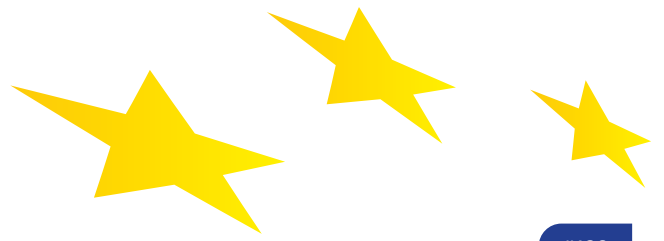


EUFOR FORUM

June - August 2023
European Union Force in BiH



#136



In this edition:



Signing of the MOU

Pages 4-5

Military Skills Competition

Pages 6-7



Page 9

EUFOR Exercise QUICK RESPONSE 2023

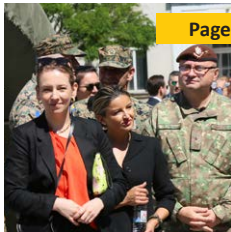
EUFOR exercise "Quick Response 2023" will take place from the 11th – 28th September throughout BiH.



Pages 10-11

Emergency Service Exercise

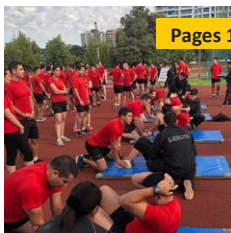
EUFOR Camp Butmir Emergency Services Exercise and MEDEVAC training.



Page 13

Political Military Group of the EU visited BiH

Beside their visit to the EU-Delegation in Sarajevo and the Demining Battalion of the AF BiH main focus was on EUFOR OP Althea.



Pages 18-19

Chilean Army Physical Tests

These tests must be taken twice a year, which members of the Chilean army to maintain constant and permanent training over time.

Commander EUFOR
Major General Helmut Habermayer

EUFOR Public Affairs Chief
Major Martin Khull-Kholwald

Forum Magazine Staff

Editor in chief
Major Martin Khull-Kholwald

Layout
Mr. Jasmin Zeherović

Photographs contributed by
WO2 Rafael Schicher
OR2 Alin Ionita

We also thank
EUFOR Multinational Battalion
EUFOR LOT Houses

Printed by
Reprographics & Courier Service
(HQ EUFOR)

Editor in Chief



Maj Martin Khull-Kholwald

Dear Readers of EUFOR Forum Magazine,

The last few months have seen big changes in the Public Affairs Office. With both the Chief PAO and EUFOR Spokesperson positions changing in the same month. EUFOR has seen a number of high profile and important events during this period including the visit of the EU Political Military Group and the Military Skills competition.

I want to thank all branches who supported our efforts on media activities. In particular the MNBN and Chilean SNR for their contributions to this edition of EUFOR forum.

EUFOR Forum is about you the reader, as a member or supporter of EUFOR. If you want to share some of your experiences please do not hesitate to contact the Public Affairs Office and we will assist you in telling your story.

We also invite you to follow us on our social media channels to stay up to date with all EUFOR activities.

Finally, I want to welcome all participants in EUFOR Quick Response 2023. This magazine offers you a first insight into the activities and values of EUFOR.

I am looking forward to be part of this exercise together with you. I am also looking forward to sharing your experiences with our readers in the next issue of EUFOR Forum. EUFOR and BiH, "Stronger Together".

The Forum Magazine is produced by HQ EUFOR. It is fully funded by EUFOR, and authorised and published for EUFOR in the area of responsibility.

All stories are written by the Public Affairs Office unless stated otherwise.

The Forum Magazine welcomes submissions via e-mail to: euforforum@eufor.europa.eu

For deadline information phone +387 (0)33 495216; IPN 5216.

Digital photographs should be submitted in JPG format with a minimum resolution of 200 dpi.

The Forum Magazine does not normally return materials and will assume no liability for material submitted.

The contents are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the coalition governments' defence departments.

Follow us on Social Media



EUFOR and Demining Battalion of AFBiH: For a Mine Free Bosnia and Herzegovina
 In this reportage, we follow two deminers, Armin and Marko, and showcase the effort and work carried out by the members of the Demining Battalion of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina (AF BiH), as well as EUFOR and the European Union, which recently donated demining equipment worth 10 million euros. Furthermore, we are exploring the significant benefits that the local population derives from these crucial demining activities, with the ultimate goal of freeing Bosnia and Herzegovina from mines and other explosive remnants of war.



