TRAINING AND EDUCATION
COMMUNIQUÉ ON THE PARTICIPATION IN THE 3rd FUNCTIONAL CLEARING HOUSE ON MILITARY EDUCATION (JUNE, 2014)

Piotr Gawliczek, Assoc. Prof.
National Defence University, Warsaw, POLAND

On 23-24 June 2014 the delegation of the National Defence University of Warsaw participated in the 3rd Functional Clearing House on Military Education in Bucharest, Romania. The delegation was headed by MG (ret.) Boguslaw Pacek, Assoc. Prof., accompanied by the NDU Rector’s Representative for the Innovation, Capt. Navy (ret.) Piotr Gawliczek, Assoc. Prof. The conference, organised by NATO Headquarters, was co-hosted in conjunction with the Ministry of Defence of Romania.

The event was attended by over 50 people representing the states, organisations and institutions involved in the implementation of the thirteen NATO programmes aimed at supporting the transformation of higher military education systems (Defence Education Enhancement Programme - DEEP) of selected countries in Europe, Asia and Africa. During the meeting the progress of all programmes (Afghanistan1, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Croatia, Georgia, Iraq2, Kazakhstan, Mauritania, Moldova, Mongolia, Serbia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan) was discussed. In the course of discussing the various programmes, the Polish side nominated one officer – a scientific and educational staff member - to each of these programmes according to the list approved by the rector-commander of the NDU on 2nd June 2014.

1 Within Enduring Partnership Program.
2 Within NATO-Iraq Individual Partnership and Co-operation Program.
Particular attention was devoted to DEEP Ukraine, led by MG (ret.) Bogusław Pacek, Assoc. Prof. from 2013. As shown in his presentation, 30 different projects were implemented from July 2013 till June 2014 for over 900 representatives of the Ukrainian side within the programme. These projects were related to faculty development, curriculum development, learning and implementation of innovative solutions for the educational process, namely Advanced Distributed Learning, as well as English language training support.

Apart from Poland, which played a leading role in the first year of the programme, it was also attended by representatives of military academies from the following countries: Slovakia, the Czech Republic, the United Kingdom, the USA and Germany, in total 122 experts from NATO. DEEP Ukraine was assessed very highly by all participants. In the course of the debate, facing the current, huge expectations of the Ukrainian side, which were formulated in a list of 58 complex projects, support for the programme DEEP Ukraine was provided by further countries and institutions: the Baltic Defence College in Tartu (BALTDEFCOL), Canada and Hungary, offering a package of English language training for over 30 thousand euro.

The position and the specific offer of Hungary mean that it is possible to propose solutions under the aegis of the Visegrad Group, in accordance with the assumptions of the so-called Education Platform formula. Scandinavian countries: Denmark, Sweden and Norway also declared their contribution and willingness to implement projects within DEEP Ukraine.

Taking into consideration the schedule of activities resulting from the matrix DEEP Ukraine 2014-2015 presented in Bucharest, consisting of 56 subjects and projects, it is necessary to analyse the declared additional offers in detail for compliance with the demand filed by the Ukrainian side. Such activities will be undertaken in close cooperation with the bidders and the NATO HQ political programme leader, so that the Ukrainian side receives comprehensive and proven information about the projects planned for the second year of the programme.

In addition, with respect to the remaining twelve DEEP programmes, within the framework of bilateral working relations, the issues of direct contacts between designated representatives of the National Defence University, Warsaw and the leaders of other DEEP programmes will be specified, which was agreed to during the conference.