



EPLO CONFLICT PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

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European Peacebuilding
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EU IN THE WORLD UPDATE

Council of the EU: The Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) met on 14 June in Luxembourg and on 26 July in Brussels. In June, the FAC adopted conclusions on Gaza, the Western Balkans and Kyrgyzstan. They also discussed the situation in Somalia and piracy, and gender equality and development. Finally, they adopted the EU's position for the UN high-level meeting on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) on 22-22 September in New York.

In July, the FAC adopted conclusions on the European Neighbourhood Policy and on Kyrgyzstan. They also discussed the Middle East Peace Process, Sudan and Kosovo. Finally, they approved indicators for EU implementation of UN Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820 on women, peace and security.

The General Affairs Council (GAC) also met on 14 June in Luxembourg and on 26 July in Brussels. In June, the GAC endorsed the conclusions of an annual report from the EU Politico-Military Group on the European (now Common) Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) and ESDP-related training, and approved the signature, on behalf of the EU, of a revision of the EU's partnership agreement with the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States (Cotonou Agreement).

In July, the GAC adopted a decision establishing the European External Action Service (EEAS) and setting out its organisation and functioning (see below).

Click [here](#) to download the FAC conclusions and [here](#) to download the GAC conclusions.

European Council: The European Council met on 17 June in Brussels. EU heads of state and government endorsed the FAC conclusions of 14 June on the MDGs and reaffirmed their collective commitment to achieve development aid targets by 2015.

European External Action Service (EEAS): On 8 July, the European Parliament endorsed the agreement which had been reached in June on the organisation and functioning of the EEAS. This was followed on 26 July by a Council decision.

On 29 June, EPLO, the Parliamentarians Network for Conflict Prevention and the Office of Heidi Hautala MEP jointly organised a panel discussion on 'Conflict Prevention and the EEAS.'

Click [here](#) to download the Council decision and [here](#) to download the European Parliament's resolution. For more information about the European Parliament event on 29 June, please visit the [EPLO website](#).

CSDP missions: On 14 June, the Council of the EU agreed to extend the EU's integrated rule of law mission in Iraq (EUJUST LEX) by 24 months until 30 June 2012.

On 15 July Brigadier General Jukka Savolainen became the new head of the EU's police mission in Afghanistan (EUPOL Afghanistan) and on 27 July, General (retd.) Xavier Bout de Marnhac was appointed Head of Mission of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX Kosovo).

On 2 August, the Council of the EU announced that the EU's security sector reform mission in Guinea-Bissau (EU SSR Guinea-Bissau) will close down on 30 September 2010.

On 12 August, the Council agreed to extend the mandate of the EU's monitoring mission in Georgia (EUMM Georgia) by 12 months until 14 September 2011.

On 16 August, Rear Admiral Philippe Coindreau became the new EU Force Commander of the EU's naval mission off the coast of Somalia (EUNAVFOR Somalia - Operation Atalanta).

Click [here](#) to download CSDP Newsletter Issue 10 and [here](#) to download EU Security and Defence News Issue 21. For more information about CSDP missions, please contact [Sanne Tielmans](#).

EU Special Representatives (EUSR): On 11 August, the British diplomat Dame Rosalind Marsden was appointed as the new EUSR for Sudan. Dame Marsden is the EU's first ever female EUSR.

European Parliament: The European Parliament had plenary sessions on 14-17 June and 6-8 July in Strasbourg and on 23 June in Brussels. In June, MEPs adopted resolutions on the upcoming UN high-level meeting on the MDGs, the Israeli military operation against the humanitarian flotilla and the Gaza blockade, the trade in goods used for torture, and EU policies in favour of human rights defenders. In July, they adopted resolutions on the EEAS and the entry into force on 1 August 2010 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (see the 'EU Documents' section on p. 4).

For more information about events in the European Parliament, please contact [Ben Moore](#).

Civil Society Dialogue Network: On 28 July, EPLO signed an agreement with the European Commission to manage the new Civil Society Dialogue Network.

