



## European Diplomatic Programme

15<sup>th</sup> edition 2014/2015

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# **1. GENERAL INTRODUCTION**

The European Diplomatic Programme (EDP) is now entering its 15th year. It was first established in November 1999 by the former Political Committee (doc 10509/00). To take account of developments since then, a revised set of principles governing the EDP (doc. 6488/09) was agreed in February 2009 by the Working Party on “CFSP Administrative Affairs and Protocol”. Its current version was approved by COREPER on 7 November 2012 and adopted by the Council (ECOFIN) on 13 November 2012.

## **1.1 Aims**

- To create personal networks among European diplomats.
- To raise common diplomatic awareness with regard to a specifically European dimension of diplomacy.
- To provide a learning environment where officials can be trained within an original framework which has no direct parallel within the national setting.

## **1.2 Target Group**

The EDP is aimed at diplomats of all national Ministries of Foreign Affairs, as well as European External Action Service (EEAS), Commission and Council Secretariat officials. Priority is given to the training of junior diplomats and officials.

## **1.3. Training methods**

The EDP cycle consists of four modules. During each module participants will attend a series of lectures and presentations, meetings or seminars. Their main purpose is two-fold: to increase individual knowledge of the subject matter and to prepare the participants to engage in group discussions which will lead to better understanding of individual positions of the EU member states as well as to the preparation by the EDP participants of group reports on the topics presented during the lectures and presentations,

The languages of instruction are French and/or English.

## **1.4 Certificate**

A certificate is awarded to the participants upon completion of the course, on behalf of the EDP managers, by the closing Presidency (Module IV). No certificate will be awarded to participants who miss more than one module.

## **1.5 EDP On line**

Information on previous editions of the EDP can also be found online: [http://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/edp/index\\_en.htm](http://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/edp/index_en.htm). A virtual workgroup as well as a series of web conferences will be available for participants to exchange and receive information and debate.

## **2. 15<sup>th</sup> EDITION OF THE EDP**

The 15<sup>th</sup> Edition will take place under the Presidencies of Italy and Latvia. The programme will start in Rome on 22 – 24 October 2014 and will conclude in Riga (end of May/ beginning of June 2015).

### **2.1 Dates of the 15<sup>th</sup> Edition**

#### **Module I**

22 – 24 October 2014, Rome, Italy

#### **Module II**

November 2014 - March 2015, exchange visits to Member States

#### **Module III**

13-17 April 2015 (tbc) Brussels, Belgium

#### **Module IV**

End of May/ Beginning of June 2015 (tbc) Riga, Latvia

## **2.2 Central theme for the 15th EDP**

The central theme of the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of EDP will be **“Emerging challenges and global issues in current diplomacy”**. As mentioned in the conclusions of the European Council on September 2010, “Europe is facing many challenges in a rapidly changing world”. During the four modules, participants will approach this subject from a theoretical and practical point view focusing on content and skills.. Environment, climate change, security, energy, migration, humanitarian aid, development, education and health will be among the issues to be tentatively discussed. Among the skills to be tentatively covered during the programme are the following: negotiation, political analysis and reporting, representation, strategic communications or dealing with emergencies.

Participants will, by the end of the four modules, have a better and holistic understanding of how the European Union is facing these emerging challenges and global issues as well as individual Member States’ s view on this specific issue.

## **2.3 Preliminary programme**

Detailed programmes for the four modules will be circulated several weeks before each module takes place.

### **Module I: 22 – 24 October 2014, Rome, Italy**

An initial plenary session, in which also the Training Directors will participate, will give the broad outline of the meeting activities. Participants will be divided into working groups on various sub-themes and will be asked to produce a report summarising their discussions.

This event will coincide with the first informal Training Directors meeting.

### **Module II: November 2014 and March 2015**

(Exchange programme between Member States of the European Union)

The exchange visits have multiple aims. Chief among these are to get to know the decision-making process of another Member State, the European Commission, the General

Secretariat of the Council or the EEAS, their view with respect to the theme of the programme, and to network with counterparts.

Should the participant be unable to visit the assigned host institution, an alternative programme would be developed by the assigned host institution and the participants to fulfill the objectives of the European Diplomatic Programme.

### **Module III: 13- 17 April 2015 (tbc), Brussels, Belgium**

This Module is divided into two sub modules.

During the first part (13-14 April), the EEAS, the General Secretariat of the Council and the Commission will organise a day and a half programme of presentations on topics related to the main theme, including question and answer sessions.

The second part (15-17 April) will consist of a simulated negotiation in which the young diplomats will represent the interests of a Member State or Institution. The negotiation training will be provided by experienced trainers who have conducted similar trainings during previous editions of the EDP.

### **Module IV: End of May / Beginning of June 2015(tbc), Riga, Latvia**

(Final module and evaluation of the 15<sup>th</sup> Edition)

Module IV will consist of a panel discussions on the main theme of the programme followed by a question and answer sessions with the participants. The information gathered during the previous modules of the EDP will be the basis of this discussion. The participants will draft and present a Strategy Paper for the Council concerning measures to be taken in the context of the main theme of the programme - which model for effective EU participation and defence of its interests, priorities and values. After the presentations, certificates will be handed over. This event will coincide with the second informal Training Directors meeting.

### 3. APPLICATION PROCESS FOR THE 15<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

#### 3.1 Procedure

EU Member States, the EEAS, the General Secretariat of the Council and the Commission may nominate 2 candidates and 1 reserve candidate. Should places be still available after this first round, a new selection process will be launched on September 1st.

All nominated candidates must be available to follow all four modules as listed above.

Training Directors/EDP coordinators should arrange for the attached application form to be completed for each candidate and returned by **30 July 2014** to the address indicated on the application form. Contact details and enquiries can also be found on the form.

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