EU Update

Council of the EU
The Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) met on 14-15 April in Luxembourg, and on 8 and 12 May in Brussels.

In April, EU foreign ministers adopted conclusions on Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Central African Republic, Syria, Ukraine and the European Court of Auditors’ special report on EU development assistance to Central Asia. They also:
- received a briefing about the European Commission (EC) and European External Action Service (EEAS) joint communication ‘For an open and secure global maritime domain: elements for an EU maritime security strategy’ (see p. 3)
- received a briefing on the state of play concerning the EU military operation in the Central African Republic (EUFOR RCA) in the presence of the EU Operation Commander Major-General Philippe Pontiès
- discussed the implications of the crisis in Ukraine on EU defence and security policy, in the presence of NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen
- reinforced EU restrictive measures targeting persons responsible for the misappropriation of Ukrainian state funds
- adopted a decision providing up to €1 billion in macro-financial assistance to Ukraine to support its economic stabilisation and its structural reform agenda
- adopted a regulation granting unilateral trade preferences to Ukraine, providing for the temporary reduction or elimination of customs duties in accordance with a schedule of concessions set out in an annex to the EU-Ukraine association agreement
- adopted the EU position for the tenth Association Council with Tunisia (14 April, Luxembourg)
- amended the EU restrictive measures against the Republic of Guinea
- amended the EU restrictive measures against the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea so as to take account of changes agreed at the United Nations (UN)
- extended the EU restrictive measures against Myanmar until 30 April 2015
- adopted decisions on the signing, provisional application and conclusion of a protocol to the EU-Azerbaijan Partnership and Cooperation Agreement concerning a Framework Agreement between the EU and Azerbaijan on general principles for the participation of Azerbaijan in EU programmes
- approved, on behalf of the EU, the conclusion of the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Partnership and Cooperation between the EU and its Member States and the Republic of Indonesia
- approved the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, of the other part.
- adopted the legislative act establishing the European Year of Development 2015
- approved a renewal of the EU’s guarantee for the European Investment Bank’s (EIB) external operations for the 2014-2020 period
On 8 May, EU foreign, trade and European ministers:
- discussed the EU’s “post-Bali” agenda following the WTO ministerial conference held at the end of 2013
- received a briefing by the EC on progress in negotiations on economic partnership agreements (EPAs)
- adopted an amendment to Regulation (EC) No 2173/2005 on the establishment of a forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber products (FLEGT) licensing scheme for imports of timber into the EU
- adopted a decision establishing the EU position for the 93rd session of the Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), in relation notably to the adoption of amendments to several other regulations concerning safety of life at sea.

On 12 May, EU foreign ministers adopted conclusions on Ukraine, the Middle East Peace Process, the abductions in Nigeria, the Human Rights Dialogue with Myanmar, and the EU comprehensive approach. They also:
- discussed the future of the European Neighbourhood Policy
- adopted the EU’s position for the sixth meeting of the Stabilisation and Association Council with Albania (12 May, Brussels)
- agreed to the conclusion of a protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with Georgia on a Framework Agreement between the EU and Georgia on the general principles for the participation of Georgia in EU programmes
- adopted the EU position for the eighth meeting of the EU-Algeria Association Council (13 May, Brussels)
- adopted EU human rights guidelines on freedom of expression online and offline
- made technical changes to the EU restrictive measures against Somalia so as to take account of UN Security Council Resolution 2142
- approved the annual review of EU restrictive measures against Côte d’Ivoire
- approved, on behalf of the EU, the conclusion of the Framework Agreement between the EU and its Member States and the Republic of Korea
- adopted the position of the EU and its Member States on the draft declaration of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) ministerial meeting on environment and climate change (13 May, Athens)
- established the EU’s common position for the 41st meeting of the European Economic Area (EEA) Council (13 May, Brussels).

The General Affairs Council (GAC) met on 13 May in Brussels. EU foreign and European ministers:
- examined a draft annotated agenda for the next European Council meeting (26-27 June, Brussels)
- adopted 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 EU (FRONTEX)
- adopted a decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the EU, of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the fisheries partnership agreement (FPA) between the EU and the Republic of Seychelles
- adopted a decision on the conclusion of the Protocol agreed between the EU and the Republic of Madagascar setting out fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the FPA between the two parties currently in force
- adopted a decision on the conclusion of the Protocol between the EU and the Union of the Comoros setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the FPA between the two parties currently in force
- adopted a regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 as regards the technical implementation of the Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

European Council
On 27 May, EU heads of state and government issued a statement on Ukraine.

Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)
On 1 April, the Council of the EU launched an EU military operation to contribute to a secure environment in the Central African Republic (EUFOR RCA), as authorised by the UN Security Council in Resolution 2134.
- On 15 April, the FAC:
  - took note of the revised exercise policy of the EU under the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)
  - extended the EU Training Mission in Mali (EUTM Mali) for two years and refocused its activities
  - approved an agreement on the participation of the Switzerland in EUTM Mali
  - established a civilian CSDP mission to assist the internal security forces in Mali to ensure law and order as well as fight against terrorists, organised crime and cross-border trafficking (EUCAP Sahel Mali)
  - authorised the opening of negotiations with the Republic of Mali for an agreement on the status of EUFOR Sahel Mali
  - approved the signing and conclusion of an agreement between the EU and the Central African Republic concerning the detailed arrangements for the transfer to the latter of persons detained by EUFOR RCA in the course of carrying out its mandate, and concerning the guarantees applicable to such persons
  - authorised the opening of negotiations with the Republic of Cameroon for an agreement on the status of the EU forces from EUFOR RCA in transit within the territory of Cameroon.

On 30 April, EUFOR RCA took responsibility from France’s Operation Sangaris for the security and protection of Bangui Airport.

On 6 May, Mr Filip de Ceveninck (Belgium) was appointed new Head of Mission for the EU civilian CSDP mission in Niger (EUCAP Sahel Niger).

European External Action Service (EEAS)
On 8 April, High Representative (HR) Catherine Ashton announced the appointment of Mr Gábor Iklódy as Director for
Crisis Management and Planning (CMPD). Mr Ilkódy is currently NATO’s Assistant Secretary General for Emerging Security Challenges.

