Background

The Defence Institution Building School in Georgia, inaugurated in June 2016, is providing wide-ranging opportunities in professional development, information exchange and collaboration in the areas of security and defence policy and management, including the promotion of regional and international cooperation.

Through national, regional and international courses, the Defence Institution Building School is committed to promoting expertise and best practice within the Georgian Defence Ministry and military leadership, as well as across Government and civil society. It aims to invite international participation, helping to deepen knowledge and cooperation on shared security challenges among Georgia, regional states and NATO partners.

The Defence Institution Building School is an initiative of the Substantial NATO Georgia Package: a set of 13 capacity building measures aimed at strengthening Georgia’s defence capabilities and advancing preparations towards NATO membership. The School is building on the foundations of the Defence Ministry’s Professional Development Centre, which has provided training courses to hundreds of security professionals since 2012, with NATO support.

Going forward, the School’s establishment will be implemented in several phases. It will continue to be supported by NATO capacity building programmes such as the Professional Development Programme, Building Integrity Programme, and Defence Capacity Building Trust Fund. It will also receive bilateral support. The Defence Institution Building School is applying modern and NATO-compatible approaches to education and training, and aspires to become a NATO-accredited Georgian institution, with links to NATO and partner states’ institutions.
The Defence Institution Building School is supporting ongoing reforms of the Georgian security sector by contributing to change in four main priority areas.

1) **Good Governance and Management of the Security Sector**
   The School will promote the further professionalization of the personnel of the Ministry of Defence and Georgian Armed Forces in order to improve the quality of governance and management, and the institutionalised development of Georgia’s security sector.

2) **Security and Defence Policy**
   The School will provide space for information exchange and discussion in order to develop a common understanding of security and defence policy issues among defence officials, other governmental actors and civil society.

3) **Communication and Cooperation in the Security Sector**
   The School will foster better cooperation among governmental and non-governmental institutions within Georgia’s wider security sector, providing a stimulating forum for policy discussion, networking and cooperation.

4) **Regional and International Cooperation**
   The School will share best practices, lessons learnt, and progress achieved through Georgia’s security sector reform process with other countries in the region and beyond.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Defence Institution Building School will foster the professional and institutional development of the Georgian Ministry of Defence, promote a common understanding of security and defence policy across government and civil society, and improve cooperation between Georgia’s wider security sector, regional partner countries and NATO Allies.
COURSE CATALOGUE: 2016/2017

The Defence Institution Building School’s programme of courses is being made available to a wide range of participants including defence and security sector representatives, military leaders and officers, public sector representatives, NGOs, journalists, and representatives from Black Sea countries and the international community.

Sample Courses related to Good Governance in the Security Sector

- **Building Integrity and Corruption Risk Reduction**
  This course encourages an awareness of the existing corruption risks in the defence and security sector and mechanisms for prevention, and familiarity with international anti-corruption best practices.

- **Security Sector Orientation Course**
  This course prepares civil servants for the effective execution of their duties by sharing relevant knowledge about the civil service as well as the role of civil servants in the security sector.

- **Democratic Control over Armed Forces**
  This course is aimed at raising awareness about the components of democratic control and accountability of the Armed Forces, through mechanisms such as parliamentary control, civil society, and civilian military relations.

- **Rule of Law in Armed Conflict**
  This module aims to deepen knowledge of national and international law, including international humanitarian law as a set of rules and agreements intended to limit the effects of armed conflict.

- **Effective Communications Skills**
  The goal of this course is to increase the effectiveness of information exchange during formal and informal relationships and interactions, including verbal and non-verbal communications and negotiation techniques.

- **Strategic Communications Course**
  This course outlines the importance of strategic communications across the wider defence and security sector, including coordination activities and crisis communications.

- **Gender Equality in Defence Organizations**
  The course provides participants with a background in the framework and guidelines regulating gender issues in the context of security and defence management, as well as in conflict environments.
Sample Courses related to Security and Defence Policy

- **National Executive Defence Course**
  This course provides an overview of Georgia’s security system in regional and international contexts, and also analyses the role and responsibility of each citizen in the formation of a national defence and security system.

- **Hybrid Warfare and Information Propaganda**
  This course introduces the main aspects of information warfare, including means of influence and manipulation and basic responses through strategic communication and information operations. The principles of cyber warfare are also covered.

- **Cyber Security Seminar**
  This seminar aims to facilitate discussion of international cyberspace, cyber-crime, information warfare and national cyber security and its effects on individuals and organizations at national and international levels.

- **Regional Studies**
  This course stimulates analysis of security in the Black Sea region and existing challenges, and provides opportunities for cooperation and networking between regional participants.

**Course Outlook for 2017 & Beyond**

In 2017, the Defence Institution Building School will develop and offer more advanced modules to raise awareness of defence and security related matters. At the same time, the School will initiate cooperation with regional partners, involving representatives from the Black Sea and Caucasus regions in the School's activities. The School will also offer regular discussion events on security and defence policy to Georgia’s wider security sector including civil society representatives.