



DEFENCE

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‘High Studies for Security and Defence, a multisectoral approach’ SESSION 2016-2017

A SUCCESS SINCE 2005

Since January 2005 the Royal Higher Institute for Defence has been organising the High Studies for Security and Defence Studies in cooperation with Egmont, the Royal Institute for International Relations.

In recent years, the need for a multidisciplinary approach in security and defence matters has been increasingly felt in the face of various crises breaking out in the four corners of the world. Globalisation is not only an economic phenomenon. The rise of international terrorism is for instance only reinforcing the need for a global approach.

An efficient but, more importantly, responsible management of security and defence starts with a good understanding of the existing phenomena. An accurate multidisciplinary analysis can prevent subjective, corporative or individual feelings to get the upper hand over reason. This is the objective and challenge that the participants in the twelfth session of the High Studies for Security and Defences will have to meet as from September 2016.

During the previous sessions, not only did the Defence staff (both civilian and military) take part in the various activities but also members of the Belgian Development Cooperation, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Home Affairs and Justice, the federal police, the economic and industrial sectors, the academic community, NGOs, and so on. The Royal Higher Institute for Defence is an interface between those worlds: this is one of its core tasks.

Ten seminars of two days are each devoted to a specific issue. During the monthly seminars participating members first attend conferences given by renowned professors or political or diplomatic experts charged with issues relating to the theme of the seminar. Those conferences are followed by a debate with the speaker. Participants then form discussion groups in which they share their personal experiences and views, enabling them to get a more comprehensive insight into the broached issues.

In addition to the seminars a dozen visits of major institutions in the sectors of security and defence.

The analysis of the participants' reactions shows that they unanimously think that this formula is of great interest. The knowledge they gain from the workshops makes them even more effective in their tasks. The aim of those High Studies for Security and Defence is indeed rather to better equip officials from various sectors of the wide security and defence field than to provide regular academic training.

PROGRAMME 2016-2017

09-10 September 2016	Seminar 1	Basic principles
Belgian foreign and defence policy Theoretical models of international relations Globalisation: conceptual analysis and parties concerned Comprehensive approach of security		
14-15 October 2016	Seminar 2	Key agents and tendencies
Economic, demographic, environmental agents and agents related to science and technology International, national and regional governance		
18-19 November 2016	Seminar 3	Agents of instability I
Arms proliferation (weapons of mass destruction, small arms, mines) Organised crime Migration flows International crime and (drug, human, etc.) trafficking Piracy		
16-17 December 2016	Seminar 4	Agents of instability II
Terrorism as an international problem, its types and responses Financial crime Islam: its many facets, from tolerance to extremism, population integration Cybercrime		
13-14 January 2017	Seminar 5	The European Union
Common foreign and security policy Common security and defence policy The European Union neighbourhood policy Civil and military capabilities		
10-11 February 2017	Seminar 6	Major world powers
The United States – China – Russia – India – Japan – Brazil – the European Union		
10-11 March 2017	Seminar 7	The legacy of the USSR
Ukraine, Belarus, The Caucasus, Central Asia, Afghanistan, Pakistan		
21-22 April 2017	Seminar 8	The East
Maghreb – Middle East (Palestine, Lebanon, Syria) – Turkey – Iran The importance of water and energy (oil, gas)		
12-13 May 2017	Seminar 9	Africa
The Great Lakes region (Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Burundi) The policy of Belgium in Africa (including development aid) The role of the European Union in Africa South Africa, Mali, CAR		
23-24 June 2017	Seminar 10	Summary, conclusions and evaluation

Several visits are organised: the Chancellery of the Prime Minister and the Crisis Centre of the government, the Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs, the general staff of Defence, the Federal Police, the Belgian State Security Service, the General Intelligence and Security Service, the Federal Parliament, the provincial authorities, NATO and the European Union.

Each seminar takes place from Friday 9:00 to Saturday 19:00 with on-site accommodation. The dates of the monthly visits are fixed the preceding month.

PRACTICAL DETAILS

PARTICIPANTS

We hope to reach the same degree of diversity of participants in this twelfth session than in the previous ones. Besides the participation of Defence personnel, both military and civilian, the RHID also provides for the active involvement of members of the political sphere, officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation, Home Affairs and Justice, the federal police, the economic and industrial sectors, the academic and research community, European and international institutions, NGOs, the media, and so on.

The participation in the High Studies for Security and Defence presupposes the presence at **all** ten seminars and at a maximum number of visits. It also implies the adherence to the non-attribution policy (Chatham House Rule). This principle, which aims to allow everyone, whether participant or speaker, to express his views, guarantees that the content of the ideas and discussions can be used outside the seminars, provided the author and the circumstances are not revealed.

APPLICATIONS

The candidates who do not belong to the Belgian Defence are selected by a steering committee and are submitted to the Minister of Defence for final approval. The post, the experience and the interest shown by the candidate are factors that are taken into account in the selection process. Applications, including a CV and a covering letter, must reach us before 29 January 2016. Candidates are invited to the RHID for an interview between 11 January and 26 February 2016. The steering committee will meet late April 2016 to select the accepted candidates, who will be directly notified as soon as the Minister of Defence's decision is known.

FEES

The principle of the residential seminar is maintained. For each external participant, a unique contribution of 500 euros for the costs shall be required at the beginning of the session. The seminars take place at the Royal Military Academy (Campus Renaissance). The transportation costs are entirely borne by the participants. Any costs incurred during the visits are also to be paid by the participants.

THE USE OF LANGUAGES

During those discussions, everyone speaks in his own mother tongue (French or Dutch) without translation. Some speakers will use English and a passive knowledge of this language is thus an essential minimum.

INFORMATION AND QUESTIONS

This information is also available on the website of the Royal Higher Institute for Defence on <http://www.rhid.be>. For further information you can contact Lieutenant-Colonel (GS) Patrick Goovaerts, director of the Department High Studies of Defence by telephone at 02/441.44.64 or by email at patrick.goovaerts@mil.be.

