EU Update

Council of the EU
The Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) met on 23 June in Luxembourg and on 22 July in Brussels.

In June, EU foreign ministers adopted conclusions on Afghanistan, Libya, Thailand and Ukraine, and on kidnap for ransom, the tenth anniversary of the EU guidelines on human rights defenders, the role of the private sector in development and the EU’s approach on responsible sourcing of minerals. They also:

- finalised preparatory work for the full signature of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement
- approved a crisis management concept for a Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) mission to assist the reform of the civilian security sector in Ukraine (see p. 2)
- prohibited the import of goods originating in Crimea and Sevastopol into the EU
- took stock of the situation in the Syrian crisis and reinforced EU restrictive measures against the Syrian regime
- discussed the developments in Iraq, in the presence of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Iraq, Nikolay Mladenov
- amended EU restrictive measures against the Central African Republic in the light of UN Security Council Resolution 2127
- extended the restrictive measures against the leadership of the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova until October 2014
- amended EU restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya
- approved the EU priorities for the 69th UN General Assembly
- adopted the EU’s annual report on human rights and democracy in the world in 2013
- extended the mandate of two EU Special Representatives (EUSRs) until February 2015 and agreed on the budget for their activities (see p. 3)
- adopted the Association Agenda between the EU and the Republic of Moldova for the period from 2014 to 2016
- adopted the Association Agenda between the EU and Georgia for the period from 2014 to 2016
- approved the EU position for the first meeting of the Association Council with Central America

In July, they adopted conclusions on the Central African Republic, the Great Lakes region, Ukraine and the Middle East Peace Process. They also:

- established the CSDP advisory mission for civilian security sector reform in Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine) and authorised the High Representative to negotiate with Ukraine an agreement on its status (see p. 2)
- discussed the situation in Iraq
- approved the EU common position for the 11th meeting of the EU-former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Stabilisation and Association Council (23 July, Brussels)
- endorsed the regular review of the EU list of terrorist persons, groups and entities subject to specific measures to combat terrorism
- adopted technical changes to the legal acts setting out restrictive measures against Iraq
endorsed preparations for the annual review of the EU restrictive measures directed against certain persons and entities threatening the peace, security or stability of Guinea-Bissau
amended the EU restrictive measures imposed in view of the situation in Libya
reinforced EU sanctions against the Syrian regime
endorsed the annual report from the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR) to the European Parliament (EP)
took note of the sixth 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
extended the mandate of the CSDP capacity building mission in Niger (EUCAP Sahel Niger) until July 2016
extended the mandate of the CSDP mission on regional maritime capacity building in the Horn of Africa (EUCAP Nestor) until December 2016
adopted a decision on the aspects of the use of the European Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) affecting the security of the EU
allocated a budget of €756,000 to the European Security and Defence College for the period August 2014 – December 2015
took note of the HR / Head of the European Defence Agency’s progress report on the implementation of the December 2013 European Council conclusions, and the report to the Council on the European Council tasking on standardisation and certification.

The General Affairs Council (GAC) met on 24 June in Luxembourg and on 23 July in Brussels.
In June, EU foreign and European ministers:
examined draft conclusions for the next European Council meeting (26-27 June, Brussels)
adopted conclusions on enlargement (Albania)
adopted the EU maritime security strategy
heard a presentation of a report from the presidency on the implementation of European Council conclusions
endorsed the 18-month programme of the Council
adopted the EU position for the first meeting of the Association Council with Central America
adopted a decision on the financial contributions to be paid by the Member States to finance the European Development Fund (EDF) as the second instalment for 2014

In July, they:
heard a presentation by the Italian presidency of its work programme for the duration of its term of office (July-December 2014)
exchange views on how to ensure the follow-up of the implementation of European Council conclusions
approved a framework for managing financial responsibility linked to investor-to-state dispute settlement proceedings

Other Council configurations
On 5 June, the Justice and Home Affairs Council (JHA) adopted conclusions on the 2013 report on the application of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the consistency between internal and external aspects of human rights’ protection and promotion in the EU.

On 16 June, the Agriculture and Fisheries Council (AGRI) adopted conclusions on the association agreements with Georgia and the Republic of Moldova, EU financial support to the Palestinian Authority and action against anti-personnel mines.

On 15 July, EU development ministers held an informal meeting in Florence, Italy.

