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15376/23

LIMITE

CORLX 1043
CFSP/PESC 1539
CSDP/PSDC 774
CIVCOM 274

I/A-PUNKT-VERMERK

Absender:	Generalsekretariat des Rates
Empfänger:	Ausschuss der Ständigen Vertreter/Rat
Betr.:	Beschluss des Rates zur Änderung des Beschlusses (GASP) 2020/1515 zur Errichtung eines Europäischen Sicherheits- und Verteidigungskollegs

1. Der Rat hat am 18. Juli 2005 die Gemeinsame Aktion 2005/575/GASP zur Errichtung eines Europäischen Sicherheits- und Verteidigungskollegs (ESVK) angenommen. Diese Gemeinsame Aktion wurde durch die Gemeinsame Aktion 2008/550/GASP ersetzt. Diese Gemeinsame Aktion wiederum wurde durch den Beschluss 2013/189/GASP des Rates aufgehoben. Dieser Beschluss wiederum wurde durch den Beschluss (GASP) 2016/2382 des Rates ersetzt. Dieser Beschluss wiederum wurde durch den am 19. Oktober 2020 angenommenen Beschluss (GASP) 2020/1515 des Rates aufgehoben.
2. Mit dem Beschluss (GASP) 2022/1964 des Rates wurde ein als finanzieller Bezugsrahmen dienender Betrag für den Zeitraum vom 1. Januar 2023 bis zum 31. Dezember 2023 festgelegt.
3. Der Hohe Vertreter der Union für Außen- und Sicherheitspolitik hat dem Rat am 13. November 2023 einen Vorschlag für einen Beschluss des Rates zur Änderung des Beschlusses (GASP) 2020/1515 zur Errichtung eines Europäischen Sicherheits- und Verteidigungskollegs (ESVK) (Dokument 15372/23) zur Festlegung eines neuen als finanzieller Bezugsrahmen dienenden Betrags für den Zeitraum vom 1. Januar 2024 bis zum 31. Dezember 2024 vorgelegt.

4. Die Gruppe der Referenten für Außenbeziehungen (RELEX) hat am 22. November 2023 (im Wege einer schriftlichen Konsultation) Einvernehmen über den Entwurf eines Beschlusses des Rates zur Änderung des Beschlusses (GASP) 2020/1515 und den dazugehörigen Informationsbogen zu den Auswirkungen auf den Haushalt erzielt.
5. Der AStV wird daher ersucht,
- das Einvernehmen über den Entwurf des Beschlusses des Rates zu bestätigen und den dazugehörigen Informationsbogen zu den Auswirkungen auf den Haushalt in der Fassung der Anlage zu diesem Vermerk zu billigen;
 - dem Rat zu empfehlen, dass er den Beschluss des Rates zur Änderung des Beschlusses (GASP) 2020/1515 zur Errichtung eines Europäischen Sicherheits- und Verteidigungskollegs in der von den Rechts- und Sprachsachverständigen überarbeiteten Fassung (Dokument 15374/23) annimmt;
 - zu beschließen, dass der Beschluss des Rates im Amtsblatt veröffentlicht wird.

BUDGETARY IMPACT STATEMENT**POLICY AREA: EXTERNAL RELATIONS****ACTIVITY: COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY (CFSP)****TITLE OF ACTION: COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2023/XXX AMENDING DECISION (CFSP)
2020/1515 ESTABLISHING A EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE COLLEGE (ESDC)****1. BUDGET LINES CONCERNED + HEADINGS**

14 04 01 03 Other civilian CSDP missions

2. LEGAL BASIS

Treaty on European Union (TEU), in particular Articles 28(1), 42(4) and 43(2).

Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, in particular Article 317.

The EU funds allocated to this action shall be implemented by the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) under direct management according to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, in particular Part I Titles V and VIII.

