

Invitation to the CSDP Orientation Course

(Activity Number 25-26/3/11)

Brussels, 22-26 June 2026

The Romanian National College of Home Affairs has the pleasure to organise, under the aegis of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), the **Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) Orientation Course**, that will take place in Brussels, in a residential format, from 22 to 26 June 2026.

The CSDP Orientation Course is a major component of EU training activities in the field of the Common Security and Defence Policy. It aims to develop and promote a better understanding of CSDP as an integral part of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) of the European Union. The course will provide participants with an overview of the civilian and military aspects of European Security and Defence Policy and going into more detail as it unfolds.

The course consists of an **eLearning part**, as well as a residential session, **both parts being compulsory**. It will offer an in-depth analysis on Common European Security and Defence Policy, while the participants will have the opportunity to network, share views and perspectives with one another and with professionals in the field of CSDP.

Participants would generally be entry / mid-level staff (police, military, diplomats & civilians) from Member States, EU institutions and agencies, and third countries / international organisations, with some experience in security policy matters.

The ESDC is committed to an inclusive, gender-sensitive and anti-discriminatory environment. Only in an inclusive environment can all people, and therefore the ESDC and its partners, reach their true potential. We therefore particularly encourage applicants who are likely to be under-represented to apply.

We would kindly invite you to nominate suitable candidates for the CSDP Orientation Course and hence support the accomplishment of the ultimate goal of the course: ***providing Member States and EU institutions with knowledgeable personnel able to work in CSDP-related fields.***

Fergal Ó Regan

Head of the European
Security and Defence
College

Cătălin ANDRUȘ

Police Quaestor, Prof. PhD
Director of the
National College of Home Affairs

Administrative Information

CSDP Orientation Course - Brussels, 22-26 June 2026

- **Target group:** the course is open to both civilian and military personnel from EU Member States, relevant EU bodies, CSDP Missions and Operations, as well as international organisations, who are either involved in or designated to work on Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) matters. Third countries and international organisations are welcome to put forward suitable candidates. We are seeking to put together a balanced group composed of civilians, police and military personnel.
- **Seats & nominations:** a maximum of 40 participants is envisaged. Typically, one seat per Member State / Institution will be allocated. However, depending on the total number of requests, one additional seat could be allocated.
- **Application:** applications from the EU Member States and EU bodies are to be filed via the ESDC secure internet system ENLIST, by designated nominators, under <https://esdc.europa.eu/enlist/login>, no later than **25 May 2026**. A list with relevant ENLIST nominators can be retrieved from the ESDC website at <https://esdc.europa.eu/nominators/>.

Applications from EU candidate countries, third countries or international organisations: Requests for nominations should come from the respective country's Mission to the EU or Embassy in Brussels to the ESDC Training Manager (Fernando.ANGELO@eeas.europa.eu). The application should indicate: the full name of the candidate (as in official documents used for accessing course venue), personal e-mail address (functional mailboxes will not be accepted), nationality, passport number, the validity of the passport, date of birth, institution, reason how this course benefits the applicant. If the Training Manager deems that the person is eligible according to the course target audience, then he nominates the person to the course.

- **Registration** will not be final until confirmed by the ESDC Secretariat AND upon completion of the registration form by the nominated participant.
- **Attendance:** participants' attendance during the course is mandatory on all days. Participants who have completed the full course, ***including the e-learning modules***, will receive a certificate.
- **E-learning:** the course consists of an eLearning part to be completed on the ESDC eLearning platform ILIAS before the course starts (**22 June 2026**). Connection details will be provided in due time to all registered participants.
- **Language:** the working language is English.
- **Gender equality:** the ESDC strives for a **gender-sensitive and inclusive environment** in all its courses, activities and day-to-day work. Only in an inclusive environment can all people, and therefore the ESDC and its partners, reach their true potential. We do not and will not discriminate on the basis of race, colour, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation in any of our activities or operations. The ESDC and the training institutions will not tolerate any conduct that violates these values.

- **Costs:** sending authorities will cover all costs for international travelling and accommodation (including breakfast).
- **Dress code:** service uniform for the opening and closing days or business and smart casual clothing for the rest of the course.
- **Liabilities and Insurance:** in case of medical emergencies, participants' medical insurance provided by sending authorities/institutions must cover the costs. The organiser does not provide health or accident insurance.
- **Start and end of activity:** the activity will start on Monday, 22 June (13.30) and end on Friday, 26 June (14.00). Please make your travel arrangements accordingly. The programme will be communicated in due course.

Points of contact:

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Generic Structure of the Course
CSDP Orientation Course - Brussels, 22-26 June 2026
Venue TBC

<i>The residential module will be held over five days (one week)</i>	
Main Topics	Potential Contents
International security context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International security context & EU role in global action and cooperation • EU relations with global actors & EU position in the international strategic competition (including Grand Strategies of different global players) • Future of CSDP
EU's strategic environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EU Global Strategy and its implementation • EU Strategic Compass • European Agenda on Security (Internal Security Strategy) • EU strategies and concepts related to CSDP
EU decision-making process and crisis management structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU decision-making: European Council; Council of the European Union; Political and Security Committee; EU Military Committee; Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management; Political and Military Group and relations with other working entities • The European External Action Service and EU crisis management structures • Supporting structures: EU Satellite Centre, European Defence Agency, European Security and Defence College, EU Institute for Security Studies
CSDP crisis management procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political Framework for Crisis Approach • Political-strategic planning process • Crisis Management Concept • Civilian/ military strategic and operational planning process • Standard/fast-track processes • Command and control options
CSDP missions and operations and capability development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civilian and military capability development • EU CSDP missions and operations deployed on the field • Basic information and peculiarities of the missions and operations • Civilian COMPACT
Horizontal issues and regional aspects of CSDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horizontal issues / transnational threats and challenges (land, sea, air & space/ cyber environment) • Regional aspects concerning e.g. the Western Balkans, the Eastern Partnership, the Horn of Africa, the Middle East, and the Mediterranean, Arctic Region

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships with third countries (incl. framework partnership agreements) and international organisations (i.e. UN, OSCE, NATO, African Union) • Strategic communication (communicating CSDP), including Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference • Gender issues / Women, peace and security • Cultural heritage protection issues • Climate change challenges
EU integrated approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EU external action toolbox: development, humanitarian aid • The role of CSDP within the integrated approach • EU integrated approach in action
Group work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw up joint discussion points [working groups]