

## INVITATION TO NOMINATE EXPERTS FOR THE

### ESDC Course on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict (UN certified)

**11-16 NOVEMBER 2018**

#### *Course Description*

The UN Security Council Resolution 1894 calls upon the international community and conflict parties to implement far-reaching measures to protect and support civilian populations in situations of armed conflict.



The content of this training course reflects a broad interpretation of protection, which goes beyond the provision of protection from physical violence but also includes the creation of larger protective environments and the implementation of activities which enhance the rights of individuals in accordance with international humanitarian law, human rights and refugee law.

The six-day training course prepares senior decision-makers of armed forces, police, political bodies and non-governmental organizations, as well as individual civilian experts involved in peacekeeping and/or international crisis management at the operational level for the challenges in protecting civilian populations in contexts of armed conflict.

**Graduates of this course will be provided with a comprehensive understanding of the multiple dimensions and meanings of the protection of civilians. They will have enhanced knowledge of the actors and their roles and responsibilities in the subject matter and will be in position to identify options for coordination and synergies in the implementation of protection for civilians. They will be able to analyze the specific threats to and the needs and rights of different vulnerable groups of civilians affected by armed conflict in order to develop and implement context-sensitive, effective strategies and measures to improve situation of civilians in armed conflict.**

The course was developed in close cooperation between the Federal Ministry of Defence and the Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution and has furthermore been supported by the Federal Chancellery of the Republic of Austria, the Federal Ministry of Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs and the Federal Ministry of Interior. It confirms Austria's continuous effort to promote the protection of civilians in armed conflict. Since 2014, the training is part of the framework of the Academic Programme of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) and has furthermore been certified by the United Nations.

**The course takes place from 11-16 November 2018 at the premises of the ASPR in Stadtschlaining, Austria.**

## *Requirements for Participation*

The course targets national and international experts and senior decision-makers of armed forces (battalion level and above), police (senior police officers and above), non-governmental/civilian organizations (heads of substantive sections and above), and political/civilian administration (heads of division/department and above) involved in crisis management operations.

Course participants are requested to cover their **full board accommodation** at the local Hotel and Conference Centre for the duration of the training which is **600 EUR** and their individual travel expenses to Vienna International Airport, including visa fees. Furthermore, participants will be responsible for the payment of all extras such as individually consumed beverages, laundry, telephone bills, taxi costs, and other personal expenses. Participants are furthermore expected to have a valid full medical and other insurance coverage for their stay in Austria.

Due to generous support by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Defence, there are **no course related expenses**, such as tuition fees, course materials, expert honoraria, etc.

- ***For further information on the conditions and costs of participation please see the Information Letter.***

## *Application Procedure*

All interested institutions and entities are encouraged to nominate qualified personnel with due regard to gender balance and diversity. Nominees are requested to **send their application form** to the ASPR ([hofer@aspr.ac.at](mailto:hofer@aspr.ac.at)) by the **deadline of 3 September 2018**. Candidates will be informed about the outcome of their application as soon as a respective decision has been taken by the Course Admission Board.

*Interested individuals not nominated/supported by any institution who meet the requirements are equally encouraged to apply.*

- ***For applications please use the Application Form attached.***

## *Attachments:*

Appendix 1: Information Letter

Appendix 2: Application Form

Appendix 3: Course Brochure