

# EPLO CONFLICT PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 2 – MAY 2013

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## EU UPDATE

### Council of the EU

The Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) met on 11 March in Brussels and on 22-23 April in Luxembourg.

On 11 March, EU foreign ministers adopted conclusions on Pakistan. They also:

- held a comprehensive debate on the EU's strategic partnership with Russia, ahead of a discussion at the European Council of 14-15 March
- discussed EU relations with Japan, in view of the EU-Japan summit on 25 March
- exchanged views on the situation in Iraq, including on the impact of the conflict in Syria
- took stock of developments in the EU's southern neighbourhood, focusing on Egypt, Libya and Tunisia
- discussed the situation in Syria with Lakhdar Brahimi, United Nations (UN) and Arab League Special Representative for Syria
- authorised the European Commission (EC) to negotiate the Arms Trade Treaty in the framework of the UN on those matters coming under the exclusive competence of the Union
- adopted the annual update of the EU's common military list, which defines the items subject to EU common rules on the control of exports of military technology and equipment
- extended and reinforced the EU sanctions against Iran that were imposed in view of serious human rights violations
- took note of the first common civilian-military annual Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) lessons learned and best practices report for 2011 as well as of the lessons of CSDP support to security sector reform.

On 22-23 March the FAC adopted conclusions on Myanmar/Burma, Mali and Iraq.

EU foreign and defence ministers also:

- debated developments in the EU's southern neighbourhood, focusing on Egypt, Lebanon and Syria
- took stock of preparations for the Eastern Partnership ministerial meeting, scheduled for July in Brussels
- took stock of developments in Myanmar/Burma and debated future EU relations with the country
- took stock of the situation in Mali and the work of the EU training mission in Mali
- received a briefing on the state of play concerning the other EU military CSDP operations
- (as part of the preparations for the European Council on defence in December 2013) discussed battlegroups and, in particular, ways to ensure that the requirements for battlegroups continue to be met by EU Member States
- received a briefing on the work of the EC's task force on defence industries and markets
- approved the EU position for the EU-Algeria Association Committee regarding the implementation of the provisions concerning industrial products set out in articles 9 and 11 of the Association Agreement between the European Community and its member states and Algeria
- approved preparations for the annual review of EU restrictive measures against certain persons, entities and bodies threatening the peace, security or stability of Guinea-Bissau
- amended EU sanctions in view of the situation in Libya so as to take account of changes adopted at the UN
- reinforced restrictive measures against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea so as to implement UN Security Council Resolution 2094 (2013)
- adopted revised EU guidelines on the death penalty, outlining how the EU intends to continue its long-standing campaign against the death penalty

## EU UPDATE (CONTINUED)

- endorsed the fourteenth progress report on the implementation of the EU strategy to combat illicit accumulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons and their ammunition
- amended the legal basis for the European Security and Defence College, which provides training in the field of the CSDP in order to promote a common understanding of the CSDP and to disseminate best practice
- adopted the EU position on the rules of procedure of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) committee, the customs co-operation committee and the joint development committee provided for by the interim EPA with the Eastern and Southern African states.

The General Affairs Council (GAC) met on 11 March in Brussels and on 22 April in Luxembourg.

On 11 March, EU foreign and European ministers:

- examined draft conclusions for the European Council meeting to be held on 14-15 March, and held an exchange of views with the President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy
- adopted a decision establishing a multiannual framework for the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights for 2013-2017.

On 22 April, they:

- received information from the Irish presidency on the state of play in the discussions with the European Parliament (EP) on the next multiannual financial framework (MFF), and received guidance from ministers for the negotiations with the EP
- examined a draft annotated agenda, drawn up by the President of the European Council in co-operation with the Irish presidency and the EC, for the European Council meeting to be held on 22 May
- took note of an initiative by Denmark, Finland, Germany and the Netherlands for a new and more effective mechanism to safeguard fundamental values in member states and had a first comprehensive discussion on the subject
- heard a presentation by the EC of joint reports by the EC and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign and Security Policy (HR), Catherine Ashton, on Kosovo and Serbia, as well as an EC report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)
- adopted the EU position for the fifth meeting of the EU-Albania Stabilisation and Association Council, to be held on 23 April in Luxembourg.

Click [here](#) to read the FAC conclusions from 11 March, [here](#) to read the FAC conclusions from 22-23 March, [here](#) to read the GAC conclusions from 11 March, and [here](#) to read the GAC conclusions from 22 April.

### European Council

The European Council met on 14-15 March in Brussels. EU heads of state and government held an exchange of views on the EU's relations with its strategic partners.

Click [here](#) to read the European Council conclusions from 14-15 March.

### Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)

On 6 March, EU and INTERPOL officials inaugurated the establishment of a real-time passport control capacity at Tripoli International Airport.

Click [here](#) to read the press release about EU-INTERPOL project to support border security in Libya, and [here](#) to read the latest issue of 'EU Security and Defence News'.

