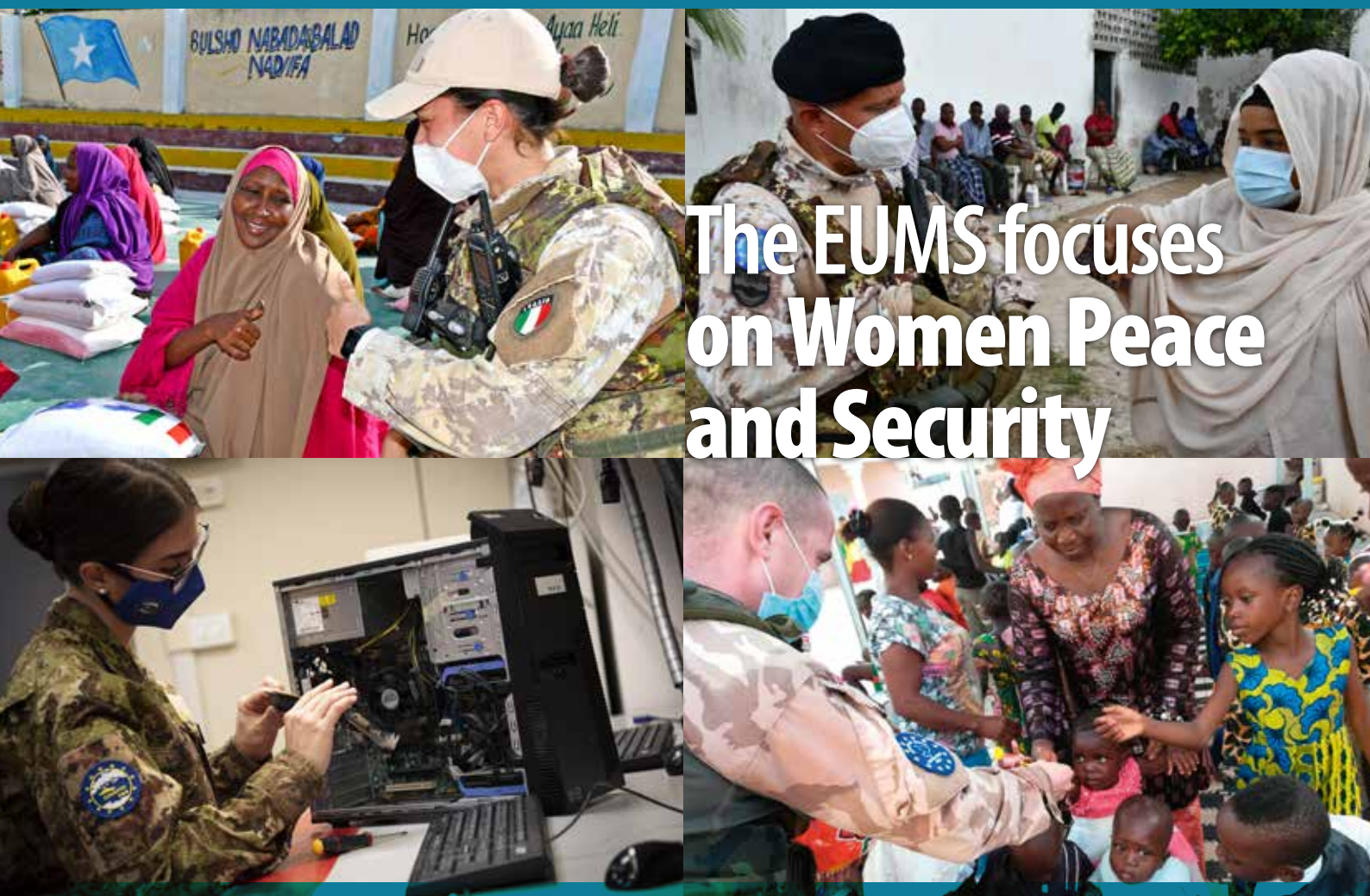




# IMPETUS



MAGAZINE OF THE EU MILITARY STAFF, EEAS, BRUSSELS - WINTER|SPRING 2021 ISSUE #30



## The EUMS focuses on Women Peace and Security

EU MILITARY STAFF CONTRIBUTING TO EU GLOBAL STRATEGY

**IMPETUS Interviews with the Senior Military Advisor to the Managing Directorate for CSDP and CR P8**

**The European Defence Agency presents its first Coordinated Annual Review on Defence P17**

**The European Security and Defence College celebrates its 15 year anniversary P22**

Dear Readers,

We hope that you find IMPETUS 30 useful in increasing your situational awareness of what the EU Military Staff are doing, including the EU CSDP Operations and Missions. If you have any comments on any of the articles, or indeed any suggestions on how IMPETUS could be improved, we would be very happy to receive both at the email address below. Back issues are available on request from the address below.

Thank you, the Editor.

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Edition/Creation  
OIB European Commission | Graphic Designer: Frederique Guiot  
Impetus is a Magazine published by the EU Military Staff, EEAS





# EUROPEAN UNION CSDP MISSIONS AND OPERATIONS

**EUPOL COPPS**  
Palestinian Territories  
Since 2006

**EUFOR ALTHEA**  
Bosnia Herzegovina  
Since 2004

**EULEX**  
Kosovo  
Since 2008

**EUNAVFOR  
MED IRINI**  
Since 2020

REGIONALISATION OF CSDP  
ACTIONS IN G5 SAHEL<sup>1</sup>  
Since 2017

**EUTM**  
Mali  
Since 2013

**EUCAP SAHEL**  
Mali  
Since 2014

**EUCAP SAHEL**  
Niger  
Since 2012

**EUTM RCA**  
Central African Republic  
Since 2016

**EUAM RCA**  
Central African Republic  
Since 2020

**\*EUBAM**  
Moldova and Ukraine  
Since 2005

**EUAM**  
Ukraine  
Since 2014

**EUMM**  
Georgia  
Since 2008

**EUBAM RAFAH**  
Palestinian Territories  
Since 2005

**EUAM**  
Iraq  
Since 2017

**EUBAM**  
Libya  
Since 2013

**EU NAVFOR**  
Atalanta  
Since 2008

**EUTM**  
Somalia  
Since 2010

**EUCAP  
SOMALIA**  
Since 2012

 Military Missions/Operations  
 Civilian Missions



**6** ongoing military Missions/Operations



**11** ongoing civilian Missions



Around **5,000** people  
currently deployed



## Objectives:

Peace-keeping, conflict prevention,  
strengthening international security,  
supporting the rule of law, prevention  
of human trafficking and piracy.

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<sup>1</sup>This Mission is not managed within CSDP structures, but its objectives are very similar to the other Missions, so we include it here

<sup>1</sup>The Regional Advisory and Coordination Cell is a CSDP action which facilitates EU support to security and defence cooperation amongst G5 Sahel countries (Mauritania, Mali, Burkina-Faso, Niger and Chad).



# The Ongoing Challenge; 2020|2021

BY VICE ADMIRAL HERVÉ BLÉJEAN, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION MILITARY STAFF & DIRECTOR MILITARY PLANNING AND CONDUCT CAPABILITY

It would be an understatement to say that it has been an extremely challenging year; taking over as Director General of the EUMS and as Director of the MPCC during the pandemic has allowed me to see the scope of work undertaken with the most dedicated of professionals. The impact of the global pandemic was unexpected and has been deeply felt across the fabric of society. It has attacked our personal and work lives; it has added further complexity to geopolitical shifts and a deteriorating security landscape. It has required us to adapt our plans in conducting the Training Missions, to ensure activities supported the objectives of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). Unfortunately, the economic and societal recovery will be gradual. While the vaccine brings hope, pandemic risks and mitigation measures will remain for some time. The EUMS and MPCC will remain dedicated to protecting and maintaining European core values, and continue to provide collective military expertise, advice and support to the European Institutions.

Despite the restrictions imposed by COVID on work routines and personal lives there has been an immense amount achieved over the past year. The output of initiatives and military advice presented to the EEAS and the institutions has been boundless. This productivity is due to the professionalism, dedication and commitment of the staff in the EUMS, MPCC and the EUTMs (European Union Training Missions). The well-established “esprit de corps” of the EUMS has provided a strong foundation for the ongoing productivity in these challenging times.

This year marks the 10-year anniversary of the EEAS, but also the 20-year anniversary of the EUMS. The actions of the embryonic military staff in 2001 established the relevance of the EUMS, as the source of collective military expertise for the EU institutions and in supporting the activities of the EU Military Committee (EUMC). This relationship has ensured the effectiveness of the European Union’s security on the global stage and enabled the projection of its interests and values.

