

Roundtable
Mediation in context: understanding the role of the EU

Tuesday, 24 September 2013 - 12h15 - 17h

The Hague Institute for Global Justice - Sophialaan 10 - 2514 JR, The Hague
The Netherlands



The Hague Institute
for Global Justice

Agenda

12h15	Registration and informal lunch
13h00	<p>Welcome and opening remarks</p> <p>Abiodun Williams, President of The Hague Institute for Global Justice Fleur Ravensbergen, Assistant Director of the Dialogue Advisory Group (DAG)</p>
13h15	<p>Session 1: Different perspectives on EU peacebuilding and mediation</p> <p>The Netherlands has a long tradition of supporting human rights, international justice and peacebuilding. It also advocates for a stronger role of the EU in foreign policy and is a proactive Member State in this respect. Two years after its creation, the European External Action Service (EEAS), in charge of defining and implementing the EU's external action, has had a significant role in developing conflict policy and mediation expertise within its own structure. It is now undergoing a review process which gives the opportunity to Member States to express their vision for EU foreign policy and peacebuilding activities.</p> <p>Issues to be addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What should be the priorities of the EEAS regarding conflict prevention? Where within the EU - including the EU's and Member States' institutions, policies and tools - do comparative advantages lie regarding conflict prevention and peacebuilding? • How do mediation activities fit in EU peacebuilding work? How do the EU and The Netherlands interact with other actors in the mediation field? • What is the perspective of The Netherlands on peacebuilding policy and practice, including mediation? How can The Netherlands contribute to make EU action in the peacebuilding field more coherent and support mediation capacities? <p>Moderator: Antonia Potter Prentice, DAG</p> <p>Short contributions by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Heino van Houwelingen, Conflict prevention, peacebuilding and mediation instruments division, EEAS ▪ Huub Alberse, Division for EU external policy, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs ▪ Catherine Woollard, EPLO <p>Followed by a facilitated discussion</p>

14H45	Coffee break
15h15	<p>Session 2: Mediation in context: lessons from EU support to peace processes</p> <p><i>Discussion on Myanmar, the Philippines, Kosovo, Serbia, the Caucasus, etc</i></p> <p>The EU has the policy commitments as well as the practical tools and financial means to support conflict prevention and peacebuilding, including mediation. It seems keen on playing a more important role in supporting peace processes.</p> <p>Issues to be addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can the EU support dialogue and mediation efforts in these areas? What is the added value of EU support? • How do current EU dialogue and mediation activities fit in and interact with other peace processes? • What are the lessons learned from EU support to dialogue and mediation? <p>Moderator: Antonia Potter-Prentice, DAG</p> <p>Short contributions by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guy Banim, Mediation Support Team, Conflict prevention, peacebuilding and mediation instruments division, EEAS ▪ Jan Waltmans, Deputy Director Asia/Oceania, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs ▪ Iskra Kirova, International Crisis Group <p>Followed by a facilitated discussion</p>
16h45	Conclusions . Fleur Ravensbergen, DAG

This meeting is part of EPLO's EU Member State Advocacy. The purpose of this work is to mobilise support for EU peacebuilding in the EU's Member States given that they remain key decision-makers in EU policy. The work was piloted under the Civil Society Dialogue Network, which is a three-year project co-funded by the European Union (Instrument for Stability) aimed at facilitating dialogue on peacebuilding issues between civil society and EU policymakers. For more information, please visit the [EPLO website](#).