

EPLO CONFLICT PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

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EU UPDATE

Council of the EU

The Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) met on 27-28 May in Brussels and on 24 June in Luxembourg.

In May, EU foreign ministers adopted conclusions on Syria, Mali, food and nutrition security in external assistance, the EU's approach to resilience, the EU Court of Auditors' special report on 'The European Development Fund contribution to a sustainable road network in sub-Saharan Africa', and the annual report to the European Council on EU development aid targets. They also:

- discussed the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) in preparation for the European Council on security and defence (December 2013, Brussels)
- debated the implementation of the 'Agenda for Change' in connection with the planning of EU development aid in the coming years
- discussed the overarching framework for the period after 2015 when the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) expire and endorsed Council conclusions to be adopted by the General Affairs Council (GAC) on 25 June
- exchanged views with UN Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson on preparations for the UN special event on the MDGs (September 2013, New York), Afghanistan, Myanmar/Burma and what development co-operation can do to support transition processes
- authorised EU Member States to sign the Arms Trade Treaty with respect to matters falling under the exclusive competence of the EU
- amended legislation implementing the EU restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya
- adopted the EU's position for the upcoming ACP-EU Council of Ministers, including to accept the request of the Federal Republic of Somalia to accede to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement

- established the EU's position on the financial protocol concerning the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) for 2014-2020

On 24 June, the FAC adopted conclusions on EU climate diplomacy, Pakistan, Yemen and Mali. They also:

- took stock of the EU's Eastern Partnership, in preparation for the Eastern Partnership ministerial meeting (July 2013, Brussels) and the Eastern Partnership summit (November 2013, Vilnius)
- debated recent events concerning the Middle East peace process
- discussed the situation in Afghanistan, from a political, development and security perspective, in the presence of NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen
- discussed the Western Balkans, in particular EU relations with Serbia and Kosovo, in preparation for the debate in the GAC on the follow-up to the Council conclusions on enlargement of December 2012
- approved the EU's position for the 15th meeting of the EU-Republic of Moldova Cooperation Council (June 2013, Luxembourg)
- adopted the EU's position for the 16th EU-Ukraine Cooperation Council (June 2013, Luxembourg)
- adopted guidelines on the promotion and protection of all human rights of LGBTI persons, on the basis of existing international legal standards in this area
- adopted guidelines on the promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief
- allocated € 5 million from the EU budget in support of physical security and stockpile management activities to reduce the risk of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and their ammunition in Libya and its region

EU UPDATE (CONTINUED)

- decided to suspend the application of the EU travel ban on Vladimir Makey, Belarusian Minister of Foreign Affairs, with a view to facilitating diplomatic contacts between Belarus and the EU and its Member States
- amended Regulation 881/2002 imposing specific restrictive measures directed against persons and entities associated with the Al-Qaida network
- prolonged the mandates of two EU special representatives (see below)
- took note of the sixth implementation report of the EU action plan for Afghanistan, covering the period March 2012 – March 2013
- adopted the EU's priorities for the 68th session of the UN General Assembly (September 2013, New York)

The General Affairs Council (GAC) met on 21 May and 25 June in Brussels.

In May, the Irish presidency updated EU foreign and European ministers on the state of play in the discussions with the European Parliament (EP) on the EU's multiannual financial framework (MFF) for 2014-2020, and presented a report on the implementation of European Council conclusions covering all ongoing tasks arising from European Council orientations. They also:

- agreed the position of the EU and its Member States within the EU-Russia Permanent Partnership Council on the establishment, composition, tasks and functioning of regular senior officials meetings on freedom, security and justice
- adopted the EU's position for the 51st EU-Turkey Association Council meeting (May 2013, Brussels)

In June, the GAC adopted conclusions on Serbia, Kosovo, accession negotiations with Turkey, the joint communication on the EU's cybersecurity strategy, and the overarching post-2015 framework. They also:

- took note of the state of play in the discussions between the Irish presidency and representatives of the EP and of the European Commission (EC) on the EU MFF for 2014-2020
- took note of preparations with a view to the fourth meeting of the EU-Montenegro Stabilisation and Association Council (June 2013, Brussels)

On 28 June, the Council adopted by written procedure two decisions authorising the opening of negotiations on a Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) between the EU and Kosovo.

