

„Alexandru Ioan Cuza” POLICE ACADEMY

NATIONAL COLLEGE OF HOME AFFAIRS



The Challenges of Securing Maritime Areas for the European Union

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organized by the National College of Home Affairs (CNAI) from the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" Police Academy, under the aegis of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), in partnership with „Mircea cel Bătrân” Naval Academy, with the support of „Nikola Y. Vaptsarov” Naval Academy Varna (Bulgaria) and of the General Inspectorate of the Border Police – Coast Guard.

The National College of Home Affairs (CNAI), under the aegis of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), in partnership with „Mircea cel Bătrân” Naval Academy, with the support of „Nikola Y. Vaptsarov” Naval Academy Varna (Bulgaria) and of the General Inspectorate of the Border Police (IGPF) – Coast Guard, organized the fifth edition of the *“Challenges of Securing Maritime Areas for the European Union”* course, between 21-24.05.2024, at Constanța.



The course was opened on 21.05.2024, at „Mircea cel Bătrân” Naval Academy, by Mr. Commander Moise Gabriel Ioan – vice rector of the aforementioned institution, Mr. Police Quaestor Prof. Cătălin Andruș, PhD – Director of CNAI, Mr. Fleet Rear Admiral Auraș Coman, ROU Navy – Commander of Naval Component „Viceamiral Ioan Georgescu”, Mr. Col. Associate Prof. PhD Cătălin POPA, vice rector of „Mircea cel Bătrân” Naval Academy and Mr. Giorgios Kapogiannis, ESDC, Training Manager.



Special guest at the event and keynote speaker was Mr. Iulian Chifu, PhD, President of the *Conflict Prevention and Early Warning Centre* Bucharest.

The course started with an eLearning module on the ILIAS ESDC platform, followed by the residential module, which took place in Constanta, from 21-24.05.2024, at the "Mircea cel Bătrân" Naval Academy.

The course was attended by 34 representatives from EU Member States (Spain, Bulgaria, Portugal, Poland and Romania).

The course programme included topics on diplomatic, institutional, legal and operational issues related to the implementation of the maritime security strategy and its action plan at EU level.

The course participants benefited from the knowledge and experience of renowned experts and specialists in the field, who had interactive presentations in the classroom or via videoconference.

In this regard, we mention the presence of Mr Giovanni Cremonini, *Head of Maritime Security Sector at the European External Action Service*, Professor Craig Greathouse, PhD and Associate Professor Raluca Viman-Miller, PhD, from the *University of North Georgia* and Mr Yves Postec, *Maritime Security Coordinator - Enhancing Security Cooperation in and with Asia (ESIWA)*.





On behalf of the National College of Home Affairs, the course was coordinated by Mr. Police Quaestor Prof. Cătălin Andruș, PhD – Director of CNAI and course director, supported by Mr. Bogdan Marinescu, PhD – CNAI, course moderator.

In the framework of the course, on 23.05.2024, a demonstrative exercise was held on the Black Sea, with means of naval mobility, focused on the fight against illegal migration, organized by the Coast Guard, with the support of the Constanța Sea Ports Administration.

At the end of the exercise, the course participants visited the training ship "Mircea".

The course programme included an Official Reception, offered by CNAI, through the National College of Home Affairs Foundation, which took place in the Passenger Berth - Port of Constanta.

The course ended on 24.05.2024 with the award ceremony of the graduation certificates, signed by Mr Josep Borrell Fontelles, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Vice-President of the European Commission. The certificates were handed over by the Director of the National College of Home Affairs, Mr. Police Quaestor Prof. Cătălin Andruș, PhD, Director of CNAI together with the Commander (Rector) of the "Mircea cel Bătrân" Naval Academy, Fleet Rear Admiral Mr. Toma Alecu.



The course highlighted the role of the wider Black Sea region in ensuring EU security and represents a reinforcement of Romania's contribution to the effort to train EU member states' personnel in CSDP.

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