

# EPLO CONFLICT PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 1 – MARCH 2014

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## EU UPDATE

### Council of the EU

The Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) met on 20 January, 10 February, 20 February, 3 March and 17 March.

In January, EU foreign ministers adopted conclusions on Afghanistan, the Central African Republic (CAR) and Syria. They also:

- took stock of the situation in Egypt, following the constitutional referendum of 14-15 January
  - debated the latest developments in the Middle East peace process
  - received a briefing from High Representative (HR) Catherine Ashton on the implementation of the joint plan of action agreed between Iran and the E3/EU+3 in November 2013
  - exchanged views on the state of play in EU-Russia relations, with a view to the next EU-Russia Summit (28 January, Brussels)
  - confirmed political agreement on a regulation concerning certain procedures for applying the EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Agreement and the EU-Serbia Interim Agreement
  - amended the regulation concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya
  - allocated € 1.04 million to cover the expenditure of the EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus and the Crisis in Georgia for the period 1 January - 30 June 2014
  - authorised the opening of negotiations with Georgia as well as with Albania for agreements between the EU and each country respectively on the security of classified information
  - approved technical amendments to the EU restrictive measures against Belarus
  - adopted a decision approving the renewal of the agreement on cooperation in science and technology with Russia for a further five years
- On 10 February, they adopted conclusions on the Central African Republic, Egypt, Iraq, Tunisia, Ukraine and Yemen, and on the EU's priorities in the UN human rights fora. They also:
- took stock of the development of the Eastern Partnership and on relations with the Republic of Moldova and Georgia
  - debated recent developments concerning the Syrian conflict, in particular the 'Geneva II' peace talks
  - debated events in the EU's southern neighbourhood
  - took stock of the political and security situation in Libya
  - received a briefing about preparations for the deployment of the EU military operation in the CAR (EUFOR RCA)
  - approved a declaration with a view to the Union for the Mediterranean ministerial meeting on Euro-Mediterranean industrial co-operation (19 February, Brussels)
  - adopted negotiation directives for a political dialogue and co-operation agreement between the EU and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Cuba, of the other part
  - endorsed the six-monthly progress report on the implementation of the EU strategy against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, covering activities carried out in the second half of 2013
  - amended the EU restrictive measures against Syria so as to allow member states to authorise the release of frozen funds of the Central Bank of Syria and of Syrian state-owned entities in order to make payments on behalf of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) for activities related to the OPCW verification mission and the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons, and in particular to the OPCW Syrian Special Trust Fund
  - adopted the EU position within the EU-Lebanon Association Council with regard to the adoption of a recommendation on the EU-Lebanon Action Plan
  - endorsed the results of the review of the EU list of persons,

## EU UPDATE (CONTINUED)

groups and entities involved in terrorist acts and updated the corresponding regulation

- adopted the Council Decision establishing EUFOR RCA (see below)
- authorised High Representative (HR) Catherine Ashton to open negotiations with the CAR for an agreement on the status of EUFOR RCA
- authorised the opening of negotiations for a participation agreement between the EU and the Swiss Confederation on its participation in the EU military mission to contribute to the training of the Malian armed forces in Mali (EUTM Mali)
- adopted the 2014 budget of the European Defence Agency and its staff establishment plan for that year: € 30.5 million
- adopted a decision establishing a legal basis for the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) and repealed the previous basis
- adopted a decision authorising the European Commission (EC) to negotiate a convention on the application of the rules on transparency for investor-state arbitration under the auspices of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law in respect of the provisions falling within the EU's exclusive competence on foreign direct investment and investor-state arbitration against the EU.

On 20 February and 3 March, they adopted conclusions on Ukraine.

On 17 March, they adopted conclusions on the Central African Republic, the Gulf of Guinea, South Sudan and Ukraine, and on the implementation of the EU Strategy for Security and Development in the Sahel. They also:

- received briefings from HR Ashton on her recent trip to Bosnia and Herzegovina, and on possible steps to support the on-going efforts on the Middle East peace process
- received an update from HR Ashton on the latest developments in the Syrian conflict
- received a briefing on preparations for the EU-Africa Summit (2-3 April, Brussels)
- exchanged views on EU energy diplomacy
- adopted a decision establishing the position to be taken by the EU within the association councils established under its association agreements with various Mediterranean partners on the amendment of a specific protocol to each agreement as concerns the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative co-operation
- updated the EU's common military list, which defines the scope of EU rules on arms exports as set out in common position 2008/944/CFSP defining common rules governing the control of exports of military technology and equipment
- approved revised guidelines on the appointment, mandate and financing of EU special representatives
- amended the restrictive measures against the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) so as to implement changes decided in UN Security Council Resolution 2136 of 30 January 2014.

The General Affairs Council (GAC) met on 11 February and 18 March.

In February, EU foreign and European ministers:

- approved the conclusion of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

An informal meeting of EU defence ministers took place on 20-21 February in Athens.

