

**54th meeting of the Implementation Group
for the European initiative for the exchange of young officers
inspired by Erasmus (EMILYO)
4 and 5 May 2022
Larnaca
Draft minutes**

- 1) The chair and the ESDC Secretariat welcomed 65 participants from 15 EU Member States and 29 institutions.
- 2) **Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted with the addition of the following items:

 - a) offers from the TMA (AT)
 - b) offers from the RNDC (BG)
 - c) offers from the UoD (CZ)
 - d) offers from the Spanish BOEIs (ES)
 - e) offers from the FASFA (FR)
 - f) offers from the Hellenic BOEIs (GR)
 - g) offers from the Italian BOEIs (IT)
 - h) international events organised by the MUT (PL)
 - i) evaluation of IG events
 - j) international events organised by the PMA (PT)
 - k) international events organised by the Romanian BOEIs (RO)
- 3) **Approval of the minutes**

The group approved the minutes of the 53rd meeting. The approved minutes are available at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/872>.
- 4) **GAREA statistics and recommendations**

The chair of the group asked the BOEIs to send the GAREA statistics and recommendations (2-3 bullet points per institution) by 3 June 2022. He clarified that they should report only the incoming students and staff at their institution and the number of training days, and be very careful not to duplicate the reports (e.g. if a common module is part of an international semester, record each person only once). The GAREA statistics template can be found at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/182>.
- 5) **Evaluation of IG events**

Ass. Prof. Nikolaos Karadimas from the HAA presented a joint questionnaire for evaluating IG activities (courses/modules). The aim of this effort is to develop a tool (questionnaire) for the BOEIs to evaluate the activities under the umbrella of the Initiative. It is composed of 34 questions (Appendix A) and covers various aspects such as the assignments, the topics, the instructors, the laboratory work and the cadets. The questionnaire is structured in such a way as to cover the evaluation of courses/modules offered by a BOEI either as individual courses (academic or non-academic) or as one-week or whole-semester courses (e.g.

International Semester).

The results of the brainstorming were reported during the plenary session, and several IG members expressed their interest in contributing. An ad hoc working group was formed, composed of Col. Harald Gell (IG chair), Lt Col Enrico Spinello (LoD-8 chair), Lt Col Ilias Makris (ESDC), and Ass. Prof. Nikolaos Karadimas (LoD-4 chair), to finalise and present the questionnaire. The final elaborations will take place during iMAF 2022.

It was also mentioned that this questionnaire would be specifically designed to cover the core part of the education and training activities, i.e. lectures, presentations, etc., while the various services (e.g. accommodation, food, sports, health, cultural events, etc.) would not be evaluated. As a result, a second questionnaire would be developed in parallel to evaluate the administrative part of the IG activities.

6) 6th CSDP Olympiad

Since the FASFA representatives were absent, the IG chair updated the participants on the administrative aspects of the 6th CSDP Olympiad. Having completed the second-round evaluation, 38 cadets/students had been put forward for the final phase. Given the fact that the essay competition is linked to the Presidency of the Council of the EU, the chair invited Belgium and Hungary to express their interest in organising the 2024 edition. Further information can be found at http://www.emilyo.eu/olympiad_csdp (under 'Administration').

7) iMAF

The LFA representative briefly presented the upcoming iMAF 2022. The chair once again asked the BOEIs to express their interest in organising iMAF 2023. The HAFA confirmed that the Hellenic institutions (HMA, HNA & HAFA) would organise iMAF 2023 in Athens, Greece.

8) Update by the IG chair on all lines of development (LoDs)

The IG chair presented the roles, objectives and achievements of the Member States and their participating institutions for each LoD (all presentations are temporarily available at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191>).

a) LoD-5 – Legal framework

The IG chair asked members to encourage their superiors to adopt the legal framework of the Initiative. He explained that this could be done through an official statement to the ESDC Secretariat or by notifying the Steering Committee.

b) LoD-6 – Strategic communication

Since the chair was absent due to unexpected professional commitments, the LoD meeting did not take place.

c) LoD-7 – Financing the Initiative

The chairperson proposed a questionnaire to be forwarded to all BOEIs. The purpose of this questionnaire is to examine the ways that institutions are structured and the sources used to finance activities under the auspices of the Initiative. The questionnaire was presented and accepted by all participants and will be sent out to all BOEIs which are represented at IG meetings. The results will be analysed and presented at the 55th IG meeting.

d) LoD-8 – Common modules/evaluations and offers

- AT, BE, BG, ES, FR, GR, IT, LT, PT, PL and RO reported on past events

and announced upcoming offers (www.emilyo.eu/node/878).