EUFOR and Demining Battalion of AFBiH: For a Mine Free Bosnia and Herzegovina

In this reportage, we follow two deminers, Armin and Marko, and showcase the invaluable efforts and work carried out by the members of the Demining Battalion of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina (AF BiH), as well as EUFOR and the European Union, which recently donated demining equipment worth 10 million euros. Furthermore, we are exploring the significant benefits that the local population derives from these crucial demining activities, with the ultimate goal of freeing Bosnia and Herzegovina from mines and other explosive remnants of war.



Operation EUFOR Althea @euforbih · Jun 2

Commander @JFC_Naples Admiral Stuart B. Munsch visited EUFOR HQ. COM JFC Naples paid an office call to COS EUFOR, BG Ovidiu Lungu and was briefed about ALTHEA mission, the overall security situation in BiH and EUFOR's activities and goals related to military and security issues.



Commander @JFC_Naples Admiral Stuart B. Munsch visited EUFOR HQ. COM JFC Naples paid an office call to COS EUFOR, BG Ovidiu Lungu and was briefed about ALTHEA mission, the overall security situation in BiH and EUFOR's activities and goals related to military and security issues.



EUFOR Chief of Staff, Brigadier General Ovidiu Lungu visited EUFOR troops at TSA Orasje. During his visit he presented CSDP Medals for Operation ALTHEA to Romanian members of EUFOR's MNBN.



Introducing EUFOR's new informational video series. Clip 1 focuses on EUFOR's mandate.

10th Anniversary of the Signing of the MOU



4

An event was held on 13 June in Camp Butmir to mark the 10th Anniversary of the signing of the MOU between EUFOR and the BiH Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs). The event, hosted by COM EUFOR Major General Helmut Habermayer, was attended by Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Police Directors and Commissioners and included representative from all 19 BiH LEAs.

COM EUFOR provided the opening address and welcomed all participants to Camp Butmir. Following this, attendees heard a number of presentations from subject matter experts. A brief on the origins and importance of the MOU was provided by the EUFOR Liaison Officer to the LEAs and the Assistant Legal Advisor in the Legal Office of Commander of EUFOR. It was highlighted that this remains the only MOU signed by all BiH LEAs and that in the ten year period since the signing, the exchange of information between EUFOR

and LEAs has become more fluid, simplified and efficient.

The Special Adviser to the Commander of EUFOR on Ammunition, Weapons and Explosives (SAWAD) outlined the EUFOR Weapons Registration Programme including the phases of the BiH Ammunition Weapons and Explosives plan, the marking, registration and deactivation of small arms, light weapons and training conducted as part of the plan. He emphasised that this programme is open to all BiH LEAs and that a pilot project, in cooperation with Norwegian Peoples Aid, had commenced in Brčko District.

EUFOR Special Adviser on Law Enforcement Agencies (SALEA) briefed attendees on his role as SALEA which includes liaising with representatives of international institutions in charge of Rule of Law, Policing and Security in BiH. Furthermore, SALEA proactively

establishes and maintains appropriate relations with the representatives of BiH LEAs, at state, entity and cantonal and regional levels.

The EU Delegation Rule of Law Advisor, Ms. Dijana Stevanović provided an address, stating that *“the EU continuously advises and assists law enforcement agencies in BiH in fulfilling recommendations related to improving Police multi-agency operational coordination and cooperation, as well as effective cooperation with prosecutor’s offices to fight corruption, serious and organized crime and other severe crimes.”* The establishment of the outreach programme ‘Enhancing multi-agency police cooperation and coordination in BiH’ in 2022 and the EU-facilitated Police Chiefs Forum were highlighted.

COM EUFOR concluded proceedings by thanking attendees collectively for the support and



cooperation provided to EUFOR, on an ongoing basis. COM EUFOR stated *“The professionalism and hard work of your police officers is clearly evident to me as the EUFOR Commander. The citizens of this country enjoy the security and justice you ensure on a continual basis.”* Noting that in its role as a secondary responder EUFOR must support LEAs, COM EUFOR stated that *“for that support to be effective and timely, we need to have a strong working relationship and trust between our personnel ... It takes understanding, patience and determination for this type of relationship to develop,”* concluding that since the signing of the MOU, EUFOR has progressively seen the benefit of the MOU to the mission.

