Nouvelle impulsion à la Politique de sécurité et de défense commune

Dans leur lettre du 6 décembre 2010, les ministres des Affaires étrangères et de la Défense de l'Allemagne, de la France et de la Pologne rappelaient les progrès considérables depuis 1999 en matière de sécurité et de défense et les ambitions du traité de Lisbonne. En adoptant à 27 les conclusions suivantes lors du Conseil Affaires étrangères du 31 janvier dernier, le Conseil souligne ainsi l'importance de la Politique de sécurité et de défense commune de l'UE:

"Le Conseil accueille favorablement la lettre dite “de Weimar”, datée du 6 décembre 2010, signée par la France, l’Allemagne et la Pologne, dans laquelle il voit une contribution importante de nature à donner une impulsion à la mise en place de la politique de sécurité et de défense commune, notamment en vue de renforcer les capacités militaires et civiles en Europe, en s’appuyant sur les efforts qui ont été déployés au cours des dernières présidences et sur les résultats déjà obtenus. […]"

Council conclusions on CSDP
Conclusions du Conseil sur la PSDC

Situation in Egypt and Tunisia dominated discussions in the Foreign Affairs Council

On 31 January, the Council discussed Egypt and adopted conclusions recognising the legitimate democratic aspirations of the Egyptian people and urging the Egyptian authorities to embark on an orderly transition to a process of genuine democratic reform that will pave the way for free and fair elections.

The Council also discussed events in Tunisia and adopted conclusions stating the EU’s readiness to support the democratic transition, in particular the preparation of elections. It also adopted restrictive measures freezing the assets of people who have embezzled Tunisian public funds.

The Council exchanged views on Belarus and adopted conclusions deploiring the flawed presidential election in December 2010 and the subsequent violent crackdown and calling for the release of all detainees. It imposed a visa ban and an assets freeze on those responsible, including President Lukashenko. The Council had a short discussion on Côte d’Ivoire and adopted conclusions confirming the EU’s support for President Ouattara and referring to the targeted sanctions imposed by the EU on former President Gbagbo and his supporters, which were extended on 31 January. The Council agreed to open consultations with Guinea-Bissau under Article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement in the light of recent events. The Council also adopted conclusions on Sudan, the Sahel and Lebanon.

Over dinner, the High Representative led a discussion on the EU’s relations with its strategic partners and its objectives for Russia. Ministers also examined the situation in the Middle East ahead of the Quartet meeting on 5 February and discussed Lebanon. The High Representative briefed ministers on the recent meeting in Istanbul with the Iranian nuclear negotiator.

The 11th issue of the Common security and defence policy newsletter is out

Among the features in this issue: the European External Action Service, the 10 years of the UN resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and its implementation by the EU CSDP missions, training of Somali soldiers in Uganda and the EU’s capacities for support to security sector reform.

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Le numéro 11 de la newsletter Politique de sécurité et de défense commune est sorti


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EUPOL Afghanistan helping create a better leadership for the Afghan national police

Afghan national police officers from the South of the country are participating in the new five week District Commanders course.

The course is being delivered under the framework of the Police Staff College at the Border Police Faculty in Kabul. The Border Faculty is being utilized in the interim period for the delivery of leadership training for ANP Officer Ranks, Higher Ranks and General Ranks until the new EU funded Police Staff College is constructed in the area of Kabul. When completed, the Police Staff College will have a capacity for approximately 300 students, a fully coherent curriculum and will be the centre of excellence at the heart of ANP leadership training.

The Head of the EUPOL training centre development department said “following the success of the District Commanders pilot course in December 2010, the course has been extended from four weeks to five weeks. The course will focus on professionalising the ANP leadership and will cover areas such as management of investigations, intelligence, complex operations, human resources, management of change and anti-corruption.

This will provide the ANP leadership with learning opportunities to make them more efficient and effective in their roles and visible to the communities in which they serve”.

Newsletter of EUPOL Afghanistan

EU supports Bosnia-Herzegovina in managing migrations

With EU support, Bosnia and Herzegovina has made significant progress in the effective management of migrations in 2010. The EU Police Mission has complemented the overall EU efforts, addressing some of the key migration related issues such as interview techniques of illegal migrants, the fight against forged documents and the Immigration Centre personnel training.

“These priorities have been identified in order to improve the capacities and abilities of the Service for foreigners affairs in charge of the stay of foreigners in BiH and of their removal. Within this scope, we have facilitated the inclusion of the Service for foreigners affairs in the data exchange agreement which previously only included police agencies,” said EUPM Senior immigration adviser.

Another positive example of EU support in this domain is the twinning project, financed by EU’s Instrument for pre-accession assistance funds in the amount of 750,000 euros and implemented by the Dutch and Danish Immigration and naturalisation services. The project which was launched a year ago includes three components: analysis, education as well as visa regime and prevention of human trafficking. > More

UN Under Secretary General for peacekeeping visited EUTM Somalia

The UN Under Secretary General for peacekeeping Alain Le Roy, accompanied by a delegation, visited the Bihanga training camp on 28 January.