In March, EU foreign ministers:

- established a European voluntary humanitarian aid corps as a framework for joint contributions from European volunteers to support and complement humanitarian aid operations worldwide
- approved an agreement on co-operation between Eurojust and the Republic of Moldova which aims to strengthen their co-operation in combatting serious crime, in particular organised crime and terrorism
- adopted a mandate for the EC to negotiate an agreement on investment protection with Myanmar on behalf of the EU.

Click [here](#) to read the FAC conclusions from 20 January, [here](#) to read the FAC conclusions from 10 February, [here](#) to read the FAC conclusions from 20 February, [here](#) to read the press release about the informal meeting of EU defence ministers on 20-21 February, [here](#) to read the FAC conclusions from 3 March, [here](#) to read the FAC conclusions from 17 March, [here](#) to read the GAC conclusions from 11 February, and [here](#) to read the GAC conclusions from 17 March.

### European Council

The European Council met on 6 and 20-21 March.

On 6 March, EU heads of state and government adopted conclusions on Ukraine.

On 20-21 March, they adopted conclusions on Cyprus, Sri Lanka and Ukraine, EU-Africa relations, and on climate and energy.

Click [here](#) to read the European Council conclusions from 6 March and [here](#) to read the European Council conclusions from 20-21 March.

### Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)

On 14 December 2013, the European External Action Service (EEAS) announced that the EU's Integrated Rule of Law Mission for Iraq (EUJUST LEX-Iraq) would close down on 31 December 2013.

On 28 January, the EU's Political and Security Committee (PSC) confirmed the selection of Major General Philippe Pontières (France) as Operation Commander for the EU's military mission in the Central African Republic (EUFOR RCA).

On 30 January, the EU and Chile signed a framework participation agreement (FPA) for Chile's participation in EU crisis management operations.

On 10 February, the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) adopted the Council Decision establishing EUFOR RCA.

On 25 February, the EU's military training mission for Somalia (EUTM Somalia) started its training activities in Mogadishu.

On 18 March, the EU and Colombia launched the negotiations for an FPA for Colombia's participation in EU crisis management operations.

Also on 18 March, the PSC appointed Brigadier General Marc Ruckiewicz (France) as the new Mission Commander for the EU training mission in Mali (EUTM Mali).

Click [here](#) to read the press release about EUJUST LEX-Iraq, [here](#) and [here](#) to read the press release about EUFOR RCA, [here](#) to read the press release about the EU-Chile FPA, [here](#) to read the press release about EUTM Somalia, [here](#) to read the press release about EUTM Mali, and [here](#) to read the press release about the EU-Colombia FPA.

### European External Action Service (EEAS)

On 24 February, High Representative (HR) Catherine Ashton announced the appointment of Stefano Manservigi (Italy) as head of the EU Delegation (EUD) to Turkey.

On 3 March, the EU's Political and Security Committee (PSC) and NATO's North Atlantic Council (NAC) held a joint

## EU UPDATE (CONTINUED)

informal meeting to discuss the situation in Ukraine, ahead of the extraordinary meeting of EU heads of state or government (6 March, Brussels).

Click [here](#) to read the press release about the head of the EUD to Turkey and [here](#) to read the press release about the meeting of the PSC and the NAC.

### European Union Special Representatives (EUSRs)

On 20 January, the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) announced that the Council had repealed the mandate of the EU Special Representative (EUSR) for the Middle East Peace Process (MEPP), Mr Andreas Reinicke. It ended on 31 December 2013.

On 31 January, the European External Action Service (EEAS) announced that the EUSR for the south Caucasus and the Crisis in Georgia, Mr Philippe Lefort, was stepping down.

Click [here](#) to read the press release about the EUSR for the MEPP and [here](#) and [here](#) to read the press release about the EUSR for the South Caucasus and the Crisis in Georgia.

### European Commission (EC)

On 13 January, the European Commission (EC) and the European External Action Service (EEAS) published a joint proposal for a Council regulation concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in the Central African Republic.

On 14 January, the EC published a proposal of the European Parliament (EP) and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1236/2005 concerning trade in certain goods which could be used for capital punishment, torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

On 15 January, the EC published a communication on preventing radicalisation to terrorism and violent extremism.

On 16 January, the EC and the EEAS published a joint proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 234/2004 concerning certain restrictive measures in respect of Liberia.

On 17 January, the EC published a proposal for a Council regulation amending Council Regulation (EC) No 215/2008 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the 10th European Development Fund for the implementation of the Bridging Facility.

On 21 January, the EC published a communication on the General Report on the Activities of the EU.

On 22 January, the EC published a communication on a policy framework for climate and energy in the period 2020-2030.

On 24 January, the EC and the EEAS published a joint proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 36/2012 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Syria.

On 31 January, the EC published a communication concerning the position of the Council on the adoption of a regulation of the EP and of the Council concerning certain procedures for applying the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Serbia, of the other part.

On 3 February, the EC and the EEAS published a joint proposal for a Council regulation amending Council Regulation (EC) No 314/2004 concerning certain restrictive measures in respect of Zimbabwe.

