

SENIOR STRATEGIC COURSE

Activity number 24-25/64/1-3

Invitation / Call for Nominations

The Egmont Royal Institute for International Relations (BE), the Federal Academy for Security Policy (BAKS, DE), the Institute for Higher National Defence Studies (IHEDN, FR), together with the Royal Higher Institute for Defence (IRSD, BE), and the Higher Defence Studies Centre (CASD, IT) have the honour of inviting to the **2024/2025 SENIOR STRATEGIC COURSE on European Security and Defence**, a modular course developed under the aegis of the *European Security and Defence College (ESDC)*.

The course consists of three modules during the 2024-2025 academic year. Module 1 (3-5 February 2025), engaging with a conceptual framework, will take place in Brussels (BE), Module 2 (10-12 March 2025), focusing on a perspective from policy and industry, in Berlin (DE), while the third module (27-29 May 2025), emphasising current and future challenges, will take place in Paris (FR).

The overall aim of the Senior Strategic Course (SSC) is to generate and stimulate a substantive and in-depth top management level exchange of ideas related to European security and defence. The course generates the environment to promote a common European security culture and aims to foster the network of current leaders involved in the strategic aspects of the CFSP/CSDP.

Participants should be in top-level management positions in the areas of security, defence, police and diplomacy– from Member States and from EU bodies: strategic decisions-makers and implementers. A strictly limited number of slots will also be allocated to senior participants from academia and industry.

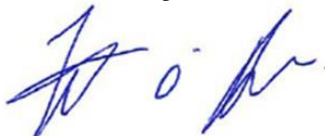
The ESDC is committed to an inclusive, gender-sensitive and anti-discriminatory environment. Only in an inclusive environment can all people, and therefore the ESDC and its partners, reach their true potential. We therefore particularly encourage applicants who are likely to be under-represented to apply.

We are very pleased to invite you to nominate candidates for this ESDC activity by 15 November 2024 and to contribute to the further development of a European strategic culture as well as to cooperation between all EU actors.

EGMONT
Prof Dr Sven BISCOP
(Director 'Europe in the World')



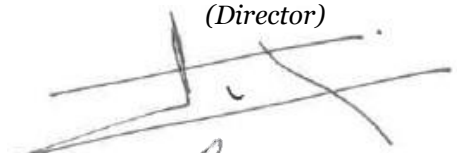
ESDC
Fergal Ó REGAN
(Acting Head)



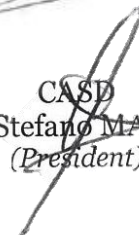
BAKS
MajGen Wolf-Jürgen STAHL
(President)



IHEDN
LtGen Hervé DE COURRÈGES
(Director)



CASD
LtGen Stefano MANNINO
(President)



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Annex A – Administrative Instructions

a. Target group

The Senior Strategic Course is open to participants from EU Member States, EU institutions, agencies, and bodies, as well as CSDP missions and operations. Participants should occupy top-level management positions in the civilian, police, diplomatic and military environment – but also in industry or the academic sector – working on peace, security, and defence.

We particularly encourage applicants who are likely to be under-represented to apply.

The ESDC strives for a gender-sensitive and inclusive environment in all its courses, activities and day-to-day work. Only in an inclusive environment can all people, and therefore the ESDC and its partners, reach their true potential. We do not and will not discriminate on the basis of race, colour, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation in any of our activities or operations. The ESDC and the training institutions will not tolerate any conduct that violates these values.

b. Seats

One seat per Member State can be allocated based on the profile of the candidates. In addition, three seats will be allocated for EU institutions, agencies and bodies, three for CSDP missions and operations, two for industry and two for the academic sector.

c. Nomination and registration

Nominations by Member States, EU entities and missions will go exclusively through the ENLIST nominators (<https://esdc.europa.eu/nominators/>). Following the mandatory nomination in ENLIST, candidates additionally need to send their application (CV and short paragraph on motivation to participate) to the responsible ESDC training manager.

Candidates originating from academia and industry may send their applications directly to the responsible ESDC training manager.

The deadline for nomination and applications is **15 November 2024**.

d. Selection

A joint commission (composed of representatives from the organising institutes and the ESDC) will finally select the participants among the nominees, ensuring a balance between the different areas and considering the overall (including gender) diversity of the group. **A decision on the final list will be issued no later than 25 November 2024.**

e. Additional information

- Confirmed course participants are advised to plan their travel for the day before the start of the module and for after the end of the activity.
- The course includes three mandatory (short) eLearning modules, accessible three weeks prior to the first module, which confirmed participants need to complete before the conclusion of the third module.
- The working language for all modules is English. No interpretation will be provided.
- Attendance of the course is mandatory on all days. Course participants who have completed the full course (i.e. all three modules and the eLearning) will be awarded a certificate.
- All costs for travelling, accommodation and meals are to be covered by the sending authorities or by the participants themselves.



- Further detailed information on the course, including agendas and specific logistical information regarding the different modules will be forwarded via email directly to the confirmed course participants as soon as the final list of participants will have been decided.
- Contact:
ESDC Training Manager
Moritz HERZBERG, Strategic Adviser/Policy Officer
moritz.herzberg@eeas.europa.eu