Attendees then visited a static equipment display of EUFOR equipment and vehicles, before being welcomed to a reception by COM EUFOR.



Military Skills Competition



6



A Military Skills Competition took place on 28 July in Camp Butmir. The event, hosted by EUFOR's Multinational Battalion, aimed to challenge teams based on their military skills, fitness and teamwork. A total of eight teams entered the competition consisting of teams from Austria, Bulgaria, Türkiye, Romania and Hungary.

The competition began with an Opening Ceremony, during which all competitors were welcomed to the event. Throughout the day, competitors engaged in several events. During the first challenge, teams had to construct a military tent in as fast a time as possible.

Teams then competed against each other in laser tag. Following this teams were faced with events targeting fitness including a military and fitness circuit and a weight carrying relay.

The final events saw teams completing a wood cutting challenge, an egg and spoon race and a tug-o-war competition.



Certificates were awarded to teams who finished between 8th and 4th place, with teams finishing 1st, 2nd and 3rd being awarded medals and prizes. The winning team was from MNBN Headquarters and were congratulated by all present.

On completion of the event, a closing ceremony, which included the award ceremony was held. During the closing ceremony COS EUFOR congratulated all participants and commented on the success of the event.

The event was a huge success and both challenged and demonstrated the fitness, skills, abilities and a good teamwork of EUFOR's Multinational Battalion. Well done to all who participate and contributed to the organization of the event.

After the event all participants and guests were invited to a barbecue, sponsored by MWA.



7



Legislative framework and plans of BiH institutions in the area of defence and security

On 8 June COM EUFOR, Major General Helmut Habermayer attended a conference on “Legislative framework, current situation and plans of BiH institutions in the area of defence and security” at the Parliamentary Assembly.

The opening address and remarks were delivered by Mr. Jasmin Imamović, Chair of Joint Defence and Security Committee BiH and Dr Susan E. Penksa OSCE Head of Department of Security Cooperation.

Following this, the morning session of the conference included addresses from Deputy Minister of Security Ivica Bošnjak and Directors of State-level Authorities of the BiH Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs).

An overview of their current activities, programmes, strategic documents, plans, measures and agreements was provided and it was highlighted that cooperation between all State-level Agencies is necessary to achieve their common objectives and mitigate against threats to maintaining a safe and secure environment in BiH. It was discussed that these agencies need to assist each other and to cooperate with neighboring countries and EU instruments (EUROPOL, INTERPOL) in all areas related to internal and external security. Some challenges currently facing LEAs were also highlighted.

During the afternoon session, Assistant Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MoFTER) Dragiša Mekić presented the progress of the harmonization of the domestic law on the “Control of Weapons and Military



Equipment” with the European Directives. Furthermore a list of “Dual Use’ items which can be used in weapons of mass destruction, such as chemical substances, and how to register these items in accordance with the EU regulations was presented.

Mr. Saša Obradović, Director of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Center (BHMACH) outlined current activities and issues. He discussed the current Mine Suspected Area of 858 km² and commented that for the remaining area, they estimate it will take until 2035 to achieve a “Mine-free” Bosnia and Herzegovina. Some challenges facing BHMACH were highlighted, including the need for financial supports in order to reach a “Mine Free” Bosnia and Herzegovina.

He concluded by highlighting the cooperation with the Demining Battalion of the AFBiH, the Ministry

of Civil Affairs and the Civil Protection Agencies of the RS, the Federation BiH and District Brčko.

During the final session of the conference Deputy Ministry of Defense Slaven Galić gave a general overview of defense sector results and challenges based on the previous annual conferences. Following this, Chief of Joint Staff AF BiH Lieutenant General Senad Mašović, Commander Operational Command AF BiH Major General Radovan Ilić, Commander Support Command AF BiH Major General Marko Stojčić, and the Inspector General Brigadier General Mirsad Ahmić outlined the goals they had achieved, activities conducted and the main challenges facing AFBiH.

COM EUFOR described the event as an informative and beneficial conference which provided opportunity for valuable information sharing and discussion.