On 10 February, the EC and the EEAS published a joint proposal for a Council regulation concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in the Central African Republic.

On 24 February, the EC and the EEAS published a joint proposal for a Council regulation concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Ukraine, a joint proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 889/2005 imposing certain restrictive measures in respect of the Democratic

Republic of Congo (DRC), and a joint proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1183/2005 imposing certain specific restrictive measures directed against persons acting in violation of the arms embargo with regard to the DRC.

Click [here](#) to read the documents which were published by the EC in January and February.

### European Parliament (EP)

The European Parliament had plenary sessions on 13-16 January, 3-6 and 24-27 February and 10-13 March in Strasbourg.

In January, members adopted resolutions on the future of EU-ASEAN relations, the 2013 progress report on Serbia, the European integration process of Kosovo, the situation in South Sudan, the situation of rights defenders and opposition activists in Cambodia and Laos, the recent elections in Bangladesh, and the recent move to criminalise LGBTI people.

In February, they adopted resolutions on the inclusion of Greenland in implementing the Kimberley Process certification scheme, the Arms Trade Treaty, Bahrain, the situations in Ukraine, Syria and Egypt, the 2013 progress reports on Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Montenegro, the elimination of female genital mutilation, the situation in Thailand, the right to education in the Transnistrian region, the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps, combating violence against women, the delegation of legislative powers and the European Commission's (EC) exercise of implementing powers, the EC-Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement, the EC-Indonesia framework agreement on comprehensive partnership and co-operation, promoting development through responsible business practices, the EU-Indonesia voluntary partnership agreement on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber products to the EU, the situations in Ukraine, Iraq and Venezuela, and the use of armed drones.

In March, they adopted resolutions on the prevention of the use of the financial system for the purpose of money laundering and terrorist financing, the EU guarantee to the European Investment Bank (EIB) against losses under financing operations supporting investment projects outside the EU, the European EIB annual report 2012, the eradication of torture in the world, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan's regional role and political relations with the EU, an anti-missile shield for Europe, the humanitarian engagement of armed non-state actors in child protection, the priorities for EU relations with the Eastern Partnership countries, the 2013 progress report on Turkey, the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, the role of property and wealth creation in eradicating poverty and fostering sustainable development, policy coherence for development, the EU's priorities for the 25th session of the UN Human Rights Council, Russia, launching consultations to suspend Uganda and Nigeria from the Cotonou Agreement in view of recent legislation further criminalising homosexuality, and security and human trafficking in Sinai.

Click [here](#) to read the texts which were adopted by the EP in January, February and March.

### European Court of Auditors (ECA)

On 14 January, the European Court of Auditors (ECA) published a special report on EU development assistance to Central Asia.

Click [here](#) to read the documents which were published by the ECA in January and February.

## EU PRESS RELEASES

### President of the European Council

- 18 March 2014 – [Joint statement on Crimea by President Herman Van Rompuy and President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso](#)
- 16 March 2014 – [Joint statement on Crimea by President Herman Van Rompuy and President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso](#)
- 28 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of President Herman Van Rompuy on a phone conversation with President of Russia Vladimir Putin](#)
- 21 February 2014 – [Statement by President Herman Van Rompuy on Ukraine](#)
- 20 February 2014 – [Discours du Président Herman Van Rompuy à l'Assemblée Nationale du Mali](#)
- 19 February 2014 – [Statement by President Herman Van Rompuy on the situation in Ukraine](#)
- 11 February 2014 – [Statement from the EU on the agreement announced today by the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders on a Joint Declaration](#)
- 7 February 2014 – [Discours du Président Herman Van Rompuy à l'occasion de l'adoption de la nouvelle Constitution tunisienne](#)
- 6 February 2014 – [Speech by President Herman Van Rompuy at the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Belgium Red Cross: 'The European Union: of, for and by the people'](#)
- 1 February 2014 – [Opening speech by President Herman Van Rompuy at the Munich Security Conference](#)
- 28 January 2014 – [Message du Président Herman Van Rompuy au Président de la République tunisienne Moncef Marzouki](#)
- 11 January 2014 – [Statement by President Herman Van Rompuy on the passing away of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon](#)