Also on 8 April, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Mr Silvio Gonzato as Director for Human Rights and Democracy. Mr Gonzato is currently Head of the Secretariat of the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the European Parliament (EP).

On 11 April, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Mr Alexander Baum as Head of the EU Delegation (EUD) to Botswana. Mr Baum is currently Head of the EUD to Malawi.

Also on 11 April, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Mr Jari Vilen as Head of the EUD to the Council of Europe. Mr Vilen is currently Finland’s Ambassador to Poland.

Also on 2 May, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Mr Christian Manahl as Head of the EUD to Eritrea. Mr Manahl is currently a political counselor in the EUD to South Sudan.

Also on 2 May, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Mr Michael Doyle as Head of the EUD to Lesotho. Mr Doyle is currently Deputy Head of the unit for the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace & Foreign Policy Regulatory Instruments in the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) in the European Commission (EC).

And finally on 2 May, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Mr Antonio Sánchez-Benedito Gaspar as Head of the EU EUD to Madagascar. Mr Sánchez-Benedito Gaspar is currently Spain’s Ambassador at Large for the Sahel.

On 5 May, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Mr David O’Sullivan as Head of the EUD to the USA. Mr O’Sullivan has been the Chief Operating Officer of the EEAS since its creation.

On 8 May, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Mr Joaquín González-Ducay as Head of the EUD to Senegal. Mr González-Ducay is currently Head of the EUD to Guinea-Bissau.

Also on 8 May, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Mr Hidayet Biščević as Head of the EUD to Tajikistan.

European Union Special Representatives (EUSRs)

On 9 April, HR Ashton appointed Janos Herman as Special Envoy to Central Asia. Mr Herman was most recently Head of the EUD to Norway.

On 9 April, HR Ashton appointed Mr Bernardino León as her personal Special Envoy for Libya. Mr León has been the EU Special Representative for the Southern Mediterranean region since June 2011.

European Commission (EC)

On 5 March, the European Commission (EC) and the European External Action Service (EEAS) published a joint proposal on ‘Responsible sourcing of minerals originating in conflict-affected and high-risk areas: Towards an integrated EU approach’. Also on 5 March, the EC published a proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament (EP) and of the Council setting up an EU system for supply chain due diligence self-certification of responsible importers of tin, tantalum and tungsten, their ores, and gold originating in conflict-affected and high-risk areas.

On 6 March, the EC and the EEAS published a joint communication on ‘For an open and secure global maritime domain: elements for a European Union maritime security strategy’. On 10 March, the EC published proposals for Council decisions on the signing and conclusion of association agreements between the EU and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia and the Republic of Moldova respectively, of the other part.

Also on 10 March, the EC published a proposal for a Council decision repealing Decision 2010/371/EU of 7 June 2010 concerning the conclusion of consultations with the Republic of Madagascar under Article 96 of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement.

On 11 March, the EC published a communication on ‘An open and secure Europe: making it happen’. Also on 11 March, the EC published a proposal for a Regulation of the EP and of the Council on the reduction or elimination of customs duties on goods originating in Ukraine.

On 12 March, the EC published a report on ‘Trade and Investment Barriers’.

On 19 March, the EC published a proposal for a Council decision providing macro-financial assistance to Ukraine.


On 27 March, the EC and the EEAS published a joint communication on ‘Neighbourhood at the Crossroads: Implementation of the European Neighbourhood Policy in 2013’.

On 31 March 2014, the EC published proposals for Council decisions on the signing and conclusion, on behalf of the EU, of protocols to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing associations between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Lebanon and the Republic of Tunisia respectively, of the other part, on a Framework Agreement between the EU and those countries on the general principles for their participation in EU programmes.

On 1 April, the EC published proposals for Council decisions on the signing and conclusion of the protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the fisheries partnership agreement (FPA) between the EU and the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Principe.

Also on 1 April, the EC published a recommendation for a Council decision to authorise the Commission to open negotiations on behalf of the EU for the renewal of the protocol to the FPA with Mozambique.

On 7 April, the EC and the EEAS published a joint proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 147/2003 concerning certain restrictive measures in respect of Somalia. On 8 April, the EC and the EEAS published a joint communication on ‘The post 2015 Hyogo Framework for Action: Managing risks to achieve resilience.’

On 14 April, the EC and the EEAS 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 15 April, the EC published a proposal for a Council decision establishing the position to be taken by the EU within the General Council of the World Trade Organization (WTO) on the accession of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the WTO.

On 30 April, the EC and the EEAS published a joint communication on ‘Elements for an EU Strategy in Afghanistan 2014-16’. On 5 May, the EC published a communication on ‘A new EU approach to the detection and mitigation of CBRN-E risks’.

On 13 May, the EC published a communication on ‘A Stronger Role of the Private Sector in Achieving Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Developing Countries’. 
On 19 May, the EC and the EEAS published a joint communication on ‘Elements for an EU strategy on public security in Central America and the Caribbean’.

On 23 May, the EC published a proposal for a Council decision on the signing, on behalf of the EU, of the agreement between the EU and its Member States and Iceland concerning Iceland’s participation in the joint fulfilment of commitments of the EU, its Member States and Iceland in the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

On 26 May, the EC published a communication on ‘The review of the list of critical raw materials for the EU and the implementation of the Raw Materials Initiative’.

On 27 May, the EC published a proposal for a Council decision concerning the renewal of the Agreement on cooperation in science and technology between the European Community and Ukraine.

Click here to read the documents which were published by the EC in March, April and May.

