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EU in the World Update

Council of the EU: The Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) met on 20 June in Luxembourg. EU foreign ministers discussed and adopted conclusions on Sudan, the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), Albania, Belarus, Syria, Libya and Yemen, and endorsed the EU’s comprehensive approach towards Sudan and South Sudan. They also welcomed the ENP Review - which was presented by High Representative (HR) Ashton and the European Commission (EC) - and both the establishment of the Task Force for the Southern Mediterranean and HR Ashton’s proposal for an EU Special Representative (SR) for the Southern Mediterranean region.

Finally, the FAC adopted conclusions on conflict prevention. Several months after the review of the EU Programme for the Prevention of Violent Conflict (Gothenburg Programme) was put on hold, EU foreign ministers agreed on the need to strengthen early warning and partnerships with the UN, the OSCE, NATO, the World Bank, the African Union and other international actors; and to take early action to mitigate the risks of outbreak and recurrence of conflicts. Although they did not adopt any firm commitments for implementation, they did agree to revisit the issue of conflict prevention by the end of the year.

An informal meeting of EU development ministers took place on 14-15 July in Sopot, Poland. On the agenda were the EU's preparations for the upcoming Fourth High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, the programming of EU development aid, EU financing instruments, and the division of labour in Central Asia and (possibly) the Pacific.

The General Affairs Council (GAC) met on 21 June in Luxembourg. Ministers discussed preparations for the June meeting of the European Council which is due to discuss, inter alia, migration issues, the Southern Mediterranean and accession negotiations with Croatia.

European Council: The European Council met on 23-24 June in Brussels. EU heads of state and government discussed and adopted a declaration on developments in the EU’s Southern Neighbourhood, set orientations for the development of the EU's migration policy and agreed that the accession negotiations with Croatia should be concluded by the end of June 2011.

High Representative (HR): On 6-7 June, HR Ashton chaired the tenth ASEM (Asia and Europe) ministerial meeting in Gödöllő, Hungary. Also on 7 June, she announced the establishment of a new task force for the Southern Mediterranean, consisting of representatives from the European External Action Service (EEAS), the EC, the European Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and other international financial institutions.

On 9-10 June, HR Ashton participated in the 27th EU-Russia summit in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia. From 16-19 June, she travelled to Jordan, Egypt, Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories for meetings with government leaders and international partners, including the UN, the Arab League, the African Union and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

On 6 July, she participated in the European Parliament’s plenary debates on the situations in Syria and Yemen, the EU’s external policies in favour of democratisation, and the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh.

On 9 July, she travelled to South Sudan to participate in the independence day celebrations.

On 11 July, she participated in the Middle East Quartet ministerial meeting in Washington DC.

On 15 July, she participated in the Libya Contact Group meeting in Istanbul.

European External Action Service (EEAS): On 17 June, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Maira Mora (Latvia) as the Head of the EU Delegation to Belarus.

On 20 June, she appointed Christian Berger to the post of EEAS Director for North Africa, the Middle East, the Arabian Peninsula, Iran and Iraq. Mr Berger (Austria) is currently Head of the EU Office for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

On 5 July, the Political and Security Committee decided to appoint Andrzej Tyszkwicz as Head of the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia. Mr Tyszkwicz (Poland) is the former Polish ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

For more information about the EEAS, please contact Josefine Liebl.

European Union special representatives (EUSRs): On 29 June, HR Ashton proposed Bernardino Leon as the EU’s Special Representative for the Southern Mediterranean region. Mr Leon (Spain) is currently the main foreign policy adviser to the Spanish Prime Minister, José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero.

European Commission (EC): On 29 June, the EC published its proposal for the next EU multiannual financial framework (MFF) (see ‘Special focus’ on p. 3).

For more information about events in the European Parliament, please contact Ben Moore.
EU DOCUMENTS

High Representative (HR) / President of the European Council / Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)