Alain Le Roy and his delegation, composed of UN and MONUSCO (United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo) personnel, landed at Bihanga airstrip where the EUTM training Commander greeted the visitors. The delegation was escorted to the Ugandan Peoples Defence Force (UPDF) training camp on arrival.

Alain Le Roy visited the UPDF camp HQ premises and was briefed about the training activities carried out by the UPDF.

The EUTM training Commander accompanied Alain Le Roy and his delegation throughout the visit and provided an update on the progress to date of EUTM Somalia as they were visiting the EUTM camp and the EU facilities.

After the UPDF and EUTM briefings, the delegation had the opportunity to visit the Somali troops accommodation where the UN Under Secretary General talked with Somali soldiers.

The visit continued onto the firing range, the urban context training area (FIBUA) and simulated check point to allow the delegation to see first hand some of the training activities provided by EUTM to Somali troops.

www.consilium.europa.eu/eutm-somalia

EU Military Committee Chairman visited EUNAVFOR

The Chairman of the European Union Military Committee (EUMC), General Håkan Syrén, visited Djibouti, upon invitation by the Operation Commander EUNAVFOR-Atalanta, Buster Howes. The visit was hosted by the Head of Delegation of the European Union to Djibouti.

During his visit, the Chairman visited a German frigate participating in EUNAVFOR.

The Chairman of the EUMC also used the opportunity to meet the Commander of the French Forces deployed in Djibouti, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Industry and Transports.
CSDP Newsletter - issue 10 - Special issue - ESDP@10
EU Security and Defence on YouTube
www.esdp10years.eu
EU CSDP agencies

Follow the EU Civilian Commander...Kees Klompenhouwer

Last week, in light of the decision taken by the Dutch Parliament to send police trainers to EUPOL Afghanistan, the Dutch TV EénVandaag followed the EU Civilian operations Commander and Director of the Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC) on one of his visits to the EU CSDP civilian missions.

EUFOR Althea Operation Commander’s last visit in Sarajevo

On 3 February, General Sir John McColl the Operational Commander of EUFOR Althea and NATO’s Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (DSACEUR), paid his last official visit to Sarajevo before leaving his post in March.

General McColl has had a long connection with Bosnia and Herzegovina having served with UNPROFOR and IFOR. He took the salute at a farewell ceremony where elements of the Multi National Battalion paraded for him.

General McColl is being relieved by General Sir Richard Shirreff as the Operation Commander for the EUFOR forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina and as DSACEUR on 4 March 2011.

New publications from EU ISS

Egypt’s democratic rising: five recommendations by Álvaro de Vasconcelos

The Egyptian regime is beyond the point of reforming and must give way to a new democratic republic. The EU should support the legitimate aspirations of democracy and freedom voiced by the demonstrators across Egypt.

“L’Europe a-t-elle un avenir stratégique ?”

Nicole Gnesotto, ancien directeur de l’Institut d’études de sécurité de l’UE, actuellement professeur de Relations internationales au CNAM, vice présidente de Notre Europe, auteur de nombreuses publications, vient de publier son nouvel ouvrage “L’Europe a-t-elle un avenir stratégique ?”, disponible en librairie le 23 février prochain.

“Le paradoxe est on ne peut plus frappant : jamais l’Europe n’a été aussi nécessaire, jamais elle ne fut aussi décriée, oubliée, inutile. La mondialisation rend en effet l’échelon européen plus pertinent et plus adapté à la globalité des crises que les seuls (petits) échelons nationaux. (…) Dans une mondialisation qui n’en finit pas de bouleverser les règles, les habitudes, les structures du système international, l’Europe jouera-t-elle un rôle majeur, à côté des autres pôles de puissance ? Saura-t-elle suffisamment s’organiser pour influencer l’évolution du monde ?” Extrait de L’Europe a-t-elle un avenir stratégique ? (Armand Colin, 2011).

European Defence Agency at the informal meeting of EU Defence policy directors

Claude-France Arnould, EDA’s Chief Executive, attended the informal meeting of EU Defence Policy Directors in Budapest, 27-28 January. They discussed, among other issues, the development of European military capabilities. In this context, EDA’s Chief Executive had the opportunity to brief Policy Directors on EDA activities, in particular on pooling & sharing. She also had bilateral meetings at the Hungarian Ministry of Defence.

Upcoming activities

4 February - European Council
4 - 5 February - HR participates in the Munich Security Conference and in the Quartet meeting on a level of principle
7 - 10 February - HR travels to New York: addresses the UN Security Council; attends a ceremony marking the 15th anniversary of the Dayton Accords

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