EUFOR and Bosnia and Herzegovina Stronger Together



EXERCISE

EUFOR QUICK RESPONSE

11-29 SEPTEMBER

2023

www.euforbih.org #euforbih

**The EUFOR annual exercise
"Quick Response 2023"
will take place between
11-29th September
throughout BiH.**

The exercise will involve soldiers from 22 EUFOR nations that will temporarily augment the existing EUFOR presence using reserve forces currently on standby in their home countries.

The purpose of this exercise is to demonstrate EUFOR readiness and confirm its continued support to the maintenance of a Safe and Secure Environment in BiH.

The next edition of EUFOR Forum will focus on exercise Quick Response 2023. The Public Affairs Office (PAO) would like to invite you to share your photographs and experiences on this exercises. Please contact your PIO for more information.

You can keep updated about what is happening with Exercise Quick Response2023 on EUFOR social media channels.

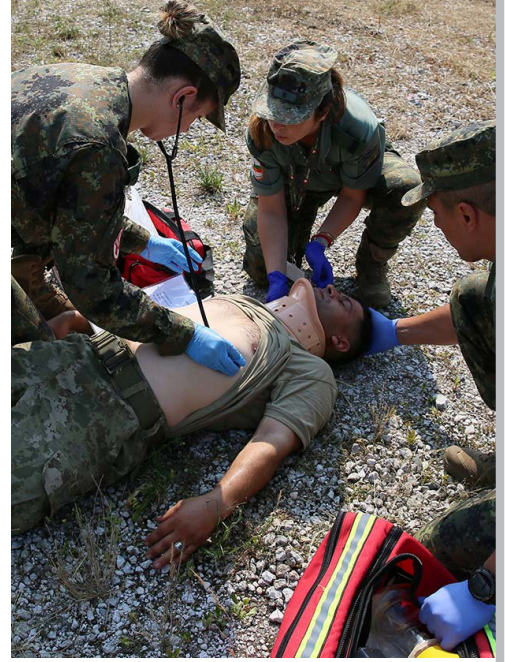
Emergency Service Exercise July 2023

EUFOR Camp Butmir Emergency Services Exercise and MEDEVAC training.



COS EUFOR Brig Gen Lungu
overseeing Emergency services
and MEDEVAC exercise serials.





Working Group for the Region of Western Balkans visit to EUFOR



12

On Wednesday 31 May the Working Group for the Region of Western Balkans (COWEB) paid a visit to the European Union Forces Operation Althea in Camp BUTMIR in Sarajevo during their tour to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

COM EUFOR, Major General Helmut Habermayer, welcomed them in EUFOR Headquarters and informed the members of the COWEB about EUFOR activities and goals related to military and security issues during a briefing.

The Multinational Battalion and the Aviation Detachment conducted a static display showcasing equipment and different tasks of the Force.

COM EUFOR assured the Working Group that they have the 100% commitment of EUFOR Althea to Bosnia and Herzegovina and our support to the BiH authorities in maintaining a safe and secure environment for all citizens of BiH.



Political Military Group (PMG) of the European Union visited BiH



From 28 to 30 June the Political Military Group (PMG) of the European Union was visiting Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition to their visit to the EU-Delegation in Sarajevo and the Demining Battalion of the Armed Forces BiH a strong focus was placed on the capabilities and operations of EUFOR Operation Althea.

Commander EUFOR Major General Helmut Habermayer welcomed the Political Military Group of the European Union on Thursday the 29th of June to EUFOR Headquarters in Camp BUTMIR. The delegation was informed about EUFOR and its role in the field of Arms Control, Humanitarian Demining and were informed about the current security situation in BiH.

On Friday the delegation visited the Demining Battalion of the AFBiH in Rajlovac barracks where they received several briefings and on a static display the equipment and different techniques of demining were shown.



EUFOR MEDEVAC operations



14

On Wednesday, 20 August local Mountain Rescue Services (GSS) responded to an incident near Rakitnica Canyon where a civilian sustained an injury whilst hiking. GSS assessed that the terrain was too dangerous for the patient to be evacuated over land and requested Helicopter Support.

EUFOR received a request for assistance from the BiH Ministry of Security and responded immediately, within 16 minutes a EUFOR helicopter was dispatched from Camp Butmir.

The helicopter had a crew of 6 personnel including a EUFOR Medic & Mountain Specialist and Doctor who were winched on to the location to assess the patient. The patient was successfully winched off the mountain and transported to Koševo Clinic near Sarajevo.

