Invitation

Cyber ETEE Summer School
17-20 June 2025, Constanta, Romania
(ESDC Activity 24-25/260/1)

Cybersecurity has emerged as a critical pillar of European stability, shaping the future of both social systems and economic resilience. Recent international developments, including Russia's ongoing war in Ukraine, the growing threat of foreign information manipulation during European elections, and the accelerating pace of digital transformation, have only heightened the urgency of robust cybersecurity strategies. The European Union, as one of the most digitally integrated regions in the world, stands at the forefront of these challenges, making it a prime target for increasingly sophisticated cyber threats from both state-sponsored and non-state actors.

Among the sectors most exposed to evolving cyber risks is the maritime domain, an essential component of the global economy and a linchpin of European strategic infrastructure. As one of the world's most interconnected and vital industries, maritime transportation is experiencing a profound digital shift. This transformation, while enhancing efficiency and connectivity, also expands the attack surface and introduces new vulnerabilities. Maritime cybersecurity stands at the intersection of multiple critical infrastructures, where the risk of cascading disruptions and systemic contagion is severe and often difficult to quantify. With a sharp rise in cyberattacks targeting ports, vessels, and maritime logistics systems, there is an urgent need to strengthen cyber resilience across the sector and treat maritime cybersecurity as a strategic priority for the EU's economic and security future.

To address the complex issue of cybersecurity in the maritime field, the Maritime Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence of the Maritime University of Constanta, under the auspices of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), is pleased to organise the **Cyber ETEE Summer School from Tuesday 17 to Friday 20 June 2025, in Constanta.**

Both civilian and military officials, junior to senior representatives from EU Member States' governmental institutions, academia, research, training providers and EU bodies and agencies and interested experts are invited to participate. The registration of participants will be supported by ESDC nominators and via the ESDC platforms (see details in Annex A).

Cyber ETEE Summer School is tailored to unite a diverse cohort of professionals, renowned experts, and academic figures to dissect and discuss Europe's digital sovereignty and the nuanced cyber geopolitical landscape. This 4th Cyber ETEE Summer School 2025 edition is an immersive platform for education, training, exercise, and evaluation (ETEE) within the spheres of cybersecurity, geopolitics, diplomacy, and technology. This 4th edition, themed 'The Future of EU Cybersecurity: Integrating Emerging Technologies and Strategic

Policies for a Secure Europe', focuses on raising Europe's cybersecurity stance in the global arena through training and education. It acts as a vessel for analysing and addressing the intricate challenges and opportunities presented by the rapidly evolving digital domain. It is poised to have a strategic impact on enhancing Europe's cybersecurity capabilities.

The aim of the summer school is to engage participants through an array of lectures and hands-on workshops, deepening their insights into a range of pivotal cyber issues. These include the dynamics of EU cybersecurity policy, fostering resilience against prominent cyber threats, the intricacies of international cyber collaboration, and the cultivation of cyber resilience through an inclusive multi-stakeholder strategy. Additionally, a significant part of the dialogue will revolve around reconciling the dual imperatives of surveillance and the safeguarding of privacy, as well as leveraging avant-garde technologies to underpin next-wave cybersecurity measures. The Cyber ETEE Summer School 2025 aims to foster a multidisciplinary, collaborative ethos in tackling cybersecurity challenges. It aspires to catalyse knowledge transfer, enhance skill sets, and broaden professional networks among participants, encouraging the exchange of best practices between maritime actors and further addressing cybersecurity at national, European and international levels. This endeavour is intrinsically aligned with Europe's overarching strategic objective - to affirm its digital autonomy and bolster its defence mechanisms in the face of expanding cyber threats.

On behalf of the Romanian Maritime Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence of the Maritime University of Constanta and the European Security and Defence College, we are pleased to invite you to nominate suitable participants for this ESDC course, which is an excellent opportunity to gain an insight into "The Future of EU Cybersecurity: Integrating Emerging Technologies and Strategic Policies for a Secure Europe", and to gain and share expertise and information on Europe's maritime cybersecurity stance in the global arena through education, training, exercise and evaluation.

