

Geneva, 31.08.2023

The Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), with the support of the Swiss Confederation, has the honour to invite Vietnam to nominate possible candidates for:

**The 28th European Security Course (ESC):
“Examining Global Security Challenges Relative to Europe”
29 January to 22 March 2024**

Countries may nominate diplomats, military officers, or civil servants from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defence, Development, Economy, Finance, Interior, Justice, Prime Minister’s office, Presidential Administration, other relevant ministries, and international or civil society organisations.

Since 1997, the ESC has deepened participants’ understanding of the complexity of contemporary security policy challenges relative to Europe. The course locates European security within a regional and global context to better assess the interconnectedness of transnational threats and responses.

The objectives of the course are:

- to provide participants with a comprehensive and *analytical overview of global security trends* relative to Europe,
- to develop the participants’ *understanding of European security and its interactions with regional security dynamics around the world*,
- to enhance the participants’ *relevant skillset to be effective* security policy practitioners and
- to promote mutual understanding and generate a *community of security policy professionals*.

With the support of the Swiss Confederation, we are pleased to offer this course **free of tuition charges**.

Your country is kindly asked to **nominate applicants** for this course by **Wednesday, 1 November 2023**. The GCSP strives to meet **gender parity** in course participation, for this reason, your country is asked to nominate at least **two candidates**, one female and one male.

Please note that the recruitment process is highly competitive. A **selection process** will take place to carefully review all applications received, and thereafter all applicants will be informed if they are accepted or not.

For further information, please consult our website www.gcsp.ch or contact the GCSP through the ESC Course Coordinator, Ms Emanuela Lamorte (Phone: +41 22 730 97 15); Email: esc@gcsp.ch.

We look forward to receiving the applications of candidates from your country.

Yours sincerely,



Ambassador Thomas Greminger
GCSP Director

Practical Information for the 28th ESC

Admission Requirements

- This course is open to mid-career peace and security professionals working in national ministries. In addition, the course is open to selected representatives of international and civil society organisations.
- Participants should possess a university degree or be serving officers (Advanced Military Staff Course completed). As the course is highly interactive throughout, candidates must have some professional or academic experience in the field of international peace and security. Post-graduate training and/or mission experience are assets but not required.
- The ESC depends on the continuous engagement and interaction of all participants throughout. **Full-time attendance at both parts of the whole ESC is required!**
- Participants must have a strong command of spoken and written English, the working language of the ESC. Language proficiency may be checked by the Swiss Embassy for non-native English-speaking participants. Interviews with the course leadership may be arranged.

The Pedagogical Approach & Delivery Modalities

The course is carefully designed to support participants in achieving the learning objectives. We continuously refine our pedagogical approach — *The GCSP Way* — to reflect emerging trends in learning innovation for their benefit.

The course will blend in-person learning with virtual education. It is going to take place in two parts

- **Part 1:** 29 January - 16 February 2024 – Virtual module (fully online module via Zoom)
- **Part 2:** 19 February - 22 March 2024 – In-person module, taking place at the GCSP in Geneva

Leveraging modern educational technology and tools, participants will learn in the physical and virtual classrooms, and occasionally experience a mix of both.

This carefully tailored combination of delivery modalities considers the necessity to reduce society's "carbon footprint", with international travel being a major factor. It also takes into account the growing preference towards more flexibility in professional training. Finally, the course format allows for greater diversity, equity, and inclusion to provide participants with wider perspectives and a more effective learning environment.

Please note that the course is an intensive programme that requires in both parts a **leave of absence** from work and **full-time commitment** from Monday to Friday – for in-class seminars, skills, and simulation sessions as well as for additional preparation and research requirements during the full duration of the course.

Application Procedure

Governments are requested to nominate a limited number of candidates. The GCSP strives to meet **gender parity** in course participation. Every country is asked to nominate at least two candidates, one woman and one man. Each of your candidates must apply separately online by **1 November 2023**. Only completed applications sent through our application system by the deadline will be considered for the selection phase.

Please note that the following documents will need to be uploaded upon registration for each candidate:

- A letter of reference outlining the candidate's suitability for the course, signed by the sending authority (i.e. direct supervisor or department head)
- A curriculum vitae
- A passport scan

Selection Process

Please be aware that nominations do not guarantee acceptance! A selection process will take place due to the high number of very strong applications we receive, and the limited spaces available. Thus, this process is highly competitive and **only the most qualified applicants** will be accepted. The GCSP will select participants ensuring diversity in ministerial representation, national origin, professional experience, educational/training background, and gender.

Please also note that former participants of the GCSP advanced courses (the ITC/LISC and the NISC) are not eligible to apply.

Practical Information for the 28th ESC

Course Fees

With the support of the Swiss Confederation, we are pleased to offer this course free of tuition charges.

Travel Costs (Part 2: Geneva module)

Travel costs between the home country and Geneva are the responsibility of the sending institutions.

Scholarship (Part 2: Geneva module)

A scholarship is provided by Switzerland and other member states of the GCSP Foundation Council through the GCSP Global Scholarship Fund (GSF). Should your candidate be awarded a scholarship, it will amount up to CHF 2,000 to cover living expenses during the in-residence part of the course. Please note that accommodation is provided and covered by the GCSP as part of the scholarship.

Assessment and Certificate

Participants are assessed based on their participation throughout the course and their performance in a number of specifically assigned activities and tasks. After successful completion of the course, participants will receive a Course Certificate from the GCSP, a PfP Partnership Training and Education Centre (PTEC), as well as an ISO 9001. A letter of assessment, outlining the participant's performance, will be provided to the sending institution.

Alumni Community

Upon graduation, participants also become members of the GCSP Alumni network. This network of over 11.000 members from 174+ nationalities offers access to an online community, regular information on GCSP activities, as well as invitations to designated sessions together with ESC participants and other alumni, either locally or internationally. During these events participants are updated on current peace and security matters where they have the opportunity to meet and discuss important issues while building up their professional network.

Point of Contact for ESC Applications at the GCSP

Ms Emanuela Lamorte (Phone: +41 22 730 97 15)

Email: esc@gcsp.ch