3. OVERALL FIGURES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR (IN EUROS)**■ 3.a. - Current year**

		Commitments	Payments
Initial appropriation for the financial year		199 194 823.00	220 799 485.00
Supplementary budgets		4 210 329.23	15 609.04
Transfers		28 394 008.67	4 000 000.00
Total appropriation		231 799 160.9	224 815 094.04
Utilisation at 13/10/2023		230 002 124	180 165 498.74
Balance available		1 797 036.90 ¹	44 649 595.3
Total for the measure proposed		EUR 2 933 304.01	EUR 2 933 304.01

■ **3.b. - Carryovers**

		Commitments	Payments
Carryovers			
Utilisation at			
Balance available			
Total for the measure proposed			

■ **3.c. - Following year**

¹ Additional commitment credits will soon be received from recoveries (C4 budget lines).

(If the proposal covers year n+1)

■ **3.d. – Subsequent years (in the case of commitments in annual instalments)**

(If the programmes are adopted in annual instalments, the commitments should be divided over the whole period planned for the commitments)

	N	N+1	N + 2	N+ 3	N+4	N+ 5	N +6	Total
Budget line	EUR 2 933 304.01		-	-	-	-	-	

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

According to Article 2 of Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/1515², the ESDC shall provide training and education in the field of the Union's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) in the wider context of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) at the European level in order to develop and promote a common understanding of CSDP/CFSP among civilian and military personnel and to identify and disseminate best practices in relation to various CFSP and CSDP issues through its training and education activities ('ESDC training and education activities').

According to Article 3 of the Decision, the objectives of the ESDC shall be the following:

- (a) to further enhance the common European security and defence culture within the EU and to promote the principles laid down in Article 21(1) TEU outside the EU;
- (b) to promote a better understanding of CSDP as an essential part of CFSP;
- (c) to provide Union instances with knowledgeable personnel able to work efficiently on all CSDP matters within the wider context of CFSP;
- (d) to provide Member States' administrations and staff with knowledgeable personnel familiar with Union policies, institutions and procedures in the field of CSDP;

² Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/1515 of 19 October 2020 establishing a European Security and Defence College (ESDC) and repealing Decision (CFSP) 2016/2382 (OJ L 348, 20.10.2016, p. 1)

- (e) to provide CSDP Missions' personnel with a common understanding of CSDP Missions' functioning principles and a sense of common European identity;
- (f) to provide training and education responding to training and educational needs of CSDP Missions and Operations;
- (g) to support Union partnerships in the field of CSDP, in particular partnerships with those countries participating in CSDP Missions;
- (h) to support civilian crisis management including in the field of conflict prevention, and establishing or preserving the conditions necessary for sustainable development;
- (i) to promote the European Initiative for the Exchange of Young Officers;
- (j) to promote PhD-level research in domains related to CSDP;
- (k) to provide Member States and Union administrations with knowledgeable personnel familiar with Union policies, institutions, procedures and best practices in the field of Cyber Security and Defence.
- (l) to help promote professional relations and contacts among training and education participants.

Where appropriate, attention shall be paid to ensuring consistency with other activities of the Union.

The Project will be funded by EU financial contribution and contributions in kind by Member States as follows:

Financial Contributions (in EUR)		2023
<u>EU Contribution:</u>		2 933 304.01
<u>Bilateral contributions by Member States:</u>		n/a
<u>Bilateral contributions by non-member states:</u>		n/a
TOTAL		2 933 304.01

Contributions in Kind	
<u>EU Member States and Institutions</u>	Member States will contribute to the ESDC by seconding up to 19 cost shared and up to 9 cost-free national experts and covering their costs including salaries, expenses for medical checks. Member States' institutes will provide facilities for courses/seminars and co-financing for some of the publications. EEAS provides the secondment of the Head of the ESDC, as well as one contract agent, in addition to the three contract agents funded via the grant. The Deputy Head of the ESDC is seconded from the Office of the European Ombudsman.
<u>Non-EU participants</u>	CSDP partnership countries will provide facilities for courses/seminars as appropriate.

