

European Security and Defence College

Doc: ESDC/2023/041 **Date:** 24 February 2023

Origin: Executive Academic Board

Curriculum

To be reviewed by February 2025

Activity number

Basic Course on Security Sector Reform

ECTS

CORRELATION WITH CTG / MTG TRAs	EQUIVALENCES
Civilian Training Area No 18: Security Sector Reform	N/A

Target Audience

Participants should preferably be involved in the planning, implementation or management of CSDP missions and operations or in the EU Commission projects in support of areas relevant to Security Sector Reform.

Priority is given to personnel from EU Member States.

Open to:

• Third counties and IOs

<u>Aim</u>

This course provides a thorough understanding of Security Sector Reform as a concept, its generic principles and objectives, and the role of SSR within the EU integrated approach. It addresses the importance of the political dimension of SSR and the need for all SSR processes to be inclusive and nationally owned.

It provides insight into the EU-wide strategic framework on SSR and how SSR support is implemented and coordinated, both internally and with other relevant actors, to fulfil the EU-wide mandate.

The course also aims to foster a network of SSR experts and enables the participants to use their field of expertise to share views on practice and lessons on an EU integrated approach to SSR.

Learning outcomes					
Knowledge	LO.01 Explain the basic principles of SSR as a context-specific, nationally owned and politically driven process based on human rights, democracy and the rule of law LO.02 Define and differentiate between the notions of security, security sector and security sector reform LO.03 Define the relevance of a human security approach for SSR. LO.04 Outline the holistic implementation of SSR including governance and oversight mechanisms. LO.05 Recognise the huge variety of actors (state and non-state) involved in the security sector LO.06 Describe the key international policy frameworks and actors involved in SSR, with a special emphasis on the EU through the EU-wide strategic framework on SSR LO.07 Describe the importance of coordination to promote effective and coherent EU SSR support. LO.08 Describe the relevance of gender-responsive SSR. LO.09 Understand the SSR–DDR nexus.				
Skills	LO.10 Identify the key lessons learnt and innovation from practical SSR experiences. LO.11 Analyse the role and contribution of the EU in the overall SSR process of a host country. LO.12 Recognise the principles of EU SSR policy and how to implement them. LO.13 Identify the major steps of SSR support, such as analysis and planning.				

Responsibility and autonomy LO.14 Apply key EU SSR policy and guidance documents during the planning and/or implementation of a CSDP mission/operation or Commission programmes and projects. LO.15 Advocate for the importance of gender-responsive SSR and identify the new to apply a gender perspective when analysing and conducting SSR. LO.16 Apply the integrated approach to external conflicts and crises in support to SSR.

Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes

The course is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: it makes use of *level-1 evaluation* (based on the participant's satisfaction with the course).

In order to complete the course, participants have to accomplish all learning objectives, which are evaluated on the basis of active contribution in the residential Module, including their syndicate session and practical activities as well as on the basis of their completion of the eLearning phases: course participants finalise the autonomous knowledge units (AKUs) and pass the tests (*mandatory*), scoring at least 80% in the incorporated out-test/quiz. Active observation by the course director/lead instructor and feedback questionnaire filled by course participants at the end of the course is used.

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

Course Structure			
Main Topics	Suggested working hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested Contents	
Fundamentals of SSR: definitions, characteristics and cross-cutting issues	10 (2)	 1.1. Governance of the security sector, SSR pillars and relevant cross-cutting issues 1.2 General principles, objectives and processes of SSR 1.3 The political and technical dimensions of SSR 1.4 Who's who in a typical security sector 	
2. Gender-responsive SSR	4 (2)	 2.1 Relevant international frameworks and resolutions on gender 2.2 Different security needs, perspectives and experiences of men, women, boys and girls 2.3 Integrating gender and equality as a cross-cutting perspective in SSR support 	
3. EU and other international policy frameworks on SSR	8 (4)	 3.1 EU policy framework on SSR, the EU Integrated Approach, the EU-wide strategic framework on SSR and other relevant policies and strategies for EU SSR support 3.2 UN, AU, NATO, OSCE, OECD policies – similarities 	
4. EU SSR support in different contexts	6 (2)	and contextual differences 4.1 Lessons Identified/Lessons learned from EU SSR implementation 4.2 Coordination of EU support to SSR 4.3 Planning, selection, training and implementation of and for EU CSDP missions/operations and Commission projects 4.4 Case study/exercise [optional]	
5. SSR assessment and analysis	4 (2)	5.1 Challenges and added value of joint monitoring and evaluation 5.2 Best practices in planning, conducting and following up on SSR assessments 5.3 Case study/exercise [optional]	

TOTAL

32 (12)

The course is in person but virtual (online) or hybrid course formats are permissible if special circumstances require it.

Materials

Required ELearning:

AKÚ 3 Role of EU institutions in the field of CFSP/CSDP AKU 11A Gender and the UNSCR 1325

Recommended ELearning:

AKU 10 EU Mediation and Dialogue Capacities; Introduction to SSR [ISSAT module] AKU 6 EU Decision Shaping/Making; Fundamentals of Strategic Advising in Reform Environments [ISSAT module]

Reading materials:

- The Strategic Compass

https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-7371-2022-INIT/en/pdf

- Joint communication: Elements for a EU-wide strategic framework to support security sector reform (5.7.2016)
- Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe. A Global Strategy for the EU's Foreign and Security Policy
- Council Conclusions on the Integrated Approach to External Conflicts and Crises (01.22.2018, doc. 5413/18)

The materials proposed will reflect current developments in the field of SSR in general and EU policies in particular. Mandates of CSDP mission and operations and/or EU Commission programmes should be included where relevant, as well as other documents from the EEAS, the EU Council Secretariat and the EU Commission.

Methodology

The course is based on the following methodology: lectures and panels, group work, exercises.

Additional Information

A pre-course questionnaire on learning expectations and reading material can be sent to the participants before the beginning of the course.

All course participants have to prepare for the residential module by going through the relevant eLearning preparatory phase, which is mandatory. The course director decides about the number of AKUs included in the e-learning module, that should not be less than two.

In order to facilitate discussion between course participants and trainers/experts/guest speakers, the **Chatham House Rule** is used during the residential module: 'participants in the course 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.