

EPLO CONFLICT PREVENTION

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EU UPDATE

Council of the EU

On 8 October, the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council took a number of decisions relating to EU foreign affairs. They:

- amended legislative acts concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Afghanistan
- amended the EU restrictive measures against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- approved the signing and conclusion of an agreement between the EU and Mali on the status of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) capacity building mission to support the internal security forces in Mali (EUCAP Sahel Mali)
- approved the signing and conclusion of an agreement between the EU and Cameroon on the status of the EU forces, of the CSDP military mission in the Central African Republic (EUFOR RCA), in transit on the territory of Cameroon
- adopted a decision on the signing, on behalf of the EU, and provisional application of a sustainable fisheries partnership agreement (FPA) between the EU and Senegal and the implementation protocol thereto.

The Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) met on 20 October in Luxembourg and on 17-18 November in Brussels.

In October, EU foreign ministers adopted conclusions on Ebola, the Middle East Peace Process (MEPP) and Gaza, Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Libya, Iraq and Syria, Ukraine, Sudan, Somalia and Yemen.

They also:

- approved the 17th progress report on the implementation of the EU strategy to combat illicit accumulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and their ammunition covering the EU's activities from January to June 2014
- amended the EU sanctions against Somalia
- reinforced the EU restrictive measures against the Syrian regime
- amended the EU restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya
- extended the EU restrictive measures against five persons from the Republic of Guinea
- approved the High Representative's report on the 20th six-monthly review of the CSDP military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Operation ALTHEA)
- adopted the concept of operations and the operational plan for the CSDP advisory mission for civilian security sector reform (SSR) in Ukraine (EUAM Ukraine)
- approved the concept of operations for EUCAP Sahel Mali
- allocated a budget of € 17.9 million for activities of the CSDP mission on regional maritime capacity building in the Horn of Africa (EUCAP Nestor) for the period from October 2014 to October 2015.

In November, EU foreign and defence ministers adopted conclusions on Ebola, the MEPP, the Action Plan on Visa Liberalisation for Georgia, and Ukraine.

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EU UPDATE (CONTINUED)

They also:

- took stock of the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina after the elections on 12 October
- discussed the latest developments in Libya
- approved the EU position for the first meeting of the EU-Georgia Association Council
- adopted the EU position within the association councils with Georgia and Moldova
- updated information concerning a person targeted by EU restrictive measures over action against Ukraine's territorial integrity
- adopted the EU position for the 13th meeting of the EU-Kyrgyz Republic Cooperation Council (18 November, Brussels)
- decided to launch EUAM Ukraine on 1 December and allocated a budget of € 13.1 million for the first 12 months of its two-year mandate
- established the EU common position for the 42nd meeting of the European Economic Area Council (EEA) (19 November, Brussels)

The General Affairs Council (GAC) met on 21 October in Luxembourg and on 18 November in Brussels.

In October, EU foreign and European ministers:

- took stock of the strategic agenda focusing on the chapter on freedom, security and justice
- mandated the Presidency to contact the European Commission (EC) on the 2015 Annual Work Programme and also to initiate contacts with both the EC and the European Parliament (EP) with a view to establishing a consultation process for a new and efficient multiannual interinstitutional programming.

In November, they:

- discussed the priorities set out in a letter of intent from the President and the Vice-President of the EC for inclusion in the 2015 Annual Work Programme
- held an exchange of views on an idea to establish a regular political dialogue among Member States within the Council on ensuring respect for the rule of law
- took stock of the strategic agenda focusing on the chapter on energy and climate policy
- received a briefing from the Presidency about the outcome of the third meeting of the Friends of the Presidency Group on improving the functioning of the EU (7 November, Brussels)
- adopted conclusions on the EU's membership of the principal donors group of the extraordinary chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC)

Click [here](#) to read the *Telecommunications and Energy Council conclusions from 8 October*, [here](#) to read the *FAC conclusions from 20 October*, [here](#) to read the *FAC conclusions from 17-18 November*, [here](#) to read the *GAC conclusions from 21 October*, and [here](#) to read the *GAC conclusions from 18 November*.

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

On 1 November, Federica Mogherini (Italy) replaced Catherine Ashton as the EU's High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR).

Click [here](#) for more information about HR Federica Mogherini and her team.

European Council

The European Council met on 23-24 October in Brussels. EU heads of state and government adopted conclusions on Ebola, Cyprus, Moldova, and Ukraine. They also adopted a decision appointing the EC and agreed the 2030 climate and energy policy framework for the EU.

Click [here](#) to read the *European Council conclusions from 23-24 October*.

Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)

On 8 October, the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council took a number of decisions relating to the CSDP (see 'Council of the EU' section on p. 1).

On 9 October, the Political and Security Committee (PSC) appointed Brigadier General Alfonso García-Vaquero Pradal (Spain) as mission commander for the CSDP training mission in Mali (EUTM Mali), and Gabriele Meucci (Italy) as head of mission for the CSDP rule of law mission in Kosovo (EULEX Kosovo).