5. METHOD OF CALCULATION ADOPTED

5.1 Calculation of main costs by heading

5.1.1 Heading one: Personnel expenditure (EUR 1 799 121.40)

In line with Article 13(1) of Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/1515, the ESDC staff shall consist of:

- a) Staff seconded to the ESDC by Union institutions, the EEAS and Union agencies;
- b) National experts seconded to the ESDC by Member States;
- c) Contracted staff under Belgian law when no national expert has been identified and following approval by the Steering Committee.

The amendment of the Council Decision provides for the secondment from the EEAS of up to four contract agents under the Conditions for Employment of Other Servants of the European Union.

The following ESDC staff is foreseen for the 2024 budgetary period:

Type	Budgeted 2023	Budgeted 2024	Current Staffing on 30/09/2023
Head of ESDC	1 (not covered under the budget)		
Deputy Head of ESDC	1 (not covered under the budget)		
Seconded Staff	19	19 cost-shared SNEs, and 9 cost-free SNEs	<u>19 Member States seconded staff cost-shared and 3 seconded staff cost-free.</u>
Contract agents	x	3	2
Total	21	33	26

Calculation of personnel costs by the measure envisaged is pending on the conclusions of the discussions between the Commission and Council on the application of the Communication of 26 June 2012. These discussions are on-going at the moment of preparing this BIS. In order to ensure business continuity, the amount for salaries in this BIS has been calculated in accordance with grades and pay scales under the existing employment conditions. This is without prejudice to the outcome of the discussions in the Council on the future employment conditions to be applied to CFSP operations.

5.1.1.1 Seconded Staff

According to Article 13(4) of Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/1515, the Decision of the High Representative of 23 March 2011 establishing the rules applicable to national experts seconded to

the EEAS shall be applicable *mutatis mutandis* to national experts seconded to the ESDC by Member States.

According to Article 16 of Decision HR DEC (2014) 01, seconded staff in Brussels receives a daily allowance and a monthly allowance depending on the distance between the place of origin and the place of secondment. Article 16(5) of Decision HR DEC (2014) 01 provides that 'Daily and monthly allowances of national experts seconded to the EEAS shall be adjusted each year without retroactive effect on the basis of the adaptation of the basic salaries of Union officials in Brussels and Luxembourg'.

According to the EEAS Decision ADMIN(2021) 276 - Decision of the Director-General for Resource Management of the European External Action Service of 21.12.2021, adjusting the allowances provided for in Decision HR DEC(2014) 01 of 4 February 2014 establishing the rules applicable to the National Experts seconded to the EEAS, the following types of entitlements are payable to the staff seconded by the Member States to the ESDC, as of 1/1/2022:

- i. **Budget Line 1.1:** A daily allowance currently fixed at the rate of EUR 158.96. In case the allowances receive an annual raise (typically there is an annual increase to account for inflation, to be decided in December 2023), the respective amounts in the budget lines will be affected. The budget, approved by the Steering Committee in September 2023, takes into consideration an inflation of 6.1 % (in line with the Eurostat indicators).
- ii. **Budget Line 1.2:** Monthly allowances are defined for each of the SNE according to the distance (km) between the place of origin and the place of secondment, as outlined below:

Budget line	Distance between place of origin and place of secondment (in km)	Monthly Allowance € (defined amounts for 2023 plus inflation)	ESDC SNEs 2023 (19 SNEs)	ESDC SNEs 2024 (19 SNEs)	Member State/expected status 2024
1.2.1	> 2,000	958.08	12	12	- 3 SNEs from Romania - 3 SNEs from Cyprus - 3 SNEs from Greece - 1 SNE from Bulgaria - 1 SNE from Portugal - 1 SNE from Croatia
1.2.2	> 1,300	800.40	7	7	- 4 SNEs from Italy - 1 SNE from Slovenia - 1 SNE from Sweden - 1 SNE from Poland
1.2.3	> 800	509.34	0	0	0
1.2.4	> 500	315.30	0	0	0

