

## European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument: Peacebuilding Partnership

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### **Proposal: A Peacebuilding Partnership under the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)**

We propose that the EU introduces a Peacebuilding Partnership into all of the financial instruments which cover regions affected by armed conflict and/or where there is a strong risk of conflict, including the ENPI.

### **Why a Peacebuilding Partnership under the ENPI?**

Preventing conflict is one of the key objectives of EU external action, as stipulated in the Lisbon Treaty and as set out in EU policy documents, including the 2001 EU Programme for the Prevention of Violent Conflict (Gothenburg Programme) and the 2007 Council conclusions on security and development.

The EU has positive experiences of supporting peace, including:

- ***The Peacebuilding Partnership under the Instrument for Stability*** – provides support to peacebuilding work by civil society organisations, EU Member State agencies and international organisations. While extremely important, its global reach and the limited funds available mean that it is massively over-subscribed.
- ***The PEACE Programmes in Northern Ireland*** – supports the consolidation of the peace process, including supporting activities from the highest political levels to community-based peace work.

There is far more that the EU could do to prevent conflict and build peace. Since the EU's regional instruments were designed, there has been increasing recognition of the importance to the EU of preventing conflict and building lasting peace. Conflict elsewhere in the world is a security risk for the EU and undermines the EU's attempts to meet other policy objectives, including under its development, human rights, trade and energy policies.

There is now a body of evidence which testifies to the effectiveness of peacebuilding, including long- and short-term measures to prevent the outbreak or re-emergence of conflict. The World Bank's World Development Report 2011 on Conflict, Security and Development provides definitive evidence that tackling conflict must be a central part of development assistance in conflict-affected countries and that creating security and justice for citizens combined with job creation are the keys to effective response.

### **The New EU Multiannual Financial Framework: An Opportunity**

The ongoing preparation of the next EU multiannual financial framework (MFF), the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy and the review of the EU's external financing instruments provide an excellent opportunity to adapt the regional instruments, including the ENPI, in order to incorporate a Peacebuilding Partnership. This could replace the existing 'Partnership for Peace' which is limited to the Middle East and apply to the whole of the EU's neighbourhood which incorporates numerous conflict-affected countries and regions.

The ENPI Peacebuilding Partnership could be tailored to support the needs of the region, including support to the consolidation of peace and mitigation of the risk of conflict in the EU's neighbour countries.

### **More information**

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