On 16 October, the EU Naval Force (EU NAVFOR) Somalia – Operation Atalanta and Japan's Self-Defence Forces (SDF) conducted a joint counter-piracy exercise in the Gulf of Aden.

On 7 November, the Council of the EU extended EUFOR RCA until March 2015.

On 17 November, the FAC decided to launch EUAM Ukraine on 1 December.

On 18 November, the FAC adopted conclusions on the CSDP (see 'Council of the EU' section on p. 1).

Click [here](#) to read the *press releases about the appointment of the new mission commander for EUTM Mali*, [here](#) to read the *press release about the appointment of the new head of mission of EULEX Kosovo*, [here](#) to read the *press release about the EU NAVFOR-SDF joint counter-piracy exercise*, and [here](#) to read the *press release about EUFOR RCA*.

European Commission (EC)

On 9 October, the EC published a communication on 'Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2014-15'.

On 30 October, the EC published a report on 2013 European Investment Bank (EIB) external activity with EU budgetary guarantee and on the application of Decision No 108/2011 EU of 25 October 2011 covering the EIB financing operations signed during the period from June 2007 to June 2014.

On 31 October, the EC published a proposal for Council decisions on the signature, provisional application and conclusion of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the FPA between the European Community and Madagascar.

On 1 November, the new EC under the presidency of Jean-Claude Juncker (Luxembourg) took office.

Click [here](#) to read the *documents published by the EC in October and November*, and [here](#) to read the *press release about the Juncker Commission*.

European Parliament (EP)

The European Parliament (EP) had plenary sessions on 20-23 October in Strasbourg and on 12-13 November in Brussels.

In October, members adopted resolutions on the election of the new EC, the general budget of the EU for the financial year 2015, the closing down of Memorial in Russia, human rights in Uzbekistan, the disappearance of 43 teaching students in Mexico, and customs duties on goods originating in Ukraine.

In November, they adopted resolutions on the Association Agreement between the EU and Moldova, the peace process in Northern Ireland, Turkish actions creating tensions in the exclusive economic zone of Cyprus, and the humanitarian situation in South Sudan.

Click [here](#) to read the *texts adopted by the EP in October and November*.

EU PRESS RELEASES

President of the European Council

- 17 November 2014 – [Press statement following the visit of President Herman Van Rompuy to Singapore](#)
- 15 November 2014 – [Introductory press statement by President Herman Van Rompuy ahead of the G20 Summit in Brisbane, Australia](#)
- 12 November 2014 – [Joint statement by President Herman Van Rompuy and President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker on the US-China climate announcement](#)
- 31 October 2014 – [Joint statement by the Presidents of Ukraine, the European Council and the European Commission on the occasion of the beginning of the provisional application of the Association Agreement](#)
- 27 October 2014 – [Joint statement by President Herman Van Rompuy and President of the European Commission José Manuel Durão Barroso on the parliamentary elections in Ukraine](#)
- 24 October 2014 – [Joint letter of President Van Rompuy and President of the European Commission José Manuel Durão Barroso to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the EU comprehensive Climate and Energy Framework](#)
- 22 October 2014 – [Président Herman Van Rompuy et Président de la Commission européenne José Manuel Barroso félicitent M. Denis Mukwege, Lauréat du Prix Sakharov pour 2014](#)
- 21 October 2014 – [Remarks by President Herman Van Rompuy on the occasion of the commemoration ceremony for EU personnel fallen in the line of duty](#)
- 17 October 2014 – [Press statement by President Herman Van Rompuy following the 10th ASEM Summit](#)
- 17 October 2014 – [Chair's statement of the 10th ASEM Summit](#)
- 16 October 2014 – [Opening remarks by President Herman Van Rompuy at the 10th ASEM Summit](#)
- 16 October 2014 – [Press statement following the meeting between President Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Commission José Manuel Durão Barroso and Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe](#)
- 16 October 2014 – [Opening remarks by President Herman Van Rompuy at the EU-ASEAN leaders meeting](#)
- 15 October 2014 – [Press statement following the meeting between President Van Rompuy, President of the European Commission José Manuel Durão Barroso and Premier of the People's Republic of China Li Keqiang](#)
- 15 October 2014 – [Opening remarks by President Herman Van Rompuy at the meeting with the Premier of the People's Republic of China Li Keqiang](#)
- 10 October 2014 – [Statement by President Herman Van Rompuy and President of the European Commission José Manuel Durão Barroso on the Nobel Peace Prize laureates](#)

