

# LEPL - DAVID AGHMASHENEBELI NATIONAL DEFENCE ACADEMY OF GEORGIA



## RECTOR'S VISION

2023



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## 1. MILITARY TRAINING OF THE JUNKERS/STUDENTS

The most important issue for the academy is the formation of worthy future military leaders. All graduates of the Academy must have the necessary skills of a leader and a level of military training that determines their competitiveness in the defense and security sector of the country. We will take all necessary measures to make all the graduates of the Academy among the best. The Academy should ensure that the Junkers/students are progressive-minded, and equipped with leadership skills and knowledge. They should be prepared to lead the units of appropriate size in peacetime and crisis. The relevant structural units of the Academy should ensure that Junkers / students have the theoretical and practical knowledge pertinent to the qualification requirements for military training defined for the military personnel of the Defense Forces of Georgian. In order to increase the level of military training, in 2023 we continue to improve the quality of teaching military disciplines in the Academy in terms of combat training (tactics, military topography, fire training and etc. Also, military supporting courses). The main focus of the mentioned process will be to share international best practices, to renew the existing educational programs in compliance with the requirements of the Defence Forces and the existing challenges. Instructors' professional development and training in teaching and assessment methodology. In addition, along with theoretical training, we will support the development of military-practical skills of Junkers/students. The Academy conducts practical exercises and field trainings by using the modern technologies. We plan joint field exercises/training for Junkers/students with the involvement of active military personnel who have experience in military trainings conducted by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Various Commands of Defence Forces will be actively involved in the implementation of the mentioned field exercises and courses. They will share their knowledge and experience with the Junkers and students of the Academy. In 2021, active cooperation with partner military educational institutions of foreign countries will continue. In a given pandemic situation, cooperation will also be carried out remotely. The Academy ensures equal access for Junkers/students to participate in planned programs. During 2023, visits of the high-ranking representatives of the chain of command to the academy, within the speakers' program, visits to various agencies, a lone warrior course, a mountain training course, and a water training course will continue. This year, for the first time, a parachuting training course will be held with the 4-year Junkers, which will raise the level of military training in the Academy to a new level.

### 1.1. LEADER DEVELOPMENT

The Academy constantly ensures that the Junkers acquire the necessary leadership skills. In the training process, when developing leadership skills by Junkers, the focus should be on: the assignment and rotation of the Junkers at different command positions, getting practical experience in units, studying the principles of Mission Command, creating/maintaining fair and competitive environment.



## **1.2. CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

We consider the development of critical thinking skills as an integral part of development a military serviceman as a leader. That is why it is necessary to integrate critical thinking, military scenarios and after-action reviews into the programs implemented by the Academy. At the Academy, the Junkers must learn analytical, critical and creative thinking; realize the supremacy of law and discipline. It is necessary for the Junkers to realize principles of statesmanship and their obligation as a citizen as well as a military serviceman to the homeland.

## **1.3. IMPROVEMENT OF PHYSICAL TRAINING**

Without strong physical training, it is impossible for a Junker, student, and servicemen of the Academy to have the appropriate endurance and strength to participate in the military exercises. In order to improve the level of physical fitness of the Junkers, students, and servicemen of the Academy priority should be given to general military endurance/strength training, development / implementation of individual (special) military training and physical training programs. Physical training programs and plans of the Academy should serve to bring the level of physical fitness of the Junkers, students and servicemen of the Academy in line with established standards and to raise the level of individual as well as team training.

## **2. INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The academy is the highest educational institution of the Defence Forces and it is oriented to constant development. That is why in 2023, in accordance with the requirements of the system of the Ministry of Defence, we plan to establish BA program of Law and MA programs of Diplomacy and International Politics. In addition, the Distance Learning Center is successfully functioning in the National Defence Academy, which trains both military personnel and civilian personnel, taking into account the requirements and priorities of the Defence Forces and the Ministry of Defence. For the first time in the Defence Forces, the National Defence Academy hosted the International Distance Learning Conference in 2022, which will be held again in November 2023 and this process will be ongoing.

## **3. ACADEMIC PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT**

As the Academy is the only military higher education institution in Georgia, we properly understand the importance of the academic programs we have implemented for the country and the Defence Forces of Georgia. In 2022, the Academy provided an expert evaluation of the existing educational programs, the Academy will be fully prepared by 2023 to implement a new educational program for the training of reserve officers. To enhance the level of English language proficiency in the Defence Forces, the main educational units of the Academy, within the framework of their training programs, will conduct English language studies at B2 (B2+) level, including optional languages (German, French) that will be offered. In 2022, the National Defence Academy successfully passed the authorization of higher educational institutions. (reauthorization). Also in 2023, the National Defence Academy is preparing for cluster accreditation of the defence

and national security undergraduate and defence analysis graduate programs. In order to increase awareness of Junkers and implement ideas, an innovation center was created in the academy.

