



Brussels, 21 March 2024

To: The Permanent Representatives of Member States to the European Union

CC: The Permanent Representatives to the Political and Security Committee

Subject: Invitation to the 20th Common Security and Defence Policy High-Level Course 2024-2025 'JOSÉ CUTILEIRO'

Your Excellencies,

The European Security and Defence College (ESDC) is proud to announce its 20th Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) High-Level Course 2024-2025. The course consists of four residential modules: Brussels (23-27 September 2024); Larnaca (25-29 November 2024); Bucharest (07-11 April 2025); and Lisbon (23-27 June 2025).

This edition of the ESDC's CSDP High-Level Course is named after the Portuguese Ambassador **JOSÉ CUTILEIRO** in recognition of his efforts for peace, security and defence in Europe, notably in the Balkans, having co-authored the Carrington-Cutileiro peace plan. From 1994 to 1999, Ambassador Cutileiro served as the Secretary-General of the Western European Union, a forum for the coordination of European defence, security and military cooperation matters, which paved the way for the CSDP.

The course will address the main policies, developments and trends of the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy. It will provide a forum for in-depth debate on current and emerging CSDP issues.

Participants should be senior civilian officials (including diplomats and police officers) or senior military officials from the EU Member States, candidate countries, relevant EU institutions, bodies and agencies, as well as CSDP missions and operations.

The ESDC is committed to fostering an inclusive, diverse, gender-sensitive and anti-discriminatory environment. We therefore strongly encourage you to nominate candidates from groups that are likely to be under-represented.

On behalf of the EU Member States and the national institutes contributing to the 20th CSDP High-Level Course, you are invited to submit your nominations no later than **31 May 2024**. For further details, please refer to the attached annexes.

Fergal O'REGAN
ACTING Head of the ESDC

Attachments:

Annex 1 – Administrative arrangements

Annex 2 – Curriculum of the 20th CSDP High-Level Course 2024-2025 'JOSÉ CUTILEIRO'