

Chairman's Newsletter

EUROPEAN UNION MILITARY COMMITTEE

@Kostarakos

Message from the Chairman



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Gen. Mikhail Kostarakos

In these times of geopolitical shifts and exponential technological change, the adoption of the EU Global Strategy (EUGS) has placed security and defence at the forefront of the EU's agenda underpinning the EU's ability to act as a security provider, in the context of a wider comprehensive approach.

Debates on how to make good use of EU's combined strengths and capabilities are enriching and constructive. Discussions are still ongoing on how to achieve the crucial objective of the establishment of a permanent operational planning and conduct capability at the strategic level and reinforcing cooperation in the development of required capabilities.

Further, the level of ambition (LoA) has set a new momentum for the EU's capabilities. Furthermore, the implementation plan on security and defence is in the process of setting capability development priorities for the EU together with the European Commission's forthcoming European Defence Action Plan, and hand-in-hand with the EU-NATO Joint Declaration.

The EUMC significantly contributes to focus on developing military capabilities for sustaining and enhancing CSDP and meeting new requirements of CSDP. In this respect it adapts the related Requirements Catalogue (RC) Illustrative Scenarios (IS), in line with the 2016 Council Conclusions and the new LoA determined by the Council of the EU. The review of the Requirements Catalogue is one of the building blocks, together with the Force Catalogue, for the EUMC input to the Capability Development Plan (CDP) of the European Defence Agency.

Broadly speaking, the ongoing process triggered by the EUGS has created the current political drive that has taken substantial steps in order to strengthen Europe's security and defence in a challenging geopolitical environment and to better protect its citizens.

LATEST EVENTS

Valletta 08/02: Graduation of Libyan Coast Guards.



The Hague 30/02: Future Forces Conference.



Stockholm 13/02: CEUMC Visit Sweden.



Munich 18/02: Munich Security Conference.



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What is new in the field of training on CSDP?

by Mr Dirk DUBOIS, Head of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC)



The new training policy and its implementing guidelines

As the new and its Implementing Guidelines are going through the final stages before their approval by the EU structures, one could say that it is still too early to talk about it in an article. However, there is already one positive effect from the draft paper namely a renewed, increased attention on training on CSDP.

More importantly there are some ideas taking hold. Lessons identified from our CSDP missions and operation indicated a proportionally large number of insufficiently trained personnel arriving in the missions. While Member States will remain re-

“...the new Council Decision also provides a better legal basis for the ESDC to implement the European initiative for the exchange of young officers”.

sponsible for training, for the first time the idea of making training mandatory before deployment may meet with approval.

The procedural approach to the training requirement analysis in the guidelines may seem long

and arduous at first glance, but it will ensure that the training offered better meets the needs of both the Member States and the CSDP missions and operations.

What is new for the European Security and Defence College (ESDC)?

The new Policy as well as its Implementing Guidelines give a pivotal role to the ESDC, both in terms of coordination between the civilian and military training



requirements and in the field of delivery on training, including for pre-deployment.

The new Council decision (CFSP) 2016/2382 already reflects this evolution and gives the ESDC the flexibility to face these new challenges. Despite a rigorous prioritisation exercise, the number of planned ESDC training activities for 2017 is up with 20% compared to 2016. The new Council Decision allows the Member States to increase the number of personnel on an annual basis, to reflect the number of training activities they run under the ESDC.

The ESDC remains very much an independent organisation in the hands of the Member States, although embedded in the EEAS. Therefore, most personnel in the ESDC secretariat will remain Seconded National Experts. Only in exceptional cases and for specific functions,

can the ESDC work with contracted staff.

Although the ESDC is in the first place a Civ-Mil training provider, the new Council Decision also provides a better legal basis for the ESDC to implement the European initiative for the exchange of young officers. This comes very timely, as the Chairman of the EU Military Committee has requested ESDC's support to develop a full description of the Knowledge, Skills and Competences which can be expected from EU officers in different stages of their career in a so-called Sectoral Qualification Framework. He also asked the ESDC support the EUMS to development a more structured training for staff joining the EU military structures in Brussels, in the OHQs or in the missions and operations

Conclusion

With the new EU Policy on Training for CSDP, Member States



are facing up to the challenge of getting well trained staff in the CSDP missions and operations. The ESDC has been identified as a key-player in this field. It has the necessary structures and expertise to live up to expectations and can increase its effectiveness even more given the necessary resources to face the new challenges

COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY STRUCTURES

Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC)

In this issue we provide an insight into the Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC) and interviewed Mr Deane, who is the CPCC Director.