Click [here](#) to download a press release about the launch of the Civil Society Dialogue Network. For more information, please contact [Catherine Woollard](#).

THE EU'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNSCR 1325

The European Union (EU) has become an increasingly important player on the world stage. Originally set up as a peace project, the EU has developed into the world's largest trading bloc and the world's biggest provider of official development assistance (ODA). In addition, through various reform processes, the EU is becoming increasingly capable of speaking with one voice and making itself heard in international fora. In recent years, the EU has become increasingly active abroad under the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). With some 20 civilian and military missions on three continents, the EU's role as a security player is rapidly expanding. In short, the EU cannot be disregarded in discussions about the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and related commitments on women, peace and security (WPS).

Despite the major developments which have taken place over the past 20 years, it is possible to identify a number of areas of concern in terms of the EU's approach to WPS-related issues, including:

- **Need for more 'practising what you preach':** There is a major lack of gender balance in certain parts of the EU institutions, particularly in senior positions (e.g. EU Special Representatives).
- **Need for increased human resources:** There are a relatively small number of EU officials working on gender in external action. Those officials who do work on gender issues often do so as part of a broader portfolio and/or at a relatively junior level.
- **Lack of funding for WPS-related issues:** Although a number of the EU's external financing instruments include references to UNSCR 1325, WPS is generally a low priority.
- **Marginalisation of gender advisers in CSDP missions:** Most CSDP missions include gender advisers but they are often contracted once missions have been launched, they do not always have direct links to the heads of missions and/or they are double-hatted (e.g. human rights and gender).
- **Gender mainstreaming as a "magic bullet":** The ongoing discussions on the formation of the European External Action Service (EEAS) suggest that gender mainstreaming alone will ensure that the EU addresses gender issues.

For those who are not familiar with EU institutions or policies, it is important to note that different decision-making processes apply to different policy areas. The EU's foreign and security policy (Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)) is one area in which authority remains largely with the Member States (although the European Commission (EC) and – to a lesser extent, the European Parliament, are also associated with the process. Consequently, EU Member States have considerable power in the EU's approach to WPS-

related matters and their implementation of WPS commitments (or a lack thereof) strongly influences the EU's own degree of implementation. For example, EU Member States propose candidates for the EU's top jobs, negotiate the mandates for CSDP missions and are responsible for pre-deployment CSDP mission training, and punishing sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and other offences which are committed by CSDP mission personnel. For this reason, EU-related advocacy cannot only be done from Brussels; it also needs to take place at the Member State-level, including during the development or review of national action plans (NAPs) for the implementation of WPS commitments.

Engaging with EU processes can also be a useful task for those whose interest is in ensuring that a particular Member State implements WPS commitments. Events such as the first EU Member States' exchange on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in October 2009 or the regular meetings of the EU's informal Task Force on WPS can exert serious peer pressure on a particular Member State. In addition, gender-insensitive EU or Member State-led actions can harm a particular Member State's efforts at implementing WPS commitments.

Regarding EU-wide implementation of UNSCR 1325 and other WPS-related commitments, in December 2008, the Council of the EU adopted two complementary documents outlining the EU policy for the implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820: [Comprehensive Approach to the EU implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820](#) and [Implementation of SCR 1325 as reinforced by 1820 in the context of European Security and Defence Policy](#).

The Comprehensive Approach (CA) sets out a common EU approach to the implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 and is aimed at complementing what already exists in terms of NAPs. It is intended to ensure that the EU's external actions are shaped to protect women and that they contribute to increased gender equality during and after armed conflict and in situations of fragility. Following an overview of definitions (e.g. gender and gender mainstreaming), challenges and basic principles (e.g. holistic approach), and preceding an assessment of existing EU policy and practice on WPS, the CA also includes a series of specific measures. These measures or activities have been divided into the following categories:

