



INVITATION

to the ESDC Course

“The Challenges of Securing Maritime Areas for the European Union”

(Activity number 25-26/36/3)

Constanța , Romania, 26th – 29th of May 2026

Within the framework of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), the Romanian National College of Home Affairs (CNAI) and the Romanian Naval Academy ”Mircea cel Batran” (RNA), will organise the course *“The Challenges of Securing Maritime Areas for the European Union”*, in Constanța, Romania, from 26 to 29 May 2026. The course will be supported by Frontex, the Romanian Border Police and the Bulgarian Naval Academy “Nikola Y. Vaptsarov”, as course partners.

Participants from the EU Member States and relevant EU Institutions will be presented with the diplomatic, institutional, legal and operational issues related to the implementation of the Maritime Security Strategy of the European Union. The course will be organised on a residential basis, in Constanța (Romania) and will be anchored in practice, based on actual examples, case studies and practices in areas of strategic interest for the European Union and the Member States. The course will conclude with a complex exercise on the Black Sea, organised by the partners.

This training activity directly contributes to the European Union’s strategic approach to the Black Sea region by strengthening maritime situational awareness, fostering regional and international cooperation, and supporting an integrated response to security, stability and resilience challenges in a geostrategically critical maritime area.

In the current context of increasing and widening threats at its borders, the European Union is aiming to strengthen its role in the field of maritime security, through the reinforcement of regional and international cooperation, by developing an integrated approach. Throughout the course, participants will benefit from an extensive networking framework and will get the opportunity to share views with fellow professionals on security and maritime issues, on the path to building an integrated *European security and defence culture*.

We are therefore very pleased to invite you to nominate suitable candidates to attend the ESDC training activity, which will offer the participants an excellent chance to create a network of practitioners working in the interrelated fields of maritime security within the EU Member States and institutions, building on the *European security culture*.

Please find below the details concerning the registration process and administrative instructions.

Fergal O’ REGAN

HEAD of the EUROPEAN
SECURITY AND
DEFENCE COLLEGE

Cătălin ANDRUȘ

Police Quaestor, Prof. PhD
DIRECTOR of the NATIONAL
COLLEGE OF HOME
AFFAIRS

Alecu TOMA

Rear Admiral Assoc.Prof.Dr Eng.
COMMANDER (RECTOR)
ROMANIAN NAVAL ACADEMY
”Mircea cel Batran”

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

“The Challenges of Securing Maritime Areas for the European Union”

Constanța , Romania, 26th – 29th of May 2026

- **Target Audience:** The course is open to both civilian and military personnel. The EU Member States, EU Institutions and Agencies and the CSDP Missions and Operations are kindly invited to nominate each, one participant. However, more seats could be allocated, based on the total number of applications.
- **How to apply:** Applications are to be filed via the ESDC secure internet system ENLIST, by designated nominators, under <https://esdc.europa.eu/enlist/login>, no later than 04th May 2026. A list with relevant ENLIST nominators can be found on the ESDC website at <https://esdc.europa.eu/nominators/>.
- **Registration:** Registration will not be final until is confirmed by the ESDC Secretariat and upon completion of the requested personal data in ENLIST by the confirmed participants.
- **Language:** Working language is English, translation services will not be provided.
- **E-learning:** The course consists of an eLearning part done on the ESDC eLearning platform ILIAS, as well as a residential session held in Constanța, Romania, both parts being compulsory.
- **Attendance:** Attendance of the course is mandatory on all days. A certificate will be awarded to those course participants who will be completed the full course, including the eLearning phase.

The course starts on May 11th with the eLearning phase.

- **Location:** The residential part of the course will take place in Constanta, Romania from May 26th to 29th, 2026 and will be hosted by the Romanian Naval Academy “Mircea cel Bătrân” (address: 1st, Fulgerului Street, Constanța, 900218, Romania <https://www.anmb.ro>).
- **Cost:** All costs for travelling, accommodation and catering during the residential part of the course shall be covered by the sending authorities.

For your convenience, Hotel Pacific 3*** (<https://lira-pacific.ro>) is located just across the Naval Academy and no transfer should be applicable. Booking can be made through www.booking.com or directly on their website.

Participants are recommended to arrive to Bucharest (via Henri Coandă International Airport – Otopeni – IATA code BUH/OTP) or to Constanța (via Mihail Kogălniceanu International Airport Constanța) the latest on Monday, May 25th. For transfer Bucharest to Constanța and way back, the participants are recommended to apply for online reservation on <https://alt-transportpersoane.ro/en>.

