

Curriculum

To be reviewed by <i>February 2027</i>	Activity number 84	Women, Peace and Security: looking at the Western Balkans and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region	ECTS credits 2
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CORRELATION WITH CTG / MTG TRAs	EQUIVALENCES
Gender equality, peace and security; protection of civilians	N/A

<p>Target audience</p> <p>Participants should be selected from EU, UN and other international experts and decision makers of the armed forces (at all levels), policy officers from civil society organisations (academics and heads of thematic sections and above), political institutions, and civilian administrations (at all levels), with relevant experience in crisis management, gender governance, peacebuilding, and security sector reform.</p>	<p>Aim</p> <p>The overall aim of the course is to provide specific knowledge about the way in which wars and crises affect women, both as agents of peace and post-conflict reconstruction and as victims of war-related gender violence. At a time of growing conflict and violent extremism such a course is all the most important for the EU's internal and external policies. Another key objective of the course is to render participants familiar with EU policies that support the four pillars of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda: the protection of women and girls, men and boys; conflict prevention policies; equal participation of women in the peace and security policies of the EU and other organisations; and the provision of relief and recovery to victims of gender violence, especially in the context of war and crises caused by violent extremism.</p> <p>The course is geared towards military and police officials, civilians and other decision makers in the field. For the above reasons, the course also aims to provide participants with the appropriate skills not only to optimise EU policies and common security and defence policy (CSDP) mechanisms serving the policy framework related to the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and its supporting documents, but also to be able to harness other EU policies promoting WPS at European and global level.</p>
<p>Open to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU Member States/institutions Candidate countries Third countries International organisations 	

Learning outcomes	
Knowledge	<p>LO1. Outline the general regional geopolitical and strategic context and conflicts in which the EU implements CSDP or common foreign and security policy (CFSP) instruments, as well as the related hazards and challenges.</p> <p>LO2. Identify the long-term objectives of the CFSP/CSDP and explain the major characteristics of the <i>EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy</i> (EUGS), the European Compass and other strategic documents related to European peace and security and the associated international priorities.</p> <p>LO3. Outline the responsibilities/roles of the EU institutions, agencies and internal structures in the CFSP/CSDP and international peace and security.</p> <p>LO4. Outline the fundamental policy provisions included in the WPS global policy agenda.</p> <p>LO5. Describe the military and civilian capability development process within the CSDP and how it can serve the WPS agenda.</p> <p>LO6. Describe the decision-making process for CSDP missions and operations, including planning and force-generation aspects.</p> <p>LO7. Distinguish between the different aspects and elements of the CSDP and crisis management: prevention, preparedness, response (civilian and military CSDP missions and operations).</p> <p>LO8. Describe the interlinkages between the CSDP and the area of freedom, security and justice, as well as with the Commission's related activities outside the EU's borders.</p> <p>LO9. Evaluate the various EU interests and values related to the WPS policy agenda in the Western Balkans and the MENA region.</p> <p>LO10. Recognise cross-cutting issues and the importance of gender analysis in crisis management and evaluate cooperation with other organisations (the UN, the OSCE, NATO and the African Union).</p>

