

EPLO CONFLICT PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

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EU UPDATE

Council of the EU

The Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) met on 22 July and 21 August.

In May, EU foreign ministers adopted conclusions on Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Mali, Myanmar, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan; the Great Lakes region and the Democratic Republic of Congo; the Middle East peace process, EU water diplomacy, the implementation of the EU's strategic framework and action plan on human rights; and the role of local authorities in development co-operation. They also:

- debated the situation in Syria
- discussed questions relating to Lebanon and the possible designation of an entity under the EU's restrictive measures to combat terrorism
- discussed recent developments in the Eastern Partnership countries and the way ahead in the run-up to the third Eastern Partnership Summit (November 2013, Vilnius)
- adopted the EU position for the thirteenth meeting of the EU-Kazakhstan Cooperation Council (July 2013, Brussels)
- took note of the fifth implementation report for Pakistan
- endorsed the six-monthly progress report on the implementation of the EU strategy against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, covering activities from the first half of 2013, and allocated € 750,000 from the EU budget to support action against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in implementation of UN Security Council resolutions 1540 and 1977
- amended the implementing legislation for the EU restrictive measures against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to take account of changes introduced by UN Security Council resolution 2094
- appointed Mr Franz-Michael Skjold Mellbin as EU Special Representative in Afghanistan (see below)
- amended the implementing legislation for the EU restrictive measures against Syria

- approved a position on the arrangements to be followed regarding the conclusion by the EU of memoranda of understanding, joint statements and other texts containing policy commitments with third countries and international organisations
- approved the EU position and draft agenda for the tenth meeting of the EU-former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Stabilisation and Association Council (July 2013, Brussels)
- adopted the Council and Commission decision on the conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Serbia, of the other part
- agreed on a decision on the provision of macro-financial assistance for Kyrgyzstan, up to a maximum amount of € 30 million
- approved two transfers of a total amount of EUR 262.7 million in commitments and EUR 148 million in payments in order to provide humanitarian aid to Syria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Central African Republic.

In August, they adopted conclusions on Egypt. They also:

- adopted by written procedure an extension to Decision 2012/96/EU adapting and suspending the period of application of appropriate measures limiting co-operation with Zimbabwe
- adopted by written procedure an implementing decision implementing Decision 2011/72/CSDP, and an implementing regulation implementing Regulation (EU) No 101/2011, both concerning restrictive measures directed against persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Tunisia.

Click [here](#) to read the FAC conclusions from 22 July and [here](#) to read the FAC conclusions from 21 August.

EU UPDATE (CONTINUED)

Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)

On 3 July, the Council prolonged the EU police mission for the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS) until 30 June 2014, and allocated a budget of € 9.5 million for its activities.

On 19 July, the Political and Security Committee (PSC) appointed Brigadier General Bruno Guibert (France) as the new head of mission for the EU training mission in Mali (EUTM Mali).

On 22 July, the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) approved the signing and conclusion of an agreement between the EU and Australia establishing a framework for the participation of Australia in EU crisis management operations. It also approved an agreement between the EU and the Republic of Niger on the status of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) mission in Niger (EUCAP Sahel Niger), and endorsed its conclusion.

On 23 July, the PSC appointed Etienne de Poncins (France) as the new head of mission for the EU mission on regional maritime capacity building in the Horn of Africa (EUCAP Nestor).

On 13 September, the PSC appointed Toivo Klaar (Estonia) as the new head of mission for the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM Georgia).

Click [here](#) to read the press release about EUPOL COPPS, [here](#) to read the press release about EUTM Mali, [here](#) to read the press release about EUCAP Nestor, [here](#) to read the press release about EUMM Georgia 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 24 July, High Representative (HR) Catherine Ashton announced the appointment of Chantal Hebberecht as head of the EU Delegation to Ethiopia, and Michael Ryan as head of the EU Delegation to Rwanda.

On 29 July, HR Ashton published the EEAS Review.

