

Opening Remarks at the Common Module

Dear participants,

A very good morning to all of you.

It is my pleasure to welcome each and every one of you to the Hellenic Military Academy of Combat Support Officers.

We are indeed honored by your presence here.

I am extremely pleased to declare the beginning of the Common Module “**Biosafety and Bioterrorism**”. I have to admit that I am very proud for this training event. And there are several reasons for that.

At First, this common module is one of this kind, held under the auspices of the European Security and Defense College (EDSC), since the beginning of the Military Erasmus “project”, back in 2008.

Secondly, it is organized by our academy and it is hosted here in our premises, in the city of Thessaloniki. This is the first training action of our Academy, within the frame of the European Initiative for the Exchange of Young Military Officer. So, it is considered as a great milestone for us, following this common European “road”, promoting the European Security and Defence Culture.

Third, it is generally believed that participating in a Common Module is a unique experience, which will help anyone, extend their knowledge. But even more unique is the gathering of cadets from numerous different countries, along with civilian university students, in the same room: My perspective is that “***the rising generation is shaping the ground for the future***”.

The purpose of the module is to provide you with the advantage of becoming acquainted with the knowledge of **Biosafety and Bioterrorism** and get familiar with the basic principles of food poisoning prevention, food safety, food hygiene and last but not least bioterrorism threats. This is a great opportunity to take part in a new academic environment and to improve your personal intercultural competences.

Few words about our Academy: Since its establishing, the Hellenic Military Academy of Combat Support Officers has been the apex of excellence, concerning the medical, financial and legal science (in the armed forces). I should say that it is the crossroad where science meets military education. The mission of the Academy is to provide harmoniously combined scientific and military training for the induction of commissioned officers.

I strongly encourage all of you to collaborate and communicate with your fellow attendees, while gaining as much knowledge as possible during participation.

I deeply wish to all of you an enjoyable, memorable, and productive time here in the Hellenic Military Academy of Combat Support Officers and especially in Thessaloniki.

Again, welcome and thank you for your attendance.