Europe Peacebuilding 
Liaison Office 
Rue Belliard 205, Box 12 
1040 Brussels 
Belgium 

Tel.: +32 (0)2 233 37 37 
Fax: +32 (0)2 233 37 38 

E-mail: office@eplo.org 
Website: www.eplo.org 

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If you have any comments about the EPLO Conflict Prevention Newsletter or suggestions for the next issue (October 2012), please contact Ben Moore. 

Volume 7, Issue 4 
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EU IN THE WORLD UPDATE 

Council of the EU: The Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) met on 23 July in Brussels. Ministers adopted conclusions on Syria, Libya, Sudan and South Sudan, the Sahel region (and specifically on Mali), Somalia, Lebanon and Zimbabwe, and on the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). They also: 
- took stock of the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo 
- exchanged views on how EU foreign policy can support the EU's external energy policy 
- decided to grant € 1.7 million in support to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention 
- adopted a common position with a view to the ninth meeting of the Stabilisation and 
   Association Council between the EU and the former Yugoslav Republic of 
   Macedonia (24 July, Brussels) 
- adopted the EU position for the eleventh 
   meeting of the EU-Israel Association Council (24 July, Brussels) 
- approved the EU’s priorities for the 67th 
   session of the UN General Assembly 
- agreed to the EU priorities for co-operation with the Council of Europe in 2012-2013 
- authorised the signature of an additional 
   protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement with the Hashemite 
   Kingdom of Jordan 
- allocated € 355,000 from the EU budget to 
   support the process towards the 2012 
   conference on the establishment of a Middle 
   East zone free of nuclear weapons and all 
   other weapons of mass destruction 
- allocated € 930,000 from the EU budget to 
   fund activities in support of the Hague Code of 
   Conduct Against Ballistic Missile Proliferation 
   and, more generally, for a range of activities 
   to fight against the proliferation of ballistic 
   missiles 
- approved the six-monthly progress report on 
   the implementation of the EU Strategy against 
   the proliferation of weapons of mass 
   destruction, covering the first half of 2012 
- approved an EU working paper on the 
   outcome of the 2012 review conference on the 
   UN programme of action to prevent, combat 
   and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and 
   light weapons in all its aspects 
- approved an administrative arrangement 
   between the European Defence 
   Agency and the Organisation for Joint 
   Armament Cooperation (OCCAR) establishing 
   their cooperation 
- adopted the EU position within the ACP-EU 
   Committee of Ambassadors in favour of a 
   decision to transfer € 195 million from the 
   unallocated resources of the tenth European 
   Development Fund to the envelope for Intra- 
   ACP co-operation 

Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP): On 10 July, the Political and Security Committee (PSC) approved the appointment of Mr Karl-Ake 
Rehn (Sweden) as Head of Mission for the EU police mission in Afghanistan (EUPOL Afghani- 
stan). 
- On 16 July, the Council of the EU approved 
   the launch of two new CSDP missions: regional 
   maritime capacity building in the Horn of 
   Africa and Western Indian Ocean states (EUCAP Nes- 
   tor), and supporting the fight against organised 
   crime and terrorism in the Sahel region (EUCAP 
   SAHEL). 
- On 23 July, the FAC adopted conclusions on the 
   new CSDP missions and authorised HR Ashton to open 
   negotiations for agreements on the status of the 
   new CSDP missions in their host countries. 
- On 10 August, the EU PSC approved 
   the appointment of Mr Lasse Rosenkrands Christen- 
   sen (Denmark) as Head of Mission for the EU aviation 
   security mission in South Sudan (EUAVSEC South Sudan). 
- On 11 September, HR Ashton made a 
   speech in the European Parliament on the report 
   by Elmar Brok MEP on the 2012 annual report on the 
   Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP). 
- On 13 September, the Council approved 
   an extension of the EU monitoring mission in Geor- 
   gia (EUMM Georgia) until 14 September 2013. 

European Union Special Representatives (EUSRs): On 25 July, the Council appointed Mr 
Stavros Lambrinidis as EU Special Representative 
(EUR) for Human Rights. Mr Lambrinidis is a 
former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece and 
a former Vice-President of the EP. 