On 16 September, the EU and the Somali Federal Government co-hosted the 'A New Deal for Somalia' conference in Brussels. Participants endorsed a New Deal Compact for Somalia and committed to support its implementation.

Click [here](#) to read the press release about the two appointments, [here](#) to read the EEAS Review and [here](#) to visit the website of the 'A New Deal for Somalia' conference.

EU Special Representatives (EUSR)

On 22 July, the Council of the EU appointed Mr Franz-Michael Skjold Mellbin (Denmark) as EU Special Representative (EUSR) in 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. He will also be the head of the EU Delegation to Afghanistan.

Click [here](#) to read the press release about the appointment of the new EUSR in Afghanistan.

European Commission (EC)

On 16 July, the European Commission (EC) published a communication on a comprehensive and integrated approach to financing poverty eradication and sustainable development.

On 22 July, the EC published proposals for a Council decision on the signing and conclusion of a Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the EU and Georgia, on the general principles for the participation of Georgia in EU programmes.

On 24 July, the EC published a communication on a more competitive and efficient defence and security sector.

On 26 July, the EC published the 2012 annual report on the Instrument for Stability.

On 21 August, the EC published the annual report 2013 on the EU's development and external assistance policies and their implementation in 2012.

On 12 September, the EC published the 2012 annual report on financial assistance for enlargement.

Click [here](#) to read the documents which were published by the EC in July, August and September.

European Parliament (EP)

The European Parliament had plenary sessions on 1-4 July and 9-12 September in Strasbourg.

In July, members adopted resolutions on the political agreement on the next EU multiannual financial framework, further macro-financial assistance for Georgia, arms exports (implementation of Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP), preparation of the EC Work Programme 2014, and the situations in Djibouti, Egypt and Nigeria.

In September, they adopted resolutions on an EU cybersecurity strategy, the maritime dimension of the CSDP, the EU's military structures, EU policy towards Belarus, pressure exerted by Russia on Eastern Partnership countries, and the situations in Bahrain, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt and Syria.

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

UPCOMING EU EVENTS

European Parliament plenary sessions: 7-10 and 21-24 October 2013, Strasbourg

Foreign Affairs Council: 21 October 2013, Luxembourg

European Council: 24-25 October 2013, Brussels

EU PRESS RELEASES

President of the European Council

- 16 September 2013 – [Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy at the 'A New Deal for Somalia' conference](#)
- 6 September 2013 – [Joint statement by European Council President Herman Van Rompuy and European Commission President José Manuel Barroso on the results of the G20 Summit in Saint Petersburg](#)
- 5 September 2013 – [Lecture by President Herman Van Rompuy at the European University in Saint Petersburg: 'Europe and Russia today'](#)
- 4 September 2013 – [Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy at the Annual Conference of EU Heads of Delegation](#)
- 18 August 2013 – [Joint statement by European Council President Herman Van Rompuy and European Commission President José Manuel Barroso on Egypt](#)
- 18 July 2013 – [Remarks by President Herman Van Rompuy following the sixth South Africa-EU summit](#)
- 2 July 2013 – [Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy at the European Parliament](#)

