

EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE COLLEGE



Course on EU External Action: Fragility, Security and Development in a Changing World

(Activity number – 26)

- Curriculum -

February 2014

Aim

The “*Course on EU External Action: Fragility, Security and Development in a Changing World*” is an intensive training seminar for practitioners on European approaches to international security and development questions.

The general objective is to train people from EC Headquarters or EU Delegations, EEAS, EU agencies, but also Member States diplomats, civilians or civil administration and military personnel, on standard concepts of crisis management/fragility/security, peace building and state building, as well as development-related issues in the wider context of CFSP/CSDP.

Through this training, focused on practical aspects and concrete case studies, participants should:

1. Acquire a comprehensive overview on EU key policy concepts, strategies, policies and actors in the field of fragility, development and crisis management.
2. Enhance their understanding of current issues revolving around fragility, security and development in the EU, as well as on the international agenda, in the light of the security-development nexus.
3. Develop an accurate understanding of the institutional set-up of the EU and the relevant operating procedures.
4. Become familiar with the complementary roles played by different policy instruments and different actors and learning more about the EU’s comprehensive approach to external conflict and crisis.
5. Develop a network of professional contacts spanning the entire community of external policy practitioners.

General description and Organisation

6. **Starting situation.** Participants should be personnel from EC Headquarters (DG DEVCO, DG ECHO, FPI) or EU Delegations, EEAS, EU agencies, but also Member States diplomats, civilians or civil administration and military personnel, that work in areas related to crisis management/fragility/security, peace building and state building, as well as development, in the wider context of CFSP/CSDP.
7. **Cognitive Objectives.** At the end of the course the participant will be able to:
 - ✓ Analyse and formulate independent and well-informed opinions, which is the strongest basis for sound policy making and planning.
 - ✓ Formulate responses to crisis situations and planning complex interventions in high risk environments by defining the right mix of policies, instruments and tools to achieve EU’s strategic objectives.
 - ✓ Understand the concept of security and fragility and their synergies with durable development (security-development nexus);
 - ✓ Pursue more effectively fragility, security and development through cooperative problem-solving and teamwork.
8. **Affective objectives.** At the end of the course the participant:
 - ✓ Shares the key principles guiding EU approach to security, fragility and development and be able to integrate them in his/her respective area of competence.

- ✓ Recognizes the relevance of cooperation and networking with the various actors in the field.
- 9. **Duration.** The course will last three residential days, preceded by a mandatory Internet-Base Distance Learning (IDL) module.

10. **Methodology.**

The methodology of the course aims at communicating the content taught in the modules in such a way that participants can later adapt and apply it in their daily work or in a new setting. Therefore, the methodology of the training is based on adult learning principles which allow the transfer of knowledge not only cognitively, but also experientially.

For creating common basic knowledge among participants and to already achieve some of the learning objectives, Internet-Base Distance Learning (IDL) modules and reading material (sent to the participants prior to the course) are used in a preparatory phase before the residential part of the course.

Throughout the whole course a participatory co-learning methodology will be used. Course participants coming from different fields of activity will be encouraged to contribute with their specific experience to the content of the course, to the discussions and working groups. They should also actively share their experiences or their respective professional and practical insights with other course participants. Exercises will also be conducted in support of the course objectives.

The course uses blended learning and, during the residential module, highly interactive learning methods will be combined (role play scenarios, quiz, debates with extensive feedback etc.). External resource persons with particular knowhow are also used as facilitators in small group discussions to ensure that all participants have a true chance to be active during every discussion.

Overall structure

11. Internet-based Distance Learning (IDL)

The course will be preceded by the following Autonomous Knowledge Units (AKU):

- AKU 2 on European Security Strategy;
- AKU 3 on Role of EU institutions in the field of CFSP/CSDP;
- AKU 6: EU Mission Planning Procedures; and
- AKU 7 on the impact of the Lisbon Treaty.

An AKU on Fragility, Security and Development is under development and will be part of the mandatory preparation study when ready.

Other AKU's can be used on voluntary basis.

12. Module Program.

See Annex 1.

13. The Course Programme can be adapted according to recent needs and to national education systems.

14. Contents for teaching.

See Annex 2.

15. The presentations and discussions will focus on the general following topics:

See Annex 2.