Click on the following links to read the FAC conclusions from [27-28 May](#) and [24 June](#), and the GAC conclusions from [21 May](#) and [25 June](#).

European Council

The European Council met on 22 May and 27-28 June in Brussels.

In May, EU heads of state and government adopted conclusions on energy and taxation.

In June, they endorsed the GAC conclusions on enlargement, including on opening accession negotiations with Serbia; the FAC conclusions on the annual report on EU official development assistance and on 'The Overarching Post-2015 Agenda'. They also adopted the Council decisions authorising the opening of negotiations on an SAA between the EU and Kosovo.

Click on the links to read the European Council conclusions from [22 May](#) and [27-28 June](#).

Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)

On 22 May, the Council of the EU approved a civilian EU integrated border management assistance mission in Libya (EUBAM Libya). It will initially last two years and have a budget of €30.3 million for the first 12 months. According to the press release, the mission will 'support capacity building for enhancing the security of Libya's land, sea and air borders and is expected to gradually start deploying in June.'

The CSDP was the subject of discussions in May's FAC meeting. EU foreign ministers extended the EU police mission in Afghanistan (EUPOL Afghanistan) until December 2014 and allocated a budget of € 108 million to it. They also:

- allocated a budget of € 110 million to the EU rule of law mission in Kosovo (EULEX Kosovo) to cover the period June 2013 – June 2014
- noted the comprehensive annual report on the CSDP and CSDP-related training in 2012, and approved its conclusions as a basis for further action to improve training in the field of CSDP
- authorised the opening of negotiations with Libya for an agreement on the status of EUBAM Libya
- took note of the third report on Member States' progress in facilitating the deployment of civilian personnel to CSDP missions
- approved an administrative arrangement between the European Defence Agency (EDA) and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia

Click [here](#) to read the press release about EUBAM Libya, [here](#) to read the press release about EUPOL Afghanistan and [here](#) to read the FAC conclusions on CSDP. Click [here](#) to read the latest issues of 'EU Security and Defence News'.

European External Action Service (EEAS)

On 2 May, High Representative (HR) Catherine Ashton announced the appointment of new heads of the EU delegations to Azerbaijan, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Kyrgyzstan, Paraguay, and Sri Lanka.

On 21 May, HR Ashton announced the appointment of a new head of the EU Delegation to Libya.

On 31 May, HR Ashton announced the appointment of a new head of the EU Delegation to Serbia.

On 7 June, HR Ashton announced the appointment of new heads of the EU delegations to Peru and Serbia.

On 14 June, HR Ashton announced the appointment of new heads of the EU delegations to Angola, Benin, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, El Salvador, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria, Singapore, Swaziland, Togo and the United Arab Emirates.

On 21 June, HR Ashton announced the appointment of a new chair of the Political and Security Committee, a new head of the EU Delegation / EU Special Representative (EUSR) to Afghanistan (see below), and new heads of the EU delegations to Mauritania and Sierra Leone.

Click on the links to read the press releases about the appointments on [2 May](#), [21 May](#), [31 May](#), [7 June](#) and [21 June](#).

EU Special Representatives (EUSR)

On 21 June, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Franz-Michael Skjold Mellbin as Head of the EU Delegation / EUSR to Afghanistan. Mr Skjold Mellbin was the Acting Under-Secretary of State for Global Politics and Security in the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and had previously served as Danish Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan.

EU UPDATE (CONTINUED)

On 24 June, the FAC agreed to extend the mandate of Patricia Flor, EUSR for Central Asia, until October 2014. It also agreed to extend the mandate of Bernardino León, EUSR for the Southern Mediterranean, until June 2014.

Click [here](#) to read the press release about the appointment of the new Head of EU Delegation / EUSR to Afghanistan and [here](#) to read the FAC conclusions on EUSRs.

European Commission (EC)

On 8 May, the EC published a proposal for a Council decision authorising Member States to sign, in the interests of the EU, the Arms Trade Treaty.

Also on 8 May, the EC published a proposal for a Council decision on the position to be adopted by the EU within the ACP-EU Council of Ministers concerning the status of the Federal Republic of Somalia in relation to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement.