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

- 16 September 2013 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the 'A New Deal for Somalia' conference](#)
- 16 September 2013 – [Introductory remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the 'A New Deal for Somalia' conference](#)
- 14 September 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the US-Russian agreement on chemical weapons in Syria](#)
- 12 September 2013 – [Speech by High Representative Catherine Ashton to the European Parliament on the situation in Egypt](#)
- 11 September 2013 – [Speech by High Representative Catherine Ashton on Syria](#)
- 11 September 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the presidential elections in the Maldives](#)
- 10 September 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the proposal to place Syria's chemical weapons under international control](#)
- 8 September 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton after Sunday's meeting in the framework of the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)
- 8 September 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on attacks in Mogadishu](#)
- 7 September 2013 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the informal meeting of EU Foreign Ministers](#)
- 6 September 2013 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton to the Interparliamentary Conference](#)
- 6 September 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the summit between the Presidents of Sudan and South Sudan in Khartoum](#)
- 5 September 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the progress in election preparations in Kosovo](#)
- 5 September 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the recent violence in Iraq](#)
- 2 September 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the killing of residents at Camp Ashraf](#)
- 30 August 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in North Kivu](#)
- 28 August 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the establishment of the Interim Jubba Administration in Somalia](#)
- 28 August 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU regarding the recent arrest of Dr Xu Zhiyong and other civil society activists in China](#)
- 27 August 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton after the meeting in the framework of the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)
- 27 August 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on recent progress in Madagascar](#)
- 27 August 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on recent events in North Kivu](#)
- 27 August 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the visit by the Sudanese Minister for Defence, Abdelrahim Mohamed Hussein, to the Central African Republic](#)
- 23 August 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the terrorist attacks in Tripoli in the north of Lebanon](#)
- 23 August 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the high urgency of a political solution to the Syrian conflict](#)
- 22 August 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU following presidential elections in Zimbabwe](#)
- 21 August 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest reports of use of chemical weapons in Damascus](#)
- 20 August 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the recent inter-Korean agreements](#)
- 16 August 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Egypt](#)
- 16 August 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the deadly explosion in Lebanon](#)
- 14 August 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest developments in Egypt](#)
- 14 August 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Egypt](#)
- 13 August 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the outcome of the presidential election in Mali](#)
- 12 August 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest attacks in Iraq](#)
- 7 August 2013 – [Joint statement by High Representative Ashton and US Secretary of State John Kerry on Egypt](#)
- 6 August 2013 – [Déclaration du porte-parole de Catherine Ashton, Haute Représentante de l'Union, sur la situation politique à Madagascar](#)
- 6 August 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the attack on the Indian Consulate in Jalalabad, Afghanistan](#)
- 3 August 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the elections in Zimbabwe](#)
- 2 August 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the elections in Zimbabwe](#)
- 31 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Middle East Peace Process](#)
- 30 July 2013 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton during her visit to Egypt](#)
- 29 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the outcome of the presidential election in Mali](#)
- 29 July 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on incidents in Benghazi, Libya](#)
- 29 July 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton following the elections in Cambodia](#)
- 28 July 2013 – [Déclaration du porte-parole de Catherine Ashton, Haute Représentante de l'Union, sur le déroulement de l'élection présidentielle au Mali](#)
- 27 July 2013 – [Déclaration de la Haute Représentante de l'Union, Catherine Ashton, au sujet des élections législatives au Togo](#)
- 27 July 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Egypt](#)
- 25 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the killing of Mohamed Brahmi in Tunisia](#)
- 25 July 2013 – [Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on completion of negotiations on the future Association Agreement with Armenia](#)
- 24 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton following today's meeting in the framework of the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)

EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

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

- 24 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on completion of negotiations on the future Association Agreement with Georgia](#)
- 24 July 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest attacks in Iraq](#)
- 22 July 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton following the Eastern Partnership Ministerial Meeting](#)
- 19 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Middle East peace process](#)
- 19 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the publication of guidelines on Israel and EU funding instruments](#)
- 18 July 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the sentencing of Alexey Navalny and Pyotr Ofitserov](#)
- 17 July 2013 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the end of her visit to Egypt](#)
- 17 July 2013 – [Déclaration du porte-parole de Catherine Ashton, Haute Représentante de l'Union, sur l'assassinat du journaliste et défenseur des droits de l'homme Éric Ohena Lembembe au Cameroun](#)
- 17 July 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court](#)
- 16 July 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on elections in Bhutan](#)
- 16 July 2013 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the meeting of E3+3 Political Directors](#)
- 16 July 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the visit of Sudanese President Al-Bashir to Nigeria](#)
- 14 July 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the attack on UNAMID peacekeepers in Darfur](#)
- 14 July 2013 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the situation in Egypt](#)
- 11 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the commemoration of Srebrenica](#)
- 9 July 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the second anniversary of South Sudan's independence](#)
- 8 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the latest meeting in the framework of the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)
- 8 July 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Egypt](#)
- 7 July 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest events in Egypt](#)
- 7 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the massacre of schoolchildren in Yobe State, Nigeria](#)
- 5 July 2013 – [Déclaration du porte-parole de Catherine Ashton, Haute Représentante de l'Union, sur la situation en Guinée](#)
- 5 July 2013 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest spate of attacks in Iraq](#)
- 4 July 2013 – [Speech of Lithuanian Vice Minister for European Affairs Vytautas Leškevičius on behalf of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Egypt](#)
- 3 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on developments in Egypt](#)
- 3 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Egypt](#)
- 1 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the occasion of her visit to Bahrain for the EU-GCC Ministerial meeting](#)
- 1 July 2013 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on EU support for a Conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of weapons of mass destruction](#)