There were major accomplishments in Capability Development within the context of the Headline Goal Process cycle, which produced new Force and Progress Catalogues respectively. As a member of both Secretariats, the EUMS played a full role in the delivery of the first CARD report and the PESCO Strategic review. Both of these important milestone reports are now with Member States (MS). The engagement and collaboration between the EEAS, EDA and EUMS, in producing the documents, facilitated major improvements in cooperative work processes and should set the standard for all future synergistic endeavours.

Despite the health mitigation measures required, Exercise Integrated Resolve 2020 also took place, although, at a reduced level. The exercise, designed to enhance the EU’s ability to respond to external conflicts and crises, focused on CSDP planning processes and operational conduct in a hybrid environment. It also facilitated an evaluation within the MPCC, which was an important milestone in its development. The completion of the exercise was another phase in the enhancement of the effectiveness of the command and control between the institutions and the missions, adding credibility to the conduct of CSDP activities.

**The evolution of the Command and Control structures with the development of the MPCC – defined by an EU level of ambition – will be reviewed in the coming year, with a view to further strengthening the implementation of CSDP.**

The staff of the MPCC once again proved the utility of this HQ at the Military-Strategic level in Brussels. Their determination and flexibility in managing the exercise while also supporting the Training Missions and providing the military input to the strategic review on the Horn of Africa demonstrates its efficacy. The completion and agreement at Political and Security Committee (PSC) level for new mandates, for all Training Missions (Mali, Somalia and RCA); will be critical for achieving success in the region. The Mission Plans are ambitious and will require Member States commitment to support capacity building in the Sahel countries. It will also require the capable energy of the MPCC to overview and support implementation from the Military-Strategic level.

The past year has seen considerable momentum in the range of work-strands being progressed through all the Directorates of the EUMS. The provision of situational awareness and foresight projection over broad geopolitical (operational-related) trends and emerging crises were also further developed. The Coordinated Maritime Presence, Pilot Project to the Gulf of Guinea was one of these broad initiatives developed to execution phase by the Operations Directorate. All of these projects contribute to tangible efforts at building European security and defence. Building our own security and our partners’ – promoting European common interests, principle and values that function best in a multilateral and international rules-based system.

The world continues to change and the work, in the coming year, with the development of the EU’s Strategic Compass will be vital in strengthening EU Security and Defence. Particularly, to contemporary challenges. The military input and perspective at these early stages will assist in the pro-



*Vice Admiral Hervé Bléjean on a recent visit to EUTM RCA. The COVID-19 pandemic has undoubtable added to an already fragile security environment.*

vision of coherence to European defence. This coherence and understanding should lead to attainable goals, the development of capabilities and clarity in the level of ambition, which will result in the effective delivery of missions. The MS and their Chiefs of Defence (CHODs) are intently focused on contributing to this process and through the Chairman of the Military Committee provide leadership and direction on the work being completed.

In 2021, the EUMS will see a continuation in the momentum of initiatives, amid the ongoing challenges presented by the pandemic both externally and within Europe. This work forms the military component's efforts to contribute positively, as part of CSDP, to regional security in Europe's wider neighbourhood. In March, the Council of the EU supported the expansion of EUTM Mali and this is the first time that the mandate was extended beyond a period of two years. The Mission area is now enlarged and will encompass the whole of Mali. The newly agreed Mandate 5 will provide a firm foundation in building Malian and regional capabilities for security. The new mandates in Somalia and RCA also demonstrate the European commitment to build security, thus facilitating stability and development of countries in the region. The ambitious goal for Mandate 5 of EUTM Mali demonstrates a strengthening of the EU's capacity to respond positively to external conflicts and crises, build partners' capacities and in the process contribute to the protection of the EU.

As we look forward into this New Year, it is clear that there has never been a more vital time to maintain the building of collaborative working relationships both internally and externally. Internally our cooperation with the EDA and EEAS on projects that have built capabilities has shown substantial rewards in project development. The Joint Support Coordination Cell (JSCC) between the MPCC and the

Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC) is another example of successful collaboration. Both organisations assisting in common issues is a future component for mission success and a key to regional stability and development. The impetus in supporting the internal policy mechanisms making EU Security and Defence more capable has been tangible since 2016 and this has further facilitated the implementation of the EU's 'Integrated Approach'. The combination of EU capabilities in civilian development, military and with diplomatic instruments lead to constructive success, particularly when combined with other regional actors such as the UN.

Strategic Communications is a clear objective that requires further development - how the EUMS as a European entity communicates will be essential in coping with a multitude of stresses. The positive contribution the EUMS makes to CSDP is only possible through effective communication with member states, strategic partners and host nations. It is my ambition to make this communication easier and more accessible, and to ensure that the right message is communicated to the right audience at the right time.

The horizon for European Security and Defence has an ambitious programme, one that will see the EUMS providing its share of military expertise in its work-strands for the coming year. The Strategic Compass discussion will be vital and has the potential to provide clarity and an enhanced understanding of security and defence efforts within the EU.

**The personnel of the EUMS and MPCC will continue to contribute to this endeavour and promote the interests and the values of democracy, respecting fundamental freedoms while strengthening multilateralism and the rule of law.**



# EU-Japan Combined and Joint Naval exercise

BY **BENOÎT SEMUR**, THEMATIC COORDINATOR MARITIME SECURITY, EU PROJECT "ENHANCING SECURITY COOPERATION IN AND WITH ASIA"

**JOSÉ LORENZO OUTÓN**, POLITICAL ADVISOR, EU NAVAL FORCE SOMALIA – OPERATION ATALANTA

***EU-Japan activities in the Indian Ocean highlight the importance of cooperation in the fight against piracy and the key role played by the EU operation ATALANTA in this Region.***

In October 2020, the Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force deployed in the Western Indian Ocean, conducted a series of combined activities and exercises with the European Union Naval Force Operation ATALANTA. These joint activities demonstrate the strength of the relationship between the EU and Japan in the maritime security field in this region and highlight the potential for greater future collaboration. The combined maritime activities commenced on 5 October 2020, when a maritime exercise took place off the Somali coast. The exercise involved evolutions at sea, encompassing simulating a replenishment at sea, a firing exercise, helicopter cross-deck landing, and tactical manoeuvres. The exercise involved the Japanese destroyer Ohnami and the Spanish frigate Santa Maria, tasked with anti-piracy operations in the Indian Ocean as part of operation ATALANTA. Air assets, namely a German P-3 Orion maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircraft (MPRA), made the exercise both combined and joint. MPRA assets based in Djibouti participate in operation ATALANTA by conducting long-range surveillance flights over the vast area of the Indian Ocean.

The culmination of the meeting was a naval parade and port call in Djibouti on 15 October 2020. The Japanese frigate Ohnami and several other ATALANTA assets including the Operation's Flagship, the Italian frigate Alpino, and two German and Spanish MPRA's also joined the ceremony. Discussions on lessons learnt and the potential for further cooperation in the maritime security field took place via VTC, linking up the ATALANTA Operational Headquarters in Rota, Alpino in Djibouti, the European External Action Service in Brussels and the Japanese Ministry of Defence in Tokyo.

The meeting concluded with a ceremony in Djibouti, co-chaired by the EU and Japan and with the high participation of Djiboutian political authorities. Donations of stationery, sports equipment and health protection equipment (masks and hydro-alcoholic gel) were made to schoolchildren severely affected by the devastating floods of November 2019.

The EU and Japan both support an international rules-based order, the preservation of freedom of navigation and maritime multilateralism. This provides the basis for a strategic maritime partnership between the Japanese



Maritime Self-Defence Force and Operation ATALANTA. In addition, operation ATALANTA maintains close relations with other military actors deployed in the region, specifically with the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) a coalition of 33 nations led by the US. Japan is also part of this coalition. With such military actors, the Operation shares information within the limits of its mandate, coordinates its activities and collaborates within the framework of its Concept of Cooperation.

Operation ATALANTA was launched in December 2008 within the framework of EU Common Security and Defence Policy and in accordance with UN Security Council's resolutions 1816, 1838, 1846 and 1851 as the EU's first maritime operation. It is often presented as an EU "success story" and it still plays a key role in the international community's efforts to tackle piracy.

The mandate of operation ATALANTA primarily focuses on the protection of vessels of the World Food Programme and other vulnerable shipping, and the deterrence, prevention and repression of piracy and armed robbery at sea. Additional tasks include the monitoring of fishing activities off the coast of Somalia and support to other EU missions







*Operation Atalanta deploys Air and Sea assets to patrol an area that is twice the size of the EU.*

*The need for logistical resupply is an inherent part of any operation, especially maritime operations*

and international organisations working to strengthen maritime security and capacity in the region.

Capitalising on the successes of suppressing piracy off the coast Somalia, since 1 January 2021 the mandate of Operation ATALANTA also includes the secondary executive tasks of countering trafficking of weapons and narcotic drugs, and to the non-executive task of monitoring illegal activities at sea. The mandate also widens the ATALANTA Area of Operation.

