Summary

Primarily, CYBER PHALANX is a combined course and exercise for operations planners to raise their awareness regarding cyber and hybrid threats in the Operations Planning Process (OPP) on both strategic and operational level. CYBER PHALANX constitutes a compressed education and training opportunity while serving as an information and experience exchange platform.

Storyline

- The EU is about to launch an operation (which does exist yet) in the African North-East Quarter (ANEQ).
- The Operations Planning Groups within the Operational Headquarters (OHQ – strategic level) and the Force Headquarters (FHQ – operational level) are planning the operation.
- Developments in the Joint Operations Area trigger all the planners together with the Subject Matter Experts (SME) to look into their planning products with the cyber and hybrid threats perspective.

History

In response to the requirement of EU member states, formulated through the EU Military Staff, for an appropriate Cyber Defence training and exercise opportunity to cope with cyber threats in its operations and missions, the European Defence Agency and its contractor IABG developed the CYBER PHALANX and established it in a combined course and exercise format in 2018. CYBER PHALANX evolved to an exercise series, conducted with different host nations, supporting further enhancement of Cyber Defence capacity in operational planning, both within EU’s CSDP framework and within its member states.
CYBER PHALANX 2021

What? CYBER PHALANX 2021
Who (Host Nation)? Portugal
When? 05-09 April 2021
Where? Lisbon / Portugal
Why? In support of the Portuguese Presidency of EU Council 2021

Who should attend?
The Core Planning Team highly recommends to address those operations planners who have had no or limited opportunities to be educated and trained in the cyber domain to participate in CYBER PHALANX. They are operations planners in national and multinational headquarters, primary augmentees for supporting EU operations.

Participant requirements
Knowledge of the Comprehensive Operations Planning Directive (COPD) should be a prerequisite for the operations planners. Both the course and the exercise are relatively brief, focussed on cyber and hybrid threats and do not allow for an additional training of basic operations planning. However, we know and accept that training levels amongst the training audience will vary, and we will cope with that by establishing a permissive learning environment. The staff function roles provide the respective exercise participant with a hint concerning the perspective he or she should adopt within the operations planning group. However, experience in the specific staff function is not necessarily required. Cyber Experts and other SME support the OPP with their expertise in a non-technical fashion with advice and contributions in tailored products.

What’s next?
The participant nomination phase for CYBER PHALANX 2021 is closed. The Core Planning Team works towards the Final Coordination Conference and the Exercise execution. Relevant participant information is distributed via the dedicated EDA Collaboration Portal Cyber Phalanx 2021 workspace. Your points of contact can be reached at: EDA CyberTeam@eda.europa.eu IABG CYPH21@iabg.de

CYPH21 Fact Sheet v03 as of 11 NOV