

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2024



EUROPEAN PEACEBUILDING  
LIAISON OFFICE

The **largest independent European**  
civil society platform of European  
NGOs, NGO networks and think tanks  
that are **committed to peacebuilding**  
and the **prevention of violent conflict**

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# FOREWORD FROM CHAIR OF THE BOARD

**JUDY  
McCALLUM**

Chair  
**EPLO Steering Committee**



EPLO's 2024 annual report offers a much-needed glimpse of optimism and hope, as the international order is unraveling and the challenges facing the peacebuilding sector are accelerating. These times call for solidarity and collective action, and throughout this report are examples of how EPLO members have used the network to support each other and work together to navigate this tumultuous environment and find opportunities to initiate positive change.

As the pendulum swings further towards security and defence, the fear of peace dropping off the agenda was on all our minds in the run up to the European elections and the new EU leadership cycle this past year. In light of these concerns, EPLO colleagues stepped up to the challenge using all the tools available - advocacy meetings, analysis and communication - to ensure that our messages reached the different institutions and were amplified by EPLO members across the EU.

As the largest peacebuilding network in Europe, EPLO is uniquely positioned to play this important role.

The space for civil society is shrinking rapidly all over the world. This is why the Civil Society Dialogue Network (CSDN), building on 14 years of a robust partnership between EPLO and the EU, is so important to maintain. The CSDN offers unique opportunities for civil society actors to learn about EU policy developments and EU policymakers to strengthen their policies based on civil society recommendations. 2024 showed another impressive set of results where key EU policy documents related to peacebuilding and conflict prevention were shaped by CSDN meetings.



**Building bridges is at the  
very heart of EPLO's work**

The tasks ahead of us are formidable, especially as resources for peacebuilding are being reduced and redirected and space for civil society restricted. Identifying new allies and strengthening joint work is critical as the policy landscape shifts in fast and unpredictable directions.

Building bridges is at the very heart of EPLO's work. The next EU long-term budget will be a key focus in the coming years and EPLO has already dedicated time and expertise to building capacity and a common position among members in preparation for the critical advocacy efforts ahead.



# STRATEGIC & POLICY OBJECTIVES

EPLO's mission is to influence European policymakers to take a more active and effective approach in securing peace and nonviolent forms of conflict resolution in all regions of the world. In the period 2020-2025, EPLO's work toward its mission is framed by three interconnected strategic objectives:

## Strategic Objectives:

Advance the strengths of peacebuilding/ conflict prevention in the narrative around EU external action

Improve EU peacebuilding in practice

Help the EU to improve its engagement in fragile and conflict affected contexts

Each strategic objective is in turn operationalised through six policy objectives:

## Policy Objectives:

- A stronger EU policy framework for peacebuilding
- Significant EU funding for peacebuilding
- Centering gender equality in peace
- A move from policy to practice
- Better EU engagement in fragile and conflict-affected contexts
- Broaden support for peacebuilding approaches

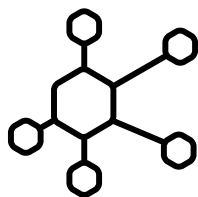
EPLO's Strategic and Policy Objectives for the period 2020-2025 can be read in full on our website.

[VISIT THE WEBSITE](#)

# 1 EPLO IN 2024 KEY FIGURES

**50+**

Number of  
EPLO members



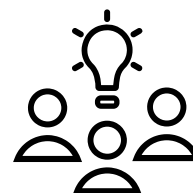
**14**

Number of events  
organised by  
EPLO



**8**

Number of CSDN  
meetings and  
training seminars



**174**

exchanges with  
Member  
organisations

**122**

exchanges with  
other CSOs

**81**

exchanges with EU  
and Member  
States

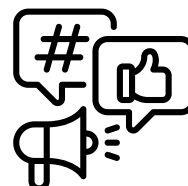
**EPLO**

New branding,  
website  
and intranet



**58.000+**

Total number of  
social media  
followers





# 2

## CIVIL SOCIETY DIALOGUE NETWORK: KEEPING DIALOGUE OPEN

**In 2024, EPLO delivered on the CSDN phase V, having successfully managed the project in cooperation with the European Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS) since 2010. In a context of rapidly shrinking space for civil society paired with conflicts on the rise, the CSDN continues to offer a valuable space for civil society actors to come to the table with EU policymakers to strengthen EU peacebuilding policies and practices and enhance their respective capacities in preventing violent conflict and building peace.**