On 24 July, the Council adopted reinforced EU sanctions in view of the situation in Ukraine.

European Council
The European Council met on 27 June and it held a special meeting on 16 July.

In June, EU heads of state and government adopted conclusions on Ukraine, freedom, security and justice; and climate and energy.

They also adopted a “Strategic Agenda for the Union in times of Change”, and a decision proposing Mr Jean-Claude Juncker to the European Parliament (EP) as candidate for President of the European Commission (EC).

Finally, they endorsed the EU Maritime Security Strategy, the GAC conclusions of 24 June on Albania and the FAC (Development) conclusions of 19 May on the annual report on EU Official Development Assistance.

On 16 July, they adopted conclusions on Gaza and Ukraine and held an exchange of views with the President-elect of the European Commission, Mr Jean-Claude Juncker.

Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)
On 12 June, the Council extended the rule of law mission in Kosovo (EULEX Kosovo) until June 2016 and agreed to an accelerated handover of its activities to local institutions and other EU actors.

On 3 July, the Political and Security Committee (PSC) appointed a new operation commander for the EU naval mission off the coast of Somalia (EUNAVFOR Operation Atalanta).

On 9 July, the Council extended the EU police mission for the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS) until June 2015.

On 22 July, the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) established an advisory Mission for civilian security sector reform (SSR) in Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine) and allocated a budget of €2.68 million for the start-up phase (July-November 2014).

Also on 22 July, the FAC extended the mandate of the capacity building mission in Niger (EUCAP Sahel Niger) until July 2016, and extended the mandate of the regional maritime capacity building mission in the Horn of Africa (EUCAP Nestor) until December 2016.

On 24 July, the PSC appointed Mr Kalman Mizsei (Hungary) as Head of Mission for EUAM Ukraine. Mr Mizsei was EU Special Representative (EUSR) for the Republic of Moldova from 2007 to 2011.

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European External Action Service (EEAS)
On 5 June, High Representative (HR) Catherine Ashton announced the appointment of Kenneth Deane as Director for Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability. Mr Deane is currently the Head of Mission of EUPOL COPPS.

Also on 5 June, HR Ashton announced the appointment of three new heads of EU delegations (EUDs):

- Mr Marchel Germann has been appointed as Head of the EUD to Malawi. Mr Germann is currently Head of the EUD to Eritrea.
- Mr Gerardus Gielen has been appointed as Head of the EUD to Guinea. Mr Gielen is currently Head of the Unit for Planning and Horizontal Coordination of Cooperation with the ACP countries in the European Commission’s (EC) Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation – Development Cooperation (DEVCO).
- Mr Pierre Mauaudon has been appointed as Head of the EUD to Bangladesh. Mr Mauaudon is currently Deputy Head of the EUD to Pakistan.

On 25 June, HR Catherine Ashton announced the appointment of five new heads of EUDs:

- Ms Saskia de Lang has been appointed as Head of the EUD to the Republic of Congo.
- Mr Stefano de Leo has been appointed as Head of the EUD to South Sudan. Mr de Leo is currently Italian Consul-General in Lagos.
- Mr William Hanna has been appointed as Head of the EUD to Ghana. Mr Hanna is currently the Head of the EUD to Bangladesh.
- Mr Janos Herman has been appointed as Head of the EUD to Georgia.
- Mr Philippe Van Damme has been appointed as Head of the EUD to Zimbabwe. Mr Van Damme is currently Head of the EUD to the Republic of Guinea.

On 30 June, the European Court of Auditors (ECA) published a special report on the establishment of the EEAS.

On 8 July, the Council of the EU appointed Ambassador Herbert Salber as EUSR for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia. Ambassador Salber’s term as EUSR will run initially to February 2015.

Click here to read the press release about the appointment of the Director for Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability, here to read the press release about the appointments of the heads of the EUDs to Bangladesh, Guinea and Malawi, here to read the press release about the appointments of the heads of the EUDs to Georgia, Ghana, the Republic of Congo, the Republic of Guinea and South Sudan, and here to read the press release about the ECA special report.

European Union Special Representatives (EUSRs)
On 23 June, the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) agreed to extend the mandate of two EU Special Representatives (EUSRs) until February 2015 and agreed on the budget for their activities:

- Mr Stavros Lambrinidis will remain EUSR for Human Rights and will have a budget of € 550,000 for the period July 2014 – February 2015.
- Mr Franz-Michael Skjold Mellbin will remain EUSR in Afghanistan and will have a budget of € 3.76 million for the same period.

