



**Brussels, 11 November 2016**

**Invitation to the**

**6<sup>th</sup> ESDC Advanced Course for  
Political Advisors in EU Missions and Operations  
(16-17/18/01)**

**Brussels/Geneva/Vienna - February/April/June 2017**

Since 2003, the European Union is playing a crucial role in crisis management through its Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). With more than 30 missions and operations worldwide, the EU has proved its readiness to respond effectively and in timely fashion to emerging challenges.

Effective crisis management requires a combination of adequate capabilities and well-trained personnel. In response, one of the key tasks of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) is to contribute towards human capital development and build a pool of knowledgeable crisis managers. The College provides basic to advanced courses ranging from orientation to specialised training for civil-military purposes specially designed to facilitate a comprehensive approach.

National institutes have already conducted several courses under the umbrella of the ESDC to improve the operational capability of the EU, especially at the leadership level.

The forthcoming "**ESDC Advanced Course for Political Advisors in EU Missions and Operations**" aims to complement this effort. It will consist of three modules organised and offered by three partner institutes to the course, the **Egmont Institute** in Brussels, the **Geneva Centre for Security Policy** and the **Austrian National Defence Academy** in Vienna, which will cover the requirements for **personnel assigned to EU missions and operations as Political Advisors**.

We are therefore very pleased to invite you to this ESDC training activity in support of the Common Security and Defence Policy. For further information, please refer to the outline curriculum and the administrative details in the annexes.

**Professor Dr. Sven Biscop**  
Director at the Egmont Institute  
in Brussels

**LTG Erich Csitkovits**  
Commandant of the Austrian  
National Defence Academy

**Ambassador Christian Dussey**  
Director of the Geneva Centre for  
Security Policy