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

- 12 September 2013 – [EU and Vietnam hold human rights dialogue](#)
- 9 September 2013 – [Declaration by the Envoys for the Great Lakes](#)
- 6 September 2013 – [Republic of Guinea: EU to observe legislative elections](#)
- 25 July 2013 – [Council amends EU terrorist list](#)
- 25 July 2013 – [Joint Council and Commission declaration on the specific restrictive measures to combat terrorism](#)
- 24 July 2013 – [Thirteenth meeting of the Cooperation Council between the European Union and Kazakhstan](#)
- 23 July 2013 – [Joint Press Release: Tenth meeting of the Stabilisation and Association Council between the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the EU](#)
- 19 July 2013 – [Joint Communiqué: Sixth South Africa-European Union Summit](#)
- 5 July 2013 – [European Union launches Election Observation Mission to Mali](#)

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

EU Delegations

- 13 September 2013 – [Makati City: Local EU statement on the recent violence and hostage situation in Zamboanga](#)
- 13 September 2013 – [Yerevan: Local EU Statement on recent cases of violence against civil activists and intimidation of human rights defenders in the Republic of Armenia](#)
- 30 August 2013 – [Colombo: Local EU statement in Sri Lanka on the international day of the disappeared](#)
- 28 August 2013 – [Baku: Local EU Statement on the 2013 presidential election and support for democracy in Azerbaijan](#)
- 26 August 2013 – [Tbilisi: Local EU Statement on the visit by President Putin to the Georgian region of Abkhazia](#)
- 13 August 2013 – [Colombo: Local EU statement on the right to peaceful protest and freedom of religion in Sri Lanka](#)
- 13 August 2013 – [Dhaka: Local EU statement on detention of Mr Adilur Rahman Khan](#)
- 24 July 2013 – [Juba: Local EU statement on dismissal of South Sudan's entire Cabinet](#)
- 13 July 2013 – [Juba: Local EU statement on ending inter-ethnic conflict in Jonglei, South Sudan](#)

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

European Commission (EC)

- 16 September 2013 – [Speech by President José Manuel Barroso: 'A New Deal for Somalia'](#)
- 16 September 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva: 'The lessons learned and ways forward for EU Aid Volunteers'](#)
- 16 September 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Andris Piebalgs: 'A New Deal in the way we work with Somalia'](#)

EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

European Commission – continued

- 16 September 2013 – [Statement by Commissioner Andris Piebalgs: 'A new chapter in EU-Somalia relations'](#)
11 September 2013 – [Statement by Commissioner Štefan Füle on the pressure exercised by Russia on countries of the Eastern Partnership](#)
11 September 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'EU policy towards Belarus'](#)
10 September 2013 – [Worsening Crisis in Central African Republic: Commissioner Georgieva condemns killing of two aid workers](#)
10 September 2013 – [Lebanon: Further support of € 58 million to deal with Syria crisis](#)
9 September 2013 – [The EU announces assistance package for development in Palestine during Prime Minister Hamdallah's visit to Brussels](#)
9 September 2013 – [The EU announces more than € 124 million to increase security in Somalia](#)
4 September 2013 – [EU-Lebanon: New support to improve security and social cohesion](#)
4 September 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Strengthening the Role of Women in the South Mediterranean'](#)
4 September 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Karel De Gucht: 'Conflict Minerals: The Need to Act'](#)
3 September 2013 – [Statement by Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva on latest figure of refugees fleeing from the Syrian crisis](#)
2 September 2013 – [EU Report: Trade protectionism still on rise across the world](#)
31 August 2013 – [EU and Serbia: Enhanced cooperation rules enter into force](#)
30 August 2013 – [EU and EBU ready to cooperate on strengthening public media in the European Neighbourhood](#)
30 August 2013 – [New EU support for sustainable urban development in the European Neighbourhood](#)
29 August 2013 – [EU announces further support for economic development and elimination of social inequality in Morocco](#)
27 August 2013 – [EU-Ukraine: Statement by Commissioner Štefan Füle on the road to signing the Association Agreement](#)
26 August 2013 – [EU-former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Statement by Commissioner Štefan Füle on the Committee of Inquiry](#)
20 August 2013 – [Sudan: EU mobilizes humanitarian experts to assess impact of floods](#)
19 August 2013 – [New EU funding to help the fight against drugs in Bolivia](#)
18 August 2013 – [Statement by Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva on World Humanitarian Day 2013](#)
1 August 2013 – [Statement on the negotiations with Bosnia and Herzegovina on the bilateral trade regime after the accession of Croatia to the EU](#)
1 August 2013 – [Statement on the adoption of constitutional amendments in Montenegro](#)
31 July 2013 – [EU Trade deal with Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama becomes operational](#)
30 July 2013 – [New EU programme to support economic and political governance in Algeria](#)
29 July 2013 – [EU's Instrument for Stability: A key contributor in EU responses to international conflicts and crises in 2012](#)
26 July 2013 – [EU-Colombia trade agreement takes effect on 1 August](#)
25 July 2013 – [New EU support on health and development for Belarusian people](#)
25 July 2013 – [New EU support for access to health care for women and small children in Guinea-Bissau](#)
25 July 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'European Neighbourhood Policy – Priorities and Directions for Change'](#)
24 July 2013 – [EU and Armenia Agree Trade Deal](#)
23 July 2013 – [New initiative to combat violence against women in the Democratic Republic of Congo](#)
22 July 2013 – [EU and Georgia conclude talks on Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area](#)
19 July 2013 – [Democratic Republic of Congo: EU increases humanitarian funding and sounds alert on impact of crisis on civilians](#)
17 July 2013 – [EU to support infrastructure development in South Africa and the region](#)
15 July 2013 – [Remarks by Commissioner Karel De Gucht on the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement negotiations between the EU and the Eastern African Community](#)
12 July 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Georgia's European Way'](#)
11 July 2013 – [Georgia: More EU support for safer and easier movement of people and goods](#)
11 July 2013 – [Central African Republic: EU scales up humanitarian aid](#)
8 July 2013 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'We want to see Bosnia and Herzegovina succeed'](#)
4 July 2013 – [New EU support for renewable energy policy in Nigeria](#)
1 July 2013 – [New funding to support businesses in the Eastern Partnership countries](#)

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

European Parliament (EP)

- 12 September 2013 – [Human rights: Situation in Congo, Central African Republic and Bahrain](#)
12 September 2013 – [MEPs urge Russia to respect ex-Soviet countries' right to choose ties with EU](#)
12 September 2013 – [Egypt: MEPs call for a halt to violence and a rapid return to democracy](#)
12 September 2013 – [Deterrent measures against Syria must not be excluded, say MEPs](#)
11 September 2013 – [Voting on MFF 2014-2020 postponed, conditions not met](#)
29 August 2013 – [Foreign affairs committee calls on Egypt to retake path to democracy](#)
28 August 2013 – [Ukraine: MEPs criticise Russian pressure ahead of possible EU deal](#)
28 August 2013 – [Syria: "We believe a political solution is still needed"](#)
9 July 2013 – [Egypt: Avoid bloodshed and ensure inclusive elections, MEPs say](#)
4 July 2013 – [Human rights: Situation in Djibouti and Nigeria](#)
4 July 2013 – [Egypt: Parliament calls for swift return to democracy and elections](#)
4 July 2013 – [Arms exports: MEPs demand stronger EU controls](#)
3 July 2013 – [EU budget: Parliament accepts negotiated MFF 2014-2020 package](#)
3 July 2013 – [Protests in Egypt: MEPs to call for inclusive dialogue](#)

