

Invitation to the Course 'PSYOPS for Peace, Security and Defence'

(Act. N.25-26/82/1)

Brussels, 13 May 2025

The École Universitaire Internationale, under the auspices of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), has the pleasure and honour of holding the pilot edition of the course 'PSYOPS for Peace, Security and Defence'. The course will take place in Pordenone, Italy, from **29 September to 3 October 2025** (residential format).

The course will address current needs at operational and on-field level in the domain of PSYOPs, and would be useful for EEAS staff, Member States and CSDP missions personnel, to protect them and to prepare officers to counteract PSYOPs.

The training activity will merge scientific and innovative contributions tailored for the peace, security and defence environment with operational and practical instructions. The training activity will address ethnic psychology in order to be able to be extremely precise when handling and managing possible attacks from specific points; the management of the neuronal connectome, in order to have the primary pattern used in cyber-attacks. It will also address operational psychoneurology and applied neuropsychology, how the human brain works, what are its limits, the augmentation of its capabilities in the analysis of situations and scenarios, in the speed in finding solutions and put them in practice, in developing and choosing staff members. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about threat-dependent operational strategy, resolution and post-resolution handling, threat early detection, counteraction and counterstrategies in PSYOPs.

We would like to invite you to nominate participants for this course, which offers an excellent opportunity to contribute to the primary objective of the ESDC, i.e. providing Member States and EU institutions with knowledgeable personnel able to work efficiently in CSDP-related fields.

Participants should be mid- to senior-level officials or experts (civilians, diplomats, police and military).

Fergal O'Regan



Acting Head of the
European Security and
Defence College

Prof. Sabrina Magris Psy.D; J.D.



President of the
École Universitaire Internationale

Administrative instructions

- **Target group:** The course is open to mid-ranking/senior officers and experts (civilian, military, diplomats and police) from EU Member States and relevant EU bodies.
- **Places and nominations:** Around 35 places will be available for international participants. Typically, one or two places are allocated to each EU Member State, but depending on the total number of requests, one additional place may be offered. Our objective is to put together a group that is balanced in terms of gender and professional background.
- **Applications:** Applications from the EU Member States are to be filed via the ESDC secure internet system ENLIST, by designated nominators, at <https://esdc.europa.eu/enlist/login> **no later than 18 July 2025**. A list of ENLIST nominators can be found on the ESDC website at <https://esdc.europa.eu/nominators/>.
- **Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory on all days of the course. Participants will receive an ESDC certificate on the last day only if they have completed the entire course.
- **Inclusivity:** The ESDC strives to create a **gender-sensitive and inclusive environment** in all its courses, 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 institutions will not tolerate any conduct that violates these values.
- **Language:** The course will be conducted in English, without translation.
- **E-learning:** The course is preceded by a mandatory e-learning module (set to start on **25 July 2025** on the ESDC e-learning platform ILIAS), which course participants will have to complete before the residential session starts (**29 September 2025**). Connection details will be provided in due course to all registered participants.
- **Residential part of the course:** This part of the course will take place in Pordenone, Italy, on the premises of Hub – Via Concordia, 7 – 33170 Pordenone (PN), Italy, from the **29 September to 03 October 2025** (Monday 09:00 to Friday 13:00).
- **Accommodation:** the organiser has arranged contracted hotel accommodation for course participants. Selected participants will be contacted in due course by organising staff in order to select and confirm accommodation options using the contracted fee. The hotel is located walking distance from the course venue. Please contact organising staff for further information.
- **Costs:** Sending authorities must cover all travel, accommodation and catering (including breakfast) costs for participants from EU Member States.
- **Dress code:** Formal dress or service uniform for the first and last days, smart casual clothing for the rest of the course

- **Liabilities and insurance:** In the event of a medical emergency, participants' medical insurance, provided by the sending country/organisation must cover all costs. The organiser does not provide health or accident insurance for participants in the event. The activity will commence on 09:00 on Monday 29 September and end at 13:00 on Friday 03 October 2025.
- Additional info: Course participants will receive further detailed information about the course in due time.