European External Action Service (EEAS): On 19 July, HR Ashton announced her intention to 
appoint Mr Joseph Silva (France) as Head of the 
EU Delegation in Djibouti. Mr Silva was most 
recently the French Ambassador to Yemen. He has 
previously served as Deputy French Ambassador 
in Lebanon (2005-2009) and in Côte d'Ivoire 
- On 27 July, HR Ashton announced the 
   appointment of Luis Felipe Fernández de la Peña 
   as the new Managing Director for Europe and Cen- 
   tral Asia in the EEAS. Mr de la Peña was most 
   recently Ambassador of Spain to the Russian 
   Federation, Armenia, Belarus, Turkmenistan and 
   Uzbekistan. He has previously served as Director 
   General for North America, Asia and the Pacific 
   in the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Coop- 
   eration, and prior to that as Spanish Ambassador 
   in Algeria, Egypt, Turkey and Azerbaijan. 
- On 19 September 2012, the board of the EU 
   Institute for Security Studies appointed Dr Antonio 
   Missiroli as its new Director. Dr Missiroli is cur- 
   rently Head of the European Dialogue Section in 
   the Bureau of European Policy Advisers. 

Click here to download the FAC conclusions. 

Click here to download the FAC conclusions on the CSDP and 
here to download HR Ashton's speech on the CFSP.
EU DOCUMENTS

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

18 September 2012 – Declaration by HR Ashton on behalf of the EU on political prisoners in Eritrea
10 September 2012 – Declaration by HR Ashton on behalf of the EU on the end of the transition in Somalia
4 September 2012 – Statement by HR Ashton in the European Parliament on the situation in Syria
4 September 2012 – Statement by HR Ashton on the announced formal launch of peace talks with the FARC in Colombia
4 September 2012 – Statement by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on the general elections in Angola on 31 August 2012
3 September 2012 – Joint statement by HR Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle, on EU-Georgia relations and the upcoming elections
3 September 2012 – Statement by HR Ashton on the commemoration of the 15th anniversary of the entry into force of the Chemical Weapons Convention
31 August 2012 – Statement by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on the publication of the Report of the Commission of National Inquiry in the Maldives
22 August 2012 – Statement by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on settlement expansion in East Jerusalem
18 August 2012 – Statement by HR Ashton on the appointment of Mr Lakhdir Brahim as UN-LAS Joint Special Representative for Syria
15 August 2012 – Statement by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on Yemen
4 August 2012 – Statement by HR Ashton on negotiations between Sudan and South Sudan
1 August 2012 – Statement by HR Ashton on the resignation of Mr Annan as the UN-LAS Joint Special Envoy to Syria
1 August 2012 – Statement by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on the signing of agreements between Israel and the Palestinian Authority improving the regulation of bilateral trade and taxation
27 July 2012 – Statement by the spokespersons of HR Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the new government in Serbia
24 July 2012 – Statement by HR Ashton on the appointment of the new Prime Minister of Egypt
20 July 2012 – Statement by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on the renewal of the UNSMIS mandate
20 July 2012 – Statement by HR Ashton on the vote of the UNSC resolution on Syria
19 July 2012 – Statement by HR Ashton on the announcement of preliminary results of the Libyan elections
19 July 2012 – Statement by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on the rising political tensions in the Maldives
18 July 2012 – Statement by HR Ashton on Nagorno Karabakh
11 July 2012 – Joint statement by HR Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the commemoration of Srebrenica
10 July 2012 – Declaration by HR Ashton, on behalf of the EU on the situation in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo
9 July 2012 – Statement by HR Ashton on the elections in Timor-Leste
9 July 2012 – Joint statement of HR Ashton and Commissioner Andris Piebalgs on the first anniversary of South Sudan’s independence
7 July 2012 – Joint statement by the spokespersons of HR Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the Libyan elections
1 July 2012 – Declaration by HR Ashton, on behalf of the EU on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

Council

20 September – Joint Press Communiqué: 15th EU-China Summit Towards a stronger EU-China Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
19 September 2012 – Joint Communiqué: EU-South Africa: a partnership for our people, prosperity and peace
24 July 2012 – EU Statement: 11th Meeting of the EU-Israel Association Council
24 July 2012 – Joint Press Release: Ninth meeting of the Stabilisation and Association Council between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the EU
12 July 2012 – Press Release: The EU accedes to Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia

Commission

6 August – Annual Report on the EU’s Development and external assistance policies and their implementation in 2011

Parliament

13 September – Resolution on the situation in Syria
13 September – Resolution on Azerbaijan: the Ramil Safarov case
12 September – Resolution on the annual report from the Council to the European Parliament on the Common Foreign and Security Policy
11 September – Resolution on the Commission Work Programme for 2013
5 July – Resolution on the EU policy on the West Bank and East Jerusalem

