



# EUROPEAN UNION MILITARY COMMITTEE

*Chairman's E - Newsletter*  
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@patderous

Interview at page 2: General LAUGEL (EUMAM RCA- Mission Commander)

## Message from the Chairman

It has been another fruitful semester for the CSDP Operations and Missions, as once again Europe has shown its engagement in crisis management.

Recently the EU Military Committee has worked hard in support of the EU Council in order to launch a new CSDP endeavor.

The launch of the new military operation in the Mediterranean (EUNAVFOR MED) has confirmed an evident increase in the operational output of the EU CSDP in the last three years.



Together with EUNAVFOR Atalanta and EUFOR RCA, it has highlighted the capacity to

operate using the full range of diplomatic, civilian and military tools (e.g. comprehensive approach) and the capability for integrative (civ-mil) planning is particularly unique in this regard (cf. the Horn of Africa, Sahel).

At the same time we have experienced a greater demand of training and advisory missions, whose deployments were more of a capacity-building nature, in Mali, Somalia and Central African Republic.

The latter were at the same time characterized by local ownership, shown by the great degree of acceptance of the Host Nations, and have increased the cooperative relationship between the EU and its Partners.

All CSDP missions and operations have clearly contributed in raising the interaction between the different EU actors in the broader context of its CFSP. They have also contributed in strengthening the EU profile as a global actor and as a security provider.

I hope you enjoy this issue and wish you a very recreative summer break.

*General Patrick de Rousiers*

and EDA on countering hybrid threats will take place on 24 September in Brussels.

With regard to the EU's comprehensive approach and to the Train and Equip initiative the Luxembourg Presidency will have a special focus on the Sahel Region with a high-level seminar on 11 September co-organised with the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS).

In the field of capability development four priorities had been identified by the European Council in December 2013, namely AAR, RPAS, SATCOM and Cyber. The Presidency will encourage further support to these flagships. In particular Luxembourg has committed to participate in the acquisition phase of the MRTT project within the EDA and lead by the Netherlands to improve European AAR capabilities.

Several seminars on the industrial dimension of defence will be held in Luxembourg. They will in particular address the challenges and opportunities of public-private partnerships (29 September) and future needs in satellite communications (25 November).

In the continuity of the work on maritime issues under the previous Greek, Italian and Latvian Presidencies the Maritime Security Conference (12-13 November) organised by Cyprus is supported by Luxembourg.

## LUXEMBOURG PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL 2015

The twelfth Luxembourg Presidency of the Council of the European Union started on 1 July 2015.

The European Council has mandated the HR/VP to facilitate the preparation of an EU global strategy on foreign and security policy in close cooperation with Member States. The Council also recalled priorities supporting a more effective, visible and result-oriented CSDP.

The Council highlighted in particular the need for sufficient and efficient defence spending, for adequate funding of defence research and for more systematic European cooperation in capability development. Countering of hybrid threats, intensification of partnerships and capacity building are equally important to address challenges in our current security environment.

The Presidency has planned a series of supporting activities to contribute to these strands of work. The emphasis will be on the strategy, the EU's comprehensive approach, partnerships and capabilities.

It is fair to say that the strategic context around Europe has evolved adversely. For the foreseeable future we will continue to face uncertainty and challenges to our values and to the security of our nations from the outside and inside of our territories.

EU and NATO are taking up with these risks and threats with their own tools. They are also confronted with the pressure of change – NATO is engaged in a process of adaptation in parallel with the EU's work on a global strategy.

Both organisations could therefore be described as being in transition to adapt their way of doing business to face evolving challenges, seeking for more efficiency in the use of their tools, developing better processes and calling for a stronger European stance on defence and security issues.

One of the challenges in this transition is to preserve the complementarity between EU and NATO as mutually reinforcing actors. More generally, the complex nature and magnitude of present risks and threats call for a strengthened relationship with all of our partners on the ways and means to address challenges in a comprehensive manner making best use of existing-means and capabilities.

In this context an EEAS high-level seminar with input from the Commission



Luxembourg Prime Minister Xavier Bettel and HR/VP Federica Mogherini

### In this issue:

1. The cover story takes us to the Luxembourg Presidency.
2. The newsletter also presents the EUMAM RCA CSDP Mission.

*Colonel Patrick Fautsch*

Presidency of the Council of the European Union  
GRAND DUCHY OF Luxembourg



# COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY STRUCTURES: European Union Military Advisory Mission (EUMAM RCA)



## EUMAM advice leads to roadmap: an interview with the Mission Commander

EUMAM RCA is part of the EU's comprehensive approach for the Central African Republic's return to stability. It came in the wake of the EU military operation contributing to security in Bangui, EUFOR RCA, which completed its mandate on 15 March 2015.

The mission operates with 60 staff, including military advisors and support staff. They are located in the country's capital of Bangui.

As the EU Military Advisory Mission (EUMAM) is about to complete its first five months of presence in CAR, we asked Mission Commander general Dominique Laugel to draw an intermediate conclusion on the mission.

### Sir, could you explain the role of EUMAM RCA?

EUMAM RCA was launched by the Council on 16 March 2015. It sets out to support the Central African authorities in preparing a reform of the security sector with respect to the national armed forces (FACA). More in detail, EUMAM advises the

national military authorities on the reforms necessary to transform the FACA into a professional, democratically controlled and ethnically representative army. By supporting the national defence forces, EUMAM assumes a critical role in strengthening the security sector.

The overall responsibility of the security sector reform lies with the MINUSCA. We also support them, particularly in FACA-related matters such as vetting activities.

Apart from MINUSCA, EUMAM closely coordinates its activities with the EU delegation and other international partners.

### How did the mission set off?

EUMAM set up its activities on the ground against the backdrop of CAR trying to struggle its way out of the crisis. From the first encounter onwards, EUMAM's advisors maintained intense contact with their respective local counterparts – Defence Minister, Ministry of Defence staff officers and Army General Staff. We found a highly cooperative environment, which enabled us together to conduct a thorough *état des lieux*. It provided the basis of all our subsequent activities. Those activities include daily advisory meetings with a strong focus on resource management - human resources, budget and weapons management.

### What are your main achievements?

In May, the nationwide Bangui Forum of reconciliation took place. It gathered more than 500 representatives of different national interest groups in Bangui. The event, to which EUMAM specialists contributed security expertise, concluded with a comprehensive list of peace-building recommendations. The Forum was regarded a major step forward towards a democratic structure in CAR, with national elections to follow in autumn 2015.

In June 2015 the Ministry of Defence presented a detailed roadmap for the continuing reform of the Central African army. Throughout the three weeks preceding the official presentation, EUMAM had been contributing to the working groups with advice and organizational help. The eight groups each developed a task plan for their respective key areas of organizational structure, governance and doctrine, human resources, operational aspects, logistics, intelligence, communication, source and application of funds.

### What are your challenges?

Even if the past five months have brought progress for CAR as a whole, there is still a considerable lack of training and equipment for the armed forces that prevents them from assuming responsibility for national defence activities. EUMAM does neither have the possibility nor funds to improve the derelict infrastructure of the FACA. Nevertheless we try to mitigate the paralyzing lack of classrooms, furniture and technical equipment and thus enable the most imminent tasks foreseen in the roadmap, like some limited non-operational training. EUMAM is poised to exhaust its limited structural assets to prevent any hard-earned achievements from collapsing.



General Laugel and Defense Minister Marie-Noëlle Koyara



EUMAM provides non-operational training at camp MOANA-UCATEX

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