



AUSTRIAN STUDY CENTRE FOR PEACE
AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION – ASPR



**INVITATION
TO NOMINATE EXPERTS FOR THE
ESDC CORE COURSE ON SECURITY SECTOR REFORM (SSR)**

**15-23 APRIL 2015
STADTSCHLAINING, AUSTRIA**

Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution (ASPR)

Course Description

The ESDC Core Course on Security Sector Reform (SSR) is designed to enhance capabilities of experts assigned to become involved in the assessment, design, development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Security Sector Reform processes. The course is based on a holistic SSR approach providing a comprehensive overview of all pillars of the SSR concept.

The course thus addresses all civil/military/police personnel that is already or will be involved in SSR activities in the future, as well as civil society organisations working in the field of peacebuilding and human security. At the same time, the Core Course constitutes the perfect training opportunity for members of the **EU Pool of SSR Experts as well as national SSR expert pools**, as it provides an excellent overview of the different segments of SSR and links them to different contexts and political dimensions.

Participants are provided with a comprehensive overview on the concepts, strategies and actors of SSR. They learn about the approaches of international organisations with a focus on the EU approach to SSR and will be familiarised with the main pillars of SSR such as defence, police, intelligence, judiciary, and integrated border management. Moreover, cross-cutting issues such as gender, human rights, the role of civil society, Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR), as well as the impact of the proliferation of small arms and light weapons are discussed. In-depth knowledge on SSR and its hands-on implementation is provided through exercises, case studies and the discussion of best practices. The Core Course furthermore stresses the importance of cooperation among stakeholders from different segments of the security sector.

At the end of this course participants will have a holistic understanding of SSR, a clear view of different organizations' (EU, UN, NATO, OSCE) approaches to SSR, and will be familiar with the main pillars of such reform processes. Participants will be able to analyse and connect with various actors in the field of SSR, undertake assessments and apply their skills regarding planning, implementing and monitoring of SSR activities to their work.

The course is co-organized by the Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution (ASPR) and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Defence and Sports in the framework of the Academic Programme of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) and conducted in cooperation with the International Security Sector Advisory Team of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces

(DCAF/ISSAT). It will take place from 15-23 April 2015 at the premises of the ASPR in Stadtschlaining, Austria.

Requirements for participation

The course is open to participants from governments, civil society, the military, police, international organisations, and the private sector. Applicants should have professional experience in or be about to enter the field of Security Sector Reform.

A grant from the Austrian Ministry of Defence and Sports will cover all course related expenses. Participants only have to pay for international/local travel as well as for full-board accommodation at the local Hotel and Conference Centre "Hotel Burg Schlaining".

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

Application

All interested institutions are encouraged to nominate applicants with regard to gender balance and diversity. Nominees are requested to **send their individual application form** to the ASPR (hofer@aspr.ac.at) **no later than 31 January 2015**. A thorough selection process will then follow and all candidates will be informed about the outcome of their application in due course.

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

Attachments:

Appendix 1: Info Letter

Appendix 2: Application Form

Appendix 3: Course Brochure