- **Political support for UNSCRs 1325 and 1820:** The CA provides that the EU will promote the implementation of the WPS resolutions through its political and human rights dialogues with partner countries, and through political statements within international fora and through different women's networks);

- **Training on WPS issues:** (e.g. the EC commits to organising training on WPS at its headquarters in Brussels);
- **Exchange of information and best practices:** The CA establishes a WPS Task Force composed of staff working on both gender equality and security issues across the relevant Council Secretariat and EC services, and which is open to participation by EU Member States);
- **Action at country and regional levels:** (e.g. a commitment to ensure that a gender dimension will be incorporated into the programming and implementation of those EC co-operation programmes which include a conflict prevention, crisis management or post-conflict component);
- **Integration of WPS considerations in sector activity:** (e.g. security, governance and civil society, economic security, health, education and humanitarian aid);
- **Co-operation with the UN and other international actors;** and
- **Monitoring and evaluation:** (e.g. a Task Force commitment to further develop indicators for progress regarding the protection and empowerment of women in conflict-affected countries and regions).

The CA is complemented by an operational paper on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 as reinforced by 1820 in the context of ESDP. The purpose of this document is to ensure gender mainstreaming and the implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1820 throughout all phases of CSDP missions. It includes measures to increase women's representation at all decision-making levels and to further the implementation of UN-

SCR 1325 more generally (e.g. advance planning, operational planning, force generation, etc).

With the adoption of the CA and the complementary CSDP document, the EU now has a comprehensive plan for guiding its actions on WPS-related issues. A number of interesting initiatives have resulted from the CA, including the establishment of an inter-institutional task force on WPS and an annual open exchange between EU Member States on national implementation of UNSCR 1325. The Council of the EU has also recently adopted a set of [indicators](#) for the CA.

Despite these positive developments, the CA, like most NAPs, still lacks clear lines of responsibility, a specific budget, timelines, clear monitoring and evaluation mechanisms or other elements which could help ensure the full implementation of WPS commitments. These are areas which the Europe (EU institutions and Member States) need to address without delay.

The tenth anniversary of UNSCR 1325 should mark the start of a reinvigorated agenda for its implementation. This will require both political leadership at the highest levels and increased resources. In addition, efforts to include women's participation in peacebuilding should be guided by a broader approach to gender. In order for UNSCR 1325 to be effective, attention has to be paid to the addressing the roles which men play in peace and security matters.

This article is an abridged version of a briefing note which was produced for EPLO's Working Group on Gender Peace and Security in July 2010. For more information, please contact [Sanne Tielemans](#).

[10 Points on 10 Years UNSCR 1325 in Europe](#) (August 2010)

This civil society position paper includes views on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and other related commitments on women, peace and security in Europe on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Resolution. It also includes 10 suggestions for further progress.

For more information or to add your organisation's support to the position paper, please contact [Sanne Tielemans](#)

[UNSCR 1325 in Europe: 21 case studies of implementation](#) (June 2010)

Published by EPLO, this report consists of a set of case studies of civil society experiences of working on women, peace and security (WPS) policies and practices in Europe. It is focused on national action plans (NAPs) for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and other related WPS commitments.

For more information, please contact [Sanne Tielemans](#)

EPLO Office

Catherine Woollard: Executive Director
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Ben Moore: Policy Officer
Sanne Tielemans: Policy Officer
Najoua Sbai: Administrative Officer

WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING AT EPLO?

Click [here](#) for information about recent publications and upcoming events.

EPLO BLOG

Click [here](#) for to read the latest posts on the EU, peacebuilding and conflict prevention.

GOT A QUESTION ABOUT THE EU AND PEACEBUILDING?

Click [here](#) to contact the EPLO Helpdesk.