European Parliament (EP)
The European Parliament (EP) had plenary sessions on 2-3 April in Brussels, and 14-17 April in Strasbourg. Members adopted resolutions on:

- the European Year for Development 2015
- the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
- the 2012 discharge of the European Commission (EC), the European External Action Service (EEAS), executive agencies, and the eighth, ninth and tenth European Development Funds (EDF)
- the situation in Iran
- the EU comprehensive approach and coherence of EU external action
- the reduction or elimination of customs duties on goods originating in Ukraine
- the Community regime for the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items
- macro-financial assistance to the Republic of Tunisia
- financial responsibility linked to investor-state dispute settlement tribunals established by international agreements to which the EU is party
- the EU-Georgia Framework Agreement on the general principles for the participation of Georgia in EU programmes
- fishing opportunities and financial contributions provided for in the EU-Seychelles, EU-Comoros and EU-Madagascar fisheries partnership agreements (FPA)
- the situation in North Korea
- the situation of certain vulnerable communities in Syria
- recent cases of persecution in Pakistan
- the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement negotiations
- Eastern Partnership countries and in particular destabilisation of eastern Ukraine
- religious freedoms and cultural diversity
- the negotiation of the EU-Japan strategic partnership agreement
- criminal acts and penalties in the field of illicit drug trafficking.

Click here to read the texts which were adopted by the EP in March, April and May.

EU-Africa Summit
The fourth EU-Africa Summit took place on 2-3 April in Brussels. Heads of state and government from EU and African states and the leaders of the EU and African Union (AU) institutions discussed the future of EU-Africa relations and adopted two declarations and a roadmap for 2014-2017.

Click here to read the documents related to the fourth EU-Africa Summit.

UPCOMING EU EVENTS
European Council: 26-27 June 2014, Brussels
Foreign Affairs Council: 23 June 2014, Luxembourg
General Affairs Council: 24 June 2014, Luxembourg
European Parliament plenary sessions: 1-3 and 20-23 July 2014, Brussels
European Parliament committee meetings: Week beginning Monday 7 July 2014, Brussels
Hearings of Commissioners designate: Week beginning Monday 1 September, Brussels (TBC)

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EU PRESS RELEASES

President of the European Council
27 May 2014 – Joint statement by President Herman Van Rompuy and President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso on the presidential elections in Ukraine
14 May 2014 – Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy at the Europe House, Tbilisi, Georgia
13 May 2014 – Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy at the Palace of the Republic, Chisinau, Moldova
8 April 2014 – Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy: “Europe: a continent in a changing world”
3 April 2014 – Intervention du Président Herman Van Rompuy à l’issue du quatrième sommet UE-Afrique
2 April 2014 – Allocation d’ouverture du Président Herman Van Rompuy lors de la réunion spéciale sur la République Centrafricaine
31 March 2014 – Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy at the third EU-Africa Youth Leaders’ Summit
25 March 2014 – Statement by President Herman Van Rompuy at the Nuclear Security Summit in The Hague
25 March 2014 – Joint declaration by President Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso and Prime Minister John Key on deepening the partnership between New Zealand and the EU
24 March 2014 – Joint statement by President Herman Van Rompuy and President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso on the EU-Canada Strategic Partnership Agreement
20 March 2014 – Statement by President Herman Van Rompuy at the signing ceremony of the political provisions of the Agreement between the EU and Ukraine
18 March 2014 – Joint statement by President Herman Van Rompuy and President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso on the presidential elections in Ukraine
16 March 2014 – Joint statement by President Herman Van Rompuy and President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso on Crimea

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
29 May 2014 – Déclaration du porte-parole de la Haute Représentante Catherine Ashton sur les violences en Centrafrique
28 May 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Thailand
27 May 2014 – Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/214/CFSP amending Decision 2013/184/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Myanmar
27 May 2014 – Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/216/CFSP implementing Decision 2014/119/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Ukraine
27 May 2014 – Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/238/CFSP implementing Decision 2014/145/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine
27 May 2014 – Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/265/CFSP amending Decision 2014/145/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine
27 May 2014 – Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/212/CFSP amending Decision 2013/183/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea
27 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the agreement between the Philippines and Indonesia on the boundary between their exclusive economic zones in the Mindanao Sea and Celebes Sea
25 May 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the terrorists attack in Djibouti
25 May 2014 – Déclaration du porte-parole de la Haute Représentante Catherine Ashton sur la signature d’un accord de cessez-le-feu au Mali
24 May 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the shooting at the Jewish Museum in Brussels
24 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on today’s attack against the Federal Parliament in Mogadishu, Somalia
23 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton regarding the deadly attack in Xinjiang, China
23 May 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the upcoming presidential elections in Ukraine
23 May 2014 – Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton during her visit to the Republic of Korea
23 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on military takeover in Thailand
22 May 2014 – Déclaration du porte-parole de la Haute Représentante Catherine Ashton sur les coups à Kidal, au Mali
21 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the presidential election process in Guinea-Bissau
20 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Thailand
19 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton following the second round of the presidential election in Guinea-Bissau
19 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the announcement of a provisional agreement on illicit drugs between the Government of Colombia and the FARC
18 May 2014 – Déclaration du porte-parole de la Haute Représentante Catherine Ashton sur les violences survenues à Kidal, au Mali
16 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the floods in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina
16 May 2014 – Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the occasion of the International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia
16 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the arbitrary detentions of more than 30 civil society and political activists in Belarus
15 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the death sentence passed for apostasy in Sudan
EU PRESS RELEASES

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

14 May 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the announcement of the resignation of Mr Brahimi from his post as the Joint Special Representative for Syria

14 May 2014 – Déclaration de la porte-parole de la Haute Représentante Catherine Ashton sur le meurtre de Camille Lepage, photojournaliste française

14 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the new sentence to death penalty in Belarus

13 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Ashton on the introduction of the first stage of implementation of the 2013 Penal Code Order

12 May 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the death of migrants at sea off the Libyan coast

9 May 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the recent escalation of tensions in the South China Sea

5 May 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the killing of a member of the team providing security to the EU Delegation in Yemen

5 May 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on elections in Iraq

3 May 2014 – Statement by High Representative on the release of the OSCE observers

3 May 2014 – Joint statement by the spokespersons of High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid Kristalina Georgieva on the landslide in Afghanistan

3 May 2014 – Joint statement by the spokespersons of High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Stefan Füle on the intensifying clampdown on human rights defenders in Azerbaijan

2 May 2014 – Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day

30 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the continuation of executions in Taiwan

30 April 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the activation of the death penalty in the Maldives

29 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the court rulings in Egypt

29 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the EU response to the worsening security situation in Eastern Ukraine