EU AGENDA

Council of the EU: The next meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) will take place on 15 October and the next meetings of the General Affairs Council (GAC) will take place on 24 September and 16 October. The following Council committees and working group parties will also meet in September and October:

- Political and Security Committee: 21, 25 and 28 September; and 2, 5, 9, 10, 12, 15, 16, 23, 26 and 30 October
- Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management: 24 and 26 September; and 1, 3, 8, 10, 11, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29 and 31 October
- Development Co-operation: 24 and 27 September; and 1, 4, 8, 22 and 25 October
- Africa: 26 September; and 3, 10, 17 and 24 October
- Human Rights: 5, 9 and 10 October
- Global Disarmament and Arms Control: 26 September; and 4 and 5 October

European Parliament: The next European parliament plenary sessions will take place on 22-23 and 25-26 October in Strasbourg. The following European parliamentary (sub-) committees will also meet in September and October:

- Foreign Affairs: 10-11 and 18 October
- Development: 8-9 October
- Security and Defence: 27 September; and 9 October
- Human Rights: 9 October
- Women’s Rights and Gender Equality: 9 October
- International Trade: 10-11 October
- Budgets: 3-4, 9-11 and 18 October
- Budgetary Control: 26 September, and 8-9 and 15 October
**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE**

*By Kayleigh McElligott, Interpeace*

**Introduction**

The International Day of Peace is on 21 September 2012. We encourage you to play your part in marking Peace Day and Global Truce 2012 by joining us—together, we can make strides towards peace. As a global citizen, add your name here or, if you work for an NGO, encourage it to register its support here.

**The philosophy of the EU inspires the NGO coalition**

Made up of international and national NGOs from around the world, the NGO Coalition to Promote Peace in support of Peace One Day’s campaign Global Truce 2012 shares the same goals as the European Union’s Lisbon Treaty: a clear commitment to preserving peace, preventing conflicts and supporting the ‘well-being of its peoples’. Peace Day on 21 September provides all those who support peace an opportunity to mark the day in a way that best suits the communities that they serve.

Peace organisations are joining alongside humanitarian and development NGOs and are now forming a unique coalition for the Global Truce 2012. Coordinated by international peacebuilding organisation and EPLO member, Interpeace, membership now stands at over 350 strong.

**The full spectrum of NGOs**

Peacebuilding NGOs from across the EU (including EPLO member organisations Conciliation Resources, International Alert and World Vision International) have already signed up to join the NGO Coalition. Peace Day will give them the opportunity to highlight their work in peacebuilding, conflict prevention and crisis management across and beyond the EU. The full list of members can be found here.

Jeremy Gilley, filmmaker and founder of Peace One Day highlighted: "We hope that this will be the largest global re-construction of violence on one day and the largest ever gathering of individuals in the name of peace."

It was Jeremy’s organisation that drove the initiative that led to the unanimous adoption by UN member states of an annual day of global ceasefire and non-violence on 21 September – Peace Day. With the day in place, Peace One Day’s objective is to institutionalise Peace Day around the world, making it self-sustaining. The NGO coalition is just one of a number of initiatives working to embed the day.

In mid-June the Global Truce 2012 NGO Coalition was launched with Accord, BRAC, MAG (Mines Advisory Group), Mercy Corps, War Child and Viva Rio all pledging their support. With NGOs in over 100 countries signed up many are now planning activities to celebrate the day.

Jeremy expanded: “the potential impact we can make together is clearly extraordinary. This is the first year of the Global Truce Coalitions and our achievements on 21 September 2012 will not only set an important marker for future Peace Days, but will also reinforce the value of this unique annual day as a foundation for long-term sustainable peace.”

**We can’t do it alone**

Scott M. Weber, Director General of Interpeace, explained the approach: “We are not just talking to NGOs that focus on peace as part of their core mission; the NGO Coalition has created an intrinsic link between peacebuilding NGOs and those that need peace to do their own humanitarian, relief or development work. The peacebuilding work of the NGO Coalition members contributes to the EU’s objectives of promotion of democracy and human rights, the eradication of poverty and sustainable development.”

Explaining the opportunity presented by marking Peace Day, Scott shared: “Peace Day 2012 will give us a chance to unite on a scale never seen before. Together we can decrease the level of violence, raise awareness of our activities and save lives around the world. Our power will be greater than the sum of our parts.”

