

**2023 EAPRIL Thematic Track:
Designing and delivering meaningful dual-use dilemma trainings: in search of good
practices**

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The Incubator Cloud For Organizational Learning Ideas

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Compliance, ethical, security and business dilemma trainings are often considered a dull moment of time (Bradshaw, 2013; De Schryver, 2023, Reeves et al, 2021; Schürmann et al., 2020). Yet, as the current geopolitical turmoil has shown, many of these dilemmas are highly relevant for society at large. It has become increasingly difficult to assess whether business transactions have genuine commercial versus national security interests (see also e.g., Winge, 2023). Historical ignorance of these dilemmas has led to a much less safer place to live in (e.g. Corraera, 2006).

Training for these dilemmas are most urgent in business where you expect it the least. Business and their supply chains dealing with dual-use goods; i.e. goods, software and technology that can be used for both civilian and military applications; need to invest in training. L& D professionals working in these dual use contexts face a huge challenge. On the one hand, it is clear that dual-use trainings should increase the bar for the workforce. They should help professionals to increase awareness about the security risks and to combine wise ethical judgement with professional competence. On the other hand, the ways to design and to deliver these dual use training in contexts that matter are less understood.

With this call we aim to collect accounts of good dual-use training initiatives. One area where important steps to raise awareness are taken is the field of chemical and biosecurity field (e.g. Shaw, 2016). Recently, there is a surge in grass root training initiatives that promote some form of active learning in the field of biosecurity (e.g. Novossiolova et al. 2021; Geminden & Vinke, 2023). These are promising examples of courses aimed at increasing the awareness of biosecurity risks.

As such this track welcomes practice based accounts of dual-use trainings from the fields of life science. However this call for submissions is also open for other disciplines and commercial organisations. There are two reasons for a broad perspective. First we believe that different disciplines can learn from each other. Even when there is not link to life science research, the call for paper explicitly welcomes good L&D initiatives in fields where dual-use risks are not expected at first sight, to submit papers (see e.g. Drugan & Megone, 2011) Secondly, much of the dual-use risks have become increasingly interdisciplinary (e.g. Richardson, 2019, Shaw, 2016). Some argue that dual-use risks might be everywhere (Evans, 2022). New challenges in the forms of computing, artificial intelligence, global supply chains are yielding novel opportunities to re-shape both the professional practice and the playing field of proliferators trying to evade controls on military and dual-use goods. Interdisciplinary security awareness

will become more essential. There is a need for engaging all stakeholders to promote harmonised risk mitigation strategies. Therefore accounts of dual-use training programs that follow the trend of multi-disciplinarity are highly recommended to respond to this call (see e.g. Richardson et al., 2019).

In sum, it is time to share some of the best practices on the design and implementation of dual-use trainings. By centralizing some of the initiatives, we aim to get a better understanding of what works and what does not work. The purpose of this EAPRIL cloud 14 thematic track is to facilitate inter-disciplinary exchange regarding the scope of such training programmes and the methods that could be used for their delivery and impact assessment. In particular, the call welcomes contributions that could include one of the following topics:

- o Development of dual-use training resources.
- o Methodologies for dual-use training delivery.
- o Impact assessment of dual-use training.
- o Accreditation issues, organizational and professional embeddedness of these dual-use trainings.

Since there is today not yet a peer-reviewed outlet for EAPRIL conference submissions, peers interested in this thematic conference call are also kindly reminded to consider submitting, separately¹, full text publications to the 2023-2024 special issue on “*Training programmes to counter current and emerging biological and chemical proliferation risks: themes, practices, and lessons learnt*” in the peer review Journal of Strategic Trade Control (https://www.jostc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Special-Issue-CFP_full-version.pdf)

In case of any questions, please do not hesitate to contact info@eapril.org or t.d.schryver@mindef.nl

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¹ There are no institutional ties between EAPRIL and the JOSTC.



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