



Invitation

ADVANCED RESEARCH INTO HYBRID THREATS TRENDS

Pilot course - Activity number 23-24/DOC/2

The European Doctoral School on CSDP, under the aegis of the European Security and Defence College, in partnership with 'Mihai Viteazul' National Intelligence Academy, has the honour to organise and to invite participants to the course entitled **Advanced Research into Hybrid Threats Trends**. The course will take place from 30 October to the 3 November 2023, in residential format, at 'Mihai Viteazul' National Intelligence Academy, in Bucharest, Romania.

The course will approach issues regarding the changing landscape of hybrid threats, their tactics and main challenges at EU level; the EU integrated approach to situational awareness, resilience, response and cooperation against hybrid threats; cyberattacks and cybersecurity; as well as foreign information, manipulation and interference.

The participants in the **Advanced Research into Hybrid Threats Trends** course are **PhD fellows** enrolled in universities that are part of the European Doctoral School on CSDP network, as well as **Member States' representatives** designated through national points of contact.

The ESDC is committed to an inclusive, gender-sensitive and anti-discriminatory environment. Only in an inclusive environment can all people, and therefore the ESDC and its partners, reach their true potential. We therefore particularly encourage applicants who are likely to be under-represented to apply.

The final goal of the **Advanced Research into Hybrid Threats Trends** course is to foster and develop the PhD fellows' doctoral research in areas concerning hybrid strategies and operations, as well as to create a joint European understanding and enhanced resilience with respect to hybrid threats.

We kindly invite both European Doctoral School on CSDP fellows and Member States' representatives to enrol in the course, using the respective lines of communication.

Head
of the European Security and Defence

Holger OSTERRIEDER

Head
of Doctoral Research
'Mihai Viteazul' National Intelligence
Academy

Irena CHIRU

Administrative information

30.10. - 03.11.2023 - 23-24/DOC/2

- **Target group:** The course is open to PhD fellows affiliated to the European Doctoral School on CSDP and Member States' representatives.
- **Places and nominations:** *around 50 places will be available for participants.*
- **PhD fellows** must fill in and send their applications to Georgica.PANFIL@eeas.europa.eu and ESDC-DOCSCHOOL@eeas.europa.eu by **10 October 2023**.
- **Applications from Member States' representatives** will be submitted via **national ESDC points of contact**.
- **Attendance:** participants' attendance on all days of the course is **mandatory**. Course participants who have completed the entire course, including the e-Learning modules, will be awarded a certificate on the last day. This course will not be offered in a hybrid format.
- **Language:** the working language is English, without interpretation.
- **Costs:** sending Member States or ERASMUS + funding will cover the costs.
- **Gender equality:** the ESDC strives for 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.
- **Dress code:** formal for the opening and closing ceremonies; smart casual for the working sessions.
- **Liabilities and insurance:** in medical emergencies, the participant's medical insurance provided by the sending country/organisation needs to cover all costs. The organiser does not provide health or accident insurance for participants taking part in the event.
- The activity will start on Monday, 30 October (09:00) and end on Friday, 3 November (14:00). It is recommended to travel to Bucharest on 29 October and to book return tickets for 3 November in the afternoon.
- **Additional info:** further detailed information on the course will be forwarded via email directly to the course participants in due time, including information directly linked to developments concerning travel restrictions or the health situation in Romania and/or the EU.
- **Points of contact:** Course director, Mihai Viteazul National Intelligence Academy
Dr Irena Chiru
chiru.irena@animv.eu
euro.school@animv.eu
Dr Ruxandra Buluc
buluc.ruxandra@animv.eu

Training manager from the ESDC Secretariat

Dr Georgică PANFIL

(Georgica.PANFIL@eeas.europa.eu)

ADVANCED RESEARCH INTO HYBRID THREATS TRENDS DRAFT SCHEDULE

DAY 1 30.10.2023	
09:00-09:30	Introductory remarks
09:30-11:00	Theoretical framework for hybrid threats
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-13:00	Foreign influence manipulation and interference
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:30	Data analysis framework and methodologies to collect evidence on FIMI
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break
16:00-17:00	Practical exercise
DAY 2 31.10.2023	
09:30-11:00	The EU integrated approach to hybrid threats
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-13:00	The EU counter-hybrid threats policy and its line of action: situational awareness, resilience, response, cooperation
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:30	EU's policy for internal security in context of hybrid threats
15:30-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-17:00	Practical exercise
DAY 3 01.11.2023	
09:30-11:00	The role of cyberattacks in hybrid warfare
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-13:00	Emerging technologies and their role in cyber security
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:30	Medium and long-term challenges in cyber security
15:30-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-17:00	Practical exercise

DAY 4	
02.11.2023	
09:30-11:00	Main challenges ahead – AI impact and changing strategies in information manipulation
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-13:00	Effects of hybrid threats on democracies
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:30	Resilience-building educational models to counter hybrid threats
15:30-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-17:00	Practical exercise
18:00-22:00	Official dinner
DAY 5	
03.11.2023	
09:00-12:00	Exercise presentations
12:00-13:00	Concluding remarks Feedback session Way forward
13:00-14:00	Lunch break