On 15 May, the EC published a communication on empowering local authorities in partner countries for enhanced governance and more effective development outcomes; and the EC and HR Ashton published a joint proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 204/2011 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya.

On 16 May, the EC and HR Ashton published a joint proposal for a Council decision on the EU's position with regard to the adoption of a recommendation on the implementation of the second EU-Lebanon ENP Action Plan.

On 17 May, the EC and HR Ashton published a joint proposal for a Council regulation amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1183/2005 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against persons acting in violation of the arms embargo with regard to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

On 21 May, the EC published a communication on 'Maximising the Development Impact of Migration: The EU contribution for the UN High-level Dialogue and next steps towards broadening the development-migration nexus.'

On 23 May, the EC published a proposal for a decision of the EP and of the Council on granting an EU guarantee to the European Investment Bank (EIB) against losses under financing operations supporting investment projects outside the EU.

On 30 May, 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.

On 4 June, the EC published the 2012 annual report on the implementation of Community assistance under Council Regulation (EC) No 389/2006 establishing an instrument of financial support for encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community.

On 6 June, the EC and HR Ashton published a joint proposal for a Council regulation amending Council Regulation (EC) No 881/2002 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities associated with the Al Qaida network.

On 10 June, the EC and HR Ashton published a joint proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 36/2012 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Syria.

On 17 June, the EC published a report on the implementation of macro-financial assistance to third countries in 2012.

On 19 June, the EC and HR Ashton published a joint communication on a strategic framework for the Great Lakes Region.

On 20 June the EC published:

- a proposal for a Council decision extending the period of application of the appropriate measures in Decision 2011/492/EU concerning the conclusion of consultations with the Republic of Guinea-Bissau under Article 96 of the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement
- a proposal for a Council decision extending the period of application of the appropriate measures laid down for the Republic of Guinea by Decision 2011/465/EU and amending that decision
- proposals for Council decisions on the signing, on behalf of the EU, and the conclusion of the Voluntary Partnership Agreement between the EU and the Republic of Indonesia on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber products to the EU.

On 22 June, the EC and HR Ashton published a joint communication on 'Towards a comprehensive EU approach to the Syrian crisis'.

On 25 June, the EC and HR Ashton published a joint proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 36/2012 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Syria.

On 26 June, the EC published a proposal for a Council regulation on the implementation of the 11th European Development Fund.

On 27 June, 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.

On 28 June, the EC published the draft General Budget of the EU for the financial year 2014.

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

European Parliament (EP)

The European Parliament had plenary sessions on 20-23 May and 10-13 June in Strasbourg.

In May, members adopted resolutions on women's rights in the Balkan accession countries, the fight against tax fraud, tax evasion and tax havens; the situation of Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries, asset recovery to Arab Spring countries in transition, the 2012 progress reports on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina; the reinstatement of Myanmar/Burma's access to generalised tariff preferences, the hunger strike by prisoners in Guantánamo, the execution of Mohammad Afzal Guru and its implications (India), and the case of Victoire Ingabire (Rwanda).

In June, they adopted resolutions on the recommendation to the Council on the 68th session of the UN General Assembly, organised crime, corruption and money laundering; the stepping-stone Economic Partnership Agreement between the EC and Central Africa, the second amendment to the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, freedom of press and media in the world, the situation in Turkey, the 2013 review of the organisation and functioning of the EEAS, the promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief, a broader Transatlantic partnership, reconstruction and democratisation in Mali, the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with Afghanistan, the MDGs, the rule of law in Russia, the case of Ilgar Mammadov (Azerbaijan) and the situation of Rohingya Muslims.

Click [here](#) to read the texts which were adopted by the EP in May and June.