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EU DOCUMENTS

CFSP / High Representative (HR) / President of the European Council

27 August – [Statement](#) by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on President Al-Bashir's visit to Kenya
 20 August – [Statement](#) by HR Ashton on the resumption of direct talks between Israel and the Palestinians
 19 August – [Statement](#) by HR Ashton on the ratification of the Rome Statute of the ICC by Saint Lucia
 15 August – [Declaration](#) by HR Ashton on behalf of the EU on the fifth Anniversary of the signature of the Aceh MoU and Aceh's peaceful evolution
 13 August – [Statement](#) by HR Ashton on Russian plans on missile deployment in Abkhazia
 12 August – [Statement](#) by HR Ashton on the ratification of the Rome Statute of the ICC by the Seychelles
 10 August – [Statement](#) by HR Ashton on the general election in the Solomon Islands
 5 August – [Declaration](#) by HR Ashton on behalf of the European Union on the approval of a new Constitution in Kenya
 3 August – [Statement](#) by the spokesperson of HR Ashton in support of the UN international Gaza flotilla probe
 3 August – [Statement](#) by HR Ashton on the Israel-Lebanon border incident
 2 August – [Statement](#) by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on the referendum on the formation of the Government of National Unity in Zanzibar
 27 July – [Declaration](#) by HR Ashton on behalf of the EU on the Convention on Cluster Munitions
 22 July – [Declaration](#) by HR Ashton on behalf of the EU on the ICJ advisory opinion
 22 July – [Statement](#) by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on President Al-Bashir
 19 July – [Statement](#) by HR Ashton on the national dialogue process in Yemen
 19 July – [EU Press Release](#): Kabul Conference: HR Ashton to reaffirm the EU's long-term commitment to Afghanistan
 18 July – [Remarks](#) made by HR Ashton after meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman
 17 July – [Remarks](#) made by HR Ashton after meeting Prime Minister Fayyad
 16 July – [Statement](#) by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on the political crisis in the Maldives
 9 July – [Statement](#) by HR Ashton on further ships carrying humanitarian aid to Gaza
 8 July – [Statement](#) by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on the adoption of the Georgian Action Plan for Engagement for Abkhazia and South Ossetia
 7 July – [Speech](#) by HR Ashton to the European Parliament on the creation of the EEAS
 5 July – [Statement](#) by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on Guinea Bissau
 5 July – [Statement](#) by HR Ashton on announcement by Israel on Gaza blockade
 2 July – [EU Press Release](#): The EU – Zimbabwe political dialogue: Moving towards enhanced cooperation
 1 July – [Declaration](#) by HR Ashton on behalf of the EU on the appointment of a UN Panel of Experts on accountability Issues in Sri Lanka

Council

27 July – [Joint Press Release](#): Seventh meeting of the Stabilisation and Association Council between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the EU
 12 July – [Conclusions](#) on the Arms Trade Treaty

Commission

28 June [Report](#) from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament: Annual Report 2010 on the EU's development and external assistance policies and their implementation in 2009

Parliament

8 July – [Legislative resolution](#) on the proposal for a Council decision establishing the organisation and functioning of the EEAS
 8 July – [Resolution](#) on the entry into force on 1 August 2010 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the role of the EU

EU AGENDA

Council of the EU: The next meetings of the Foreign Affairs Council and the General Affairs Council will take place on 13 September in Brussels and the European Council will meet on 16 September in Brussels. The following Council committees and working parties will also meet in September:

- **Political and Security Committee:** 3, 7, 8, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24 and 28
- **Committee for the Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management:** 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 13, 15, 17, 20, 22, 27 and 29
- **Working Party on Development Co-operation:** 2, 13, 23 and 30
- **Africa Working Party:** 1, 8, 17, 22 and 29
- **Working Party on Human Rights:** 7 and 8

There will be an informal meeting of foreign ministers ("Gymnich") on 10-11 September in Brussels.

European Parliament: The next full plenary sessions will take place on 6-9 and 20-23 September in Strasbourg. The following (sub-)committees will also meet in September:

- **Foreign Affairs:** 2, 16, 28 and 29
- **Security and Defence:** 13 and 27
- **Human Rights:** 13 and 30
- **Women's Rights and Gender Equality:** 2 and 28-29
- **Budgets:** 13 and 28-30
- **Constitutional Affairs:** 30

For more information about upcoming EU events visit the [EPLO website](#).

NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS FROM EPLO'S MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Job vacancies

Conciliation Resources

- [East and Central Africa Projects Manager](#), London (Deadline: 6 September 2010)

Fundación para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Diálogo Exterior (FRIDE)

- [Research Analyst - Middle East and North Africa](#), Madrid

International Center for Transitional Justice

- [Budget Manager](#), New York

International Crisis Group

- [Senior Analyst - Iraq](#)
- [Senior Analyst - Nigeria](#)

Nonviolent Peaceforce

- [Sri Lanka Country Representative](#) (Deadline: 5 September)
- [Field team members](#)

Saferworld

- [Programme Manager - Nepal](#), Kathmandu (Deadline: 13 September 2010)
- [Project Officer - Nepal](#), Kathmandu (Deadline: 13 September 2010)

Search for Common Ground

- [Director - Grants and Contracts](#), Washington DC
- [Finance and Grants Associate](#), Brussels
- [Chief of Party - Trading for Peace](#), Kigali
- [Country Director - Timor Leste](#)
- [Country Director - Yemen](#)
- [Programme Director - Children and Youth](#), Washington DC

World Vision

- [Trainee](#), Brussels

Internships

[ESSEC IRÉNÉ](#), Paris

[Fundación para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Diálogo Exterior \(FRIDE\)](#), Madrid

[International Crisis Group](#), Beijing, Bogotá, Brussels, Dakar, Nairobi, New York and Washington

[Life & Peace Institute](#), Uppsala (Deadline: 30 September 2010)

[Nonviolent Peaceforce](#), Brussels and Minneapolis

[Partners for Democratic Change International](#), Brussels

[Saferworld](#), London (Deadline: 13 September 2010)

[Search for Common Ground](#), Washington DC

For more job vacancies and internship opportunities, please visit the [EPLO website](#)

News and Publications

Berghof Conflict Research

- [Dialogue No. 9 - Human Rights and Conflict Transformation: The Challenges of Just Peace](#) (June 2010)

ESSEC IRÉNÉ

- [Le Service européen d'action extérieure aux prises avec la logique des corps diplomatiques nationaux - Entretien avec Alain Lempereur](#) (June 2010)

Fundación para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Diálogo Exterior (FRIDE)

- [Strengthening Women's Citizenship: Kosovo security sector and decentralisation](#) (August 2010)

International Alert

- [Working with the grain to change the grain: Moving beyond the Millennium Development Goals](#) (September 2010)

International Crisis Group

- [CrisisWatch No. 85](#) (1 September 2010)
- [Kosovo and Serbia after the ICJ Opinion - Europe Report No. 206](#) (August 2010)

International Center for Transitional Justice

- [That Someone Guilty Be Punished: The Impact of the ICTY in Bosnia](#) (July 2010)

Life & Peace Institute

- [Horn of Africa Bulletin: August 2010](#)

Saferworld

- [Community perceptions of the causes and effects of the August 2008 conflict](#) (August 2010)

Search for Common Ground

- [Common Ground News Service](#)

Swisspeace

- [KOFF Newsletter No. 89](#) (1 July 2010)

World Vision

- [eNews](#) (August 2010)

Training Courses

International Alert

[A Climate of Conflict: Conflict Sensitive Programming and Climate Change](#) (29 September - 1 October 2010, London)

Academy for Conflict Transformation

[Dealing with Conflicts: National and international structures, processes and actors](#) (12 October 2010, Bonn)

International Peace and Development Training Center

[Gender and Peacebuilding: Integrating Planning and Action in the Field](#) (25 - 29 October, Cluj Napoca, Romania)

Swisspeace

[Evaluating Peacebuilding Projects](#) (25 September - 1 October, Bern)

