



EAPTC

3rd Annual Meeting

21apr – 23apr 2015, Vienna

Minutes of the Meeting

The 3rd Annual meeting of the European Association of Peace Operations Training Centres (EAPTC) was organised and hosted by the Austrian Armed Forces International Centre (AUTINT) from 21-23 April 2015, in Vienna, Austria. The meeting brought together 50 participants from 36 European training institutions.

The meeting provided the members of the EAPTC the opportunity to share information, discuss latest developments and trends regarding peace operations related training and their ongoing and planned activities.

The main focus of the meeting was to discuss the latest developments regarding the training architectures and policies of UN and EU and the respective challenges as well as discussions focusing on the enhancement of the EAPTC.

WEDNESDAY – 22 April 2015

The meeting was opened by a short welcome address of the actual chair of the EAPTC, Col Claus AMON, Commandant of AUTINT. The opening was followed by an introduction round where each participant had the opportunity to present him-/herself and the respective training institution.

Update Briefings from the EAPTC Community (09:00 – 10:00; 10:30 – 11:10)

The first Session of the day aimed on giving the participants the opportunity to be updated on recent trends and developments and opportunities within the EAPTC community.

Military Contribution to Peace Support (MC2PS)

The Commandant of FINCENT LtCol Timo HÄMÄLÄINEN presented NATO's Global Programming Initiative and also the latest developments regarding the training discipline MC2PS. Global Programming represents an unified effort by NATO to develop effective, efficient and affordable education and training solutions using a Strategic Training Plan (STP), Training Requirement Analysis (TRA) and Training Needs Analysis. The responsibilities for establishing these elements are divided between NATO ACT and the respective Requirement Authorities (RA) and Department Heads (DH). For MC2PS, FINCENT is the responsible DH. LtCol HÄMÄLÄINEN outlined the challenges and the way for FINCENT to become and be a DH. He also explained to the participants the actual training governance structure within NATO to the participants. The presentation was finalized by comments on the effort of FINCENT regarding different quality assurance processes.

Corruption Threats & International Missions

Nicholas SEYMOUR from Transparency International (UK) briefed the participants on the potential fatality of corruption to long-term stability, security and development, and its impact on the sustainability of peace operations.

He emphasized that therefore a new handbook "Corruption Threats & International Missions (Practical guidance for leaders)" aimed at being a first step at filling the vacuum regarding the lack of guidance was published by Transparency International in September 2014.

Furthermore Transparency International is in the process of developing a training module that can be inserted into other training programmes and would facilitate the sensibilisation of course participants on this topic.

Police Training and Education

The European Union "Horizon 2020" research project "Community Based Policing and Post Conflict Police Reform" was presented by Tor DAMKAAS. This project aims at enhancing the cooperation between Law Enforcement Agencies and Citizens, has a timeframe of five years (June 2015 - June 2020) and consists of 11 European and 5 regional partners as well as 30+ researchers. The focus of the project lies on South East Europe, Africa, South Asia and Latin America.

The overall objective of the project is to conduct integrated social and technical research on community-based policing (COP) and police reform in post-conflict countries and should create greater knowledge on- and awareness of the social, cultural, legal and ethical dimensions of COP. Therefore 5 Thematic Workgroups are established.

E-learning POTI

Dr. Harvey LANGHOLTZ conducted a briefing about the different course and e-learning opportunities POTI can offer to the Peace Operations Training community. The respective institutions have access to six different peacekeeping e-learning courses and can also have a full curriculum of 29 courses. Dr. LANGHOLTZ further explained different characteristics and features of e-learning courses and answered questions regarding the availability for the EAPTC members.

German TPP

Dr. Volker JACOBY and Chief Superintendent Markus FEILKE presented the German Training Partner Platform (DEU TTP) and outlined at the beginning its characteristics. The TPP consist of 3 police, 2 armed forces and 2 civilian partner training institutions.

Currently, they are developing together a Leadership & Management course for emerging leaders (CIV/MIL/POL) in peace operations. The course will focus on attitude, thus applying state-of-the-art methodology. At the moment the identification of possible trainers is ongoing and a pilot course is planned in 2016.