It's been a year since we spoke! What would you say were the biggest achievements of the civilian CSDP Missions since then?

To provide some context, first, the Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC) Directorate is the EEAS Directorate which functions as the 24/7, 365 day-a-year Operational Headquarters for the civilian CSDP Missions. Individually and collectively, the civilian CSDP Missions promote stability and build resilience through strengthening rule of law on the strategic and operational levels in fragile environments. To give you a sense of scale, in 2016, we had 10 Missions, which had over 2,500 staff on three continents.

In terms of activities, last year the Missions delivered 700 training events for almost 9,000 people – of whom at least 1,300 were women. We mentored around 800 middle and senior leadership level staff from police services, judicial bodies and senior officials of Ministries of Interior and Justice, including Ministers themselves. We prosecuted or adjudicated over 200 criminal trials, influenced the drafting of 110 laws or policies and supplied €2.5m worth of equipment to local partners.

In terms of achievements, overall we contributed to strengthening police forces in Kosovo, Niger, Mali, Ukraine, Afghanistan and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, particularly in terms of operational policing and strategic advice. Increasingly, our Sahel Missions also have a role in terms of strengthening local law enforcement agencies ability to manage irregular migration flows.

Specifically, we supported customs and border management in Ukraine and Kosovo. We strengthened the governing bodies of the judiciary in Kosovo, Ukraine, Palestine. We strengthened the coast guard in Somalia. In Georgia, we reduced tension and facilitated agreements between the conflict parties through our Hotline. We supported specialised anti-corruption bodies in Kosovo and Ukraine. We bolstered stability between conflict parties in Georgia and Kosovo.

And how is your cooperation with CSDP Military Missions?

It's excellent! I have a great working relationship with the Director General of the EU Military Staff, DG Pulkkinen, and in the field of course we work with EUTM Mali, EUTM Somalia, EUNAVFOR Somalia (Operation Atalanta), and to a lesser degree we coordinate with EUNAVFOR South Med (Operation Sophia) given its relatively new mandate on support to the Libyan Coast Guard. Together we comprise the EU CSDP family!



So the comprehensive approach is important for you?

Absolutely! I believe we are more effective and efficient through working with our military colleagues, but also our political partners in the EU Delegations and our development partners in the EU Commission. By working together we can increase security – economic, political and physical - for our local partners, and, thus increase security of our own EU citizens at home too!

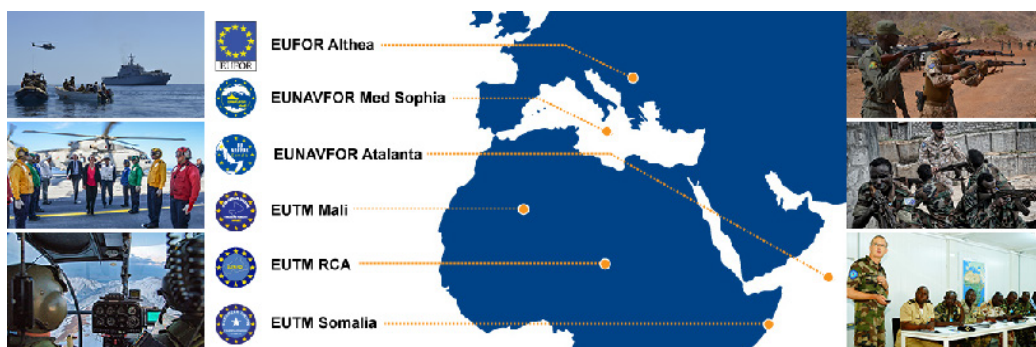
And are you involved in the implementation of the EU Global Strategy?

Yes – we are contributing to the follow-up work on Security and Defence. I think it presents a great opportunity for us to work even more closely with our military colleagues and look forward to contributing to what the High Representative presents to the Council in March.

What are your challenges in the immediate future?

The running of all Mission – in 2017 we are now at 9 - is always a challenge. Every day there is something - from logistics and legal work, to mandate delivery to coordination with local and international partners - that requires my attention as Civilian Operations Commander! But on the strategic level, in 2017 we want to really work on increasing responsiveness to crisis management, to increase our strategic communications and to measure our mandate delivery better!

