



Brussels, 21 March 2024

**To: The Permanent Representatives of Member States to the European Union**

**CC: The Permanent Representatives to the Political and Security Committee**

**Subject: Invitation to the 20<sup>th</sup> Common Security and Defence Policy High-Level Course 2024-2025 'JOSÉ CUTILEIRO'**

Your Excellencies,

The European Security and Defence College (ESDC) is proud to announce its 20<sup>th</sup> Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) High-Level Course 2024-2025. The course consists of four residential modules: Brussels (23-27 September 2024); Larnaca (25-29 November 2024); Bucharest (07-11 April 2025); and Lisbon (23-27 June 2025).

This edition of the ESDC's CSDP High-Level Course is named after the Portuguese Ambassador **JOSÉ CUTILEIRO** in recognition of his efforts for peace, security and defence in Europe, notably in the Balkans, having co-authored the Carrington-Cutileiro peace plan. From 1994 to 1999, Ambassador Cutileiro served as the Secretary-General of the Western European Union, a forum for the coordination of European defence, security and military cooperation matters, which paved the way for the CSDP.

The course will address the main policies, developments and trends of the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy. It will provide a forum for in-depth debate on current and emerging CSDP issues.

Participants should be senior civilian officials (including diplomats and police officers) or senior military officials from the EU Member States, candidate countries, relevant EU institutions, bodies and agencies, as well as CSDP missions and operations.

The ESDC is committed to fostering an inclusive, diverse, gender-sensitive and anti-discriminatory environment. We therefore strongly encourage you to nominate candidates from groups that are likely to be under-represented.

On behalf of the EU Member States and the national institutes contributing to the 20<sup>th</sup> CSDP High-Level Course, you are invited to submit your nominations no later than **31 May 2024**. For further details, please refer to the attached annexes.

Fergal O'REGAN  
ACTING Head of the ESDC





### **Module 3 – Bucharest**

The third module will be organised in Bucharest from 07 to 11 April 2025 by the National College of Home Affairs of Romania.

The National College of Home Affairs (Colegiul Național de Afaceri Interne - CNAI) is an integral part of the national higher education system, as a specialisation postgraduate education structure, integrated within the 'Alexandru Ioan Cuza' Police Academy and subordinated to the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Founded in 2008 as part of the 'Alexandru Ioan Cuza' Police Academy, the role of the CNAI is to ensure the law enforcement training at strategic level for the Romanian Ministry of Internal Affairs' personnel having either a leadership position or a clear potential to develop their career to managerial tasks.

The training provided at CNAI contributes to the clarification of concepts and the development of home affairs doctrine. The College supports the decision making process at ministry level with specialised expertise and is the main provider of specific training on home affairs for the ministry's forces, as well as on other components of the national security, defence and public order system.

CNAI was the first EU law enforcement training body to join the ESDC network in 2012. Since then, CNAI has contributed significantly to the promotion and development of the common understanding of CSDP/CFSP among civilian and military personnel. It has done so through a wide range of training activities based on the ESDC curricula, including CSDP orientation courses and pre-deployment training, residential modules of the CSDP HLC 2024-2025, and specialised courses on topics such as maritime security, strategic communication and disaster relief in the CSDP.

#### **Contact**

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To be reviewed by <i>February 2025</i>	Activity number <i>1/3</i>	<b>20th CSDP High Level Course 2024-2025 - José CUTILEIRO (Module 3)</b>  <b>Bucharest, 07-11 April 2025</b>	<b>ECTS</b>  <b>2</b>
			SQF-MILOF  <b>Level 2</b>  <b>Focus: POL CIV-MIL</b>

#### Aim

The aim of the third module of the CSDP High Level Course is to provide a comprehensive overview of the EU's engagement in support of the CFSP, including the planning and force generation processes for CSDP missions and operations, from both a conceptual and a practical perspective. The module also provides an insight into a number of EU regional policies and aims to increase awareness of EU and Member State strategic relevance in the current security environment (i.e. *maritime dimension of the CSDP, migration security nexus, strategic communication, energy security, protection of critical infrastructure*). It also provides an insight into the Civilian CSDP Compact.