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

- 17 November 2014 – [Remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini following the first EU-Georgia Association Council](#)
- 17 November 2014 – [Remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini after today's meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council](#)
- 17 November 2014 – [Remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini ahead of the Foreign Affairs Council](#)
- 17 November 2014 – [Déclaration de la Haute représentante / Vice président Federica Mogherini sur la signature de la charte de la transition et la nomination d'un Président de la transition en Burkina Faso](#)
- 14 November 2014 – [Statement by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on the conclusion of the agreement between the Iraqi federal government and the Government of the Kurdistan Region on transfer of revenues and oil](#)
- 12 November 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on a helicopter incident in the context of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict](#)
- 11 November 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on the visit of the Prime Minister of Albania to Serbia](#)
- 10 November 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on the latest developments in the Middle East](#)
- 10 November 2014 – [Statement by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on the appointment of a legal expert to review EULEX Kosovo mandate](#)
- 9 November 2014 – [Statement by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on the latest developments in Ukraine](#)
- 8 November 2014 – [Statement from High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on the formation of a new government in Yemen](#)
- 6 November 2014 – [Statement by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on Libya](#)
- 6 November 2014 – [Statement by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on the new initiative for Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)
- 5 November 2014 – [Declaration by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on behalf of the EU on "elections" in eastern Ukraine](#)
- 5 November 2014 – [Statement by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on the latest Israeli announcement on settlements](#)
- 4 November 2014 – [Meeting between President Santos and High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini: EU confirms commitment to support Colombia Peace Process](#)
- 2 November 2014 – [Statement by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on the 'presidential and parliamentary elections' in eastern Ukraine](#)
- 20 October 2014 – [Joint statement by the spokespersons of High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle on the amnesty announced by President Aliyev of Azerbaijan](#)
- 20 October 2014 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the Foreign Affairs Council](#)
- 20 October 2014 – [Remarks by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton upon arrival at the Foreign Affairs Council](#)
- 15 October 2014 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/381/CFSP amending Decision 2010/573/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the leadership of the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova](#)
- 15 October 2014 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with Council Decision 2014/658/CFSP amending Council Decision 2014/145/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in respect of actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine](#)
- 15 October 2014 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the EU on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/659/CFSP amending Decision 2014/512/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of Russia's actions destabilising the situation in Ukraine](#)
- 13 October 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)

EU PRESS RELEASES

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

- 12 October 2014 – [Déclaration du porte-parole de la Haute Représentante sur la situation en République centrafricaine](#)
- 12 October 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton ahead of elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)
- 10 October 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Kobane](#)
- 9 October 2014 – [Joint declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton and the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the European and World Day against the Death Penalty](#)
- 9 October 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the death penalty in Afghanistan](#)
- 7 October 2014 – [Déclaration du porte-parole de la Haute Représentante sur la dernière attaque menée au Mali contre les soldats de la paix de la MINUSMA](#)
- 3 October 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on violations of the ceasefire in Eastern Ukraine](#)
- 2 October 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on events in Hong Kong](#)

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

- 19 November 2014 – [EU-Uzbekistan Human Rights Dialogue](#)
- 19 November 2014 – [EU institutions host a ministerial delegation from Bolivia to boost political dialogue and cooperation](#)
- 13 November 2014 – [Statement by the Spokesperson on progress in the framework of the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)
- 12 November 2014 – [EU-Kazakhstan Human Rights Dialogue](#)
- 7 November 2014 – [Déclaration du Porte-parole sur la mise en œuvre d'une transition civile au Burkina Faso](#)
- 2 November 2014 – [Déclaration du Porte-parole sur le processus de transition au Burkina Faso](#)
- 31 October 2014 – [Déclaration du Porte-parole sur la démission du Président Blaise Compaoré au Burkina Faso](#)
- 31 October 2014 – [Statement by the Spokesperson on the resumption of fighting in Bentiu, South Sudan](#)
- 31 October 2014 – [Statement by the Spokesperson on the expiration of the appropriate measures under Article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement concerning Zimbabwe](#)
- 29 October 2014 – [Statement by the Spokesperson on early local elections in Eastern Ukraine](#)
- 29 October 2014 – [Déclaration du Porte-parole sur la situation politique au Burkina Faso](#)
- 29 October 2014 – [Statement by the Spokesperson on allegations of corruption involving EULEX Kosovo](#)
- 28 October 2014 – [Statement by the Spokesperson on the parliamentary election in Tunisia](#)
- 24 October 2014 – [Déclaration du Porte-parole sur les élections à São Tomé et Príncipe](#)
- 21 October 2014 – [The EU and Lao PDR conclude Seventh Joint Committee](#)
- 18 October 2014 – [Statement by the Spokesperson on the Lahore High Court decision to uphold the conviction of Ms Asia Bibi in Pakistan](#)
- 17 October 2014 – [Statement by the Spokesperson on the general elections in Mozambique](#)
- 17 October 2014 – [Joint statement following the First Angola-EU Ministerial Meeting](#)
- 12 October 2014 – [The EU pledged today more than € 450 million for reconstructing Gaza](#)
- 8 October 2014 – [Statement by the Spokesperson on the restoring of control over the port city of Barawe, Somalia](#)
- 4 October 2014 – [Statement by the Spokesperson on the need for ceasefire and political dialogue in Libya](#)
- 4 October 2014 – [Statement by the Spokesperson on the Israeli decision for settlement expansion](#)

