



WHAT WE ARE – WHAT WE DO

A manual of the European Security and Defence College



September 2017 — February 2018



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1. FOREWORD



Some say that we are the victims of our own success. Others say that we are simply riding the wave of the EU's new global strategy and the renewed focus on security and defence that came with it. Some just marvel at how we manage to organise so many activities with such a small number of people. The fact is that more and more people seem convinced that our business model is working and that we deserve all the support and buy-in of the Member States that we are getting.

Recently, I was asked to give my opinion on how the ESDC was able to expand its activities so quickly. For me, one of the main reasons is that we manage to provide high-quality training. But what does that mean? What contributes to that elusive concept of high quality? The picture below shows that, for me, high-quality training lies at the crossroads of seven elements:



- Training has to be innovative, both in terms of content, which should closely follow policy developments in the EU through pilot activities, and in terms of using different pedagogic approaches;
- There must be a constant will to improve, both on a micro level, by adjusting topics and speakers between courses, and on a macro level, by constantly reviewing and improving curricula;
- It must meet standards set both externally and internally;

- It must meet the expectations of our course participants, by finding the best possible speakers, and of the stakeholders (training institutes, Member States, the EEAS and the EU institutions), by identifying their training requirements and their priorities;
- It must allow the partners in our network to build up their capacities by benchmarking between them and to share good practices;
- A lessons-learned process must be in place.

However, I am very much aware that this crossroads is not a stable position. It requires constant attention and readjustment. This is an objective that can only be attained with the support of the whole ESDC network and the Member States. The success of the College is not an individual success, but rather a collective success built on the efforts of all the members of the ESDC family –not least on the efforts of the many speakers who work in the institutions and, time and again, make themselves available to come and explain what they do to our course participants.

This booklet contains some basic information on who we are and what we do. However, since we are a rapidly evolving, flexible and responsive organisation, I would urge readers to consult our webpage (<https://eeas.europa.eu/esdc>) for the most up-to-date information about our College.

Brussels, July 2017



Dirk Dubois
Head of the European Security and Defence College



2. WHAT WE ARE

2.1. ESDC = CFSP/CSDP training at EU level

The ESDC provides training in the field of the Union's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) in the context of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) at EU level in order to develop and promote a common understanding of CSDP among civilian and

military personnel, and to identify and disseminate, through its training activities, good practice in relation to various CSDP issues. By doing so, the ESDC complements the national efforts in the field of training and education.



2.2. ESDC = facilitator of a European Security Culture

Before the foundation of the ESDC in 2005, there was no single entity in the EU devoted to training at European level or the development of a common European security culture. It was only in 2002 that the Greek Presidency introduced what it called 'common training' as one of the Presidency priorities. The task of common training involved developing a European security culture by providing knowledgeable personnel both

in the EU Member States and within the EU institutions.

Nowadays, the European Security and Defence College is the sole training provider within the European Union dedicated to (a) providing training and education at European level and (b) promoting a common understanding of CSDP and CFSP among civilian and military personnel.



2.3. ESDC = 28 EU Member States

The EU Member States are the political masters of the college. They convene in a steering committee, which is chaired by a representative of the High Representative and which gives political guidance and strategic direction on issues relating to the academic training programme. The programme

encompasses all the training activities offered in the course of the academic year, which runs from September to July. A small but efficient international secretariat located in Brussels facilitates the conduct of training activities and the organisation of meetings in various formats.



© European Union , 2016 / Source: EC - Audiovisual Service / Photo: Etienne Ansotte

2.4. ESDC = 130 training providers

The ESDC was created as a network college and therefore relies on certified national training institutes, which provide training on a “costs lie where they fall” basis. In general, the courses can be attended cost-free, insofar as the ESDC does not charge tuition fees. The sending authority covers participants’ travel and accommodation costs.

The college is currently composed of around 130 national training institutes

(including military academies within the military Erasmus programme) with various areas of expertise and backgrounds. Network members range from national defence academies to peace universities, from police colleges to diplomatic training institutes. Some of the college’s activities are hosted by ministries or permanent representations, others by EU institutions or other EU entities including the European External Action Service.



Graphic: Jochen Rehr

The purpose of this graphic is to visualise the ESDC network. It does not show the full extent of the ESDC network, with its total of 130 partners.