1.2.5	>300	194.01	0	0	0
1.2.6	>150	109.13	0	0	0

- iii. **Budget –Line 1.3:** 1 Contract Agent category II and 2 Contract agents category IV for a total amount of EUR 235 223.70
- iv. **Budget Line 1.4:** In 2024, the ESDC interns will be entitled to a monthly allowance of EUR 1 300. In case that they receive a grant (e.g. Erasmus+ program), the ESDC shall top up the amount of the grant up to the amount of the allowance. Entitlements for interns shall be covered within the overall budget of the ESDC without recourse to the contingencies.
- v. **Budget Line 1.5:** All SNEs are covered by insurance equivalent to that covering the SNEs to the EEAS (EUR 0, 14 per day).
- vi. **Budget Line 1.6:** Travel expenses for SNEs from the place of origin to the place of secondment and vice versa.
- vii. **Budget line 1.7:** The EEAS requests from now on an additional administrative support fee in accordance with their understanding of Council Decision 2020/1515 Article 15 (2). The additional administrative support for the ESDC is EUR 141 750.

The calculation is based on the ratio between the Directorate General for Resource Management and the rest of the EEAS. This ratio is currently one person in the Directorate General for Resource Management for every 9 people in the rest of the EEAS.

Heading 1: Human resources		Unit	No of Staff	Months/Days	Unit cost	Total cost
1.1	Daily allowances for SNEs	Per day/SNE	19	366	169.79	1,180,719.66
1.2	Monthly allowances for SNEs (total)					205,197.12
1.2.1	Distance from the seconding institution SNE>2,000 km:	Per month	12	12	958.08	137,963.52
1.2.2	Distance from the seconding institution SNE>1,300 km:	Per month	7	12	800.40	67,233.60
1.2.3	Distance from the seconding institution 1 SNE>800 km (pour mémoire)	Per month	0	12	509.34	0.00
1.2.4	Distance from the seconding institution 1 SNE>500 km (pour mémoire)	Per month	0	12	315.30	0.00
1.2.5	Distance from the seconding institution 1 SNE>300 km (pour mémoire)	Per month	0	12	194.01	0.00
1.2.6	Distance from the seconding institution 1 SNE>150 km (pour mémoire)	Per month	0	12	109.13	0.00
1.3	Seconded Staff from the EEAS - Administration and Finance (FGIV) - Strategic Communication (FGIV) - Project assistant (FGII)	Per month	3	12	6,533.99	235,223.70
1.4	Allowance for Intern	Per month	1	12	1,300.00	15,600.00
1.5	Accident Insurance for all SNEs	Per day/SNE	28	366	0.14	1,434.72
1.6	Travel Expenses from place of origin SNE	Per SNE	10	2	959.81	19,196.20
1.7	Additional administrative support (EEAS)*	Invoice from EEAS	1		141,750.00	141,750.00
Total Heading 1						1,799,121.40

5.1.2. Heading two: Missions (EUR 191 580)

All mission expenditure related to the implementation of the mandate is covered by the budget of the mandate. The rates are based on the Guide to Missions for Officials and Other Servants of the European Commission (Article 71 of the Staff Regulations and Articles 11 to 13 of Annex VII to the Staff Regulations).

This heading is covering the mission expenditure including transportation, per diem and accommodation of about 145 different missions to European destinations and to specific CSDP partnership countries outside Europe, subject to the development of EU's partnerships in this field.

These missions relate to the support of training activities outside of Brussels, organisation and conduct of meetings of the Executive Academic Board (EAB) and its different configurations, faculty sessions related to preparation of specific courses, specific projects with network members (e.g. e- learning) and co- operation with external training actors.

Heading 2 : Missions		Unit		Quantity	Unit cost	Total cost
2.1	Transport costs	Per return ticket		145	524.00	75,980.00
2.2	Accommodation	Per night		420	160.00	67,200.00
2.3	Daily subsistence allowance	Per day		440	110.00	48,400.00
Total Heading 2						191,580.00

5.1.3. Heading three: Training activities (EUR 590 060)

This heading supports the organisation of activities run under the ESDC auspices.