- 12 July – Remarks by HR Ashton on ‘The EU response to the Arab Spring’
- 9 July – Remarks by HR Ashton at the South Sudan’s Independence Day celebration
- 8 July – Statement by HR Ashton on the situation in Syria
- 7 July – Statement by HR Ashton on the new government in Lebanon
- 6 July – Speech by HR Ashton on Nagorny Karabakh
- 6 July – Speech HR Ashton on the De Keyser report on democracy
- 6 July – Speech by HR Ashton on North Africa and the Arab world
- 3 July – Statement by HR Ashton on the election in Thailand
- 2 July – Joint Statement by HR Ashton and Commissioner Füle on the referendum on the new constitution in Morocco
- 2 July – Statement by HR Ashton on the ratification by Tunisia of three key international human rights instruments
- 1 July – Statement by HR Ashton on the latest developments in Bahrain
- 1 July – Joint Statement by HR Ashton and Commissioner Füle on the agreement between the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine over the Palarca issue
- 24 June – Statement by HR Ashton on the accession of Tunisia to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court
- 24 June – Remarks by President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy, on the occasion of the political agreement on the accession of Croatia
- 24 June – Statement by the spokesperson of HR Ashton following the Intersessional Meeting of the Kimberley Process
- 22 June – Statement by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on the draft constitutional law related to presidential elections in Senegal
- 19 June – Joint statement by HR Ashton and Commissioner Füle on the announcement of the new constitution in Morocco
- 18 June – Remarks by HR Ashton after the meeting of the Cairo Group
- 14 June – Statement by HR Ashton on the formation of a new government in Lebanon
- 14 June – Declaration by HR Ashton on behalf of the EU on the readmission of Honduras to the Organisation of American States
- 13 June – Joint Statement by President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy, and President of the European Commission, José Barroso on the results of the general elections in Turkey
- 12 June – Statement by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on clashes in Southern Kordofan
- 11 June – Statement by HR Ashton on the situation in Syria
- 10 June – Remarks by the President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy, following the EU-Russia Summit
- 6 June – Remarks by EU HR Ashton at the 10th ASEM Foreign Ministers’ Meeting
- 6 June – Joint Statement by HR Ashton and Commissioner Füle on the parliamentary elections in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- 6 June – Statement by HR Ashton on the incidents of 5 June in the area of separation on the occupied Syrian Golan
- 6 June – Statement by HR Ashton on the ongoing violence and necessity for credible reform in Syria
- 3 June – Statement by HR Ashton on the situation in Yemen

Council

- 20 June – EU Declaration: Sixth session of the EU-Algeria Association Council

Commission

- 1 June – Communication: A Budget for Europe 2020

Parliament

- 7 July – Resolution on the situation in Syria, Yemen and Bahrain in the context of the situation in the Arab world and North Africa
- 7 July – Resolution on EU external policies in favour of democratisation
- 7 July – Resolution on parliamentary co-operation in the field of CFSP/CSDP
- 6 July – Resolution on the Commission Work Programme 2012
- 5 July – Resolution on the future of EU budget support to developing countries
- 5 July – Resolution on increasing the impact of EU development policy
- 9 June – Resolution on the situations in Sudan and South Sudan after the 2011 referendum
- 9 June – Resolution on Madagascar
- 8 June – Resolution on the Development Cooperation Instrument
- 8 June – Resolution on the 66th session of the UN General Assembly
- 8 June – Resolution on a new multiannual financial framework

EU AGENDA

Council of the EU: The next meetings of the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) and the General Affairs Council (GAC) will take place on 18 July in Brussels. The following Council committees and working parties will also meet in July and September:

- Political and Security Committee: 19, and 22 July, and 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27 and 30 September
- Committee for the Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management: 18, 20, 22 and 25 July, and 5, 7, 14, 19, 21, 26 and 28 September
- Working Party on Development Co-operation: 20 July, and 5, 8, 12 and 23 September
- Africa Working Party: 20 July and 7, 14, 21 and 28 September
- Working Party on Human Rights: 6-7 September

European Parliament: The next European Parliament plenary sessions will take place 12-15 September in Strasbourg and 26-29 September in Brussels. The following European parliamentary (sub-) committees will also meet in August and September:

- Foreign Affairs: 31 August and 22 September
- Development: 29-30 August and 22 September
- Security and Defence: 19 September
- Human Rights: 19 September
- Women’s Rights and Gender Equality: 29 August
- Budgets: 22 September

For more information about meetings in the EU institutions, please visit the EU Events section of the EPLO website.
**The EU’s Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020**

**Introduction**

On 29 June 2011, the European Commission (EC) published its proposal for the next EU multiannual financial framework (MFF). This marked the beginning of a negotiation process which could last until the end of 2012 and which will eventually determine the size and allocation of the EU budget until 2020.

A short analysis of the EC’s proposal and its implications for the future of EU support for peacebuilding and conflict prevention are set out below.

**What is the MFF?**

The MFF sets out the maximum amounts (‘ceilings’) for each broad category of EU expenditure. One (small) category (‘heading’) is external action (‘Global Europe’). It covers the EU’s foreign and development policies, including both the activities which the EU undertakes itself and the funding which it provides to other actors.

The EC’s proposal consists of two communications and an accompanying ‘staff working paper’. It sets out the principles underpinning the EU budget, ceilings for expenditure under each overall heading and proposals for the next set of EU funding instruments (programmes).

**What are the implications for peacebuilding and conflict prevention?**

The negotiations over the MFF will result in the establishment of a new set of EU external instruments to replace geographical instruments such as the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) and the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA); and thematic instruments such as the Instrument for Stability (IFS) and the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR).