These adjustments complement ATALANTA's core effort as outlined earlier. The expansion of the Operation's tasks and geographical scope allows the EU to bring a new building block to the maritime security architecture of a wide region, stretching now from the Red Sea through Bab el Mandeb to the Western Indian Ocean.

On a daily basis and in accordance with this mandate, ATALANTA vessels patrol in the Gulf of Aden and in the Somali basin, and work in close coordination with MPRA assets based in Djibouti. This coordination and cooperation between maritime and air assets is essential to fight piracy efficiently in such a vast ocean space. When a suspicious vessel is identified and confirmed as a pirate ship, all ATALANTA assets are mobilised to disrupt its activities, to render it incapable of further operations or to apprehend suspected pirates. The pirates may then be detained aboard ATALANTA ships before being transferred for prosecution to the competent national authorities in EU Member States, regional countries or any third country with which the EU has an agreement in full respect of internationally recognised human rights standards.

Concerning the command and control structure, the Operation Commander, currently Major-General Antonio Planells Palau, is based in the Operational Headquarters (OHQ) in Rota in Spain. An additional but essential component of his OHQ is the Maritime Security Centre Horn of Africa, located in Brest, France. Through the Chairman of the EU Military Committee, the Operation Commander is under the authority of the Political and Security Committee, the Council of the EU and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-president of the European Commission. The current Force Commander, Commodore Arroiteia exercises command and control of all military assets in the Area of Operations from the Force Headquarters aboard the new ATALANTA flagship, Spanish Frigate Reina Sofia.

The enduring efforts of all counterpiracy actors have proven successful. Acts of piracy and armed robbery against

ships in this part of the Indian Ocean have constantly decreased since the start of the Operation. At the height of piracy in the region, in January 2011, pirates operating out of Somalia were holding 736 hostages and 32 ships. Today, those numbers have dropped significantly. Since April 2019, when ESPS Navarra freed a pirated Yemeni Dhow used as a platform to attack a ROK fishing vessel, no successful pirate attacks have been reported off the Somali coast.

Despite the best efforts of the counterpiracy operations, however, the risk of attack is still present and merchant ships transiting Somali waters and the Gulf of Aden need to remain vigilant and alert. In addition, the threats have now evolved into areas such as illegal fishing, drugs smuggling and arms trafficking, all of which is a consequence of the political unrest and insecurity in Somalia. The introduction of some adjustments into ATALANTA's mandate aims precisely to respond to these new threats. These old and new threats affect economic activity, maritime security, international seaborne trade and freedom of navigation in the area, with consequences that are not only felt regionally, but globally.

Operation ATALANTA is only one aspect of a broader and more comprehensive EU integrated approach to Somalia and to the Horn of Africa. ATALANTA's actions are thus complementary to the ones that are implemented by other EU instruments in the area, notably its two CSDP "sister missions" in Somalia: EU Training Mission – Somalia (a military mission that assists by providing military training to the Somali National Armed Forces) and EUCAP Somalia (a civilian mission, designed to support regional maritime capacity-building). Both missions seek to assist the Somali National Army.

These three CSDP operations and missions provide efficient and operational support in the field of security to the EU's Strategic Framework for the region. The multi-faceted engagement of the EU through political dialogue, security activities and development assistance, together with the support of its strategic partners, such as Japan in this case, the EU aims to build the foundations for security and development in Somalia.

In that context, the EU is managing to bring together simultaneously and efficiently all the instruments at its disposal in the diplomatic, security and development domains, as one of the main actors in the international community's ongoing efforts to stabilise this part of the world.

# IMPETUS Interviews with the Senior Military Advisor to the Managing Directorate for Common Security and Defence Policy and Crisis Response

INTERVIEW BY REAR ADMIRAL JUERGEN EHLE

Rear Admiral Juergen Ehle



## Can you please discuss your role in CSDP - CM

My post is as a Senior Military Advisor allocated to the Managing Directorate for CSDP and Crisis Response. The advice covers the full portfolio of CSDP ensuring effective coordination and interaction with other entities of the EEAS, in particular on military related matters. However, my role is also a political one in many aspects, which makes the post extremely interesting. I advise members of EEAS senior management. I cooperate closely with the Cabinet of the High Representative, the Cabinet of the Chairman of the EU Military Committee, the EU Military Staff, the Commission, the European Defence Agency, the European Parliament, NATO, and national delegations.

I represent the EEAS at briefings to the EUMC, NATO MC and other events. I represent the EEAS and address international high-level conferences on CSDP, EU Strategies and Policies, as well as EU Defence Initiatives. For example, I represented the EEAS at the Fullerton Forum in Singapore, the preparatory meeting for the Shangri-La Dialogue. I also took part in the strategic dialogue on Security and Defence with South Korea in Seoul. Just recently, I delivered a keynote speech to a South China Sea International Conference in Hanoi, Vietnam.

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## What experience do you bring to this appointment?

My operational military background is as a naval pilot. I'm trained both on ship borne helicopters and fixed wing naval aircraft. I'm a graduate of the University of Armed Forces, and of the German Armed Forces Command and Staff College, both located in Hamburg, and of the US Naval War College. I also hold a Master's Degree in educational science.

Prior to my current position, I was assigned as the Senior Political Military Advisor in the Permanent Representation of Germany to the EU. I also served as the Chairman of the European Union Military Committee Working Group, as the Chief of Staff of the German Military Representation to NATO and the EU, and as Branch Chief Europe/CSDP in the German Ministry of Defence.

So my military education coupled with my experience, in particular with the EU, CSDP, and NATO is invaluable in meeting the demands of my appointment.

## In your view what are the main challenges faced by CSDP CR?

The security situation around the European Union has worsened in recent years. It has become more contested, complex and connected. On a global scale, strategic competition, climate change and large scale population migration, terrorist attacks, cyber, and hybrid threats can potentially increase instability and volatility in already fragile social and political situations. In this complex and challenging environment, the EU and its Member States must be able to protect their citizens as well as uphold European values.

Given the scale and complexity of global security threats, no one Member State can tackle these challenges alone. For this reason, the EU is addressing the current and future security and defence needs, by enhancing its strategic autonomy and its capability to act as a credible global security provider.

## What would you see as the successes of CSDP CR and EU Defence initiatives?

The EU currently deploys 17 CSDP Missions and Operations across three continents. These missions and operations contribute to stabilization efforts in neighbouring regions and promote a more stable and secure international environment.

**Failing to ensure security and stability beyond our borders will ultimately and directly impact EU security.**

1. Staff meeting and preparation with MA to Rear Admiral Ehle.

2. Rear Admiral Ehle with the Chairman of the EUMC, General Claudio Graziano.



What happens in the Sahel, or the EU's Eastern Neighbourhoods impacts the security of EU citizens. In parallel, there is significant scope for increasing our efficiency through meaningful cooperation. 80% of defence investment is still done nationally, leading to a multiplication of de-





*There is no one size fits all solution in dealing with complex crisis- CSDP in action at the tactical phase.*

fence systems and a fragmentation of the European defence sector. EU Member States currently have 178 different weapons systems such as tanks, destroyers and fighter aircrafts, the US by comparison, only have 30. Enhanced cooperation on defence will increase the efficiency of European spending on defence priorities.

A range of actions were launched to ensure that the EU has the right capabilities, structures, financial instruments and cooperative frameworks to deliver on these priorities, such as: the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), the European Defence Fund (EDF), the Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD), and the new set of EU Capability Development Priorities. Regarding the CSDP Missions and Operations, the establishment of the Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC) for the operational control of all EU non-executive military CSDP missions and the on-going discussion of a new off-budget instrument, the European Peace Facility (EPF) will enhance the capacity of the EU to react faster and more efficiently to a conflict or crisis.

Finally, the EU's investment in partnerships and in multilateralism through strengthened cooperation with other international partners such as the UN, NATO, the OSCE, the AU and ASEAN must be highlighted.

### What is the composition of your cell?

I am supported by a dedicated staff of two. My Personal Staff Officer consults and deputizes in all relevant meetings, most notably with the EUMC. He deals with all external relations issues, including the preparation of background information, regarding the EUMC and all public relations correspondence. He routinely supervises and coordinates all files and topics assigned to the SMA and assists and advises in all relevant areas. He interacts with elements of the EUMS, the EUMC, the EEAS Directorates, committees, working groups and other services. He also represents the EEAS in meetings, conferences and workshops on CSDP, EU Security & Defence, training and Exercises, NATO, the ASEAN ARF Defence Official Dialogue and other relevant events. In addition, he prepares draft presentations and briefings, speaking notes and articles for the SMA.

Our work is backed by Mr. Gael Michel Pacaud, the civilian element of our team, who is responsible for the administrative support of our mission.