**14 YEARS CSDN**

(2010 - 2024)

**177 EVENTS**

In 2024, EPLO brought together 291 participants over eight events, sparking critical discussion on EU peacebuilding policies and practices. This high level of engagement demonstrates the robustness of the dialogue project.

Beyond building valuable connections between policymakers and civil society, these events directly influenced or informed EU policies, initiatives and actions. For example, EPLO brought together transitional justice and mental health experts and practitioners from across the world to provide concrete input in the development of EU operational guidelines on the integration of mental health and psycho-social support (MHPSS) in transitional justice.

Additionally, the two CSDN training seminars held in 2024 were overwhelmingly evaluated positively by participants seeking to build their knowledge of EU peacebuilding policies and practices, and an external evaluation confirmed that participants were subsequently using this knowledge in their work.

A number of CSDN meetings in 2024 built on events from previous phases of the project, reinforcing the role of EPLO as a key partner for the EU in civil society engagement and further highlighting the value of 'dialogue' being strengthened over time. As a standout example, in April, EPLO organised the 6th CSDN meeting to provide civil society perspectives on the mandate of the EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM Georgia).

Finally, in 2024 EPLO developed a new website with a dedicated CSDN page, to help raise the profile and visibility of the CSDN and its outcomes.

### **CSDN V - 2024**

**5** set of recommendations

**10** events

**291** participants

# 3

## KEEPING PEACE ON THE EU AGENDA AMID LEADERSHIP CHANGE

**2024 was the year of the European elections, leading to leadership change across key EU institutions: a new European Parliament and a new Commission. EPLO helped preserve the space for peace on the agenda as hard security and defence dominate policy circles. Throughout the formation of the new Parliament and new Commission, EPLO engaged with key EU stakeholders to make the case for peacebuilding support, while updating members on institutional developments**

We reached out to each MEP with 2 to 5 questions

Work began early on in the year, with a high-level briefing in February bringing together EPLO Steering Committee members and key director-level officials from the EEAS and the Commission. These discussions set the stage for strengthening peace as an area of focus for the next EU leadership and exploring opportunities for further collaboration. Building on the momentum, a second meeting was organised in May and included larger representation of EPLO member organisations. A major outcome of this engagement was EPLO's role in organising and facilitating panels on Human Security - with a focus on the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agendas - at the Schuman Forum, a space traditionally dominated by hard security and defence.

This marked a significant step in integrating peacebuilding perspectives into EU security discussions.

Ahead of the European elections, EPLO developed a number of policy products setting out recommendations to ensure the integration of peace in the agenda of the next European leadership cycle. Future MEPs and European Parliament officials were briefed on priorities for strengthening and expanding the EU's role as a global peace actor in an EPLO [open letter](#) published in June. The open letter was also shared with participants at the MEP reception co-organised with CONCORD and VOICE in September (see below), further reinforcing engagement with newly elected legislators. Different political groups welcomed these ideas, which served as a useful starting point for further interactions. In parallel, EPLO sent a [second open letter](#) to the High Representative/Vice President (HR/VP) and European Commissioners, urging them to integrate peacebuilding in the EU's Green Transition. It highlighted the use of climate action for conflict prevention, emphasising conflict-sensitive and gender-responsive approaches.

### 47 attendees of MEP's reception

- 34% MEPs
- 4.3% Political Advisors
- 55.3% APAs
- 6.4% Other EP Staff

The letter was also shared and discussed with Commission and EEAS officials, contributing to the ongoing institutional dialogue in the context of the implementation of the [Joint Communication on the climate-security nexus](#), and informing considerations around EU partnership projects linked to the green transition.

