



## **Civil Society Dialogue Network Policy Meeting**

# **The 2015 Review of the European Neighbourhood Policy: Civil society perspectives on the implementation of the security dimension**

**Tuesday 31 January 2017**

**Martin's Brussels EU Hotel**

**Boulevard Charlemagne / Karel de Grotelaan 80, 1000 Brussels**

## **CONCEPT NOTE**

### **Background**

In November 2015, the European Commission (EC) and the European External Action Service (EEAS) adopted the Joint Communication on the Review of the European Neighbourhood Policy.<sup>1</sup> The inclusion in the Joint Communication of a section which covers various security-related issues both reflects the increased focus on this topic in the revised European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and may present opportunities for new forms of co-operation between the EU and its partners in the European Neighbourhood.

In 2017, the EC and the EEAS will organise a series of civil society consultations on the various proposals included in the Joint Communication.<sup>2</sup> As a prelude to the upcoming consultations, the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO) has been asked to organise an expert workshop to focus specifically on the 'Security Dimension' and how its implementation can contribute to the EU's support for a more stable European Neighbourhood, based on rule of law and human rights.

### **Objective**

The overall objective of this meeting is for the EC and the EEAS to gather (i) civil society analysis of the various aspects of the Joint Communication's Security Dimension, and (ii) recommendations for possible EU and civil society actions to support their implementation.

It is also envisaged that this meeting will contribute to embedding security-related issues in the regular EU-CSO dialogues on the ENP which take place at both regional and country levels. The outcomes of these dialogues may be used to inform the discussions on partnership priorities and updated association agendas which the EU will continue to have with its partners in the coming months.

The following questions are intended to guide the overall discussions in the meeting:

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<sup>1</sup> [JOIN\(2015\) 50 final](#)

<sup>2</sup> The following seven priorities are set out in the Joint Communication: Security sector reform (SSR); Tackling terrorism and preventing radicalisation; Disrupting organised crime; Fighting cybercrime; Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Risk Mitigation; Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP); and Crisis management and response.

1. What opportunities do civil society organisations (CSOs) see for EU engagement under the various priorities?
2. What role can CSOs play in supporting the implementation of activities under the various priorities? Are there any examples of best practices?
3. How can the EU support CSO engagement under the various priorities?
4. How can the EU ensure that its engagement under the various priorities is conflict-sensitive and effectively promotes rule of law and human rights?

### **Participants**

The meeting will bring together 20-30 participants, including representatives of peacebuilding CSOs working in/on the European Neighbourhood and officials from the EC and the EEAS.

### **Format**

The meeting will consist of four sessions. In each session, initial presentations from one or two speakers will be followed by an open discussion in which all participants will be encouraged to provide their analysis and recommendations.

The meeting will take place under the Chatham House Rule.