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

European Investment Bank (EIB)

- 31 July 2013 – [Serbia: EUR 50 million for SMEs and other projects](#)

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

REFORMING CIVILIAN COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY (CSDP)

Introduction

This is a summary of EPLO's recent policy paper on civilian Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).

The policy paper starts from the position that civilian CSDP is a crucial tool for the EU, in that it can serve as a vehicle for collective action on the part of the EU and EU Member States, however it requires reform to build on 10 years' worth of evidence on how to effectively respond to conflict. It covers the following points:

Integration of CSDP Missions into Overall EU Strategies:

CSDP missions should be used as a tool to implement overall EU objectives as set out in a country or regional strategy. This would minimise risks of wasteful and confusing duplication and ensure that the investment made in the CSDP is built on by other EU activities.

Revision of Civilian CSDP Concepts: When civilian CSDP was developed it was a foresighted and cutting edge approach to conflict which has since been taken up by other international actors. However, more than ten years after the first CSDP missions were deployed, it is time to update the concepts underlying the CSDP in order to integrate the wealth of evidence on effective response to conflict which has been generated in the meantime. In this regard, the review of the concept for CSDP border missions is a welcome development. The CSDP could benefit from the experience of individual EU Member States in specific areas, for example, Ireland's expertise in police reform. EU Member States should define their involvement in the further development of civilian CSDP.

Integration of Conflict Analysis into Mission Planning: The planning of CSDP missions should be informed by detailed conflict analysis setting out the causes, actors and dynamics of conflicts within each context. This would help to ensure that missions have a positive impact on the conflict dynamics and would minimise the risks that they inadvertently exacerbate existing tensions. The CSDP could use existing assessment of context carried out within the European External Action Service (EEAS) and the European Commission (EC).

Rigorous and Participatory Evaluation of CSDP Missions: Significant positive steps have been made to improve the evaluation of CSDP missions, notably by the Division for Capabilities, Concepts, Training and Exercises inside the Crisis Management and Planning Directorate (CMPD) and through cautious widening of consultation during strategic reviews. This should continue and should include assessment of the impact of CSDP missions on the context, as well as development of indicators of success and wider consultation of stakeholders, including intended beneficiaries, in evaluation. The European Court of Auditors' report on EULEX Kosovo and the study on the Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC) Impact Assessment Framework provide suggestions to improve evaluation of CSDP missions.

Improvement of the Relationship between CSDP Missions and Local Populations

CSDP missions should develop good working relationships with local populations, including civil society as well as government. This would help to improve accountability towards some of the intended beneficiaries of the CSDP, i.e. populations in conflict-affected countries. An effective consultation process, which ensures that local communities' concerns are taken into account in

the planning and conduct of operations, would also improve the missions' understanding of the context in which they are operating and their ability to support the development of security and justice for people. Furthermore, local populations should be adequately informed about the mandate, activities and contingency plans of the missions and made aware of their possible impact so that expectations are realistic and a degree of trust is established.

Future Scenarios for Civilian CSDP

EPLO's policy paper argues that EU policy-makers should consider the different scenarios for the future of the CSDP, including whether the EU should further specialise in particular types of activity in order to avoid duplication and to ensure that capacities are available:

Option 1: Focus on Support for Peace Processes

The CSDP specialises in specific activities related to monitoring the implementation of peace agreements and to preventing the recurrence of armed conflict or, more ambitiously, supporting peace negotiations.

