



Brussels, 22 January 2024

Invitation to the

13th ESDC advanced course for political advisers in CSDP missions and operations

(Activities no. 23-24/18/1 - 23-24/18/2 - 23-24/18/3)

Brussels/Geneva/Vienna

April - June - July 2024

Since 2003, the European Union has played a crucial role in crisis management through its Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). With more than 35 missions and operations worldwide, the EU has proved its readiness to respond effectively and in timely fashion to emerging challenges.

Effective crisis management requires a combination of adequate capabilities and well-trained personnel. In response, one of the key tasks of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) is to contribute to the development of human capital and build a pool of crisis management experts with a wide range of knowledge. The College provides basic and advanced courses ranging from orientation to specialised training for civil-military purposes specifically designed to facilitate a comprehensive and integrated approach. The forthcoming 'ESDC Advanced course for political advisers in CSDP Missions and Operations' aims to complement this effort. It will consist of three modules organised and offered by three partner institutes to the course, Guglielmo Marconi University (UNIMARCONI) in Rome, the Geneva Centre for Security Policy in Geneva, and the Austrian National Defence Academy in Vienna, which will cover the requirements for personnel assigned to CSDP missions and operations as Political Advisers.

We are therefore pleased to invite you to this ESDC training course in support of the Common Security and Defence Policy. For further information, please refer to the course outline and the administrative instructions in the annexes.

Dr Alessio Accomanni

President of the
Guglielmo Marconi University

LTG Erich Csitkovits

Commandant of the
Austrian National Defence Academy

Ambassador Thomas Greminger

Director of the
Geneva Centre for Security Policy

Fergal O'Reagan

Deputy Head of the
European Security and Defence College

Course outline of the

**13th ESDC advanced course for
political advisers in CSDP missions and operations**

Brussels/Geneva/Vienna April–June–July 2024

Organised by

*Guglielmo Marconi University (UNIMARCONI)
Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)
Austrian National Defence Academy (NDA)*

*under the aegis of the
European Security and Defence College (ESDC)*

Course Aim:

- a) Give participants an understanding of the tasks and challenges that political advisers at both operational and strategic levels in CSDP missions or operations are likely to faced,
- b) Provide a detailed overview of the core principles of the EU's External Action Service and the framework, skills and working techniques for political advisers, both in capital cities and in the field
- c) Enhance participants' existing skills through practical training exercises
- d) Encourage networking among individuals working in advisory positions

Target Group:

Personnel working in political advisory positions/departments in national capital cities, EU institutions, EU agencies and CSDP missions and operations.

Number of Participants:

Maximum 28 per course.

Course Structure:

Three five-day modules:

Module 1, to be held in Brussels,

Module 2, to be held in Geneva,

Module 3, to be held in Vienna.

Participants must attend and complete an internet-based distance learning course prior to each module. The distance learning course is provided on the ESDC e-learning platform (ILIAS).

Course modules

Module 1: Framework for political advisors

Course location: ESDC, Brussels

Date: 22 - 26 April 2024 (Monday - Friday)

Host: Guglielmo Marconi University (UNIMARCONI)

Course Director: Prof Andrea Ungari



Contents:

- The strategic context:
 - New geopolitics and European grand strategy
 - Overall priorities and goals of the CSDP – an emerging strategy
 - Regional strategies: southern and eastern neighbourhood, Africa, maritime security
- The institutional context:
 - The crisis response system of the EEAS
 - From political decision-making to operational plan
 - Views from permanent representations and from within the institutions
 - Regional and horizontal issues

Module 2: Skills for political advisors

Course location: GCSP, Chemin Eugene-Rigot 2D, 1211 Geneva

Date: 3 - 7 June 2023 (Monday - Friday)

Host: Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)

Course Director: Christina Orsich



Contents:

- Political analysis
- Negotiation techniques
- Peace negotiation, peace mediation and mediation support
- Effective writing: political reporting and speechwriting
- Understanding the main effective communication tools
- Challenges and expectations of advising

Module 3: Practical work environment and simulation exercise

Course location: NDA, Stiftgasse 2A, 1070 Vienna

Date: 1 - 5 July 2024 (Monday - Friday)

Host: Austrian National Defence Academy (NDA)

Course Director: Sandra Kick



Contents:

- Current and future deployment of political advisors in various CSDP missions and operations
- Practical implementation of contents of modules 1 and 2
- Political advising in current challenging security-political environment
- Immersion into the mission and operation field environment of political advisors through coordination with other key mission staff
- Political advisers training exercise

Administrative Instructions

13th ESDC advanced course for political advisers in CSDP missions and operations

- **Target group:** participants should be working in political advisory positions/departments in Member States, EU institutions and agencies, CSDP missions and operations. Subject to national decision, they can be academics, civilians, diplomats, members of the business community, military and police. For participants nominated, attending the ESDC orientation course prior to this course is highly recommended.
- **Fee:** the course has no tuition fee.
- **Places and nominations:** the total number of participants is limited to 28. Typically, one place will be allocated to each Member State, but depending on the total number of requests, one additional place may be allocated.
- **Applications:** applications from EU Member States and EU institutions and agencies must be submitted via the ESDC secure internet system ENLIST, by designated nominators, at <https://esdc.europa.eu/enlist/login> no later than **19 March 2024**. A list of relevant ENLIST nominators can be found on the ESDC website at <https://esdc.europa.eu/nominators/>. The selected participants will receive a confirmation email by **22 March 2024** at the latest.
- **Registration** will not be final until it has been confirmed by the ESDC Secretariat AND the confirmed participants have provided the requested personal data in ENLIST.
- **Language:** the language regime of the CSDP (English without translation) applies.
- **Attendance:** attendance is mandatory every day of the three modules. Participants will receive an ESDC certificate on the last day of the last module only if they have completed the whole course, including the e-learning modules.
- **Residential part of the course** (see Course outline - Annex 1)
- **E-learning:** the course will be preceded by the mandatory e-learning autonomous knowledge units (AKUs), which will be available from **25 March 2024** on the ESDC e-learning platform ILIAS. Course participants will have to complete the autonomous knowledge units (AKUs) before the residential phase of each module begins (see Course outline - Annex 1).
- **Costs:** the sending authorities will cover all travel, accommodation and catering (including breakfast) costs incurred during the residential part of the course. Transportation will not be provided by the course organisers.
- **Dress code:** the dress code is 'daily office uniform' for military personnel and 'business casual' (e.g. jacket with tie for men) for civilian personnel.
- **Liabilities and insurance:** in the event of a medical emergency, participants' medical insurance, provided by the sending country/organisation will cover all costs. The organiser will not provide health or accident insurance for course participants.

Please do not book flights or accommodation before receiving confirmation of attendance.

Points of Contact:

Training Manager – European Security and Defence College

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Course Director - Module 1 (Brussels)

Guglielmo Marconi University (UNIMARCONI)

Prof Andrea Ungari

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Course Director - Module 2 (Geneva)

Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)

Christina Orisich

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Course Director - Module 3 (Vienna)

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