During the residential module the lunch will be optionally arranged on catering mode upon Naval Academy support on a cost of 25 RON (aprox. 5 euro) supported by the participants.

EXERCISE

On May 28th, Ministry of Internal Affairs will organize a Black Sea exercise to combat illegal migration involving ships and air support. Participants will be embarked on ships that will travel 4-5 miles on the Black Sea. The participants are required to wear an appropriate outfit for this type of outdoor activities.

After the exercise, on May 28th at 18:00 a reception/official dinner will be offered to all course participants by the National College of Home Affairs. You are kindly invited to attend the reception, together with your course fellows, course organisers and lecturers.

POINTS OF CONTACT for organizing details:

- police principal inspector, dr. Iulian COMAN, National College for Home Affairs (Romania) –European Training Activities Coordinator; e-mail: iulian.coman@cna.ro/office@cna.ro; web <https://cna.ro>
- Capt(N). Assoc.Prof. Dr. Eng. Sergiu LUPU, Romanian Naval Academy “Mircea cel Batran” (Romania) – course co-director, RNA Vice-Rector for Continuous Development: e-mail: sergiu.lupu@anmb.ro
- Lt.cdr Andrei POCORA, Romanian Naval Academy “Mircea cel Bătrân” (Romania) –course programme co-ordinator, RNA Head of Postgraduate Studies School; e-mail: andrei.pocora@anmb.ro
- Ms Ana NAVE, Policy Officer/ Training Manager ESDC, e-mail: ana.nave@eeas.europa.eu



Training School Ship MIRCEA Tall Ship, Romanian Naval Academy “Mircea cel Bătrân”

Draft Agenda

Constanța, Romania, from 26th to 29th of May 2026

26 May – Day 1	27 May – Day 2	28 May – Day 3	29 May – Day 4
09.00 – 10.00 Registration office	08.30 – 09.00 Review of Day 1	08.30 – 09.00 Review of Day 2	08.30 – 09.00 Review of Day 3
10.00 – 10.45 Opening course and introduction	09.00 – 09.30 Capability development in the maritime sector. The capabilities for monitoring and surveillance of the Black Sea region	09.00-09.45 The Civilian-Military cooperation policy in Maritime Security framework	09.00 – 10.00 The Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP): Focus on the EU approach on Integrated Maritime Surveillance (IMS including: CISE and cross border sectorial systems: EUROSUR, MARSUR
10.45 – 11.00 The Romanian Naval Forces Contribution to the Stability and Security in the Extended Black Sea Region and Beyond	09.30-10.15 Security Challenges in the Black Sea Region – a perspective on civil-military critical infrastructure	09.45-10.45 The regionalization of common European Security and Defence Policies in the Maritime Domain – the Black Sea Case	10.00-10.30 Coffee break
11.00-11.30 Course Photo Coffee break	10.15-11.00 Coffee break	10.45-11.00 Coffee break	10.30 – 12.00 International Legal framework for EU action at sea – UNCLOS maritime dispute/settling mechanisms
11.30 – 13.00 <i>Keynote Speech</i> European Union Maritime Security. Responding together to global maritime challenges	11.00-12.00 European Union Maritime Governance	11.00-11.45 Challenges for Maritime Security in relation with hybrid threats	12.00-12.15 Closing Remarks
	12.00-13.00 Training facilities for security educational programmes. Visit of RNA facilities	11.45-12.30 SCOMAR Boarding Exercise preparation and security briefing	12.15-13.00 Evaluation Certificate Presentation Departure
13.00-15.00 Lunch Break	13.30-15.00 Lunch Break	12.30-14.30 Lunch Break	
15.00 – 16.00 <i>Keynote Speech</i> EU and NATO cooperation framework in regard of maritime security and defence policy	15.00 – 17.00 Emerging threats for the security of maritime spaces of the European Union: mass irregular migration, terrorism and their influence on the EU policies	15.00 – 18.00 Boarding Exercise at Sea	
16.00 – 17.00 CNAI & RNA presentation, administrative issues	Frontex. Joint multipurpose operations on the Black Sea	17.00-18.00 Capability for - Training Visit of Mircea Tall Ship (Military Port) – exercise debriefing	
		18.00 – Exercise closure, concluding remarks	