EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE COLLEGE

and

CEIDA - Centro Italiano di Direzione Aziendale, Rome, Italy

Invitation to the course:

'Cyberdiplomacy Advanced Course'

(ESDC activity number 24-25/207.b/2)

18 – 20 June 2025 (fully residential) at CEIDA, Rome, Italy

The Centro Italiano di Direzione Aziendale (CEIDA) has the honour to deliver the June 2025 edition of the **Cyber Diplomacy Advanced Course** under the auspices of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC). This specialised cyber course is aligned with the EU's Cybersecurity Strategy for the Digital Decade.

In today's interconnected world, the cyber landscape has become a pivotal arena for both statecraft and security. The fast pace of digital transformation has revolutionised communication but also heightened vulnerabilities that transcend borders. Governments are increasingly implementing rigid measures to safeguard sensitive data and critical infrastructures against sophisticated cyber threats. As cyber diplomacy evolves, it requires an integrated approach that combines national security with international cooperation.

This course is designed to address these challenges by exploring policy frameworks, risk management strategies, and the legal aspects of cybersecurity. Participants will gain insights into the complexities of digital sovereignty and the imperative of aligning governmental safeguards with emerging technologies.

The programme will cover:
- the key stakeholders in cyber diplomacy and their roles in shaping global policy.
- an overview of legal and regulatory frameworks essential for developing solid cybersecurity strategies.
- the geopolitical challenges that are affecting international cyber relations.
- capacity-building sessions to enhance strategic planning and decision-making skills.
- case studies with real-world examples to foster interactive discussion on successful cyber defence initiatives.

CEIDA is fully acquainted with research on cybersecurity and artificial intelligence. Building on its 40+ years of working with Italian governmental institutions, it focuses on developing and enhancing expertise, know-how and capabilities that can foster resilient strategies to secure our digital future.

It is therefore a privilege to cooperate with the ESDC and host the "Cyber Diplomacy Advanced Course" in Italy, at our campus in Rome.

The ESDC is committed to an inclusive, gender-sensitive and discrimination-free environment. It is only within an inclusive environment that all people, and therefore the ESDC and its partners, can realise their true potential. We therefore particularly encourage underrepresented applicants to apply.

The course is open to mid-ranking to senior officials (civilian and military) from EU Member States/EU institutions, bodies and agencies. It will equip participants with the tools needed to contribute effectively to the field of cyber diplomacy.

The course is scheduled to take place from **18 to 20 June 2025** in a residential format in **Rome** at the CEIDA Campus - Villa Palestro – Via Palestro 24.

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to this advanced course on Cyber Diplomacy. Please find below all the relevant details concerning the registration process and the draft programme.

Cristian Salomon Macchia

CEIDA

Cristian Salomon Macchia

Fergal O'Regan

Acting Head of the

European Security and Defence College

Annexes
A. Course administrative instructions
B. Draft programme
C. Logistics details

Course administrative instructions

'Cyberdiplomacy Advanced Course'

(ESDC activity number 24-25/207.b/2)

18 – 20 June 2025 (fully residential) at CEIDA, Rome, Italy

Date: 18 to 20 June 2025 in fully residential format.

Maximum number of participants: 50.

Location: Italy, Rome – CEIDA Campus - Via Palestro, 24

Language: English (without translation or interpretation).

Target audience: the course is open to mid-ranking to senior officials (civilian and military) from EU Member States/EU institutions, bodies and agencies.

How to apply: applications from **EU Member States and institutions** are to be filled in by the national ENLIST nominators through the ESDC secure registration system using the following link https://esdc.europa.eu/enlist/login, **no later than 21 May 2025**. A list of relevant ENLIST nominators can be found on the ESDC website here: https://esdc.europa.eu/nominators/.

Registration: registration will not be final until confirmed by the ESDC Secretariat. When the participants' list is finalised, the course administrators will contact the selected participants and provide detailed information about the course.

Please do not book flights and accommodation before receiving the confirmation message.

Medical emergency: costs should be covered by the participants' medical insurance provided by the sending country/organisation. The organiser will not provide health or accident insurance for participants.

Dress code: business attire for all participants, both civilians and military personnel.

Cost: the course is free of charge. The sending authorities will cover all costs for travel and accommodation. It is recommended that participants arrive at Rome International Airport by Tuesday 17 June 2025 at the latest. Participants should arrange their own travel and accommodation. Further information will be sent to participants following registration.

E-learning: the course begins with an online (asynchronous) e-learning part on the ESDC's e-learning platform (ILIAS LMS), which needs to have been completed before the residential part begins. Both parts are compulsory. Detailed information will be shared with the selected participants.

Supporting services: all administrative information, programmes and material will be made available to the selected participants through the ESDC's e-learning platform (ILIAS LMS).

Attendance: mandatory for all course days. A certificate will be awarded to those course participants who have completed the full course, including the mandatory e-learning modules.

Diversity and inclusion. The ESDC seeks to create a gender-sensitive and inclusive environment in all its courses, activities and day-to-day work. Everyone, and therefore the ESDC and its partners, can only reach their true potential in an inclusive environment. We do 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 institutes do not tolerate any conduct that violates these values.