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

- 19 March 2014 – [Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton and Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif following the E3/EU+3 talks with Iran](#)
- 19 March 2014 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/119/CFSP concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Ukraine](#)
- 18 March 2014 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/98/CFSP amending Council Decision 2011/101/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Zimbabwe](#)
- 18 March 2014 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the alignment of certain third countries with Council Implementing Decision 2014/41/CFSP implementing Decision 2011/137/CFSP concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in Libya](#)
- 18 March 2014 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Implementing Decision 2014/24/CFSP implementing Council Decision 2012/642/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Belarus](#)
- 14 March 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton regarding the death of Chinese human rights defender, Ms Cao Shunli](#)
- 14 March 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the third anniversary of the Syrian uprising](#)
- 13 March 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on rocket attacks from Gaza](#)
- 13 March 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the conviction of Malaysian opposition politician Anwar Ibrahim](#)
- 12 March 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton in response to the ruling by the Maldivian Supreme Court against Election Commissioners](#)
- 12 March 2014 – [Déclaration du porte-parole de Catherine Ashton, Haute Représentante de l'UE, sur la situation politique au Burundi](#)
- 12 March 2014 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the end of the visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)
- 9 March 2014 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the end of her visit in Iran](#)
- 8 March 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the occasion of International Women's Day 2014](#)
- 7 March 2014 – [Déclaration du porte-parole de Catherine Ashton, Haute Représentante de l'UE, sur le jugement rendu à l'encontre de M. Germain Katanga](#)
- 5 March 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the bomb blast which killed three policemen in Bahrain](#)
- 4 March 2014 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton concerning the Ugandan Anti-Homosexuality Act](#)
- 2 March 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton following the knife attack at Kunming train station](#)
- 1 March 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the developments in Ukraine's Crimea](#)
- 27 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the visit of Sudanese President Al-Bashir to the Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)
- 26 February 2014 – [High Representative Catherine Ashton holds a high level meeting on Ukraine](#)
- 26 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Thailand](#)
- 26 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on a new subscription to the Hague Code of Conduct against ballistic missiles proliferation](#)
- 25 February 2014 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the end of her visit to Ukraine](#)
- 24 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the sentencing of demonstrators involved in the Bolotnaya Square events](#)
- 22 February 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest developments in Ukraine](#)
- 21 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the attack targeted at the Presidential Palace in Mogadishu](#)
- 21 February 2014 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the alignment of certain third countries with the Council Decision 2014/49/CFSP amending Decision 2011/72/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Tunisia](#)
- 21 February 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the agreement reached between President and three opposition leaders in Ukraine](#)
- 21 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton following the elections in Libya](#)
- 21 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the recent speech by the President of The Gambia against the right of freedom from discrimination](#)
- 21 February 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on unrest in Venezuela](#)
- 20 February 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the E3/EU+3 talks with Iran](#)
- 19 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the deadly explosions in Beirut](#)
- 19 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the deterioration of the situation in Ukraine](#)

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

- 19 February 2014 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the review of EU-Zimbabwe relations](#)
- 18 February 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on violence in Ukraine](#)
- 18 February 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on anti-homosexuality legislation in Uganda](#)
- 17 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the mass killings in the Nigerian village Izghe](#)
- 17 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the terrorist attack in Sinai](#)
- 16 February 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the evacuation by protesters of the Kiev City administration](#)
- 15 February 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the government formation in Lebanon](#)
- 14 February 2014 – [Address by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the UN Security Council on the cooperation between the EU and the UN on international peace and security](#)
- 14 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the recent incidents in Venezuela](#)
- 12 February 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton after today's meeting in the framework of the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)
- 12 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokespersons of High Representative Catherine Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the enactment of amendments to the legislation on non-governmental organisations in Azerbaijan](#)
- 11 February 2014 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the Committee on Foreign Affairs, European Parliament](#)
- 10 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on improving Cross-Strait relations](#)
- 10 February 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Criminal Procedure Code in Afghanistan](#)
- 7 February 2014 – [Déclaration du porte-parole de Catherine Ashton, Haute Représentante de l'UE, sur les élections présidentielles et législatives à Madagascar](#)
- 7 February 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the presidential decree ordering a stay on all executions in the United Arab Emirates](#)
- 6 February 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Israeli settlement announcement of 5 February 2014](#)
- 6 February 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest attacks in Iraq](#)
- 5 February 2014 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton at the end of her visit to Ukraine](#)
- 4 February 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the occasion of the Second High level Binational Dialogue](#)
- 1 February 2014 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton regarding the treatment of human rights defenders and their relatives in China](#)
- 1 February 2014 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton following the meeting of the Middle East Quartet](#)
- 31 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton following her meeting with Ukrainian opposition](#)
- 31 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton following her meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Zarif](#)
- 31 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the case of Dmytro Bulatov](#)
- 30 January 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the coming elections in Thailand](#)
- 29 January 2014 – [Remarks by High Representative Catherine Ashton during her visit to Ukraine](#)
- 27 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton after today's meeting in the framework of the EU-facilitated dialogue](#)
- 27 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest developments in Ukraine](#)
- 27 January 2014 – [Déclaration de la Haute Représentante, Catherine Ashton, sur l'adoption de la constitution et la nomination du nouveau gouvernement en Tunisie](#)
- 27 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on Holocaust Remembrance Day](#)
- 25 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the conclusion of the peace negotiations between the government of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front](#)
- 25 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the closing of Yemen's National Dialogue Conference](#)
- 24 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the recent violent attacks in Egypt](#)
- 23 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the agreement on the cessation of hostilities in South Sudan](#)
- 23 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on efforts to support the political solution to the crisis in Ukraine](#)
- 23 January 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the recent events in Thailand](#)
- 22 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on violence and reported deaths of protesters in Kyiv](#)
- 21 January 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the terrorist attack in Beirut](#)
- 21 January 2014 – [Déclaration de la Haute-Représentante, Catherine Ashton, sur l'élection d'un nouveau chef d'Etat de la transition en République centrafricaine](#)
- 20 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the Joint Plan of Action with Iran](#)
- 19 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the constitutional referendum in Egypt](#)
- 19 January 2014 – [Déclaration du porte-parole de Catherine Ashton, Haute Représentante de l'UE, sur les élections présidentielles et législatives à Madagascar](#)
- 18 January 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the decision of the General Assembly of the Syrian Opposition Coalition to attend the Geneva II Conference](#)
- 18 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on fatalities in EUPOL Afghanistan following yesterday's attack in Kabul](#)
- 17 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on developments in the Ukrainian Parliament](#)
- 16 January 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on recent political developments in Bahrain](#)
- 16 January 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the killing of a Mitrovica North councillor](#)
- 16 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the latest terrorist attacks in Iraq](#)
- 15 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on Nigeria's Same Sex Marriage Prohibition Act](#)
- 15 January 2014 – [Joint statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton, Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva and Commissioner Andris Piebalgs on the recent boat accident in South Sudan](#)
- 13 January 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the outbreak of violence in Southern areas of the Republic of Mozambique](#)
- 12 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the assassination of Libyan Deputy Minister of Industry Hassan al-Drowi](#)
- 12 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the implementation of the Geneva Joint Plan of Action on the Iranian Nuclear Programme](#)
- 11 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the death of Ariel Sharon](#)
- 11 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on Israel's announcement of further settlements](#)