EU PRESS RELEASES

President of the European Council

- 27 June 2013 – [President Herman Van Rompuy welcomes the agreement on the MFF 2014-2020](#)
- 18 June 2013 – [Joint statement by President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy and President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso after the G8 Summit in Lough Erne \(UK\)](#)
- 13 June 2013 – [Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy at the European Gender Equality Index Launch conference](#)
- 28 May 2013 – [Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy at the European Parliament](#)
- 23 May 2013 – [Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy at the Turkish business association TOBB: 'Turkey and the European Union today'](#)
- 15 May 2013 – [Speech by the President Herman Van Rompuy at the high-level Donor Conference for development in Mali](#)

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

High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

- 30 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the fighting in Kismayo, Somalia](#)
- 28 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the presidential election in Mongolia](#)
- 28 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on planned demonstrations in Egypt for the first anniversary of President Morsi's term in office](#)
- 27 June 2013 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the Committee on Foreign Affairs, European Parliament](#)
- 26 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the occasion of the UN International Day in Support of Victims of Torture](#)
- 26 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on violence in Lebanon](#)
- 25 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on executions in Nigeria](#)
- 25 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the parliamentary elections in Albania](#)
- 24 June 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with Council Decision 2013/255/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Syria](#)
- 24 June 2013 – ['Towards a comprehensive EU approach to the Syrian crisis': an EU joint communication](#)
- 22 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on flooding in northern India](#)
- 21 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Transnistrian so-called legal act on the border](#)
- 21 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the meeting in the framework of the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)
- 20 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on LGBTI rights in Russia](#)
- 20 June 2013 – [Joint statement on World Refugee Day](#)
- 19 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the attack on the UN Compound in Mogadishu](#)
- 19 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the signing of a preliminary peace agreement in Mali](#)
- 18 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the deadly attack on a UNISFA peacekeeper in Southern Kordofan](#)
- 18 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton following her visit to Iraq](#)
- 17 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the parliamentary elections in Albania](#)
- 15 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Iranian election](#)
- 14 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on progress in implementation work of the April agreement from the EU-facilitated dialogue regarding the establishment of Association/Community](#)
- 14 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the US statement on Syrian Chemical Weapons Use](#)
- 14 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokespersons of High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the adoption by the Human Rights Council of a resolution on human rights in Belarus](#)
- 14 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the announcement of the date of elections in Nepal](#)
- 14 June 2013 – [Speech delivered by High Representative Catherine Ashton at Forum Nueva Economía](#)
- 13 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on EEAS Review](#)
- 13 June 2013 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the EU annual report on human rights](#)
- 12 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest developments in Turkey](#)
- 12 June 2013 – [Joint statement on the occasion of the World Day Against Child Labour](#)
- 12 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the attack against the Supreme Court in Kabul](#)
- 10 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Government of Sudan's announcement to stop oil exports from South Sudan](#)
- 10 June 2013 – [Joint press statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and South African Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Maite Nkoana Mashabane on the occasion of their Ministerial Political Dialogue](#)
- 10 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the developments in northern Mali](#)
- 9 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Turkey](#)
- 7 June 2013 – [Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Andris Piebalgs on the approval of over € 31.5 billion of funding for EU development cooperation with ACP countries for the period 2014-2020](#)
- 7 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the developments in northern Mali](#)
- 7 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokespersons of High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Andris Piebalgs on the promulgation of the press law in Burundi](#)
- 6 June 2013 – [Joint statement by the spokespersons of High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on amendments to the Criminal Code in Azerbaijan](#)
- 6 June 2013 – [Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the Egyptian NGO trial verdicts](#)
- 4 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the appointment of Dr Rami Hamdallah as the new Prime Minister of the Palestinian Authority](#)
- 3 June 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the reintroduction of the death penalty in Papua New Guinea](#)
- 3 June 2013 – [Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Vice President of the European Commission Antonio Tajani on the Arms Trade Treaty](#)
- 2 June 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the bill in Nigeria criminalising same-sex marriage and relationships](#)
- 2 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the new NGO law in Egypt](#)
- 2 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on riots in Turkey](#)

EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy – continued

- 2 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Qusayr, Syria](#)
- 1 June 2013 – [Speech by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the Shangri-La Dialogue: 'Defending national interests, preventing conflict'](#)
- 1 June 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the agreement concluded between the Government of Myanmar/Burma and the Kachin Independence Organisation](#)
- 31 May 2013 – [Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the election of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova](#)
- 31 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on renewed plans for Israeli settlements in and around East Jerusalem](#)
- 27 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the announced agreement on land reform concluded between the Colombian government and the FARC](#)
- 27 May 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the implementation plan for the April agreement](#)
- 24 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in North Kivu](#)
- 23 May 2013 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the EU High Level Conference on the Education and Development](#)
- 23 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the terrorist attacks in Niger](#)
- 22 May 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the end of the meeting in the framework of the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)
- 22 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokespersons of High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the arrest of former Prime Minister of Georgia](#)
- 21 May 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest series of attacks in Iraq](#)
- 15 May 2013 – [Déclaration de Catherine Ashton, Haute Représentante, sur la situation à Madagascar suite à la présentation de la candidature du Président Rajoelina aux prochaines élections présidentielles](#)
- 13 May 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with Council Decision 2013/186/CFSP amending Council Decision 2012/739/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Syria](#)
- 13 May 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with Council Decision 2013/184/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Myanmar/Burma and repealing Decision 2010/232/CFSP](#)
- 13 May 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the elections in Pakistan](#)
- 13 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the detention of Ahmed Maher in Egypt](#)
- 12 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the bomb attack in Turkey](#)
- 10 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the freeing of hostages in Yemen](#)
- 10 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on recent developments in East Jerusalem and the West Bank](#)
- 8 May 2013 – [Opening address by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the symposium on the Common Security and Defence Policy](#)
- 8 May 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the joint agreement by the US Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov to work towards convening an international conference to find a political solution to the conflict in Syria](#)
- 8 May 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest developments in Libya](#)
- 8 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on political violence in Bangladesh](#)
- 7 May 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the recent general election in Malaysia](#)
- 7 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Guinea](#)
- 6 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the attacks in Abyei](#)
- 4 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the recent massacre in Bayda, Banyas region, in Syria](#)
- 3 May 2013 – [Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on recent developments in Moldova](#)
- 3 May 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day](#)
- 2 May 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton following the attempted assassination of Syrian Prime Minister Wael Al-Halki](#)

Click [here](#) to read all the latest press releases from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

Council of the EU

- 30 June 2013 – [Co-Chairs' Statement: 23rd GCC-EU Joint Council and Ministerial Meeting](#)
- 28 June 2013 – [Council approves MFF agreement](#)
- 26 June 2013 – [Fourth meeting of the Stabilisation and Association Council between the EU and Montenegro](#)
- 25 June 2013 – [Press Release: 15th meeting of the EU-Republic of Moldova Cooperation Council](#)
- 25 June 2013 – [First meeting of the EU-Ecuador Bilateral Consultation Mechanism](#)
- 25 June 2013 – [EU-China Dialogue on Human Rights](#)
- 25 June 2013 – [Outcome of proceedings on Turkey](#)
- 20 June 2013 – [Presidency concludes negotiations on MFF](#)
- 24 June 2013 – [EU Press Release: 16th meeting of the EU-Ukraine Cooperation Council](#)
- 18 June 2013 – [Joint Statement: 8th session of the EU-Colombia Human Rights Dialogue](#)
- 13 June 2013 – [EU-Central Asia High Level Security Dialogue](#)
- 13 June 2013 – [EU and US convene CBRN Risk Mitigation Dialogue](#)
- 12 June 2013 – ['Nearing deal on EU budget' - Irish Presidency](#)
- 12 June 2013 – [Irish Presidency secures preferable trade terms for Myanmar/Burma to promote economic development](#)
- 4 June 2013 – [Joint Press Release: Fight against illicit drugs: EU signs new agreement with Russia](#)
- 31 May 2013 – [Syria: EU economic sanctions to apply until 1 June 2014](#)
- 27 May 2013 – [Press Release: EU-Turkey Association Council](#)
- 21 May 2013 – [Conclusions of the 39th meeting of the EEA Council](#)
- 19 May 2013 – [The EU-Russian Federation human rights consultations](#)
- 17 May 2013 – [EU-Turkmenistan Human Rights Dialogue](#)
- 7 May 2013 – [Presidency News: Progress in Irish Presidency EU Budget Discussions](#)