Skills	<p>LO11. Develop priorities to further engage EU institutions, services and agencies (e.g. the European Commission, EEAS, EDA, EU SatCen) and partners in EU capability development to serve the WPS agenda.</p> <p>LO12. Identify the salience of inter-institutional coordination in the context of the EU integrated approach and of a comprehensive approach with international non-EU actors in the context of crisis management serving to promote the WPS agenda.</p> <p>LO13. Develop the ability to apply the levels of gender analysis in the context of EU crisis management and to assess its appropriateness in specific regional contexts.</p> <p>LO14. Demonstrate how to apply UNSCR 1325 and its related documents to CSDP policies and priorities and the EU comprehensive strategic approach to WPS to realities on the ground in the EU neighbourhood and within EU Member States.</p>
Responsibility and autonomy	<p>LO15. Assess the functioning of the EU in general and the role of the relevant EU institutions and CFSP/CSDP-related structures in particular in promoting the WPS agenda.</p> <p>LO16. Assess the prerogatives and potential shortcomings of the CSDP and EU external relations in general regarding effective promotion and implementation of the WPS agenda.</p> <p>LO17. Apply EU documents such as the EU action plan on WPS and the EU gender action plan for external relations to the promotion of WPS in EU operations and its external practices in general.</p> <p>LO18. Assess the EU's impact on the promotion of the WPS agenda at global level.</p> <p>LO19. Evaluate the transformative power of EU diplomacy and CSDP practices in different areas of the EU's direct and wider neighbourhood.</p> <p>LO20. Assess the appropriateness and strengths of different EU institutions or EU mechanisms in promoting women's empowerment in areas of conflict or post-conflict peacebuilding.</p> <p>LO21. Evaluate the impact of EU strategic documents and EU operational cooperation with NATO on the effective promotion of the WPS agenda.</p> <p>LO22. Evaluate the impact of EU diplomacy, the instruments of the EU security union and CSDP mechanisms on supporting women in fragile states in the EU neighbourhood.</p>

Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes

The course is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model, including in particular 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). Participant 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 e-learning phases. Course participants must complete the autonomous knowledge units (AKUs) and pass the tests (mandatory), scoring at least 80 % in the incorporated test. However, no formal verification of the learning outcomes is provided for; the proposed European credit transfer system (ECTS) credits are 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 European Security and Defence College (ESDC) Secretariat, and drafts the final evaluation report, which is presented to the Executive Academic Board.

Course structure		
Main topic	Suggested working hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested contents
The Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda	3 (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNSCR 1325 and its supporting documents on WPS The WPS agenda within the EU, NATO, the UN and the OSCE
Concepts and contexts	7 (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key gender concepts The EU integrated approach to crisis management EU documents on gender equality and WPS Humanitarian law, UN developmental goals, civilian protection International crisis management and peacebuilding policies

The regional strategic context: security and defence issues	12(4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional aspects of crisis management Global challenges and risks: a demanding strategic context Security challenges in the Western Balkans and the MENA region Evolving conflicts and violent extremism European security and defence today EU–NATO cooperation
Implementation of the WPS agenda on the ground: the inclusion perspective	12 (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capability development instruments on women's empowerment and development Women's inclusion in EU security and defence structures and policies Women's participation in CSDP, UN and NATO operations Women's inclusion in peacebuilding mechanisms (DDR, SSR)
Women's role in crisis management mediation	5(2)	Women's participation in mediation, peacemaking and peacebuilding
Implementation of the WPS agenda on the ground: the protection perspective	12 (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection of civilians, conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence, sexual exploitation Trafficking in women Insecurity faced by women on migration routes The implementation of WPS provisions
The EU's role in promoting the WPS agenda in the Western Balkans and the MENA region	12 (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender experts' perspective on implementation of the WPS agenda The integration of the WPS indicators into EU policies in the respective regions Institutional collaboration between the EU and NATO, the African Union and the OSCE in galvanising implementation efforts on WPS
TOTAL	63(19)	

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Elearning</u></p> <p><u>Required:</u></p> <p><u>AKU 11A</u> <u>Gender and the UNSCR1325 women, peace and security agenda</u></p> <p><u>AKU 11B</u> <u>Gender aspects in missions and operations</u></p> <p><u>Recommended:</u></p> <p><u>AKU 1: History and context of CSDP</u></p> <p><u>AKU 55: The Strategic Compass</u></p> <p><u>Publications on Women, Peace and Security</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Methodology</u></p> <p>The course is based on the following methodology: lectures, panels, workshops, etc.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Additional information</u></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 e-learning phases and residential modules, and must be willing to contribute 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 two to three candidates from different domains, but only one place will be allocated per Member State. 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>
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