

**European Security and Defence College Doc: ESDC**/2025/086

Date: 12 March 2025

Origin: ESDC Executive Academic Board

# Curriculum

To be reviewed by

Activity number

Sectoral Qualifications Framework for the Military Officer Profession

ECTS

Feb. 2027

65

(SQF-MILOF) Familiarization Course

1

CORRELATION WITH CTG / MTG TRAs	EQUIVALENCES
N/A	SQF-MILOF Level 1
14//	Focus: Common

# Target audience

Personnel working at national level dealing with military qualifications and curriculum developers from training and education providers. The course is open to EU Member States, EU Institutions, Agencies, EAP countries and Western Balkans.

### Aim

The aim of this course is to familiarize competent personnel from the EU Member States and Institutions with the SQF-MILOF Package by discussing the implications of implementations roadmaps at national level and providing basic skills required to level selected national military qualifications (NMQ) to SQF-MILOF and to the Core Curriculum for Military Officers (MILOF-CORE).

Learning Outcomes				
Knowledge	LO1.discuss the background, context and relevance, objectives, benefits, scope, main characteristics and audience of SQF-MILOF; LO2.explain the competences of the military officer of the future and the competence areas; LO3.compare the scope, audiences and the relevance of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), National Qualifications Framework (NQF) and SQF-MILOF; LO4.analyse the relationship and interdependencies between SQF-MILOF proper and MILOF-CORE; LO5.discuss the challenges and particularities of levelling NMQ to SQF-MILOF and defining their military focus; LO6. discuss the importance of validating learning in non-formal and informal settings for the lifelong learning of individuals			
Skills	LO7. write learning outcomes for various purposes (e.g. framework, programme, course, lesson) LO8. level national military qualifications against the SQF-MILOF and define military focus against MILOF-CORE			
Responsibility and Autonomy	LO9.openly act and actively contribute to the discussion and implementation of SQF-MILOF at the national level;  LO10.Take the initiative to promote and implement the objectives of SQF-MILOF at the national level.			

# Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes

The course is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: it makes use of *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 feed-back 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 based on their active contribution to the residential modules, including their syndicate sessions and practical activities as well as on their completion of the eLearning phases: course participants must finalise the autonomous knowledge units (AKUs) and pass the tests (*mandatory*), scoring at least 80% in the incorporated out-test/quiz. **However, no formal verification of the learning outcomes is foreseen; proposed ECTS is based on participants' workload only**.

The Executive Academic Board takes these factors into account when considering the award 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			
Main Topics	Suggested Working Hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested Contents	
Qualifications & Qualifications Frameworks	1	Overview of the EQF and connections to NQFs, referencing, levelling, EQF Governance	
SQF-MILOF as a Competence- based qualifications framework	1	<ol> <li>The road to SQF-MILOF</li> <li>Competence profile, as a basis for the SQF-MILOF/ MILOF-CORE</li> </ol>	
SQF-MILOF Overview	2 (1)	<ol> <li>Background</li> <li>Context and Relevance</li> <li>What is it?</li> <li>Objectives</li> <li>Benefits</li> <li>Scope</li> <li>Main Characteristics</li> <li>Audience</li> </ol>	
Learning Outcomes	2	<ol> <li>Learning areas</li> <li>Learning Outcomes for various purposes: SQF-MILOF, programmes, lessons</li> <li>Structure, relevance etc.</li> </ol>	
SQF-MILOF & MILOF-CORE Learning Outcomes	2	<ol> <li>SQF-MILOF descriptors</li> <li>SQF-MILOF proper learning outcomes by competence areas</li> <li>MILOF-CORE learning outcomes by competence and learning areas</li> </ol>	
Learning Outcomes Development	6(2)	<ol> <li>Individual practical sessions using real course curricula</li> <li>Group practical sessions using real course curricula</li> </ol>	
SQF-MILOF Implementation at the EU and National Level	2	<ol> <li>Option roadmaps for implementation</li> <li>Levelling NMQs to SQF-MILOF levels and defining the military focus against MILOF-CORE</li> <li>Levelling individual learning to SQF-MILOF and MILOF-CORE levels</li> </ol>	
Levelling NMQ to SQF-MILOF and defining the military focus to MILOF-CORE	10(2)	<ol> <li>Individual practical sessions using real course curricula to practice the 5-step process</li> <li>Group practical sessions using real course curricula to practice the 5-step process</li> </ol>	
Levelling Individual	2	Recognition of non-formal and informal learning	

from other organisations		2. Comparative cases e.g. FRONTEX, Coast Guard
Case studies and lessons learned	1	Qualifications Frameworks in the military sector:     relevant experiences
Military Qualifications Database (MQD)	2	<ol> <li>Procedures to complete the information on national military qualifications</li> <li>Procedures to upload the NMQ and update of the MQD</li> <li>Ways to interrogate the MQD for the purpose of comparing qualification among MS and facilitate the research aimed at exchanging officers professional development. 4 Digital and micro-credential</li> </ol>
learning to MILOF-CORE.		<ol> <li>Current practice at EU level on recognition of non-formal and informal learning</li> <li>The value of SQF-MILOF/ MILOF-CORE for individual learners</li> <li>The 4-step process of levelling Individual learning to MILOF-CORE</li> </ol>

#### Materials

# Essential eLearning:

AKU: Introduction to Sectoral Qualifications Framework for the Military Officer Profession (SQF-MILOF)

#### Essential reading

- SQF-MILOF Publication Vol 1
- SQF-MILOF Publication Vol 2
- SQF-MILOF Draft Implementation Guidelines, doc ESDC/2021/161 dated 5 July 2021

## Recommended reading

- European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning (2017/C 189/03). Brussels: Official Journal of the European Union.
- Council Recommendation of 20 December 2012 on the validation of non-formal and informal learning

  Defining writing and applying learning outcomes. A

Defining, writing and applying learning outcomes. A European handbook, CEDEFOP, 2017

#### Additional information

A pre-course questionnaire on learning expectations and possible briefing topic from the specific area of expertise may be used.

All course participants must prepare for the residential module by completing the relevant eLearning preparatory phase, which is mandatory.

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'.

The course can be organised as a train-the trainer course. In this case, the current course curriculum should be extended with 1 day (6 hours) to include topics such as:

- Blooms Taxonomy
- Design the course training plan
- planning and conduct of lessons and training sessions
- Presentation, group engagement techniques Providing feedback, evaluation