In September, EPLO co-organised a reception at the European Parliament for newly-elected MEPs and their staff with our sister networks CONCORD and VOICE. The event was an opportunity for legislators to discuss issues around humanitarian aid, development and peacebuilding with representatives of the relevant civil society groups, and develop working relationships for the future.

EPLO continued its engagement with the Parliament connecting with MEPs from the Foreign Affairs (AFET) and Development (DEVE) Committees to bring in concerns around safeguarding inclusive peacebuilding principles and securing strong EU support for civil society organisations working in fragile and conflict-affected regions ahead of the parliamentary hearings of the HR/VP and Commissioners-designate in November. EPLO submitted questions to select MEPs for the hearings,

focused on ensuring that peacebuilding, conflict prevention, the protection of civic space, gender equality and climate action remain central to the EU's foreign and security policies. 25% of the MEPs confirmed they had considered these recommendations, and several points stressed by EPLO were directly reflected in the questions posed to Commissioners-designate.

Throughout the year, EPLO was also invited to author an [article](#) entitled 'Keep peace on the agenda! Peacebuilding at a crossroads ahead of the European elections' for the German Working Party on Peace and Development (FriENT)'s newsletter, and published a blog post entitled '[Peacebuilding in the new European Parliament: a bad moon rising](#)', exploring the implications of the June elections on peacebuilding in Europe over the next five years. EPLO was also invited to participate in the Kosovo Peace & Democracy Summit in Prishtina, organised by the Kosovo Centre for Security Studies, the New Social Initiative and Sbunker, to provide perspectives on the impact of the European elections and the new Commission on EU foreign policy and in particular the potential consequences for the Western Balkans and the Enlargement process from a peace and security perspective.



# 4

## FROM POLICY TO PRACTICE: STRENGTHENING EU PEACE POLICIES

**With the European elections and establishment of the new Commission leading to a brief pause in the EU policymaking process, EPLO focused its efforts in 2024 on the implementation of existing EU policy commitments. EPLO was regularly invited to share its expertise and recommendations with EU policymakers on a host of topics including mediation, CSDP and Security Sector Reform (SSR).**

In January, EPLO Executive Director was invited to moderate a panel on the psychological impact of conflict at the 2024 edition of the Basel Peace Forum, with high level speakers including the Director General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Head of the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) at the European Commission. A CSDN policy meeting was held in Basel the following day on 'Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS) in Transitional Justice (TJ): Gathering Input from Experts,' which **contributed** to the development of EU operational guidelines on the integration of MHPSS and TJ.

Ensuring civil society engagement in Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) has been a

element of EPLO's policy work for several years and 2024 was no exception. In April, EPLO organised a CSDN meeting providing input in the Strategic Review of EUMM Georgia, and in June, EPLO was invited to provide perspectives on civil society engagement with CSDP missions at the annual meeting of human rights and gender advisers in CSDP missions. In July, EPLO gave presentations and participated in the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) course on strategic planning for civilian missions. The consistent engagement with policymakers on CSDP has resulted in the development of a valuable partnership between the EU and EPLO and recommendations from EPLO, and civil society more widely, being integrated into CSDP policies and practices.

### 4

#### EU Policies Working Group calls

The EU's Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Due Diligence Policy on Security Sector Support to Third Parties (HRDDP) was published in February 2024, and the policy included recommendations from a CSDN meeting organised the previous year, such as language around conflict sensitivity, gender sensitivity and the need to have robust policies and mechanisms in place to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment.

# 81

meetings and  
calls with  
EU/MS

As a follow up to this meeting, EPLO co-organised a seminar with the EEAS and the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the EU on 'EU Human Rights Due Diligence Policy – Implementation and views from Civil Society' in May 2024. The event had some 40 participants representing Member States, civil society organisations, and EU institutions. Civil society speakers were unanimous in their expression of the importance of the policy and recommended ways in which it might be better and more universally applied. In September, EPLO co-organised an informal roundtable with the EEAS on 'EU HRDDP on Security Sector Support to third parties: Civil Society Engagement in its Implementation'. The discussions gathered civil society input to feed into the development of operational guidelines for the EU's HRDDP.

