



Invitation to the
2024 Security and Defence Seminar
European Union-Latin America and Caribbean
Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 17-20 September 2024

Under the aegis of the European External Action Service (EEAS), the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), together with the Spanish Centro Superior de Estudios de la Defensa Nacional (CESEDEN), is organising a bi-regional European Union - Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) security and defence seminar in 2024, following the three successful editions of the European Union - South America and Mexico seminar on the common security and defence policy (CSDP), held in Spain in 2016, 2018 and 2023.

This seminar will take place **in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 17 to 20 September 2024**, in cooperation with the Escuela Superior de Guerra (ESDEG), the Escuela Naval de Cadetes Almirante Padilla (ENAP), the Ministry of National Defence and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia and the Embassy of the Kingdom of Spain in Colombia.

Building on the recent policy dialogues at regional and bilateral level, high level seminar participants from Latin American and Caribbean countries and from EU Member States and relevant institutions will exchange views on emerging global challenges, share good practices and explore opportunities to further enhance dialogue and practical cooperation on security and defence matters. Topics such as hybrid threats, cybersecurity, climate change, foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI) and maritime security will be explored from the perspectives of both regions. A draft programme is attached.

We are pleased to **invite your respective countries to nominate, in order of priority, a maximum of two participants** with the appropriate profile to contribute to the seminar discussions **by 5 June 2024**.

For further information, please refer to the attached administrative instructions.

Yours faithfully,

Fergal O' Reagan
Acting Head of the ESDC





Annex 1

Administrative instructions

Target group: the seminar is open to both civilian and military personnel from EU Member States, relevant EU institutions and agencies and Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries. Participants should be senior-level officials, preferably representing either the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defence and/or law enforcement services of the participant country.

Fee: the seminar has no tuition fee.

Places and nominations: EU Member States and EU institutions and agencies are each invited to nominate a maximum of two participants participant in order of priority. As a general rule, one place will be allocated to each country, institution and agency but, depending on the maximum capacity of the event venue, the total number of requests received, one additional place may be assigned by the seminar organisers.

Applications: applications from EU Member States and EU institutions and agencies must be submitted via the ESDC's secure internet system ENLIST, by designated nominators, at <https://esdc.europa.eu/enlist/login> no later than **5 June 2024**. A list of ENLIST nominators can be found on the ESDC website at <https://esdc.europa.eu/nominators/>.

Registration: registration will not be final until it has been confirmed by the ESDC Secretariat AND the confirmed participants have provided the required personal data in ENLIST.

Language: the seminar will be held in Spanish and English. Simultaneous interpretation into English and Spanish will be provided throughout.

Attendance: participants' attendance is mandatory every day of the seminar. Participants will receive an ESDC certificate on the last day only if they have completed the whole seminar.

Residential part of the seminar: this will take place in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 17-20 September 2024 (see draft programme - Annex 2)

Costs: sending authorities will cover all travel, accommodation and catering (including breakfast) costs incurred during the residential part of the seminar. Transportation will not be provided by the seminar 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 seminar organisers will not provide health or accident insurance for seminar participants.

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

Diversity and inclusion

The ESDC seeks to create a gender-sensitive and gender-inclusive environment in all its seminars, activities and day-to-day work. Only in an inclusive environment can all people, and therefore the ESDC and its partners, reach their true potential. 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. The ESDC and the training institutes do not tolerate any conduct that violates these values.

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Annex 2

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Tuesday 17/09/2024	Wednesday 18/09/2024	Thursday 19/09/2024	Friday 20/09/2023
<p>08:30-09:00 Registration, welcome & admin</p> <p>09:00-09:30 Opening address</p> <p>09:30-10:30 International security context. Role of EU in global action</p> <p>10:30-11:30 Group photo & Coffee break</p> <p>11:30 -12:30 Security & defence. Cooperation and dialogue</p>	<p>08:30-09:30 EU CSDP missions and operations</p> <p>09:30-10:30 Crisis response. Peace-keeping operations</p> <p>10:30-11:00 Coffee break</p> <p>11:00-12:30 EU-LAC civilian and military capability development</p>	<p>08:30-09:30 Space. Opportunities and challenges for security and defence</p> <p>09:30-10:30 International cooperation in combatting drug trafficking and transnational crime</p> <p>10:30-11:00 Coffee break</p> <p>11:00-12:30 Transnational threats and challenges (cyber space, hybrid warfare)</p>	<p>08:30-09:30 Outcomes of interactive sessions</p> <p>09:30-10:30 EU-LAC opportunities to improve dialogue and cooperation for peace and security</p> <p>10:30-11:00 Coffee break</p> <p>11:00-11:30 Seminar wrap-up</p> <p>11:30-11:50 Closing ceremony and awarding of certificates</p> <p>11:50-12:00 Closing speech</p>
<p>12:30-13:30 Lunch break</p>	<p>12:30-13:30 Lunch break</p>	<p>12:30-13:30 Lunch break</p>	
<p>13:30-14:30 EU CSDP political & strategic framework</p> <p>14:30-15:00 Introduction to interactive sessions</p> <p>15:00-16:00 Interactive session I</p> <p>19:30 Icebreaker event</p>	<p>13:30-14:30 EU-LAC experience in maritime security</p> <p>14:30-15:00 Coffee break</p> <p>15:00-16:00 Interactive session II</p>	<p>13:30-14:30 Foreign information manipulation and interference. Impact on security</p> <p>14:30-15:00 Coffee break</p> <p>15:00-16:00 Interactive session III</p>	