**By supporting Peace Day, we can go way beyond what we can achieve alone. Peace underpins so much of what we do and what we hope to achieve. Join us by playing your part.**

[www.peaceoneday.org](http://www.peaceoneday.org)
Recent Publications from EPLO’s Member Organisations


Conciliation Resources: New ways to end old wars (August 2012); Reconciliation, reform and resilience: Positive peace for Lebanon – Accord 24 (July 2012); Fiji: Our Voice, Our Future, Our Constitution (July 2012); Reflections and Recommendations for the UN Secretary-General’s Report on Peacebuilding in the Aftermath of Conflict (July 2012)

International Alert: Peace and Conflict Assessment of South Sudan 2012 (September 2012); Mediation and Dialogue in the South Caucasus – A Reflection on 15 Years of Conflict Transformation Initiatives (July 2012); Alert’s e-bulletin (July 2012)

International Centre for Transitional Justice: Transitional Justice and Displacement (September 2012); Afghanistan: The Past as a Prologue (July 2012); The Past That Has Not Passed: Human Rights Violations in Papua Before and After Reformasi (June 2012); ICTJ In Focus Issue 24 (September 2012); ICTJ World Report Issue 16 (September 2012)


Kosovar Center for Security Studies: Critical Discourse Analysis: (De)Constructing EULEX discourse (September 2012)


Oxfam International: Extreme Weather, Extreme Prices: The Costs of feeding a warming world (September 2012); African Union Commission (August 2012); Food Crisis in the Horn of Africa: Progress Report July 2011 – July 2012 (July 2012); On the Brink: Israeli Settlements and their impact on Palestinians in the Jordan Valley (July 2012); The Final Countdown: A historic opportunity to deliver an arms trade treaty that saves lives (June 2012)

Pax Christi International: Newsletter Issue 224 (September 2012)

Quaker Council of European Affairs: A Guide to Getting Involved Part 1: European Parliament (September 2012); Around Europe 344 (July/August 2012)

Safeworld: Taking an ‘upstream’ approach to conflict prevention (September 2012); China ATT Update (September 2012); Taking international action to prevent sexual and gender-based violence (September 2012); Strengthening the Conflict Pool (August 2012); Mogadishu rising? Conflict and governance in the Somali capital (August 2012); Approaching post-2015 from a peace perspective (August 2012); Fulfilling New Deal commitments (August 2012); China and South Sudan (August 2012)

Search for Common Ground: Common Ground News Service swisspeace: Escaping the Resource Curse: Ethnic Inclusion in Resource-Rich States in West Africa (September 2012); State-Building, Legitimacy, and Development in Fragile Contexts (August 2012); The Pyramid of Business and Peace (August 2012); The Positive Contributions of Businesses in Transformations from War to Peace (August 2012); KOFF Newsletter N°110 (3 September 2012)

Toledo International Centre for Peace (CITpax): The Syrian Revolution through the Eyes of the Demonstrators (August 2011)

Training Courses

Austrian Study Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution: European Security and Defence College (ESDC) Course on Peacebuilding, 12-19 October 2012, Stadtschlading, Austria

forumZFD (Academy for Conflict Transformation): Violent Group Conflicts and Approaches to Intervention, 10-12 October, Königswinter, Germany

EPLO is the platform of European NGOs, networks of NGOs and think tanks which are committed to peacebuilding and the prevention of violent conflict.

EPLO's mission is to influence the EU to be more active and more effective at promoting peace and preventing violent conflict throughout the world.

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 common 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.

EPLO welcomes applications from peacebuilding organisations.

The next deadline for membership applications is October/November 2012.

Click here to download an application form.

EPLO Conflict Prevention Newsletter

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EPLO Members

Berghof Foundation

The Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities

Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD Centre)

Civil Society Conflict Prevention Network (KATU)

Conciliation Resources

Crisis Management Initiative

Dialogue Advisory Group

ESSEC IRENÉ

European Network for Civil Peace Services

Fractal

Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation

Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict

International Alert

International Center for Transitional Justice

International Crisis Group

Interpeace

Kosovar Center for Security Studies

Kvinna till Kvinna

Life and Peace Institute

Nansen Dialogue Network

NGO Support Centre

Nonviolent Peaceforce

Oxfam International

Partners for Democratic Change International

Pax Christi International

Quaker Council for European Affairs

Saferworld

Search for Common Ground

swisspeace

Toledo International Centre for Peace (CITpax)

World Vision International

Recent EPLO Publications

- Power Analysis: The EU and peacebuilding after Lisbon (Updated version – July 2012)
- EPLO Briefing Paper: The African Peace Facility (June 2012)

For older EPLO publications, please visit the EPLO website.