDF on research and development and/or capability development knowledge as regards the threats and challenges the EU is currently facing. understanding of their implications as regards defence and security. the ambitions of CSDP in order to facilitate the implementation of a shared strategic culture.
	Develop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A shared understanding of the strategic and geopolitical environment in which the EU operates A shared view of the EU's position in great power politics Develop the potential for the further engagement of related EU Institutions and Agencies (e.g. European Commission, EDA, SATCEN, FRONTEX) and partners in EU capability development; Explain the impact on the human resources; Consider the value of inter-institutional coordination and international cooperation with state and non-state actors in the context of crisis management. a comprehensive approach as regards the EU ambitions on the international stage. deeper knowledge of emerging trends from a global but also regional point of view. a clarified overall image of EU cooperation in the field of defence (PESCO / EDF / CARD / post 2016 initiatives)
	Discuss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic options for the EU's Global Strategy as an actor in great power politics The ends, ways, and means the EU could and should develop in order to implement its Global Strategy Review the challenges relating to Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD), and the European Defence Fund (EDF) as well as to the Civilian CSDP Compact;

Top-Level Strategic Course
Brussels, Berlin, Paris

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse the implications and impact of CBSD, EDAP, EDF; • Assess the European approach to capability development (including that of exploring potential civilian-military synergies); • Assess the European civilian and military capabilities, including those of dialogue and mediation, available in support of the EU's comprehensive approach; • Respect intercultural differences; • Discuss the benefit of the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB) in national capability development for EU purposes; • Analyse the state of affairs of European armament cooperation, including economic and technological aspects. • global and regional geopolitics. • the respective roles and responsibilities in the CFSP / CSDP. • the outcomes of the EU defence policies, tools and initiatives. • the current ambitions and past realization as regards defence cooperation (including economic and technological aspects). • the European ability to act in order to enhance its strategic autonomy/sovereignty.
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Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes

The course is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: it makes use of *level 1 evaluation (based on participants' satisfaction with the course)* and *level 3 evaluation (assessment of participants' long-term change in behaviour after the end of 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 syndicate sessions and practical activities as well as on their completion of the eLearning phases: course participants must finalise the autonomous knowledge units (AKUs) and pass the tests (*mandatory*), scoring at least 80% in the incorporated out-test/quiz. **However, no formal verification of learning outcome 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 contents

The course encompasses three residential modules – each of them lasts 3 to 4 days. , each of which lasts one week and will focus on specific strategic aspects of the 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 and contents		
Main Topic	Recommended Working Hours (of which eLearning)	Contents
MODULE 1 EU ROLE AMONG WORLD GREAT POWERS	30 (6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The “grand strategies” of the great powers • Challenges in the EU’s broad neighbourhood • The political, economic, and military ways and means of EU strategy • EU “grand strategy
MODULE 2 EU'S CAPABILITY DEVELOPME NT	30 (6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capability Development Process • Strategic aims of the EU Institutions and Agencies and EU Members States in capability development; • The European Pillar of NATO Force generation process: civilian and military; • Armament • Strategic vision of Regional Aspects of Crisis Management

Top-Level Strategic Course
Brussels, Berlin, Paris

MODULE 3 EU STRATEGIC AUTONOMY	30 (6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of the global challenges and risks • The European Defence today • The EU/NATO cooperation • Towards a European Strategic Autonomy / a EU Sovereignty
TOTAL	90 (18)	

<p><u>Materials</u></p> <p>ESDC Handbooks: CSDP; Cybersecurity Relevant AKUs available on ILIAS. Publications on CSDP/CFSP-related issues – supplemental material aimed at enhancing knowledge of a specific topic.</p>	<p><u>Additional information</u></p> <p>The Chatham House Rule is applied during all residential modules of the TLSC: "<i>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</i>".</p> <p>The mandatory EU security clearance to "Confidential" level should be valid for the entire duration of the TLSC and participants must prove that they have an EU clearance certificate before the start of the first residential module (September).</p>
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To be reviewed by <i>February 2022</i>	Activity number <i>1/3</i>	Top-Level Strategic Course (Module 1) Brussels	ECTS 1
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<u>Aim</u>			
<p>The aim of the 1st module of the CSDP Top Level Strategic Course is to provide a superior 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.</p> <p>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 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.</p>			

Learning outcomes	Promote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of the “grand strategies” of the other great powers (US, China, Russia), the balance of power between them, and their views of the EU • Understanding of the interplay between great power politics and instability in the European periphery • Understanding of the ways and means available to the EU in the political, economic, and military dimensions of “grand strategy” •
	Develop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A shared understanding of the strategic and geopolitical environment in which the EU operates • A shared view of the EU’s position in great power politics
	Discuss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic options for the EU’s Global Strategy as an actor in great power politics • The ends, ways, and means the EU could and should develop in order to implement its Global Strategy