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

Council of the EU

- 19 November 2014 – [42nd meeting of the EEA Council](#)
- 18 November 2014 – [13th meeting of the Cooperation Council between the EU and the Kyrgyz Republic – EU announces further support for development](#)
- 17 November 2014 – [First Association Council meeting between the EU and Georgia](#)
- 16 November 2014 – [G20 Leaders' Communiqué - Brisbane Summit](#)
- 16 November 2014 – [Statement on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership](#)
- 15 November 2014 – [G20 Leaders' Brisbane Statement on Ebola](#)
- 30 October 2014 – [EU extends and updates restrictive measures against Belarus](#)
- 24 October 2014 – [Ukraine: Unilateral trade measures extended](#)
- 20 October 2014 – [Fourth meeting of the Cooperation Council between the EU and the Republic of Tajikistan – EU announces further support for development](#)
- 9 October 2014 – [Statement by the EU on the 11th meeting of the EU-Jordan Association Council](#)

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

EU Delegations

- 14 November 2014 – [Local EU statement on the increasing misuse of criminal defamation laws in Thailand](#)
- 12 November 2014 – [Local EU statement on reported allegations of sexual violence in the village of Tabit in North Darfur](#)
- 6 November 2014 – [Local EU statement on political developments in Nepal](#)
- 31 October 2014 – [Declaración local de la UE sobre la ratificación del Protocolo facultativo de la Convención de los Derechos del Niño](#)
- 22 October 2014 – [Local EU statement on freedom of association and freedom of expression in the Russian Federation](#)
- 20 October 2014 – [Déclaration locale de de l'UE sur le travail du Bureau Commun des Nations Unies pour les droits de l'Homme](#)
- 20 October 2014 – [La Délégation de l'Union européenne publie cette déclaration en accord avec les Chefs de mission européens en RDC](#)
- 17 October 2014 – [Joint local statement on legislation being considered by South Sudan's National Legislative Council](#)
- 12 October 2014 – [Local EU statement concerning the events in Iquala and Tlatlaya, Mexico](#)

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

EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

European Commission

- 17 November 2014 – [EU boosts anti-Ebola aid after Commissioners' mission to worst-hit countries](#)
- 13 November 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations Johannes Hahn: 'Ratification of AA with Republic of Moldova: major achievement for the people'](#)
- 13 November 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations Johannes Hahn: 'Turkish actions creating tensions in the exclusive economic zone of Cyprus'](#)
- 13 November 2014 – [Statement by Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations Johannes Hahn: 'EU-Albania: time to consolidate the reform momentum'](#)
- 12 November 2014 – [Ukraine: EU boosts humanitarian assistance and recovery aid to € 32 million](#)
- 11 November 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations Johannes Hahn: 'EU-Turkey: Important milestones leading to new opportunities'](#)
- 6 November 2014 – [Ebola response: EU scales up aid with planes, material aid and research support](#)
- 28 October 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: 'Transformation in the Southern Mediterranean: It's all about dialogue'](#)
- 27 October 2014 – [EU confirms support to Horn of Africa ahead of high-level visit of international organisations to the region](#)
- 27 October 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner-elect for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides at the Emergency Response Coordination Center](#)
- 24 October 2014 – [Statement by EU Ebola Coordinator and Commissioner-elect for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides](#)
- 23 October 2014 – [Ethiopia: EU increases humanitarian funding for refugees](#)
- 23 October 2014 – [EU to boost Ebola research with € 24.4 million](#)
- 23 October 2014 – [Speech by the Italian Presidency on behalf of High Representative/Vice-President Catherine Ashton: 'Situation in Hong Kong'](#)
- 23 October 2014 – [Speech by the Italian Presidency on behalf of High Representative/Vice-President Catherine Ashton: 'Situation in Kobane'](#)
- 23 October 2014 – [Speech by the Italian Presidency on behalf of High Representative/Vice-President Catherine Ashton: 'Death Penalty in Pakistan and the case of Asia Bibi'](#)
- 23 October 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: 'Reforms and competitiveness in the Western Balkans'](#)
- 23 October 2014 – [Statement by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: 'Economic governance and better connectivity: opportunities for Western Balkans'](#)
- 22 October 2014 – [Iraq: EU increases humanitarian assistance](#)
- 17 October 2014 – [EU increases development support to Nepal and Bhutan](#)
- 17 October 2014 – [Remarks by President José Manuel Durão Barroso following the 10th ASEM Summit](#)
- 16 October 2014 – [Opening remarks by President José Manuel Durão Barroso at the 10th ASEM Summit](#)
- 16 October 2014 – [Joint statement by Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs and Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response Kristalina Georgieva on World Food Day](#)
- 16 October 2014 – [EU strikes a comprehensive trade deal with East African Community](#)
- 14 October 2014 – [Illegal fisheries: Green cards for five countries, but red card for Sri Lanka](#)
- 14 October 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: 'Signing Memorandum of Understanding – Single Support Framework'](#)
- 13 October 2014 – [Statement by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: 'EU and Jordan sign Memorandum on further cooperation'](#)
- 12 October 2014 – [Kobane refugee crisis: EU steps up assistance](#)
- 11 October 2014 – [EU announces further support for the development of Afghanistan](#)
- 10 October 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner for Trade Karel De Gucht: 'Implementing Change: The EU-China Relationship after the Third Plenum'](#)
- 10 October 2014 – [Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs to sign development programmes for Belize, Lesotho, Togo and Zambia](#)
- 8 October 2014 – [EU enlargement in 2014 and beyond: progress and challenges](#)
- 8 October 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: '2014 Enlargement package'](#)
- 7 October 2014 – [Ebola crisis: EU organises airlift operation to West Africa](#)
- 6 October 2014 – [Ebola: EU helps deliver aid to Sierra Leone](#)
- 3 October 2014 – [Statement by Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle: 'EU-Turkey: Need to tackle challenges in judicial system'](#)
- 2 October 2014 – [EC announces new cooperation with European Broadcasting Union in the Neighbourhood region](#)
- 1 October 2014 – [Award for Roma Integration in the Western Balkans and Turkey](#)
- 1 October 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs: 'Creating an "energy revolution" across the developing world'](#)