2.5. ESDC = number one CFSP/CSDP training provider

The college has several advantages over other training providers:

1. The ESDC is embedded in the EU structures, hence able to quickly identify new training needs and include them in its programming cycle and curricula.
2. The ESDC provides first-class training, thanks to its network structure, its broad variety of lecturers including practitioners, academics and officials, its use of

participants with a wealth of expertise and professional experience as resource persons, its eLearning tool and its standardised, annually updated curricula.

3. The ESDC awards its students a certificate, which is signed by the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and legally recognised by all EU member states and EU institutions.



Graphic: Jochen Rehr

4. The ESDC follows an inclusive approach, inviting civilian, police, military and diplomatic staff to its courses, and ensuring that training groups are balanced. This approach allows for exchanges of views on CFSP and CSDP from a variety of vantage points.

5. The ESDC supports the regional policies of the EU by providing tailor-made

training for partners such as the Asia Regional Forum and the Arab League.

6. The ESDC evaluates all training events and includes its findings in the annual revision process. This ensures that shortfalls can be limited, good practices can be shared and a high quality of training can be guaranteed for future training activities.



Graphic: Jochen Rehr

2.6. ESDC = embedded in the EEAS

The structure of the college is as unique as its setting within the EU structures. The ESDC is embedded in the crisis management structures of the European External Action Service. It is therefore not a CSDP agency, unlike the European Defence Agency or the Institute for Security Studies in Paris. It has limited legal capacity and is able to

provide first-hand training to meet real-time training needs and requirements.

Due to this unique position within the EU bodies, the ESDC can draw on the expertise of EU desk officers working with CFSP issues on a daily basis and can therefore incorporate recent developments into its training and education programmes.



Source: <http://tvnewsroom.consilium.europa.eu/>

2.7. ESDC = 14.000 alumni

In 2017, the ESDC can look back on a 12 year success story. More than 14.000 students have been trained in more than 400 training sessions, seminars and conferences. All EU Member States, institutions and agencies have sent staff to ESDC events. ESDC training is also recognised as an important part of pre-deployment and in-mission training. Thanks to its success, the ESDC is well known by EU partners within and beyond Europe.

Within its current mandate, which is framed by the 2016 Council Decision, and with the unanimous support of all the actors involved, the ESDC is well equipped to provide high-quality training to tackle the challenges of tomorrow's missions and operations. The ESDC facilitated the development of a European Security Culture over the past 12 years and will build on its efforts in the future.



2.8. ESDC = Four tier structure

The ESDC is organised as a network bringing together civilian and military institutes, colleges, academies, universities, institutions and other actors dealing with security and defence policy issues within the Union as identified by Member States. The College is embedded in the European External Action Service, but has its own legal capacity.

The European Security and Defence College is organised in a four tier structure:

(1) The Steering Committee draws responsible for the overall coordination and

direction of the ESDC training activities;

(2) The Executive Academic Board ensures the quality and coherence of the ESDC training activities;

(3) The Head of the ESDC is responsible for the financial and administrative management of the ESDC, as well as assisting the Committee and the Board in organising and managing ESDC activities;

(4) The ESDC Secretariat assists the Head of the ESDC in fulfilling his tasks.