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

EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

EU Delegations

- 26 June 2013 – [Jerusalem: Local EU statement on executions in Gaza](#)
- 26 June 2013 – [Phnom Penh: Local EU statement on the parliamentary election in Cambodia on the eve of the official electoral campaign](#)
- 24 June 2013 – [Lomé: Déclaration de la Délégation de l'Union européenne, en accord avec les Chefs de Mission des Etats Membres de l'Union européenne et des Etats-Unis ainsi que la Coordinatrice résidente du Système des Nations Unies au Togo](#)
- 15 June 2013 – [Jerusalem: Local EU statement on Gaza death penalty](#)
- 22 May 2013 – [Kampala: Local EU statement on the closure of media houses in Uganda](#)
- 21 May 2013 – [Jerusalem: Local EU statement on ICHR Report 2012](#)
- 20 May 2013 – [Tbilisi: Local EU statement on the events connected with the Day against Homophobia](#)
- 20 May 2013 – [Colombo: Local EU statement on presidential elections and transition in the Maldives](#)
- 20 May 2013 – [Kinshasa: Déclaration locale de la Délégation de l'Union européenne concernant le rapport des Nations Unies sur les violations des droits de l'Homme perpétrées dans les Kivus en novembre-décembre 2012](#)
- 17 May 2013 – [Bissau: Local statement of the European Union on human rights violations in Guinea-Bissau](#)
- 16 May 2013 – [Khartoum: Local EU statement in Sudan condemning the attack that led to the killing of Mohamed Bashar](#)
- 15 May 2013 – [Khartoum: Local EU statement on the killing of members of the Justice and Equality Movement in Sudan](#)
- 6 May 2013 – [Dushanbe: Local EU statement on the beating of a leader of the Islamic Party of Tajikistan](#)

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

European Commission (EC)

- 28 June 2013 – [Croatia becomes the 28th Member State of the EU](#)
- 28 June 2013 – [The European Commission welcomes decision on gas pipeline: Door opener for direct link to Caspian Sea](#)
- 28 June 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva: 'Richer and more fragile: how can we learn to live in a more volatile world?'](#)
- 27 June 2013 – [EU and UNICEF: Fewer children behind bars, greater reforms needed](#)
- 25 June 2013 – [European Commission makes first payment of € 90 million under state-building contract with Mali](#)
- 24 June 2013 – [The European Commission provides additional support for newly displaced people in Pakistan](#)
- 24 June 2013 – [EU-Ukraine: Good progress but still more to be done](#)
- 21 June 2013 – [Croatia's accession to the European Union](#)
- 20 June 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Speak-Up!2: Loud wake-up call for improving media freedom in Western Balkans and Turkey'](#)
- 19 June 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Croatia - Bosnia and Herzegovina: Agreements on border management signed'](#)
- 18 June 2013 – [EU signs new agreement to boost agriculture and promotes access to energy in Zambia](#)
- 18 June 2013 – [Montenegro: need to deal with accumulating domestic challenges](#)
- 17 June 2013 – [UfM: New support for facilitating trade with the South Mediterranean](#)
- 17 June 2013 – [More help for victims of Sahel crisis: European Commission increases humanitarian aid](#)
- 15 June 2013 – [EU receives FAO's award for work in food security](#)
- 13 June 2013 – [The EU and Côte d'Ivoire are to launch negotiations on partnership to fight illegal logging](#)
- 12 June 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Crucial moment in EU-Turkey relations'](#)
- 10 June 2013 – [Aviation: EU and Israel sign agreement](#)
- 7 June 2013 – [Migration and mobility partnership signed between the EU and Morocco](#)
- 7 June 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'EU-Turkey bound together'](#)
- 7 June 2013 – [Making malnutrition history - EU announces €3.5 billion for nutrition](#)
- 7 June 2013 – [EU action on nutrition in development cooperation](#)
- 6 June 2013 – [EU supports Mozambique's path to development](#)
- 6 June 2013 – [Statement by President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso on Syria](#)
- 6 June 2013 – [Statement by Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva on new EU funding for Syrian humanitarian crisis](#)
- 5 June 2013 – [President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso defends unrestricted and unconditional humanitarian access in Syria in summit with Russia](#)
- 4 June 2013 – [Statement by Commissioner Štefan Füle following his visit to the Zaatari refugee Camp after inaugurating a new school and signing agreement with UNICEF on financing educational projects for Syrian children](#)
- 4 June 2013 – [Fight against illicit drugs: EU signs new agreement with Russia](#)
- 3 June 2013 – [Jordan: EU provides new support to deal with Syrian refugee crisis](#)
- 3 June 2013 – [Statement by Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva in Al Qusayr](#)
- 2 June 2013 – [Speech by President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso: 'EU and Kazakhstan: Forging a partnership for the 21st century'](#)
- 31 May 2013 – [Commissioner Piebalgs commends an "ambitious and inspiring" final report of the UN High Level Panel on the post-2015 development agenda](#)
- 31 May 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'The importance of inclusive regional cooperation'](#)
- 30 May 2013 – [Montenegro: Role of opposition in tackling current challenges](#)
- 28 May 2013 – [European Commission and CERN support major research facility in the Middle East](#)
- 28 May 2013 – [EU supports steps to bring peace and prosperity to South East Turkey](#)
- 28 May 2013 – [Third High Level Meeting of the Inter-Regional Dialogue on Democracy](#)
- 28 May 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Ambitions of EU and East Partners for the Vilnius Summit'](#)
- 28 May 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'A decisive year for the Eastern Partnership'](#)
- 27 May 2013 – [President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso discusses Syria crisis with leading UN officials](#)
- 25 May 2013 – [Joint statement by President Barroso and Commissioner Andris Piebalgs on 50th anniversary of the African Union](#)
- 24 May 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'The future of enlargement on the background of the crisis'](#)
- 24 May 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Clear EU perspective for Western Balkans, determination needed to make it reality'](#)
- 24 May 2013 – [IFC, EIB, and AFD Support Small Businesses and Mobilize Investment in MENA](#)
- 24 May 2013 – [The Long-Term Investment Club is looking at investment opportunities in Africa](#)
- 23 May 2013 – [EU commits to ensuring basic education for every child by 2030](#)

EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

European Commission (EC) – continued

- 23 May 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Günther Oettinger on behalf of High Representative / Vice President of the European Commission Catherine Ashton on the case of Mrs Victoire Ingabire](#)
- 23 May 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Günther Oettinger on behalf of High Representative / Vice President of the European Commission Catherine Ashton on the execution of Mohammad Afzal Guru and its implications](#)
- 22 May 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Discussing progress and shortcomings of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia'](#)
- 22 May 2013 – [Remarks by Commissioner Štefan Füle on behalf of High Representative / Vice President of the European Commission Catherine Ashton on asset recovery](#)
- 22 May 2013 – [Remarks by Commissioner Štefan Füle on behalf of High Representative / Vice President Catherine Ashton on the situation of Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries](#)
- 22 May 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'What Bosnia and Herzegovina needs to do to move on EU path'](#)
- 21 May 2013 – [EU to provide over € 37 million to fight piracy in Eastern and Southern Africa](#)
- 18 May 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Moldova belongs to Europe'](#)
- 15 May 2013 – [Emergency Response Centre: for a faster and more efficient European response to disasters](#)
- 15 May 2013 – [Signature of Association Agreement with the EU will depend on Ukraine's performance](#)
- 15 May 2013 – [International donor conference: € 3.25 billion mobilised by international community to rebuild Mali](#)
- 15 May 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva: 'The humanitarian response, linking relief to rehabilitation and development, and reconciliation – crucial for Mali's sustainable future'](#)
- 15 May 2013 – [Speech by President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso: 'Ensemble pour le renouveau du Mali'](#)
- 14 May 2013 – [Increased education opportunities between Tunisia and EU](#)
- 13 May 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Andris Piebalgs: 'Cooperation: the way forward for Europe and Africa'](#)
- 12 May 2013 – [Syria crisis: the EU responds to spiralling needs with more emergency humanitarian aid](#)
- 8 May 2013 – [EC proposes the signature of the Arms Trade Treaty](#)
- 8 May 2013 – [EC to provide an exceptional contribution for human rights](#)
- 7 May 2013 – [Somalia Conference: New EU support for governance, justice and police](#)
- 7 May 2013 – [The EU's development work in Somalia](#)
- 3 May 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'EU-Azerbaijan: How to bring the relations to a higher level'](#)

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European Parliament (EP)