28 April 2014 – Déclaration des porte-parole de la Haute Représentante Catherine Ashton et de la Commissaire européenne à la coopération internationale, à l'aide humanitaire et à la réaction aux crises Kristalina Georgieva, sur le meurtre de civils en République centrafricaine

28 April 2014 – Speech by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia

28 April 2014 – Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton together with the new Prime Minister of Serbia Aleksandar Vučić during her visit to Serbia

27 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest developments in the Middle East Peace Process

26 April 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the attack against EULEX Kosovo

24 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest situation in Ukraine

23 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the vote of Kosovo Assembly on EULEX

22 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the announcement of the date of presidential elections in Syria

22 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest execution in Belarus

18 April 2014 – Déclaration de la Haute Représentante Catherine Ashton et du Commissaire européen au développement Andris Piebalgs sur le retour de Madagascar à l’ordre constitutionnel

18 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on recent developments in the West Bank

18 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the legislative and presidential elections in Guinea-Bissau

18 April 2014 – Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the Geneva meeting on Ukraine

16 April 2014 – Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/157/CFSP amending Decision 2011/173/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

15 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on violent attacks in Nigeria

15 April 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the start of a dialogue in Venezuela

13 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Eastern Ukraine

11 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/153/CFSP amending Decision 2011/172/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in situation in Egypt

11 April 2014 – Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/151/CFSP implementing Council Decision 2014/145/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine

11 April 2014 – Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/145/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine

11 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton regarding the sentencing of Dr Xu Zhiyong and the trials of other human rights activists in China

11 April 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton following her visit to Egypt

10 April 2014 – Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton, Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response Kristalina Georgieva, and Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs on the escalation of violence in Darfur

10 April 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on Gabon's accession to the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aiming at the abolition of the death penalty

10 April 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on El Salvador’s accession to the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aiming at the abolition of the death penalty

9 April 2014 – Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif following the E3/EU+3 talks with Iran

8 April 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Eastern Ukraine

8 April 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton in reference to the killing of Father Frans Van der Lugt, SJ in Homs, Syria

8 April 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the murder of two UN expert staff in Puntland, Somalia

8 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the first round of presidential elections in Afghanistan
## EU Press Releases (Continued)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Press Release</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 April 2014</td>
<td>Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the peaceful unblocking of an oil terminal in Libya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 April 2014</td>
<td>Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the forthcoming elections in Guinea-Bissau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 April 2014</td>
<td>Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the start of the genocide in Rwanda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 April 2014</td>
<td>Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the Gymnich meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 April 2014</td>
<td>Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the European Parliament in the debate on foreign and defence policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 April 2014</td>
<td>Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and President of the European Parliament Martin Schulz on the European Consensus on Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 April 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton after today’s meeting in the framework of the EU-facilitated dialogue
31 March 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the appointment of Jens Stoltenberg as the next NATO Secretary General
28 March 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on recent events around the Parliament of Ukraine
28 March 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the DPRK’s ballistic missile launches
28 March 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on Fiji’s progress towards democracy
28 March 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on political unrest in Venezuela
27 March 2014 – Speech by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the Annual Conference of the European Defence Agency
27 March 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the occasion of signing the Comprehensive Agreement between the Government of the Philippines and Moro Islamic Liberation Front on 27 March 2014 in Manila
27 March 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the extremely grave situation in the Central African Republic
24 March 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the death sentences against 529 members of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt
21 March 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Israeli settlement announcement

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

### European External Action Service

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Press Release</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 May 2014</td>
<td>Increased EU support for the OSCE’s work in Ukraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 May 2014</td>
<td>Statement on the adoption of the Memorandum of Peace and Concord by the Parliament of Ukraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 May 2014</td>
<td>EU and Laos hold Working Group on Human Rights and Governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 May 2014</td>
<td>Statement on the recent wave of arrests and detentions in China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 May 2014</td>
<td>EU fully resumes development cooperation with Madagascar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 May 2014</td>
<td>Somalia Piracy Contact Group holds its 18th plenary session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 May 2014</td>
<td>The EU-Central America Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement enters into force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 May 2014</td>
<td>Statement by the EEAS spokesperson on the situation in Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 May 2014</td>
<td>Statement by the EEAS spokesperson on this weekend’s attacks in Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 May 2014</td>
<td>Statement on the victims of fire and violence in Odessa, Ukraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 May 2014</td>
<td>The EU–Indonesia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement enters into force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 April 2014</td>
<td>EU to observe elections in Egypt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 April 2014</td>
<td>Geneva Statement on Ukraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 April 2014</td>
<td>EU to observe elections in Malawi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 April 2014</td>
<td>EU-Kyrgyz Republic Human Rights Dialogue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 March 2014</td>
<td>Second EU-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 March 2014</td>
<td>Speech by EEAS Chief Operating Officer David O’Sullivan: ‘EU Priorities in Asia’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### Council of the EU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Press Release</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29 May 2014</td>
<td>Syria: EU economic sanctions extended until 1 June 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 May 2014</td>
<td>Declaration on behalf of the EU on the situation in Libya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 May 2014</td>
<td>Seventh Annual Joint Consultative Meeting between the African Union Peace and Security Council and the EU Political and Security Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 May 2014</td>
<td>41st meeting of the EEA Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 May 2014</td>
<td>Conseil d’Association UE-Algérie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 May 2014</td>
<td>Sixth meeting of the Stabilisation and Association Council between Albania and the EU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 May 2014</td>
<td>22nd EU-Japan Summit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 April 2014</td>
<td>EU strengthens sanctions against actions undermining Ukraine’s territorial integrity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 April 2014</td>
<td>G7 Leaders Statement on Ukraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 April 2014</td>
<td>Conseil d’Association UE-Tunisie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 April 2014</td>
<td>Fourth EU-Africa Summit: Roadmap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 April 2014</td>
<td>Fourth EU-Africa Summit: Declaration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 April 2014</td>
<td>Fourth EU-Africa Summit: EU-Africa Declaration on Migration and Mobility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 March 2014</td>
<td>Deepening the EU-China Comprehensive Strategic Partnership for mutual benefit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 March 2014</td>
<td>Second meeting of the Accession Conference with Montenegro at deputy level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 March 2014</td>
<td>EU-US Summit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 March 2014</td>
<td>The Hague Nuclear Security Summit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 March 2014</td>
<td>G7 The Hague declaration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