Partner Mapping

Cord-Dieter WIESENTHAL (ZIF) presented the project of an online platform that visualizes information on and the ties between peacekeeping training organizations. This platform consists of a multi-layered interactive map that should facilitate and enable a quick strategic overview for decision-makers and visualize the cooperation among all represented agencies in a specific field. This should generate synergies and avoid unnecessary redundancy and project duplication. He emphasized that this project is at an early stage and funding will be necessary.

The presentation was concluded by a practical demonstration of the online platform.

The New Training Policy of the EU under CSDP (11:10 – 12:10; 13:10 – 14:00)

The second session should give the option to discuss among the delegates the latest draft version of a new EU Training Policy, as this policy will be relevant for civilian, police as well as military in CSDP missions. Therefore a representative of the European Union External Action Service (EEAS) was setting the scene by giving some background information and an update on the latest developments regarding the policy. This briefing was followed by short presentations covering civilian, police and military comments on the implications and also recommendations on the training policy.

Briefing by Horst KOUKOL (EEAS)

Policy Advisor Horst KOUKOL informed at the beginning of the session in an initial briefing the key elements of the actual draft version of the new EU Training Policy under CSDP. He covered the reasons for starting this initiative, its aim as well as pending issues.

Since the adoption of the EU Policy on Training (2003) and the EU Concept in ESDP and ESDP-related training in 2004, progress has been made in military and civilian CSDP and CSDP-related training. There is a growing understanding of the importance of training as a necessary investment in the quality and performance of CSDP missions and operations. As well as there is a recognized need to strengthen synergies between military and civilian training – focusing on:

- To contribute to the effectiveness of EU crisis management
- To adapt the training activities to lessons learnt
- To enhance institutional learning
- To further develop coordination and efficiency
- To strengthen civilian/military training
- To facilitate cooperation with third states and international organizations

As well as to

- Up-date and improve the training in CSDP and CSDP-related training
- Define the Training Architecture
- Define Principles
- Define Needs
- Tackle shortcomings
- Offer solutions/options

The aim is to replace the outdated Training Policy and Concept on ESDP to combine the key aspects of both documents which are still valid, to promote a clear understanding of the different types of training, to identify fundamental principles applying for both civilian and military training in CSDP and CSDP-related training and to establish working procedures and bodies coordinating the training cycle and assuring quality standards and their implementation.

Comments on the Draft Training Policy

Volker JACOBY (Civ)

Dr. Volker JACOBY presented on behalf of the ENTRI consortium some ideas and comments regarding the actual draft from a civilian point of view.

First he noted that a much shorter and concise document would be easier to implement, and it would be easier to focus on the main issues at stake. Furthermore Dr. Jacoby emphasized that it might be needed to move away from the concept of Pre-deployment training (PDT) toward Training prior deployment to ensure the focus on what is considered sufficient in terms of preparation rather than clinging to a format that proved to be very hard to implement. The reason is that, according to ENTRI's observations, oftentimes timing and lack of coordination between Brussels and EU Member States doesn't allow a PDT to take place.

He also noted that it might be desirable for one group (a central European body that coordinates appropriate training efforts by EU Member States) vis-à-vis what might be desirable for another group.

Another aspect in his statement was that the comprehensive approach should deserve a more prominent and more focused position in an EU Training Policy.

Peter SUND (Pol)

Mr SUND stated in his presentation:

- The draft proposal is a significant step and really a positive endeavor to improve the status quo
- Police engagement and participation is rather substantive in CSDP missions and operations supporting both security and a wider context of RoL and Justice, thus the policy is of interest to the police services in EU MS.
- The policy should support improved coherence of MS and COM activities, but not strive to create a "one-headed dragon"; It could follow two-fold structure as the LETS, but also recognizing regional cooperation between MS/3rd countries. This would mean moving away from PDT's on EU level and concentrate on specialist and expert training.
- The need to strengthen synergies between military and civilian training; Command and Control aspects remain a challenge: leadership-driven vs. initiative-driven?
- That although the proposal is based on the idea of competency-based policy, it could be reinforced to better illustrate this idea. From a police point of view, Mr. SUND would advocate for a clarification of general CSDP-related competencies, CSDP core competencies and personal safety and security competencies.
- The policy could outline who is in charge of coordinating a process of how to ensure that CSDP staff obtained training prior to deployment; As the structural and institutional framework is already rather challenging, establishment of new bodies is not supported. Harmonization, standardization and the term common are to be carefully used; Firstly, do not fit into a value-network-based policy. Secondly e.g. pedagogical methods should never to be harmonized. Only competencies should or could be harmonized, or at least approximated.