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

- 11 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the situation in Egypt ahead of the constitutional referendum](#)
- 9 January 2014 – [Declaration by High Representative Catherine Ashton on the legislative elections in Bangladesh](#)
- 3 January 2014 – [Statement by the spokesperson of High Representative Catherine Ashton on the terrorist attack in Beirut](#)
- 2 January 2014 – [Statement by High Representative Catherine Ashton on South Sudan](#)

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 March 2014 – [EU to observe elections in Guinea Bissau](#)
- 7 March 2014 – [EU to observe upcoming elections in Afghanistan](#)
- 10 February 2014 – [EEAS and Spain sign Memorandum of Understanding on sharing diplomatic premises in Myanmar/Burma](#)
- 7 February 2014 – [Réunion de haut niveau de coordination internationale pour le Sahel hébergée par l'UE](#)
- 30 January 2014 – [EU and Chile sign Framework Agreement on participation in EU crisis management operations](#)
- 27 January 2014 – [First EU-Mexico High Level Political Dialogue Meeting](#)

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

### Council of the EU

- 18 March 2014 – [European voluntary humanitarian aid corps established](#)
- 17 March 2014 – [11th Meeting of the Cooperation Council between the EU and the Republic of Uzbekistan](#)
- 12 March 2014 – [Statement of G-7 Leaders on Ukraine](#)
- 24 February 2014 – [Joint Statement: Seventh EU-Brazil Summit](#)
- 28 January 2014 – [Joint EU-Russia statement on combatting terrorism](#)
- 21 January 2014 – [First Accession Conference with Serbia](#)
- 20 January 2014 – [First meeting of the Cooperation Council between the EU and the Republic of Iraq](#)

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

### EU Delegations

- 17 March 2014 – [Local EU statement on the presidential elections in El Salvador](#)
- 10 March 2014 – [Lomé: Déclaration locale de l'UE concernant la dynamique de dialogue politique entre le gouvernement et l'opposition](#)
- 5 March 2014 – [Local statement on political violence in Zimbabwe](#)
- 3 March 2014 – [Dushanbe: Local statement on recent court's decision against Asia-Plus newspaper](#)
- 28 February 2014 – [Jakarta: SEAN-EU Policy Dialogue on Connectivity](#)
- 25 February 2014 – [Maldivian Supreme Court against Maldivian Election Commissioners](#)
- 25 February 2014 – [Local statement: International partners in support of the legitimacy of the transitional democratic process in Libya](#)
- 18 February 2014 – [Local statement: EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemn the death sentence](#)
- 14 February 2014 – [Mexico City: Declaración local de la UE sobre el asesinato del periodista Gregorio Jiménez de la Cruz](#)
- 10 February 2014 – [Déclaration locale concernant la situation de certains opposants en République Démocratique du Congo français](#)
- 7 February 2014 – [Local statement: EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah condemn the death sentence](#)
- 4 February 2014 – [Local statement: EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah on demolitions](#)
- 4 February 2014 – [Local EU statement on the elections for the Constitutional Drafting Assembly](#)
- 29 January 2014 – [Statement of the EU Delegation in agreement with the EU Heads of Mission in Mozambique and the Heads of Mission of Iceland, Norway and Switzerland](#)
- 27 January 2014 – [Local EU statement on recent developments in Ukraine](#)
- 27 January 2014 – [Local EU statement on the sentencing to death of thirty drug smugglers in Vietnam](#)
- 26 January 2014 – [Beijing: Statement by EU Delegation on the sentence of Dr Xu Zhiyong](#)
- 8 January 2014 – [Phnom Penh: Local EU statement on violence surrounding labour disputes](#)

