

Curriculum

To be reviewed by <i>February 2027</i>	Activity number 30	Comprehensive Protection of Civilians (PoC) Course	ECTS 1,5
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CORRELATION WITH CTG / MTG TRAs	EQUIVALENCES
CTA 8: Protection of Civilians	N/A

<u>Target audience</u>	<u>Aim</u>
Participants (maximum 30) are selected from EU, UN and other international experts and decision-makers of the armed forces (battalion level and above), police (senior police officers), civil society (heads of substantive section and above), political institutions, civilian administrations and international organisations (heads of division/department and above), with relevant experience in the area of peacekeeping, peacebuilding or international crisis management.	<p>The course aims to give participants a comprehensive and critical understanding of the multiple dimensions and meanings of the protection of civilians (PoC) in armed conflict and crisis areas.</p> <p>This course enhances participants' knowledge and understanding of the EU integrated approach to conflict and crisis: It also aims to increase information sharing, collaboration and cooperation amongst the different actors, namely military, civilian crisis management, humanitarian and development aid actors in the wider context of CFSP/CSDP in the area of Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict (PoC).</p> <p>The course is an excellent opportunity to network and exchange views with other professionals from various institutional, geographical and cultural backgrounds, all working towards improving the PoC in complex environments. The course will also provide an understanding of the challenges and problems facing civilians, police and military decision-makers in the field, as well as best practices aimed at preventing or responding to violence against civilians.</p>
<u>Open to:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU member States / Institutions Third countries Candidate countries 	

Learning Outcomes

Knowledge	<p>LO1. Explain the meaning of protection of civilians (PoC) and the related terminology.</p> <p>LO2. Explain the different approaches to PoC as taken by international actors such as the EU, UN, NATO, the ICRC and others.</p> <p>LO3. Explain PoC related legal instruments, including IHL, international human rights law and international refugee law.</p> <p>LO4. List the elements of institutional standards and expectations with regards to protection planning and the execution of protection activities of various actors.</p> <p>LO5. Identify and clarify the different roles and responsibilities of civilian, police and military, as well as an international mission or military force, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and humanitarian actors as well as development partners during and beyond situations of armed conflict.</p> <p>LO6. Identify and explain the challenges and dilemmas facing civilians, police and military decision-makers in the field.</p> <p>LO7. Recognise horizontal issues, in particular the importance of gender sensitivity and responding to the impacts of environmental degradation and exploitation in the protection of civilians.</p>
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Skills	<p>LO8. Plan, carry out and supervise effective protection measures for the civilian population affected by armed conflict, while paying attention to environment and climate-related security risks.</p> <p>LO9. Provide military, police and civilian contributions to international crisis management in their respective fields of responsibility.</p> <p>LO10. Produce concrete threat and risk assessments, including environmental risks to securing basic needs, for different vulnerable groups of civilians</p>
Responsibility and autonomy	<p>LO11. Analyse conflict contexts with regard to threats to civilian populations.</p> <p>LO12. Analyse the specific threats and vulnerabilities affecting civilians during and in the aftermath of armed conflict, and can develop and implement context-sensitive, environmentally sustainable and effective strategies and measures to improve their situation and protect them from harm.</p> <p>LO13. Summarize the key concepts and principles guiding the Protection of Civilians and integrate them in their respective area of competence.</p> <p>LO14. Recognize the relevance of cooperation and networking amongst the various actors in the protection field.</p> <p>LO15. Compare and demonstrate lessons identified and successes from previous operations, particularly those with a protection mandate and civilian casualty mitigation component.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes</u></p> <p>The course is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: it makes use of <i>level 1 (based on participant's observation and satisfaction with the course)</i> and <i>level 2 (learning) evaluation</i>.</p> <p>In order to complete the course, participants have to accomplish all learning objectives, which are evaluated based on the active contribution in the residential module, including their syndicate session and practical activities and on their completion of the eLearning phase: Course participants finalise the autonomous knowledge units (AKUs) and pass the tests (mandatory), scoring at least 80% in the incorporated out-test/quiz. Participants will apply the learned skills on an ongoing basis through several group exercises, and by successfully completing the final group simulation exercise in 7 hours. This exercise is jointly evaluated by other course participants and by the instructors. There will be an active observation by the course director/lead instructor and participants will be asked to fill in a feedback questionnaire at the end of the course.</p> <p>However, no formal verification of learning outcome is foreseen; the proposed European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) score is based on participants' workload only.</p>	

