

Course Curriculum

To be reviewed by Feb. 2026	Activity number 47	Contracting in International Operations Course (former International contracting course / ICC)	ECTS 4
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CORRELATION WITH CTG / MTG TRAs	EQUIVALENCES
Civilian training area n 26: Human resources and finance Military training discipline n 3: Multinational logistics	SQF-MILOF: Level 2 Focus: Pol Civ-Mil

Target audience	Aim
<p><i>Participants will be senior experts (civil and military personnel) working in areas related to contractor support to operations (CSO). Priority is given to personnel from EU Member States deploying to CSDP missions and operations.</i></p>	<p>This two-week course aims to enhance the knowledge and understanding of a comprehensive CSO approach within the EU framework. It also increases information-sharing, collaboration and cooperation among the different actors, namely military, civilian supplier, in the wider context of CSO. The course will provide an opportunity to create a network of people working in the field of CSO.</p>

Learning outcomes	
Knowledge	LO1. List frameworks, stakeholders, tools, processes, instruments and principles of CSO as well as the main structures and roles of European institutions; LO2. Identify the main trends, capabilities and principles (e.g. EPF, NSPA/OLSP) in CSO; LO3. Name the strategic management tools and the relevance of European organisations and networking;
Skills	LO4. Demonstrate intercultural awareness; LO5. Identify best practices and lessons learned; LO6. Diversify between European and international legislation, agreements and treaties;
Responsibility and autonomy	LO7. Assess the concept and principles of CSO; LO8. Evaluate the core soft skills of CSO;

Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes

The course is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model, particularly 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 feedback is given in the level 1 evaluation of the residential modules.

In order to complete the course, participants have to accomplish all the learning objectives, and are evaluated on the basis of their active contribution to the residential modules, including their teamwork sessions and practical activities, and on their completion of the eLearning phases. Course participants must complete 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 provided for; the proposed ECTS is based solely on participants' coursework.

The Executive Academic Board takes these factors into account when considering whether to award 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.

Course structure

The residential course is held over ten days (two weeks) and gives an overview of the CSO approach.

Main topic	Suggested working hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested contents
1. Basics contractor support to operations (CSO)	44 (12)	1.1. Fundamentals of CSO on the basis of ongoing missions 1.2. Main key players (EDA, EPF, NSPA, UN)
2. Service provision on mission abroad	44 (12)	2.1 Fundamentals of service provision on mission abroad 2.2 Fundamentals of contract law; case studies
3. Contracting exercise (ContrEx)	20	3.1 Problem-based learning; case studies as a ContrO in a theatre
TOTAL	108 (24)	

<u>Materials</u>	<u>Methodology</u>
<p>Required:</p> <p>Essential eLearning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AKU 2: EU Global Strategy • AKU 15: Procurement procedures • AKU 21 Intercultural awareness • AKU 55 Strategic Compass 	<p>The course is based on the following methodology: lectures, panels, workshops, etc.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Additional information</p> <p>The Chatham House Rule is applied during all residential modules of the course, i.e., "participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s) or any other participant(s), should be revealed".</p> <p>Course participants must be available for the whole course, which includes the eLearning phases and residential modules, and must be willing to contribute with their specific expertise and experience throughout the course.</p> <p>The nominations of participants are submitted via the ESDC channels by the designated national ENLIST nominators. The Member States will be encouraged to nominate 2-3 candidates from different domains, but only one seat per Member State will be allocated. The ESDC network may also forward proposals from academia and industry to the Secretariat. Based on the applications, the Head of the ESDC will decide on the final list of participants and will forward this list to the co-organisers.</p>