The FAC also approved a budget of € 5.25 million for the activities of the EU Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr Peter Sørensen, for the period July 2014 – June 2015. Mr Peter Sørensen’s mandate currently runs until June 2015.

European Commission (EC)
On 2 June, the European Commission (EC) published a communication on ‘A decent Life for all: from vision to collective action’.

On 3 June, the EC published a proposal for a Council decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the EC concerning the participation in the Forum of the Caribbean Group of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States (CARIFORUM)-EU Consultative Committee provided for by the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the CARIFORUM States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part.

On 10 June, the EC published a proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament (EP) and of the Council laying down EU procedures in the field of the common commercial policy in order to ensure the exercise of the EU’s rights under international trade rules, in particular those established under the auspices of the World Trade Organization.

On 2 July, the EC published a proposal for a regulation of the EP and of the Council on certain procedures for applying the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part, and for applying the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Community, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part.

On 17 July, the EC published communications on ‘Annual Accounts of the 8th, 9th and 10th European Development Funds – Financial Year 2013’ and on ‘Annual Accounts of the European Commission 2013’.

Click here to read the documents which were published by the EC in June and July.

European Parliament (EP)
The European Parliament (EP) had plenary sessions on 1-3 and 14-17 July in Strasbourg. Members adopted decisions on the numerical strength of the committees and interparliamentary delegations, and on the election of the President of the European Commission (EC). They also adopted resolutions on Sudan (the case of Meriam Yahia Ibrahim), freedom of expression and assembly in Egypt, Nigeria (recent attacks by Boko Haram), the situation in Ukraine, the situation in Iraq, the escalating of violence between Israel and Palestine, and the crime of aggression.

Click here to read the texts which were adopted by the EP in July.

High-level Meeting on Ukraine
On 8 July 2014, the EU institutions, EU Member States, Ukraine, other donor countries, a number of international organisations and international financial institutions (IFIs), and civil society held a coordination meeting on the international support to Ukraine.

Click here to read the joint conclusions from the high-level meeting.
EU PRESS RELEASES

President of the European Council

18 July 2014 – Declaration du Président Herman Van Rompuy lors de sa visite en Haïti
17 July 2014 – Joint statement by President Herman Van Rompuy and President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso on the crash of the Malaysian airliner in Ukraine
2 July 2014 – Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy to the European Parliament following the June 26-27 European Council
27 June 2014 – Statement by President Herman Van Rompuy at the signing ceremony of the association agreements with Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine
26 June 2014 – Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy for the inauguration by the European Council of a Peace Bench in Ypres to mark the centennial of the First World War
14 June 2014 – Statement by President Herman Van Rompuy on the downing of a Ukrainian military aircraft
10 June 2014 – Joint statement by President Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Commission José Manuel Durão Barroso and President of the European Parliament Martin Schulz on Meriam Yahya Ibrahim, a Sudanese believer sentenced to death for apostasy
7 June 2014 – Statement by President Herman Van Rompuy on the inauguration of Mr Petro Poroshenko as Ukraine’s President

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

23 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the political agreement reached in Cambodia
22 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the first meeting of the Working Group on Mitrova bridge
19 July 2014 – Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif
19 July 2014 – Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the E3/EU+3 talks with Iran
17 July 2014 – Statement by the spokespersons of High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle on the sentencing of Hasan Husseinly in Azerbaijan
17 July 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the crash of Malaysian Airlines flight MH17 on Ukrainian territory
17 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Day of International Criminal Justice
16 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on kidnapped Ukrainian military pilot
13 July 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the agreement to audit the results of the Afghan Presidential election
11 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the presidential elections in Indonesia
10 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in the north of Yemen
10 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the meeting regarding the Mitrova north bridge
8 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on rocket fire from Gaza and ongoing retaliation operations of the Israeli Defence Forces
7 July 2014 – Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with Council Decision 2013/255/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Syria
7 July 2014 – Declaration by High Representative on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/308/CFSP amending Decision 2014/145/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine
4 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the arrest in Georgia of suspended Mayor of Tbilisi, Gigi Ugulava
3 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on media freedom and the safety of journalists in Eastern Ukraine
1 July 2014 – Joint statement by the spokespersons of High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle on the peace process in Turkey
1 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the appointment of the UN investigation team on Sri Lanka
30 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the DPRK’s ballistic missile launches
29 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the release of OSCE SMM monitors
26 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest terrorist attack in Nigeria
24 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the signing of the agreement on the South West admin-istration in Somalia
23 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the removal of chemical weapons from Syria
21 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the release of Belarusian human rights defender Ales Bialiatski
20 June 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the peace plan announced by President Poroshenko of Ukraine
19 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on recent deaths of journalists and a civic activist in eastern Ukraine
18 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the World Bank’s Rogun Assessment Studies
17 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on recent attacks in Kenya
17 June 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the abduction of three Israeli students in the West Bank
17 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the appointment of Prince Zeid as UN High Commis-sioner for Human Rights
13 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on Palestinian detainees
13 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on incidents in Mosul
12 June 2014 – Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict
10 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on negotiations between the Government of Colombia and the FARC
10 June 2014 – Déclaration du porte-parole de la Haute Représentante Catherine Ashton sur la situation politique au Burundi
9 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the terrorist attack at Karachi airport
9 June 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Kosovo legislative elections
8 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the elections in the breakaway region of South Ossetia in Georgia
EU PRESS RELEASES