### What impact do you see COVID-19 having on CSDP CR and EU Security and Defence?

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, is bound to impact global and European security. The pandemic's profound societal and economic consequences can deepen existing conflicts and crises and expose underlying fragilities. The resultant increase in overall global instability and insecurity,

risks triggering an aggravation of threats and challenges with direct impact on the Union's security (e.g. terrorism, irregular migration, organized crime, and malicious cyber activities).

There is an urgency therefore to start thinking about the different lessons and implications that the COVID-19 crisis thus far presents for EU security and defence, while continuing to manage more immediate issues both nationally by Member States and in the CSDP operational context.

- First, the primary political message is the need to preserve and demonstrate EU solidarity – a point clearly raised in the EU Defence Ministers' meetings.
- Second, the Union needs to be ready to address any further security fall-out of the current crisis, acting jointly through the integrated approach, including CFSP/ CSDP instruments.
- Third, there is a need to identify initial lessons with a view to better anticipate and becoming better prepared for and resilient to future pandemics or similar disruptive crises.
- Fourth, the EU should consider the lessons and implications for its capability development initiatives, both civilian and military.
- Fifth, the EU should consider the implications for the EU security and defence partnership policy, fostering international cooperation also in the context of the follow-up to the pandemic.

**Overall, keeping the momentum on security and defence will require a concerted and combined effort, especially given the potential contradiction between the security and the economic consequences of the pandemic for the EU.**

### Finally what is your ambition for the EEAS?

My ambition is to continue providing the link between the EEAS HQ and the military entities in Brussels and our military advisors in EU delegations worldwide to foster harmony, cooperation and transparency in all fields of security and defence.

To contribute, through my advice, to a better understanding of what is feasible from the military perspective to achieve political goals; to foster increased collaboration and synergies between the military and the civilian domains, especially when it comes to close cooperation in missions and operations.

And finally, I want to continue communicating and explaining CSDP and what it aspires to achieve through the EEAS, namely, a more safe and secure Europe.

# EUMS focuses on Women Peace and Security

COMPLIED BY MS HANNA GREKULA, IMPETUS OFFICE

*Women are disproportionately affected by armed conflict. They also play an important role in conflict resolution. The 17 CSDP Missions and Operations heed to the principle of gender equality in all activities. Not only because it as a fundamental EU value, but because gender mainstreaming renders crisis management more efficient.*

Twenty years ago, the United Nations Security Council adopted the historic Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). This resolution addressed for the first time women's unique experiences in conflict and crises, including increased risks for gender-based violence. The Resolution also emphasised the important contributions women make to peacebuilding and conflict prevention, resolution and transformation.

With the adoption of the resolution, international actors were urged to promote women's meaningful participation in all efforts to prevent and resolve conflict, and to ensure the protection of women and girls from all forms of gender-based violence. They were also called to increase the representation of women in international peace operations and ensure that a gender perspective guided all aspects of their work.

Since 2000, a further nine resolutions related to Women, Peace and Security have been adopted by the Security Council, strengthening and reinforcing this broad framework.

## Enforcing the Women, Peace and Security agenda

The European Union (EU) is fully committed to promoting and implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda as outlined in its EU Strategic Approach to WPS and its Action Plan, which recognises gender equality and women's empowerment as a prerequisite for dealing with the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts.

Currently, around 5000 women and men work in the 11 civilian and 6 military crisis-management missions and operations, which the European Union deploys under the framework of its Common Security and Defence Policy. Promoting global stability, assisting our partners in addressing their security challenges and enhancing their resilience are key components of the EU's foreign policy, as is the promotion of core values such as the respect for human rights and gender equality.

Promoting Women, Peace and Security is key to increase the operational effectiveness of EU security action and achieve more comprehensive and sustainable results in crisis-management and post-conflict stabilisation.



**For the EUTM Mali the resolution 1325 has a unique importance and is echoed in the action plans. We are fully aware that integrating of gender perspectives into operations is critical to the success of our mission.**

We focus on enhancing and strengthening dialogue on gender within Malian defence and security forces based on priorities set by Malians themselves and built upon their dynamics, engagement and analyses while conscious of the existing limitation.

We understand how vital is to support local women's groups, which are in the forefront of promoting a culture of non-violence and peace in society, and also schools and childcare facilities. Proactively, via financial help of our troop contributing states, we assist particularly women and children in need which account for the vast majority of those affected by armed conflict in Mali. We contribute to creation of working opportunities and improved standard of living by providing equipment for hairdressing and tailoring workshops. We believe that not only women, but the whole community will benefit from these services. And these are just some of the examples of our work when implementing the resolution 1325.

## Gender mainstreaming increases the efficiency of crisis management

The reform of the security and justice sectors is key to ensure stability and sustainable peace in conflict-affected regions. However, such transformation can only be successfully achieved if the rights, needs and perspectives of the entire population are considered and addressed. With women constituting half of the world's population, their participation, experiences and perspectives are paramount to a fully inclusive and integrated approach.

**Gender Mainstreaming involves the integration of a gender perspective into the preparation, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, regulatory measures and spending programmes, with a view to promoting equality between women and men, and combating discrimination.**

*European Institute for Gender Equality*

Working with an integrated gender perspective positively contributes to the achievement of the objectives of crisis-management missions and operations through improved situational awareness and comprehensive understanding. It also fosters a more comprehensive engagement with different parts of the population and strengthens the credibility of a mission by clearly signalling the EU's determination to promote solutions that benefit all: men, women, boys and girls.

## Supporting host states in the inclusion of women in law enforcement structures

The EU's CSDP missions and operations promote actively the principles of UN Resolution 1325 with tangible effects on the ground. Through systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective, our missions and operations help create opportunities for gender transformative policies and actions, addressing structural inequality and gender-based discrimination in the security sector and judicial reform of host countries.

They also advise and support local counterparts in developing and implementing policies and strategies to enhance the representation of women in law enforcement, security and justice institutions. And they identify and address gender inequalities, supporting gender-responsive approaches when women seek security and protection.



**UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 established a powerful normative framework to ensure women's needs, voices and perspectives to prevent, resolve and recover from conflict and build sustainable peace.**

Even though Operation Atalanta is a naval military operation with a mandate in the field of maritime security, we have dedicated our efforts since its beginning to leave a footprint in gender mainstreaming affairs. The meetings between Operation Atalanta and the female Somali stakeholders emphasize the important role women have in society to promote and enact change in the administration, the justice system and local economies, in this particular case, the fishing industry.

Perpetrators of acts of piracy are predominantly male. Winning the hearts and minds of local women is a determining factor to change the mind-set of the Somali population and turn it against illicit activities. The changes are catalysed by the empowerment of local women. Experience has shown that the economic independence of women and an increasing presence in their local economies help reduce the levels of piracy and other illicit activities by discouraging men from justifying resort to piracy as an excuse to support his family.

**Major Rodrigo Lorenzo Ponce de León, Legal and Gender Advisor operation ATALANTA**



For instance, activities of missions and operations include advising and training local counterparts on international standards, as well as promoting survivor-centred responses to the handling of sexual and gender-based violence. Beyond that, missions and operations promote women's meaningful participation and empowerment through an active engage-





It is not easy to take stock of the changes that UNSCR 1325 has brought about in these twenty years. The precious, but sometimes subdued role, that women bring to society and especially in conflict resolution and in peacekeeping activities is not told enough.

Among the staff who work in the Operational Headquarters in Rome there are women in almost every field starting from operational sectors, intelligence, personnel management, the legal sector, media and logistics. All specialized figures in their field.

**Rear Admiral Fabio Agostini, Operation Commander EUNAVFOR IRINI**

ment with civil society and women's organisations in security sector reform processes where trust-building between security actors and local population is important.

The cooperation and coordination with EU delegations, member states and other international partners, as well as local civil society organisations, is paramount. That is why the Women, Peace and Security agenda has become part of the strategic frameworks of both the EU-UN and EU-NATO cooperation on crisis management.

### **Promoting gender mainstreaming within CSDP missions and operations**

The EU is committed to improve its internal gender balance within the EU institutions, including in CSDP missions and operations. Currently, women constitute 24% of international staff in civilian missions, while in military missions and operations women make up 7% of total staff. Efforts to ensure gender balanced teams enhances the effectiveness of the mission diversity and will continue on all EU Missions

and Operations. It is also important for the image of the Missions and Operations, to set a good example and show that women are represented at all levels and in all functions.

A gender perspective is considered a cross-cutting element to be integrated in all aspects of the mandate delivery. A range of specific projects and activities related to human rights and gender equality are carried out in parallel. In addition, dedicated Gender Advisers and focal points are strategically positioned in all 17 CSDP missions and operations to facilitate gender mainstreaming, while the overall responsibility for gender mainstreaming lies with the Heads of Mission and Commanders.



