

Curriculum

To be reviewed by Feb. 2027	Activity number 79	<i>Security in the Black Sea Region. Shared challenges, sustainable future Program</i> <i>Europe and its neighbourhood –</i>	ECTS 2
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CORRELATION WITH CTG / MTG TRAs	EQUIVALENCES
No correlation	No equivalence.

Target audience	Aim
<p>Mid-level professionals from EU Member States and States from Eastern Neighbourhood involved in Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) implementation and international organizations</p> <p>Officials from ministries of foreign affairs, defence, intelligence, and internal affairs</p> <p>Practitioners with management and leadership experience in security and intelligence from MS authorities</p> <p>Representatives from relevant EU Institutions and Agencies</p> <p>Depending on the design of the course, senior decision makers, Political Advisors to the Head of Mission/Commander could join the training, especially when the experts with field experience are invited to contribute with their expertise.</p>	<p>The security in the Black Sea Region. Shared Challenges, Sustainable Future program is an interactive and practical training program, ideal for promising young leaders and junior managers in security, diplomacy and intelligence. This advanced professional course examines the evolving security dynamics in the Black Sea Region against the backdrop of the war in Ukraine and shifting geopolitical alignments. The course provides a comprehensive analysis of emerging security challenges, regional power dynamics, and strategies for building sustainable security frameworks in this critical area. The course is also designed to enhance analytic and forward thinking skills, as well as joint leadership capacities focusing on the challenges specific to security and intelligence organizations transformation in the 21st century.</p> <p>Throughout the course, under the supervision of expert tutors and facilitators, participants are expected to conduct a practical, interactive exercise addressing challenges to security in the Black Sea Region, by incorporating future-making scenarios, predictive analysis, conflict resolution and mediation, negotiation skills etc.</p>
<p><u>Open to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU member States / Institutions International Organisations States from Eastern Partnership (EAP countries) 	

Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge	<p>L01. understand the strategic environment in which the EU is operating and the main security factors, threats, challenges and drivers of change necessary to be taken into account for European security in relation to the Eastern Neighbourhood</p> <p>L02. Improve analytical and strategic planning capabilities to identify the elements of transformation processes in regional security, economic resilience and intelligence- needs, strategies and actions</p> <p>L03. understand the interplay of security, intelligence and diplomatic skills and competences that support an enhanced understanding of regional security dynamics</p>
Skills	<p>L04. Consolidate abilities to create and maintain professional networks, apply leadership, coaching, mentorship and critical thinking skills, strategy and cooperation skills throughout the exercises and scenario making sections of the course</p> <p>L05. Exercise practical tools for addressing security challenges and building autonomy in addressing opportunities and challenges during change</p>

Responsibility and Autonomy	L06. use tools and techniques to properly assess challenges, identify drivers of change and develop a strategic response to security threats L07. optimize performance and crisis management skills L08. translate academic knowledge into practical oriented solutions to be shared, negotiated and advanced in security, intelligence and foreign affairs organisations

Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes

The course is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: it makes use of *level 1 evaluation (based on participant's satisfaction with the course)*.

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 (24 hours total) as well as on their completion of the eLearning phases: course participants finalise the autonomous knowledge units (AKUs) and pass the tests (*mandatory*), scoring at least 80% in the incorporated out-test/quiz (26 hours total). Active observation by the course director/lead instructor and feedback questionnaire filled by course participants at the end of the course is used.

However, no formal verification of learning outcome is foreseen; proposed ECTS is based on participants' workload only.

Course structure		
<i>The residential module is held over four days</i>		
Main Topic	Suggested Working Hours during residential Module (additional hours required for individual learning)	Suggested Contents
1. EU Strategic Autonomy and Regional Security Architecture	6 (7)	1.1. EU's strategic autonomy and capacity building in the neighborhood 1.2. Redistribution of power in the Black Sea Region post-2022 1.3. Comprehensive security approach and civil preparedness 1.4. Democratic resilience as a key security component
2. Energy Security and Economic Resilience	6 (6)	2.1. Regional energy infrastructure and supply chains 2.2. Energy diversification strategies and green transition 2.3. Economic interdependencies and vulnerabilities 2.4. Critical infrastructure protection
3 Hybrid Warfare, Information Security, Strategic Communication	6 (7)	3.1. Hybrid warfare landscape in the BSR 3.2. Foreign Information Manipulation and Inference – understanding the threat, building resilience 3.3. Cyber security challenges and responses 3.4. Social media warfare and digital resilience 3.5. Strategic communication and narrative building
4.Syndicate assignment	6 (6)	4.1. Case studies and scenario-based exercises 4.2. Group discussions and strategic planning sessions 4.3. Simulation exercises 4.3. Life skills sessions and mentorship
TOTAL	24 + (26) = 50	

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Materials</u></p> <p>Required: AKU 2 on European Global Strategy AKU 6 CSDP decision shaping/making AKU 300 Intercultural competence</p> <p>Recommended: Syndicate materials, scenario, other documents provided by Course director and the StratCom expert/trainer</p> <p>AKU 1 History and context of ESDP/CSDP development AKU 4 CSDP crisis management structures and chain of command AKU 25 EU Mutual Assistance Clause</p>	<p>Methodology Pre-course questionnaire on learning expectations and possible briefing topic from the specific area of expertise may be used. All course participants have to prepare for the residential module by going through the relevant eLearning preparatory phase, which is mandatory. Depending on different audiences, the course can be organised as a familiarisation course or advanced course, with a corresponding change in focus regarding concepts, policies, planning and implementation.</p> <p>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". The mandatory EU security clearance to "Confidential" level should be valid for the entire duration of the HLC and participants must prove that they have an EU clearance certificate before the start of the first residential module.</p> <p>Course Requirements Minimum 5 years of relevant professional experience Working knowledge of EU CSDP Security clearance appropriate to course content English language – Common European Frameworks Level B2 or equivalent</p>
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