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

### European Commission

- 28 February 2014 – [Statement by Commissioner Karel De Gucht on Ukraine: 'The EU is ready when Ukraine is ready'](#)
- 26 February 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'EU response to events in Ukraine'](#)
- 25 February 2014 – [Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva welcomes the European Parliament's approval of 'EU Aid Volunteers' legislation](#)
- 24 February 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Investments in Western Balkans – a new approach'](#)
- 24 February 2014 – [Declarações do Presidente da Comissão Europeia, José Manuel Durão Barroso](#)
- 23 February 2014 – [Commissioner Algirdas Šemeta welcomes G20 Finance Ministers' agreement on global tax transparency standard](#)
- 22 February 2014 – [Syria crisis: United Nations Security Council Resolution adopted on Humanitarian Situation](#)
- 21 February 2014 – [Statement by President José Manuel Durão Barroso on Ukraine](#)
- 20 February 2014 – [Seventh EU-Brazil Summit: A strategic partnership](#)
- 20 February 2014 – [Commission launches negotiations with Georgia to join the Energy Community](#)
- 20 February 2014 – [Statement by President José Manuel Durão Barroso on the situation in Ukraine](#)
- 19 February 2014 – [Statement by President José Manuel Durão Barroso on Ukraine](#)
- 19 February 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Working together in the Mediterranean – more important than ever'](#)
- 17 February 2014 – [EU to support the destruction of Syrian chemical stockpiles](#)
- 14 February 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva: 'The role of the private sector in developing the EU's policies on disaster risk management'](#)

## EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

### European Commission – continued

- 14 February 2014 – [New EU support for renewable energy and governance in Cape Verde](#)
- 13 February 2014 – [Statement by Commissioner Andris Piebalgs on sustainable energy in Africa](#)
- 13 February 2014 – [EU-Ukraine: "Only a Ukrainian plan can work"](#)
- 12 February 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Androulla Vassiliou: 'Strengthening education and cultural cooperation with Latin America'](#)
- 12 February 2014 – [New EU support for Senegal to strengthen governance, food security and access to water and sanitation](#)
- 10 February 2014 – [New project financed by the European Investment Bank in the sector of energy for € 205 million](#)
- 10 February 2014 – [EU and Afghanistan sign deal on WTO accession](#)
- 10 February 2014 – [European Cybercrime Centre – one year on](#)
- 10 February 2014 – [EU confirms new support to Mauritania during high level visit](#)
- 7 February 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Revival of practical regional cooperation in the Mediterranean'](#)
- 6 February 2014 – [Erasmus+ to boost student exchanges and partnerships between EU and Latin America](#)
- 6 February 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Right to Education in Transnistria'](#)
- 5 February 2014 – [Speech by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs of Greece Evangelos Venizelos: 'Situation in Egypt'](#)
- 5 February 2014 – [Speech by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs of Greece Evangelos Venizelos: 'Europe's role in the Central African Republic'](#)
- 5 February 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Ukraine: how to find way out of the current crisis'](#)
- 5 February 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Montenegro: continued perseverance required'](#)
- 5 February 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'FYR Macedonia: important to move towards European integration'](#)
- 5 February 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'EU door for Bosnia and Herzegovina still open'](#)
- 4 February 2014 – [EU and UNICEF boost their partnership to improve child and maternal health and to save more children](#)
- 3 February 2014 – [Sahel crisis: EU gives € 142 million in humanitarian aid in 2014](#)
- 3 February 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva: 'The European Union at the front of protecting International Humanitarian Law'](#)
- 31 January 2014 – [EU to announce new support for security and elections in the Central African Republic](#)
- 27 January 2014 – [International Holocaust Remembrance Day: Commission calls on Member States to criminalise denial of crimes against humanity](#)
- 27 January 2014 – [€ 140 million released to support development in Guinea](#)
- 23 January 2014 – [Statement by President José Manuel Durão Barroso at the joint press conference on climate and energy with United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and World Bank President Jim Yong Kim](#)
- 23 January 2014 – [EU airlifts more humanitarian supplies into Central African Republic](#)
- 23 January 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Moldova: At Comrat University about myths and benefits of Association Agreement'](#)
- 23 January 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'EaP: In Moldova on results of EU's support to agriculture and rural development'](#)
- 22 January 2014 – [Statement by President José Manuel Durão Barroso on recent events in Ukraine](#)
- 21 January 2014 – [EU confirms its support for development, integration and promotion of peace and stability in Central Africa](#)
- 20 January 2014 – [EU announces future commitments for development cooperation with Iraq](#)
- 20 January 2014 – [Further EU support for southern Neighbourhood to boost socio-economic development](#)
- 20 January 2014 – [L'Union européenne soutient un développement agricole et rural plus efficace et inclusif en Tunisie](#)
- 20 January 2014 – [Additional € 20 million to support Jordan in Syria refugee crisis](#)
- 20 January 2014 – [Supporting human rights-based migration management and asylum system in Libya](#)
- 20 January 2014 – [L'Union européenne en faveur d'une meilleure gouvernance environnementale en Tunisie](#)
- 20 January 2014 – [EU and UN mobilise half a billion dollars to save lives in Central African Republic](#)
- 16 January 2014 – [EU and Kosovo discuss rule of law](#)
- 15 January 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva: 'We must put the people of Syria first'](#)
- 15 January 2014 – [Speech by Commissioner Štefan Füle: 'Boosting Serbia's and Kosovo's European future'](#)
- 14 January 2014 – [Syria crisis: EU pledges additional funding for humanitarian aid as needs continue to rise](#)
- 8 January 2014 – [Syria crisis: More humanitarian workers killed in Syria](#)