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

European Investment Bank

- 7 November 2014 – [Azerbaijan: EIB launches operations: Support to SMEs through AccessBank](#)
- 28 October 2014 – [Uganda: New UGX 45 billion European support for Ugandan companies with Housing Finance Bank](#)
- 27 October 2014 – [EIB opens office and strengthens presence in Moldova](#)
- 27 October 2014 – [IDB and EIB establish facilities to support internationalisation of small and medium-sized enterprises](#)
- 17 October 2014 – [Ukraine: EIB supports Agri-Food Sector in Ukraine with € 50 million](#)
- 13 October 2014 – [EIB President Hoyer: "MDBs and IMF will promote economic environment conducive to long-term investment financing for infrastructure"](#)
- 13 October 2014 – [Liberia: EIB backs urgent Monrovia airport runway upgrade](#)
- 10 October 2014 – [EIB President Hoyer: "MDBs and IMF must further enhance cooperation to support UN development agenda post-2015"](#)

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

EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

European Court of Auditors

- 5 November 2014 – [EU must focus on getting better results from its spending, say EU Auditors](#)
22 October 2014 – [Audit in the field of EU external actions: EU auditors warn the incoming Commission on the use of blending](#)

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

European Court of Justice

- 11 November 2014 – [According to Advocate General Sharpston, non-combat military personnel may claim asylum if they consider themselves to be at risk of prosecution or punishment for refusal to perform military service where so doing might involve commission of war crimes](#)
5 November 2014 – [The General Court confirms that the restrictive measures adopted against Mr Adib Mayaleh, Governor of the Central Bank of Syria, are valid](#)
16 October 2014 – [The Court annuls, on procedural grounds, the Council measures maintaining the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam on the European list of terrorist organisations](#)

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

European Parliament

- 18 November 2014 – [Unpaid bills sink EU budget talks](#)
17 November 2014 – [Ebola crisis needs EU action plan with concrete measures, say development MEPs](#)
17 November 2014 – [EP should consent to EU-Georgia association deal, says Foreign Affairs Committee](#)
14 November 2014 – [Parliament gives Council extra time to sort out its position on the EU budget](#)
13 November 2014 – [MEPs call on Turkey to stop provocations in Cyprus' exclusive economic zone](#)
13 November 2014 – [European Parliament backs EU-Moldova association deal](#)
13 November 2014 – [South Sudan: MEPs call on the global community to impose targeted sanctions](#)
13 November 2014 – [Northern Ireland peace process: MEPs urge all parties to restart stalled talks](#)
12 November 2014 – [Check EU spending results, not just payment errors, says Parliament](#)
12 November 2014 – [MEPs pave the way for European Year for Development 2015](#)
11 November 2014 – [EU budget: First 2014, then 2015, say Budgets Committee MEPs](#)
5 November 2014 – [Climate change talks: MEPs chart the course from Lima to Paris](#)
5 November 2014 – [Ebola: From minor outbreak to humanitarian disaster in Africa](#)
5 November 2014 – [Measure EU spending results, not just payment errors, say budgetary control MEPs](#)
4 November 2014 – [Colombian president: It's Colombia's turn to leave war behind and build peace](#)
4 November 2014 – [Nine million and counting: How to help the Syrian refugees](#)
28 October 2014 – [MEPs urge Ukraine leaders to swiftly form government and launch reforms](#)
28 October 2014 – [Tunisia: Head of EP election observers hails transparent and professional poll](#)
27 October 2014 – [Ukrainians have voted for peace and Europe, says EP chief observer Plenkovik](#)
23 October 2014 – [MEPs prolong Ukraine's duty-free access to the EU market](#)
23 October 2014 – [Human rights: Closing down of Russian Memorial NGO; Uzbekistan; Mexico](#)
23 October 2014 – [MEPs ask for further details of EU-wide police crackdown on clandestine migrants](#)
23 October 2014 – [IS fighters returning to EU: MEPs debate how to prevent internal security threat](#)
23 October 2014 – [Human rights debates: Why Parliament calls attention to the situation in Mexico](#)
22 October 2014 – [Kobane: MEPs call on Turkey to do more to help Syrian city under threat by IS](#)
22 October 2014 – [Parliament elects new European Commission](#)
22 October 2014 – [Settle bills, invest more for growth and jobs: EP position on the 2015 EU budget](#)
20 October 2014 – [Opening: Schulz warns against attempts to disrupt Northern Ireland peace process](#)
15 October 2014 – [Ebola: From local outbreak to global epidemic](#)
14 October 2014 – [Gender equality: MEPs work on strategy to offer people the same opportunities](#)
14 October 2014 – [Syria and Iraq: Growing numbers of refugees put pressure on nearby countries](#)
8 October 2014 – [EU enlargement package 2014: MEPs stress need to communicate benefits better](#)
7 October 2014 – [Proper funding for EU priorities: Budgets Committee puts figures on 2015 budget](#)
6 October 2014 – [Schulz: "We have humanitarian obligations to help people fleeing war"](#)