Sub-Heading 3.1 - Support and Conduct of Training Activities (EUR 557 060)

The types of cost that can be co-financed will be explicitly specified in the respective Administrative Instruction for the financial year of 2024 (to be issued in November 2023), covering in general the following costs:

- administrative support costs as well as coffee breaks;
- travel expenses incurred by the course director and/or supporting staff if courses are held at a location other than his or her institute;
- travel expenses incurred by lecturers, faculty members, experts and trainers if they do not come from one of the EU institutions or agencies
- per diems which cover accommodation, meals, local travel expenses incurred by the course director and/or supporting staff and/or lecturers not coming from one of the EU institutions or agencies in line with the Guide to Missions and Authorised Travel;
- rent of conference facilities;
- transport costs related to the course;
- fees of external specialised facilitators whose services are needed to ensure that the course is conducted in its entirety (i.e. not for a single day);
- software licencing/usage for forensic analysis, network analysis, incident response/handling, malware analysis, reverse engineering, penetration testing and cyber threat intelligence etc.
- VAT: only if the requesting training institute can show that it is not tax-exempted and that it cannot recover taxes under the applicable national law.

i. Budget line 3.1.1: Financial support for co-financing of about 150 regular training activities and pilot activities hosted by Member States' institutes/training actors

These activities constitute the main part of the annual ESDC academic programme and are conducted in co-operation with ESDC's network members. The aim is to train the staff and experts working in the relevant Ministries and Delegations of Member States, the headquarters of EU

missions/operations, or staff who are going to be deployed directly to EU missions/operations, in line with the ESDC's main mission. These activities can also be devoted to capability development in partner countries (e.g. in the Eastern Partnership (EaP), Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP) countries, or in South-America) or in support of the strategic dialogue with third countries and International Organisations.

The eligible amount of co-financing will be in line with the results of the prioritisation exercise and will also be reflected in the Administrative Instruction applying to the new budgetary year. The planned number of activities for each type of course will be determined by the Steering Committee on the basis of the consolidated ESDC academic program.

ii. Budget line 3.1.2: Organisation and conduct of training activities in Brussels for which no network member volunteers to host

This sub-heading was not used so far and is only retained 'pour mémoire.'

iii. Budget line 3.1.3: Financial support for other ESDC activities and events

This subheading covers the co-financing of activities and events that cannot strictly be seen as training activities/courses such as:

- Meetings of the working groups of the Executive Academic Board;
- European Union Military Academy Commandants Seminar.
- International Military Academic Forum 2024.
- 7th Common Security and Defence Policy Olympiad 2024.
- ESDC Alumni Seminar.
- Seminar on maritime security.
- EGMONT ESDC Doctoral Prize.
- Seminar understanding civil dimension of cyber attacks
- Seminar serious gaming for Cyber Awareness
- Cyber ETEE Workshop/Summer School.

iv. Budget line 3.1.4: Financial Support for the organisation and conduct of ESDC conferences, including:

- eLSE Conference, focused on e-learning and technology-enhanced education.
- ATEC Conference: This annual conference on training is designed to facilitate discussions and knowledge sharing among professionals and experts in various areas related to European cooperation and training, including defence, security, and peace.

- ESDC Research Conference in the Eastern Partnership region.

v. Budget line 3.1.5: Transportation of training material

This line covers transportation of training and visibility material between the ESDC's premises and the various venues in Brussels. This includes the purchase and maintenance of transportation tools such as trolleys and use of a taxi. The latter is in particular the case when larger groups of participants attend the course and transportation on foot is not an option due to the volume and weight of the material (maximum EUR 1 500).

vi. Budget line 3.1.6. Doctoral school

This budget line intends to cover the costs of the activities of the Doctoral school activities as follows:

- One annual conference of the Doctoral School organised by one of the members of the Doctoral School Working Group (maximum 15 000 EUR).
- Six doctoral thesis defences organised by the mother institutions of the Doctoral School Fellows (approximately 1.000 EUR for each activity)
- CSDP Doctoral Summer School with a duration of one week (max. 22 500 EUR).
- Four courses linked to Doctoral School (maximum 20 000 EUR per activity)
- Four postdoctoral grants for a number of four post-doctoral Fellows (max. 2000 EUR)

vii. Budget line 3.1.7 Flight tickets for EU CTG meetings

This budget line will cover the travel expenses of the EU Civilian Training Group (EUCTG), aiming to alleviate the additional costs that appointed institutes would otherwise have to bear on top of their existing budgets. The objective is to ensure that the costs associated with the attendance of a Civilian Crisis Management Course Trainer (CCT) at EUCTG meetings are covered, provided that the individual is not simultaneously appointed as a National Training Expert (NTE). The calculation of travel costs is based on an average estimation of €524 per intra-European flight.

viii. Budget line 3.1.8 Accommodation for EU CTG Meetings

This budget line is dedicated to covering the costs of accommodation for participants in CTG working meetings and trainings.

Sub-Heading 3.1 : Support and conduct of training activities		Unit		Quantity	Unit cost	Total cost
3.1.1	Financial support for co-financing activities hosted by network partners institutes/training actors	activities		150	2,190.00	328,500.00
3.1.2	Financial support for organising and conducting training activities in Brussels which no network member volunteers to host (pour mémoire)	activities		0	4,500.00	0.00
3.1.3	Financial support for other ESDC activities and events	estimated sum		41	1,420.00	58,220.00
3.1.4	Financial support for the organisation and conduct of ESDC conferences	estimated sum		4	9,500.00	38,000.00
3.1.5	Transportation of training material	estimated sum		1	1,500.00	1,500.00
3.1.6	Doctoral school	activities		18	6,250.00	112,500.00
3.1.7	Flight tickets for EU CTG meetings, technical meetings, workshops	Per return ticket		35	524.00	18,340.00
3.1.8	Accommodation for EU CTG	Per night		35	160.00	5,600.00
Sub-Total Heading 3.1						557,060.00

Sub Heading 3.2 - Support of developing Training Material / Visibility

i. Budget line 3.2.1: ESDC publications

This budget line includes the production, distribution, and revision of ESDC publications, which serve as valuable resources for course participants engaged in the field of CSDP. These publications not only serve as comprehensive handbooks for their work but also find utility among a broader audience involved in CSDP-related activities. Furthermore, these publications can be strategically published to support the initiatives of the ESDC, the EAB configurations, Member States and training institutions.

ii. Budget line 3.2.2: Supporting material and other publications and measures to enhance visibility

Effective functioning of a network college requires sound information to all network institutes, potential newcomers and other EU internal and external stakeholders co-operating in the network system. To this end, other publications and measures are planned to enhance the college's visibility in and outside the

EU. Costs relate basically to the design, print and distribution of public relations material including welcome packages for course participants, roll-ups, IDs for course participants including badges and lanyards, HLC badges for uniformed personnel and possibly similar for civilians.

Sub-Heading 3.2: Support of developing training material/visibility		Unit		Quantity	Unit cost	Total cost
3.2.1	ESDC publications	publications		1	11,000.00	11,000.00
3.2.2	Supporting material, other publications and measures to enhance visibility	PR material (notebooks/ pens/conference badges, etc.)		1	22,000.00	22,000.00
3.2.3	ESDC feasibility study (pour memoire)	services		0	0.00	0.00
Sub-total Heading 3.2						33,000.00

5.1.4 Heading four: Cyber ETEE Platform (EUR 282 500)

5.1.4.1 Financial support for co-financing training activities Cyber ETEE platform

Sub-heading one of heading four aims to allocate funds to support the activities of the Cyber ETEE (Education, Training, Exercise, and Evaluation) platform, focusing on awareness and technical courses, which require specialised hi-tech infrastructure and access to advanced tools and software. Furthermore, it is essential to ensure the availability of experts with certifications in various cyber-related domains, such as forensic analysis, cyber threat intelligence, penetration testing, malware analysis/reverse engineering, security architecture, etc. The line includes awareness and technical courses.