<u>Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes</u>	
<p>The course is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: it makes use of <i>level 1 evaluation (based on participants’ satisfaction with the course)</i> and <i>level 3 evaluation (assessment of participants’ long-term change in behaviour after the end of the course)</i>. <i>Evaluation feed-back</i> is given in the level 1 evaluation on the residential modules.</p> <p>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 syndicate sessions and practical activities as well as on their completion of the eLearning phases: course participants must finalise the autonomous knowledge units (AKUs) and pass the tests (<i>mandatory</i>), scoring at least 80% in the incorporated out-test/quiz. However, no formal verification of learning outcome is foreseen; proposed ECTS is based on participants’ workload only.</p>	

Course contents

The residential module is held over two and a half days and focuses on: the “grand strategies” of the great powers; challenges in the EU’s broad neighbourhood; the political, economic, and military ways and means of EU strategy; and the EU’s own “grand strategy”.

Main Topic	Recommended Working Hours (of which eLearning)	Contents
The “grand strategies” of the great powers	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The “grand strategy” of the US • The “grand strategy” of China • The “grand strategy” of Russia
Challenges in the EU’s broad neighbourhood	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The southern flank • The eastern flank

Top-Level Strategic Course
Brussels, Berlin, Paris

The political, economic, and military ways and means of EU strategy	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of military power in EU strategy • EU diplomacy and political power • EU Strategic Compass • The EU as a “geo-economic” actor
EU Strategic vision	11 (6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EU Global Strategy • Strategic options for the EU
Syndicate work	4	Brainstorming sessions on an assigned topic
Total	30 (6)	

<u>Materials</u>	<u>Additional information</u>
<p>Handbook on CSDP Handbook for Decision Makers</p> <p><i>Essential eLearning:</i> Relevant AKU – 002.EU Global Strategy</p> <p><i>Recommended study on voluntary basis:</i> Other publications on EU strategy and great power politics suggested by the module leader</p>	<p>The Chatham House Rule is applied during all residential modules of the TLSC: "<i>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</i>".</p> <p>The mandatory EU security clearance to "Confidential" level should be valid for the entire duration of the TLSC 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 2022</i>	Activity number 2/3	Top-Level Strategic Course (Module 2) Berlin	ECTS 1
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<u>Aim</u>
The 2 nd module of the TLSC focuses on the rationale and challenges of the development of military and civilian crisis management capabilities. The module is designed to discuss as an interactive brainstorming the EU crisis management concepts, processes and tools, to update and create broaden understanding of crisis management capabilities amongst participating decision makers. In addition, develop ideas to create synergies between civilian and military capabilities, discuss the implementation of the Civilian CSDP Compact as well as issues relating to European armament cooperation and procurement. It offers an opportunity to enhance understanding of major programmes conducted by the EDA. The module also provides an insight into a number of EU regional policies.

Learning outcomes	Promote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of 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; • Outline the influence of the EDAP and EDF on research and development and/or capability development
	Develop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the potential for the further engagement of related EU Institutions and Agencies (e.g. European Commission, EDA, SATCEN, FRONTEX) and partners in EU capability development; • Explain the impact on the human resources; • Consider the value of inter-institutional coordination and international cooperation with state and non-state actors in the context of crisis management.
	Discuss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the challenges relating to Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD), and the European Defence Fund (EDF) as well as to the Civilian CSDP Compact; • Analyse the implications and impact of CBSD, EDAP, EDF; • Assess the European approach to capability development (including that of exploring potential civilian-military synergies); • Assess the European civilian and military capabilities, including those of dialogue and mediation, available in support of the EU's comprehensive approach; • Respect intercultural differences; • Discuss the benefit of the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB) in national capability development for EU purposes; • Analyse the state of affairs of European armament cooperation, including economic and technological aspects.

<u>Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes</u>
The module is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: <i>course evaluation based on participants' satisfaction with the course and assessment of participants' learning progress</i> . As the participants were executive level experts, themselves it was not about imparting knowledge, skills and competences. No formal verification of learning outcome is foreseen. The proposed ECTS is based on participants' workload only.

Course contents

The residential module is held over two and a half days and focuses on Civilian and Military Capabilities, Capability Development and armament cooperation, as well as on the regional approach to capability development.

Main Topic	Recommended Working Hours (of which eLearning)	Contents
Strategic Assessment of the Capability Development Process	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civilian capability development process. Civilian CSDP Compact; • Military capabilities development process; • EDA capability development plan;

Top-Level Strategic Course
Brussels, Berlin, Paris

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armaments cooperation and procurement: key issues, lessons learned, best practices; • Military concepts in military capabilities.
Strategic aims of the EU Institutions and Agencies and EU Members States in capability development; The European Pillar of NATO	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of the Commission in the capability development (<i>implementation of EDAP</i>); • Role of EU Members States in capability development; EDITB; • Challenges of national capability development. Non-duplication of capabilities when dealing with NATO; • European Defence Fund (EDF), Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD); Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO); • European Peace Facility (EPF) - priority regions for action • Coordination with other EU actors and instruments in fragile and conflict-affected countries.
Force generation process: civilian and military; Armament	4 (6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military force generation process; • Civilian mission generation process, call for contributions for civilian CSDP missions, rapid deployment; • EU Battlegroups.
Strategic vision of regional aspects of crisis management	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional aspects of crisis management; EU Training Mission Mali (EUTM Mali); CSDP operational commitments in the Eastern Neighbourhood; • Stabilisation and Association Process and the Eastern Partnership in the context of CSDP. • Et al.
Syndicate work	6	Brainstorming sessions on an assigned topic
Total	30 (6)	