News from our Operations and Missions



EUFOR ALTHEA

On 16 February 2017 COMEUFOR, Major General Friedrich Schrötter, together with the EUFOR Joint Military Affairs (JMA) Inspection Team visited the Igman ammunition manufacturing company in Konjic. The purpose of the visit was for EUFOR to familiarize themselves with Igman production and monitor the inspection of the manufacturing facility by the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MoFTER) Inspectorate.



EUNAVFORMED Sophia

On 8 Feb. the High Representative joined the Prime Minister of Malta, Joseph Muscat, and Italian Defence Minister Roberta Pinotti aboard the San Giorgio ship, an Italian vessel taking part in Operation Sophia, and delivered the first diplomas to 89 Libyan coast guards. The training was carried on thanks to the personnel of EU Operation Sophia, with contributions from European Member States and international organisations: "This is the European way to do things together, as a Union and with our partners," H.E. Federica Mogherini said.

EUTM Mali

ON the 8th of February EUTM Mali celebrated its fourth anniversary 2013. In 2013 at the request of the Malian authorities and on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 2085, the EU Member States started a training mission for the benefit of Malian Armed Forces (MaAF): EUTM Mali. These past four years have seen the collaboration between EUTM Mali and MaAF steadily increase to an excellent level. The instructors of EUTM Mali have been impressed by the motivation, enthusiasm and courage of the Malian soldiers, whereby it has been a wonderful experience to train them.



EUNAVFOR Atalanta

Rear Admiral Rafael FERNÁNDEZ-PINTADO MUÑOZ-ROJAS has been appointed EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast (Atalanta) Rear Admiral Rafael FERNÁNDEZ-PINTADO MUÑOZ-ROJAS succeeds Commodore René LUYCKX as from 24 February 2017.

EUTM RCA

The Chief of Staff of the Central African Armed Forces was welcomed at camp Ucatex-Moana by the Director-General of the Military Staff of the European Union. Together with general Ruys, Commander of the mission EUTM RCA, this was an opportunity to make a point of situation on the operational training of FACA, politics of national defence as well as the concept of employment of forces.



EUTM Somalia

On the 1st February, the Portuguese Joint Operations Command Chief – Vice Admiral Fernando Manuel de Macedo Pires da Cunha – paid a two-days visit to the European Union Training Mission – Somalia and the Portuguese contingent deployed in Mogadishu. Welcomed by EUTM-S Mission Commander, Brigadier General Maurizio Morena, the Portuguese JOC Chief received a complete briefing on EUTM-S. He also met with the Training Team and had the opportunity to share with EUTM-S trainers views on training programs and performance by Somali trainees of the Pilot Light Infantry Coy (PLIC). Before leaving Mogadishu, Vice Admiral de Macedo Pires da Cunha signed EUTM-S honour book and said to General Morena he was delighted about the visit and impressed by the professionalism of EUTM-S members.

News from the Committee



CEUMC official visit to SWEDEN

From 13 to 14 of February, the Chairman of the European Union Military Committee (CEUMC), General Mikhail Kostarakos, paid an official visit to Sweden on the invitation by the Supreme Commander of the Swedish Armed Forces, General Micael Bydén.

During his visit, the high-ranking EU military official met with the Minister of Defense, Mr Peter Hultqvist, and they shared views on issues of mutual interest.

The Chairman, also visited the Swedish Defense University and gave a speech to its members on : “Shaping European Union’s Security and Defense identity”.



Munich Security Conference

From 17 to 18 of February 2017, the Chairman of the EU Military Committee participated in the 53rd International Security Conference held annually in Munich (MSC).

The MSC is considered one of the top in the world

mainly because of the high profile personalities involved and the themes discussed each time.

Also this year, the conference attended by approximately 500 leaders from around the world and some of the most important decision makers in the international political and security field who either made such speeches or exchanged their views on the current crises and future challenges in the international environment.



ESDC alumni seminar

On Monday 25 February 2017, the Chairman of the EU Military Committee was the keynote speaker at the opening reception of the Alumni Seminar of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC).

Through its activities, the ESDC network not only trains course participants from the 28 EU Member States and EU Institutions, it also supports the understanding of non-EU countries of how the CSDP functions. It contributes actively to the EEAS’s efforts to work more closely with partners across the whole world.



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