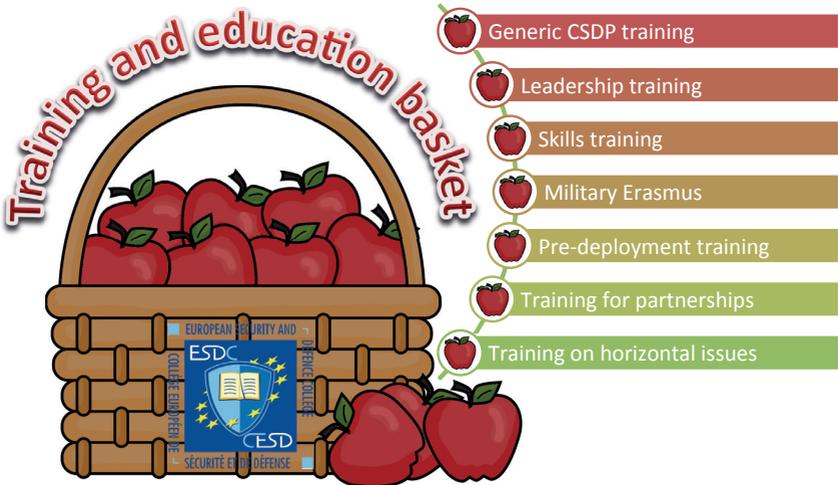


3. WHAT WE DO

3.1. ESDC = 50 different training courses

Over the years, the ESDC has developed over 50 different training activities, most of them with a regional or horizontal focus. Two of the more general courses are on the Common Foreign and Security Policy itself, at newcomer level in the case of the CSDP Orientation Course and at strategic leadership level in the case of the CSPD High Level

Course. The other courses/seminars/conferences focus on horizontal (e.g. peacebuilding) and regional (e.g. Western Balkan) issues. Specific training programmes for partners (e.g. Eastern Partners) and skills based courses (e.g. mediation) complement the academic programme of the college.



Graphic: Jochen Rehr

3.3. ESDC = three handbooks and several other publications

Since 2010, the ESDC has published three handbooks on the Common Security and Defence Policy. A total of about 15000 copies of these publications have been distributed to date, primarily to facilitate the college's various training activities. The handbooks were as follows:

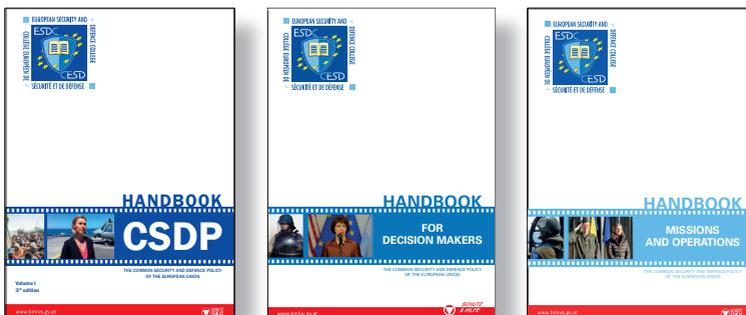
1. Handbook on CSDP: This handbook, published in 2010, was the first in the series of CSDP-related handbooks. It gives an overview of procedures, structures and policies. The third edition of the handbook was published in May 2017.
2. Handbook for Decision Makers: The second handbook was developed for decision makers. It provides comments and analysis on current CFSP/CSDP issues

such as sanctions, cyber security and non-proliferation. The first edition was published in 2014.

3. Handbook on CSDP missions and operations: This latest handbook was published in 2015 and focuses on operational aspects of the Common Security and Defence Policy.

The three handbooks were published by the Austrian Ministry of Defence and Sports. Other publications were issued in the margins of the military Erasmus programme, either by the Polish and Cypriot Presidencies or by the ESDC itself.

The handbooks and other publications have contributed greatly to both expertise development and brand visibility.



3.4. ESDC = recognised high quality training

As a network college, the ESDC has a presence in Brussels and across all 28 EU Member States. Besides the classical national training institutes, ministries and national permanent representations also provide training at EU level. In order to guarantee a minimum level of quality, all training delivered under the aegis of the ESDC

must follow a standardised curriculum, which is developed by the host country or institute and agreed by the Member States. These curricula are revised annually by the relevant bodies of the European External Action Service and by the national institutes and other external experts active in the field, amongst others.



Article 20 Participation in ESDC training and education activities

4. A certificate signed by the HR shall be awarded to a participant who has completed an ESDC course. The modalities of the certificate shall be kept under review by the Steering Committee. The certificate shall be recognised by the Member States and by the Union institutions.

**COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP)
2016/2382 of 21 December 2016
establishing a European Security
and Defence College (ESDC) and
repealing Decision 2013/189/CFSP**

3.5. ESDC = young officers exchange scheme

Since 2008, the college has been actively involved in and leading the young officers exchange scheme. The main goal of this initiative, which is modelled on its civilian counterpart ERASMUS, is to instil European officers with a common security culture and therefore

render the armed forces 100 % interoperable. Within the ESDC framework, military, navy and air academies across the Member States work towards the achievement of this ambitious political goal.



EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE COLLEGE

ESDC

European Initiative for the Exchange of Military Young Officers

EUROPEAN UNION

Home About the Initiative Officer Education Systems and Academies in the EU Mobility Opportunities Calendar RSS

Implementation Group Meeting in Athens (May 2015)

The 26th Meeting of the Implementation Group took place in Athens, hosted by the Hellenic General Staff & the Hellenic Navy.

1 2 3

For more information, visit the website <http://www.emilyo.eu/>

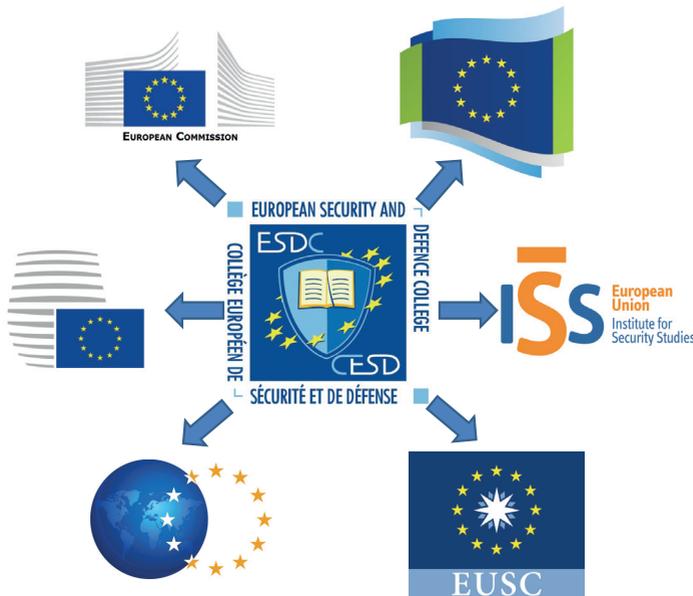


©2016 by the MoD Cyprus, leadership development training within the Military Erasmus project

3.6. ESDC = using synergies for mutual benefit

Other initiatives aim at identifying and using synergies between various actors in the field of CFSP and CSDP to support the regional priorities of the EU Member States and the European External Action Service. Building on these efforts, strong ties have been established between the ESDC and the newly created Directorate General for Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement negotiations (DG NEAR). TAIEX, a European Commission Technical Assistance and Information Exchange instrument

managed by DG NEAR, finances ESDC training activities directed at the implementation and facilitation of accession efforts. The Eastern Partnership platform, also within DG NEAR, provides similar support to ESDC activities for the Eastern Partnership countries. Other Commission directorates also provide support to meet specific training needs. They include DG HOME (counterterrorism), DG MOVE (maritime security) and DG DEVCO (fragility, security, development).



Graphic: Jochen Rehl



4. TRAINING PROGRAMME

SEPTEMBER 2017 — FEBRUARY 2018

For an updated programme, please visit our website

<https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp/4369>

From	To	Training Activity	Training actor	Location	ESDC PoC
4.9.2017	8.9.2017	CSDP Orientation Course (TP SAP, module II)	AT/HR/HU/TAIEX	Brussels/BE	Jochen Rehl
10.9.2017	15.9.2017	EU Comprehensive Crisis Management Course	FI	Helsinki/FI	Charlotta Ahlmark
11.9.2017	15.9.2017	CSDP Orientation Course	EUMS	Brussels/BE	Symeon Zambas
13.9.2017	14.9.2017	Pilot: Cyber Defence and Security for Senior Decision Makers	EDA/ RandEurope/DE	Hamburg/DE	Irene-Maria Eich
19.9.2017	21.9.2017	Integration of a Gender Perspective in CSDP	SE	Brussels/BE	Charlotta Ahlmark
19.9.2017	22.9.2017	CSDP OC for BiH	AT	Sarajevo	Jochen Rehl
20.9.2017	22.9.2017	CSDP High Level Conference (TP SAP)	AT/HR/HU/TAIEX	Podgorica/MN	Jochen Rehl
20.9.2017	28.9.2017	EU Core Course on Security Sector Reform (SSR)	AT	Stadtschlaining/ AT	Charlotta Ahlmark
25.9.2017	29.9.2017	CSDP high level course (Module I)	BE	Brussels/BE	Ovidiu Simina
25.9.2017	28.9.2017	Pre-Deployment Training (PDT)	SE	Brussels/BE	Irene-Maria Eich
2.10.2017	5.10.2017	CSDP Reflection Seminar (TP SAP, module III)	AT/HR/HU/TAIEX	Tirana/AL	Jochen Rehl
2.10.2017	6.10.2017	Maritime Security Course	RO	Constanta/RO	Symeon Zambas
3.10.2017	3.10.2017	Security Sector Reform (SSR) Seminar	SE/EAB.SSR	Brussels/BE	Charlotta Ahlmark
3.10.2017	5.10.2017	European Armament Course - Awareness Level	AT/EDA	Brussels/BE	Symeon Zambas
9.10.2017	13.10.2017	CSDP Orientation Course	EL	Thessaloniki/EL	Symeon Zambas
9.10.2017	13.10.2017	International Course for Military Legal Advisers (module I)	AT	Vienna/AT	Jochen Rehl