**The EUTM RCA incorporates a gender perspective in its staff procedures and assessments, which brings efficiency to the actions on the ground.**

Thus, to implement this perspective with a special focus on women (but not only), the MFCDR relies on the Gender Advisor. Under the guidance of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women Peace and Security, EUTM RCA has been working on the three fundamental pillars of the resolution - prevention, protection and participation. Training sections have been given to ensure the integration of the gender perspective and to guarantee that the old gender stereotypes are not present.

Contacts with local associations in RCA have contributed to raising awareness on this issue and the women that integrate EUTM RCA, play prominent roles in the staff and pillars and are an example of parity and participation in which the commander proudly relies upon.

*Gender equality is one of the core values of the European Union and has over the last two decades become increasingly important in the EU's external action agenda.*



Note: Missions/Operations in **bold** are ongoing. Dates refer to agreed mandates and do not mean that missions/operations will necessarily close on dates indicated. Information correct at time of print Jan 2021.

# EU Missions and Operations



Since 2003, the EU has conducted, or is conducting, 34 missions and operations under CSDP. 12 are military operations/missions. The remainder are civilian missions. Currently, the EU is undertaking 16 missions and operations under CSDP (6 military missions and operations and 11 civilian missions).

EU Missions and Operations		
OPERATIONS	MILITARY MISSIONS	CIVILIAN MISSIONS
MIDDLE EAST	-	<b>EUJUST LEX-Iraq</b> (Iraq), Mar 2005 - Dec 2013 <b>EUPOL - COPPS</b> (occupied Palestinian territories), 01 Jan 2006 - 30 Jun 2021 <b>EUBAM Rafah</b> (occupied Palestinian territories), 25 Nov 2005 - 30 Jun 2021 <b>EUAM Iraq</b> 16 Oct 2017 – 30 Apr 2022
EUROPE	<b>CONCORDIA</b> (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), Mar - Dec 2003 <b>EUFOR ALTHEA</b> (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Maintain Safe and Secure Environment (SASE) and conduct capacity building of AFBH. Nov 2021 <b>EUNAVFOR MED – Operation SOPHIA</b> , (Central Mediterranean Sea) Jun 2015 – 31 Mar 2020. <b>EUNAVFOR MED IRINI</b> , (Mediterranean Sea) Contributes to the implementation of the UN arms embargo on Libya - 31 Mar 2020 – 31 Mar 2021	<b>EUPM BiH</b> Bosnia and Herzegovina, Jan 2003 - Jun 2012 <b>EUPOL Proxima</b> (Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), Dec 2003 - Dec 2005. <b>EUPAT</b> (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) followed EUPOL Proxima, Dec 2005 – Jun 2006 <b>EUJUST Themis</b> (Georgia), Jul 2004 - Jul 2005 <b>EUPM Kosovo</b> , Apr 2006 - Feb 2008 <b>EULEX Kosovo</b> , 04 Feb 2008 - 14 Jun 2021 <b>EUMM Georgia</b> , 15 Sep 2008 - 14 Dec 2020 <b>EUAM Ukraine</b> , 22 Jul 2014 – 31 May 2021
ASIA	-	<b>AMM</b> (Aceh Province, Indonesia), Sep 2005 - Dec 2006 <b>EUPOL AFGHANISTAN</b> (Afghanistan), 12 Jun 2007 - 31 Dec 2016
AFRICA	<b>ARTEMIS</b> (Ituri province, Congo RDC), Jun – Sep 2003 <b>EUFOR RD Congo</b> (Congo RDC), Jun – Nov 2006 <b>EUFOR TCHAD/RCA</b> (Chad-Central African Republic), Jan 2008 – Mar 2009 <b>EUFOR RCA</b> (Central African Republic) Apr 2014 - Mar 2015 <b>EUMAM RCA</b> Mar 2015 – Jul 2016 <b>Operation ATALANTA</b> (EUNAVFOR Somalia Operation to counter piracy off the coast of Somalia) Dec 08 – Dec 2022 <b>EUTM Somalia</b> (Training Mission, Somalia), Apr 2010 - 31 Dec 2022 <b>EUTM Mali</b> (Training Mission, Mali), 18 Feb 2013 – 18 May 2024 <b>EUTM RCA</b> (Central African Republic, Africa) July 2016 - 19 Sep 2022 <b>G5 Sahel RACC</b> 01 Jun 2019 – 14 Jan 21	<b>EUPOL Kinshasa</b> (Congo RDC), Apr 2005 - Jun 2007 <b>EU SSR</b> (Guinea-Bissau), Jun 2008 - Sep 2010 <b>AMIS II Support</b> , Darfur Province (Sudan), Jul 2005 - Dec 2007 <b>EUAVSEC</b> South Sudan, Sep 2012 - Jan 2014 <b>EUCAP SOMALIA</b> , Horn of Africa and the Western Indian Ocean, 01 Jul 2012 – 31 Dec 2020 <b>EUPOL RD Congo</b> (Congo RDC), 01 Jul 2007 - 30 Sep 2014 <b>EUCAP Sahel Niger</b> 15 Jul 2012 – 30 Sep 2020 <b>EUCAP Sahel Mali</b> 15 Jan 2015 – 14 Jan 2021 <b>EUBAM LIBYA</b> 22 May 2013 – 30 Jun 2021 <b>G5 Sahel RACC</b> 01 Jun 2019 – 14 Jan 21 <b>EUAM RCA</b> (Central African Republic) Aug 2020 - TBC

OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES <b>EU BAM RAFAH</b>	
TYPE	EU Border Assistance Mission for the Rafah Crossing Point.
OBJECTIVES	To provide a "Third Party" presence at the Rafah Crossing Point (RCP) on the Gaza-Egypt border mandated to monitor, verify and evaluate the performance of the Palestinian Authority (PA) border police and customs services at the RCP and to contribute to confidence building between Israel and the PA.
MANDATE	Operational phase began on 25 November 2005. However, operations at the RCP have been suspended since June 2007 due to Hamas' takeover of the Gaza Strip. The Mission has maintained its readiness and capacity to redeploy to the RCP once political and security conditions allow. It supports capacity building of the PA's border agency to enhance their preparedness to return to the RCP. The Mission mandate runs until 30 June 2021.
COMMITMENT	The authorised strength of the Mission is 16. The budget for the period from July 2019 to June 2020 is € 2.18 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	<b>Florin BULGARIU</b> (RO)
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="http://www.eubam-rafah.eu">www.eubam-rafah.eu</a>

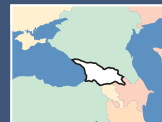

OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES <b>EUPOL COPPS</b>	
TYPE	EU Police and Rule of Law Mission.
OBJECTIVES	To contribute to the establishment of sustainable and effective policing and wider criminal justice arrangements under Palestinian ownership in accordance with best international standards, in cooperation with the EU's institution building programmes as well as other international efforts in the wider context of Security Sector and Criminal Justice Reform.
MANDATE	The Mission was launched on 01 January 2006 and its current mandate runs until 30 June 2021.
COMMITMENT	Headquartered in Ramallah, the Mission has an authorised strength of 110 staff. Mission members include police experts, judges, and prosecutors. The budget for the period from July 2020 to June 2021 is €12.7 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	<b>Nataliya APOSTOLOVA</b> (BG)
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="http://www.eupolcopps.eu">www.eupolcopps.eu</a> Face: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/EUPOLCOPPS/">https://www.facebook.com/EUPOLCOPPS/</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/eupolcopps?lang=en">https://twitter.com/eupolcopps?lang=en</a>

	<b>IRAQ</b> <b>EUAM IRAQ</b> 
TYPE	EU Advisory Mission in support of Security Sector Reform (SSR) in Iraq, (EUAM Iraq).
OBJECTIVES	EUAM Iraq focuses on assisting the Iraqi authorities in the implementation of the civilian aspects of the Iraqi security strategy. EU experts provide advice and assistance in priority work areas responding to the needs of the relevant authorities, assist the EU Delegation in the coordination of EU and Member States actions in this sector and also assess potential further EU engagement in SSR in the long term in the context of future EU policy towards Iraq.
MANDATE	Launched 16 October 2017, with the current mandate running until 30 April 2022.
COMMITMENT	Authorised 113 staff. The budget from April 2020 until April 2022 is € 79.5 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	<b>Christoph BUIK</b> (DE)
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/euam-iraq_en">https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/euam-iraq_en</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/EUAMIRAQ/">https://www.facebook.com/EUAMIRAQ/</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/euamiraq?lang=en">https://twitter.com/euamiraq?lang=en</a>