Prof. Dr. Gabriel Raicu
Rector
Maritime University of Constanta

Fergal O'REGAN
Acting Head,
European Security and Defence College

Annexes:
A – Summer School Administrative Instructions
B – Summer School Tentative Agenda

Annex A
Administrative Instructions

Cyber ETEE Summer School
(ESDC Activity Number 24-25/260/1)

Constanta, Romania, 17-20 June 2024

- **Target audience:** Both civilian and military officials, junior to senior representatives from EU Member States' governmental institutions, academia, research, training providers and EU bodies and agencies and interested experts from public sector are invited to participate.

- **Seats and nominations:** maximum number of 30 participants is expected.

- **Application and deadline:** the EU Member States, institutions, and agencies are invited to identify, select, and nominate their appropriate candidates . Applications should be submitted by designated nominators until 28 May 2025 using the ESDC ENLIST platform at https://esdc.europa.eu/enlist/login. A list of official nominators can be found on the ESDC website at http://esdc.europa.eu/nominators/.

  Registration will not be final until confirmed by the ESDC Secretariat. Please do not book flights and accommodation before receiving the confirmation.

  For any issue concerning the application, registration and nomination processes, please contact the course administrator, Ms Anna MALEC (ESDC Training Manager).

  The selection of participants will be based on applicant backgrounds, experience, suitability, gender balance and country of origin. The decision on which applications are accepted remains solely with the Romanian MARCYSCOE Course Director and the ESDC Secretariat. The course administrator will contact the selected participants and provide more detailed information about the course and logistics.

  Late registration: subject to the availability of seats, the course is open for late registration. Please contact the course administrator, Ms Anna MALEC (ESDC Training Manager, Anna.MALEC@eeas.europa.eu) or the Course Director, Prof. Dr. Gabriel RAICU (gabriel.raicu@cmu-edu.eu).

  Mandatory e-learning and attendance: the course consists of an e-learning preparatory phase (online) to be completed using the ESDC e-Learning platform ILIAS, as well as a residential activity in Constanta (Romania); both parts are compulsory. In order to complete the first part (i.e. the online modules), the ESDC will provide the relevant links to the selected participants. Participants must complete these online e-learning modules before the start of the residential part. The participants' attendance during the residential course in Constanta is mandatory on all days. A certificate will be awarded on the last day to those course participants who have completed both the e-learning phase and the residential course.

- **Course venue (location):** the course will be held at the premises of the Romanian Constanta Maritime University

- **Summer School (tuition) fees:** the Summer School has no registration or tuition fees.

- **Travel expenses, transfers, accommodation, meals and catering**: participants should arrange their own travel and accommodation. All costs for travelling to/from Constanta, accommodation, catering and meals (including breakfast), daily allowances, transfers and local transport must be covered by the participants or by their sending authorities.
  Hotel reservations: there are numerous hotels in the Constanta area, and participants are responsible for their own arrangements. Nevertheless, participants are recommended to stay at Cherica 4*, Continental Forum 4* and Dali 3* hotels. Participants can make their own booking arrangements.

  Local transport: for participants arriving at the Henri Coanda Airport in Bucharest, various transportation options are available for traveling to Constanta.

  For those seeking **private transport**, there ae services available like Kirvad or Direct Aeroport, which provide direct transfers from the airport to your hotel in Constanta. It is recommended to make a reservation at least one day before your flight to ensure availability.

  Rail transport from the Henri Coanda Airport (Bucharest) to Constanta, Romania:
    - First Segment: Depart from Henri Coanda Airport and arrive at Bucuresti Nord railway station. The estimated journey time is approximately 25 minutes, and ticket costs 5 RON (equivalent to 1 EUR).
    - Second Segment: Depart from Bucuresti Nord railway station and arrive in Constanta. The estimated travel time for this leg of the journey is around 2 hours and 15 minutes. The cost for a First-class ticket is 100 RON (approximately 20 EUR).
  For additional details and to purchase train tickets online, please refer to the link here.