#### **4. SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT**

In 2023, scientific-research activities will be developed at the Academy. While implementing the scientific-research component, the Academy should be focused on: the requirements of the system of the Ministry of Defense, the researches required for obtaining and implementing various grant projects supporting the undergraduate/graduate academic programs of the Academy. Also, the Scientific-Research Center will actively continue working in the following areas: research activities in priority fields in accordance with the requirements of the system of the Ministry of Defense, organizing and conducting international and local scientific-research conferences, finding and obtaining international grants, finding new contacts and establishing communication with foreign scientific research organizations, printing and publishing collections of scientific papers and journals of conference papers. The Academy encourages the participation of international personnel in scientific conferences and their scientific research activities. In addition, it will support the organization of conferences involving military and civilian personnel of the Ministry of Defense. It is noteworthy that in 2023, in order to intensify scientific research activity, the Academy will develop an electronic library system, including access to international scientific bases, which will allow those interested in research and employed in the Georgian defense system to have access to a significant part of the e-book fund in the world.

#### **5. DISTANCE LEARNING CENTER DEVELOPMENT**

Due to the latest challenge in the academic field, in 2023 the distance learning center of the Academy should expand its area of activity. This structural unit will play an important role in facilitating the ongoing academic process in the Academy. In 2023, the staff of the center will continue trainings and sharing the experience of foreign partners. The center will provide training offered to the defense forces, conducting an international conference on distance learning, keeping the level of English language and developing/implementing other necessary training courses under the requirements of the Ministry of Defense system. Access to education will be increased for the Junkers/students of the Academy, for the military, and civilians of the system of the Ministry of Defense, through the activities carried out by the Center. In addition, the operation of the Center will help bring the Defense Forces of Georgia closer to the standards of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

#### **6. STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

Within the framework of bilateral cooperation and mutual cooperation memoranda, the Academy will continue to closely cooperate with partner educational institutions and international organizations in the US and European region. In addition, based on the priorities of the Academy, new connections will be established and, accordingly, additional opportunities will be sought for NDA Junkers, trainees, and personnel to actively participate in short-term/long-term exchange programs and various international events, deep-

en theoretical knowledge, practical experience and cooperate with representatives of the world's leading military academies. In 2023, involvement in the activities organized by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and within the framework of the "Erasmus+" program will continue. The number of military, educational, scientific, and sports events planned with partner countries and the number of Junkers, trainees, academic/visiting staff, and instructors involved in them will increase. In 2023, significant attention will be paid to the strengthening of international cooperation, especially the internationalization of Master's programs, so that the Academy, through the sharing of targeted and best experiences, will contribute to the training of highly qualified personnel and raise the awareness of the institution in the international level.

## **7. PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT**

To overcome any challenge facing the academy, you need not only a good leader, but also a staff with the appropriate qualifications and skills. I strongly believe that competent staff is the foundation for the successful completion of any task. Given the importance of the above, in 2023 special emphasis will be placed on personnel development. The Academy will conduct the events in accordance with the concept of human resource management and professional development, also we will attract highly qualified academic/visiting faculty. In order to support the development of the personnel, the Academy plans to implement a professional development program, where the staff of the Academy will have the opportunity to participate in various events planned by Georgia and partner countries. In addition, in 2023 special attention should be paid to the social support of the Academy staff. In addition, in 2023, special attention will be focused not only on the social support of the personnel of the Academy but also on providing them with various types of services.

## **8. LOGISTIC DEVELOPMENT**

In 2023, the process of upgrading the infrastructure and material resources will continue. Expansion of recreational and sports spaces will continue as well. To increase the general knowledge and motivation of Junkers and trainees, thematic auditoriums and classrooms will be organized again. To improve the quality of military training, existing training areas will be updated and new training areas will be created. Better medical care and services will be implemented.

## **9. INCREASE AWARENESS ABOUT THE ACADEMY**

To attract Junkers, students, and highly qualified staff to the Academy, the level of awareness of the Academy will be increased. To achieve this goal, the Academy plans to identify and inform the target groups which includes practical informational meetings with entrants, placement of printed advertising material in public centers, placement of promotional videos in social networks and media space. The Academy will disseminate information about activities and achievements in accordance with the communication strategy developed, raise awareness, present successful Junkers/students and professors, promote educational programs, and provide complete information about these programs to the public.