EU Delegations
25 May 2014 – Local EU statement on the presidential election in Lebanon
22 May 2014 – Local EU statement on twin bombings in Jos city, Nigeria, claiming at least 118 lives
21 May 2014 – Local statement on Palestinian civilians killed
21 May 2014 – Déclaration locale sur le climat politique et l’arrestation du président de l’APRODH
20 May 2014 – Local statement: the EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemn the death sentence issued in Gaza
29 April 2014 – Skopje: Joint statement by the Delegation of the EU and the US Mission
28 April 2014 – Local EU statement in Iraq on the occasion of the upcoming parliamentary elections
10 April 2014 – Local EU statement on independence of the judiciary in Guatemala
3 April 2014 – Local EU statement on recent violence in Acet
31 March 2014 – Local EU statement on the recent arrest and continued detention of the Nation Magazine Editor Bheki Makhubu and Human Rights Lawyer Thulani Maseko

26 March 2014 – Vietnam and the EU successfully conclude their ninth Joint Commission
26 March 2014 – EU and Vietnam hold third round of high-level political consultations
24 March 2014 – EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemn the death sentences issued in Gaza

Click here to read all the latest press releases from EU delegations.

European Commission
30 May 2014 – Statement after the trilateral meeting between the EU, Russia and Ukraine on energy security
28 May 2014 – EU mobilises additional financial support for Lebanese communities hosting Syrian refugees
28 May 2014 – EU announces new support for the Palestinian people
28 May 2014 – The silent war: 200,000 Syrians have died due to lack of access to health care
27 May 2014 – EU gives € 65 million to help Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina with the aftermath of floods
24 May 2014 – Statement by Commissioner for Regional Policy Johannes Hahn on the occasion of his visit to Serbia
23 May 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Maria Damanaki: ‘European Maritime Security Strategy: Moving Forward’
22 May 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Trade Karel De Gucht: ‘EU Trade Policy as a Means to Influence Globalization’
22 May 2014 – New EU initiative to protect biodiversity and fight wildlife crime
20 May 2014 – EU steps up assistance for flood victims in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina as Commissioner Georgieva visits the region
20 May 2014 – EU steps up its efforts to improve the health of millions in developing countries
20 May 2014 – Ukraine: First tranche of EU macro-financial assistance disbursed
19 May 2014 – EU committed to strengthening democracy in Morocco
17 May 2014 – EU assistance underway for flood victims in Serbia and in Bosnia and Herzegovina
16 May 2014 – EU assists in response to floods in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina
16 May 2014 – EU to boost private sector’s role on inclusive growth in developing countries
12 May 2014 – Commissioner for Home Affairs Cecilia Malmström deplores loss of life in boat tragedy between Libya and Lampedusa
8 May 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘The EU’s support to partners in transition links values with economic and social progress’
5 May 2014 – Press release: Stabilisation and Association Agreement concluded
1 May 2014 – Speech by President José Manuel Barroso: ‘Global Europe, from the Atlantic to the Pacific’
30 April 2014 – Civil society from the Southern Neighbourhood and the EU launch structured dialogue
30 April 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘Sou MediN: Bringing civil society out of the periphery of EU-Mediterranean relations’
29 April 2014 – EU announces new support for Ukraine’s transition
29 April 2014 – Eastern European partners deserve a different future
28 April 2014 – Memorandum of Understanding on Macro-Financial Assistance Programme for Ukraine signed
28 April 2014 – Statement by the spokespersons of High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response Kristalina Georgieva on the killing of civilians in the Central African Republic
25 April 2014 – EU-Georgia: Signature of Association Agreement top priority
25 April 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘Time to show stronger, more resolute and determined Eastern Partnership’
25 April 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘Welcoming remarks to the Eastern Partnership Civil Society in the Czech Senate’
24 April 2014 – EU-Moldova: Challenges ahead of signing the Association Agreement
22 April 2014 – New EU support to renewable energy and fighting climate change in the Pacific
17 April 2014 – Leter from President José Manuel Barroso to President Vladimir Putin
16 April 2014 – Solomon Islands: EU provides humanitarian assistance and expert support
16 April 2014 – Speech: Russian pressure on Eastern Partnership countries, destabilisation of eastern Ukraine
14 April 2014 – EU-Tunisia: More steps to deepen cooperation and support
EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

European Commission – continued

14 April 2014 – European Commission welcomes adoption of temporary tariff cuts for Ukrainian exports to the EU

12 April 2014 – South Sudan: EU steps up efforts to prevent a humanitarian tragedy

11 April 2014 – Ebola in West Africa: EU increases its immediate health assistance to € 1.1 million

10 April 2014 – EU-Turkey: Need to re-engage in reforms in line with EU standards

10 April 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘Mutual benefits of the EU-Turkey Customs Union’

10 April 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘State of EU-Turkey relations: achievements and disappointments’

9 April 2014 – Support Group for Ukraine

9 April 2014 – New EU programme to strengthen land governance in ten African countries

8 April 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth Androulla Vassiliou: ‘Having the world understand your culture is much greater security than another submarine’

8 April 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘Benefits for the environment and human health of both communities’

8 April 2014 – Commissioner Piebalgs calls on Member States to intensify efforts to increase development aid

7 April 2014 – Maximizing the impact of cultural diplomacy in EU foreign policy

7 April 2014 – A unique opportunity to put an end to division

4 April 2014 – The EU launches a new project to fight falsified medicines in developing countries

3 April 2014 – Speech by President José Manuel Barroso at the closing ceremony of the EU-Africa Summit

3 April 2014 – Speech by President José Manuel Barroso: ‘Visionary Africa - For an African Urban Agenda’

3 April 2014 – Remarks by President José Manuel Barroso at the EU-Africa Summit

3 April 2014 – Another tragic milestone as Syrian refugees in Lebanon reach one million

2 April 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘Strengthening and empowering Ukraine through decentralisation’