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Materials</u></p> <p>Handbook on CSDP Handbook for Decision Makers</p> <p><i>Essential eLearning:</i> Relevant AKU - 039. Armament cooperation</p> <p><i>Recommended study on voluntary basis:</i> Other publications on EU strategy and great power politics suggested by the module leader</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Additional information</u></p> <p>The Chatham House Rule is applied during all residential modules of the TLSC: "<i>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</i>".</p> <p>The mandatory EU security clearance to "Confidential" level should be valid for the entire duration of the TLSC and participants must prove that they have an EU clearance certificate before the start of the first residential module (September).</p>
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To be reviewed by <i>February 2022</i>	Activity number 3/3	Top-Level Strategic Course (Module 3) Paris	ECTS 1
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Aim

The 3rd module of the CSDP TLSC focuses on the idea and challenges related to the concept of EU strategic autonomy. This module will be the opportunity to further discuss and assess together the ability and the capacities of the EU on the strategic level.

The EU is indeed facing new, increasing and multidimensional threats and challenges. In order to counter, to protect EU citizens and to enhance its strategic autonomy, the EU needs to define what kind of global partner, in the field of defence and security, it wants to be. In this perspective, the EU is implementing various defence policies and concepts, notably PESCO and the EDF that require close cooperation between the EU institutions, EU Member States and industrial actors. It is thus important for the EU community to engage in a global debate as regards the concepts of strategic autonomy and European sovereignty, a necessary step in order to further develop a common strategic approach, through creating reinforced synergies between civilian and military representatives at the European level.

Learning outcomes	Promote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge as regards the threats and challenges the EU is currently facing. • understanding of their implications as regards defence and security. • the ambitions of CSDP in order to facilitate the implementation of a shared strategic culture.
	Develop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a comprehensive approach as regards the EU ambitions on the international stage. • deeper knowledge of emerging trends from a global but also regional point of view. • a clarified overall image of EU cooperation in the field of defence (PESCO / EDF / CARD / post 2016 initiatives)
	Discuss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • global and regional geopolitics. • the respective roles and responsibilities in the CFSP / CSDP. • the outcomes of the EU defence policies, tools and initiatives. • the current ambitions and past realization as regards defence cooperation (including economic and technological aspects). • the European ability to act in order to enhance its strategic autonomy/sovereignty. • Respect of intercultural differences.

Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes

The module is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: *course evaluation based on participants' satisfaction with the course and assessment of participants' learning progress*. As the participants were executive level experts, themselves it was not about imparting knowledge, skills and competences. No formal verification of learning outcome is foreseen. The proposed ECTS is based on participants' workload only.

Course contents

The residential module is held over two and a half days and focuses on the EU ability to act in order to tackle the global challenges and to boost its strategic autonomy/sovereignty..

Main Topic	Recommended Working Hours (of which eLearning)	Contents
Awareness of the global challenges/risks	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges for the EU as a global player; • Evolving security challenges and increasing resilience • How does the EU address global risks? • East and West : towards a better understanding
The European Defence today	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current situation of European defence. • The EU defence cooperation (PESCO, the EDF, the CARD and other post 2016 initiatives)x • How to achieve a European solidarity? • How to foster European R&D in Defence and security industry?

Top-Level Strategic Course
Brussels, Berlin, Paris

Strategic vision of EU/NATO cooperation	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding UE-NATO cooperation • Global common challenges and the need for common responses • The future of EU NATO cooperation in security and Defence: reinforcing EU-NATO partnership
Towards a European Strategic Autonomy / a EU Sovereignty	5 (6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can the EU achieve a comprehensive strategic autonomy? • NATO/EU cooperation in crisis management and future common threats • Where can EU currently intervene/challenges for the future • The EU as a global payer: can the EU still promote its values
Syndicate work	4	Brainstorming sessions on an assigned topic
Total	30 (6)	

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Materials</u></p> <p>Handbook on CSDP Handbook for Decision Makers</p> <p><i>Essential eLearning:</i> Relevant AKU - 006.Decisiion Making, decision shaping</p> <p><i>Recommended study on voluntary basis:</i> Other publications on EU strategy and great power politics suggested by the module leader</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Additional information</u></p> <p>The Chatham House Rule is applied during all residential modules of the TLSC: "<i>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</i>".</p> <p>The mandatory EU security clearance to "Confidential" level should be valid for the entire duration of the TLSC and participants must prove that they have an EU clearance certificate before the start of the first residential module (September).</p>
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