In May, EPLO participated in a workshop organised by the Egmont Institute, the EEAS, and the Permanent Representation of Belgium to the EU in the context of the Belgian Presidency of the EU discussing 'The EU Joint Communication on the Climate-Security Nexus - One Year On'. Outcomes of the discussions were captured by the Egmont Institute in [this Policy Brief](#), which includes several points on conflict sensitivity and the sidelining of peace in the climate-security nexus raised by EPLO.

EPLO has done extensive work on Security Sector Reform (SSR) and in July, EPLO's Executive Director was invited to the Council of the European Union by the Chair of the Committee for Civilian Aspects of

Crisis Management (CIVCOM) to brief CIVCOM delegates on supporting human security in the context of the implementation of the Strategic Framework on Security Sector Reform (SSR). This briefing built on previous engagements from EPLO and member organisations with the EU contributing to the ongoing review of the Strategic Framework on SRR.

The EU invited EPLO to convene a panel on 'advancing human security through mediation: strengthening cooperation with partners' at the annual EU Peace Mediation Community of Practice (CoP) in October. This built on several years of work strengthening the EU's efforts in mediation, including three CSDN policy meetings on the development of the EU Mediation Concept and the drafting and revision of the EU Mediation Guidelines in 2020 and 2023, a CSDN Member State meeting in Spain on 'strengthening inclusion and participation in EU peace mediation support - role of insider mediators' in 2023, and prior EPLO participation in the CoP.

EPLO continued to monitor developments relating to the European Peace Facility, particularly in the context of the mid-term review which was completed at the end of 2024. In April, COARM delegates were briefed by EPLO on the importance of civil society engagement in all phases of EPF assistance during the COARM-NGO forum organised by EPLO member Saferworld.

**Moderated panel  
at Basel Peace  
Forum**

**Panel at EU Peace  
Mediation  
Community of  
Practice**

**Seminar on  
HRDDP with  
EEAS & Belgian  
Presidency**

**Workshop on  
Climate-Security  
Nexus**

# 5

## GENDER EQUALITY AT THE HEART OF PEACEBUILDING

**As challenges for gender equality and women's rights in conflict-affected contexts have intensified in 2024, EPLO convened information regarding EU developments on gender equality in external action and the EU's implementation of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, identifying entry points for input from members in several fora.**

In January, EPLO organised a joint call with the Gender, Peace and Security, EU-MENA relations and Comms Community of Practice working groups. The discussion focused on how women and LGBTQIA+ organisations may carry out advocacy and communication activities without facing increased risks to their safety. The discussion was kicked off by representatives from Un Ponte Per and some of their partners, focusing on their work in Iraq, Lebanon, Libya and Tunisia. In March, EPLO was invited to join the Steering Group for the Structured Dialogue (SD) of the EU's **Gender Action Plan III (GAP III)**, organised by DG INTPA, the EEAS and the Policy Forum on Development (PFD). Through the work in the Steering Group, EPLO was able to push for inclusive approaches to peacebuilding and conflict prevention as part of the implementation of the GAP III. This contributed to EU support to gender equality in conflict and post-conflict contexts being included in GAP III external intermediary evaluation.

In June, EPLO was also part of an event on country-level implementation plans organised by DG INTPA and PFD, bringing together EU delegations' gender focal points, other EU

representatives, local authorities and civil society, and provided input on the implementation of the GAP III and review of Country Level Implementation Plans. As part of the GAP III SD Steering Group, EPLO also joined an informal discussion with the EU working group on Gender Transformative Approaches (GTA) and shared a document summarising the work of member organisations on GTA, which contributed to the concept note '**Gender-Transformative Approaches: From Theory to Impact**'. In December, EPLO was asked to speak on accountability for the WPS agenda at an expert meeting organised by the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), and contributed with very specific language to the '**EESC contribution to the EU priorities at the UNCSW69**' (69th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women). During 2024, EPLO has continued its participation in the WPS technical level taskforce, an ad-hoc working party with representatives from the EEAS, DG INTPA, EU member states and civil society.