From	To	Training Activity	Training actor	Location	ESDC PoC
9.10.2017	13.10.2017	Pilot: Safety and Security Awareness Training	EUMM Georgia	Tbilisi/GE	Irene-Maria Eich
10.10.2017	14.10.2017	CSDP Common module on CSDP (Erasmus militaire, to be confirmed)	IT	Pozzuoli	Symeon Zambas
17.10.2017	19.10.2017	Basic Course on Security Sector Reform (SSR)	FR	Brussels/BE	Charlotta Ahlmark
23.10.2017	27.10.2017	CSDP Orientation Course	HR	Rakitje/HR	Mario Marmo
23.10.2017	24.10.2017	CSDP conference (EaP)	AT/DG NEAR	Kyiv/UA	Jochen Rehrl
23.10.2017	27.10.2017	CSDP Orientation Course (EaP)	AT/DG NEAR	Kyiv/UA	Jochen Rehrl
6.11.2017	11.11.2017	CSDP Orientation Course - common module	IT	Turin/IT	Symeon Zambas
6.11.2017	7.11.2017	ESDC Network Conference (CSDP Annual training & education conference)	BE/CMPD/EUMS	Brussels/BE	Ovidiu Simina
6.11.2017	10.11.2017	Pre-Deployment Training (PDT)	FI	Brussels/BE	Irene-Maria Eich
10.11.2017	10.11.2017	Europaforum	AT	Vienna/AT	Jochen Rehrl
13.11.2017	16.11.2017	Course on civilian Aspects of Crisis management	IT	Rome/IT	Irene-Maria Eich
13.11.2017	17.11.2017	CSDP Orientation Seminar EU-China (tbc)	CMPD	Brussels/BE	Mario Marmo
14.11.2017	15.11.2017	Basic Course on Security Sector Reform (SSR)	SE	Brussels/BE	Charlotta Ahlmark
19.11.2017	24.11.2017	Course on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict	AT	Stadtschlaining AT	Ovidiu Simina
20.11.2017	24.11.2017	International Course for Military Legal Advisers (module II)	AT	Vienna/AT	Jochen Rehrl
20.11.2017	24.11.2017	European Armament Course - expert level	SE/EDA	Stockholm/SE	Symeon Zambas