Course Structure		
Main Topic	Suggested Residential Working Hours + (hours required for individual learning, e-learning etc)	Suggested Contents
CSDP Processes and roles of actors	1 + (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU strategies and structures • CSDP mission decision making process • Main planning and management documents for CSDP missions • CSDP approach to PoC in the context of EU Crisis Management
Integrating a gender perspective into CSDP missions and operations/ Gender mainstreaming in CSDP Missions and operations	1 + (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of UNSCR 1325 (and its complementary resolutions) in conflict and post-conflict environments • Apply a gender-sensitive needs analysis based on different models. • Familiarize about vulnerabilities and intersectionality, particularly how women, men, boys and girls are differently impacted by armed conflict environments

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss roles of military and police measures for the protection of civilians under imminent threat of violence, in particular sexual violence
Integrating an environmental lens in the protection of civilians	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the impact of climate change, environmental degradation and exploitation on human security EU strategies and structures to address the environment, climate and security nexus Provide insight and discuss how environment and climate-related risks relate to protection of civilians
EU integrated approach to crisis and conflict	7 + (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to the concept of shared analysis Learn how to analyse and respond to PoC challenges, especially child protection, conflict-related sexual violence, human rights protection, humanitarian protection, protection of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees, early recovery/state-building strategies Analyse shared responsibilities of the civilian, police and military elements of a peace mission towards PoC
EU Partnerships and Cooperation	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide insight on the different the approaches to PoC taken by the UN, NATO, the ICRC, humanitarian actors, and NGOs as well as development partners EU Partnerships addressing PoC Collaboration and coordination between different actors Challenges and opportunities in the implementation of PoC
Simulation Exercise	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn how to use and apply: analysis templates and tools; planning templates; meeting techniques; threat assessment etc. Simulate and consider decision-making processes
Capability Development	8 + (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and create civilian and military capabilities Evolution and dimensions of the PoC concept
TOTAL	35 + (8)	

<u>Materials</u>	<u>Additional information</u>
<p>Relevant AKUs based on the agreement between Course Director and ESDC Training Manager</p> <p><u>Suggested Mandatory E-learning:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AKU 4: CSDP crisis management structures and Chain of Command - AKU 6: CSDP Decision Shaping/Making; - AKU 9 Security Implications of Climate Change and Environmental Degradation - AKU 11A: an introduction to gender-sensitive (peacekeeping) operations; - AKU 16: an introduction to the protection of civilians in armed conflict; <p><u>Suggested Recommended E-Learning on voluntary basis:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AKU 200: The EU as a global player <p><u>Suggested reading material:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Handbook on CSDP (2021); - UN DPO Policy on the Protection of Civilians (2019) UN - DPO Handbook "The Protection of Civilians in UN Peacekeeping" (2020) - EC Draft Revised Guidelines on the Protection of Civilians in CSDP Missions (15091/10) 	<p>Pre-course questionnaire learning expectations and possible briefing topic from the specific area of expertise could be planned.</p> <p>In order to facilitate the discussion between course participants and senior EU personnel, the Chatham House Rule is used during all residential modules: "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>The content of this training course reflects a broad interpretation of protection. This interpretation goes beyond the idea of providing protection from physical violence and includes the creation of protective environments and the implementation of activities to obtain full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Global Strategy for the EU's Foreign and Security Policy (July 2016); - Council conclusions of 13 Nov 2017 on Security and Defence in the context of the EU Global Strategy (doc. 14190/17); - Council Conclusions on the Integrated Approach to External Conflicts and Crises (01.22.2018, doc. 5413/18); - EU Guidelines on the PoC in EU led crisis management operations (15091/10); - Fact sheet Integrated Approach; - Concept on Protection of Civilians (PoC) in EU-led Military Operations, 6730/15 (2015) / EEAS 351/6/14 REV 6; - Civilian Operations Commander Operational Guidelines for Mission Management and Staff on Gender Mainstreaming. EEAS(2018)747; - Council Conclusions on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and annex EU Strategic Approach to WPS (15086/18). 	
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