This led to an increased coordination and cooperation between EPLO and the Secretariat General on Gender and Diversity. EPLO also published a blog post entitled '**Standing up against gender-based violence: Mismatches between EU internal and foreign policy**' which draws attention to the problematic approach of externalising feminist principles through member states' foreign policies while at the same time blocking progress in the fight against gender-based violence on a European level.

# 6

## SECURING FUNDING FOR PEACEBUILDING

**As the funding landscape for peace becomes ever more challenging, EPLO positioned itself as a convenor and source of information for members, while identifying entry points for pushing back against funding cuts and shaping programming decisions in 2024.**

Early in the year, EPLO engaged with a group of NGOs to push back against de facto cuts to the NDICI-GE as part of the mid-term revision of the EU's Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), raising the need for sufficient and flexible external funding in order for the EU to uphold its commitments to peace, development and climate action, amongst others. In January, EPLO's Executive Director signed a joint policy brief calling on EU leaders to reject the funding redeployments and encouraged EPLO members to take action in Member States. In April, EPLO signed a [joint statement](#) in response to the cuts entitled "Who will the EU be in the world of tomorrow?".

While the cuts went through, they were described as 'an example not to follow' for the next EU MFF by the European Parliament's BUDG Committee setting out its initial position for the next EU budget in January 2025.

Ahead of negotiations beginning on the next MFF, EPLO focused on capacity building among EPLO members and other peacebuilding organisations in Europe to prepare them for advocacy.

Ahead of negotiations beginning on the next MFF, EPLO focused on capacity building among EPLO members and other peacebuilding organisations in Europe to prepare them for advocacy. 25 representatives from German civil society were brought up to speed on the EU funding landscape and avenues for MFF advocacy during a CSDN NGO roundtable meeting in Berlin in April and following this meeting, some participants engaged in conversations with the German Federal Foreign Office concerning the next MFF. Meanwhile, 22 civil society representatives were trained specifically on 'Advocacy towards the EU on Funding for Peacebuilding' during a CSDN training seminar in Brussels in June.

This advocacy workshop included panel discussions with EU policymakers and NGOs with a track record of influencing the EU budget, as well as a trip to the European Parliament, and all participants reported finding it useful and learning new information.

**17**

FIMs since start of project

**113**

participants in FIM

In October, civil society provided input to shape the drafting of the 'Multiannual Action Programme 2025-2026 for the Thematic Programme on Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI-GE)' during a CSDN Funding Instruments Meeting. The meeting facilitated dialogue on diverse topics related to peacebuilding and conflict prevention, including critical raw materials, maritime security, gender, localisation, and the climate-conflict nexus. The meeting report can be found [here](#). A CSDN Background Paper providing an overview of the policy priorities included in previous Annual Action Plans of the Thematic Programme on Peace Stability and Conflict Prevention was developed for participants in advance.

This was the 17th CSDN Funding Instruments Meeting convened by EPLO since 2011, the aim of all of which has been to gather input from civil society organisations and other actors into the programming and implementation of EU external action instruments relevant to peacebuilding and conflict prevention.

In addition to advocacy on EU funding, member organisations were provided with a space by EPLO to share intelligence and strategise around the challenging funding developments in EU Member States. A number of calls with EPLO members were organised on the German funding cuts, and in March EPLO published a [blog post](#) outlining the budgetary situation in Germany.



