



# EUROPEAN UNION MILITARY COMMITTEE

*Chairman's E - Newsletter*  
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Don't miss our interview at page 2 : Amb. Gabor Iklody

## Message from the Chairman

Brigadier General Dominique Laugel, the EU Mission Commander of the EU Military Advisory Mission in the Central African Republic (**EUMAM RCA**), will play a critical role in strengthening the security sector of the country.



In this light, EU experts will advise on how to manage the military forces as well as on the preparation of a future systemic reform of the Central African Armed Forces.

EUMAM will also advise on the reforms necessary for training the CAR army.

This SSR effort will have a multilateral dimension as it will be carried in cooperation to the UN mission MINUSCA.

Failure to devote sufficient attention to strengthening these functions can undermine broader assistance efforts aimed at a wide range of objectives, from establishing security and the rule of law after conflict to creating the conditions for economic development.

EU CSDP is becoming part of a wider, more comprehensive approach, harmonising its civilian and military capabilities with its high diplomatic performance and the substantial financial support to development.

*General Patrick de Rousiers*

In the Central African Republic, the EU mission EUFOR, under a mandate from the Council, has been working closely with both the AU mission **MISCA** and the UN mission **MINUSCA** to provide vital protection for the civil population in Bangui. Indeed, co-operation with the UN in the planning and conduct of this mission has been exemplary. By working together, the organisations involved are developing new approaches to crisis management and encourage cooperation over longer periods, also developing defence capabilities.

In addition, the European Union has signed an increasing number of Framework Participation Agreements with third countries, to facilitate and foster their participation in CSDP missions and operations. In addition, and following a decision by the **PSC**, the Union regularly invites third countries to participate to specific CSDP missions and operations, with partners providing key assets, expertise and knowledge.

Non-EU NATO Allies and candidate countries are among the most active contributors to CSDP activities and good cooperation continues in various *fora* and informal gatherings as well as bilaterally.

Ukraine contributed with a frigate to **EUNAVFOR Atalanta** last year, and Georgia and the Republic of Moldova joined for the first time CSDP operations: both of them took part in **EUTM Mali** and Georgia contributed one infantry company to **EUFOR RCA** (with 156 troops, making it the second largest contributor to this operation).

The EU is also testing the waters for new synergies, including closer involvement as CSDP partners of non-EU countries (i.e. Latin American and Asian countries).

*Col Giovanni Ramunno*

## Developing CSDP partnerships

Dialogue and cooperation with partners can make a concrete contribution to enhance international security, to defend the values on which the Union is based, and to prepare interested nations for membership.

Encouraged by the post-Lisbon institutional set-up, a renovated strategic culture and multilateralism have emerged in EU Common Foreign and Security Policy (**CSDP**).

As a matter of fact, at her recent intervention at the UN, the **High Representative/Vice President**, Federica Mogherini, highlighted Europe's commitment to **multilateralism** as stemming from our values and beliefs.

But she added that the engagement of our partners on issues of mutual or global interest is also an act of realism, as the threats we face have never been so complex and therefore they require complex, articulated responses.

The partnership aspect also featured prominently in the HR/VP report and the Council conclusions in the run-up to the **European Council in December 2013**, as well as in its outcome and the follow-up work strands.

The European Union is therefore firmly committed to working in close collaboration with partners: which is an integral part of a comprehensive approach. In this light, the EU is developing an effective and balanced partnership with partner countries and international organisation in crisis management. Partnerships can build upon the knowledge, expertise and specific capabilities of our partners, while also drawing them closer to the EU.

Referring to international organisations, the EU formally recognise the UN as the apex of the multilateral system. Cooperation among the African Union, the EU and the UN is key to regional stability, and we have long-standing partnerships with both organisations. In the field of security and peace support operations, these partnerships increasingly overlap.

The EU-UN co-operation in crisis management is highly important and beneficial to both organizations. In fact, the EU benefits from the political legitimacy conferred by the United Nations Security Council mandate, while the UN benefits from the credibility and the operational capability brought in by the EU. Over the years, the European Union has provided operational, financial and political support to peacekeeping efforts of the UN.

The partnership with the AU in the field of crisis management has three particular aspects: strengthening the political dialogue, making the **African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA)** fully operational and providing predictable funding for the AU's peacekeeping operations.



