



FRENCH INSTITUTE FOR HIGHER NATIONAL DEFENCE STUDIES
EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE COLLEGE

INVITATION TO THE COURSE
"THE EUROPEAN UNION FACING HYBRID THREATS"

(Activity Number 22-23/40/1)

Brussels, December 13-15, 2022

The French Institute for Higher National Defense Studies (IHEDN) has the honor to organize, within the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), a course entitled "The European Union facing hybrid threats". This course will be organized in Brussels, from December 13 to December 15, 2022.

The return of high-intensity warfare in Europe, with the current war in Ukraine, underscores the recent transformation of the geopolitical but also strategic environment at the European level. In this context, countering hybrid threats, which can be generally described as the exploitation of vulnerabilities by state and non-state actors, remain one of the most complex and acute challenges the European Union and its Member States are facing.

Hybrid actions are characterized by their ambiguity, through the combination of conventional and unconventional means. Defined as transversal insofar as they can impact various domains at the same time, in a highly volatile security environment, characterized by an increased competition between state powers, hybrid threats call for adequate and robust responses at the European level.

From an EU point of view, the Strategic Compass, the first white paper and defence at the EU level, adopted in March 2022 and based on a joint analysis of the different threats and analysis the EU is facing, underlines the necessity to enhance the resilience of the Union through the detection, the prevention and the elaboration of coordinated responses, in close cooperation with partners and allies, particularly with NATO, to hybrid threats. In this perspective, the implementation of the Hybrid Toolbox and Response Teams which aim at fostering complementarity but also closer coordination between the different actors involved in detecting and responding to hybrid threats. The 2020 EU Security Union Strategy also insisted on the

importance of implementing an innovative approach in countering hybrid threats in order to preserve the security of the EU, of its institutions and of its citizens.

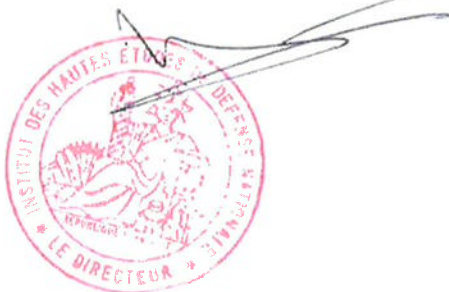
The course organized by the IHEDN is open to civil servants and military personnel from EU Member States and EU institutions, more specifically involved in defence and security issues and willing to update and deepen their knowledge on hybrid threats. Academics and members of the business community from all EU Member States can also be nominated in order to participate in this seminar. Selected attendees will, throughout this course, have the opportunity to benefit from the expertise of various representatives and specialists from EU Member States, from EU institutions but also from NATO.

This seminar will include an e-learning preparatory phase prior to the residential phase of the course which will take place in Brussels, from December 13 to December 15, 2022. It will be mandatory to attend both parts of the seminar (preparatory and residential parts). The working language during this seminar will be English. No translation will be provided.

It is therefore with great pleasure that we invite you to participate in this course. You will find below all details regarding the registration process.

Lieutenant-General Benoît DURIEUX

Director of the French Institute
for Higher National Defence Studies
and of Advanced Military Education



Mr. Holger OSTERRIEDER

Head of the European Security
and Defence College

COURSE_“THE EUROPEAN UNION FACING HYBRID THREATS”

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Administrative Instructions

- The course will take place in Brussels, in a residential format, in the Borschette Conference Centre.
- For quality purposes, the total number of participants is limited to **40 persons**. Typically, one seat per Member State will be allocated. However, depending on the total number of requests, one additional seat could be allocated. EU Member States and EU-Institutions/Agencies are invited to nominate each, **two (2) participants Maximum**.
- This course is open to civilian and military personnel from EU Member States and EU institutions / agencies.
- Applications are to be filled *via* the ESDC secure internet system *ENLIST*, by designated nominators, under <https://esdc.europa.eu/enlist/login>, **by November 4, 2022, at the latest**. A list with relevant ENLIST nominators can be retrieved from the ESDC website at <http://esdc.europa.eu/nominators/>. Registration will not be final until confirmed by the ESDC Secretariat and upon completion of the requested personal data on *ENLIST* by the confirmed participants.
- The participant's attendance during the course is mandatory **on all days**. Participants, who will have followed the whole course and completed the e-learning modules, will receive a certificate on the last day of the seminar.
- The course will be preceded by a mandatory e-learning module (**set to start from November 18th, 2021** on the ESDC e-learning platform *ILIAS*) **which needs to be finalized before the residential phase of the course starts**.
- All costs for travelling, accommodation and catering during the residential part of the course shall be covered by the participants and their respective authorities.
- Points of contact
 - Course Director : **Mrs. Christina VENARD** (christina.venard@ihedn.fr)
 - Training Manager from the ESDC Secretariat: **Mr. Simone COCCIA** (simone.coccia@eeas.europa.eu)

COURSE "THE EUROPEAN UNION FACING HYBRID THREATS"

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM



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| Tuesday, December 13, 2022 09.00_17.30 | |
| Registration & Welcome Coffee | |
| Opening Address & Keynote Speech | |
| Discussing the different dimensions of hybrid threats and warfare | |
| Wednesday, December 14, 2022 09.00_17.30 | |
| Countering hybrid threats_EU Strategies, Missions and Capabilities | |
| Coordinated approaches on hybrid threats (EU/NATO/external partners) | |
| Thursday, December 15, 2022 09.00_17.00 | |
| Enhancing the resilience of EU in countering hybrid threats_Assessing new security threats and challenges | |
| Closing Speech | |
| Certificate Ceremony | |