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

UPCOMING EU EVENTS

European Parliament plenary sessions: 24-27 November and 15-18 December

Foreign Affairs Council: 21 November (Trade), 12 December (Development) and 15 December

European Council: 18-19 December

PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE NEW AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICI-

Introduction

The Fourth Africa-EU Summit took place on 2-3 April 2014 in Brussels. It resulted in a number of positive outcomes, including recognition that the implementation of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) should be 'further improved'.

In October, the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO) published a short statement to provide suggestions for civil society participation in the peace and security priority area of the revised JAES. EPLO believes that increased civil society participation in both policy formulation and the implementation of activities related to peacebuilding and conflict prevention will contribute to the achievement of the JAES objective of strengthening and promoting peace and security.

EPLO has been the focal point for European civil society on the JAES Peace and Security Partnership since 2008. In line with our mandate, the following recommendations only target the EU and potential joint Africa-EU working mechanisms; we leave it for our African civil society counterparts to provide recommendations to the AU, as well as on joint working mechanisms.

Recommendations

1. Strengthening civil society's contribution to policy formulation

Policy formulation under the JAES could benefit from civil society's rich and varied expertise on specific conflicts and thematic issues. CSOs with specialist knowledge of peace and security issues from both Africa and Europe should, therefore, be given the opportunity to:

- Give briefings to members of the Council of the EU's Africa Working Party (COAFR)
- Give briefings to members of the EU's Political and Security Committee (PSC), in particular in advance of the annual joint consultative meeting between the AU Peace and Security Council (AU PSC) and the EU PSC
- Give briefings to members of the AU PSC and the EU PSC in advance of and during joint field missions
- Participate (as a minimum as observers) in the Joint Co-ordination Committee (JCC) of the African Peace Facility (APF). (NB/ This is based on the assumption that, as planned, this structure replaces the informal Joint Expert Groups (iJEGs) as the JAES technical discussion platform on peace and security
- Organise and participate in informal dialogue meetings with policy-makers on topics of interest for the Peace and Security partnership. (NB/ These meetings could take place under the framework of the Civil Society Dialogue Network (CSDN),

– an existing mechanism for dialogue between civil society and EU policy-makers on issues related to peace and conflict)

- Organise and participate in annual conferences on peace and security with civil society, the AU, the EU and the regional economic communities (RECs)

2. Civil society in the design and monitoring of JAES peace and security activities

Civil society provides an important link between policy-makers and people in countries where activities foreseen under the JAES' Peace and Security priority area will take place. CSOs with specialist knowledge of peace and security issues from both Africa and Europe should, therefore, be given the opportunity to:

- Participate (as a minimum as observers) in JCC discussions on the design and implementation of APF activities
- Conduct independent monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the impact of APF-funded activities, particularly Peace Support Operations (PSOs), on peace and security, and to present findings to the JCC
- Participate in the planned Consultative Committee for the Pan-African Instrument.

3. Involving civil society in the implementation of JAES peace and security activities

Despite wide recognition of the added value of civil society's participation in the implementation of peacebuilding and conflict prevention activities, funding for such activities remains limited.

In order to strengthen existing African peace and security mechanisms and policies, CSOs working on peacebuilding in countries in Africa should be given the opportunity to:

- Participate in APF multi-stakeholder projects, together with the AU, the RECs and other intergovernmental institutions.

For all of the abovementioned recommendations, civil society should be able to self-select its representatives in a flexible way based on expertise, interest, inclusiveness and transparency.

