

**„Alexandru Ioan Cuza” POLICE ACADEMY
NATIONAL COLLEGE OF HOME AFFAIRS**

DISASTER RELIEF IN CSDP CONTEXT COURSE

16-18 July 2025, Bucharest

Between 16 and 18 July 2025, the National College of Home Affairs (CNAI) of the “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” Police Academy organised the international course “Disaster Relief in CSDP Context”, under the auspices of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC). The event took place in Bucharest in partnership with the NATO Crisis Management and Disaster Response Centre of Excellence (CMDR COE), the Diplomatic Institute of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria, and with



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the support of the National University of Science and Technology POLITEHNICA Bucharest.



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The opening ceremony gathered high-level officials and distinguished experts, including Ana-Cristina Ținca, State Secretary in Romania’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs, followed by Dr Raed Arafat, State Secretary in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Head of the Department for Emergency Situations, and Cantemir Marian Ciurea, President of the National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control (CNCAN). Opening speeches were also addressed by Major General Liviu Uzlău,

Commander/Rector of the “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” Police Academy, Police Quaestor Prof. Cătălin Andruș PhD, Director of CNAI, Colonel Dr Orlin Nikolov, Director of CMDR COE and course co-director, Valentin Katrandzhiev of the Bulgarian Diplomatic Institute, and Mr Laurențiu Giurea, ESDC Training Manager. The event was moderated by Professor Bogdan Marinescu, associated expert of CNAI.



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European strategic framework for disaster response in the context of Euro-Atlantic developments. Topics included the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, the command structure of CSDP missions, NATO’s response capabilities, and the integration of emerging technologies and Big Data into decision-making processes. Particular attention was given to cybersecurity, through contributions by experts from Romania’s National Cyber Security Directorate and the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre (ECCC), who emphasised the need for digital resilience in the face of hybrid threats. Participants were also invited

Over the course of three days, the event brought together 45 participants from EU Member States, third countries, EU agencies and international organisations, representing institutions in home affairs, civil protection, defence, and diplomacy. Participants completed both an online module and the residential phase of the course, actively engaging in interactive sessions, thematic presentations and practical activities held in Bucharest and Ciolpani.

The course programme began with an analysis of the



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to introduce themselves and exchange perspectives in a structured professional dialogue.



The second day focused on the operational dimension of disaster management and civil-military cooperation, through contributions by representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the B-FAST coordination mechanism, and the “Carol I” National Defence University. A particular emphasis was placed on the interoperability between civil and military capabilities during international missions. In the afternoon, participants travelled to the National Centre for the Improvement of Emergency Management Training (CNPPMSU) in Ciolpani,



where they attended a live demonstration of search and rescue operations, including USAR and CBRN capabilities.

A special moment of this edition was the official dinner offered to the lecturers and participants, organised with the support of the Foundation of the National College of Home Affairs. It provided a valuable opportunity to promote informal dialogue and strengthen professional cooperation networks within a European framework.

On the final day, discussions focused on the humanitarian dimension and international



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cooperation in disaster response. Mr Pablo Zapata, UNHCR Representative in Romania, delivered a keynote on humanitarian coordination at the European and global levels. This was followed by presentations from the International Committee of the Red Cross and the SMURD Foundation, highlighting the essential role of NGOs in complementing governmental efforts. Mr Petre Min from CNCAN addressed the protection of critical nuclear infrastructure, while Professor Dumitru Chirleşan PhD, Vice-Rector of POLITEHNICA University, provided academic perspectives on nuclear safety. Dr Adrian Marius Dobre, Director General of UNIFARM, presented the life-saving strategies and coordinated actions of EU Member States in emergency scenarios.

The presence of Professor Dumitru Chirleşan, PhD, Vice-Rector of the University Politehnica of Bucharest and President of the National University Alliance for Nuclear Energy (ANUEN), added significant substance to the interinstitutional dialogue, highlighting the essential role of the academic environment in supporting European energy resilience and nuclear security.

Dr Raed Arafat's intervention was among the most appreciated, stressing the importance of an integrated, multisectoral and cross-border approach to crisis response. The course concluded with a certificate award ceremony, during which final addresses were delivered by Dr Raed Arafat, Prof. Dumitru Chirleşan



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PhD, Police Quaestor Prof. Cătălin Andruș PhD and Colonel Dr Orlin Nikolov. The event moderator, Professor Bogdan Marinescu, concluded the course with a reflection on the value of interinstitutional dialogue and cooperation in strengthening European resilience.

This edition of the ESDC course is the result of successful EU-NATO cooperation, as well as bilateral collaboration between Romania and Bulgaria, and reaffirms Romania's commitment to supporting the development of a common security and defence culture. It also highlights CNAI's capacity to act as a strategic partner for European training initiatives.

The event also marked the first institutional collaboration between CNAI, the National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control (CNCAN), and the University Politehnica of Bucharest in this format, opening clear prospects for expanding partnerships in the near future.

