



seminário
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National Defence Institute

Day 22 – “RESILIENCE IN A CONTEXT OF GEOPOLITICAL COMPETITION”

CONCEPT NOTE

The multiplication of events with an impact on a global scale – from the COVID-19 pandemic to the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine, the inflationary crisis, climate change, food and energy insecurity, or the expansion of China's external action – has triggered a renewed awareness among policymakers to a growing set of threats and risks, which require resilient institutions and societies.

In an era of global competition, the concept of resilience, defined as the ability of a system to evolve and adapt in environments of instability or disruption, highlights the need to ensure the integrity of structures, functions and resources essential to the normal functioning of states. Resilience is simultaneously a concept and a practice of response to the possibility of any given society being confronted by disruptive situations in critical sectors, whether they result from intentional actions or from natural occurrences.

Given the specificities often associated to the Defence sector, the V National Defence Seminar, which will take place under the theme “Resilience in a Context of Geopolitical Competition”, intends to promote an exchange of views over concrete examples of institutional resilience strategies in the face of sustained challenges derived from the current dynamics of systemic competition.

The Euro-Atlantic context will receive a particular focus through a comparison of experiences in resilience in key countries, while considering the effects of the war unleashed by Russia over Ukraine. At a national level, proceedings will centre on unpacking lessons learned in the Portuguese Armed Forces, while exploring key ramifications in space, mobility, and societal resilience.