This article is an abridged version of a statement which is available to download from the [EPLO website](#). For more information about the statement or EPLO's work on EU-Africa relations, please contact [Anna Penfrat](#).

ARE YOU UNDERTAKING RESEARCH ON THE EU AND CONFLICT?

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

EPLO PUBLICATIONS

- [Think pieces on gender, peace and security](#)
- [Peace and Security in the new Africa-EU Partnership: Recommendations for civil society participation](#)
- [Where are the EU's Women Leaders in EU Foreign Affairs?](#)

PUBLICATIONS BY EPLO MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Berghof Foundation

- [Peace Infrastructure in Colombia](#)
- [Peace Education and Conflict Transformation](#)

Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid (Cordaid)

- [Breaking the Disaster Cycle - Engaging Communities Civil Society and Local Authorities in Resilient Recovery](#)
- [Newsletter](#)
- [About CSPPS](#)
- [Entrepreneurship and Employment](#)
- [Justice and Security Practices, Perceptions, and Problems in Kabul and Nangarhar](#)
- [Building a Foundation for Community Security Architecture in Afghanistan](#)
- [Downstream Voices: Wetland Solutions to Reducing Disaster Risk](#)
- [Minimum standards for local climate-smart disaster risk reduction](#)
- [Creating Opportunities in Haiti](#)
- [Urban Link: Empowering Today's Future](#)
- [Moving Sendong Survivors to Safer Ground in Cagayan de Oro: Case Study on the Community Mortgage Program as a response to housing needs after Tropical Storm Sendong](#)

Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD Centre)

- [From the Nakuru County peace accord \(2010-2012\) to lasting peace](#)

Conciliation Resources

- [Submission on the next UK National Security Strategy](#)
- [News Bulletin](#)

Crisis Management Initiative

- [Newsletter](#) – 3/2014

Democratic Progress Institute

- [New Political Equilibrium and The Kurdish Question](#)

Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict

- [Newsletter](#)

- [Transitional Justice in Kenya: A Historical Perspective and a](#)

[Synopsis of a Troubled Truth and Justice and Reconciliation Commission](#)

- [Regional Organizations and Peacebuilding: The Role of Civil Society](#) – Policy Brief

International Alert

- [Security threat perceptions in Lebanon](#)
- [Gender, security and SSR in Lebanon](#)
- [Re-examining identities and power: Gender in peacebuilding in Colombia](#)
- [Fragile reforms: World Bank and Asian Development Bank financing in fragile and conflict-affected situations](#)

International Center for Transitional Justice

- World Report
- [In Focus](#) N°42
- [Confronting the Legacy of Political Violence in Lebanon: An Agenda for Change](#)
- [How People Talk About the Lebanon Wars: A Study of the Perceptions and Expectations of Residents in Greater Beirut](#)

International Crisis Group

- [Turkey and the PKK: Saving the Peace Process](#) – Europe Report N°234
- [CrisisWatch](#) N°135
- [Resetting Pakistan's Relations with Afghanistan](#) – Asia Report N°262
- [Toward a Lasting Ceasefire in Gaza](#) – Middle East Briefing N°42
- [Myanmar: The Politics of Rakhine State](#) – Asia Report N°261
- [Tunisia's Borders \(II\): Terrorism and Regional Polarisation](#) – Middle East and North Africa Briefing N°41
- [Afghanistan's Political Transition](#) – Asia Report N°260
- [Bringing Back the Palestinian Refugee Question](#) – Middle East Report N°156

Interpeace

- [Case Study: Influential Ultra-Orthodox Women Are Change Agents For Peace](#)

Kosovar Center for Security Studies

- [Albanian Minority Representation at the Serbian Ministry of Interior: Progress and Remaining Challenges](#)

PUBLICATIONS BY EPLO MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Life & Peace Institute

- [Horn of Africa Bulletin](#) – Volume 26, N°5
- [Pour que les Bashali fument le calumet de la paix : Rapport de Recherche Action Participative sur les conflits inter-paysans en Chefferie des Bashali \(Masisi RDC\)](#)

Oxfam International

- [Turn the Tide: The G20 must act on rising inequality, starting with fairer global tax reform](#)
- [Can't afford to wait: Why Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation plans in Asia are still failing millions of people](#)
- [In the Shadow of the Storm: Getting recovery right one year after typhoon Haiyan](#)
- [Turning the Tide on Ebola: Scaling up public health campaigns before it's too late](#)
- [Oxfam analysis and recommendations to Mars, Mondelez, and Nestle on gender equality in the cocoa sector](#)
- [Even it Up: Time to end extreme inequality](#)
- [Food, Fossil Fuels and Filthy Finance](#)
- [Hidden Hunger in South Africa: The Faces of Hunger and Malnutrition in a Food-Secure Nation](#)
- [From Crisis to Catastrophe: South Sudan's man-made crisis – and how the world must act now to prevent catastrophe in 2015](#)

