

## Civil Society Dialogue Network Meeting

### UN Peace Operations and the Role of the EU: Input from Practitioners

Monday, 19 January 2015, 14:00-16:30  
Greater Birmingham and West Midlands Brussels Office (Floor 6)  
Avenue d'Auderghem 22-28 Oudergemsesteenweg, Brussels

The meeting will discuss the changing nature of conflict and its impact on UN peace operations, focussing on the revisions needed in order to adapt peace operations to the current security and political environment. It will also examine the role of the EU in UN peace operations.

The discussion takes place in the context of the comprehensive review of the state of UN peace operations (covering peacekeeping missions and special political missions) by the High-Level Independent Panel convened by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon. The Panel's recommendations are expected to be submitted to the UN Secretary General in spring 2015.

The EU and its Member States provide broad support to UN peace operations and cooperate with the UN at headquarters level and in countries where operations are deployed. The EU also has its own tools for responding to conflict and violence. EU Member States are involved in UN peace operations in multiple ways but also remain key decision-makers in EU external affairs, including its cooperation with the UN. The EU and its member states are currently developing their positions on UN peace operations to feed into the assessment.

The meeting will bring together civil society experts involved in conflict prevention and peacebuilding to provide their input into the assessment and into the EU's possible approach to the process.

#### Objectives of the meeting:

- To identify key (European) priorities for the UN review of peace operations;
- To discuss the effectiveness of UN peace operations based on practitioners' experience;
- To identify key trends in armed violence and their implications for UN peace operations;
- To identify scenarios for the future of EU-UN cooperation.

<b>14h00</b>	<p><b>A Practitioners' Assessment of UN Peace Operations and the role of the EU</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the most important contemporary trends in armed violence? How should UN peace operations adapt to respond to these developments?</li> <li>• What has been the impact of UN peace operations in ending the violence and protecting civilians? What has been their effect in addressing the root causes of conflicts?</li> <li>• What are the key challenges faced by UN peace operations? What are the main scenarios for the future of UN peace operations?</li> <li>• What role can the EU play in improving the effectiveness of UN peace operations?</li> </ul> <p>Moderation: EPLO. The meeting will be an informal roundtable; participants will provide their introductory comments to be followed by a facilitated discussion.</p>
<b>16h30</b>	<b>End of the meeting</b>

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). It is managed by the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO), a civil society network, in co-operation with the European Commission (EC) and the European External Action Service (EEAS). The second phase of the CSDN will last from 2014 to 2016. For more information, please visit the [EPLO website](#).