



Civil Society Dialogue Network Policy Meeting

Youth in Conflicts: Agents for peace or recruits for armed groups?

Thursday 11 December 2014 (09.00-13.00)

Greater Birmingham and West Midlands Brussels Office
Avenue d'Auderghem / Oudergemselaan 22-28, 1040 Brussels

AGENDA

08.30 – 09.00	Registration of participants
09.00 – 09.15	Welcome <i>Ben Moore – Senior Policy Officer, European Peacebuilding Liaison Office</i>
09.15 – 10.45	Session 1: Young people in regions affected by or at risk of conflict: Risks of recruitment and opportunities for promoting peace <p>The aim of this session will be for participants to analyse the risks of young people being recruited into armed groups, including extremist, terrorist and criminal networks, and the opportunities for working with them to promote peaceful change and transition of their societies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>What factors facilitate the recruitment of young people into armed groups?</u> • <u>How can the recruitment of young people into armed groups, including extremist, terrorist and criminal networks, be prevented?</u> • <u>Examples of initiatives for working with young people to encourage their involvement in peaceful change and transition of their societies, and to prevent their recruitment into armed groups, including extremist, terrorist and criminal networks</u> <p><i>Saji Prelis – Director for Children & Youth Programs, Search for Common Ground</i> <i>Dilshan Manoj Annaraj – Director of Peacebuilding, World Vision International</i></p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> <i>Déirdre de Búrca – Director of Advocacy & Justice for Children, World Vision Brussels & EU Representation</i></p> <p>Open discussion</p>

10.45 – 11.15	Coffee break
11.15 – 12.45	<p>Session 2: Supporting young people to promote peaceful change</p> <p>The aim of this session will be to explore the specific role which the EU institutions, EU Member States (MS) and European civil society organisations (CSOs) can play in supporting young people in regions affected by or at risk of conflict to promote peaceful change and transition of their societies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Analysis of past and ongoing support from the EU institutions, EUMS and European CSOs for working with young people to promote peaceful change and transition of their societies</u> • <u>What are the main opportunities for encouraging the involvement of young people in peaceful change and transition of their societies?</u> • <u>What are the main obstacles?</u> • <u>How could the support from the EU institutions, EUMS and European CSOs be more effective in the future?</u> <p><i>Ronan Mac Aongusa – Unit for the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace & Foreign Policy Regulatory Instruments, Service for Foreign Policy Instruments, European Commission</i></p> <p><i>Matthew Scott – Director of Peacebuilding, World Vision International</i></p> <p><i>Moderator: Santa Falasca – Head of Brussels Office, International Center for Transitional Justice</i></p> <p>Open discussion</p>
12.45 – 13.00	Closing Remarks
13.00 – 14.00	Networking lunch

The meeting will be followed by a networking lunch.

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](#).

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