EUFOR and BiH Stronger Together.

On Sunday, 28 May at 2000 hours EUFOR received an Emergency Call from the Office of the Minister of Defence of BiH for a helicopter MEDEVAC. In the area east of Mostar at Mountain Velež, a female mountaineer was injured after falling down on a Via Ferrata mountain trail.



EUFOR Althea immediately sent out a EUFOR Rescue Helicopter including medical personnel to support several mountain rescue units already acting at the spot. The situation there was difficult because of the injuries of the mountaineer and the dangerous location close to the cliff face for the helicopter.

Finally after the mountain rescue units brought down the injured person to a lower reachable place, the winch rescue operation was successfully carried out after several approaches by the helicopter crew.

The close cooperation between mountain rescue units at the spot and EUFOR MEDEVAC helicopter crew was key for the successful Air MEDEVAC operation. After first aid was provided, the injured person was air lifted to the "Dr. Safet Mujić" Hospital in Mostar.

Mission accomplished and back in Camp Butmir at 0230am.

Medal parade for more than 360 soldiers from 12 different nations



On Tuesday 27 June in Camp Butmir, Sarajevo more than 360 soldiers from 12 different nations within EUFOR, received their Common Security and Defence Policy Medal for Operation ALTHEA.

In his speech, COM EUFOR Major General Helmut Habermayer thanked the soldiers for their contribution to the mission and highlighted the importance of Operation ALTHEA in BiH.

The Medal is awarded by the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Mr. Josep Borrel Fontelles to EUFOR personnel in recognition of having fully met the requirements of eligibility and having completed the necessary period of service as a member of the EU mission. The Medal was first awarded in 2004 and is given to every international member who serves in EUFOR.



EUFOR's first procurement of Electric Vehicles



16

The origin of this procurement project was originally based on a mission requirement to purchase a number of site vehicles to support EUFOR's maintenance teams in the expanded Camp Butmir.

In keeping with EU directives, HQ Camp CMDT on direction of COS EUFOR reached out to determine availability of suitable Electric Vehicles as part of budget preparation in 2022.

Following local, regional and EU market research a number of electrical options in "Site Utility vehicles" were deemed suitable for use by the mission maintenance teams. They were assessed based on their ability to provide safety, cargo security and payload for maintenance, janitorial and

cleaning teams. On completion of an international tender process GOUPiL (Polaris) of France were awarded the contract to provide to the mission with three (3) Electric Utility Vehicles in their G2 & G4 range.

These GOUPiL electric vehicles are in service throughout EU for many years including many TCCs of EUFOR.

The equipment was delivered to Camp Butmir in July 2023, a GOUPiL technical team arrived to Camp Butmir to conduct training for TRANSCOY/Technical teams on daily maintenance and routine service requirements over a number of days. Since then, the vehicles have moved into service in the HQs, with the Camp CMDT

Technical information related to the EVs:

- 3 vehicles**
- 2 box and one tipper type**
- Batteries capacity 5.8 and 11.5 kWh**
- Engine power 4 an 6.8 kW**
- Electrical system 48 V**
- Charging time 8 hrs**
- Lead batteries life 5 years**
- Range 60 to 82 km**
- Payload 340 to 900 kg**
- Turning radius 4.4 to 4.7 m**

team being extremely happy with the driving experience, practicality, storage, safety & comfort of these Electric Utility Vehicles in addition to removing three fossil fuel vehicles from use in CB.



Interview with Mr. Tarik Mešić from EUFOR TransCoy. Discussing the role of his branch in EUFOR and driver orientation and training available to EUFOR personnel.

What is the role of Transport Coy (TransCoy)?

TransCoy provide ground transportation services and vehicle fleet management for NHQ Sarajevo and EUFOR HQ.

What is the average day for someone working in Transport Coy?

Transcoy conduct a variety of activities on a daily basis including

- car wash
- vehicle maintenance and repairs which include regular services, oil and filters changes, Annual / semi-annual inspections, tire repairs and

changes, brake system repairs, suspension repairs, clutch repairs, electrical repairs, A/C checks, refilling, computer diagnostic.

- transportation which involves providing cars and utility vehicles for all branches
- fleet administrative duties

Everyday in TransCoy is difference and busy! The total number of vehicles and equipment for which TransCoy is responsible is over 160, all of which is managed by 3 MIL posts and 13 CIV posts.