Option 2: Develop Niche Expertise

The CSDP further develops its valuable expertise in specific activities such as police training or border management and monitoring by reviewing concepts and practices and integrating lessons learned and other relevant expertise.

Option 3: Develop and Manage Stabilisation Missions

CSDP missions deploy as short-term stabilisation tools in conflict-affected countries or regions.

Option 4: Explore the Option of Joint EU Missions

Joint missions encompass a variety of different EU instruments from short-term crisis response mechanisms to longer-term development activity.

Option 5: Maintain the Wide Range of Civilian Crisis Management Activities

The CSDP continues with the broad range of civilian crisis management activities that have been developed to date but ensures that the necessary capacity exists in the EU institutions and is deployed by EU Member States to improve effectiveness of the missions.

Implications for the December Summit on CSDP

The December Summit on CSDP provides an opportunity for EU Member States to take decisions on civilian CSDP. In the run-up to the Summit, military CSDP has been the focus of extensive debate, sometimes eclipsing the larger civilian dimension. EPLO believes that the agenda needs to be balanced and that the Summit should allow at least equal space for discussion of civilian CSDP. The recent decision of High Representative/Vice-President (HR/VP) Catherine Ashton to include civilian CSDP under the first and second agenda points is welcome in this regard.

For military CSDP, specific "deliverables" – i.e. decisions to be taken by EU Member States – are on the table, mainly concerning pooling and sharing of resources and funding to the European defence industry.

REFORMING CIVILIAN CSDP (CONTINUED)

For civilian CSDP, it has been harder to define similar deliverables; EPLO makes some suggestions below.

Suggested issues for discussion under agenda item ("basket") one:

- Effectiveness of civilian and military CSDP
- Efficiency of CSDP processes
- Capabilities required for effective and efficient CSDP
- Integration of the CSDP into an overall EU approach
- Scenarios for the future of the CSDP
- Decisions on priorities for civilian CSDP and areas where the EU can become a world leader and where it should develop niche expertise.

Possible Deliverables for Civilian CSDP

Effectiveness of Civilian CSDP

- Clarity on EU Member States' expectations for the future of the CSDP
- Decisions on the main lines for the future of the CSDP (scenarios for the future) and its role in overall EU external action
- Acknowledgement by EU Member States of the specificity of concepts for civilian CSDP
- Commitments to review and update the concepts and policy underlying civilian CSDP
- Request to the crisis management bodies to review CSDP concepts and policy and to decide on a list of concepts and respective timeline for review
- Commitments to staff the policy team in the CMPD adequately
- Commitments on the use of conflict analysis in planning missions (using assessment developed in the EEAS and in the EC when possible) and endorsement of a mechanism to integrate conflict analysis into the CSDP
- Endorsement of suggestions on evaluation of CSDP missions, by, for instance, developing indicators for measuring results and impact and providing guidance on involvement of external actors and possible assessment frameworks
- Launch of a framework for evaluation to be applied throughout 2014 and reviewed
- Recognition that civil society is a strategic partner and commitments to enhance further collaboration.

Efficiency of CSDP Processes

- List of decisions on improving civilian CSDP processes (see in particular the German non-paper on civilian CSDP)
- Amendment of the Financial Regulation so that money can be dispersed swiftly during the planning phase and for preparatory activities

- Agreement on permanent capacity inside the crisis management structures to support setting up and running of missions
- Standardised templates for basic planning documents to set up missions.

Capabilities for CSDP

- Commitment on the part of EU Member States to staff adequately the missions to whose launch they have agreed, including identification and deployment of civilian experts
- Decisions on capabilities in areas of niche expertise where the EU could be a world leader; identification of lead EU Member States for areas of niche expertise
- Commitment to strengthen the policy team inside the CMPD by e.g. seconding additional staff to work on policy and to reinforce co-operation with other parts of the EEAS.

Using the EEAS Review

Some of the issues could also be tackled as part of the mid-term review of the EEAS or the debates on it:

- Amendment of the decision which established the EEAS so that the crisis management bodies do not report directly to the HR/VP but are integrated into the rest of the EEAS
- Clarity on role of senior managers in EEAS, including on who is responsible for the CSDP.

