Curriculum

To be reviewed by **Feb. 2027**	Activity number **67**	**Diplomatic Skills for Peace, Security and Defence**	ECTS **2**

CORRELATION WITH CTG / MTG TRAs	EQUIVALENCES
TRA on STRATCOM	Complementary to EEAS Diplomatic academy.

Target audience

Participants would normally be entry / mid-level staff from Member States (MS) and EU institutions and agencies,international experience in security policy matters. Ideally, the participants should have some experience related to diplomacy or to have (preferred scenario) previously attended the CSDP Orientation Course.

Open to:

- EU member States / Institutions
- Third countries

Aim

The basic course on Diplomatic Skills for Peace Security and Defence will introduction to the issues involved, aiming to familiarise the participants with the basic principles in the area of diplomacy, international strategic and diplomatic context, together with a critical assessment of the connections between diplomacy and CSDP/CFSP domain. It will also discuss new and old diplomacy, globalisation trends, the relevance and the place of public diplomacy in the context of CSDP missions as well as introducing concepts and practices related to digital diplomacy.

The final goal of the Diplomatic Skills Course is to support EU Member States and EU institutions and agencies, international organizations, third able to work in CSDP-related fields at operational and strategic level.

Learning Outcomes

Knowledge	LO1. Explain the relevant concepts and principles of diplomacy LO2. Identify the position of EU in the overall international strategic and diplomatic competition *LO3.* Describe the objectives of the EU Global Strategy LO4. Summarise the Grand Strategies of global players LO5. Explain the orientation of EU diplomacy LO6. Summarise the PESCO diplomacy LO7. Describe the role of intelligence in diplomacy LO8. Explain partnerships and cooperation with third countries and other players LO9. Summarise and explain the EU role and position in International Community LO10. Explain the relations between EU and different IOs
Skills	LO1. Identify lessons learnt and good practices in the context of CSDP LO2. Identify civilian-military coordination aspects and challenges LO3. Apply the integrated approach in the field of CSDP missions and operations
Responsibility and Autonomy	LO1. Analyse and formulate arguments why/when/where CSDP missions might be needed LO2. Compare and demonstrate lessons identified in the CSDP environment LO3. Adapt communication and connectivity trends to diplomacy needs

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		
The course is composed of 4 to 5 working days		
Main Topic	**Suggested Working Hours (required for individual learning)**	**Suggested Contents**
1.International security context	6 (4)	1.EU strategic environment 2.World great powers grand strategies 3.Key strategic documents of the EU
2.Core concepts in diplomacy	4 (4)	1.Key concepts and principles in diplomacy 2.Actual challenges for diplomacy
3.Diplomatic taxonomies and directions	2	1.Multilateral negotiations 2.Public Diplomacy 3.Water diplomacy 4.Party to party diplomacy 5.Economic diplomacy 6.Cyber, digital and hybrid diplomacy
4.EU Diplomacy	5 (2)	1.Diplomatic career within the EU 2.EU diplomacy and its orientations toward third countries 3.EU relations with IOs (OSCE, UN, NATO, ASEAN etc.) 4.EU relations with different countries 5.PESCO Diplomacy 6.Communication, negotiation and reporting skills
5.CSDP and Diplomacy	6 (2)	1.EU strategies and concepts related to CSDP 2.CSDP and Diplomacy 3.Role of EU delegations 4.Peace, Security and Diplomacy 5.Missions & operations as diplomatic tools 6.Lessons learnt from the field
6.Diplomacy and intelligence	2	Role of Intelligence in Diplomacy
7.Communication and diplomacy	4	1.STRATCOM and diplomacy 2.Mediation and Negotiation
8.Group assignment	6 (4)	Draw up joint discussion points [working groups]

TOTAL	35 (16)	

Materials	Methodology (if the course has none defined, delete this)
CSDP Handbook *Essential eLearning:* AKU 1 History and context of ESDP/CSDP development AKU 3 Role of EU institutions in the field of CSDP/ CFSP AKU 4 CSDP crisis management structures and chain of command AKU 7 Role of Lisbon Treaty on CSDP Syndicate materials, scenario, other documents provided by course director	The course is based on the following methodology: lectures, panels, worshops etc. Additional information The Chatham House Rule is applied during all residential modules of the HLC: "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". Course participants must be available for the whole course, which includes eLearning phases and residential modules, and must be ready to contribute with their specific expertise and experience throughout the course. Participants have to be security cleared to at least EU CONFIDENTIAL level – the clearance must be sent to the ESDC Secretariat before the start of the first residential module (September). The nomination of participants via the ESDC channels, via national ENLIST nominators. The Member States will be encouraged to send 2-3 candidates from different domains, however only one seat per member state will be allocated. ESDC network can also forward proposals from the Academia and Industry to the Secretariat. Based on the applications, the Head of ESDC will decide on the final list of participants and inform the co-organisers on it.