

Invitation to Host Nation Support Tabletop Exercise outside the EU and UCPM area

04 – 09 October 2026

Yerevan, Armenia

Dear colleague,

It is our pleasure to invite you to participate in the **Host Nation Support Tabletop Exercise** to be held in **Yerevan, Armenia, from 04 to 09 October 2026**.

The exercise is implemented under the **EU-RESPOND project**, funded by the European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) under procurement procedure EC-ECHO/2025/OP/0002, and organised by the consortium composed of:

- Talent Development Support (TDS-Group) – France (Coordinator)
- Resilience Solutions Resch (RSR) – Austria
- Directorate-General for Civil Protection and Crisis Management (DGSCGC) – France
- Directorate-General for Civil Protection (DPCP-IBZ) – Belgium
- Educational Complex of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIAEC) – Armenia

The aim of the HNS TTX is to support national authorities in developing and refining national HNS plans and procedures to ensure the smooth reception and integration of UCPM assistance into the response operations of the disaster affected country.

The HNS TTX in Armenia will simulate a **major earthquake affecting the Yerevan region** in Armenia requiring activation of the UCPM and the integration of international assistance, including modules, other response capacities, EUCPT and TAST. The exercise will simulate the full mission cycle, from mobilisation and arrival to operational coordination and handover, with a focus on testing and improving Host Nation Support arrangements, inter-agency coordination, and the integration of international assistance into the national response system.

Exercise Objectives

- Identify areas for improvement and recommendations for host nation support procedures at international, national and operational level to facilitate the reception and integration of UCPM assistance into the response operations of a disaster-stricken country.
- Identify synergies between EU HNS guidelines and the National HNS procedures and test the national emergency response framework and cross-sectoral cooperation mechanisms at both strategic and operational levels in the area of host nation support.
- Test the deployment and operations of UCPM response capacities and raise awareness about their needs in terms of host nation support.
- Improve coordination, communication and reporting as well as to enhance operational cooperation between national authorities, local emergency management authorities, UCPM response capacities, international organisations, humanitarian actors and other agencies with a role in emergency response or host nation support activities.

- Test and improve modules', other response capacities', TASTs' and national response capabilities SOPs in all phases of the mission cycle.
- Provide a learning opportunity for all actors involved in UCPM interventions.

Exercise Participants

The exercise will bring together a wide range of national and international stakeholders, including:

- 6 EUCPT experts, including an ERCC Liaison Officer
- 2 TAST members
- 1 UNDAC expert associated to the EUCPT
- 20 key management personnel representing 10 modules and other response capacities such as Urban Search and Rescue, Emergency Medical Teams, Water Purification, Emergency Shelter and Emergency Energy Supply
- National authorities and relevant stakeholders from Armenia

EUCPT Composition

The EUCPT will be composed of 6 experts with the following possible profiles:

Team Leader

- Profile: disaster management, emergency planning
- Experience: knowledge of the region desirable, UCPM mission experience and UNDAC experience would be an asset
- Training: New Training Programme: minimum ODC Adv + TLC
Old Training Programme: minimum CND and/or HLC + SEC online
- Exercise: Participation to at least one UCPM exercise (EU MODEX field exercise or UCPM FSX)
- Language: English language C1 as a minimum

Deputy Team Leader

- Profile: disaster management, emergency planning
- Experience: knowledge of the region desirable, UCPM mission experience and UNDAC experience would be an asset
- Training: New Training Programme: minimum ODC Adv + TLC
Old Training Programme: minimum CND and/or HLC + SEC online
- Exercise: Participation to at least one UCPM exercise (EU MODEX field exercise or UCPM FSX)
- Language: English language C1 as a minimum

Coordination and assessment expert on Information management

- Profile: disaster management, emergency planning, information management
- Experience: regional knowledge and UCPM mission experience would be an asset
- Training: New Training Programme: minimum ODC Adv + IMC Adv
Old Training Programme: minimum OPM + AMC and/or SMC + SEC online
- Exercise: Participation to at least one UCPM exercise (EU MODEX field exercise or UCPM FSX)
- Language: English language B2 as a minimum

Coordination and assessment expert on Operations

- Profile: disaster management, emergency planning, coordination of operations
- Experience: USAR and/or EMT experience would be an asset
- Training: New Training Programme: minimum ODC Adv
Old Training Programme: minimum OPM + SEC online
- Exercise: Participation to at least one UCPM exercise (EU MODEX field exercise or UCPM FSX)
- Language: English language B2 as a Minimum

Coordination and assessment expert on Logistics

- Profile: disaster management, emergency planning, coordination of operations
- Experience: regional knowledge and UCPM mission experience would be an asset
- Training: New Training Programme: minimum ODC Adv (LRT would be an asset)
Old Training Programme: minimum OPM + SEC online
- Exercise: Participation to at least one UCPM exercise (EU MODEX field exercise or UCPM FSX)
- Language: English language B2 as a Minimum

Coordination and assessment expert on safety and security

- Profile: disaster management, emergency planning, coordination of operations
- Experience: regional knowledge and UCPM mission experience would be an asset
- Training: New Training Programme: minimum ODC Adv + SEC Adv
Old Training Programme: minimum OPM + SEC online
- Exercise: Participation to at least one UCPM exercise (EU MODEX field exercise or UCPM FSX)
- Language: English language B2 as a Minimum

Technical Expert

- Profile: Cultural Heritage Expert, Transport and Logistic Expert, Structural Engineering Expert
- Training: TEC or CMI or UMI, SEC online, OPM-ODC preferable
- Language: English language B2 as a minimum

The team will include an ERCC Liaison Officer, an associated UNDAC expert supported by two TAST members.

Nomination Procedure

National Training Coordinators are kindly invited to nominate up to **two EUCPT experts** with different profiles.

National Contact Points for UCPM exercises are kindly invited to nominate **two TAST members**, and/or **two key management personnel of modules, other response capacities**, such as Urban Search and Rescue, Emergency Medical Teams, Water Purification, Emergency Shelter and Emergency Energy Supply. Each module or other response capacity should be represented by a Team Leader and a Deputy Team Leader or a Liaison Officer.

The dedicated registration form must be duly completed, signed and submitted together with an Europass CVs by **13 July 2026**, to:

eu-respond@tds-group.fr

and cc: ECHO-CP-TRAINING-EXERCISES@ec.europa.eu

Practical Information

The HNS TTX will be conducted in **English** and will take place primarily indoors; however some outdoor activities might be scheduled. It is a situation-driven exercise, without field deployment of assets. The exercise will cover all phases of the mission cycle, including mobilisation, deployment, operations, and handover, with intensive interaction between participants.

If you are selected for participation, you will receive a travel proposal for a pre-paid ticket via the e-mail address provided in the registration form. The exercise will cover all costs related to meals and accommodation during the exercise. Detailed logistical information, including travel, accommodation, and preparatory arrangements, will be shared with selected participants in due course. In case of cancellation or no-show without due reason, the incurred costs might need to be reimbursed by you or your organisation. Any changes to an issued ticket need to be coordinated with the exercise organisers and will be at your own expense.

Participants in the HNS TTX are responsible for their insurance coverage (e.g., health insurance, accident insurance, liability insurance). In this regard, the participants must be in possession of an adequate health insurance valid for the duration of the exercise, if they are not covered by the sending organisation and do not possess a European Health Insurance Card.

Should you have any questions regarding the exercise, please do not hesitate to contact us at:

eu-respond@tds-group.fr

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Armenia!

Yours faithfully,
On behalf of the Exercise Organisation

Christian Resch
Exercise Director
EU-RESPOND HNS TTX