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### European Investment Bank

- 7 February 2014 – [European Investment Bank to increase support for agricultural investment in Moldova](#)
- 29 January 2014 – [Rwandan small businesses to benefit from € 8 million European Investment Bank backing for new I&M Bank lending programme](#)
- 20 January 2014 – [Masdar and European Investment Bank Working together to accelerate renewable energy development in Middle East](#)
- 20 January 2014 – [Serbia: € 150 million for SMEs](#)

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

### European Court of Auditors

- 14 January 2014 – [EU assistance to Central Asia is well planned, but implementation slow and variable – say EU Auditors](#)

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

### European Court of Justice

- 4 February 2014 – [The General Court confirms the inclusion of a Lebanese bank in the list of entities subject to the restrictive measures against Syria](#)
- 30 January 2014 – [In EU law, the interpretation to be given to the concept of 'internal armed conflict' must be independent of the definition used in international humanitarian law](#)

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

## EU PRESS RELEASES (CONTINUED)

### European Parliament (EP)

- 27 February 2014 – [Venezuela: peaceful and respectful dialogue only way out of the crisis, MEPs say](#)
- 27 February 2014 – [Ukraine: MEPs urge EU to help financial rescue, but enact targeted sanctions too](#)
- 27 February 2014 – [MEPs call for penalties to tackle human rights flaws in the EU](#)
- 26 February 2014 – [MEPs urge support for democracy in Ukraine](#)
- 26 February 2014 – [MEPs call for urgent action by EU to help stabilize Ukraine](#)
- 25 February 2014 – [EU Aid Volunteers to be deployed to tackle humanitarian needs](#)
- 19 February 2014 – [Doris Pack on Bosnia: "We cannot fix the situation from outside"](#)
- 6 February 2014 – [Human rights: situation in Thailand; Transnistria; Bahrain](#)
- 6 February 2014 – [Egypt: end violence and engage with reconciliation, say MEPs](#)
- 6 February 2014 – [Progress of FYR Macedonia, Montenegro and Bosnia & Herzegovina in 2013](#)
- 6 February 2014 – [Syria: Geneva talks must lead to a political and democratic solution, MEPs say](#)
- 6 February 2014 – [Ukraine: MEPs call for EU travel ban and financial support](#)
- 5 February 2014 – [Debate on Syrian refugees in Bulgaria and "push backs" off the Greek coast](#)
- 5 February 2014 – [Arms Trade Treaty: "There are weaknesses, but it's still a major step forward."](#)
- 23 January 2014 – [Human rights in Russia: the pressure is on](#)
- 22 January 2014 – [MEPs discussed human rights in Russia with Russian activists and officials](#)
- 22 January 2014 – [2030 climate goals: MEPs sceptical about Commission proposals](#)
- 16 January 2014 – [Prime Minister Erdoğan visits Parliament to discuss Turkey's future in Europe](#)
- 16 January 2014 – [Human rights: Cambodia and Laos; elections in Bangladesh; LGBTI rights](#)
- 16 January 2014 – [Iceland: MEPs await further decisions](#)
- 16 January 2014 – [Serbia and Kosovo: MEPs hail progress after historic agreement](#)
- 14 January 2014 – [ASEAN: "Focussing on trade does not reflect the opportunities for cooperation"](#)
- 14 January 2014 – [Civil Liberties MEPs tackle human rights flaws in the European Union](#)

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## JOB VACANCIES AND INTERNSHIPS

There are job vacancies in the following EPLO member organisations:

- [Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid \(Cordaid\)](#)
- [ESSEC IRENÉ](#)
- [International Alert](#)
- [International Crisis Group](#)
- [Interpeace](#)
- [Oxfam International](#)
- [Search for Common Ground](#)
- [swisspeace](#)
- [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](#)
- [ESSEC IRENÉ](#)
- [International Alert](#)
- [International Crisis Group](#)
- [Interpeace](#)
- [Life & Peace Institute](#)
- [Nonviolent Peaceforce](#)
- [Pax Christi International](#)
- [Search for Common Ground](#)
- [World Vision International](#)

