

Invitation to the EU Integrated Crisis Management Course

(Activity Number 25-26/37/1)

taking place in Helsinki, Finland, from 22 to 26 September 2025

The EU Integrated Crisis Management Course builds on the development of the EU integrated approach to external conflicts and crises as a means of implementing the EU Global Strategy and its accompanying documents for the European Union's foreign and security policy. It contributes to building resilience and sustainable peace by further strengthening the way the EU brings together its institutions, expertise and wide-ranging instruments for prevention, peacebuilding, crisis response and stabilisation in fragile and conflict-affected areas.

The integrated approach links up different EU instruments and actors in a coordinated way, including diplomatic engagement, common security and defence policy (CSDP) missions and operations, justice and home affairs, development cooperation and humanitarian assistance. Consequently, the course is intended for all civilian/military/police personnel who are already working or will be involved in crisis management activities or in support given by a CSDP mission or operation or an EU delegation.

The course is being organised jointly by the Finnish Defence Forces International Centre and the Crisis Management Centre Finland, the Finnish centre of expertise in comprehensive crisis management, in the framework of the academic programme of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC).

The aim of the course is to enhance knowledge and understanding of crisis management in the context and culture of the EU integrated approach. This culture is to be based on a common understanding of the CSDP. This understanding is essential when the European Union is challenged by geopolitical changes and a multi-dimensional threat environment. It is important for training to include learning on the roles and tasks of various external levers of power within the multi-dimensional, multi-phase, multi-lateral and multi-level context and to explore possible synergies. The course enhances crisis management planning skills from the political-military perspective as part of the EU integrated approach. It increases information sharing, collaboration and cooperation among the various actors, such as military and civilian actors within crisis management, and humanitarian and development aid actors in the wider context of common foreign and security policy / common security and defence policy.

In this course, which is focused on practical aspects, concrete case studies and a scenario-based exercise, participants will:

- develop an accurate picture of the institutional set-up of the EU in crisis management and the relevant operating procedures;
- familiarise themselves with the concept of the EU integrated approach and how to implement it on the ground;
- learn how to pursue shared analysis and integrated action more effectively through cooperative problem-solving and teamwork.

By the end of the course, participants will have a holistic understanding of the key principles guiding the EU integrated approach to crisis management and will be able to apply them in their respective areas of competence. The course stresses the importance of cooperation and networking with the various actors in the institutions and in the field.

Please find attached the administrative instructions and a draft programme.

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 look forward to welcoming you to the Finnish Defence Forces International Centre!



Fergal Ó Regan
Acting Head of the European
Security and Defence
College



Esapekka Vehkaoja
Commandant
FINCENT



Juho Särkilä
Acting Director
Crisis Management Centre
Finland

Annexes:

- A. Administrative instructions
- B. Draft programme

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Administrative instructions

PARTICIPATION

Target group and criteria

1. Participants can be civilian or military personnel, including members of the civil administration and police, currently working or aspiring to work in areas related to crisis management in the context of CFSP/CSDP, including in the EEAS, CSDP missions and operations, EU delegations or the European Commission, or working for other organisations in a crisis or fragile area. Priority is given to personnel from EU Member States.
2. 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 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 do not tolerate any conduct that violates these values.
3. Since English is the working language, participants must have a good command of English to be able to engage in discussions and fully benefit from the training.
4. The course will be preceded by a mandatory e-learning module (opens 13 June 2025, on the ESDC e-learning platform ILIAS), which needs to be completed no later than 22 September 2025. The residential course will be conducted between 22 and 26 September 2025 and will be hosted by the Finnish Defence Forces International Centre (FINCENT). Course participants may arrive at FINCENT from 21 September 2025. Because of the intensive nature of this programme, it is not possible to engage in any additional activities during the day.

Security clearance

5. UNCLASSIFIED.

ADMINISTRATION

Selection of participants

6. The organisers intend to select a highly diverse group of participants in terms of professional and organisational background, age and nationality, and are conscious of the need for gender balance. However, only a limited number of participants can be accepted (27 in total).
7. The EU Member States, EU institutions and agencies and CSDP missions and operations are kindly invited to nominate max. 2 (two) participants. However, more seats could be allocated, depending on the total number of applications.