From	To	Training Activity	Training actor	Location	ESDC PoC
20.11.2017	24.11.2017	CSDP Orientation Course - common module	AT	Wr. Neustadt/AT	Symeon Zambas
22.11.2017	24.11.2017	Cyber Security Course	FR	Brussels/BE	Ovidiu Simina
28.11.2017	1.12.2017	Disaster relief in CSDP context	BG	Sofia/BG	Ovidiu Simina
4.12.2017	8.12.2017	CSDP high level course (Module II)	UK/BDC	London/UK	Ovidiu Simina
4.12.2017	8.12.2017	CSDP Orientation Course	RO	Bucharest/RO	Mario Marmo
4.12.2017	8.12.2017	Pre-Deployment Training (PDT)	DE	Brussels/BE	Irene-Maria Eich
6.12.2017	8.12.2017	EU facing "hybrid warfare" challenges	FR	Brussels/BE	Ovidiu Simina
11.12.2017	15.12.2017	A Comprehensive Approach to Gender in Operations	NL	The Hague/NL	Charlotta Ahlmark
Dec 2017 (to be confirmed)	Dec 2017	Security Sector Reform (SSR) Seminar	EAB.SSR	Brussels/BE	Charlotta Ahlmark
15.1.2018	19.1.2018	International Course for Military Legal Advisers (module III)	AT	tbc/AT	Jochen Rehl
15.1.2018	19.1.2018	Pre-Deployment Training (PDT)	ESDC	Brussels/BE	Irene-Maria Eich
22.1.2018	26.1.2018	CSDP Orientation Course (TP EaP - module II)	AT/DG NEAR	Brussels/BE	Jochen Rehl
24.1.2018	27.1.2018	Course on Cyber Security	PT	Brussels/BE	Ovidiu Simina
5.2.2018	9.2.2018	CSDP Orientation Course	RO	Bucharest/RO	Mario Marmo
5.2.2018	9.2.2018	ESDC Advanced Course for Political Advisors (Module I)	AT/BE/GCSP	Brussels/BE	Jochen Rehl
5.2.2018	9.2.2018	Pre-Deployment Training (PDT)	ESDC	Brussels/BE	Irene-Maria Eich
20.2.2018	23.2.2018	Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management	IT	Rome/IT	Irene-Maria Eich



5. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

5.1. Where to find out about courses and seminars

ESDC training activities (e.g. courses, seminars) are advertised

(a) on the ESDC website (<http://eeas.europa.eu/esdc>),

(b) via the Schoolmaster system and the JHA matrix,

(c) on the EEAS training intranet site (EEASzone).

All EU Member States, institutions and agencies, including CSDP missions and operations are invited to every training event through their nominated points of contact. Where third States or organisations are invited, course details are sent via their missions, delegations or other offices in Brussels.

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06/06/2016
ESDC: 12th CSDP High Level Course 2016-2017 'Anna Lindh'

14/01/2015
Archive of news 2015 - 2016

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Find us at <http://eeas.europa.eu/esdc>

5.2. How to register for an ESDC event

The main ESDC target group is made up of officials from EU Member States and EU institutions/agencies, including CSDP missions and operations. For registration, the ESDC uses a secure electronic registration system called ENLIST. Each relevant entity nominates a responsible person, who registers and ranks participants from his or her institution. You will find a complete list of ENLIST nominators on the ESDC website (<http://eeas.europa.eu/esdc>). The ESDC Secretariat performs the role of ENLIST nominator for candidates from Third countries and organisations.

For some courses such as the Senior Mission Leader Course or the Advanced Political Advisor Course, the training host may prefer to use a more personalised registration system. In these cases, candidates are requested to fill in an application form. Based on the data provided, the training host, together with the ESDC Secretariat, performs a selection process to identify the most suitable participants.

Some training courses require that participants have a personal security clearance (PSC).



Source: European Security and Defence College/
Eastern Partnership Programme

5.3. ESDC = Seven national experts in the Secretariat



Symeon Zambas

is a Cypriot national expert with specific expertise in the military field. He acts as the main point of contact for the military exchange programme and the CSDP Military Advanced Training.



Charlotta Ahlmark

is a Swedish national expert on civilian aspects of EU crisis management, incl. Gender and EU/UN relations. She is coordinator for the Executive Academic Board on Security Sector Reform.



Mario Marmo

is an Italian national expert with a police background. He is responsible for bringing the link between CSDP/FSJ into all relevant ESDC training activity.



Alexandra Katsantoni

is a Greek national financial expert. Her main responsibilities comprise budgetary planning, acquisition and internal coordination.



Ovidiu Simina

is a Romanian national expert dealing with general coordination tasks in the Secretariat. He acts as the front desk for the CSDP High Level Course and the alumni association.



Irene-Maria Eich

is a German national expert with responsibility for pre-deployment and in-mission training with a civilian focus. She is the coordinator for the Working Group on CSDP Missions and Operations.



Jochen Rehr

is an Austrian national expert. He establishes eLearning courses, leads regional training programmes, edits the ESDC handbooks and chairs an EAB configuration (eLCIP).



Ewelina Miazga

is administrative and financial assistant to the Head of the ESDC.