- **LoD-2 & LoD-8 meeting outcomes**

The two working sessions took place in parallel. The chairs briefed the participants on the following topics:

- 1) The plan is to align common modules qualification requirements with the SQF-MILOF. Some requirements were indicated (oldest and regularly offered) and in accordance with these the following CMs will be revised for the next IG meeting (CMO/PSO, Media Relations and Maritime Security). All the training providers are invited to contribute to the process.
- 2) The latest version of the CSDP CM was adopted.
- 3) Two modules were discussed: the IMINT/GEOINT Analysis course, proposed by the MTA (RO), and Gender Perspectives in Security and Defence, proposed by the LoD-10 chair.
- 4) A new proposal was made by MUT: Internship on Aerospace Technology. The process to draft the curriculum in accordance with the SQF-MILOF package is still ongoing.

- e) **LoD-9 – Future Projects**

The meeting started with a presentation on the state of play regarding the European Military University Network project. The next step is to establish the mission, the vision and the goals. This requires the involvement of potential project participants (EMILYO members). It was agreed that an inquiry would be prepared to identify the benefits and concerns/obstacles expected by tentative project participants. It is of paramount importance to report any legal obstacles. The relationship between the project and EMILYO was also discussed. An extra LoD-9 meeting (online or in person) would be held before the September IG meeting.

- f) **LoD-10 – Gender mainstreaming**

The agenda for the meeting was communicated by the chair. The 4th Erasmus Gender seminar, 'How to teach gender in the military', was held on 3 May with the participation of more than 50 members of the IG. A separate document with the conclusions and the highlights of the seminar will be prepared, to be uploaded on the EMILYO homepage. The work then continued with an update on the progress on the MGS project. The revision of the MGS Handbook is still ongoing. It was also announced that the 2nd TPM would take place at LFA in Sibiu, Romania, in June 2022.

Most of the time and discussions at the group meeting were devoted to the Non Common Module "Gender Perspectives in Security and Defence". The content of the module had been reviewed and edited by experts at the seminar the day before. Representatives of the TMA proposed conducting the pilot edition of the module in November 2022. Various scenarios were discussed and considered.

- g) **LoD-11 – International Naval Semester (INS)**

The 'Mircea cel Bătrân' Romanian Naval Academy nominated Col Catalin POPA as the chair of the LoD-11. The IG accepted his candidacy unanimously.

The meeting started with an in-depth analysis of the adoption of the

common curriculum. In respect of curricular flexibility, the partners agreed that this would be achieved either by valuing the common INS courses as joint modules (those already agreed at previous meetings) or alternatively by enlarging the course offer for incoming students on three pools of course offers centred on the next curricular frames: Navigation and Naval Equipment, Mechanical/Electric Engineering and Logistics.

Therefore, regarding the INS common courses as previously approved, the participants have agreed that, considering the heterogeneous featuring of navy education, these modules could be easier implemented as joint modules and distributed among the partners for content development. These courses will be then conducted during one semester as independent joint modules among the partners, within an agreed programme matrix during the semester. The partners can then offer the entire portfolio to incoming students or adopt shared modules among the partners, for one to two weeks, exchanging students on a short-term basis.

As a first step forward the partners agreed upon the course distribution, on each respective module under the framework of the joint INS. In order to respect the initial roadmap, the partners have agreed upon the following deadlines for INS module development and implementation:

- by July 2022 – 1st draft of syllabi in INS form should be delivered by each responsible institution (with the back-up partner);
- by Sept 2022 – syllabi approval, working group development, start of course development;
- by Dec 2022 – progress report on course content;
- by June 2023 – course content should be delivered and approved;
- by Sept 2023 – submit the final offer – modules planning and INS onset among the partners.

h) LoD-12 – International Air Force Semester (IAFS)

The chair presented the project's progress, briefing the participants on the development of Intellectual Output 4, the assessment of the project outcomes and the results of the first evaluation of the modules. Subsequently, the forthcoming events of the project were presented, with an emphasis on the Blended Mobility event in May and the Intensive Study Programme (ISP) in July. The partners then discussed the implementation of the IAFS, which would be conducted from October to December 2022. The Polish Air Force University confirmed that it would offer the IAFS as a whole, starting in October 2023, and requested the organisation of a Train-the-Trainer session in order to share experiences and best practices from the first year of its implementation. In addition, various administrative details were discussed regarding the updating of the inter-institutional agreements, the grading system and the updating of syllabi where necessary.

i) LoD-13 – European Common Technical Semester for Defence and Security (EuCTS_DS)

The chair informed the participants about the achievements and the future activities of the project. The participating institutions designated the teachers responsible for all subjects and they worked on both the content and the didactic material. Given the fact that the project had already fallen behind schedule due to the pandemic, the chair proposed extending the

project until 31 July 2023. The partners proposed new dates: Learning/Teaching activity “Interdisciplinary Scientific Project” (Jul 2022, HAFA-GR), Learning/Teaching activity “Electrical Engineering and Computer Science” and the 1st ME (Sep 2022, NMU-BG), Learning/Teaching Activity “Military Science” (Oct 2022, FASFA-FR), Learning/Teaching Activity “Basic Engineering” (Apr 2023, MTA-RO), Learning/Teaching activity “Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering” (May 2023, MUT-PL), the 2nd ME and the 58th IG Meeting (Jun 2023, MTA-RO).