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

6 June 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton ahead of the legislative elections in Kosovo
5 June 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest Israeli announcement on settlements
5 June 2014 – Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the presidential elections in Egypt
4 June 2014 – Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the presidential elections in Syria
3 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the tripartite elections in Malawi
3 June 2014 – Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the announcement of the formation of a Palestinian unity Government
1 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the verdict of the Phnom Penh municipal court

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

24 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson on the recent executions in Singapore
18 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson on the introduction of universal suffrage for the election of the Chief Executive in Hong Kong in 2017
16 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson on the election of the Speakers of the Iraqi Council of Representatives
14 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson on violent clashes in Tripoli
11 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson following the meeting on Mitrovica north bridge
11 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson on the appointment of Mr Staffan de Mistura as UN Special Representative for Syria
11 July 2014 – Statement on commemoration of Srebrenica
8 July 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson on the second round of the presidential elections in Afghanistan
3 July 2014 – Statement on the killing of a Palestinian boy in Jerusalem
1 July 2014 – EU Special Representative for Human Rights Lamberti meets Belarusian human rights defender Ales Bialiatski
30 June 2014 – Statement on the killing of three kidnapped Israeli youths in the West Bank
26 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson on improving Cross-Straits relations
26 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson on Libya’s parliamentary elections
26 June 2014 – The EU and the Republic of Moldova adopt Association Agenda
26 June 2014 – The EU and Georgia adopt Association Agenda
25 June 2014 – Déclaration du porte-parole sur les violations récentes en République centrafricaine
25 June 2014 – Déclaration du rapporteur sur les élections présidentielles en République Islamique de Mauritanie
24 June 2014 – Fifth meeting of the Stabilisation and Association Council between the EU and Montenegro
20 June 2014 – EU-Georgia Human Rights Dialogue
18 June 2014 – EU-Tajikistan Human Rights Dialogue
17 June 2014 – Statement by the spokesperson on the local government elections in Georgia
16 June 2014 – Declaration adopted at the Third EU-League of Arab States Foreign Affairs Ministerial Meeting
11 June 2014 – Joint statement by the Third EU-League of Arab States Ministerial meeting on the security situation in Iraq
11 June 2014 – Inauguration of EU-funded Crisis Management Center in Myanmar
4 June 2014 – The EU reaffirms its support for Palestine refugees

Click here to read all the latest press releases from the European External Action Service.

Council of the EU

23 July 2014 – Co-Chairs’ statement of the 20th EU-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting
23 July 2014 – Joint statement of EU-ASEAN on the tragic downing of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17
23 July 2014 – Eleventh meeting of the Stabilisation and Association Council between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the EU
21 July 2014 – The EU extends sanctions relief for Iran
18 July 2014 – Ukrainian crisis: The EU broadens remit of sanctions
18 July 2014 – Declaration on behalf of the EU on the escalation in the Gaza Strip
14 July 2014 – EU to resume cooperation with Guinea-Bissau
11 July 2014 – The EU strengthens sanctions over situation in Eastern Ukraine
10 July 2014 – The EU imposes sanctions on South Sudanese military leaders
10 July 2014 – Declaration on behalf of the EU on South Sudan
28 June 2014 – Declaration on behalf of the EU on the latest developments following the abduction of three Israeli students
26 June 2014 – Declaration by the EU on the occasion of the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture
26 June 2014 – Sixteenth meeting of the EU-Republic of Moldova Cooperation Council
16 June 2014 – Declaration on behalf of the EU on violence against women in Pakistan
16 June 2014 – Council clears way for signing association agreements with Georgia and the Republic of Moldova
5 June 2014 – G7 Leaders’ Communiqué