INITIATIVE FOR PEACEBUILDING

The Initiative for Peacebuilding is a consortium led by International Alert and funded by the European Commission. It draws together the expertise of 10 civil society organisations and their networks to develop and promote international knowledge and expertise in the field of conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

Recent Events

- [Workshop](#) on international peace mediation between the EU and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) (30 July 2010, Jakarta)
- [Workshop](#) on improving democratic governance and state-society relations

Recent Publications

- [The European Union and Transitional Justice](#) (June 2010)
- [The International Community's influence on state-society relations in Angola](#) (May 2010)

For more information about the Initiative for Peacebuilding, please contact [Herta Eckert](#) from International Alert or visit the [website](#).



EPLO MEMBERS

Berghof Conflict Research
Civil Society Conflict Prevention Network (KATU)
Conciliation Resources
Crisis Management Initiative
European Network for Civil Peace Services
European Centre for Conflict Prevention
ESSEC IRÉNÉ
Fractal
Fundación para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Diálogo Exterior (FRIDE)
Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation
International Alert
International Center for Transitional Justice
International Crisis Group
Interpeace
Kvinna till Kvinna
Life and Peace Institute
Nansen Dialogue Network
NGO Support Centre
Nonviolent Peaceforce
Partners for Democratic Change International
Pax Christi International
Quaker Council for European Affairs
Saferworld
Search for Common Ground
Swisspeace
Toledo International Centre for Peace (CITpax)
World Vision

EPLO welcomes applications from peacebuilding organisations. The next deadline for membership applications is 8 October 2010. Click [here](#) to download the application form.



RECENT EPLO PUBLICATIONS AND UPCOMING EPLO EVENTS

Publications

- [Towards A Peacebuilding Strategy for the European External Action Service](#) (September 2010)
- [Report of the seminar 'Peacebuilding and Development: Faraway, so close'](#) (August 2010)
- [UNSCR 1325 in Europe: 21 case studies of implementation](#) (July 2010)
- [Accountability and Effectiveness of CSDP Missions: The Role of Civil Society](#) (June 2010)

Older EPLO publications are available via the [website](#).

Events

- Peacebuilding and Accession (28-29 September 2010, Belgrade)
- The EU, Peacebuilding and Fragile Situations (9 November 2010, Brussels)

For more information about upcoming EPLO events, please visit the [website](#).

UPCOMING EPLO MEMBER ORGANISATION EVENTS

Saferworld

Launch of Saferworld's new report entitled '*The Missing Peace: The need for a long-term strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina*' (10.00 -12.30, 14 September 2010, Brussels). For more information about this event or to register your participation, please contact [Dorte Hvidemose](#).

International Crisis Group

Crisis Group Global Briefing 2010 (25-26 October 2010, Brussels). For more information about this event, including the draft agenda, or to register your participation, please click [here](#).

OTHER EVENTS

Ensuring Women's Participation in Peace and Security

(09.00-14.00, 9 September 2010, Brussels)

High-level conference organised by the Office of the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belgium. Participation in this event is by invitation only. To request an invitation, please contact the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belgium](#).



EPLO is the platform of European NGOs, networks of NGOs and think tanks active in the field of peacebuilding, who share an interest in promoting sustainable peacebuilding policies among decision-makers in the European Union.

EPLO aims to influence the EU so it promotes and implements measures that lead to sustainable peace between states and within states and peoples, and that transform and resolve conflicts non-violently. EPLO wants the EU to recognise the crucial connection between peacebuilding, the eradication of poverty, and sustainable development worldwide and the crucial role NGOs have to play in sustainable EU efforts for peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and crisis management.

EPLO advances the interests of its members through common policy positions and consequently advocating for those common positions. EPLO disseminates information and promotes understanding of EU policies of concern to its members. The Office also builds solidarity and co-operation amongst its members and with other relevant NGO networks.

Finally, EPLO raises awareness about the contribution the EU should make to peacebuilding and the need to hold the EU accountable to its own political commitments of helping secure peace within and outside its borders.

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