j) LoD-14 – Research and Development (R&D)

Tasks allocated during the previous meeting were reviewed as follows:

- PoC for research for each institution – Separate list. Accomplished.
- Link to the common thesis form on the EMILYO website. Accomplished.
- Institute presentation template which includes research-related info. Template received.
- Organise EDA and EDF info sessions. Postponed to September.
- Template for students’ requests. Template received, to be finalised during the upcoming IG meeting.
- Discuss collaboration opportunities with Doc School. No response, alternative communication lines with Doc School will be sought.

New tasks were decided:

- Update the events schedule with upcoming conferences.
- Publish the updated list of theses.
- Prepare a pdf document with in-house journals.

The first set of twin theses was successfully completed; one of them will also be presented during the MUT students’ conference. Participants were informed that short-term placements of cadets in the framework of their thesis study can be funded by the Erasmus budget under the category for virtual mobility for studies for a minimum of five days, provided that the thesis covers 3 ECTS, an inter-institutional agreement is in force between the two institutions and a supervisor from the hosting country is assigned to the project. Finally, the EDA’s innovation contest is taking place this year: <https://eda.europa.eu/what-we-do/research-technology/innovation-prize>.

k) LoD-15 – International Medical Semester (IMS)

IG members were informed that a teleconference between representatives of HMACSO and the French medical services had taken place in March 2022, to establish collaboration on a permanent basis with the Écoles Militaires de Santé in Lyon – Bron. It was decided that a letter would be sent to the respective MoDs of all EU Member States via the Steering Committee delegates, since the annual request via the usual chain of command (EUMACS and annual letter of the IG chair to all commandants/superintendents) had not had the expected outcomes.

9) Work plan

- a) iMAF 2022 is scheduled to take place in Sibiu (RO) from 13 to 16 June 2022. More information can be found at <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878>.
- b) The 55th IG meeting would be held in Sintra (PT) at the PrAFA premises from 19 to 22 September 2022, alongside the 2nd ME of the IAFS (on 20 September). On Monday 19 September (from 16.00 to 18.00) a workshop would be held for new IG members, in parallel with the LoD chairs' meeting.
- c) EUMACS 2022 would be held at the Orea Congress Hotel in Brno (CZ) on 12 and 13 October 2022.
- d) The 56th IG meeting would be held in Gdynia (PL) at the premises of the PNA from 5 to 7 December 2022. On Monday 5 December (evening) a workshop would be held for new IG members, in parallel with the LoD chairs meeting.
- e) The 57th IG meeting would be held in Sofia/Bulgaria at the RNDC in February 2023.
- f) iMAF 2023 would be held in Athens (GR) in May 2023.
- g) The 58th IG meeting would be held back to back with the 2nd ME of the EuCTS_DS in Bucharest, at the premises of the MTA in June 2023.
- h) EUMACS 2023 would be held at the San Javier Air Force Base (ES) from 8 to 10 November 2023.

10) AOB

Below is a summary of all requests made at the meeting.

Request	Send to
<p>Presentations for the IG meeting: if you would like to present anything during the forthcoming IG meeting (plenary session), please send your presentation five days prior to the meeting.</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at & ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu</p>
<p>Comment on the LoD-5 paper (framework). The goal is for your institution or country to provide the ESDC with an official statement. If this has not yet been done or initiated, try to get an answer from those responsible.</p> <p>(See http://www.emilyo.eu/node/982 – LoD-5)</p>	<p>ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu</p> <p>or announce in the Steering Committee</p>
<p>Mark the autumn/winter and spring/summer academic semesters of your institution in blue and red. Create new lines if necessary.</p> <p>(http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191)</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>Draw up a pool of lecturers for your institution, indicating the names of those willing to teach abroad, preferably under Erasmus+.</p> <p>(http://www.emilyo.eu/node/1191)</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>If you wish to post a mobility offer on the EMILYO homepage, send the dates and a short description (in PDF format), or a link if you post it on your own website.</p> <p>(http://www.emilyo.eu/node/878)</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>If you wish to have an administrative document posted on the EMILYO homepage, send it in a single PDF file.</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>Encourage cadets or students to write a report on an event with international participants. Please include pictures.</p> <p>(http://www.emilyo.eu/exchange_experience)</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at</p>
<p>Nominate a chair for a LoD that has not yet been assigned one.</p>	<p>harald.gell@bmlv.gv.at & ilias.makris@eeas.europa.eu</p>