Claus AMON (Mil)

Col Claus AMON emphasized that the initiative of EEAS to update and review the Training Policy is appreciated. From his point of view, the actual draft version puts its main focus on civilian training. Col AMON also mentioned that there might be also a need for a more precise specification and further details regarding the planned training disciplines and the respective discipline leaders. In this regard it is also important to ensure that no competition between different training institutions is created.

To maintain a high quality of training that meets all necessary requirements it is important to have minimum training standards. Recognition of Training and Quality Assurance Measures are of high importance. Therefore it has to be specified how this will be done, what are the procedures etc. The same is valid for the process of the evaluation of Training, especially because it is stated in the Policy that this is the responsibility of each Training Institution. Also the policy highlights that there is so far no EU standardization of training in place. Furthermore to establish a kind of standardization and to set minimum skill criteria seems to be desirable. Exchange of information and sharing of knowledge/experiences is an essential part of modern training for PO.

Furthermore some questions were raised, which are not covered by the policy paper; e.g:

- “Who is in charge and for what exactly”
- Details to be seen as responsibility of EUMTG
- Clarification of evaluation process / standardisation and recognition of training
- E.g. “Quality Assurance Process” – NATO/ACT
 - Is this process the best one?
 - Pre Deployment Training <-> Training Prior Deployment
- Recruiting
- Contracting
- Deployment
- Training on individual level
- Criteria - civilian partner
- How to exchange best practices for the “Programme of EU Training in CSDP”
- E.g. Platform supported /run by ESCD
- Using actual experiences of other organizations
- Development of independent EU approach is necessary
- Promotion and enhanced use of Goalkeeper/Schoolmaster program

Plenary Discussion

During the plenary discussion inter alia following issues were raised/mentioned by participants:

- the first draft of the Policy paper was inclusively done, the process was quite slow, core parts of the paper are for civilian institutions, the implementation should be done within EEAS, a Training section is still missing in CSDP, a Training Needs assessment has to be established for the EU and not for training institutions.
- the Policy should cover all levels (OPS-strategic) and should work via Networks (centralized solution not necessary), including a coordinating body, the AUT position sees Civilian Crisis Management as coordinating body.

- the idea of “function follows form” and vice versa and that a decision has to be taken concerning responsibilities – The question whether ESDC could or should play the role of a coordinator was discussed, too, as well as the question what exactly the role of a coordinator would entail.
- the elaboration of different paths and possibilities (ESDC vs. MS) have to be mandated to support Crisis Management and the favor to use existing structures was raised.
- the process from lessons identified to best practices and into adapted training has to be done and furthermore existing bodies should be used, due to the fact that new structures would cost more.
- the policy is in kind of isolation of CPCC, the policy has to be in close cooperation/coordination with the recruiting bodies.
- the organigramm of EEAS is expected to be modified in a couple of months.
- the start of the policy paper was much appreciated, the draft should have been discussed before sending out to MS; still there is the question of being a policy or a technical paper; centralized – decentralized approach open; missing in the paper are harmonized certification methods, core courses and e.g. HEAT are missing.
- a harmonization was done for police within EU (Police Service Training EU) between 2008-2010, the handbook will be published soon.
- Information on the upcoming CMPD conference in July was given and the need for a responsible/coordinating body within EEAS was stressed for civilian as well as for military personnel.

A more global Peacekeeping Training Architecture (14:00 – 14:45; 15:10 – 16:20)

Keynote by Mark PEDERSEN (ITS/UN)

The Head of ITS Mark PEDERSEN outlined the main characteristics of the actual project of UN to establish a more global Peacekeeping Training Architecture.