	<b>KOSOVO</b> <b>EULEX KOSOVO</b> 
TYPE	EU Rule of Law Mission.
OBJECTIVES	As the largest civilian Mission launched under the CSDP, EULEX Kosovo's objective under its current mandate is to support selected rule of law institutions in Kosovo through monitoring activities and limited executive functions - with the aim of handing over remaining tasks to other long-term EU instruments and phasing out residual executive functions. In addition, it provides support to the implementation of the EU-facilitated Dialogue agreements and the Specialist Chambers/Specialist Prosecutor's Office.
MANDATE	Launched on 4 February 2008, the Mission's current mandate runs until 14 June 2021.
COMMITMENT	Headquartered in Pristina, the Mission has an authorised strength of 503 staff. The budget for the period from June 2018 to June 2020 is €38.7 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	<b>Lars-Gunnar WIGEMARK</b> (SE)
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="https://www.eulex-kosovo.eu/">https://www.eulex-kosovo.eu/</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/EULEX.KOSOVO/">https://www.facebook.com/EULEX.KOSOVO/</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/EULEXKosovo">https://twitter.com/EULEXKosovo</a> YouTube: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/eulexkosovo">https://www.youtube.com/user/eulexkosovo</a>

# Middle East

	<b>BOSNIA AND HERZGOVINA</b> <b>EUFOR OPERATION</b> <b>ALTHEA</b> 
TYPE	EU-led Military operation, (European Union Force).
OBJECTIVES	Under the authority of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2496 (2019), EUFOR's primary aim is to support Bosnia and Herzegovina's (BiH) efforts to maintain a safe and secure environment (SASE). Currently EUFOR delivers support to the Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH) for their demining efforts, and also supports the AFBiH in the disposal and management of surplus weapons and ammunition left over from the 1992-95 war. Additionally EUFOR supports AFBiH through combined and collective training and exercises.
MANDATE	EUFOR assumed responsibility for maintaining a SASE in BiH in 2004 from the NATO-led Stabilisation Force (SFOR). Operation ALTHEA is a United Nations (UN) sanctioned Chapter VII mission.
COMMITMENT	EUFOR Operation ALTHEA comprises circa 600 personnel from 14 EU-member states and 6 partner Troop Contributing Countries. The in-theatre troops can be reinforced by Intermediate Reserve Forces and stand ready to respond to any security challenges.
HEAD OF MISSION	Major General <b>Alexander PLATZER</b> (AT) is the Force Commander (COM-EUFOR) for EUFOR Op ALTHEA. The Operation is conducted under the Berlin+ arrangements with the NATO Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) acting as the EU Operational HQ. Vice Chief of Staff (VCOS) SHAPE, Lieutenant General <b>Brice HOUDET</b> (FR) is the EUFOR Operation Commander.
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="http://www.euforbih.org">www.euforbih.org</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/EUFORBiH">https://www.facebook.com/EUFORBiH</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/euforbih">https://twitter.com/euforbih</a> YouTube: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/euforbih">https://www.youtube.com/euforbih</a> Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/euforbih">https://www.instagram.com/euforbih</a>

	<b>GEORGIA</b> <b>EUMM GEORGIA</b> 
TYPE	EU Civilian Monitoring Mission.
OBJECTIVES	Following the August 2008 armed conflict in Georgia, EUMM provides civilian monitoring of all parties' actions, including full compliance with the EU-brokered Six Point Agreement and subsequent implementation of measures on a countrywide basis throughout Georgia, including South-Ossetia and Abkhazia. The mission works in close coordination with partners particularly the UN/OSCE and complements other EU activities, in contributing to the stabilisation, normalisation, confidence building and also helps inform European policy in support of a durable political solution for Georgia.
MANDATE	Launched 15 September 2008, the Mission's current mandate runs to 14 December 2020.
COMMITMENT	Headquartered in Tbilisi with 3 Regional Field Offices in Mtskheta, Gori and Zugdidi. The Mission has an authorised strength of 411. The budget for the period December 2018 to December 2020 is €38.2 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	<b>Marek SZCZYGLIEL</b> (PL)
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="http://www.eumm.eu">www.eumm.eu</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/EUMM.GEO/">https://www.facebook.com/EUMM.GEO/</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/eummgeorgia?lang=en">https://twitter.com/eummgeorgia?lang=en</a> Flickr: <a href="https://www.flickr.com/photos/eeas-csdp/albums/72157677976230403/">https://www.flickr.com/photos/eeas-csdp/albums/72157677976230403/</a>

	<b>UKRAINE</b> <b>EUAM UKRAINE</b> 
TYPE	EU Advisory Mission for Civilian Security Sector Reform.
OBJECTIVES	To assist the Ukrainian authorities towards a sustainable reform of the civilian security sector through strategic advice and hands-on support for specific reform measures based on EU standards and international principles of good governance and human rights. The goal is to achieve a civilian security sector that is efficient, accountable, and enjoys the trust of the public.
MANDATE	The Mission was launched on 22 July 2014 and its current mandate is until 31 May 2021.
COMMITMENT	Headquartered in Kyiv with field offices in Lviv, Odesa and Kharkiv as well as mobile outreach to other regions. The Mission has an authorised strength of 357 staff. A budget of €54.1 million is allocated for the period from June 2019 to May 2021.
HEAD OF MISSION	<b>Antti HARTIKAINEN</b> (FI)
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="https://www.euam-ukraine.eu/">https://www.euam-ukraine.eu/</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/euamukraine/">https://www.facebook.com/euamukraine/</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/EUAM_Ukraine">https://twitter.com/EUAM_Ukraine</a>

# Europe





## SOMALIA Operation ATALANTA – EUNAVFOR OPERATION TO COUNTER PIRACY OFF THE COAST OF SOMALIA



TYPE	Maritime counter-piracy operation.
OBJECTIVES	In support of UN Security Council Resolutions calling for active participation in the fight against piracy. The areas of operation are the Gulf of Aden and the Western Indian Ocean. The operation mandate is to; protect vulnerable shipping and vessels of the World Food Programme (WFP) delivering food aid to displaced persons in Somalia; deter, prevent and repress acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast; support other EU missions, institutions and instruments within Somalia and contribute to the EU Integrated Approach and to contribute to the monitoring of fishing activities off the coast of Somalia and report this activity to DG MARE, the EU Commission department responsible for EU policy on maritime affairs and fisheries.
MANDATE	Launched on 8 Dec 2008 the mandate has been extended for the 6th time to Dec 2022.
COMMITMENT	Subject to the Military Force Flow and the Force Generation process, Operation ATALANTA typically consists of between 1 to 3 surface combat vessels and up to 2 Maritime Patrol Aircraft with a current strength of 800 personnel from 18 EU contributing states and 3 non-EU states.
HEAD OF MISSION	Currently the EU Operation Headquarters is located at Rota (Spain) and also at Brest for the MSCOA (France). Major General <b>Antonio PLANELL PALAU</b> (ES) is the EU Operation Commander. Commodore <b>Diogo ARROTEIA</b> (PT) is the current Force Commander.
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="http://www.eunavfor.eu">www.eunavfor.eu</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/eunavfor/">https://www.facebook.com/eunavfor/</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/eunavfor?lang=en">https://twitter.com/eunavfor?lang=en</a>



## NIGER EUCAP SAHEL NIGER



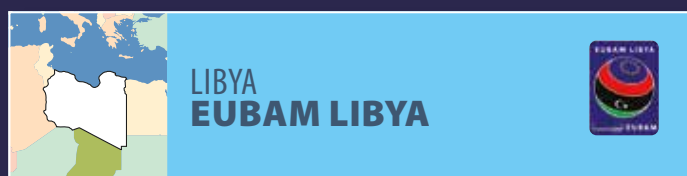
TYPE	EU Capacity Building Mission.
OBJECTIVES	Through training and advising, the Mission aims to improve the capacities of the Nigerien Security Forces (Gendarmerie, National Police, National Guard) to fight terrorism and organised crime as well as better control irregular migration flows in an effective and coordinated manner, with a view to contributing to the enhancement of political stability, security, governance and social cohesion in Niger and in the Sahel region.
MANDATE	The Mission was launched on 15 July 2012 and the current mandate runs until 30 September 2020.
COMMITMENT	Headquarters in Niamey with a Field Office in Agadez. Authorised 213 staff. A two-year budget of € 63.4 million is allocated for the period from 01 October 2018 to 30 September 2020.
ACTING HEAD OF MISSION	<b>Frank VAN DER MUIEREN</b> (BE)
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/eucap-sahel-niger_en">https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/eucap-sahel-niger_en</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/EucapNiger/">https://www.facebook.com/EucapNiger/</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/EUCAPsahelNiger">https://twitter.com/EUCAPsahelNiger</a>



## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC EUAM RCA



TYPE	EU Advisory Mission.
OBJECTIVES	Structural reform of the Internal Security Forces (ISF) and overhaul of their framework documents, helping to achieve more appropriate command and control structures; and documentation that clearly defines strategies. To assist the national authorities in planning the deployment of territorial units throughout the territory, through a network of gendarmerie brigades and police stations; and a territorial consolidation of the ISF which ensures the long-term employment of the deployed territorial units through the sustainable deployment of police and gendarmes in a given area.
MANDATE	The Mission was established on 9 December 2019 for a period of 18 months including a mission set up phase that is still ongoing; the official launch of the mission is expected on the 9th August 2020.
COMMITMENT	The Headquarters of the Mission will be in the capital Bangui. The authorised strength is 66 staff. The initial budget for the mission set up phase is €7.1 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	<b>Paulo SOARES</b> (PT)