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

EU Delegations

15 July 2014 – Local statement on the release of political detainees in Sudan
14 July 2014 – La déclaration de la Délegation de l’UE en accord avec les chefs de missions diplomatiques de l’UE au Gabon à l’occasion de la ratification par le Gabon du Protocole facultatif se rapportant à la Convention relative aux droits des personnes handicapées
10 July 2014 – Statement by the EU Special Envoy, Michele Cervone d’Urso on attack targeted at the Presidential Palace in Mogadishu, Somalia
9 July 2014 – Local EU statement on the occasion of Mozambique’s accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT)

Click here to read all the latest press releases from the European Delegations.
EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

EU Delegations – continued

9 July 2014 – Local statement: EU increasingly worried about the detained political activists
7 July 2014 – Joint local statement of the EU Delegation, the US Embassy and the Missions of OSCE and NATO in FYROM
27 June 2014 – Local statement by EUMIS Heads of Mission to Libya on the assassination of Ms. Bugaigis
20 June 2014 – Local EU statement on the disappearance of Mr. Alexander Sodiqov
20 June 2014 – Local EU statement on attacks against Muslim community in Sri Lanka
6 June 2014 – Declaración local de la UE sobre el asesinato del periodista Jorge Torres

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

European Commission

22 July 2014 – The EU welcomes a new WTO fund to support developing countries’ customs reforms
22 July 2014 – Austria joins EU Children of Peace initiative
21 July 2014 – EU Commissioner announces significant new funding for Peru during visit
18 July 2014 – The EU and Fiji implement the Pacific interim Economic Partnership Agreement
18 July 2014 – Speech by President José Manuel Durão Barroso: ‘União Europeia, Brasil: Uma parceria incontornável’
17 July 2014 – The EU and Ecuador conclude negotiations for trade and development agreement
17 July 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘Eastern Partnership reached important historic milestone’
17 July 2014 – Gaza: “We must build on humanitarian pause to save lives”
16 July 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘Rebuilding together’
15 July 2014 – EU-Morocco Fisheries Partnership Agreement to enter into force
15 July 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘Situation in Ukraine’
15 July 2014 – UN Security Council Resolution on humanitarian access inside Syria “a step forward”
14 July 2014 – Central African Republic: The EU launches its first multi-donor trust fund for linking relief, rehabilitation and development
11 July 2014 – West African leaders back Economic Partnership Agreement with EU
11 July 2014 – Joint conclusions of the EU-Russian Federation-Ukraine ministerial meeting on the effects of implementation of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement (AA)
10 July 2014 – The EU welcomes new UN Convention on transparency for investor-state dispute settlement
10 July 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Trade Karel de Gucht: ‘Asia & Europe: An enduring and deepening economic relationship’
9 July 2014 – The EU launches negotiations on environmental trade agreement
8 July 2014 – Joint conclusions of the High Level Meeting on Ukraine: Coordinating and Implementing the International Support
8 July 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘Making support for Ukraine more effective’
1 July 2014 – Western Balkans countries, Moldova sign up to Horizon 2020
1 July 2014 – Estonia and Turkey join OCHA Donor Support Group as EU chairmanship comes to an end
30 June 2014 – Address by President José Manuel Durão Barroso to the Albanian Parliament
30 June 2014 – Commissioner Malmström deplores the recent loss of life in the Mediterranean and calls for more EU action
26 June 2014 – The EU announces significant new funding for education
26 June 2014 – Opening remarks by Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle at Senior Officials’ Meeting with ENP Southern partners
24 June 2014 – New surge of Ebola cases in West Africa: The EU increases its emergency funding
24 June 2014 – Albania joins the EU’s Creative Europe programme
24 June 2014 – The EU signs new support for government reforms in Haiti
24 June 2014 – EU candidate status for Albania
24 June 2014 – EU-Montenegro: More results needed on the ground
24 June 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs: ‘Progress and pitfalls’
24 June 2014 – The EU to mobilise additional support to Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina’s post-disaster recovery
20 June 2014 – Europe’s future security challenges
20 June 2014 – Europe and Australia are essential partners
20 June 2014 – World Refugee Day: Time for solidarity
20 June 2014 – Joint statement by Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs and Commissioner for Environment Jānis Potočnik on the joint declaration of ACP-EU countries on the development agenda beyond 2015
19 June 2014 – The EU announces increased humanitarian assistance to Iraqis fleeing from violence
19 June 2014 – Statement by Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs following the signing of the National Indicative Programmes with 16 ACP countries
18 June 2014 – Sudan: Bombing of a hospital is unacceptable
17 June 2014 – Ukraine: € 500 million of EU Macro-Financial Assistance disbursed
17 June 2014 – Opening remarks by Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle at the EU-Turkey working group on Chapter 23
17 June 2014 – Statement by Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle to the media after meeting with representatives of the civil society
14 June 2014 – Speech by President José Manuel Durão Barroso at the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy University
14 June 2014 – Ukraine: All parties must protect civilians
13 June 2014 – The EU releases € 250 million of grants to support Ukraine
12 June 2014 – Opening remarks by President José Manuel Durão Barroso at the Moldova Investment Conference
12 June 2014 – Iraq: Another humanitarian crisis in the Middle East
12 June 2014 – The EU launches campaign to combat sexual violence against minors during World Cup
10 June 2014 – The European Commission warns Philippines and Papua New Guinea over insufficient action to fight illegal fishing
EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