- **Points of contact:**

ESDC – Maria Grazia Romano, Training Manager, Coordinator for Civilian CSDP Training, Education & Research – email: maria-grazia.romano@eeas.europa.eu

École Universitaire Internationale – email:
esdc@ecoleuniversitaireinternationale.net

Loogistic information

MEALS

Lunches can be taken at the Course Venue canteen on a voluntary basis and at the participants' own expenses. Participants wishing to have lunch during the course shall buy the ticket on the first day.

Lunch will cost €12.50 each day and the payment is cash only (please bring the exact amount with you (€ 12.50 * number of meals requested)).

Cafeteria

Cafeteria is available within the Course Venue.

Ice Breaker

An Icebreaker for participants and organizing staff will be hosted.

NEAREST AIRPORTS

VENICE International Airport "Marco Polo"

TREVISO Airport "A. Canova"

TRIESTE "Ronchi dei Legionari"

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE COURSE VENUE

- From VENICE Airport:

You can take a Bus that will take you directly from the Airport to the City of Pordenone. The Bus line is the LINEA 68 and you can book the ticket selecting the LINEA 68 at <https://www.atvo.it/index.php?lingua=en&area=menustandard&idpadre=25&idmenu=25>

Once you have selected the LINEA 68 you shall indicate the From AEROPORTO MARCO POLO (VCE) to PORDENONE – AUTOSTAZIONE (which is located near the train station).

You can take a bus (ACTV LINEA 15 – you can find the bus timetable attached) that connects the Airport with the Railway station of Venezia Mestre from which you can take a train that goes directly to Pordenone train station.

You can book your bus ticket upon arrival at the airport and your train ticket on site at the train station or online at <https://www.trenitalia.com/en.html> when booking indicate departing from VENEZIA MESTRE arriving to PORDENONE.

- From TREVISO Airport:

You can take a bus (Treviso Airlink) that connects the Airport with the Railway station of Treviso from which you can take a train that goes directly to Pordenone train station.

You can book your tickets online at <https://www.trenitalia.com/en.html> when booking indicate departing From TREVISO AEROPORTO arriving to PORDENONE. It is a combined tickets that allows you to take both the bus and the train once arrived in the Treviso train

station from the airport.

From the Pordenone Train Station the accommodation can be reached either by foot or by taxi. Taxis are located immediately out of the train station.

- From TRIESTE Airport:

You take the train from the Airport to Pordenone train station.

You can book your tickets online at <https://www.trenitalia.com/en.html> when booking indicate departing From TRIESTE AIRPORT- Ronchi D. Legionari arriving to PORDENONE.

Program Overview

Dispensing words: mediate, exalt, manage. PsyOps: why matter
<p>CSDP and PsyOps challenges: EU risks and threats</p> <p>PsyOps and Influence - *Session in collaboration with RIEAS, Athens-Greece</p> <p>Detect and Measure foreign PsyOps actions</p>
The value of words
The value and role of emotions
<p>Organs frequencies. How modifying frequencies modifies behaviour, nutrition, foods</p> <p>How to modify behaviour, thought, reasoning without touching the brain</p> <p>When they modify the people thought using only words</p>
Geopolitics: Nano politics and micro politics of interests
PsyOps for peace: features and economic/industrial developments
<p>Target-Audience Analysis: different focuses</p> <p>Micro and Macro environment analysis (i.e. capitals/small-remote locations)</p> <p>Experts from the field. Focus on local population. Focus on EU personnel and staff.</p>
<p>Agents of Influence: characteristics, structure, operations</p> <p>Agent of Influence development to impact on a specific Target-Audience. Focus on youth.</p> <p>PsyOps operations using social-media: pro and cons</p>
<p>Communication and manipulation of communication and images for PsyOps purpose</p> <p>Conceal manipulation: techniques and tools</p> <p>Case study</p>
<p>Protection of EU personnel in mission from PsyOps threat</p> <p>How to identify PsyOps: elements, instruments and insights. Detect infiltration during the structuring of the mission, the mission development, the operational phase.</p> <p>How to identify PsyOps in missions</p> <p>Detect opinion leaders and opinion makers active in PsyOps operations</p>
Countering PsyOps
Building PsyOps operations in the field of CSDP
<p><u>FEATURED TOPICS:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applied Neuro-Psychology to Security and Defence - Human being cognition and behavioural reactions - The impact of ego on the perception