16. Materials.

Materials used represent current developments in the field of crisis management, fragility and development in general and in EU policies in particular:

- CSDP Handbook;
- New Deal for engagement in fragile and conflict situations;
- Communications, guidance notes, guidelines, etc.

17. List of Annexes

- Module programme;
- Contents for teaching.

Annex 1 – Module Programme

<i>DAY ONE – Institutional setup</i>	<i>DAY TWO – Overview of complementarity between short term and long term instruments Presentation of short term instruments</i>	<i>DAY THREE – Overview of complementarity between short term and long term instruments Presentation of long terms instruments</i>
09.00 Welcome and course introduction 10.00 Panel: Europe in a changing world 11.00 Panel: Moving from a comprehensive approach to a comprehensive action 13.30 Exercise: The European labyrinth 15.30 Panel: Understanding the EU institutional setup in the framework of the security-development nexus	09.00 Day introduction and recap 10.00 EU Crisis Management - Decision Making 11.00 Case studies - Military CSDP operations (parallel sessions) 11.00 Case studies - Civilian CSDP missions (parallel sessions) 13.30 Panel: Immediate response instruments and their complementarity with longer term instruments (financial and non-financial) 15.30 Exercise on Responding to Crisis (parallel sessions) 15.30 Exercise on Responding to Crisis (parallel sessions)	09.00 Day introduction and recap 10.00 The EU Approach to fragility (New Deal, LRRD, resilience, etc.) 11.00 EU External Assistance Instruments deployed in situations of crisis and fragility 13.30 Tools and methodologies for understanding the conflict context (early warning systems, conflict analysis, PEA, fragility assesments) 15.30 Evaluation of the training 16.30 Concluding remarks and certificates hand-out

Annex 2 - Contents for Teaching and Topics

A. DAY ONE – Institutional setup

Welcome and course introduction

- ✓ *Presentation of the course outline & objectives; self-introduction by participants and organizers;*
- ✓ *Ice breaker exercise aimed at helping participants in getting to know each other.*

Panel: Europe in a changing world

- ✓ *An academic panel in which the future challenges for European foreign policy are discussed against a background of world affairs;*

Panel: Moving from a comprehensive approach to a comprehensive action

- ✓ *An panel addressing the future challenges of operationalizing the EU's Comprehensive Approach to external conflicts and crisis;*

Exercise: The European labyrinth

- ✓ *An educational quiz to get to know the different components of the European institutions and their role in external action.*

Lecture: Understanding the EU

- ✓ *A general wrap-up of the functioning of the EU, giving an overview of the different policy instruments and competences.*

B. DAY TWO: Overview of complementarity between short term and long term instruments - Presentation of short term instruments

Day introduction and recap

Panel: EU Crisis management – decision making

- ✓ *An panel aimed at helping participants to understand the structures and decision making process from the crisis management concept to the OPLAN;*

Snapshot: Military Crisis Management Tools

- ✓ *Military CSDP tools & decision-making.*

Snapshot: Civilian Crisis Management Tools

- ✓ *Civilian CSDP tools & decision-making.*

Panel: Immediate response instruments and their complementarity with longer term instruments (financial and non-financial)

- ✓ *Introduction to short term instruments used by the EU in responding to conflicts and crisis situations and their complementarity with long term instruments (comprehensive approach);*

Exercise: Responding to Crisis

- ✓ *An interactive scenario-based group exercise where different course participants play the role of different actors in an unfolding crisis.*

C. DAY THREE: Overview of complementarity between short term and long term instruments – Presentation of long term instruments

Day introduction and recap

Panel: The EU approach to fragility

- ✓ *A panel aimed at helping participants to learn about the principles of aid effectiveness, about the notion of fragile states and the policy operational challenges these represent, and to understand the programmatic approach and the application of the Agenda for Change in the implementation of development cooperation;*
- ✓ *Overview of the EU approach to conflict and fragility (New Deal, LRRD, resilience etc).*

Panel: EU external assistance instruments deployed in situations of crisis and fragility

- ✓ *Introduction to external assistance instruments and learning about the difference between CFSP/CSDP and non-CFSP/CSDP instruments;*

Panel: Tools and methodologies for understanding the conflict context (early warning systems, conflict analysis, PEA, fragility assessments)

- ✓ *Overview on the existing analytical tools used by the EU to better understand a conflict or sector context and thus to better fit country programmes to country contexts;*

Evaluation & Certificate hand-out