#### **Learning outcomes**

Knowledge	LO1. Explain/describe the CSDP planning mechanism at the strategic/operational level in order to cope with the challenges of dealing with security uncertainties. LO2. Describe the process of drafting the core planning documents. LO3. Outline the command-and-control options for CSDP missions and operations. LO4. Review CSDP missions and operations (mandates, challenges and risks, achievements, lessons learnt and the way forward). LO5. Provide an insight into relevant national and regional policies for participation in CSDP missions and operations. LO6. Outline the effects of general issues on the conduct of CSDP missions and operations, in particular human rights, gender issues, protection of civilians, irregular migration, terrorism and transnational crime, and cyber security/defence.
Skills	LO7. Consider the value of interinstitutional coordination and cooperation between various stakeholders/parties (state and non-state) involved in the planning and implementation of CSDP missions and operations. LO8. Assess the outcome (monitoring and evaluation) of a CSDP mission or operation and the implementation of the lessons learnt and best practices. LO9. Acknowledge the importance of cross-cultural competencies for participation in CSDP missions and operations (especially in regions and contexts where national, ethnic and religious identities matter).
Responsibility and autonomy	LO10. Analyse the interdependencies between the EU decision-making processes in the context of planning mechanisms for missions and operations. LO11. Judge the EU's operational engagement in various regional areas in relation to the EU's strategic objectives. LO12. Analyse the effectiveness of a regional comprehensive approach to crisis management. LO13. Analyse the role of freedom, security and justice in a crisis management scenario. LO14. Analyse to what extent the EU's operational engagement supports the achievement of its policy objectives (the relevance of current missions and operations). LO15. Analyse civil/military coordination in the implementation of CSDP missions and operations (including roles, interdependencies). LO16. Consider challenges and opportunities for the EU integrated approach in the regional context (also, recognise the role of the EU Global Strategy for the CFSP in the context of CSDP missions and operations, in a regional context).



### Evaluation of learning

The module is evaluated according to the Kirkpatrick model: *course evaluation based on participants' satisfaction with the course and assessment of participants' learning progress*. The module is preceded by a mandatory e-Learning phase, which provides course participants with the necessary theoretical background to actively participate in the residential phase. Passing the tests during the e-Learning preparatory phase is mandatory; participants must score at least 80% in the quiz incorporated within the module.

No formal verification of learning outcomes is planned. The proposed ECTS is based on participants' workload only.

### **Course structure**

This module consists of two mandatory phases: an e-Learning phase and a residential phase of five days. The module focuses on the planning processes for the CSDP missions and operations, and on the regional approach to security in the EU and beyond.

Main topic	Suggested working hours (required for individual learning)	Suggested content
1. The planning process for CSDP missions and operations – an integrated approach	16 (6)	1.1. Structures, planning documents, procedure and force generation 1.2. Strategic review process of missions and operations 1.3. Human rights, gender and ethics in CSDP missions and operations; protection of civilians in armed conflicts; international law applicable to CSDP missions and operations 1.4. Command and control of CSDP missions and operations; code of conduct and discipline for CSDP civilian missions; generic standards of behaviour for CSDP missions and operations 1.5. Civil-military coordination in CSDP missions and operations
2. EU missions and operations – from past to present	14 (4)	2.1. Financing mechanisms of CSDP missions and operations 2.2. CSDP missions and operations: civilian/police and military dimensions, including lessons learnt 2.3. EU-NATO cooperation in CSDP missions and operations 2.4. CSDP operational commitments in the Eastern Neighbourhood 2.5. CSDP – freedom, security and justice nexus; EUNAVFOR and the Frontex maritime security operations 2.6. Maritime security dimension
3. Security challenges in the regions	10	3.1 Security situation in a selected region of interest 3.2. Emerging threats and challenges: hybrid threats critical infrastructure protection, cyber security/defence, terrorism 3.3. CSDP – migration nexus: EU external action in the CSDP context; security and irregular and mass migration
4. Field visit	4	4.1. Relevant CSDP-related entity
5. Group work	6	5.1. Working groups
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50 (10)</b>	

<u>Materials</u>	<u>Additional information</u>
<p><b>Required:</b>  AKU 6: CSDP decision-shaping/making  AKU 11A: Gender and the UNSCR 1325  AKU 16: Protection of civilians  AKU 106c: The changing security environment</p> <p><b>Recommended:</b>  AKU 17: Fragility and crisis management</p> <p>Other publications on CSDP and EU Global Strategy and supplementary material aimed at deepening knowledge of the topic.</p> <p>Handbook on cybersecurity</p>	<p>In order to facilitate discussion between course participants and senior EU personnel, the <b>Chatham House Rule</b> applies during all residential modules: <i>'participants in the CSDP HLC are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed'</i>.</p>