Application procedure

8. Applications are to be submitted via the ESDC secure internet system ENLIST, by designated nominators, at <https://esdc.europa.eu/enlist/login> no later than **12 June 2025**. A list of relevant ENLIST nominators can be retrieved from the ESDC website at <https://esdc.europa.eu/nominators/>.
9. Accepted candidates will receive a message of confirmation by **16 June 2025**. Registration will not be final until confirmed by the ESDC Secretariat and the Course Director and the requested personal data has been provided in ENLIST by the confirmed participants.

Costs

10. No tuition fee.

Accommodation and other expenses

11. The sending authorities must cover all costs of travel, accommodation and meals. FINCENT will accommodate participants in single rooms from Sunday 21 to Friday 26 September 2025. The cost of accommodation is EUR 65 per day, totalling EUR 260. Due to the location of FINCENT, accommodation at FINCENT is highly recommended. The average price of three meals is estimated at EUR 25 daily.

General

12. General information and detailed instructions concerning travel arrangements, accommodation, clothing, programme, etc. will be included in the course confirmation letter that will be sent to the confirmed participants by FINCENT in due time before the course starts.

CONTACT

- a. For registration of participants and generic administrative matters, please contact the ESDC: Jessica.GUSSARVIUS@eeas.europa.eu
- b. For course content and administrative matters in Finland, please contact FINCENT: fincentstudent@mil.fi

More information about FINCENT can be found at: www.finent.fi

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Draft Programme

Sun 22 Sep	Mon 23 Sep	Tue 24 Sep	Wed 25 Sep	Thu 26 Sep	Fri 27 Sep
THE TIME IN THE PROGRAMME IS THE LOCAL TIME IN HELSINKI	Registration until 08.15 08.30- 10.00 Introduction and Administrative issues 10.30-14.30 The theme of the day: <i>CFSP/CSDP and Integrated Approach in Crises Management</i> <u>Topics of the day:</u> -Strategic Security Environment -Integrated Approach -Strategic Policy and Planning Document <i>Lunch 12.30-13.30 and two 30 mins coffee breaks during the day</i>	08.30-09.00 Opening of the Day 09.00-14.30 The theme of the day: <i>Horizontal Matters</i> <u>Topics of the day:</u> -Rule of Law- Security Sector Reform -Human rights -Gender mainstreaming -International organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations -Hybrid Threats and Crises Management <i>Lunch break 12.30-13.30 and two 30 mins coffee breaks during the day</i>	08.30-09.00 Opening of the Day 09.00-14.30 The theme of the day: <i>Common and Member States resources</i> <u>Topics of the day:</u> -EU Commission -EU Delegation - EU actions in Ukraine - EU actions in Moldova <i>Lunch break 12.30- 13.30 and two 30 mins coffee breaks during the day</i>	08.30-09.00 Opening of the Day 09.00-12.30 The theme of the day: <i>Missions and Operations</i> <u>Topics of the day:</u> - Missions and Operations update -Strategic Review - Evaluation <i>Lunch break 12.30-13.30 and two 30 mins coffee breaks during the day.</i>	09.00-09.50 Course evaluation Material deliveries etc. 10.00-11.30 KEYNOTE PRESENTATION 11.30 – 12.00 Closing ceremonies of EUICM2025 From 12.30 Transportations to the airport/harbour etc.
	Registration until 22.00 15.00-17.15 Syndicate Work Dinner 17.30-18.00 (optional)	15.00– 16.30 Syndicate Work 16.45 -19.00 Visit in Hybrid CoE 19.00-21.30 Informal Sightseeing Helsinki	15.00 – 17.15 Syndicate work Dinner17.30-18.00 (optional)	13.30 – 16.00 Tabletop exercise 17.15 Course Dinner in the centre of Helsinki	