2 April 2014 – Speech by President Barroso at the EU-Africa Summit

2 April 2014 – Albania has the capacity to tackle its European integration challenges

2 April 2014 – EU-Africa Ministerial Statement on Climate Change

2 April 2014 – EU-Egypt: Reviewing ongoing co-operation and priorities for the future

1 April 2014 – New cooperation agreement between the Commission and Council of Europe on human rights, democracy and rule of law

1 April 2014 – New EU support to provide access to energy to two million people in Africa

1 April 2014 – EU trade policy under this Commission’s term

1 April 2014 – Preparing Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova for association with the EU

31 March 2014 – EU backs China joining talks on Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA)


31 March 2014 – Speech by President Barroso: ‘Emerging Africa’

31 March 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘2013 ENP Package’

28 March 2014 – Ebola in West Africa: The EU joins effort to stop spread of disease and releases € 500,000 in immediate funding

27 March 2014 – New EU support to increase security in the Central African region

27 March 2014 – Neighbourhood at the crossroads – taking stock of a year of challenges

27 March 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth Androulla Vassiliou: ‘How the EU is helping to transform higher education in Africa’

27 March 2014 – Joint statement by Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response Kristalina Georgieva, and Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs on the wave of hostilities targeting international organisations which provide essential assistance to local communities and the most vulnerable in the Rakhine State of Myanmar

26 March 2014 – Turkey relations: achieving a strategic partnership

26 March 2014 – EU-Africa university boost: European Commission backs plan to double size of partnership scheme

26 March 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘EU-Ukraine: emergency situations require emergency measures’

26 March 2014 – EU-Ukraine: Practical support for urgently needed reforms

25 March 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘Human rights and fundamental freedoms – the silver thread running through our actions’

25 March 2014 – Speech by President Barroso at the Third Nuclear Security Summit

24 March 2014 – Ukraine: Decentralisation and support for regions important part of EU help

24 March 2014 – Significant new EU support for Latin America announced

21 March 2014 – Statement by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle on the blocking of Twitter in Turkey

20 March 2014 – The EU renews its commitment towards development in Asia

20 March 2014 – The EU and Myanmar to negotiate an investment protection agreement

19 March 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth Androulla Vassiliou: ‘How the EU is helping to transform higher education in Africa’

19 March 2014 – EU-Ukraine: Commission proposes a further € 1 billion in macro-financial assistance

18 March 2014 – EU-Jordan: € 180 million macro-financial assistance package signed

17 March 2014 – The EU confirms new support for trade in West Africa

17 March 2014 – Central African Republic: The EU airlifts emergency aid relief

14 March 2014 – The EU to provide more funding to fight polio in Syria

14 March 2014 – Fight against HIV/AIDS: Launch of enhanced Action plan in the EU and neighbouring countries for 2014-2016

13 March 2014 – Syria Crisis: Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response Kristalina Georgieva’s visit to refugees in Iraq marks tragic third anniversary

13 March 2014 – Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs announces new support for the Central African Republic during high-level visit

12 March 2014 – EU increases its humanitarian assistance

12 March 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘Crimea referendum: Major threat to the stability of the borders in Europe’

12 March 2014 – Speech by President José Manuel Barroso on Ukraine

EPLO CONFLICT PREVENTION NEWSLETTER – VOLUME 9, ISSUE 2

PAGE 9
EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

European Commission – continued

11 March 2014 – The EU provides € 4 million to help refugees fleeing violence in Central African Republic
10 March 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Stefan Füle: ‘Priorities for EU relations with the Eastern Partnership countries’
7 March 2014 – Statement by Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs on International Women’s Day
6 March 2014 – Towards an EU integrated approach to global maritime security
5 March 2014 – European Commission’s support to Ukraine
5 March 2014 – The EU proposes responsible trading strategy for minerals from conflict zones
5 March 2014 – Remarks by President José Manuel Barroso on Ukraine
4 March 2014 – EU-Georgia: Financial support to strengthen democratic institutions
4 March 2014 – Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs announces new EU support for the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda
4 March 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Stefan Füle: ‘EU-Georgia: About myths and true benefits of Association Agreement’
4 March 2014 – Speech by President José Manuel Barroso: ‘Strengthening Europe security and defence sector’
4 March 2014 – Message of EU support for Georgia
Click here to read all the latest press releases from the European Commission.

European Investment Bank

19 May 2014 – The European Investment Bank supports the construction of the Beskyd railway tunnel linking Ukraine with the EU
2 April 2014 – Further € 200 million from the European Investment Bank for the Marmaray Project in Turkey
2 April 2014 – EU Finance Ministers and Mediterranean Partner Countries embrace new European Investment Bank Strategy for the Mediterranean Region: Roadmap 2020
1 April 2014 – € 200 million loan for climate change mitigation projects in India
Click here to read all the latest press releases from the European Investment Bank.

European Court of Justice

12 March 2014 – The General Court confirms the entry of Ms Bushra al-Assad, sister of the Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, on the list of persons subject to restrictive measures taken against Syria
Click here to read all the latest press releases from the European Court of Justice.