The specific objectives of and amounts of funding under the new instruments could have a major impact on the EU’s ability to uphold its commitment to promote peace and prevent violent conflicts around the world. The EU institutions and Member States have a rare opportunity to ensure that, in future, all EU development assistance is implemented in a conflict-sensitive manner and supports those objectives.

**What is EPLO’s position on the MFF?**

In March 2011, EPLO published a position paper on the next MFF in which it set out the following recommendations:

1. Increased funding for external actions
2. Commitment to conflict sensitivity in all EU external policies and programmes
3. Inclusion of peacebuilding and conflict prevention throughout the EU’s external actions
4. Increased funding for the IFS (including the Peacebuilding Partnership)

5. Multi-stakeholder partnerships for peacebuilding and conflict prevention
6. Simplification of regulations governing the EU’s external programmes and rules governing the management of EU grants

**What does the EC’s proposal contain?**

On the basis of an initial analysis of the communications and the staff working paper, it appears that the EC is proposing, inter alia to:

- Increase the overall EU budget for the period 2014-2020 to € 1 025 billion from € 975.777 billion in the current period (2007-2013)
- Focus on results, simplification, conditionality and leveraging investment
- Increase the budget for external actions (Heading 4: Global Europe) to € 70 billion from its current level of € 55.935 billion
- Increase the funding for the Instrument for Stability to € 2.510 billion from its current level of € 2.062 billion (including an increase in the funding for the short-term, crisis response component and removing the ODA-eligibility criteria)
- Maintain the DCI and establish under it a pan-African instrument to support the implementation of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy
- Maintain a thematic programme for supporting non-state actors and local authorities
- Maintain the IPA and EIDHR but narrow their scopes
- Rename the ENPI the European Neighbourhood Instrument and include incentives for ‘best performers’
- Keep the European Development Fund (EDF) outside the general EU budget but increase the portion of it which is allocated to the African, Caribbean and Pacific group of countries to € 30 billion from € 21.966 billion for the current period (2008-2013); and increase democratic scrutiny over it

**What are the next steps?**

The Polish Presidency of the Council of the EU is planning to hold an extraordinary conference on the MFF in the autumn. It will bring together representatives from the EU Member States, the EC, the European Parliament and national parliaments.

The EC will publish legislative proposals for the next set of external funding instruments on 7 December.

The next MFF should be adopted by the end of 2012 and the next set of funding instruments are due to start at the beginning of January 2014.

Click [here](#) to download the EC’s proposal for the next EU MFF and [here](#) to download EPLO’s position paper from March 2011. EPLO’s analysis of the MFF proposal will be available soon on the EPLO website.

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- **Josephine Liebl**: Policy Officer
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- **Najoua Sbai**: Events and Office Coordinator
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- **Giulia Pasquinelli**: Policy Assistant

**WANT TO KNOW WHAT’S HAPPENING AT EPLO?**
Click [here](#) for information about recent publications and upcoming events (including EPLO lunch events).

**EPLO BLOG**
Click [here](#) for to read the latest posts on the EU, peacebuilding and conflict prevention.

**GOT A QUESTION ABOUT THE EU AND PEACEBUILDING?**
Click [here](#) to contact the EPLO Helpdesk.
NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS FROM EPLO’S MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Job Vacancies

International Alert
- Senior Programme Officer - Oil, Kampala (Deadline: 22 July 2011);
- Project Manager - Business and Peace, Kampala (Deadline: 22 July 2011);
- Head of Research - Uganda, (Deadline: 22 July 2011);
- Senior Advisor - Economy and Peacebuilding, London (Deadline: 1 August 2011)

International Center for Transitional Justice
- Deputy Director - MENA, Senior Development Officer: Programme Associate - Tunisia

International Crisis Group
- Analyst - South Caucasus (Deadline: 15 August 2011);
- Proofreader, Brussels; Senior Analyst - China; Senior Analyst - Libya; Senior Analyst - Southern Africa; (Deadline 30 July 2011);
- Senior Analyst - Tunisia

Interpeace
- Senior Programme Officer - Democratisation, Nairobi; Project Development Officer, Geneva; Democratisation Support Officer, Garowe, Puntland

Nonviolent Peaceforce
- Exit Evaluation of Sri Lanka Project (Deadline: 31 July 2011)

Oxfam International
- Gender Justice Coordinator, New York (Deadline: 21 July 2011);
- Approximately 140 vacancies in Oxfam affiliates

Saferworld
- Administration Officer, London (Deadline: 22 July 2011);
- Communications Coordinator, London (Deadline: 29 July 2011)