Why do EUFOR soldiers who have a driving license in their home country have to complete Drivers Orientation and Safety Training?

Since there is a variety of nations participating in NATO and EUFOR missions in BiH, some rules in the AO are different then in their home countries. It is also important that soldiers are properly informed about road

conditions and driving habits of locals around BiH.

How long does training take and where can I sign up?

Training takes about 1 hour and it takes place every second Friday at 10:00 in bldg. 103 conference room.

What are some of the most important rules of the road in BiH? Are there any differences to other countries?

Most important rule is to respect all traffic signs and speed limits, and be fully aware of vehicle capabilities and your surroundings.

Does Google Maps work in BiH and is it reliable?

Google maps work in BiH, but it is done based on satellite imaging, so you can easily end up on a road that you do not want to be on, since google maps will often offer the shortest distance between two points, which often is a road that is in a bad condition. All DOST attendees are verbally informed about this.

What should EUFOR personnel do if they are involved in an incident while driving outside of camp?

There is a detailed instructions in Annex G of SOP 3962.

Are there speed cameras in BiH?

There are many speed cameras around all of BiH, some of which are ultra-modern and they are analyzing usage of seat belt and usage of mobile phones, as well as speed.

Is there any other information relevant to driving in BiH that EUFOR personnel should know?

Best way to get all relevant information is to attend DOST where you will be informed of other information which is important for EVERYBODY'S SAFETY.

The Chilean Army Physical Tests



18

In previous editions of the EUFOR FORUM we presented you with our fitness test series covering the military fitness tests of Austria, Poland, Switzerland, Ireland, Hungary, Turkey, Slovakia, France, Italy, Romania, Bulgaria, North Macedonia, Germany and Belgium. In this edition we want to introduce you the Chilean one.

The Chilean Army has a rigorous and demanding physical testing system, whose main purpose is to ensure an adequate state of health of its members, so that their performance is appropriate to conduct their duties as members of the Chilean armed forces.

These tests must be taken twice a year, which encourages members of the Chilean army to maintain consistent levels of fitness and continue training throughout the year.

These tests consist of a run of 2,400 meters, pull ups and sit ups. There are different scales to measure the performance of men and women, considering the natural physical differences between both sexes. These scales are also graded to measure the performance according to age.

There are also alternative physical tests, for those members of the organization who have some physical limitation (once

Score table for the Abs repetitions in a minute / APT VERY GOOD

Age	18-29		30-39		40-49		50-59		60+	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Minimal	51		43		35		31		26	

Score table for the Abs repetitions in a minute / SUITABLE

Age	18-29		30-39		40-49		50-59		60+	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Minimal	48		39		30		24		21	



appropriately accredited by the army medical board), in this case they may apply for a special physical test in the form of a bike test or swim instead of a run or push-ups instead of pull-ups.

Those members of the organization, who do not meet the standard required in the physical tests, will have a second chance six months later, if they fail to achieve

Score table for Pull Ups (only mandatory for males)				
Age	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59
Minimal/APT VERY GOOD	13	11	7	4
Minimal/SUITABLE	9	8	5	3

the minimum required scores, the soldier will be discharged.

For the evaluation purposes there are two categories: "SUITABLE" and "APT VERY GOOD", this last

classification is required by soldiers to have the chance for apply for physically strenuous courses in the army and to deploy on overseas missions.

Score table for 2,400 meters race / APT VERY GOOD									
Age	18-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60+
Time/ Men	9'22"	9'37"	9'52"	10'08"	10'30"	10'54"	11'18"	11'54"	12'36"
Time/ Women	10'22"	10'41"	10'58"	11'18"	11'42"	12'06"	12'36"	13'18"	14'04"

Score table for 2,400 meters race / SUITABLE									
Age	18-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60+
Time/ Men	10'22"	10'41"	10'58"	11'18"	11'42"	12'06"	12'36"	13'18"	14'04"
Time/ Women	11'37"	11'58"	12'19"	12'40"	13'06"	13'36"	14'12"	15'00"	15'52"



STRONGER TOGETHER



EXERCISE

EUFOR QUICK RESPONSE

11-29 SEPTEMBER

2023

www.euforbih.org #euforbih