

**European Security and Defence College** 

**Doc: ESDC**/2023/039 **Date:** 24 February 2023

Origin: ESDC Executive Academic Board

# Curriculum

To be reviewed by February 2024	Activity number		DP High Level Course 4 'Manuel Marín GONZÁLEZ'	ECTS 8
CORRELATION WITH CTG/MTG TRAs				EQUIVALENCES
Civilian Training Area n. 2 : Leadership & Management, 29: EU Integrated Approach Military training Discipline n.1: Operations Planning for CSDP, 8: Leadership & Management				SQF-MILOF Level 2 Focus; POL CIV-MIL

#### Target audience

Participants should be senior experts from the EU Member States, candidate countries and EU institutions, bodies and agencies (military and civilians, including diplomats police and border guard officers) who are either working in key positions or have a clear potential to achieve leadership posts, in particular in the field of the CFSP/CSDP. Suitable academics as well as members of NGOs and the business community may be invited to participate. The audience should be a well-balanced civilian/military mix.

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.

It is recommended that course participants have attended the ESDC CSDP orientation course.

#### Open to:

- EU member States / institutions
- Candidate countries
- International Organisations

# Aim

The overall aim of the CSDP High Level Course (HLC) is to prepare selected senior experts from EU Member States, candidate countries and EU institutions for leadership positions in the application and development of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) policy, crisis management and capability development, within the wider context of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), and enable them to cooperate effectively with the various actors in this field. The course aims to broaden participants' knowledge and understanding of the EU security and defence architecture, the integrated approach to the CSDP as a key tool of the CFSP, current and anticipated policy, missions and operations, as well as to increase their awareness about new threats and other horizontal issues.

The training delivered via both the eLearning platform and during the residential modules promotes a common European security culture and aims to foster the network of future leaders involved in the strategic aspects of the CFSP/CSDP.

# Learning outcomes

LO1. identify the long-term objectives of CFSP/CSDP and explain the major characteristics of the EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy (EUGS); as they are analysed in the EU Strategic Compass

LO2. outline the responsibilities/roles of the EU Institutions, Agencies and internal structures in the CFSP/CSDP;

Knowledge

LO3. describe the military and civilian capability development process within the CSDP;

LO4. describe the decision-making process for CSDP missions and operations, including planning and force-generation aspects:

LO5. distinguish between the different aspects and elements of CSDP and crisis management: prevention, preparedness, response (civilian and military CSDP missions and operations), communication, lessons learned, education and training; and the major actors'

	roles in the provision of civilian and military capabilities required for CSDP missions and
	operations;
Knowledge	LO6. describe the interlinkages between CSDP and the area of Freedom, Security and
Tulowloago	Justice (FSJ), as well as with the Commission's related activities outside the EU's borders;
	LO7. outline the effects of horizontal issues on the conduct of CSDP missions and operations,
	in particular human rights, protection of civilians, gender, irregular migration (border control,
	monitoring missions/operations), transnational crime, climate security, energy security, cyber
	security, hybrid threats, critical infrastructure protection, terrorism, etc.
	LO8. evaluate the various EU interests and values mentioned in the EUGS;
	LO9. express views on the relevance of key horizontal issues for the implementation of the
	CSDP;
	LO10. develop possibilities for the further engagement and coherence of EU Institutions,
	Services and Agencies in EU capability development (e.g. European Commission, EEAS,
Skills	EDA, EU SatCen), as well as partners;
OKIIIS	LO11. consider the value of inter-institutional coordination and international cooperation with
	state and non-state actors in the context of crisis management;
	LO12. use knowledge in relation to future developments in the CFSP/CSDP and take
	ownership of the content of the course as a whole and integrate and take on board the value
	of the course.
	LO13. assess the functioning of the EU in general and the role of the relevant EU Institutions
	and CFSP/CSDP-related structures in particular and the general capacity and ability to
	contribute to the effectiveness of the CFSP/CSDP;
	LO14. promote the strengths and explain the weaknesses of current features of the CSDP
	as well as foreign affairs and security policy development;
	LO15. discuss current and future CFSP developments;
	LO16. assess the challenges relating to the European approach to capability development
D 15 1156 -	(including that of exploring potential civilian-military synergies);
Responsibility	LO17. assess European civilian and military capabilities, including those of dialogue and
and Autonomy	mediation, available to support the EU's integrated approach;
	LO18. analyse the state of affairs of European armament cooperation, including industrial
	and technological aspects;
	LO19. analyse the dynamic of the EU's decision-making process from the perspective of
	planning mechanisms and procedures for missions and operations; assess the EU's
	operational engagement in various regional areas in relation to the EU's strategic objectives;
	LO20. analyse the overall contribution of the EU's operational commitments in support of the
	EUGS implementation.

# Evaluation and verification of learning outcomes

The course is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: using *level 1 evaluation* (based on participants' satisfaction with 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 group working sessions and practical activities as well as on their completion of the eLearning phases: course participants must finish the autonomous knowledge units (AKUs) and pass the tests (*mandatory*), scoring at least 80% in the incorporated 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.

## Main topic and content

The course encompasses four residential modules, each of which lasts one week and will focus on specific strategic aspects of the CFSP/CSDP. All residential modules are preceded by a mandatory eLearning phase which provides course participants with the necessary theoretical background to actively participate in the residential phase. The time between the residential modules should allow a proper learning process using the eLearning platform ILIAS: all course participants have to prepare for each residential module by completing the relevant eLearning module.