### European External Action Service (EEAS)

On 8 March, HR Ashton, announced the appointment of Marie-

Anne Coninx as Head of the EU Delegation to Canada, Olof Skoog as Head of the EU Delegation to Indonesia, Lars Faaborg-Andersen as Head of the EU Delegation to Israel, and Andrew Standley as Head of the EU Delegation to Mexico.

On 21 March, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Sem Fabrizi as Head of the EU Delegation to Australia, Helen Campbell as Head of the EU Delegation to Norway, and Jesús Miguel Sanz Escorihuela as Head of the EU Delegation to Thailand.

On 4 April, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Pirkka Tapiola as Head of the EU Delegation to Moldova, Rensje Teerink as Head of the EU Delegation to Nepal, and Aude Maicoliche as Head of the EU Delegation to Venezuela.

Click [here](#) to read the press release about the appointments on 8 March, [here](#) to read the press release about the appointments on 21 March, and [here](#) to read the press release about the appointments on 4 April.

### European Commission (EC)

On 8 March, the EC and HR Ashton published a joint proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 329/2007 concerning restrictive measures against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and a joint proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 36/2012 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Syria.

On 12 April, the EC published a proposal for a regulation establishing rules for the surveillance of the external sea borders in the context of operational cooperation coordinated by the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union.

On 16 April, the EC published a report on the FYROM.

On 17 April, the EC and HR Ashton published a joint proposal on the Union position within the Association Council set up by the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Morocco, of the other part, with regard to the adoption of a recommendation on the implementation of the EU-Morocco Action Plan implementing the advanced status (2013-2017).

On 18 April, the EC published a proposal for a Council and EC decision on establishing the position concerning a decision of the EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Council on its rules of procedure.

On 22 April, the EC and HR Ashton published a joint report on Kosovo's progress in addressing issues set out in the Council conclusions of December 2012 in view of a possible decision on the opening of negotiations on the Stabilisation and Association Agreement

On 22 April, the EC and HR Ashton published a joint report on Serbia's progress in achieving the necessary degree of compliance with the membership criteria and notably the key priority of taking steps towards a visible and sustainable improvement of relations with Kosovo.

On 22 April, the EC published proposals for Council decisions on the signing and conclusion of a Framework Agreement between the EU and Kosovo on the general principles for the participation of Kosovo in Union programmes.

On 24 April, the EC published a proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion of the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Partnership and co-operation between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Indonesia, of the other part.

Click [here](#) to read the documents which were published by the EC in March and April.

## EU PRESS RELEASES

### President of the European Council

- 19 April 2013 – [Statement by President Herman Van Rompuy on the occasion of the agreement within the facilitated dialogue on the normalisation of relations between Serbia and Kosovo](#)
- 21 March 2013 – [Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy at the annual conference of the European Defence Agency: 'Defence in Europe: pragmatically forward'](#)
- 5 March 2013 – [Joint statement by President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso and President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein: 'Building a Lasting EU-Myanmar Partnership'](#)

Click [here](#) to read all the latest press releases from President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy.

### High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR)

- 30 April 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the conflict in Sudan's Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states](#)
- 30 April 2013 – [Joint Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Stefan Füle on today's judgement by the European Court of Human Rights in the case of Tymoshenko v. Ukraine](#)
- 29 April 2013 – [Speech by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton at the opening session of the 7th Ministerial Meeting of the Community of Democracies](#)
- 28 April 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the administrative fines against "GOLOS"](#)
- 28 April 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the assassination of the Deputy Chief Prosecutor in Mogadishu](#)
- 26 April 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the visit of Sudanese Minister of National Defence, Abdel Raheem Muhammad Hussein, to Chad](#)
- 26 April 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the kidnapping of Bishop Boulos Yazigi and Bishop Yohanna Ibrahim](#)
- 23 April 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the attack against the French embassy in Tripoli](#)
- 23 April 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on talks on the Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states conflict](#)
- 22 April 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton following the presidential election in Paraguay](#)
- 21 April 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Central African Republic](#)
- 19 April 2013 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)
- 18 April 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the trial concerning certain human rights abuses during the civil war in Guatemala](#)
- 18 April 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton following today's meeting in the framework of the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)
- 17 April 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the elections in Venezuela](#)
- 16 April 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the bomb attack at the Boston marathon](#)
- 16 April 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest wave of attacks in Iraq](#)
- 15 April 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on attacks in Mogadishu, Somalia](#)
- 10 April 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the deadly attack against a UNMISS convoy in Jonglei, South Sudan](#)
- 9 April 2013 – [EU High Representative Catherine Ashton hosts conference on Women's Leadership in the Sahel Region](#)
- 8 April 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton in response to reports of Serbian rejection of proposals from the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)
- 7 April 2013 – [Joint Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the pardoning of Yuriy Lutsenko](#)
- 7 April 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the violent incidents at Coptic Cathedral in Cairo](#)
- 6 April 2013 – [Statement of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the E3+3 following talks with Iran](#)
- 4 April 2013 – [Joint Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the review by Ukraine's Higher Specialized Court for Civil and Criminal Cases in the case of Yuriy Lutsenko](#)
- 4 April 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on nuclear facilities in Yongbyon](#)
- 3 April 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton at the end of the eighth round of the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)
- 2 April 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the reported death of 13 children caused by a fire in a Muslim school in Myanmar](#)
- 2 April 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty by the UN General Assembly](#)
- 30 March 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the attack at Damascus University in Syria](#)
- 29 March 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the conclusion of the UN Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty](#)
- 28 March 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton following the discussions on Syria at the LAS summit in Qatar](#)
- 26 March 2013 – [Joint Statement by the spokespersons of High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the unanimous adoption of an amendment to Georgia's Constitution](#)
- 26 March 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation of NGOs in the Russian Federation](#)
- 26 March 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with Council Decision 2013/124/CFSP amending Council Decision 2011/235/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities in view of the situation in Iran](#)
- 25 March 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU with regard to the successful Constitutional referendum in Zimbabwe and the review of EU restrictive measures](#)
- 24 March 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in the Central African Republic](#)
- 23 March 2013 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the informal meeting of EU Foreign Ministers](#)
- 23 March 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on recent violence in Egypt](#)
- 23 March 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the violent clashes in the town of Meiktila town in Burma/Myanmar](#)
- 23 March 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the resignation of the Prime Minister of Lebanon, Najib Miqati](#)

## EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

### High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR) – continued

- 22 March 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the transfer of Bosco Ntaganda to the Hague](#)
- 22 March 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the occasion of the World and European Water Day, 22 March 2013](#)
- 21 March 2013 – [Joint Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on Abdullah Öcalan's call on the PKK to lay down arms and withdraw beyond Turkey's borders](#)
- 21 March 2013 – [Speech by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton at the Annual Conference of the European Defence Agency](#)
- 21 March 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](#)
- 21 March 2013 – [Remarks by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton after the seventh meeting in the framework of the EU-facilitated Dialogue](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [Chair's Summary: Meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the decision by Albania to offer resettlement to 210 former residents of Camp Ashraf](#)
- 19 March 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the appointment of Mary Robinson as Special Envoy of the Secretary General of the United Nations for the Great Lakes region](#)
- 19 March 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton following the meeting of E3/EU+3 experts and Iran](#)
- 18 March 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton following the launch of the Yemen National Dialogue](#)
- 15 March 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the formation of an Interim Election Council in Nepal](#)
- 15 March 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Appeal Court decision concerning Human Rights defenders in Cambodia](#)
- 14 March 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on developments in the Maldives in view of the forthcoming presidential elections](#)
- 13 March 2013 – [Joint statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the new Tunisian government](#)
- 13 March 2013 – [Remarks by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on nuclear threats and human rights in North Korea](#)
- 13 March 2013 – [Remarks by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Syria](#)
- 13 March 2013 – [Remarks by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the current situation in Egypt](#)
- 13 March 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the agreement between Sudan and South Sudan on a timetable for implementing the Addis Agreements](#)
- 12 March 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative, Catherine Ashton, on the situation following the legislative elections in Djibouti](#)
- 9 March 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the elections in Kenya](#)
- 8 March 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2013/88/CFSP amending Council Decision 2010/800/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea](#)
- 8 March 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2013/89/CFSP amending Council Decision 2011/101/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Zimbabwe](#)
- 8 March 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on International Women's Day](#)
- 7 March 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton following the adoption by the UN Security Council of Resolution 2094 on DPRK's nuclear test](#)
- 7 March 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton following the Friends of Yemen meeting](#)
- 7 March 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the establishment of a Commission for Dialogue and Reconciliation in Mali](#)
- 5 March 2013 – [Joint Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the no-confidence vote taken by the Moldovan Parliament on 5 March 2013](#)
- 5 March 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Guinea](#)
- 5 March 2013 – [Joint Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on political developments in Ukraine](#)
- 4 March 2013 – [Statement by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton after the sixth meeting in the framework of the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)
- 2 March 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on violence in Bangladesh](#)

Click [here](#) to read all the latest press releases from HR Catherine Ashton.

### Council of the EU

- 23 April 2013 – [Joint Press Release: Fifth meeting of the Stabilisation and Association Council between Albania and the EU](#)
- 16 April 2013 – [EU and Vietnam hold second round of high-level political consultations](#)
- 15 April 2013 – [First meeting of the Accession Conference with Montenegro at Deputy level](#)
- 3 April 2013 – [EU to observe elections in Pakistan](#)
- 11 March 2013 – [Human rights violations: Council strengthens sanctions against Iran](#)

Click [here](#) to read all the latest press releases from the Council of the EU.