47

participants  
trained on  
EU funding

6

Funding for Peace  
Working Group  
calls





# 7

## IMPROVING EU ENGAGEMENT IN FRAGILE CONTEXTS

**From promoting peace in the green transition to zooming in on specific geographic contexts, EPLO provided recommendations and facilitated discussions between EU and civil society to enhance EU engagement in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.**

In January, EPLO was invited to present the 2023 CSDN Discussion Paper entitled “**Peace**” **in the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus**’ to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Task Force 4 on Humanitarian Development Collaboration and its Linkages to Peace. The paper outlines good practices and recommendations from 10 case studies of civil society organisations implementing peace activities as part of the nexus, and participants included staff from UN agencies and CSOs from across the nexus.

In March, the EU’s implementation of the Joint Communication on the Climate-Security Nexus was informed by recommendations from a CSDN policy meeting entitled ‘The Green Transition and Peace: Good Practices and Opportunities for Sustainable Outcomes’. In the context of the EU’s efforts to pursue and promote a green transition and to support climate adaptation as part of its external action and international partnerships, the overall aim of the meeting was to gather input and recommendations on how the EU may ensure that these efforts are conflict-sensitive and that they actively contribute to peace, in addition to the implementation of the Joint Communication.

A CSDN Background Paper was developed to help prepare civil society participants in advance. The meeting served as a key opportunity to convene EU colleagues from across institutions and services, supporting the EU’s whole-of-government approach to climate-security by fostering inter-institutional collaboration. It also facilitated connections between EU representatives, relevant member organisations, and links to their local partners and projects, contributing to efforts to operationalise the Joint Communication. The meeting report can be found [here](#).

### 2 Country Briefing Papers

- **Somalia Paper**
- **Mozambique Paper**

Building on the momentum of the Green Transition meeting, EPLO held a CSDN geographic meeting in July entitled ‘The Green Transition and Peace: Exploring Climate Crisis and Security Dynamics in Somalia’. The meeting saw a diverse range of topics discussed, from the problems of forest and water management to the necessity of integrating peacebuilding approaches in humanitarian and development interventions. Civil society participants gave a number of recommendations on how the EU could make its partnership with Somalia more effective and how efforts to respond to climate shocks can be made conflict-sensitive. The meeting report can be found [here](#).



Two CSDN Country Briefing Papers were published in 2024, gathering a snapshot from civil society of the perception of the EU and recommendations for the EU's engagement in Mozambique and Somalia respectively. These were the outcome of conference calls with civil society organisations. The Briefing Papers can be found [here](#) (Mozambique) and [here](#) (Somalia). As the EU's international cooperation shifts towards a more transactional approach paired with hard security assistance, these papers offer insight from the ground on how these changes are being perceived.

Recommendations for enhancing the EU's engagement in fragile and conflict-affected contexts were frequently made during the 12 Brown Bag Lunch events, Book Conversations and learning corners hosted by EPLO, in collaboration with EPLO member organisations, and attended by civil society and EU participants throughout 2024. A wide range of contexts and topics were addressed, including the legacy of conflict in Northern Ireland, perspectives from the ground on the Philippine communist insurgency and the impact of flexible funding for youth-led peacebuilding efforts in Pakistan.



# 8

## EXPANDING SUPPORT FOR PEACE & BUILDING BRIDGES

**Not only did EPLO's membership grow in 2024, but bridges with and between peacebuilding and other actors were strengthened through EPLO's work.**

In April, EPLO organised a CSDN NGO Roundtable meeting in Berlin. This meeting provided the opportunity for EPLO to bring together German peacebuilding organisations for the first time to discuss common concerns and advocacy towards not only Germany but also the EU, and discuss the role of German civil society and government in leveraging these concerns at the European level. This included a panel conversation about Germany's role of promoting peace in the EU's external action with speakers from the German Federal Foreign Office and the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF). The summary of the event is available [here](#).

