

**EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE COLLEGE
(the Austrian Federal Ministry of Defence
and the Austrian Centre for Peace)**

**Invitation to the
Core Course on Security Sector Reform
(24-25/11/2)**

Vienna, from 4 to 10 October 2024
hosted by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Defence,
the Austrian Centre for Peace and the European Security and Defence College

The Austrian Federal Ministry of Defence, the Austrian Centre for Peace (ACP) and the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) have the honour of co-organising the Core Course on Security Sector Reform, to be held in Stadtschlaining from 4 to 10 October 2024.

In accordance with the Standard ESDC Core Course on SSR Curriculum, the course aims to enhance the knowledge, skills, and competencies of participants in relation to the concept and principles of SSR as part of the EU integrated approach and other related EU policy and concepts, in particular 'the EU-wide strategic framework in support of Security Sector Reform'. It will highlight the key components of SSR, the various tools and techniques used by SSR practitioners and the challenges that an SSR advisor could face. It will also develop examples of good practice through the collective sharing of experience and provide tools to address future challenges and assess needs in relation to SSR. The course also aims to strengthen a network of SSR experts, with a common understanding of SSR.

At the end of this course participants will have a holistic understanding of SSR, a clear view of different organizations' (EU, UN, NATO, OSCE) approaches to SSR, and will be familiar with SSR related reform processes. Participants will be able to analyse and connect with various actors in the field of SSR, undertake assessments and apply their skills regarding planning, implementing, and monitoring of SSR activities to their work.

We would be pleased if you could nominate suitable candidates for this training activity, which offers them an excellent opportunity to gain an insight into recovery and stabilisation policies in the international context and CSDP and contribute to achieving the ultimate goal of the course, namely providing Member States and EU institutions with knowledgeable personnel, able to work in CSDP-related fields. The ESDC is committed to ensuring an inclusive, gender-sensitive and discrimination-free environment. 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 under-represented to apply.

Please find attached details concerning the registration process and a tentative programme.
The course will be open to third countries and international organisations.

Mr Bernhard FRANKL
Course Director
Austrian Federal Ministry of Defence

Mr Fergal O REGAN
Acting Head of the European
Security and Defence College

Ms Susanne J. GYÖRÖG
Senior Programme Manager,
Austrian Centre for Peace

ESDC Core Course on Security Sector Reform

4 to 10 October 2024

Administrative Information

(24-25/11/2)

- **Target group:** The course is open to mid- to senior level civilian, police and military personnel from EU Member States, relevant EU institutions and agencies, CSDP missions and operations and international organisations who are either involved in or designated to work in the field of security sector reform.
- **Application:** Registrations are to be made by using the online application form on the ACP website over this link: [ESDC Core Course on Security Sector Reform - ACP](#) and are subject to a selection process by the designated course admission board. The total number of participants is limited to 30. Selected participants will be confirmed by the ACP within two weeks after the set application deadline:
- **Registration & deadline:** The registration period will end on **18 August 2024**. **Registration will not be final until confirmed by the ACP.**
- **Language:** The working language will be English, without translation.
- **eLearning:** The course will be preceded by a mandatory e-learning module, which needs to be finalised before the residential phase starts.
- **Attendance:** The participant's attendance during the course is mandatory on all days. A certificate will be awarded on the last day to those course participants who have completed the full course, including the e-learning module.
- **Course venue:** The venue for the entire course will be a selected hotel in Vienna, Austria.
- **Costs:** All costs for international travel and accommodation (including breakfast and lunch) are to be covered by the sending authorities or the participants themselves.
- **Travel:** Participants are expected to arrive in Vienna on 4 October around mid-day and may depart on 10 October in the late evening. The ACP organises a free collective bus transfer from/to Vienna International Airport. **Relevant details will be communicated to confirmed participants.**

- **Hotel:** We have made some pre-reservations including a special package price of approx. 150 EUR per day at the designated course hotel in Stadtschlaining, Austria; **details will be communicated to confirmed participants.**
- **Hosted Events:** On the evening of the arrival day (Friday 4 October) there will be an ice breaker and on Wednesday 9 October an official networking dinner offered by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Defence and organised by the Austrian Centre for Peace.
- **Dress code:** Formal dress code for the opening (suit & tie, lady's equivalent, no.1 uniforms); civilian dress for the official dinner and the regular course days (smart casual, i.e. no jacket or tie, working dress).
- **Liability and insurance:** In the event of a medical emergency, the costs must be covered by the participant's medical insurance provided by the sending country/organisation. The organisers will not provide health or accident insurance for participants taking part in the event.
- **Visa:** Participants needing a visa to enter Austria are advised to book an appointment at the appropriate embassy as soon as they apply to participate. The ACP will issue a supporting letter along with the confirmation of participation. Obtaining a visa in good time and all related costs are the responsibility of the sending entity/the participant.

▪ **POCs:**

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Tentative Programme Overview

ESDC Core Course on SSR from 4 - 10 October in Stadtschlaining, Austria

| Fri, 4.10. | Sat, 5.10. | Sun, 6.10. | Mon, 7.10. | Tue, 8.10. | Wed, 9.10. | Thur, 10.10. |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Arrival of participants | START 08:45h | | | | | |
| | Introduction to the concept of SSR | SSR in Fragile Contexts | SSR in Political Context | DDR | Justice Reform & Transitional Justice | Penal and Corrections Services Reform |
| | Good Governance | Advising in SSR | Case Studies | EU Approach to SSR | Intelligence Reform | Defence Reform |
| | LUNCH 60' | | | | | |
| | SSR and Gender | Non state security actors | UN Approach to SSR | OSCE Approach to SSR | NATO Approach to SSR | SALW |
| 16:00h Opening & Introduction Course Photograph | Mapping the Security Sector | Role of Civil Society in SSR | Police Reform | Civil Society and SSR | Integrated Border Management | Building Integrity |
| Welcome Drinks | END CA. 17:00 | | | | Social Dinner | END CA. 17:00 |