## LIBYA EUBAM LIBYA



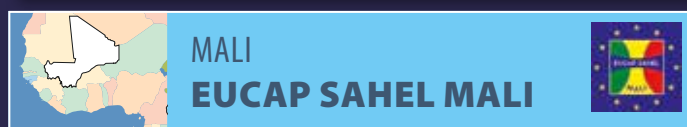
TYPE	EU Integrated Border Management Assistance Mission in Libya.
OBJECTIVES	EUBAM Libya actively supports Libyan authorities in contributing to efforts to disrupt organised criminal networks involved in the smuggling of migrants, human trafficking and terrorism. In this, the Mission supports the Libyan authorities in the areas of border management, law enforcement and criminal justice in: a) the development of a broader border management framework in Libya, including a maritime security strategy, through capacity delivery and implementing projects; b) capacity building and strategic planning within the Ministry of Interior on law enforcement; c) institutional reform and providing strategic planning assistance to the Ministry of Justice and broader capacity building for relevant criminal justice actors; and d) through a strategic coordination and project cell capacity.
MANDATE	The Mission was launched on 22 May 2013 and its current mandate is until 30 June 2021.
COMMITMENT	The Mission operates from its Headquarters in Tripoli and from its sub-office in Tunis. The current authorised staff level is 65. The budget for the period from January 2019 to June 2021 is €60.0 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	<b>Vincenzo TAGLIAFERRI</b> (IT)
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/eubam-libya_en">https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/eubam-libya_en</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/eubamlibya.eu">https://www.facebook.com/eubamlibya.eu</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/eubamlibya?lang=en">https://twitter.com/eubamlibya?lang=en</a>



## HORN OF AFRICA (HOA) AND THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN EUCAP SOMALIA



TYPE	EU Capacity Building Mission.
OBJECTIVES	EUCAP Somalia contributes to the resilience and capacity building of the Somali federal and regional maritime civilian law enforcement capabilities. Central aim of the Mission is to advise the Somali authorities on the development of coast guard and maritime policing functions, which since 2019 is complemented with support to broader police development. EUCAP Somalia focuses on the development and implementation of maritime security related policies, legislation and institutional frameworks, mainly through its support to the Somali maritime security coordination mechanisms. The Mission also works on rule of law niches (e.g. police-prosecutor cooperation, law drafting) and gender equality. EUTM Somalia and EUNAVOR Atalanta operate in the same theatre.
MANDATE	Launched in July 2012, the current mandate runs until 31 December 2020.
COMMITMENT	The mission has its headquarters in Mogadishu with an administrative Back Office in Nairobi and Field Offices in Somaliland (Hargeisa, with a Sub-Field Office in Berbera) and Puntland (Garowe). Authorised strength is 143 international staff and 40 national staff. The budget allocated for 2019-2020 is €71.2 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	<b>Chris REYNOLD</b> (IE)
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="https://www.eucap-som.eu/">https://www.eucap-som.eu/</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/eucapsom/">https://www.facebook.com/eucapsom/</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/EUCAPSOM">https://twitter.com/EUCAPSOM</a> Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/eucapsom1/?hl=en">https://www.instagram.com/eucapsom1/?hl=en</a>





## MALI EUCAP SAHEL MALI





TYPE	EU Capacity Building Mission.
OBJECTIVES	The Mission supports the Malian internal security forces (Police Nationale, Gendarmerie Nationale and Garde Nationale) with a view to helping Malian authorities implement Security Sector Reform (SSR) through the provision of training and strategic advice. With its specific focus on central Mali, the Mission assists the redeployment of internal security forces in the Mopti and Segou regions through pre-deployment training and on-site coaching (accompagnement).
MANDATE	The Mission was launched on 15 April 2015 and its current mandate runs until 14 January 2021.
COMMITMENT	The headquarters of the Mission is in Bamako. The authorised strength is 210 staff. The annual budget for the period from 01 March 2019 to 14 January 2021 is €68.15 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	<b>Philippe RIO</b> (FR)
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/eucap-sahel-mali_en">https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/eucap-sahel-mali_en</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/EUCAPsahelMali/">https://www.facebook.com/EUCAPsahelMali/</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/eucapsahelmali?lang=en">https://twitter.com/eucapsahelmali?lang=en</a>

	<b>SOMALIA</b> <b>EU TRAINING Mission, Somalia (EUTM Somalia)</b> 
TYPE	Military mission to assist in Advising, Training and Mentoring Somali Defence Institutions, including the Somali National Armed Forces (SNAF).
OBJECTIVES	On 01 Jan 2019 the Mission commenced its 6th Mandate, following the adoption of a Council decision in 2018. The Mission has been tasked to provide support and advice on Security Sector Reform (SSR); to Advise, Train and Mentor selected elements of the SNAF and the Ministry of Defence; and to support other EU Missions in Somalia. The Mission aspires to an end state in which the SNAF General Staff and Ministry of Defence are capable of performing their assigned roles, and in which the Somali National Army has developed a functioning, Somali-led training system to generate its own forces.
MANDATE	The current mandate has been extended until 31 Dec 2022. In accordance with the Strategic Review of CSDP, Engagement in Somalia and HoA, EUTM-Somalia shall not be involved in combat operations.
COMMITMENT	The 6th mandate provides for an establishment of 203 personnel with a current strength of circa 150 personnel from 6 Member States and 2 participating third state (UK and Serbia) plus 18 local staff. The approved budget for the period 01 Jan 19 to 31 Dec 20 is circa €25 million. Since January 2014 all EUTM-Somalia activities including advisory, mentoring and training have been conducted in Mogadishu with the support of a Liaison Office in Nairobi and a Support Cell in Brussels.
HEAD OF MISSION	The Director MPCC, Vice Admiral <b>Hervé BLÉJEAN</b> is the Mission Commander located in Brussels. The Mission Headquarters is situated in Mogadishu. Brigadier General <b>Fabiano ZINZONE</b> (IT) is the current EU Mission Force Commander.
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="https://www.eutm-somalia.eu/">https://www.eutm-somalia.eu/</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/EUTMSomalia/">https://www.facebook.com/EUTMSomalia/</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/eutmsomalia?lang=en">https://twitter.com/eutmsomalia?lang=en</a>

	<b>MEDITERRANEAN SEA</b> <b>EUNAVFOR MED IRINI</b> 
TYPE	EUNAVFOR Med Operation IRINI (ENFM) is a military crisis management operation that contributes to <b>enforcing the UN arms embargo</b> on Libya through the use of <b>maritime, aerial, and satellite</b> assets.
OBJECTIVES	ENFM is a multifaceted naval operation instrumental in implementing the arms embargo on the high seas off the coast of Libya and inspecting vessels suspected to be carrying arms or related material to and from Libya in accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2292 (2016). The operation is also tasked with: monitoring and gathering information on illicit petroleum exports from Libya, contributing to the capacity building and training of the Libyan Coast Guard and Navy, contributing to the disruption of the business model of human smuggling and trafficking networks as per UNSCR 2240 (2015). The exchange of information with EU, UN, international and national agencies and organisations and other CSDP missions and operations remain a key enabler for the Operation. ENFM is but one element of the EU's comprehensive approach to Libya.
MANDATE	ENFM operates in accordance with the political, strategic and political-military objectives set out in order to contribute to enforcing the UN arms embargo in Libya. Launched on 31 March 2020, (Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/472) the mandate of EUNAVFOR MED IRINI expires on 31 March 2021.
COMMITMENT	3 maritime and 3 air assets deployed, subject to change in accordance with Member States contributions with personnel and assets from 20 participating Member States. The operation also benefits from assets deployed in Associated Support on a fixed time basis. Additional support is provided by the EU and international organisations including: FRONTEX, EUROPOL, UNODC, UNSMIL, RAVA IT foundation and the International Criminal Court.
HEAD OF MISSION	The EU Operation Headquarters is located in Rome (Italy), Rear Admiral <b>Fabio AGOSTINI</b> (IT) is the Operation Commander. The Force Commander is Commodore Theodoros MIKROPOULUS (EL) as of 19 Oct 2020.
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="http://www.operationirini.eu">www.operationirini.eu</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/EUNAVFOR.MED.OPERATION.IRINI/">https://www.facebook.com/EUNAVFOR.MED.OPERATION.IRINI/</a> • Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/EUNAVFOR_MED">https://twitter.com/EUNAVFOR_MED</a>