5.1.4.2. Equipment and IT tools/programmes in support of ESDC training activities

The funding addresses the expenditure related to the procurement, development, maintenance, update, and revision of essential equipment and IT tools to support ESDC training activities, e.g.:

- ESDC Website and Integrated ENLIST Application.
- Platform for e-Learning Activities.
- e-Learning Content Development Infrastructure and Software.
- Technological Transformation of E-Learning Material.
- Specific IT Tools.

- Penetration Testing.

Heading 4: Cyber ETEE Platform						
4.1	Financial support for co-financing training activities Cyber ETEE platform	training		35	6,500.00	227,500.00
4.2	Equipment and IT tools/programmes in support of ESDC training activities	software and hardware		1	55,000.00	55,000.00
Total Heading 4						282,500.00

5.1.5 Heading five: Running expenditure (EUR 39 500)

- i. **Budget line 5.1:** This budget line covers the audit carried out by an external auditor; the financial costs cover bank charges or other financial costs that could occur.
- ii. **Budget line 5.2:** According to Article 8 (3) of the Annex to the Council Decision, the necessary accounting services may be outsourced. This budget line covers the cost of 4 days support from an external accountant and the annual cost of the accounting system (SAGE).
- iii. **Budget line 5.3:** This budget line will be used for contribution to the cost for a team-building activity.

Heading 5: Running expenditure		Unit		Quantity	Unit cost	Total cost
5.1	Audit, financial costs (incl. bank charges, negative interest)	services		1	25,000.00	25,000.00
5.2	External accounting services / accounting system licence	services		1	4,500.00	4,500.00
5.3	Team building activity (29 + 1 intern)	per person		1	10,000.00	10,000.00
Total Heading 5						39,500.00

5.1.5. Heading 6 – Representation (EUR 1 500)

This budget line covers the cost incurred by the Head of the ESDC when receiving visitors at the ESDC. These costs can include working lunches in restaurants, as well as beverages and refreshments at the ESDC premises.

Heading 6: Representation		Unit		Quantity	Unit cost	Total cost
6.1	Representation and working meetings	events		1	1,500.00	1,500.00
Total Heading 6						1,500.00

5.1.7. Heading seven - Contingencies (EUR 29 042.61)

The contingency reserve, which shall be used only with a prior written approval of the Commission, corresponds to 1 % of the total costs under headings 1-6, and amounts to EUR 29 042.61)

5.1.8. Specific projects and activities (EUR 0)

This part of the budget will reflect any income in the form of a voluntary national contribution by Member States for specific activities. It will also reflect any income from specific projects funded by the Commission. Any expenditure incurred by the ESDC as a result of these projects shall not exceed the income from the project. At the moment there are no planned appropriations for this heading.

5.2 Itemised breakdown of cost (indicative)

Budget heading	Proposed budget 2023 (EUR)	Proposed budget 2024 (EUR)
1. Human Resources	1 296 598	1 799 121. 40
2. Missions	150 779	191 580
3. Activities	840 750	590 060
4. Cyber ETEE Platform		282 500
5. Running expenditure	31 700	39 500
6. Representation	1500	1500
Subtotal (Headings 1-6)	2 393 489	2 904 261. 40
7. Contingencies	23 934.89	29 042.61

8. Specific projects and activities	0	0
Total	2 417 423.89	2 933 304.01

The authorising officer responsible is hereby authorised to vary each of the above amounts related to the budget according to exact operational requirements and possibilities and in keeping with sound financial management, while not exceeding the overall amount of the financing decision.

6. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS (IN EUROS)

Line	Value	Year n	Year n+1	Year n+2	Year n+3
14 04 01 03	2 933 304.01	2 933 304.01		-	-

7. Absorption rate of the current mandate (Forecast)

Budget lines	Budget 2023 (EUR)	Absorption estimate
1. Human resources	1,296,598.00	98%
2. Missions	150,779.00	100%
3. Activities	840,750.00	100%
4. Running Expenditures	31,700.00	92%
5. Representation	1,500.00	100%
6. Travel cost of CCTs	72,162.00	0%
7. Contingencies	23,934.89	0%

8. Specific projects and activities	0	0%
TOTAL	2,417,423.89	94%