Main topic	Suggested working hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested content
MODULE 1 CFSP/CSDP Governance and Functioning of the EU	50 (12)	<ul><li>1.1. Foundation of the CFSP/CSDP [preparatory eLearning];</li><li>1.2. Overview of the CFSP/CSDP and related EU policies and concepts;</li><li>1.3. CSDP structures and strategic level decision-making;</li><li>1.4. EUGS implementation.</li></ul>
MODULE 2 EU's Crisis Management Capabilities	50 (6)	<ul><li>2.1. Civilian and military capabilities and capability development;</li><li>2.2. European Commission Defence Action Plan (EDAP);</li><li>2.3. Armament cooperation;</li><li>2.4. Regional approaches.</li></ul>
MODULE 3 CSDP in Action	50 (9)	3.1. CSDP in Action. CSDP Missions and Operations; 3.2. Regional approaches.
MODULE 4 Future of the CSDP	51 (10)	<ul><li>4.1. Future Perspectives of the CSDP;</li><li>4.2 HLC Exercise.</li></ul>
TOTAL	201 (37)	

# **Materials**

ESDC Handbooks: CSDP; Cybersecurity

Relevant AKU's available on ILIAS.

Publications on CFSP/CSDP-related issues – supplemental material aimed at enhancing knowledge of a specific topic.

HLC Exercise scenario and documents.

# Additional information

The Chatham House Rule applies 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 (September).

To be reviewed by February 2024

Activity number

# 19th CSDP High Level Course 2023-2024 'Manuel Marín GONZÁLEZ' (Module 4)

Thessaloniki, 17 - 21 June 2024

**ECTS** 

2

SQF-MILOF

Level 2
Focus; POL CIV-MIL

#### Aim

The 4<sup>th</sup> module of the CSDP High Level Course provides a comprehensive review of the current state of play, progress made and further evolution of the CSDP in the context of EU external action. In this respect, crossfertilisation with other actors involved in the EU external action will be considered. A special emphasis will be placed on the analysis of the future prospects in EU foreign, security and defence policy as well as the impact of horizontal aspects on the CSDP's implementation. Participants have an opportunity to enrol in a practical strategic-level exercise on EU crisis management planning and decision-making on a political and strategic level.

Learning outcomes				
Knowledge	LO1. outline the implications of horizontal issues, and evolving security challenges in particular strategic communication and hybrid threats, security dimension of migration, energy security, climate security, artificial intelligence and disaster relief, with a specific focus on the operational engagement in a relevant neighbourhood of the EU;			
Skills	LO2. apply the decision-making process during a scenario-based exercise, take ownership of the content of the course as a whole and integrate and take on board the values of the course;  LO3. take into account horizontal aspects of the implementation of the CSDP;			
Responsibility and Autonomy	LO4. analyse to what extent the EU's operational engagement supports the achievement of its foreign, security and defence policy objectives (relevance of the current missions and operations);  LO5. analyse evolving trends to identify their influences on the future of the CSDP.			

#### Evaluation of learning

The module is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: course evaluation based on participants' satisfaction with the course and assessment of participants' learning progress. The module is preceded by a mandatory eLearning phase which provides course participants with the necessary theoretical background to actively participate in the residential phase. Passing the tests during the eLearning preparatory phase is mandatory: participants must score at least 80% in the out-test/quiz incorporated within the module.

No formal verification of learning outcomes is foreseen. The proposed ECTS is based on participants' workload only.

## **Course structure**

The residential module is held over five days (one week) and focuses on the future of the CSDP and on the key horizontal issues. An HLC exercise at strategic level is organised during this module. All course participants have to prepare for the residential module by completing the HLC exercise scenario and the supporting materials.

Main topic	Suggested working hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested content	
1. The Future of the CSDP	13 (3)	<ul><li>1.1. Challenges for the EU as a global player;</li><li>1.2. Demands for CSDP missions and operations;</li><li>1.3. The future of EU–NATO cooperation in security and defence.</li></ul>	

TOTAL	51 (10)	
6. Field visit	3	6.1. Visit to a relevant security and defence entity.
5. High-Level-Course Exercise	12 (4)	5.1. Exercise on crisis management procedures (at strategic level); simulation/table-top exercise.
4. Other policies	6	<ul><li>4.1. Security Sector Reform;</li><li>4.2. Emerging EU policy challenges and initiatives.</li></ul>
3. Key horizontal issues. Critical discussion of role and responsibilities in the CFSP / CSDP	9 (3)	3.1. Impact of natural, man-made and climate-driven disasters/crises on the overall European Union's security; 3.2. evolving security challenges and increasing resilience (strategic communication, hybrid threats, climate security, energy security, security dimension of migration, including FRONTEX and maritime operations and missions; 3.3. European Union's Energy Security Strategy.
2. CSDP in the Neighbouring countries and regions	8	<ul><li>2.1. Security situation in a relevant neighbourhood of the EU;</li><li>2.2. Global challenges, common responses;</li><li>2.3. Future of the European Neighbourhood Policy.</li></ul>

Mater	ials
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## Required:

Relevant AKUs (at least 2) based on the agreement between Module leader and the eLearning manager in the Secretariat, such as the following

AKU 7: Impact of Lisbon Treaty on CSDP

AKU 10: EU's mediation and negotiation capacities

AKU 25: EU's Mutual Assistance Clause AKU 202: Integrated Approach

The HLC exercise scenario.

#### Recommended:

To be defined by the HLC module leader with support from ESDC Secretariat

Other publications on CSDP-related issues – supplementary material aimed at deepening knowledge of the topic.

## Additional information

In order to facilitate discussion between course participants and senior EU personnel, the **Chatham House Rule** applies during all residential modules: "participants in the CSDP HLC 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".

Once HLC course participants have completed the course, they become members of the ESDC Alumni network and are regularly invited to seminars providing an update on CFSP/CSDP developments.