European Parliament

5 May 2014 – Ten years of enlargement: “Dream of Europe breathing with both lungs came true”
17 April 2014 – Ukraine: MEPs call for EU sanctions against Russian energy firms
16 April 2014 – EU aid for disaster-stricken countries to arrive faster, with less red tape
16 April 2014 – Migrants: Parliament approves search and rescue rules to prevent deaths at sea
16 April 2014 – Last plenary debate on Ukraine before the elections
10 April 2014 – Ukraine: “If the EU’s reaction is weak, Putin will make another step”
13 April 2014 – Budgets Committee approves an extra € 187 million for urgent humanitarian aid
4 April 2014 – Dananjie: “The EU represents a good level for an efficient common approach”
3 April 2014 – Iran: MEPs call for an EU strategy beyond the nuclear file
3 April 2014 – MEPs cut customs duties on imports from Ukraine
3 April 2014 – EU foreign policy must use all its tools, MEPs say
2 April 2014 – “Magnitsky list”: MEPs call for EU sanctions against 32 Russian officials
2 April 2014 – Last plenary debate of this Parliament with Catherine Ashton
31 March 2014 – Investor-state disputes: Debate on settlement clauses in EU trade deals
20 March 2014 – Schulz: We must be careful not to sleepwalk into an ever escalating conflict
20 March 2014 – Trade Committee backs plan to remove EU tariffs on imports from Ukraine
19 March 2014 – Central African Republic: ACP-EU Assembly calls on UN to beef up peace-keeping efforts
18 March 2014 – Put 32 Russian officials on an EU “Magnitsky list”, urge Foreign Affairs MEPs
17 March 2014 – Louis Michel: Denying financial support to the CAR would be “unpardonable”
13 March 2014 – Human rights: Uganda and Nigeria; Russia, human trafficking in Sinai
13 March 2014 – European Parliament calls on Russia to withdraw military forces from Ukraine
12 March 2014 – Turkey: “They should reform the country for their citizens, not for us”
12 March 2014 – Turkey: credible commitment and strong democratic foundations needed, MEPs say
12 March 2014 – MEPs approve Copernicus, the EU’s new Earth Observation System
12 March 2014 – Ukraine: MEPs call for firm action on Russia to prevent further escalation
4 March 2014 – Ukraine: The way out of the crisis
4 March 2014 – EU has to pay its humanitarian aid bills, said budget MEPs
3 March 2014 – Ukraine’s Crimea envoy asks EU to move beyond expressing solidarity to action
3 March 2014 – Constitutional reform must be top priority for Turkey, say MEPs

Click here to read all the latest press releases from the European Parliament.
SUPPORT FOR PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT PREVENTION IN THE EU’S EXTERNAL FINANCING INSTRUMENTS 2014-2020

By Ben Moore

Introduction
Throughout 2012 and 2013, EPLO undertook advocacy aimed at influencing the EU Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for the period 2014-2020 and the regulations establishing the EU’s external financing instruments for the corresponding period.

The regulation laying down the MFF 2014-2020 was adopted by the Council of the EU on 2 December 2013 and the regulations establishing the EU’s external co-operation programmes, including the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP), the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI), the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II) and the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) were adopted on 15 March 2014.

The following abridged version of EPLO’s latest briefing paper sets out some of the elements of the new regulations with relevance for the EU’s ability to support peacebuilding and conflict prevention in its external actions.

Overall
The overall MFF 2014-2020 was set at € 959.988 billion. This is significantly lower than the level which the European Commission proposed in June 2011 (€ 1,025 billion) and lower even than the level for the MFF 2007-2013 (€ 994.176 billion).

Despite the decrease in the overall MFF, the level of funding available for external actions (Heading 4) increased from € 56.815 billion in the MFF 2007-2013 to € 58.704. (NB: When inflation is taken into account, this represents a real terms decrease.)

The level of funding for external actions also increased proportionally from 5.71% of the total in the MFF 2007-2013 to 6.12%.

Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace
The Instrument for Stability (IFS), which has been the main EU external funding instrument for supporting peacebuilding and conflict prevention, now includes an explicit reference to peace in its title: Instrument contributing to Peace and Stability (IcSP).

The financial allocation for the IcSP is € 2.339 billion for the MFF 2014-2020, of which at least 70% has been earmarked for activities under Article 3 (Assistance in response to situations of crisis or emerging crisis to prevent conflicts) and 9% for activities under Article 4 (Assistance for conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness).

Development Cooperation Instrument
The financial allocation for the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) for MFF 2014-2020 is € 19.662 billion.

The DCI does not include any references to peacebuilding or conflict prevention in its overall objectives. However, conflict prevention is listed among the issues to be mainstreamed in all programmes together with: ‘(…) the promotion of dialogue, participation and reconciliation, as well as institution building (…)’.

The DCI Regulation also lists ‘development and security, including conflict prevention’ as one of the areas of co-operation to be supported under the geographic programmes and it provides for funding to be left unallocated ‘in particular in fragile, crisis and post-crisis situations’.

The DCI Regulation also provides for attention to be paid to ‘conflict prevention, State and peace building, post-conflict reconciliation and reconstruction measures’ in programming countries and regions in crisis, post-crisis or situations of fragility.

European Neighbourhood Instrument
The financial allocation for the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) for MFF 2014-2020 is € 15.433 billion.

The general objective of the ENI includes: ‘developing a special relationship founded on cooperation, peace and security, mutual accountability and a shared commitment to the universal values of democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights in accordance with the TEU’.

One of the specific objectives of the ENI is: ‘promoting confidence-building, good neighbourly relations and other measures contributing to security in all its forms and the prevention and settlement of conflicts, including protracted conflicts.’

Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance II
The financial allocation for the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II) for MFF 2014-2020 is € 11.699 billion.

The general objective of the IPA includes: ‘contribute to stability, security and prosperity in the [candidate and potential candidate countries].

One of the specific objectives of the IPA II includes ‘regional cooperation and good neighbourly relations’ and ‘promotion of reconciliation, peace-building and confidence-building measures’.

European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights
The financial allocation for the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) for MFF 2014-2020 is € 1.333 billion.

The EIDHR Regulation provides that the available funding will be allocated inter alia for ‘supporting measures to facilitate peaceful conciliation between segments of societies, including support for confidence-building measures relating to human rights and democratisation’ and ‘promoting the peaceful outcome of electoral processes, the reduction of electoral violence and the acceptance of credible results by all segments of society’.

Conclusion
The references to peacebuilding and conflict prevention which are included in the abovementioned regulations provide the legal basis for the EU to support those activities in its external actions.

Whether or not it does so, depends largely on decisions made by those EU officials who are responsible for programming the assistance which is available under the various external financing instruments.

