

Launch of Civil Society Dialogue Network

The Civil Society Dialogue Network has been officially launched with the signature of the agreement between the European Commission and the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO) on 28th July 2010. The 3 year project is financed with a EUR 2.000.000 grant under the crisis preparedness component of the Instrument for Stability. It aims at establishing a forum of debate to foster a robust dialogue mechanism on peace-building issues between civil society and the EU institutions.

The Dialogue Network will contribute to strengthen international and regional capacity of conflict prevention and post-conflict cooperation. Meetings of the Civil Society Dialogue Network, managed by EPLO, will be open to all interested civil society actors and will take place in Brussels, EU Member States and conflict-affected countries with EU presence.

The Civil Society Dialogue Network will discuss policy, strategic and programming aspects of the Peace-building Partnership, transversal thematic issues relating to peace-building and crisis-specific situations.

As part of the Dialogue Network, EPLO will produce background material, including briefing papers, reports, and policy papers. Updates on the Dialogue Network will also be disseminated via EPLO's newsletter.

The project also foresees the organisation of a series of Training Seminars for civil society on peace-building and EU policy and practice.

Background

This activity is funded under the crisis-preparedness component of the EU's Instrument for Stability (IfS) – also known as the “Peace-building Partnership” (PbP). Since early 2008, the Commission has undertaken efforts to develop and enhance its relations with the civil society sector on peace-building issues, with the objective of establishing a coherent, balanced and transparent dialogue. The European Peace-building Liaison Office (EPLO) will support the Commission efforts to further develop and expand this dialogue – and to place it on a firmer institutional footing – for the benefit of all civil society. This initiative is funded under the 2010 Annual Action Programme of the Instrument for Stability.

For further details, please see:

http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/ifs/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/ifs/pbp_en.htm

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