Search for Common Ground
- Country Director - Madagascar, Antananarivo; Design, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, Washington DC; Development Director - West Coast, San Francisco Bay Area; International Grants Officer, Washington DC; Senior Human Resources Manager, Washington DC

World Vision International
- Approximately 40 vacancies

Internships

Fractal, Belgrade
- Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation, Glencree, Ireland
- International Crisis Group, Beijing, Brussels, Jerusalem, Nairobi, New York, Pristina and Washington DC
- Life & Peace Institute, Uppsala (Deadline: 30 September 2011) and Nairobi
- Nonviolent Peaceforce, Brussels and Minneapolis
- Search for Common Ground, Brussels and Washington DC

Job Vacancies in non-EPLO Member Organisations

Netherlands Institute of International Relations (Clingendael)
- Research Assistant - EU Early Warning and Conflict Prevention, The Hague (Deadline: 18 July 2011)

Berghof Conflict Research:
- Advancing Conflict Transformation: Berghof Handbook II (July 2011)

Crisis Management Initiative:

International Alert:
- Oil and Gas Laws in Uganda: A Legislator’s Guide (May 2011)

International Center for Transitional Justice:
- Transitions (May 2011)

International Crisis Group:
- Popular Protest in North Africa and the Middle East (VII): The Syrian Regime’s Slow-motion Suicide - Middle East/North Africa Report No. 109 (July 2011);
- CrisisWatch No. 95 (1 July 2011)

Life & Peace Institute:
- Horn of Africa Bulletin (June/July 2011)

Oxfam International:
- Sleeping Lions: International investment treaties, state-investor disputes and access to food, land and water (June 2011)

Pax Christi International:
- Comprehensive Peace Agreement News Alert No. 1 (15 June 2011);
- Newsletter No. 210 (1 July 2011)

Quaker Council for European Affairs:
- The Social Reintegration of Ex-Prisoners in Council of Europe Member States (May 2011);
- Around Europe No. 332 (May 2011)

Safeworld:
- Routes across the Nistru - Transnistria: People’s Peacemaking Perspectives (May 2011);
- South Sudan Monitor (July 2011)

Search for Common Ground:
- Communication for Peacebuilding: Practices, Trends and Challenges (June 2011);
- Common Ground News Service

swisspeace:
- International Assistance in Gaza: Aiding Fragmentation or Unity? (April 2011);
- KOFF Newsletter No. 99 (1 July 2011)

Toledo International Centre for Peace (CITpax):
- An Inter-Religious Council for Jerusalem (April 2011)

World Vision International:
- eNews (June 2011)

Training Courses

Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution:
- European Security and Defence College Core Course on Peacebuilding (7-14 October 2011, Stadtschlaining, Austria)

Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation:
- Conflict Resolution, Mediation and Peacemaking Certificate Course (8-13 August 2011, Glencree, Ireland)

International Center for Transitional Justice:
- Third Intensive Course on Truth-Seeking and the Challenge of Sustainable Peace (26-30 September 2011, Barcelona)

International Peace and Development Training Center:

swisspeace and Conflict Dynamics International:
- Humanitarian Negotiations (19-22 September, Geneva)

INITIATIVE FOR PEACEBUILDING – EARLY WARNING

The Initiative for Peacebuilding – Early Warning Analysis to Action (IPE-EW) is a consortium led by International Alert and funded by the European Commission. It draws on the expertise of 10 members comprising civil society organizations, networks and universities and 3 associates with offices across the EU and in conflict-affected countries.

For more information about the Initiative for Peacebuilding, please contact Herta Eckert from International Alert or visit the website.

Recent Publications

- Walk the Talk: The EU needs an effective early warning system to match its ambitions to prevent conflict and promote peace (February 2011)

- The Early Warning and Conflict Prevention Capability of the Council of the European Union: A Mapping of the Pre-Lisbon Period (March 2010)
EPLO is the platform of European NGOs, networks of NGOs and think tanks active in the field of peacebuilding, who share an interest in promoting sustainable peacebuilding policies among decision-makers in the European Union.

EPLO aims to influence the EU so it promotes and implements measures that lead to sustainable peace between states and within states and peoples, and that transform and resolve conflicts non-violently. EPLO wants the EU to recognise the crucial connection between peacebuilding, the eradication of poverty, and sustainable development worldwide and the crucial role NGOs have to play in sustainable EU efforts for peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and crisis management.

EPLO advances the interests of its members through common policy positions and consequently advocating for those positions. EPLO disseminates information and promotes understanding of EU policies of concern to its members. The Office also builds solidarity and co-operation amongst its members and with other relevant NGO networks.

Finally, EPLO raises awareness about the contribution the EU should make to peacebuilding and the need to hold the EU accountable to its own political commitments of helping secure peace within and outside its borders.

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