# AGENDA

08.45 – 09.15	<b>Registration of participants</b>
09.15 – 09.30	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sonya Reines-Djivanides – European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO)</li> <li>• Gianluca Grippa – Division for Strategy and Instruments of the European Neighbourhood Policy (MENA.5), European External Action Service (EEAS)</li> <li>• Irene Mingasson – Unit for Regional Programmes Neighbourhood South (B.2), Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), European Commission (EC)</li> </ul>
09.30 – 11.00	<p><b>Session 1: Security sector reform with a specific focus on community security</b></p> <p>The aim of this session is for participants to provide their analysis of and recommendations for the implementation of the relevant proposals included under the ‘Security sector reform’ (SSR) priority in the revised European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP).</p> <p>Specific issues to be addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How could the EU contribute to building trust between state security actors, especially police forces, and local people?</li> <li>• What role can local people and grassroots organisations play as security providers for their communities?</li> <li>• How could the EU ensure that its engagement under this priority is conflict-sensitive and compliant with rule of law and human rights?</li> </ul> <p>Introductory comments by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stéphane Halgand, DG NEAR B.2, EC</li> <li>• Kloe Tricot O’Farrell, Saferworld</li> </ul> <p><i>Open discussion moderated by Julian Egan, EPLO Steering Committee</i></p>
11.00 – 11.30	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11.30 – 13.00	<p><b>Session 2: Conflict prevention, crisis management and response, including Common Security and Defence Policy</b></p> <p>The aim of this session is for participants to provide their analysis of and recommendations for the implementation of the proposals included under the ‘Common Security and Defence Policy’ (CSDP) and ‘Crisis management and response’ priorities in the revised ENP.</p> <p>Specific issues to be addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How could the activities of CSDP missions and operations be improved through increased co-operation with CSOs?</li> <li>• How can the ENP support preventive action and how could CSDP missions and operations further contribute to the EU’s support for conflict prevention?</li> <li>• What support could the EU provide in the area of security in order to increase its partners’ resilience and their crisis management capacities?</li> <li>• How could the EU ensure that its engagement under these priorities is conflict-sensitive and compliant with rule of law and human rights?</li> </ul> <p>Introductory comments by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timothy Heath, Division for Prevention of Conflict, Rule of Law/Security Sector Reform, Integrated Approach, Stabilisation and Mediation (PRISM), EEAS</li> <li>• Jean-Baptiste Valmary, Division for Conduct of Operations, Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC.1), EEAS</li> <li>• Jenny Aulin, Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC)</li> </ul> <p><i>Open discussion moderated by Julian Egan, EPLO Steering Committee</i></p>

13.00 – 14.00	<b>Lunch</b>
14.00 – 15.30	<p><b>Session 3: Tackling terrorism and violent extremism</b></p> <p>The aim of this session is for participants to provide their analysis of and recommendations for the implementation of the proposals included under the 'Tackling terrorism and preventing radicalisation' priority in the revised ENP.</p> <p>Specific issues to be addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the best ways of building trust between civil society actors and partner governments so that they can work together on counter-terrorism and preventing/countering violent extremism (P/CVE), as well as on preventing terrorists from acquiring Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) materials?</li> <li>• How could the EU support the engagement of local civil society actors in activities aimed at P/CVE? How could the EU better reach out either directly or indirectly to radical and/or extremist actors?</li> <li>• How could the EU contribute to efforts to tackle the drivers of radicalisation?</li> <li>• How could the EU ensure that its engagement under these priorities is conflict-sensitive and compliant with rule of law and human rights?</li> </ul> <p>Introductory comments by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christian Holm-Lundbye, Division for Counter-Terrorism (SECPOL.5), EEAS</li> <li>• Rebecca Crozier, International Alert</li> </ul> <p><i>Open discussion moderated by Julian Egan, EPLO Steering Committee</i></p>
15.30 – 16.00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
16.00 – 16.45	<p><b>Session 4: Disrupting organised crime and fostering cybersecurity</b></p> <p>The aim of this session is for participants to provide their analysis of and recommendations for the implementation of the proposals included under the 'Disrupting organised crime' and 'Fighting cybercrime' priorities in the revised ENP.</p> <p>Specific issues to be addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How could the EU help to enhance its partners' capacities to address organised crime challenges?</li> <li>• What opportunities exist for the EU to support its partners to increase their cyber resilience capacities?</li> </ul> <p>Introductory comments by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manon Le Blanc, Division for Security Policy and Space Policy (SECPOL.3), EEAS</li> <li>• Oronzo Console, SECPOL.5, EEAS</li> </ul> <p><i>Open discussion moderated by Julian Egan, EPLO Steering Committee</i></p>
16.45 – 17.00	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mihaela VasIU, MENA.5, EEAS</li> <li>• Sonya Reines-Djivanides, EPLO</li> </ul>

### Civil Society Dialogue Network

The Civil Society Dialogue Network (CSDN) is a mechanism for dialogue between civil society and EU policy-makers on issues related to peace and conflict. It is co-financed by the European Union (Instrument for Stability). It is managed by the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO), a civil society network, in co-operation with the European Commission (EC) and the European External Action Service (EEAS). The second phase of the CSDN will last from 2014 to 2016. For more information, please visit the [EPLO website](#).