UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

Academic Year 2025/2026

1. Organic Unit

Faculty of Law

2. Course

SECURITY AND JUSTICE

3. Cycle

4. Course Unit

NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY (X4003)

5. Scientific Area

6. Curricular Year

1st

7. Type of Curricular Unit / Semester

1st Semester

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8. Class type and workload (work time)

Theoretical classes:	
Practical classes:	
Theoretical-Practical Classes	15,00
Tutorial Guidance:	20,00

9. ECTS Credits

7,50

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

11. Regent

Prof. Doutora MARIA MIGUEL SOUSA GALITO

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Portuguese

14. General Objectives

Encourage the study of issues related to Security and National Defense.
Analyze these subjects from the perspective of Portugal, of the European Union and some of the main powers of today.

15. Specific Objectives

Analyze concepts, legislation, structures and agents related to Security and National Defense.
Study Strategic Thinking and Strategic Planning.
Understanding the importance of Diplomacy and Economics in the Defense sector.
Evaluate different levels of international cooperation in security matters.
Study the current balance of powers and its geostrategic dynamics.
Evaluate the behavior of erratic and criminal groups acting on the stage of operations.

16. Skills to be acquired

The ability to analyze scenarios, including crisis and conflict, at national and/or international level.
Understand the importance of specific Defense and Security concepts and test their applicability in different contexts.

17. Teaching Methodology

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Follow-up of the syllabus.
Discussion of lessons and of previous lessons.
Debates about concepts, examples and recent news, encouraging students to follow events related to National Defense and Internal Security.

18. Course Unit Program

1. Framework
1.1 Democratic Rule of Law and the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic
1.2 Political and legal concepts of sovereignty, security and defense
1.3 Types of Security
2. Structures and Agents
2.1 Ministry of National Defense
2.2 Ministry of Internal Affairs
2.3 Armed Forces
2.4 Security Forces
3. Diplomacy
3.1 Preventive Diplomacy
3.2 Coercive Diplomacy
3.3 Macroeconomic Diplomacy and Defense Geoeconomics
4. Warfare
4.1 Polemology
4.2 Strategic thinking (authors such as Sun Tzu and Carl Von Clausewitz)
4.3 Strategic Planning (examples of Military Strategy)
5. Erratic Agents
5.1 Guerrillas
5.2 Terrorist groups
5.3 Mercenaries and Militias
6. Current Challenges
6.1 Hybrid threats
6.2 Cybercrime
6.3 Trafficking (Human, Arms, Drugs)
7. International cooperation between European states
7.1 European Union. Common Foreign and Security Policy
7.2 Schengen Area
7.3 Europol
7.4 World Chess and the Current Balance of Powers

19. Assessment Methods

Student assessment will be based on:
(i) a written test;
(ii) the completion of a research project and its presentation in class.

20. Didactic Resources

Multimedia tools, printed material, supporting texts in electronic format.
Reading books and research articles. Watching video documentaries on a relevant political topic in the context of State Security.

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21. Sustainability Objectives

UN Agenda 2030 (especially Sustainable Development Goals 8, 9, 16 and 17).

22. Keywords

National Defense
Security
Strategy
Armed Forces
Security Forces
Portugal
European Union
Great

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23. Main Bibliography

Author(s): Luís Eduardo Saraiva
Title: O papel das Forças Armadas na Segurança Interna
Edition: Year: 2017
Local: Lisboa
Publisher: Universidade Lusíada de Lisboa

Author(s): José Manuel Freire Nogueira
Title: Pensar a Segurança e Defesa
Edition: Year: 2005
Local: Lisboa
Publisher: Edições Cosmos/Instituto da Defesa Nacional

Author(s): Maria Sousa Galito
Title: Terrorismo na União Europeia
Edition: WP 177 Year: 2019
Local: Lisboa
Publisher: CESA-CSG-ISEG Universidade de Lisboa

24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s): José Manuel Anes
Title: Segurança e Defesa N 47
Edition: Year: 2024
Local: Ericeira
Publisher: Diário de Bordo

Author(s): Jorge Bacelar Gouveia
Title: Defesa Nacional e Forças Armadas. Uma Perspetiva do Direito Militar da Segurança em Estado Constitu
Edition: Year: 2022
Local: Coimbra
Publisher: Almedina

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Autor / Author	Prof. Doutora MARIA MIGUEL SOUSA GALITO
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