### European Commission (EC)

- 26 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Strengthening the Capacities of Law Enforcement and Judiciary in the Fight against Corruption in Serbia'](#)
- 24 April 2013 – [Western Balkans: first projects for housing solutions approved as the Regional Housing Programme celebrates its first anniversary](#)
- 23 April 2013 – [Lebanon: EU allocates additional financial support for refugee crisis](#)
- 23 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva: 'Syria: Time is running out'](#)
- 22 April 2013 – [Commission proposes an agreement to allow Kosovo to participate in EU programmes](#)
- 22 April 2013 – [Serbia and Kosovo: historic agreement paves the way for decisive progress in their EU perspectives](#)

## EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

### European Commission (EC) – continued

- 22 April 2013 – [EU and Morocco start negotiations for closer trade ties](#)
- 19 April 2013 – [Statement by President Barroso on the agreement in the EU-facilitated dialogue between Serbia and Kosovo](#)
- 19 April 2013 – [Commissioner Štefan Füle's reaction to the results of the Belgrade-Pristina Dialogue](#)
- 19 April 2013 – [EU Commissioner Cecilia Malmström welcomes the signing of the EU-Armenia Readmission Agreement](#)
- 18 April 2013 – [12th FEMIP Conference – Mediterranean blue economy: enhancing marine and maritime cooperation](#)
- 17 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Remarks on the Progress report on Turkey'](#)
- 17 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Remarks on the 2012 Progress report on Serbia'](#)
- 17 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: '2012 Progress report on Montenegro'](#)
- 17 April 2013 – [Address by Commissioner Štefan Füle on the 2012 comprehensive monitoring report on Croatia](#)
- 16 April 2013 – [The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Reforms continue despite political tensions](#)
- 16 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Presentation of the spring reports'](#)
- 15 April 2013 – [Trafficking in human beings: more victims in the EU but Member states are slow to respond](#)
- 15 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Cecilia Malmström: 'EU Member States must respond to the increase in human trafficking'](#)
- 15 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Andris Piebalgs: '1000 days to step-up our efforts towards the MDGs'](#)
- 11 April 2013 – [Statement by Commissioner Štefan Füle on political consultations on implementation of the Sejdić-Finci judgement](#)
- 10 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Andris Piebalgs: 'Making agricultural development in Africa a good business'](#)
- 10 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Dacian Cioloș: 'Quels leviers pour renforcer la sécurité alimentaire en Afrique?'](#)
- 9 April 2013 – [Commission welcomes new report on Post-2015 Development priorities](#)
- 9 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Address to the National Council on European Integration of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia'](#)
- 9 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Andris Piebalgs: 'Increasing global resources to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria'](#)
- 8 April 2013 – [The EU pledges over €27 million to improve access to basic services for the people of Darfur](#)
- 8 April 2013 – [Commissioner Füle and Secretary General Jagland regret the lack of progress in implementing the Sejdić-Finci judgement](#)
- 7 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Address to the Anna Lindh Forum'](#)
- 6 April 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Closing Remarks at the Agora Workshop – 'The role of civil society in the intercultural dialogue''](#)
- 5 April 2013 – [Joint statement by Commissioners Štefan Füle and Cecilia Malmström on the adoption by the Turkish Parliament of the law on foreigners and international protection](#)
- 3 April 2013 – [The European Commission calls on EU Member States to fulfil their commitments towards the world's poorest](#)
- 3 April 2013 – [EU to observe elections in Pakistan](#)
- 27 March 2013 – [The EU releases further assistance to support Palestinian people and refugees](#)
- 27 March 2013 – [EU invests € 272.75 million to promote regional cooperation in the Western Balkans](#)
- 26 March 2013 – [Croatia: Last Monitoring Report concludes country ready to join the EU](#)
- 26 March 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Lecture: Croatia ready to join the EU'](#)
- 25 March 2013 – [EU-Japan: forging closer cooperation in disaster management](#)
- 25 March 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Address on EU-Albania relations'](#)
- 22 March 2013 – [Combating firearms trafficking: Commission proposes ratification of UN protocol and further action](#)
- 22 March 2013 – [Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič tells Europe's Foreign Ministers: Review of European External Action Service must strengthen the role of the EU as a global player](#)
- 21 March 2013 – [EU announces new funding to boost growth and access to energy in the Pacific](#)
- 21 March 2013 – [Statement by EU Commissioner for Environment Janez Potočnik, EU Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs and EU Commissioner for Internal Market and Services Michel Barnier on the eve of World Water Day 2013](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [EU cooperation positively perceived by its neighbours](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [European Neighbourhood Policy in 2012: Continuing engagement for a stronger cooperation with neighbours despite turbulent political and economic conditions](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [Commissioner Cecilia Malmström welcomes the announcement by Germany to resettle 5000 Syrian nationals](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Country Progress Report 2012 – Ukraine](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [PEV Rapport de suivi 2012 – Tunisie](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Package – Syria](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Country Progress Report 2012 – Palestine](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [PEV Rapport de suivi 2012 – Maroc](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Country Progress Report 2012 – Republic of Moldova](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Package – Libya](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Country Progress Report 2012 – Lebanon](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Country Progress Report 2012 – Jordan](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Country Progress Report 2012 – Israel](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Country Progress Report 2012 – Georgia](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Country Progress Report 2012 – Egypt](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Package – Belarus](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Country Progress Report 2012 – Azerbaijan](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Country Progress Report 2012 – Armenia](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [ENP Package – Algeria](#)
- 20 March 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Presentation of the European Neighbourhood Policy package'](#)
- 19 March 2013 – [New EU support to continue improving security in Somalia](#)
- 19 March 2013 – [Statement by European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy, Štefan Füle to the members of the Foreign Affairs and European Integration committees of the Kosovo Assembly](#)
- 19 March 2013 – [Address by Commissioner Štefan Füle to the National Council on European Integration](#)
- 18 March 2013 – [Boosting investment in the European Neighbourhood](#)
- 18 March 2013 – [The EU steps up its response to fight money laundering and drug trafficking in West Africa](#)
- 15 March 2013 – [Tunisia: New EU aid to support democratic transition](#)
- 15 March 2013 – [European Union to observe elections in Paraguay on 21 April 2013](#)

## EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

### European Commission (EC) – continued

- 15 March 2013 – [EU-Tunisia: Message of continued support](#)
- 13 March 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Concluding remarks at the EP debate on the situation in Ukraine'](#)
- 13 March 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'EP debate on the situation in Ukraine'](#)
- 13 March 2013 – [New EU policy to improve nutrition across the world and save millions of lives](#)
- 7 March 2013 – [EU citizens think more women in power in developing countries would make a positive difference](#)
- 6 March 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Enlargement in perspective: How do candidate and potential candidate countries perceive accession in the light of the current crisis?'](#)
- 6 March 2013 – [International Women's Day: Zero tolerance for female genital mutilation](#)
- 5 March 2013 – [Lebanon: European Commission provides € 30m more to deal with refugee crisis](#)
- 5 March 2013 – [Typhoon Bopha: EU donates € 7 million to Philippines disaster](#)
- 5 March 2013 – [Commissioner Andris Piebalgs and FAO Director-General underline support for nutrition and food security in Malawi](#)
- 2 March 2013 – [Statement by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle on Albania](#)
- 1 March 2013 – [Joint statement of Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy, Štefan Füle, Rapporteur of the European Parliament on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Richard Howitt, and former President of the European Parliament, Jerzy Buzek, on their mission to Skopje](#)

Click [here](#) to read all the latest press releases from the European Commission.

### European Parliament (EP)

- 29 April 2013 – [MEPs call for a global debate on the use of drones](#)
- 18 April 2013 – [Laurent Fabius: It would be good to have a comprehensive approach to the Sahel](#)
- 12 April 2013 – [Union for the Mediterranean: EP hosts debate on way forward after Arab Spring](#)
- 10 April 2013 – [Oil and mineral firms will be forced to disclose payments to governments](#)
- 9 April 2013 – [Romano Prodi: Military intervention in Mali was "inevitable"](#)
- 5 April 2013 – [Union for the Mediterranean: time for parliaments to play their role](#)
- 21 March 2013 – [Trade MEPs recommend restoring Myanmar's free access to the EU market](#)
- 21 March 2013 – [Bosnia and Herzegovina still falling behind in the region, MEPs warn](#)
- 21 March 2013 – [EU-Turkey relations: MEPs call for renewed engagement from both sides](#)
- 19 March 2013 – [Development MEPs back new Cotonou deal, but with human rights reservations](#)
- 14 March 2013 – [Human rights: Bangladesh: Turkmen in Iraq; Palestinian prisoners in Israel](#)
- 14 March 2013 – [Egypt: No EU financial support if no progress on democracy, MEPs say](#)
- 14 March 2013 – [China: MEPs call for genuine political reform and pragmatic cooperation](#)
- 14 March 2013 – [North Korea: MEPs back tougher sanctions](#)
- 14 March 2013 – [Mali: End of military intervention is just the start, MEPs say](#)
- 14 March 2013 – [Syria: Relieve civilian suffering now or face tragedy across the whole region](#)
- 14 March 2013 – [Bad news from Ukraine jeopardises its EU association prospects, say MEPs](#)
- 13 March 2013 – [Long-term EU budget negotiations: EP sets out its stance](#)
- 12 March 2013 – [The two-state solution is the only solution, Israeli President assured MEPs](#)
- 7 March 2013 – [Bahrain: MEPs welcome national dialogue but say it must include the opposition](#)
- 6 March 2013 – [President of Myanmar commits to continuing reforms in debate with MEPs](#)

Click [here](#) to read all the latest press releases from the European Parliament.