Co-operation with Justice and Home Affairs

The shortfall of civilian capabilities is partly due to the lack of co-operation between the CSDP and the area of justice and home affairs (JHA) in Brussels and at EU Member State level, and the difficulty of convincing ministries of the interior and justice to commit staff to the CSDP.

- Acknowledgement of the link between external and internal security challenges
- Commitment to further develop and implement plans at national level to gain the support of relevant ministries in identification and deployment of mission staff, including recognising benefits and incentives required
- Endorsement of increased co-operation between the Committee of Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management (CIVCOM) and respective working groups in Brussels in line with the roadmap for strengthening ties between the CSDP and the area of freedom, security and justice.
- Request ministries of interior and justice to engage regularly in discussions on the CSDP and to demonstrate their contribution to the CSDP.

Click [here](#) to download EPLO's policy paper on civilian CSDP.

Click [here](#) to download EPLO's discussion points on the EU and the Comprehensive Approach.

ARE YOU UNDERTAKING RESEARCH ON THE EU AND CONFLICT?

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

JOB VACANCIES AND INTERNSHIPS

JOB VACANCIES

There are job vacancies in the following EPLO member organisations: [Berghof Foundation](#), [Conciliation Resources](#), [International Alert](#), [International Center for Transitional Justice](#), [International Crisis Group](#), [Interpeace](#), [Nonviolent Peaceforce](#), [Oxfam International](#), [Saferworld](#), [Search for Common Ground](#) and [World Vision International](#).

INTERNSHIPS / VOLUNTEERING

There are internship opportunities and/or open voluntary positions in following EPLO member organisations: [Berghof Foundation](#), [Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities](#), [Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue \(HD Centre\)](#), [International Alert](#), [International Center for Transitional Justice](#), [International Crisis Group](#), [Life & Peace Institute](#), [Nonviolent Peaceforce](#), [Pax Christi International](#), [Saferworld](#), [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 courses in the coming months: [Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution](#), [Forum Civil Peace Service \(forumZFD\) - Academy for Conflict Transformation](#), [Interpeace](#), [International Alert](#) and [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 August 2013: [Reforming Civilian Common Security and Defence Policy](#).

The following EPLO member organisations have published reports and/or newsletters July, August and September 2013: [Catholic Organization for Relief and Development \(Cordaid\)](#), [Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue \(HD Centre\)](#), [Conciliation Resources](#), [Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict](#), [International Alert](#), [International Center for Transitional Justice](#), [International Crisis Group](#), [Interpeace](#), [Life & Peace Institute](#), [Nonviolent Peaceforce](#), [Oxfam International](#), [Pax Christi International](#), [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.

WHO'S WHO IN THE EPLO OFFICE?

Catherine Woollard: Executive Director

Giulia Pasquinelli: Senior Policy Officer

Chris Glynn-Robinson: Programme Assistant

Anna Penfrat: Policy Assistant

Nabila Habbida: Policy Officer – Member States

Antonia Potter Prentice: Senior Associate

Josephine Liebl: Senior Policy Officer

Najoua Sbai: Events and Office Coordinator

Ben Moore: Senior Policy Officer

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 is managed by EPLO, in co-operation with the European Commission and the European External Action Service.

Upcoming Events

Policy Meeting Mediation

Thursday 14 November 2013, Brussels

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

In-country Dialogue Meeting Democratic Republic of Congo

December 2013, Kinshasa

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

Geographic Meeting Niger: Review of EUCAP Sahel Niger

December 2013, Brussels

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

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

What role for Germany in strengthening EU peacebuilding and civilian CSDP?

Tuesday 29 October 2013, Berlin

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

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

UPCOMING CIVIL SOCIETY EVENTS

Olympics politics - Sochi 2014 and beyond

Wednesday 13 November 2013, Brussels

(Organiser: International Alert)

For more information about this event, please contact [International Alert](#)