European Commission – continued
10 June 2014 – Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs in Madagascar to resume EU development cooperation
8 June 2014 – Speech by President José Manuel Durão Barroso: “Europe, Israel and the future of the Middle East”
8 June 2014 – The EU, Israel sign Horizon 2020 association agreement
8 June 2014 – Address by President José Manuel Durão Barroso at the Hebrew University: "ut inveniam viam aut faciam"
5 June 2014 – € 30 million for the Philippines: Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response Kristalina Georgieva returns to Tacloban
5 June 2014 – Cyprus: Appreciation and support for Chambers of Commerce
4 June 2014 – The EU reaffirms its support for Palestine refugees
4 June 2014 – Turkey joins Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme
4 June 2014 – The EU announces new rural electrification projects which will provide access to energy to more than 2 million people in poor rural areas
3 June 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response Kristalina Georgieva: ‘How can we do better for the world’s hungry: lessons learned from the EU-WFP partnership’
3 June 2014 – Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: ‘Enlargement and Western Balkans what’s next?’
2 June 2014 – Statement by the European Commission following the trilateral energy meeting between the EU, Russia and Ukraine today
2 June 2014 – The European Commission presents proposal to address global poverty and sustainable development
Click here to read all the latest press releases from the European Commission.

European Investment Bank
10 July 2014 – Mozambique: EIB helps ensure international safety standards at Maputo Airport
4 July 2014 – $250 million for Multilateral Development Banks join forces to support economic growth, create jobs and improve productivity
2 July 2014 – EIB lends € 50 million for F21 highway
1 July 2014 – € 150 million for climate action projects in Chile
1 July 2014 – EIB supports development of the water sector in Armenia
30 June 2014 – Bangladesh: EIB loan for improvements to Dhaka water supply
20 June 2014 – Albania: € 18 million for Vlorë motorway bypass
19 June 2014 – EIB mobilises substantial resources for young people and employment in Tunisia
13 June 2014 – Annual Report 2013 on EIB activity in Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific, and the overseas territories
13 June 2014 – EIB continues to support the upgrade of Georgia’s water infrastructure
12 June 2014 – EIB pledges DCFTA support measures at EU-Moldova Investment Conference
11 June 2014 – EIB, Lebanon’s key partner Strong mobilisation in support of private sector with € 121 million of new loans
Click here to read all the latest press releases from the European Investment Bank.

European Court of Auditors
30 June 2014 – European External Action Service not living up to its potential, say EU Auditors
Click here to read all the latest press releases from the European Court of Auditors.

European Court of Justice
3 July 2014 – The General Court annuls the restrictive measures imposed on Mr Mohamad Nedal Alchaar solely because of his status as a former Syrian Minister of Economy and Trade
3 July 2014 – The General Court annuls the listing of a university as an entity subject to restrictive measures against Iran
11 June 2014 – The General Court annuls the inclusion of Syria International Islamic Bank in the list of entities subject to the restrictive measures against Syria
Click here to read all the latest press releases from the European Court of Justice.