### European Investment Bank (EIB)

- 11 April 2013 – [EIB and Republic of Tajikistan sign MoU to foster mutual cooperation](#)

### EU Delegations

- 30 April 2013 – Suva: [Local EU statement on the EU Election Observation Mission to Fiji in 2006](#)
- 26 April 2013 – Jerusalem: [Local EU statement on demolitions](#)
- 26 April 2013 – Bujumbura: [Déclaration locale sur la nouvelle loi sur la presse au Burundi](#)
- 25 April 2013 – Tashkent: [Local EU statement on the release of Mamadali Makhmudov in Uzbekistan](#)
- 16 April 2013 – Kinshasa: [Déclaration locale de l'UE sur le Procès en appel des assassins présumés de Floribert Chebeya et Fidèle Bazana](#)
- 22 March 2013 – Bujumbura: [Déclaration locale de l'UE sur le dialogue politique au Burundi](#)
- 15 March 2013 – Suva: [Local EU statement on the cancellation of marches intended to mark International Women's Day in Fiji](#)
- 13 March 2013 – Tripoli: [Local EU Statement on Religious Freedom and Fundamental Rights in Libya](#)
- 13 March 2013 – Suva: [Local EU Statement on the recent evidence of torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment in Fiji](#)
- 12 March 2013 – Bamako: [Déclaration locale de l'Union européenne suite à l'arrestation du Directeur de publication du journal "Le Républicain" au Mali](#)

Click [here](#) to read all the latest press releases from EU delegations.

**ARE YOU UNDERTAKING RESEARCH ON THE EU AND CONFLICT?**

Click [here](#) to find out more about the 'Academic Friends of EPLO' initiative.

## THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

By Ben Moore – Senior Policy Officer, EPLO

Between June and September 2012, the European Commission (EC) organised a public consultation on the post-2015 development framework. In its submission to this consultation, EPLO's Peace, Development and Security Working Group highlighted the fact that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) do not cover a number of issues, including human security, governance, justice, human rights and democracy, or the rule of law, which are particularly relevant in countries in situations of fragility or conflict. EPLO also recommended *inter alia* that the post-2015 framework includes the issues which are covered by the Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goals (PSGs) (e.g. security, justice and accountable and fair service delivery).

A number of the issues which EPLO and individual EPLO member organisations raised in their submissions to the EC's consultation were reflected in the report which was published in November 2012. For example, the report included numerous references to 'peace and security', notably in sections on 'Weak or missing dimensions of the MDG framework' and 'Missing sectors and policy fields'.

Furthermore, in a section on the 'Applicability and adaptability of the framework', the author noted that 'many respondents also highlighted the need to integrate special measures to address fragility and the special needs of fragile and conflict-affected states'.

And finally, in a section on the 'Most important elements that should be included in a future framework' he noted that 'the importance of peace and security and of responding to the challenge of fragility was also largely emphasised by respondents.'

The results of the public consultation appear to have been taken into account as the communication on the post-2015 development framework which the EC published in February 2013 includes 'peace and security' as one of the five main elements around which the framework should be constructed. The relevant section of the communication entitled 'A Decent Life for All: Ending poverty and giving the world a sustainable future' provides that:

Where there is physical insecurity, high levels of inequality, governance challenges and little or no institutional capacity, it is extremely difficult to make sustainable progress on the key MDG benchmarks such as poverty, health, education or sanitation. It is therefore essential to address the root causes of such conditions and take action to prevent them from arising.

This agenda goes beyond fragile states, however, since many other countries also struggle with issues relating to insecurity and violence. Trafficking, transnational terrorism, criminal networks and gang violence are undermining the security of citizens and reducing the prospects for a decent life, with women and children particularly affected.

Addressing peace and security issues in the context of the post-2015 overarching framework should use as a starting point the work already done between some fragile states and the OECD countries, the EU, the UN and Development Banks at Busan in November 2011. This should build on the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile

States that laid out an agreed set of Peace-building and State building Goals (PSG).

On the same day that the EC published its communication on the post-2015 development framework, the European Parliament's (EP) Committee on Development also published a draft report on the issue. In an explanatory note which was attached to the draft report, the Rapporteur (Filip Kaczmarek MEP (European People's Party, Poland)) stated that:

'the capacity of post-conflict countries to achieve any goals must be prioritised in a future development framework, bearing in mind the Peace Building and State Building goals agreed on in Busan.'

