

**„Alexandru Ioan Cuza” Police Academy  
NATIONAL COLLEGE OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**PRE-DEPLOYMENT TRAINING FOR CSDP MISSIONS AND OPERATIONS**

**02-06 February 2026, Brussels**

Between 2 and 6 February 2026, the National College of Home Affairs (CNAI), within the “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” Police Academy, organised, in partnership with the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), the course “Pre-deployment Training for CSDP Missions and Operations”, held at the ESDC premises in Brussels and at the Albert Borschette building of the European Commission.



<https://shorturl.at/95PMC>

Completion of a Pre-deployment Training for CSDP Missions and Operations course constitutes a mandatory requirement for personnel who are to be deployed to missions and operations conducted under the auspices of the European Union. The course aims to increase the effectiveness of CSDP missions by ensuring that participants acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for rapid integration into the operational environment and for the successful fulfilment of mission mandates.



A total of 42 participants were registered for this edition, of whom 40 successfully completed the course. Participants came from EU Member States and represented civilian, police and military structures. They were selected for deployment to CSDP missions and operations such as EUAM Iraq, EUAM Ukraine, EULEX Kosovo, EUMA Armenia, EUNAVFOR MED IRINI, EUCAP, EUBAM and other ongoing EU missions.

The course was officially opened on 2 February 2026 by Mr Fergal O’Regan, Head of the European Security and Defence College, and by Police Quaestor Prof. PhD Cătălin Andruș, Director of the National College of Home Affairs, acting as Course Director. During the opening session, the two partner institutions were presented and the importance of pre-deployment training for effective integration into missions, as well as for strengthening a shared European security culture, was emphasised.



Support from the ESDC was ensured by Ms Melinda Boa, Training Manager at the ESDC, while moderation throughout the course was carried out by Dr Bogdan Marinescu, Associate Lecturer at the National College of Home Affairs.

The programme included sessions dedicated to the political and strategic framework of the Common Security and Defence Policy, the institutional mechanisms of the European Union and the decision-making processes related to the planning and implementation of CSDP missions.

During the first day, Prof. Sven Biscop from the Egmont Institute delivered a lecture analysing the role of the European Union as a global security and defence actor. Anneli Eriksson from the European External Action Service presented the institutional architecture of the CSDP and the relationship

between the political level and implementation in the field. Michael Merker from CivOpsHQ addressed EU civilian crisis management and the Union's integrated approach.

The second day focused on the operational dimension of CSDP missions. CivOpsHQ experts Lennart Nikolei and Clarissa Cecchi analysed hybrid threats and the phenomenon of Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI). Representatives of the EU military structures, LTC Christoph Lenardt from the EU Military Staff and LTC Tomas Abrahamsson from the Military Planning and Conduct Capability, presented the command and control structures and the operational planning mechanisms. LTC Jarkko Pelkonen provided an overview of ongoing EU military missions and operations.



The third day, held at the Albert Borschette building, focused on operational planning and mandate implementation. Tomas Henning and Christian Kalkar from CivOpsHQ presented the CONOPS and OPLAN planning documents and explained the link between the EU's political objectives and their practical implementation in the field. Charles Stuart from the European External Action Service discussed the role of EU Delegations and cooperation with

international organisations such as the United Nations, NATO and the OSCE. Sessions also addressed gender mainstreaming, operational reporting and mediation and negotiation mechanisms.



<https://shorturl.at/gYHJB>

The fourth day included sessions dedicated to health and resilience in missions, the duty of care framework, the Code of Conduct and the integration of human rights into CSDP activities. The session on Human Rights Due Diligence highlighted the responsibility of deployed personnel to uphold EU standards and values during mission implementation.

The final day addressed personal security, the protection of cultural heritage and the impact of climate change on the operational environment, reflecting the evolving CSDP agenda in the current security context.

The presentations were interactive and included discussions and exchanges with mission points of contact, facilitating the practical preparation of participants for deployment.

The organisation of the course forms part of Romania's ongoing contribution to the implementation of the Action Plan of the National Strategy for the implementation of the EU Civilian CSDP Compact, approved by Government Decision No. 40/2021. This initiative represents a key element in preparing personnel for participation in CSDP missions and operations.

By continuously organising the Pre-deployment Training course since 2017, the National College of Home Affairs strengthens its role as a strategic training provider within the European Security and Defence College network, contributing to the development of a shared European security culture and to the professional preparation of civilian, police and military personnel of the European Union.

The closing ceremony took place on 6 February 2026, when the main conclusions of the activity were presented and the results of the course were highlighted. Participants were awarded certificates of completion signed by Ms Kaja Kallas, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission, together with the leadership of the European Security and Defence College, confirming the high-level institutional recognition of the training programme and of Romania's contribution to the CSDP architecture.