Building on this success, a second CSDN NGO Roundtable meeting was organised in The Hague in November. Participants discussed the political context for peacebuilding with the current Dutch government and Dutch government engagement with the EU on peace and fragility in external action, while exploring challenges, opportunities, and strategic responses to the changing landscape affecting conflict prevention and peacebuilding. This included a panel conversation on fostering "a culture of peace" in the context of a changing landscape of EU external action with Dutch

policymakers, followed by a reception where Dutch-based NGOs working on peace issues, Dutch government officials, Dutch politicians and representatives from The Hague municipality had the opportunity to network. See the summary of the event [here](#).

EPLO took part in the second  
**CSO-UN Dialogue in New York**  
in December

Beyond the EU and its Member States, EPLO took part in the second CSO-UN Dialogue in New York in December, co-chaired by EPLO member organisation Interpeace and the UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA). The Dialogue focused on thematic priorities leading up to the 2025 Review of the UN Peacebuilding Architecture, with conflict prevention as the overarching theme and three sub-themes – financing for peacebuilding, meaningful civil society inclusion, and Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS) – viewed through the lens of prevention. Thanks to its role in the Core Group of the CSO-UN Dialogue, EPLO was contacted by UNDP to organise an internal meeting in Brussels with their key director-level officials, where EPLO member organisations could share their points of view and debrief on possible follow ups to the Pact for the Future and the New Agenda for Peace.

2024 saw EPLO launch a new type of event series - Book Conversations - where authors are invited to discuss the content of their books with EPLO members and other peacebuilding actors. This event series aims to offer a space for deeper reflection and critical thinking on some of the key issues related to peacebuilding and conflict prevention, drawing expertise from academics and other key thinkers. EPLO Book Conversations in 2024 focused on the unintended consequences of

foreign aid, linkages between illicit economies and poverty, conflict, the link between climate change and conflict escalation, and social entrepreneurship and peacebuilding.

Responding to the difficulties of the current climate for peacebuilding organisations, EPLO also launched the Learning Corner Series in 2024, a members-only platform to share insights, challenges and knowledge on the daily management of NGOs.

**377**  
Outreach  
Activities

**16**  
Exchanges with  
Multilateral  
Institutions

**166**  
Requests for  
Guidance



# 9

## COMMUNICATING FOR IMPACT

This year marked a turning point for EPLO's communication with the introduction of a new visual identity. The updated logo and colours move beyond traditional symbols like the dove, positioning EPLO as a bridge between civil society and institutions.

Another major milestone was the launch of a new website, transforming it from a document archive into a more dynamic platform designed to engage our network. A key advancement in this process was the creation of an intranet, an exclusive space where member organisations can access updates from the Working Groups (WGs) and the latest network developments. This space will continue evolving with user feedback in the coming months.

**45,000 +** LinkedIn followers  
**8,000 +** X (Twitter) followers

In social media, 2024 presented challenges. The transformation of X (formerly Twitter) and Meta's increasing restrictions significantly reduced the reach of our messages and those of many organisations working for social justice. However, we identified new opportunities in this shifting landscape:

- LinkedIn remains a key engagement channel, allowing us to connect with the network and support advocacy campaigns. By the end of the year, we had surpassed 625,000 interactions and reached nearly 44,000 followers.

- Emerging platforms: Alternatives such as Mastodon and Bluesky are growing as spaces where communities seek more inclusive and democratic communication models.

Additionally, we strengthened communication efforts around the Civil Society Dialogue Network (CSDN), ensuring greater visibility for advocacy work. As part of this:

- We produced the video "EPLO: How does the EU's framework promote peacebuilding?", explaining the EU's role in peacebuilding.
- We began planning a 2025 documentary, exploring narratives that highlight civil society's role in peacebuilding.
- The newsletter remained the cornerstone of internal communication, evolving with the rebranding while maintaining its core mission: providing monthly network updates. By year-end, its internal audience had grown to 300 people.

### Looking ahead to 2025

Next year, we aim to strengthen EPLO's communication strategy, ensuring our messaging is impactful and reaches the right audiences. This will be possible thanks to the collaboration of our member organisations, whose insights and engagement remain essential in shaping how we communicate, advocate, and build bridges between civil society and institutions.



# EPLO MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS



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