ESDC 'Cyberdiplomacy Advanced Course' (ESDC activity number 24-25/207.b/2), 18 – 20 June 2025 (fully residential) at CEIDA, Via Palestro, 24, Rome, Italy

Course points of contact

PoC at the European Security and Defence College:	PoC at the CEIDA - Centro Italiano di Direzione Aziondale, Rome, Italy:
• Mr **Giuseppe Zuffanti** Coordinator for cyber issues and for the Cyber ETEE platform – Project Manager and Training Manager for Cyber – National Expert giuseppe.zuffanti@eeas.europa.eu	• Mr. **Edoardo Magnotta** Course Director General Manager CEIDA e.magnotta@ceida.com

European Security and Defence College (ESDC)

CEIDA - Centro Italiano di Direzione Aziondale, Rome, Italy

"Cyberdiplomacy Advanced Course"

(ESDC activity number 24-25/207.b/2)

DRAFT PROGRAMME

18 June – 20 June 2025 – Residential format

Course Venue:
CEIDA - Centro Italiano di Direzione Aziondale, Via Palestro, 24 - 00185 Roma RM, Italy

Course Director
CEIDA - Centro Italiano di Direzione Aziondale
Edoardo Magnotta

European Security and Defence College (ESDC)
Coordinator for Cyber issues and for the Cyber ETEE Platform
Project Manager/Training Manager for Cyber – National Expert
Giuseppe Zuffanti

DAY 1 (CEST)	Wednesday, 18 June 2025
09:00 – 09:30	*Registration*
	SESSION 1 – WELCOME INTRODUCTION
09:30– 10:00	**Welcome address:** • ***CEIDA – Campus Villa Palestro*** - *Via Palestro, 24 - Rome, Italy* • ***Other Italian authorities:*** *to be confirmed* • *Mr. **Giuseppe Zuffanti,** Coordinator for cyber issues and for the Cyber ETEE Platform – National Expert, **European Security and Defence College (ESDC),** Brussels*
10:00 – 10:30	**Opening Address, the ESDC and the ESDC Cyber ETEE Platform:** • *Mr. **Giuseppe Zuffanti,** Coordinator for cyber issues and for the Cyber ETEE Platform – National Expert, European Security and Defence College (ESDC), Brussels*
10:30 – 11:15	**Informal Tour-de-Table and group photo** • *Presentation of participants*
11:15 – 11:35	*Coffee break*
	SESSION 2
11:35 – 13:00	*Relevance of cyber and digital diplomacy.* *The role of multinational organisations.* *The role of state and non-state actors.*
	Q&A
13: 00 – 14:00	*Lunch break*
	SESSION 3
14:00 – 16:30	*The role of EU organisations involved in cyber diplomacy* *The governance of cyber diplomacy*
	Q&A
16:30 – 16:50	*Coffee break*
	SESSION 3
16:50 – 17:30	*Principles of the UN Charter* *International laws: human rights, criminal law, armed conflict* *International wrongful acts and attribution*

	Tallinn Manual
	Q&A
17:30 – 18:00	***Closing remarks Day 1***
19:00 – 20:00	***Icebreaking Light Dinner***

DAY 2 (CEST)	Thursday, 19 June 2025
09:00 – 09:30	*Registration*
	SESSION 4
09:30 – 11:00	*Cyber threats* *Cyber-resilience against any kind of cyber attacks* *Q&A*
11:00 – 11:20	***Coffee break***
	SESSION 5
11:20 – 13:00	*EU's tool to prevent, deter and respond to cyber threats*
	Q&A
13:00 – 14:00	***Lunch break***
	SESSION 6
14:00 - 16:00	*EU Cyber Diplomacy Toolbox and EU Cyber Defence Policy* *Disinformation and influence operations*
16:00 – 16:200	***Coffee break***
16:20 – 17:45	*Hybrid threats, hybrid warfare and deterrence* *Q&A*
17:45 – 18:00	***Closing remarks Day 2***

DAY 3 (CEST)	Friday, 20 June 2025
09:00 – 09:15	*Registration*
	SESSION 7
09:15 – 11:00	*International law and other rules* *Recommendations of UN GGE and OEWG* *National/local/regional initiatives* *Q&A*
11:00 – 11:15	*Coffee break*
	SESSION 8
11:15 – 13:00	*Case study on the EU Cyber Diplomacy Toolbox*
	SESSION 9 – CERTIFICATE CEREMONY
13:00 – 13:30	• *Edoardo Magnotta, General Manager* **CEIDA***, Rome, Italy* • *Mr*. **Giuseppe Zuffanti,** *Coordinator for Cyber issues and for the Cyber ETEE Platform – Project Manager/Training Manager for Cyber - National Expert,* **European Security and Defence College (ESDC)***, Brussels*
	End of the Course

ESDC Secretariat, 1046 Brussels
https://esdc.europa.eu
giuseppe.zuffanti@eeas.europa.eu

ESDC' Course organiser:
Coordinator for Cyber issues and for the Cyber ETEE Platform
Project Manager/Training Manager for Cyber- National Expert
Mr. Giuseppe Zuffanti

From Leonardo da Vinci International Airport, Fiumicino: **By train to Rome Termini station** **https://leonardo-express.com/en/en-leonardo-express-tickets/** **+ Metro, Bus, Taxi**	From Termini, 800 metres walk or take metro B, Laurentina direction, Castro Pretorio stop.
From Ciampino Airport: **With Ciampino Airlink, the new combined train + bus service** **https://www.trenitalia.com/en/services/ciampino-airlink.html** **+ Metro, Bus, Taxi**	To Termini
From "Roma Temini" train station, Rome **by** **Metro, Bus, Taxi**	800 metres walk from Termini
METRO	metro B, Laurentina direction, Castro Pretorio stop.