European Parliament
17 July 2014 – MEPs call on Russia to co-operate with Ukrainian peace plan
17 July 2014 – Gaza: MEPs call for immediate ceasefire and resumption of direct peace talks
17 July 2014 – Iraq: MEPs reject jihadist terrorism and call for sustainable political solution
17 July 2014 – Human rights: Sudan, freedom of expression in Egypt, recent attacks in Nigeria
17 July 2014 – Elmar Brok on challenges abroad: ‘The neighbourhood is on fire’
17 July 2014 – Debate: MEPs call for an immediate ceasefire in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict
16 July 2014 – Budget problems: EU programmes in jeopardy again
16 July 2014 – Composition of EP delegations to parliaments in non-EU countries
15 July 2014 – Parliament elects Jean-Claude Juncker as Commission President
15 July 2014 – Juncker presents his programme
14 July 2014 – Opening: EU must help fund Balkan flood relief effort, says President Schulz
9 July 2014 – EP committees: Find out who will be chairing them
2 July 2014 – Composition of parliamentary committees set for the new term
20 June 2014 – World Refugee Day: More people being offered protection in the EU
Click here to read all the latest press releases from the European Parliament.
APPOINTMENT OF THE NEXT EU HIGH REPRESENTATIVE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND SECURITY POLICY

The European Council is expected to appoint the next EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy during its meeting at the end of August 2014.

The Human Rights and Democracy Network (HRDN) – an informal grouping of NGOs operating at the EU level in the broader areas of human rights, democracy and peace – has prepared the following mock job advertisement for the post in which it sets out the applicants’ key responsibilities and requirements:

Call for new European Union Foreign Policy Chief

The EU is currently seeking a new High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. The purpose of the job is to ensure that EU foreign policy is consistent with the EU’s commitment to human rights, democracy, rule of law and conflict prevention as stated in Article 21 of the Lisbon Treaty.

The successful candidate will lead the EU in exercising a firm and coherent approach to human rights abuses worldwide, basing themselves on international human rights and humanitarian law. He/she will put the rights of people at the centre of EU dialogue with third countries and will work to ensure that impunity for violations is ended. The ideal candidate should also understand that in order to have an impact on the world he/she will have to work hand-in-hand with the 28 EU Member States.

Key responsibilities

The successful candidate will:

- Ensure the effective implementation of the EU Strategic Framework and Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy as well as its comprehensive revision and renewal in 2015;
- Coordinate swift EU positions and public responses to human rights violations and situations of violent conflict and use his/her dual position as EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission to ensure that the EU speaks with one voice;
- Throw his/her full weight behind defenders of justice, liberty, democracy and human rights throughout the world, and make it a non-negotiable element of his/her policy to meet with human rights defenders and democracy activists during all visits to third countries;
- Co-operate closely with civil society organisations in Europe and abroad, consulting and meeting their representatives on a regular basis;
- Represent and promote the EU’s international justice policy worldwide, including on the International Criminal Court, and secure coherent and collective EU positions and subsequent action to ensure that there is justice for the victims of serious international crimes;
- Promote and understand the important role played by EU Special Representatives;
- Ensure full transparency within his/her own work and that of the European External Action Service.

Requirements

The successful candidate will have:

- An in-depth understanding of foreign policy and proven ability and willingness to provide a clear vision and leadership for EU foreign policy based on freedom, justice, democracy, equality, the rule of law, the fight against impunity, prevention of violent conflict and respect for human rights;
- A proven interest in human rights and democracy; knowledge of international human rights, criminal and humanitarian law;
- Demonstrated courage to defend and promote difficult issues publicly;
- A proven track record of successful co-operation with states, international and regional organisations, and civil society organisations;
- The ability to travel and to work flexible hours and on weekends.

The HRDN would welcome a consultation with prospective candidates. To schedule a meeting, please contact troika@hrdn.eu.