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



## TRAINING COURSES

### **Improving Strategic Impact, Quality and Effectiveness in Peacebuilding & Peace Support Operations**

31 March – 2 April 2014

Cluj Napoca, Romania

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

### **Initiating and Supporting Dialogue Projects: Actors, roles, methods, opportunities and limitations**

31 March – 5 April 2014

Cologne, Germany

(Organiser: [Forum Civil Peace Service \(forumZFD\) - Academy for Conflict Transformation](#))

### **Core Course on Security Sector Reform**

4-11 April 2014

Stadtschlaining, Austria

(Organiser: [Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution](#))

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

## PUBLICATIONS (FEBRUARY 2014)

### EPLO

- [2013 Overview](#)

### EPLO MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

#### Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD Centre)

- [Indonesian Democracy's 'Guiding Hand'](#)

#### Conciliation Resources

- [Gender, violence and peace: A post-2015 development agenda](#)
- [Voice of Peace](#) – Issue 8

#### International Alert

- [Renegotiating the 'ideal' society: Gender relations in the wake of conflict and displacement in Uganda](#)

#### International Center for Transitional Justice

- [Towards a Transitional Justice Strategy for Syria](#)
- [World Report](#)
- [In Focus](#) N°36

#### International Crisis Group

- [Left in the Cold? The ELN and Colombia's Peace Talks](#) – Latin America Report N°51
- [Fields of Bitterness \(II\): Restitution and Reconciliation in Burundi](#) – Africa Report N°214
- [Fields of Bitterness \(I\): Land Reform in Burundi](#) – Africa Report N°213
- [CrisisWatch](#) N°126

#### Kosovar Center for Security Studies

- [Accountability or not? Managing of public funds in Kosovo Security Sector](#)

#### Life & Peace Institute

- [Horn of Africa Bulletin](#)

#### Oxfam International

- [Effective Public Policies and Active Citizenship: Brazil's experience of building a food and nutrition security system](#)
- [Rebuilding Fishing Communities and Fisheries: Post-Haiyan Reconstruction in the Philippines](#)
- [Building Inclusive Coconut-Based Livelihoods: Post-Haiyan reconstruction in the Philippines](#)
- [What Next for Mali? Four priorities for better governance in Mali](#)

#### Pax Christi International

- [Newsletter](#) N°241

#### PAX

- [Deadly Decisions: 8 objections to killer robots](#)
- [Explosive weapons in populated areas, where civilians pay the price](#)
- [The Rotterdam Blast: The immediate humanitarian consequences of a 12 kiloton nuclear explosion](#)

#### Saferworld

- [Training of trainers manual: Transforming conflict and building peace](#)
- [Women's insecurities and the workplace in Nepal](#)
- [Conflict and the post-2015 development agenda: Perspectives from South Africa](#)
- [A gender sensitivity resource pack](#)
- [Trust through public accountability](#)
- [The population and the police: partnership through dialogue](#)
- [Fostering consensus for peace through the Sustainable Development Goals](#)
- [Newsletter](#)

#### swisspeace

- [Fighting 'Feminist Fatigue'? Women and Peace Negotiations – Working Paper 2](#)
- [Center for Peacebuilding \(KOFF\) Newsletter](#) N°124

#### World Vision International

- [eNews](#)

## CIVIL SOCIETY DIALOGUE NETWORK

The Civil Society Dialogue Network (CSDN) is a three-year project co-financed by the European Union (Instrument for Stability) and aimed at facilitating dialogue on peacebuilding issues between civil society and EU policy-makers. It is managed by EPLO, in co-operation with the European Commission and the European External Action Service.

### Upcoming Events

**Policy Meeting**  
**Towards an EU Policy on Transitional Justice**  
Thursday 3 April 2014, Brussels

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

**Funding Instruments Meeting**  
**Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace:**  
**Updates on programming; building links to other EU external financing instruments**  
Friday 11 April 2014, Brussels

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

### Recent Events

**Geographic Meeting**  
**Democratic Republic of Congo**  
Tuesday 18 March 2014, Kinshasa

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

**Early Response Meeting**  
**Early Warning System: Roll-out in Central Asia**  
Thursday 6 February 2014, Brussels

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

## THE EU AND PEACEBUILDING: FROM EUROPEAN PEACE-BUILDING PROJECT TO GLOBAL ACTOR

The EU and Peacebuilding: From European Peace Project to Global Actor is an 18-month project co-financed by the European Commission (Europe for Citizens Programme). Its aim is to engage a broad range of actors, including European citizens, European civil society organisations, academic institutions, research centres and think tanks, as well as national and EU-level decision-makers in a dialogue on the EU's role in conflict prevention and peacebuilding, and its history as a peace project.

### Upcoming Events

**Réponse aux crises et fragilité des Etats: Les leçons de l'engagement français**  
Thursday 24 April 2014, Paris

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

### Recent Events

**The EU's and the Netherlands' engagement on fragility and the post-2015 framework**  
Thursday 13 March 2014, The Hague

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

**A Finnish view on EU peacebuilding and civilian CSDP**  
Wednesday 5 February 2014, Helsinki

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