- 20 June 2013 – [World Refugees Day: The human cost of the Syrian conflict](#)
- 19 June 2013 – [Louis Michel: ACP-EU is a partnership between equals in rights and obligations](#)
- 4 June 2013 – [The battle for the EU's long-term budget](#)
- 28 May 2013 – [A taxing problem: The cost of failing to act on fiscal evasion](#)
- 23 May 2013 – [FYROM is ready to start EU accession negotiations, says the EP](#)
- 21 May 2013 – [MEPs call on governments to act on tax evasion and energy issues](#)
- 16 May 2013 – [Elmar Brok on Syria: "We have many reasons to be concerned"](#)
- 14 May 2013 – [Anders Fogh Rasmussen: "We need to move forward on political consultations"](#)
- 2 May 2013 – [Press Freedom Day: The challenges facing journalists today](#)
- 2 May 2013 – [EP's budget negotiator: Proposed additional funds for 2013 will be insufficient](#)

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European Investment Bank (EIB)

- 27 June 2013 – [East African businesses to benefit from € 101 million EIB support with leading local banks](#)
- 26 June 2013 – [EIB launches € 15 million Pan-African affordable housing and community infrastructure partnership with Shelter Afrique](#)
- 25 June 2013 – [Moldova's Prime Minister Leanca signs a loan for upgrading road infrastructure while visiting EIB](#)
- 10 June 2013 – [EIB provides further € 200 million for Istanbul-Ankara High Speed Rail Line](#)
- 7 June 2013 – [EIB and Kosovo sign Framework Agreement](#)

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

European Court of Auditors

- 18 June 2013 – [EU Support for Governance in Egypt – "well-intentioned but ineffective", say EU Auditors](#)

Click [here](#) to read all the latest press releases from the European Court of Auditors

UPCOMING CIVIL SOCIETY EVENTS

swisspeace 25th Anniversary Conference

Tuesday 10 September 2013, Basel

For more information about this event, please visit the [swisspeace website](#)

JOB VACANCIES AND INTERNSHIPS

JOB VACANCIES

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

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 \(HD Centre\)](#), [Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict](#), [International Crisis Group](#), [Life & Peace Institute](#), [Nonviolent Peaceforce](#), [Partnership for Democratic Change International](#), [Pax Christi International](#), [IKV Pax Christi](#), [Search for Common Ground](#), [swisspeace](#) 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](#), [Forum Civil Peace Service \(forumZFD\) - Academy for Conflict Transformation](#), [Interpeace](#) 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 statement in May 2013: [EU support to peace mediation: developments and challenges](#).

The following EPLO member organisations have published reports and/or newsletters in May and June 2013: [Catholic Organization for Relief and Development \(Cordaid\)](#), [Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue \(HD Centre\)](#), [Conciliation Resources](#), [Crisis Management Initiative](#), [Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation](#), [Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict](#), [International Alert](#), [International Center for Transitional Justice](#), [International Crisis Group](#), [Life & Peace Institute](#), [Oxfam International](#), [Pax Christi International](#), [IKV Pax Christi](#), [Quaker Council for European Affairs](#), [Saferworld](#), [Search for Common Ground](#), [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.

UPCOMING EU EVENTS

Informal meeting of EU ministers for foreign affairs (Gymnich): 6-7 September 2013, Vilnius

European Parliament plenary session: 9-12 September, Strasbourg

Foreign Affairs Council: 21 October 2013, Luxembourg

European Council: 24-25 October 2013, Brussels

WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING AT EPLO?

Visit the [EPLO website](#), like us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#) 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 Union (Instrument for Stability) and aimed at facilitating dialogue on peacebuilding issues between civil society and EU policy-makers. It will contribute to strengthening international and regional capacity for conflict prevention and post-conflict co-operation.

Upcoming Events

Funding Instruments Meeting
Informal consultation on the Instrument for Stability 2014 programming
Wednesday 25 September 2013, Brussels

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

In-country Dialogue Meeting
Myanmar
October 2013, Yangon

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

Policy Meeting
Private Sector
October 2013, Brussels

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

Policy Meeting
Mediation
October / November 2013, Brussels

For more information about this meeting, please contact [Catherine Woollard](#).

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.

Upcoming Events

Mediation in context: Understanding the role of the EU
Tuesday 24 September 2013
The Hague, The Netherlands

For more information about this meeting, please contact [Nabila Habbida](#).

Round-table on the EU, conflict prevention and peacebuilding: What role for Germany?
October 2013
Berlin, Germany

For more information about this meeting, please contact [Nabila Habbida](#).

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.