The draft report was adopted by the Committee on Development on 23 April 2013 and the full EP adopted a resolution on it on 13 June 2013. In a section on 'Good governance', it includes the following paragraphs under the heading 'Peace, security and development':

51. Stresses that armed conflict and post-conflict situations are some of the main obstacles to development and poverty reduction and threaten democracy; stresses equally that peace and security, development and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing; therefore encourages the Union to use all relevant instruments such as the International Declaration of Human Rights or those provided in the framework of the Cotonou Agreement in order to strengthen conflict prevention;

52. Calls, in this connection, for the prioritisation of capacity building in conflict-affected and fragile states; takes the view that effective international partnerships, knowledge-sharing and capacity development methods based on the transition experience of EU Member States, building on the model of the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States launched during the Fourth High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, are necessary for the stabilisation and development of these states;

53. Calls on the EU to continue to be deeply engaged in fragile states, providing integrated responses linked to development policies, providing humanitarian relief and contributing to disaster risk reduction, conflict prevention and state building;

54. Considers that the post-2015 framework must reflect the peace building and state building (PBSB) goals agreed on in Busan;

55. Stresses that the prevention of violence and discrimination, especially sexual violence against girls and women, should be addressed in the post-2015 framework and that comprehensive protection systems accessible to all must be established or strengthened;

On 28 May 2013, the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) discussed the post-2015 framework and endorsed conclusions in which ministers emphasised that it should:

f) Recognise the impossibility of achieving sustainable development in contexts of fragility, violence and armed conflict and the importance of conflict prevention in this regard, and address peace and security and freedom from violence, and the specific needs of fragile states

## THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

and countries affected by conflict or in a post-conflict situation, building on the International Dialogue for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding and the New Deal.

Click [here](#) to download the Report of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (May 2013)

The FAC conclusions will be adopted by the General Affairs Council (GAC) on 25 June 2013. The GAC conclusions are expected to form the basis of the EU's position for the UN High-level Summit on the MDGs (September 2013, New York).

Click [here](#) to download a draft version of the Foreign Affairs Council's conclusions on an overarching framework post 2015 (May 2013)

Outside the EU policy sphere, on 30 May 2013, the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda published its report. Under the heading 'Build Peace and Effective, Open and Accountable Public Institutions', the High-Level Panel recommended that:

Click [here](#) to download the European Parliament resolution on 'The Millennium Development Goals – defining the post-2015 framework' (June 2013)

Freedom from conflict and violence is the most fundamental human entitlement, and the essential foundation for building peaceful and prosperous societies. At the same time, people the world over want their governments to be transparent, accountable and responsive to their needs. Personal security, access to justice, freedom from discrimination and persecution, and a voice in the decisions that affect their lives are development outcomes as well as enablers. So we are calling for a fundamental shift—to recognise peace and good governance as core elements of well-being, not an optional extra.

Click [here](#) to download the European Commission's communication on 'A Decent Life for All: Ending poverty and giving the world a sustainable future' (February 2013)

Click [here](#) to download the report of the public consultation on the post-2015 development framework (November 2012)

Click [here](#) to download EPLO's submission to the EC's public consultation on the post-2015 development framework (September 2012)

For more information about EPLO's advocacy on the post-2015 development framework, please contact Ben Moore.

(NB/ EPLO is planning to draft a short statement on the post-2015 development

## UPCOMING EU EVENTS

Next European Council meeting: 27-28 June 2013, Brussels

Next Foreign Affairs Council meeting: 24 June 2013, Brussels

Next European Parliament plenary session: 1-4 July, Strasbourg

## UPCOMING CIVIL SOCIETY EVENTS

### **The EU Human Rights Strategy: A Success or Business as usual?**

Tuesday 25 June 2013, Brussels

(Organisers: Edward McMillan-Scott MEP and Human Rights and Democracy Network)

For more information about this event, please contact [Human Rights Watch](#)

### **Responsible Sourcing of "Conflict Minerals"**

Tuesday 25 June 2013, Brussels

(Organisers: Dr Charles Tannock MEP and Universal Peace Federation-UK)

For more information about this event, please contact the [Universal Peace Federation-UK](#)

### **Child Soldiers in Armed Conflicts**

Thursday 27 June 2013

(Organisers: Group of the Socialists & Democrats in the European Parliament and BVES)

For more information about this event, please contact the [Group of the Socialists & Democrats in the European Parliament](#)

### **Envisioning a Secure and Independent Afghanistan Post 2014**

Thursday 27 June 2013, Brussels

(Organiser: Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung)

For more information about this event, please contact the [Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung](#)



## JOB VACANCIES AND INTERNSHIPS

### JOB VACANCIES

There are job vacancies in the following EPLO member organisations: [Berghof Foundation](#), [Catholic Organization for Relief and Development \(Cordaid\)](#), [Conciliation Resources](#), [International Center for Transitional Justice](#), [International Crisis Group](#), [Interpeace](#), [Life & Peace Institute](#), [Kvinna til Kvinna](#), [Oxfam International](#), [Quaker Council for European Affairs](#), [Saferworld](#), [Search for Common Ground](#) and [World Vision International](#).

Click [here](#) to visit the 'Job Vacancies and Internships' page of the EPLO website.