Click here to read the full-length version of version of EPLO Briefing Paper 1/2014: ‘Support for peacebuilding and conflict prevention in the EU’s external financing instruments 2014-2020’.
Publications by EPLO Member Organisations

Berghof Foundation
- Security and Risk Management for Peacebuilding Organisations

Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid (Cordaid)
- Newsletter
- No Peace Without Women's Leadership
- Women's Leadership Institute for Peace and Security
- Women's Peace and Security Barometer
- Strengthening Civil Society Participation in Fragile States
- Open Development Movement

Conciliation Resources
- News Bulletin
- Rejuvenating the economic environment in Jammu & Kashmir
- Voice of Peace - Issue 9

Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict
- Newsletter

International Alert
- Supporting peaceful social, political, cultural and economic change in Mali
- Mindanao's shadow economies: Minimising risks, maximising peace dividends
- Land governance in the Bangsamoro
- Getting rid of illegal guns: Engineering a peaceful transition in the Bangsamoro
- Illicit drugs and peace: Challenges for the Bangsamoro Peace Process
- Porous peace in Mindanao's free trade area
- Open letter on aid and development in Mali

International Center for Transitional Justice
- World Report

International Crisis Group
- Lebanon's Hizbollah Turns Eastward to Syria - Middle East Report N°153
- Venezuela: Tipping Point - Latin America Briefing N°30
- Counting the Costs: Myanmar's Problematic Census - Asia Briefing N°144
- Ukraine: Running out of Time - Europe Report N°231
- Afghanistan's Insurgency after the Transition - Asia Report N°256
- Iran and the P5+1: Solving the Nuclear Rubik's Cube - Middle East Report N°152
- Flight of Icarus? The PYD's Precarious Rise in Syria - Middle East Report N°151
- CrisisWatch N°129

Life & Peace Institute
- Civil Society and Regional Peacebuilding in the Horn of Africa
- Alternatives for Conflict Transformation in Somalia
- New Routes - 1-2/2014

Oxfam International
- Transformative Leadership for Women's Rights: An Oxfam Guide
- For Whose Benefit? The G8 New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Burkina Faso
- Fair Company-Community Partnerships in Palm Oil Development
- Standing on the Sidelines: Why food and beverage companies must do more to tackle climate change
- Above & Beyond: Voices of Hope from South Sudan
- Risk of Relapse: Somalia crisis alert
- Business Among Friends: Why corporate tax dodgers are not yet losing sleep over global tax reform

Pax Christi International
- Newsletter N°244

PAX*
- Policy brief - Burundi
- Scrutiny of South Sudan's Oil Industry
- Doubting a Ban...

Saferworld
- China and the Arms Trade Treaty: Prospects and challenges
- Gender and conflict early warning
- Security for local communities: Can the achievements of the past few years be preserved?
- Community Security Handbook
- Abkhazia: Issues of citizenship and security

Swisspeace
- Gender Dimensions of Violent Conflict - KOFF Factsheet on Gender & Peacebuilding 1/6
- International Women’s Rights Framework in Conflict Situations - KOFF Factsheet on Gender & Peacebuilding 2/6
- Implementation Fields of UNSCR 1325 - KOFF Factsheet on Gender & Peacebuilding 3/6
- Center for Peacebuilding (KOFF) Newsletter N°127

World Vision International
- eNews
- An update on World Vision's commitments to the UN Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health 'Every woman, every child'
- Rapid Urbanisation, Economic Growth and the Well-being of Children
- Just Cities for Children: Developing an evidence-based framework through action research and learning
- Uncounted and Unreached: The unseen children who could be saved by better data

*PAX is a member of EPLO member organisation Pax Christi International.
TRAINING COURSES

ESDC Course on Peacebuilding
13-20 June 2014
Stadtschlaining, Austria
(Organiser: Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution)

Developing and Applying Early Warning and Early Response Systems: Challenges and Response
16-20 June 2014
Cluj Napoca, Romania
(Organiser: Peace Action Training and Research Institute of Romania - International Peace and Development Training Centre)

Summer Academy on OSCE
22 June - 4 July 2014
Stadtschlaining, Austria

Click here to visit the ‘Training’ page of the EPLO website.

JOB VACANCIES AND INTERNSHIPS

There are job vacancies in the following EPLO member organisations:

- Berghof Foundation
- ESSEC IRENÉ
- International Alert
- International Center for Transitional Justice
- International Crisis Group
- Interpeace
- Oxfam International
- Quaker Council for European Affairs
- Safeword
- Search for Common Ground
- World Vision International

There are internship opportunities and/or open voluntary positions in the following EPLO member organisations:

- Berghof Foundation
- Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities
- Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD Centre)
- Crisis Management Initiative
- Democratic Progress Institute
- International Crisis Group
- Interpeace
- Life & Peace Institute
- Nonviolent Peaceforce
- Oxfam International
- Pax Christi International
- Search for Common Ground
- swisspeace
- World Vision International

Click here to visit the ‘Job Vacancies and Internships’ page of the EPLO website.

EPLO PUBLICATIONS

- Support for peacebuilding and conflict prevention in the EU’s external financing instruments 2014-2020 – Briefing Paper 1/2014
The Civil Society Dialogue Network (CSDN) is a mechanism for dialogue between civil society and EU policy-makers on issues related to peace and conflict. It is co-financed by the European Union (Instrument for Stability) and managed by EPLO in co-operation with the European Commission (EC) and the European External Action Service (EEAS).

**Next Event**

**Policy Meeting**
**The Global Peace Index 2014: Peace, Institutions and Assessing Conflict Risk**
Monday 23 June 2014, Brussels

For more information about this meeting, please contact Josephine Liebl.

**Recent Events**

**Policy Meeting**
**Strategic Review of EUTM Somalia**
Tuesday 6 May 2014, Brussels

For more information about this meeting, please contact Josephine Liebl.

**Policy Meeting**
**Towards an EU Policy on Transitional Justice**
Thursday 3 April 2014, Brussels

For more information about this meeting, please contact Josephine Liebl.

**Funding Instruments Meeting**
**Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace: Updates on programming; building links to other EU external financing instruments**
Friday 11 April 2014, Brussels

For more information about this meeting, please contact Ben Moore.

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 Project to Global Actor**

The EU and Peacebuilding: From European Peace Project to Global Actor is an 18-month project co-financed 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.

**Recent Events**

**Italy’s role in EU peacebuilding and civilian CSDP**
Wednesday 4 June 2014, Rome

For more information about this meeting, please contact Nabila Habbida.

**Réponse aux crises et fragilité des États: Les leçons de l’engagement français**
Thursday 24 April 2014, Paris

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.