

NCS College 2016



The University of Defence together with the NATO Group of National Directors on Codification AC/135 organized the third edition of the international codification courses NCS College 2016 in Brno between the 29th August and 23rd September 2016. The Course for managers and logisticians and the following Course for codifiers were attended by students from 15 countries from 4 continents, including the Czech Republic. The academy participants learned about the management practices of codification processes, the establishment of national codification bureaus and acquired spe-

cific knowledge and habits of codifying material of the NATO Codification System (NCS).

The codification, which is also called the DNA of logistics, provides the unmistakable description of weapons, military equipment and other military materiel, and other manufacturers and suppliers in an international dimension, allowing the unambiguous characterization of military commodities. The codification provides, for example, the necessary interoperability in the acquisition process of the armed forces, prevents duplication of procurement of



material and enables replenishment of armaments and equipment in foreign missions. At present, the NATO Codification System is used in more than 60 countries in total.

The main lecturers of this year's NCS College were Jeffrey Merrell from the USA (DLA LIS), Thierry Vanden Dries, the chairman of AC/135 and other representatives of the NSPA, University of Defence and National Codification Bureaus from Canada, Spain and Czech.

The informational, organizational also lecturing support was provided by the Brno based company AURA, which is engaged in the development and implementation of the codification software MC CATALOGUE. This software was just recently supplied to the armed forces of Australia, the total number of countries from around the world using this codification software is 16.

The NCS College in 2016 was also significantly supported by the Defence and Security Industry Association of the Czech Republic.

During the learning and training in both codification courses, the students visited also the Security Center of Material Technical Services in Štěpánov, the Material Security Center of Logistics Services in Brno and the National Codification Bureau of the Czech Republic (at the Defence Standardization, Codification and Government Quality Assurance Authority) in Prague.

The attendants of the NCS College did not only appreciate the high-quality of teaching but also the academy accompanying programs, where they learnt about remarkable monuments and the current state of the Moravian city of Brno and South Moravian region, Prague and other cities of the Czech Republic. Many of them have already booked a seat for themselves or their colleagues from the National Codification Bureaus for the next NCS College 2018.

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The Dean of the Faculty of Military Leadership colonel Vladan Holcner along with other representatives of the faculty handed over the certificates of attendance of the NCS College to 24 students, reaching the number of more than 70 people for all three years. This was very positively appreciated by the current Chairman of AC/135 Thierry Vanden Dries, as well as irreplaceable participation of the University of Defence.

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Photos: Viktor Sliva, Antonín Svěrák

