## **SEGUNDO EJERCICIO - PARTE B - INGLÉS**

10 de septiembre de 2025

El aspirante deberá realizar una traducción directa al español por escrito y sin diccionario, durante un tiempo máximo de UNA HORA, del siguiente texto:

## The European Preparedness Union Strategy

Peace and stability are intrinsic to the European project. Yet, Europe faces a new reality, marked by growing risks and deep uncertainty. Russia's illegal war of aggression against Ukraine, rising geopolitical tensions, state-sponsored hybrid and cyberattacks, sabotage targeting critical assets, foreign information manipulation and interference, and electronic warfare, have become a permanent feature of today's reality. This is a wake-up call for Europe.

The COVID -19 pandemic exacerbated pre-existing inequalities and showed that the Union's health services and supply chains, including for energy, medical products, food and critical raw materials, can be profoundly disrupted. In the current context of harsh geopolitical and economic competition, and conflict, they are increasingly vulnerable to economic manipulation and coercion.

Moreover, the EU is more and more exposed to the consequences of climate change, continued environmental degradation and the risk of further pandemics. Europe is the continent that is heating the fastest. It has experienced devastating natural disasters, from floods to droughts and forest fires, coastal erosion, heat and cold waves and storms. If not addressed by improving the structural capacity of our societies to manage risks, the human, economic and social costs of climate change will only increase in the years to come including growing pressure from the negative impact of climate change in other parts of the world, for example disruptions in trade routes and global supply chains. Climate, environment and security are strongly interlinked.

Europe has responded to these crises with unprecedented speed and determination, showing solidarity and resilience. It has rapidly set up a Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority, developed a policy to jointly procure vaccines against COVID-19 and created the SURE and NextGenerationEU programmes to address its economic and social impact. The Commission led the way with solutions to alleviate the surge in energy prices and ensure security of supply including with innovative transport solutions. Millions of Ukrainian refugees found shelter and hospitality in the EU. European tools like the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) and the EU strategic reserve of European disaster response capabilities and stockpiles (rescEU) have shown their added value.

None of the major crises of the past years were isolated or short-lived. They are part of a broader trend driven by long term political, economic, climatic, environmental and technological changes. Europe cannot afford to remain reactive.

The Niinistö Report on Preparedness and Readiness of the EU concluded that strengthening Europe's civilian and military preparedness and readiness to address today's growing challenges and future crises is a matter of urgency. The report called for a profound change of mindset and recognised that preparedness is not only a national responsibility but a shared European endeavour requiring a stronger role for the Union in coordinating and supporting Member States. This Strategy builds on the Niinistö Report and provides an action plan towards a Preparedness Union.



## Why we need a Preparedness Union

Over time, the EU has developed and reinforced its multiple tools to build structural resilience to tackle some types of risks and to respond to crises in a number of sectors. However, experience has highlighted a number of shortcomings in the EU preparedness framework.

First, the EU crisis management is mostly reactive, rather than pro-active. This is also due to an insufficient use of strategic foresight, anticipation, and early warning tools. An integrated assessment of risks, threats and of their cascading effects, including from outside the Union, is missing.

Second, the EU crisis management toolbox is fragmented across different institutions, services and agencies, and suffers from sectoral and cross-border coordination gaps. There is a deficit in civil-military coordination, and the connection between internal and external EU action needs to be strengthened.

Third, existing structures and mechanisms at EU level have limits of scale and resources. Crisis response is driven by a limited whole-of-society engagement, including with the private sector. There is a lack of flexibility in Union funding mechanisms and insufficient strategic alignment of national budgets.

The Preparedness Union will bring added value to Member States actions, namely by complementing national efforts, enhancing coordination and efficiency and fostering a culture of preparedness and resilience while fully respecting subsidiarity, national competences, and the specificities of Member States. It supports Member States' obligation to act in a spirit of solidarity and help each other in all types of crises, in line with Art 222 TFEU.