Common Module
Common Operating Environment
Description

Implementation Group
Doc.: IG/2013/07
Date : 28-8-2014
Origin: ESDC SECRETARIAT

Country ……….	Institution ……….	Module **Common Operating Environment**	ECTS **3.0**

	Minimum Qualification for Lecturers
Service **All**	• English: Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) Level B2 or NATO STANAG 6001 Level 3. • Thorough knowledge of the asymmetric conflicts.
Language **English**	• Adequate knowledge of international security. • Thorough knowledge of the topic taught and\or operational experience.

Prerequisites for international participants	Goal of the Module
• English: Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) Level B1 or NATO STANAG Level 2. • Minimum of 2 years national (military) higher education. • Basic knowledge of current national and international security issues. • Basic knowledge of the military operations.	• Understand objectives of irregular actors and asymmetric approaches. • Methods to counter asymmetric threats. • Deepen knowledge of the vulnerabilities of society. • Learn about the role of Military in asymmetric conflicts.

Learning outcomes		
	Know-ledge	• Basic knowledge of the military operations in asymmetric conflicts. • Understand changes in operations environment.
	Skills	• Inform peers about the key aspects of the contemporary conflicts. • Ability to analyse changes within the operational environment. • Explain the factors of asymmetric conflict. • Understanding the Targeting Cycle. • Explain the legal issues of asymmetric conflicts.
	Compe-tences	• Ability to contribute to the counterinsurgency decision making process. • Apply and analyse available information relating to developing threats. • Understand the consequences of using force to counter asymmetric actors.

Verification of learning outcomes

• **Observation**:
Throughout the Module students are to discuss given topics within syndicates and in the plenary. During these work students are to be evaluated to verify their competences.

• **Test:**
Written examination at the end of the module. The type of the test is up to the Course Director. If needed, more tests may be conducted during the Module.

Module Details

Main Topic	Recom- mended WH	Details
Complex Operational Environment	12	• Introduction of the module. • Definition of security. • Definition of operational environment. • Military and non-military actors. • Operating context. • Elements of a stable state. • State instability. • Vulnerabilities of governance and authority. • Variable factors of the operational environment (political, human, physical, security, information and economic environment).
The Nature of Conflicts	4	• Definition of Armed Conflict. • Types of Armed Conflict. • Genesis of war. • Factors of the conflict. • Actors and their activities.
4th Generation of War	6	• Generations of war. • Causes of conflicts. • Case study.
Counter Asymmetric Methods	8	• Network enabled capabilities. • Targeting. • Information operations – Cyber security. • Intelligence preparations of battle space.
Legal Issues of Asymmetric Conflicts	4	• Legal issues of asymmetric conflicts.
Additional hours to increase the learning outcomes		
Syndicate Work	12	• To increase the understanding of the Common Operating Environment. • To increase the understanding of the context of definitions Actors and their activities.
Case Studies and Discussions	14	• To illustrate the asymmetric conflicts with appropriate examples. • Each case study comprises a description of a situation followed by questions.
Self-Study	20	• Preparation for the upcoming lessons and for exam(s). • Reflection of the topics issued. • If IDL is developed it may be counted to these hours.
Total	**80**	