  Recommended **public transport** from Constanta railway station to Constanta Maritime University, No. 2 Cuarțului Street, Constanta, Romania, 900504:
    - BOLT Ride Share: the estimated journey time is around 10 minutes, with an approximate cost of 20 RON (4 EUR).

- **Liabilities, medical and life insurance:** in the event of medical emergencies or accidents, the costs will be covered directly by the health, life and accident insurance provided by the participants' sending countries, national authorities or organisations. The organiser does not provide health, life or accident insurance for participants at the training activity or during their stay in Romania.

- **Dress code:** we recommend that participants wear business attire (or a dress) for the opening event and closing ceremony. Members of the armed forces, gendarmerie and police are not obliged to wear their uniforms, unless they prefer.

- **Arrival/departure:** participants are invited to arrive in Constanta on Monday 16 June 2024. The course will start at 09.00 on Tuesday 17 June 2024 and will finish at around 16.30 on Friday 20 June 2024.

- **Diversity and inclusion:** the ESDC is committed to an inclusive, gender-sensitive and discrimination-free environment. 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. Only in an inclusive environment can all people, and therefore the ESDC and its partners, realise their true potential. We therefore particularly encourage those applicants who are likely to be underrepresented to apply. The ESDC and the Romanian CMU will not tolerate any conduct that violates these values.

- The final course agenda will be distributed to all selected participants. Nevertheless, for matters regarding the course programme and planned activities, please do not hesitate to contact the Course Director, Prof. Dr. Gabriel RAICU (gabriel.raicu@cmu-edu.eu).

- **Points of contact:**
  - ✓ Course Director, Prof. Dr. Gabriel RAICU Gabriel.RAICU@cmu-edu.eu
    Vice-Rector, Maritime University of Constanta
  - ✓ ESDC Cyber ETEE Training Manager, Anna MALEC: Anna.MALEC@eeas.europa.eu
    ESDC Representative, ENLIST registration, E-Learning and course information

Programme

Time (UTC +3)	Class/Workshop
DAY 1 – Tuesday, 17 June 2025	
08:30 - 09:00	**Registration**
09:00 - 09:30	**Opening Remarks**
09:30 – 10:30	**Class 1** – The EU Cybersecurity Framework.
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:00	**Class 2 -** Fostering EU Collaborative Cybersecurity Initiatives
12:00 – 13:00	**Class 3** – Cybersecurity in the Context of EU Defence Initiatives
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 – 16:00	**Workshop 1 –** Crafting a Collaborative Cybersecurity Strategy for Europe's Digital Ecosystem
16:00 - 16:15	Coffee Break
16:15 - 16:45	**Keynote Speech 1**
DAY 2 – Wednesday, 18 June 2025	
09:00 - 10:00	**Class 4** – The EU Cyber Resilience: Challenges and Opportunities
10:00 - 11:00	**Class 5 -** Cybersecurity Standards and Best Practices in the EU
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:30	**Class 6 -** Incident Response Planning and Playbooks
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 - 15:30	**Workshop 2 -** Cyber Incident Response Management
15:30 - 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 - 16:15	**Keynote Speech 2**

DAY 3 – Thursday, 19 June 2025	
09:00 - 10:00	**Class 6** - Encryption and Data Protection Technologies
10:00 – 11:00	**Class 7** – Secure by Design - Agile Software Development
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:30	**Class 8** - Emerging Cybersecurity Technologies in the EU
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 – 15:30	**Workshop 3** - Cybersecurity Tech Sprint
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 – 16:15	**Keynote Speech 3**
DAY 4 – Friday, 20 June 2025	
09:00 – 10:00	**Class 9 -** The Role of Public-Private Partnerships in EU Cybersecurity
10:00 – 11:00	**Class 10** – Success Stories of EU Cybersecurity Collaborations
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:30	**Class 11** – Global Cyber Threat Landscape
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 – 14:00	**Summer School Wrap Up**
14:00 – 15:00	**Awarding Ceremony** - Celebrating Achievements of Summer School Participants