

Curriculum

To be reviewed by Feb. 2027	Activity number 36	'The challenges of securing maritime areas for the European Union'	ECTS 1
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CORRELATION WITH CTG / MTG TRAs	EQUIVALENCES
Civilian training area n 31: support to maritime security Military training discipline n 7: maritime security	SQF-MILOF: Level 2 Focus: Pol Civ-Mil

<u>Target audience</u>	<u>Aim</u>
The course is designed for and exclusively open to mid- to senior-level staff from EU member states (MS), EU institutions and agencies.	The course aims to prepare military officers and civil servants from EU member states, institutions and agencies to be assigned to positions dealing with maritime security policies, strategies and missions/operations at executive staff level. The course will allow them to get acquainted with diplomatic, institutional, legal and operational issues related to the implementation of the EU Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS). It also aims to establish a network of practitioners working in the field of maritime security in EU MS and institutions.

Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge	L01. Describe the organisation and operating principles of the EU institutions involved in the EUMSS; L02. List the main goals of the EUMSS (and action plan) and describe the main strategic maritime interests of the EU; L03. Identify the threats, challenges and risks in the maritime area; L04. Summarise the legal bases for EU action at sea, and the strategic objectives to which such action should respond; L05. Identify and distinguish the most important civil and military options implemented, within the framework of CSDP; L06. Explain the main interactions between oceans and climate changes;
Skills	L07. Evaluate the strategic impact of relevant EU missions and operations tasked with maritime security, including cooperation and coordination with relevant international organisations, third states and the private sector; L08. Benchmark how common maritime security issues are addressed in different EU countries; L09. Maintain EU sovereignty and freedom of action in maritime area according to crisis management lessons learnt (i.e. COVID-19); L010. Take into account the impact on climate and ocean biodiversity of EU action and operations;
Responsibility and autonomy	L011. Openly act and actively contribute when operating in the international and/or EU environment; L012. Lead a working group involved in prospective geostrategic studies;

Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes

The course is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model, using *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 on the residential modules.

In order to complete the course, participants have to accomplish all learning objectives, which are evaluated on the basis of their active contribution to the residential modules, including their syndicate sessions and practical activities as well as 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 out-test/quiz. **However, there is no formal verification of the learning outcomes; the proposed ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) is based on participants' workload only.**

The Executive Academic Board takes these factors into account when considering the awarding 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.

Course structure

The residential course is held over three days and provides an overview of the maritime challenges the EU is still facing.

Main topic	Suggested working hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested contents
1. EU maritime security strategy and the challenges of implementation as referred to in the EU Strategic Compass	4 (2)	1.1 The EUMSS in the context of the EU Global Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU maritime interests. Risks, threats and challenges at sea EUMSS implementation in a coordinated and integrated approach: objectives, action plan and challenges of implementation 1.2 International legal framework for EU action at sea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNCLOS maritime dispute settling mechanisms
2. The maritime dimension of EU external action - implementing the EU Strategic Compass	10 (4)	2.1 EU regional responses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU approach to maritime security in sea basins: Adriatic, Aegean, Mediterranean, Atlantic, Baltic, Nordic or Black Sea, GoG, HoA, Arctic, South China Sea EU strategy for the Indo-Pacific (focus on security dialogues with partners in South and Southeast Asia on maritime security and on the EU projects in the Indian Ocean: IONS, IORA, IOC). 2.2 National/EU National maritime security strategies within EUMSS framework 2.3 Support capacity-building Critical Maritime Routes (CMR) programme: supporting third countries and regional organisms in capacity-building efforts: MASE, CRIMARIO, CRIMGO, CRIMLEA 2.4 Cooperation and coordination with relevant international organisations and partners (EU & NATO, EU & AU, GCC, ASEAN, EUROPOL/INTERPOL, IMO/ILO/UNDOC)
3. Awareness, surveillance and information sharing	3	3.1 The Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) 3.2 EU approach on integrated maritime surveillance CISE and cross-border sectoral systems: EUROSUR, MARSUR Ensuring coordination of EU maritime surveillance activities: FRONTEX, EMSA, EDA
4. Capability development in the maritime domain	3	4.1 PESCO projects in the maritime domain (PESCO upgrade maritime surveillance) 4.2 Dual use of maritime capabilities (CIV/MIL) 4.3 Cross-country initiatives:

		<p>FRONTEX European Patrols Network/EFCA joint development plans/smart surveillance in EU EEZs</p> <p>4.4 Blue economy Describe (cf. EU Blue Growth Strategy of 2012) its consequences for civil-military cooperation in maritime security and what opportunities it offers in terms of cooperation with external partners</p> <p>4.5 REPower EU Describe the contribution of the maritime domain to the EU strategic energy independence programme</p>
5. Risk management, protection of critical maritime infrastructures and crisis response	4	<p>5.1 Prevention and response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve a common risk analysis and shared maritime security risk management • Enhance trans-sectoral/cross-border cooperation for coordinated maritime crisis response and contingency planning • Address risks related to irregular migration flows <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the resilience of maritime infrastructures to man-made threats, man-made or natural disasters and climate change • Overview of cyber-threats awareness in the maritime domain • Introduction on the link between climate change and defence ('climate security' or 'environmental security') and its maritime security dimensions
6. Strategic impact of relevant EU missions and operations	5	<p>6.1 Strategic impact of relevant EU missions and operations tasked with maritime security: EUNAVFOR OP. MED IRINI/OP. ATALANTA, EUCAP (SOMALIA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperation on capacity-building in the field of maritime security with third countries and regional bodies • Cooperation with other relevant actors: data-sharing, maritime surveillance, etc. • Countering illegal activities at sea: human trafficking, terrorism, smuggling, piracy, illicit arms trade, violations of arms embargo. • Examine EU contribution to sustainable fisheries regime / measures to counter IUU fishing • Case studies (Mediterranean Sea, Gulf of Guinea, Horn of Africa, Western Indian Ocean)
TOTAL	29 (6)	

<p><u>Materials</u></p> <p>Required e-learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AKU 2: <i>The European Union Global Strategy</i> • AKU 4: <i>CSDP Crisis Management Structures and the Chain of Command</i> • AKU 6: <i>CSDP Decision Shaping/Making</i> <p>Recommended e-learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AKU 1: <i>History and Context of ESDP/CSDP Development</i> <p>Additional documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS), Brussels, 24 June 2014</i> • <i>EUMSS Action Plan Brussels, 26 June 2018</i> • <i>EU Maritime Security Operations (MSO) Concept Brussels, 18 July 2017</i> 	<p><u>Methodology</u></p> <p>The course is based on the following methodology: lectures, panels, workshops, etc.</p> <p><u>Additional information</u></p> <p>A pre-course questionnaire on learning expectations and possible briefing topic from the specific area of expertise may be used.</p> <p>All course participants have to prepare for the residential module by going through the relevant e-learning preparatory phase. The number of AKUs included in the e-learning module is decided by the course director, but there should not be fewer than two.</p> <p>To facilitate discussion between course participants and trainers/experts/ guest speakers, the Chatham House Rule is enforced during the residential module: '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>
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