

The Begin-Sadat Center Sends Delegation to the 2024 EU Hybrid Warfare Seminar in Slovakia

The Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies (BESA) recently sent an Israeli delegation to an EU seminar on the challenges posed by the "[hybrid warfare](#) age". At the seminar, the BESA delegation participated in simulations, training, and interdisciplinary learning. This effort is part of a comprehensive partnership between the BESA Center, the EU, military academies, universities, and leading research institutions throughout Europe. The Israeli students shared some of their experiences with the other delegations.

A delegation from Bar-Ilan University featuring students and lecturers with diverse academic backgrounds in political science, communications, psychology, economics, and other fields recently traveled to Slovakia to participate in a comprehensive week-long seminar on the "Challenges of the Hybrid Warfare Era." This seminar is one element of an [international research endeavor that has been steered by the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies \(BESA\) since 2021](#) and is funded through an EU Erasmus research grant.

The seminar, which was conducted at the Military Academy of Slovakia, fostered partnerships among the University of Turin, the Budapest University of Public Service, and military academies from Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, and Italy. Over 200 participants, including students, faculty members, and officers, engaged in discussions and collaborative efforts on the evolving challenges of hybrid warfare.

The Israeli delegation from Bar-Ilan University consisted of individuals who, after a rigorous selection process, were identified for their potential to contribute to the seminar's goal: "Learning, Teaching, and Training for Interdisciplinary Education on Hybrid Warfare." This initiative aims to build a foundational knowledge base, develop teaching materials, and establish effective training and research methodologies. The seminar was officially inaugurated by BESA Center Director **Professor Eitan Shamir**, who holds a senior professorship in the Department of Political Science at Bar-Ilan University. He offered a comprehensive overview of the challenges presented by hybrid warfare, particularly from an Israeli perspective, with a focus on the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict. **Dr. Shay Attias**, a lecturer in the Political Science and Communications Departments at Bar-Ilan University and a senior researcher at BESA overseeing the project, spoke on the communicative and societal challenges inherent in hybrid warfare. His presentation stressed the urgency of combating misinformation and the strategic manipulation of the public consciousness in the modern digital landscape. The Israeli students shared some of their experiences with their colleagues and offered some observations according to their major fields of study: Psychology, Communication, Political Science etc.

The seminar featured an array of advanced simulations and workshops designed to showcase the multifaceted impacts of hybrid warfare in various domains. These exercises allowed participants to explore scenarios demonstrating the dynamics of modern conflict spaces and the strategies proposed by international experts for effective engagement. The attendees were honored with certificates from the EU, and the initiative is set to culminate in the publication of three comprehensive EU-endorsed volumes. These publications will explore the myriad challenges of hybrid warfare and will be enriched by contributions from the Israeli research team at Bar-Ilan University, showcasing the collaborative spirit and interdisciplinary approach of this international educational endeavor.

<https://www.hybridwarfare.eu>