

**European Security and Defence College** 

Doc: ESDC/2022/066

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Origin: ESDC Secretariat

# Curriculum

			ECTS
To be reviewed by	Activity number	Critical Infrastructure Protection	1
Feb. 2024	208a	Basic Course	

# Target audience

Participants should be junior to mid level representatives of public authorities or CI owners/operators with responsibilities for the development and implementation of security strategies, policies and mechanisms for Critical Infrastructure Protection. Governmental and private companies involved in CI operation should participate.

#### Open to:

EU Member States / EU
 Institutions Bodies and Agencies

#### Aim

This course aims to enable participants to:

- Give an overview of the evolving nature of Critical Infrastructure Protection efforts
- Enable a strategic foresight in the CIP and resilience planning activities at the level of the various competent regulatory or coordinating authorities or owners/operators of Critical Infrastructures.
- Present the latest research in the CIP field and have a clear view of the systemic transformations underway from National to European and Global levels, leading to new risks, vulnerabilities and threats.
- Present the basics of integration of technologies such as AI, Blockchain and the achievement of new scales in data acquisition or processing
- Introduce the developments in the toolbox available to CIP practitioners and policymakers for understanding and addressing CIP risks.

CORRELATION WITH CTG / MTG TRAs	EQUIVALENCES
CTG / MTG TRA on Cyber	<ul> <li>Non-specialised cyber course, at awareness level</li> <li>Linked with the strategic objectives of Pillar 1 and Pillar 2 of the EU's Cybersecurity Strategy for the Digital Decade [16.12.2020 JOIN (2020)]</li> </ul>

Learning Outcomes				
Knowledge	LO1 - Outline the CI interdependencies an emerging areas of CIP focus; LO2 - Recognize the facets and attributes of resilience as it pertains to complex systems; LO3 - Recognize the new realities of the complex security environment; LO4 - Describe the emerging trends producing new risks, vulnerabilities and threats; LO5 - Identify the new perspectives of Complex Systems Governance; LO6 - Recognize the impact of new technologies on the organization of the Critical Infrastructure system-of-systems, but also on the toolbox available to CIP practitioners and policymakers;			
Skills	LO7 - Identify technical as well as organisational challenges related to CIP; LO8 - Classify the potential systemic impact of the adoption of new technologies on specific CI components; LO9 - Analyse the impact of various transformations on public policy related to CIP; LO10 - Identify the challenges for policymakers, regulators and CIP practitioners stemming from the changing security environment.			
Responsibility and Autonomy	LO11 - Evaluate the potential impact of new technologies and other trends on CI system-of-systems risks;  LO12 - Assess the challenges to CIP efforts at National and European levels moving forward given the new security environment;  LO13 - Design a systemic and complex model of the security environment, grounded in the CIP framework and its latest developments.			

## 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 module is held over 3 days.					
Main Topic	Suggested Working Hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested Contents			
Critical Infrastructure Protection Theory	4(4)	Introduction to Critical Infrastructure Protection, overall framework; Transborder Critical Infrastructures, Networks and interdependencies; Resilience and Complex System Governance theory. Policy options for the EU and other EU decision makers;			
Emerging Technologies and CIP impact	4(2)	Overview of emerging technologies Systemic Resilience Complexity; Decision Support Systems and Risk Forecast; Impact of new technologies in CI and Serious Gaming. Transformations in the security environment;			
New Dimensions of CIP	4(3)	Critical Infrastructures Initiatives and Projects; Critical Infrastructures and Climate Change. Regional and Global Integration Initiatives – impact on CIP and on the security environment. Critical Infrastructure Diplomacy;			
CIP Governance	4(3)	CIP Governance models (National, EU and international level), Tools for CI practitioners and policymakers; Geopolitics of CI transformations; Resilience and Defence; Impact of Hybrid Threats on CIs; Civil-Military Cooperation in Critical Infrastructure Protection; Decision making under conditions of uncertainty. Managing change at the level of society and of organizations			
TOTAL	16(12)	16 hours residential or synchronous learning + 12 hours eLearning asynchronous sessions (e-earning modules and pre-recorded sessions)			

### Materials

## Essential eLearning:

- AKU 2 on European Global Strategy
- AKU 107 Awareness course on CyberDiplomacy

Supplementary materials:

• AKU 106a, b, c, d, e – Hybrid threats modules

### Pre-requisites:

- To follow the first module of this course
- If not followed the first module, to prove their basic knowledge in this domain

## Reading material:

- EU Directives, Council Decisions, Council conclusions, Regulations, Joint declarations;
- Documents and assessments of the security environment from EU and non-EU, Think Tanks;
- The course documentation prepared by the organizers.

# Methodology

The course is based on the following methodology: lectures, panels, workshops, exercises

### Additional information

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. The materials proposed for supplemental (eLearning) study will reflect current developments in the field of cyber security/cyber defence in general and EU policies in particular.

The Chatham House Rule is applied during all residential phase of the course: "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".