



# A Joint Pilot Training on the Coordination of Law Enforcement and Navy Actions in Maritime Border Security



**European Defense Agency and Frontex  
Joint Pilot Training  
25 March - 5 April 2019  
NMIOTC - NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Centre  
Greece**

24 trainees from Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Greece, Lithuania, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Portugal and Romania,

2-week training with focus on practice

Trainers from Croatia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Poland and Spain

Evaluation of cooperation area: indication of the differences and similarities within the procedures

The non-disclosed parts contain information on the capabilities and technical equipment of Frontex and Member States. Disclosing such information would be tantamount to disclosing the weaknesses and strengths of law enforcement related capacities and pose a risk to its effectiveness. As a result, the course of ongoing and future law enforcement activities would be hampered, ultimately defeating their purpose to counter and prevent cross-border crime and unauthorized border crossings. Consequently, the disclosure of such information would undermine the protection of the public interest as regards public security as laid down Article 4(1)(a) first indent of Regulation (EC) 1049/2001[1].

## Main purpose

To provide law enforcement and navy personnel with an overview of competencies needed to participate in common law enforcement - navy collaborative boarding operations



# 6 blocs



## **Main training blocs**

**Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC)**

**Search and Rescue (SAR)**

**Boarding operations (collaborative only)**

**Special Tactics and Techniques (STT)**

**Crime scene investigation (CSI)**



**Strategically** the training serves to implement the revised **European Maritime Security Strategy Action Plan** from June 2018 calling for the cooperation of defense and security actors in the EU and more specifically the close cooperation between EDA and FRONTEX.

**Operationally** training will actively contribute to strengthening the security of the maritime environment by ensuring a coherent and consistent response to related threats and risks by law enforcement and military actors at sea

## ASSESSMENT

The training provided a broad, holistic and comprehensive tailored training package to introduce trainees to all aspects of migrant handling/operations at sea

The outcome of the training delivered is considered as highly important. The synergy between NMIOTC, FRONTEX and EDA was much appreciated by all and contributed to the capacity building broader efforts of the Agency.

Despite the different level, skills and capabilities of the trainees, adjustable training based on best practices and recognized international standards, increased their interoperability and cooperation and finally streamed an overall synergy and capability as a cohesive team and in a comprehensive manner.

The trainees were highly motivated to enrich their knowledge and participated actively throughout the training by initiating constructive interactions with the instructors

Opportunities for further cooperation as well as limits for such cooperation were identified.



## ASSESSMENT

Key result was that the cooperation between law enforcement and military personnel in naval training in all aspects of migrant handling and SAR operations is desirable and fruitful to ensure common standards and procedures for migrants and other persons approaching European shorelines.

Despite the fact that the intention of the training was to identify best practices rather than to form a mission ready mixed team of law enforcement and military officers the final exercise revealed that trainees could act as such.

This may serve as an example to show that key milestones for further cooperation between FRONTEX and military personnel were achieved and are achievable in any future training.

Communication between the different communities based on a different language, conceptual and operational approach proved to be a key element in this training and was achieved.

Differences in procedures and standards were identified and proved to be manageable in a joint operation by procedural briefings and regulations including “Rules of Engagement” to use the military terminology.

# 9 added values

## Added values of EDA/FRONTEX Joint Training

1. Joint Training is the basis for efficient communication of all relevant authorities at sea enhancing each authorities' capabilities to perform assigned tasks.
2. Joint Training will not imply or attempt to imply any change of authority or responsibility from the Law Enforcement to the Military Community or vice versa. Instead, Joint Training will provide knowledge about the opportunities and limits to act within a given scope of responsibility and identify requirements and procedures for involving different agencies within their responsibilities. For example, military officers learn to assess situations at sea requiring the handover/involvement of law enforcement agencies without violating a due process.
3. Joint Training will permit to identify and further development best practices applicable to the Law enforcement and the military community.
4. Joint Training will establish channels of communication between law enforcement and military actors in the planning and execution of maritime security missions at sea.

## Added values of EDA/FRONTEX Joint Training

5. Joint Training will ensure the most efficient use of training facilities, trainers, cross domain expertise for the highest possible level of training.
6. Joint Training will create mutual trust and understanding among Law enforcement and military agencies acting at sea, will facilitate practical coordination and cooperation at sea.
7. Joint Training will create a resilient and structured approach in mission specific training based on common training documents and standards.
8. Joint Training will avoid violations of legal procedures and standards applicable to persons involved in illegal migration operations at sea and serve to observe limitations of each community's scope of authority.
9. Joint Training will multiply available forces to deal with migrant handling/SAR issues and related cross border crimes at sea greatly enhancing EU MS ability to neutralize threats to maritime security in the EU.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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Thank you for your attentions.

Any questions???