### INTERNSHIPS / VOLUNTEERING

The following EPLO member organisations have internship opportunities / open voluntary positions: [Berghof Foundation](#), [Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities](#), [Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue \(HD Centre\)](#), [ESSEC IRENÉ](#), [International Center for Transitional Justice](#), [International Crisis Group](#), [Life & Peace Institute](#), [Nonviolent Peaceforce](#), [Pax Christi International](#), [IKV Pax Christi](#), [Search for Common Ground](#) and [World Vision International](#).

Click [here](#) to visit the 'Job Vacancies and Internships' page of the EPLO website.

## TRAINING COURSES

The following EPLO member organisations are organising training course in the coming months: the [Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution](#) and the [Peace Action Training and Research Institute of Romania - International Peace and Development Training Centre](#).

Click [here](#) to visit the 'Training' page of the EPLO website.

## PUBLICATIONS

EPLO published the following document in April 2013: [Policy Paper on civilian CSDP](#).

The following EPLO member organisations have published reports and/or newsletters in March and April 2013: [Berghof Foundation](#), [Catholic Organization for Relief and Development \(Cordaid\)](#), [Conciliation Resources](#), [Crisis Management Initiative](#), [Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict](#), [International Alert](#), [International Centre for Transitional Justice](#), [International Crisis Group](#), [Life & Peace Institute](#), [Oxfam International](#), [Pax Christi International](#), [IKV Pax Christi](#), [Quaker Council for European Affairs](#), [Saferworld](#), [swisspeace](#) and [World Vision International](#).

Click [here](#) to visit the 'EPLO Publications' page of the EPLO website and [here](#) to visit the 'Member Organisations' Publications' page of the EPLO website.

### WHO'S WHO IN THE EPLO OFFICE?

**Catherine Woollard:** Executive Director

**Laura Davis:** Senior Associate

**Chris Glynn-Robinson:** Programme Assistant

**Nabila Habbida:** Policy Officer – Member States

**Josephine Liebl:** Senior Policy Officer

**Ben Moore:** Senior Policy Officer

**Giulia Pasquinelli:** Policy Officer

**Anna Penfrat:** Policy Assistant

**Antonia Potter Prentice:** Senior Associate

**Najoua Sbai:** Events and Office Coordinator

### WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING AT EPLO?

Visit the [EPLO website](#) or [Facebook page](#) for information about recent publications and upcoming events (including EPLO lunch events).

## CIVIL SOCIETY DIALOGUE NETWORK

The Civil Society Dialogue Network (CSDN) is a three-year project funded by the European Commission (Instrument for Stability) and aimed at facilitating dialogue on peacebuilding issues between civil society and the EU institutions. It will contribute to strengthening international and regional capacity for conflict prevention and post-conflict co-operation.

### Next Event

#### Policy Meeting

**Expert workshop on monitoring the implementation of the EU Comprehensive Approach to UNSCR 1325**  
Thursday 27 June 2013, Brussels

*For more information about this meeting, please contact [Giulia Pasquinelli](#).*

### Previous Events

#### Geographic Meeting

**Guinea-Bissau: Peacebuilding responses to impunity and exclusiveness**  
6-7 June 2013, Brussels

*For more information about this meeting, please contact [Ben Moore](#).*

#### Geographic Meeting

**European Union–League of Arab States co-operation and the EU response to changes in the Arab region:  
Views from civil society**  
1-2 June 2013, Valletta, Malta

*For more information about this meeting, please contact [Anna Penfrat](#).*

#### Geographic Meeting

**Mise en œuvre de l'Accord-cadre pour la paix, la sécurité et la coopération pour la RDC et la région, et stratégie de l'UE :  
quelles actions prioritaires ?**  
Friday 31 May 2013, Brussels

*For more information about this meeting, please contact [Anna Penfrat](#).*

#### Geographic Meeting

**Supporting Myanmar's evolving peace processes: What roles for civil society and the EU?**  
Thursday 7 March 2013, Brussels

*For more information about this meeting, please contact [Antonia Potter Prentice](#).*

*For more information about these and other CSDN events, click [here](#) to visit the 'Civil Society Dialogue Network' section of the EPLO website.*

## THE EU AND PEACEBUILDING: FROM EUROPEAN PEACE-BUILDING PROJECT TO GLOBAL ACTOR

The EU and Peacebuilding: From European Peace Project to Global Actor is an 18-month project funded by the European Commission (Europe for Citizens Programme). Its aim is to engage a broad range of actors, including European citizens, European civil society organisations, academic institutions, research centres and think tanks, as well as national and EU-level decision-makers in a dialogue on the EU's role in conflict prevention and peacebuilding and its history as a peace project.

### Next Event

#### Cyprus: Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and the EU

Thursday 20 June 2013  
Nicosia, Cyprus

*For more information about this meeting, please contact [Josephine Liebl](#).*

*For more information about these and other events in the framework of the EU and Peacebuilding: From European Peace Project to Global Actor' project, click [here](#) to visit the relevant page on the EPLO website.*