One of the items mentioned is that UN sees the need to enhance the interaction with the major T/PCCs due to the fact that they are e.g. actually under-represented in training recognition

To achieve this, a coordinated approach with a division of labour, a better distribution of materials and tracking of training shall ensure the maintenance of standards and contribute to a monitoring of operational readiness. A “basket” for solutions to reach this goal was presented consisting of:

- Determining requirements and strengthening training assistance tools.
- Strengthening communication & information management to build a multi-way information flow.
- Building, sustaining and coordinating partnerships, groups of friends, and broader relationships to deliver training solutions.
- Priority actions – responsibilities, resources and timelines and recognizing what can’t be done

Implications for Europe of a more global peacekeeping and crisis management training architecture – panel discussion

The keynote of Mark Pedersen was followed by a panel discussion chaired by the IAPTC executive committee member David LIGHTBURN.

First Lieutenant-Commander Remi Tremblay (NATO School Oberammergau), Petteri Taitto (ESDC) and Andrea KLENLE (OSCE) conducted short briefings regarding the approach to training of their respective organization and the implemented structure.

A special focus was given on leadership training, integrated training and the different possibilities. These presentations were followed by the possibilities for questions and answers regarding the different training approaches as well as a plenary discussion on general Challenges and Possibilities of a training architecture

During the discussion following main issues were raised and discussed:

- Training and Deployment have to be coordinated
- Implementation of best practices
- Existing UN CPTM/STM – EU owned ones
- ENTRI, ESDC and ITS are associates
- Online platforms – information sharing

Way ahead of EAPTC and Outlook IAPTC (16:20 – 16:50)

The first day of the 3rd Annual EAPTC Meeting was concluded by briefings of David LIGHTBURN and Claus AMON giving their input and ideas of topics to discuss during the Break Out Sessions on the following day.

As the key elements of the discussions in each syndicate the setup and development of the EAPTC as well as the presentation held at the IAPTC Conference in Brazil by EAPTC were given.

After this briefing and a short wrap up the chair closed the first day of the meeting.

THURSDAY – 23 April 2015

Upcoming hosts of the Annual Meeting (08:20 – 08:30)

The second day of the conference started with the discussion on the next hosts for the Annual Meeting. Several volunteers proposed their candidature and willingness of taking over the responsibility of hosting and chairing the EAPTC in the upcoming years.

Among the participants of the meeting was agreed to nominate following volunteering institutions as the next hosts of the EAPTC Annual Meeting:

2016: CoESPU (Fallback : GER UNTC)

2017: FINCENT

2018: “Maison de la Paix” (GCSP, DCAF, GICHD)

Break Out Session (08:30 – 10:00; 10:20 – 11:30)

During the Break Out Session the participants of the meeting worked in three mixed syndicates on the elaboration of ideas how to develop the EAPTC and structure next years meeting as well as the details of EAPTCs presentation at the IAPTC meeting in BRAZIL.

Following topics were discussed:

- Discussion on a possible extension of the duration of the Annual Meeting – most participants preferred to keep 1.5 days.
- The EAPTC Meeting 2016 should take place in spring/April to ensure enough preparation time for the IAPTC meeting.
- The possible creation of an EAPTC webpage was discussed among the participants. Various options were raised but no agreement could be found. The question of the responsibility to maintain the webpage and its content as well as the provision of resources could not be solved.
Remark: The German Training Partner Platform volunteered after the Meeting to start with the creation of an EAPTC website. The community will be updated on the progress of those efforts.
- Representation of the EAPTC at the IAPTC Meeting in Brazil will be done by the actual host (AUTINT). The main focus of the presentation should be on actual trends and developments within the EAPTC and Europe.
- An Agreement was found on keeping the informal structure of the EAPTC and no institutionalized secretariat will be implemented
- The next meeting should focus on thematic discussions and organizational presentations shall be reduced / limited.
- It was suggested that the process of developing and compiling the topics and agenda of the Annual Meeting should be conducted with more transparency. A possibility could be the sharing of submissions of topics within the EAPTC community to find a broad agreement.

The 3rd Annual Meeting of the EAPTC was closed by the Chair Col AMON Claus at 12 :00 after summarizing the key points of the meeting and wishing all participants a good farewell and all the best to the host of the upcoming Annual Meeting.

The handover to the next host/chair of the EAPTC will be done after issuing the minutes and compiling the data of the “secretariat” with the transfer all necessary information to CoESPU/ITA.