Click here to download the HRDN job advertisement for the next EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.
Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid (Cordaid)
- Improving the Legal System through E-learning for Magistrates
- Boosting Education through Results Based Financing
- Improve Education for all Children by Strengthening the System

Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD Centre)
- Conflict analysis: The foundation for effective action – Mediation Practice Series N°5
- Broadening participation in peace processes – Mediation Practice Series N°4
- Effectively supporting mediation: Developments, challenges and requirements – Oslo Forum Paper N°3

Conciliation Resources
- News Bulletin
- Resolution of the Regional Civil Society Task Force on protecting civilians in LRA-affected areas
- Gender and peacebuilding
- Talking Peace in the Ogaden

Crisis Management Initiative
- Newsletter

Democratic Progress Institute
- The Role of Women in Conflict Resolution – Comparative Study Visit Report: Ireland

Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict
- Newsletter

International Alert
- What's in it for us? Gender issues in Uganda's oil and gas sector
- Winners or losers? Assessing the contribution of youth employment and empowerment programmes to reducing conflict risk in Nigeria
- Promoting positive diaspora voices

International Center for Transitional Justice
- Navigating Paths to Justice in Myanmar's Transition
- World Report
- In Focus N°39
- The Accountability Gap on Sexual Violence in Kenya: Reforms and Initiatives Since the Post-Election Crisis
- Challenging the Conventional: Can Truth Commissions Strengthen Peace Processes?

International Crisis Group
- Gaza and Israel: New Obstacles, New Solutions – Middle East Briefing N°39
- Bosnia's Future – Europe Report N°232
- CrisisWatch N°131
- Somalia: Al-Shabaab – It Will Be a Long War – Africa Briefing N°99

Oxfam International
- The G20 and Gender Equality: How the G20 can advance women's rights in employment, social protection and fiscal policies
- The BRICS Development Bank: Why the world's newest global bank must adopt a pro-poor agenda
- Yemen in Crisis: How Yemen can survive the fuel crisis and secure its future
- Making It Happen: Oxfam's proposals for the post-2015 framework
- Food Crisis, Gender, and Resilience in the Sahel: Lessons from the 2012 crisis in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger

Pax Christi International
- Newsletter N°246

PAX*
- The Dark Side of Coal
- North Kosovo in 2020
- Syria Alert XIII: Forced ceasefires
- Laid to Waste

Quaker Council for European Affairs
- Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership – what is it?

Saferworld
- Women's role in improving security in Egypt, Libya and Yemen
- Addressing transnational threats: Building a Common Agenda
- Strengthening dialogue between China and the Wassenaar Agreement
- Whose land is this? Assessing the land conflict between the Acholi and Jonam tribes in Northern Uganda?
- The updated (2014) UK Consolidated EU and National Arms Export Licensing Criteria: Comparison with the original Consolidated Criteria and with the EU Common Position
- Informal comments to Members of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals on the revised Zero Draft for its 13th Session

swisspeace
- Center for Peacebuilding (KOFF) Newsletter N°129

World Vision International
- eNews
Effective Advising in Complex and Fragile Situations  
25 August – 3 September 2014  
Geneva, Switzerland  
(Organiser: Interpeace)

IPT Core Course  
28 September – 11 October 2014  
Stadtschlaining, Austria  
(Organiser: Austrian Study Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution)

ESDC Core Course on SSR  
3-10 October 2014  
Stadtschlaining, Austria  
(Organiser: Austrian Study Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution)

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:

- Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid (Cordaid)
- Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD Centre)
- Crisis Management Initiative
- International Alert
- International Center for Transitional Justice
- International Crisis Group
- Interpeace
- Kvinna till Kvinner
- Nonviolent Peaceforce
- Oxfam International
- Pax Christi International (PAX)
- Saferworld
- Search for Common Ground
- World Vision International

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

- Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities
- Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD Centre)
- Crisis Management Initiative
- Democratic Progress Institute
- International Alert
- International Crisis Group
- Life & Peace Institute
- Nonviolent Peaceforce
- 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.
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).

Upcoming Events

Geographic Meeting
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Tuesday 23 September 2014, Bukavu, Democratic Republic of the Congo
For more information about this meeting, please contact Anna Penfrat.

Policy Meeting
The EU and Mediation
October 2014, Brussels
For more information about this meeting, please contact Nabila Habbida.

Funding Instruments Meeting
Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace
October 2014, Brussels
For more information about this meeting, please contact Ben Moore.

Recent Events

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.

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 Peacebuilding 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

The EU as a peace actor - peacebuilding in the EU and its neighbourhood
Monday 23 June 2014, Brussels
For more information about this meeting, please contact Nabila Habbida.

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