## In this issue:

1. The cover story takes us to the the EU partnerships.
2. The newsletter also presents the CMPD.



## COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY STRUCTURES: Crisis Management and Planning Directorate (CMPD)

In this issue we provide an insight into the Crisis Management and Planning Directorate (CMPD) and interviewed Amb. Iklody, who is the Director of the CMPD.



Ambassador Gabor Iklody

### **Amb. Iklody referring to the role of your Directorate, could you tell us more about your integrated way of conducting strategic planning?**

The very decision to establish five years ago the Crisis Management and Planning Directorate (CMPD) was largely triggered by the recognition of the need to conduct advance and strategic planning in an integrated way. Close civil-military coordination offers great benefits in a whole variety of areas from security to the use of assets. The potential inherent in an integrated approach is best achieved if coordination starts at an early phase of planning. In several theatres the EU has deployed both military and civilian CSDP missions, like in Somalia and Mali, where close interaction between them is paramount. It is increasingly important also to ensure that we can transition seamlessly between the use of various instruments, be they military or civilian, as circumstances require. If we look around in the world and assess the challenges we face, it is even clearer today than it was five years ago that an integrated approach has no sensible alternative.

EU's strength in preventing and managing crises lies first and foremost in the 'comprehensive approach', i.e. in its capacity to use various instruments in a combined and coherent fashion. EU's toolbox is wide to include among others diplomacy, trade, development assistance and also the deployment of military force.

The comprehensive approach gives the EU a unique capacity – a potential that is yet to be implemented in full. Certain 'laboratories' already exist when the impact of the comprehensive approach can be assessed. The Horn of Africa for instance is a case in point where three EU CSDP missions operate: EU's only maritime operation, EUNAVFOR ATALANTA, a military training mission, EUTM Somalia and a civilian capacity-building mission, EUCAP Nestor – in addition to a number of European Commission programmes and the EU Delegation. In addition to strategic planning CMPD has also responsibility in coordinating civilian and military capability development efforts, pursuing CSDP partnership with other countries and international organisations and developing CSDP policies and concepts. With regard to this latter I would highlight two for the sake of illustration: one is called 'Train and Equip', a new initiative that is aimed at enabling the EU to extend its capacity-building efforts in partner countries to the security and defence sector. The other is focusing on the nexus between CSDP and the area of Freedom, Security and Justice, in other words between the external and internal aspects of security.

### **Further on your mission. The need to establish strategic partnerships was identified as an EU objective in pursuing multilateralism in 2003 in the EU Security Strategy. Is it still the case nowadays?**

More than ever! The threats we face have never been so complex, and they require credible and effective responses. Clearly, no State or organization, however powerful, can realistically face these challenges alone. At a time of a multitude of security challenges and limited resources we need to put the burden of security on more shoulders. **A large network of partnerships** can also help increase the legitimacy of our CSDP missions and operations.

The past period has brought about a rapid expansion of EU's CSDP related partnerships. There is a growing number of countries willing to join the EU in its crisis management activities, for different reasons. In this sense, the CSDP has become a gate for many to come closer to the EU.

A special word on partnership with International Organizations, including in particular the UN, NATO, OSCE and the African Union. We are developing close, concrete and pragmatic ties with them. In most areas we work under UN mandates and operate in theatres where the UN is present or we hand over the baton to one another, like in the case of the 'bridging operation' in the Central African Republic. With NATO our efforts to address hybrid threats in a joined-up fashion will open new avenues. In Ukraine EU's action to help implement the terms of the Minsk Agreement is mainly geared towards supporting OSCE's activities. EU's interest in the establishment of an indigenous African peacekeeping capacity will further increase our support to the African Union.

### **What drives you to achieve your objectives?**

The strong belief that we are doing the right thing and the EU has an important role to play in security and defence – both overseas and at home. Joining forces in this area I think is inevitable **and the challenges** we face make it an imperative despite a, shall we say, 'suboptimal' environment that the economic crisis has provided.

### **What does success look like?**

Make the Comprehensive Approach work. It requires a thorough change of our mindset; a real cultural change. It requires us to look at security differently and tear down old walls that have separated external and internal, civilian and military, defence and justice and home affairs, often public and private. The road leading to it is bumpy – but it's worth the effort.

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***The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the author and do not represent the official position of the European Union Military Committee or the single Member States' Chiefs of Defence.***



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