Pax Christi International

- [Newsletter](#) N°250

PAX*

- [Don't Bank on the Bomb](#)
- [Unacceptable Risk](#)

Saferworld

- [Masculinities, conflict and peacebuilding: Perspectives on men through a gender lens](#)
- [Newsletter](#)
- [Strengthening the New Deal from the Bottom Up: Perspectives on the Somali Compact and Somaliland Special Arrangement](#)
- [Global perspectives on peaceful and inclusive societies and the post-2015 framework: A dialogue between member states and experts](#)
- [Sustainable Development Goals: The Quest for a Post-2015 Agenda](#)
- [Media reporting on peace, conflict and security issues](#)

Search for Common Ground

- [Burkina Faso: A foreseeable eruption](#)

Swisspeace

- [Challenges of Peace Research](#) – Working Paper 7/2014
- [Center for Peacebuilding \(KOFF\) Newsletter](#) N°132
- [Looking back to look ahead? Reviewing key lessons from Operation Lifeline Sudan and past humanitarian operations in South Sudan](#)
- [Implementation of the Swiss Guidelines on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders](#)

World Vision International

- [Joint statement on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Convention on The Rights of the Child](#)
- [eNews](#)

*PAX is a member of EPLO member organisation Pax Christi International

CIVIL SOCIETY EVENTS

Road to peace or dead-end? Sudan's national dialogue and the 2015 elections

Friday 28 November 2014, Brussels

(Organisers: [Saferworld](#) and [Sudan Democracy First Group](#))

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

WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING AT EPLO?

Visit the [EPLO website](#), like us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#) for information about recent publications and upcoming events (including EPLO lunch events).

TRAINING COURSES

**Trauma and the Psychosocial Dimension of Peace Work:
Recognising trauma, fear and grief during projects – and how to deal with them**

20-22 November 2014
Cologne, Germany

(Organiser: [Forum Civil Peace Service \(forumZFD\)](#))

Developing and Applying Early Warning and Early Response Systems: Challenges and Response

24-28 November 2014
Cluj Napoca, Romania

(Organiser: [Peace Action Training and Research Institute of Romania – International Peace and Development Training Centre](#))

Systemic Conflict Analysis: Understanding conflicts – grasping the potential for peace

24-29 November 2014
Cologne, Germany

(Organiser: [Forum Civil Peace Service \(forumZFD\)](#))

Analyzing Conflicts Revisited – from Theory to Practice

26-28 November 2014
Bern, Switzerland

(Organiser: [swisspeace \(Centre for Peacebuilding \(KOFF\)\)](#))

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](#)
- [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](#)
- [Nonviolent Peaceforce](#)
- [Oxfam International](#)
- [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](#)
- [Interpeace](#)
- [Life & Peace Institute](#)
- [Nonviolent Peaceforce](#)
- [Oxfam International](#)
- [Pax Christi International](#)
- [Search for Common Ground](#)
- [World Vision International](#)

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

CIVIL SOCIETY DIALOGUE NETWORK

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).

Recent Events

Policy Meeting
Designing and Supporting National Dialogues: What Role for the EU and Civil Society?
Thursday 30 October 2014, Brussels

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

Funding Instruments Meeting
Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace: Consultation on 2015 programming
Friday 17 October 2014, Brussels

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

Member State Meeting
**The EU, conflict prevention and peacebuilding:
State of play and the role of civilian Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)**
Thursday 16 October 2014, Vienna, Austria

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

Geographic Meeting
**Mise en œuvre de l'Accord-cadre pour la paix, la sécurité et la coopération pour la RDC et la région :
quel rôle pour la société civile et pour l'UE ?**
Tuesday 23 September 2014, Bukavu, Democratic Republic of the Congo

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

Policy Meeting
EUAM Ukraine and Effective Security Sector Reform: Input from Civil Society
Thursday 11 September 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.

STRENGTHENING EARLY WARNING AND MOBILISING EARLY ACTION

The project 'Strengthening Early Warning and Mobilising Early Action' aims to contribute to the establishment, development and reinforcement of early warning mechanisms and increase opportunities for civil society to influence responses to conflict in a timely manner. In particular, through the provision of expert field-based conflict analysis, it aims to identify options for early action to allow the European Union (EU), its Member States and other regional and international actors the EU supports, to anticipate and respond to the risks of outbreak or recurrence of conflict in fragile countries.

This three-year project started in July 2013. It is co-financed by the European Union (EU) under the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) and managed by the International Crisis Group and EPLO.

Recent Events

Early Warning Briefing: 'From Early Warning to Early Action'
Monday 27 October 2014, Brussels

Early Warning Round-table: 'Whither South Sudan?'
Tuesday 23 September 2014, Brussels

For more information about these and other events in the framework of the 'Strengthening Early Warning and Mobilising Early Action' project, please contact [Giulia Pasquinelli](#) or click [here](#) to visit the dedicated page on the EPLO website.