	<b>CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC</b> <b>EUTM RCA</b> <b>(MILITARY TRAINING MISSION)</b> 
TYPE	EU CSDP Military Training Mission.
OBJECTIVES	EUTM RCA is part of the EU's integrated approach in the Central African Republic (CAR). This approach contributes to the African and wider international efforts to restore stability and support the political transition process in the country. EUTM RCA follows on from the EU Military Advisory Mission in CAR (EUMAM RCA).
MANDATE	Launched on 16 Jul 2016, this mission's mandate was extended for a further 2 years to 19 Sept 2022, following the Mission's Strategic Review.
COMMITMENT	EUTM RCA contributes to Defence Sector Reform within the broader Security Sector Reform process coordinated by MINUSCA, and works towards the goal of a modernised, effective and democratically accountable Central African Armed Forces (FACA). EUTM RCA is mandated not only to provide strategic advice to the Ministry of Defence, military staff and the armed forces, but also to <b>the President's cabinet</b> , and provides advice on <b>civil-military cooperation</b> , including to the Ministry of the Interior and the gendarmerie. To date EUTM RCA has delivered basic military training to over 6,940 FACA personnel and specialised education to another 2,850 personnel in subjects such as signals, leadership, tactics, administration, first aid, International Humanitarian Law, human rights and prevention of sexual abuse and HIV/AIDS. It also coordinates closely with the EU Delegation in Bangui.
HEAD OF MISSION	The Director MPCC, Vice Admiral <b>Hervé BLÉJEAN</b> is the Operational Commander located in Brussels. The EU Mission Headquarters is located in Bangui. The EU Mission Force Commander is Brig Gen <b>Paula NEVES DE ABREU</b> (PT).
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/eutm-rca_en">https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/eutm-rca_en</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/EUTMRCA/">https://www.facebook.com/EUTMRCA/</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/EUTMRCA">https://twitter.com/EUTMRCA</a>

	<b>MALI EUTM MALI</b> <b>(MILITARY TRAINING MISSION)</b> 
TYPE	Military mission to contribute to the training and advice of the Malian Armed Forces (MaAF).
OBJECTIVES	In line with the "EU Strategy for Development and Security in the SAHEL", EUTM Mali aims to support the training and reorganisation of the MaAF and to help to improve its military capacity in order to allow, under civilian authority, the restoration of the country's territorial integrity. More than 15,000 MaAF personnel have been trained by EUTM Mali. The mission also supports the implementation of the structural reforms encompassed in the Defence Programming Law ("Loi de programmation militaire - LOPM") and supports the MaAF in the operationalisation of the G5 Sahel Joint Force (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger).
MANDATE	Launched on 18 February 2013 the mission mandate has been extended until 18 May 2024. EUTM Mali shall not be involved in combat operations. Its actions extend up to the river Niger Loop, including Gao and Timbuktu.
COMMITMENT	The mission comprises circa 700 personnel from 22 EU member states and 6 non-EU states. The Mission Headquarters is located in Bamako. A budget of €133.7 million is allocated for the four year mandate.
HEAD OF MISSION	The Director MPCC, Vice Admiral <b>Hervé BLÉJEAN</b> is the Operational Commander located in Brussels. Brigadier General <b>František Ridzák</b> (CZ) is the current EU Mission Force Commander.
FOLLOW US	Web: <a href="https://eutmmali.eu/">https://eutmmali.eu/</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/eutmmali/">https://www.facebook.com/eutmmali/</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/eutmmali1?lang=en">https://twitter.com/eutmmali1?lang=en</a> Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/eutm_mali/">https://www.instagram.com/eutm_mali/</a>

	<b>G5 SAHEL</b> <b>Regional Advisory and Coordinating Cell (RACC)</b> 
TYPE	CSDP regional advisory and coordination activity. To be noted that this is not a CSDP mission, but a CSDP action, administratively attached to EUCAP Sahel Mali.
OBJECTIVES	This CSDP action combining civilian and military expertise supports cross-border cooperation on security and defence matters between the five G5 Sahel countries (Burkina-Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger) by providing strategic advice and organising training to Internal Security and Defence Forces. It also facilitates CSDP cooperation and coordination with EU programmes and other international/bi-lateral initiatives.
MANDATE	Launched 01 June 2019, end of mandate (aligned with EUCAP Sahel Mali) 14 January 2021.
COMMITMENT	Authorised 31 staff. The regionalisation's expenditures are covered under EUCAP Sahel Mali's budget. HQ in Nouakchott, Mauritania.
HEAD OF MISSION	<b>Daniel GRAMMATICO</b> (FR)

# Coordinated Annual Review on Defence, First Edition: Mission Accomplished

MINISTERS PRESENTED WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR JOINT MILITARY CAPABILITIES  
TO OVERCOME FRAGMENTED EUROPEAN DEFENCE LANDSCAPE

*On 20 November 2020, meeting at the European Defence Agency's (EDA) Steering Board, Defence Ministers were presented with the findings and recommendations of the final report of the first Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD). The EDA, EU Military Staff (EUMS) and the European External Action Service (EEAS) compiled this impressive information gathering and assessment report collaboratively over the past 12 months.*

The CARD, one of the EU defence cooperation tools set up since 2016, has two main objectives: to review participating Member States' defence activities in order to provide a realistic picture of Europe's defence landscape; and to identify and promote future cooperation opportunities for joint defence capability development.

The first CARD report successfully delivered on achieving both of these objectives.

## Fragmented European defence landscape

The report finds that Europe's defence landscape is characterised by fragmentation and that defence cooperation spending has fallen well below agreed collective benchmarks. It concludes that continuous efforts will be needed over a prolonged period in defence spending, planning, and cooperation to overcome costly fragmentation and to realise benefit from synergies and enhanced military interoperability. The CARD analysis also notes that the high number of different types of defence systems, platforms and equipment operated by Member States' Armed Forces has led to a lack of coherence among them and that this has a negative impact on their ability to operate efficiently in joint missions and operations. Furthermore, Member States' commitment to CSDP missions and operations is very low, with strong disparities between them in terms of engagement frameworks and overall operational effort.

However, the CARD report does not limit itself to running a diagnostic of the current situation: it also puts forward numerous options, potential action points and recommendations to Member States on how they can overcome the shortcomings.

## Cooperation opportunities

The report identifies no less than 55 opportunities for joint capability development across all military domains: Land (17); Air (14); Maritime (12); Cyberspace (3); Space (4) and Joint and Enabler (5). It concludes that many of

them have the potential to deliver a significant impact on the European capability landscape, provide operational benefits and support EU's strategic autonomy. It also recommends an additional 56 related collaborative opportunities for Research & Technology (R&T).

## Six focus areas

Based on those cooperation opportunities, the CARD report puts forward six 'focus areas' for Member States to concentrate their collaborative capability efforts on. These areas are considered to have the best potential to be addressed through cooperation, based on Member States' own considerations, and would allow for broad participation of nations at system and subsystem level.



The aspiration now is that the opportunities identified in this first CARD report will be utilised by the Member States and lead to new cooperation projects in various formats - under PESCO, within EDA or in other bilateral or multinational frameworks.

## Better equipment for CSDP missions

The report also concludes that more cooperation is needed in order to connect Member States' capabilities together and improve readiness, preparedness and interoperability of forces to be used in CSDP operations and missions, notably in areas of identified major capability shortfalls which appear to be less likely addressed without common involvement. This would enable the EU to conduct effectively the most demanding of operations. This would in turn boost the Union's operational CSDP performance in the short and medium term.

Finally the report recommends that Member States concentrate on Power Projection, Non-Kinetic Engagement Capabilities and Force Protection as priority areas for operational collaborative opportunities.





# Military Planning and Conduct Capability

## A Review of 2020

BY LT COL STYLIANOS MOUSTAKIS EXECUTIVE OFFICER,  
MILITARY PLANNING AND CONDUCT CAPABILITY (MPCC)

*On 6 March 2017, the Council approved the Concept Note on the operational planning and conduct capabilities for Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions and operations, and established the Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC), responsible at the Strategic Level for the operational planning and implementation of the three EU Training Missions (EUTMs) in Somalia, the Central African Republic and Mali. Three years after its activation as a standing military command and control (C2) structure in Brussels, MPCC has overcome many challenges since its inception but 2020 proved to be the most challenging yet.*

The MPCC participated in the exercise EU Integrated Resolve (EUIR 20) and at the same time it conducted the three EU Missions, whilst dealing with the COVID 19 contingency and managing the consequences of the Coup d'Etat in Mali.

### EUTMs Current Activities

During this year, all three EUTM Mandates had to be reviewed: starting with the Strategic Review for EUTM Mali and the decision to prolong its Mandate until May 2024. This was followed by a review of EUTM RCA whose mandate is being extended until Sept 2022 and EUTM Somalia, whose mandate was extended until 31 Dec 2022. MPCC developed the respective Mission Plans and continues planning in close coordination with the EUTMs for the preparation of the execution of new tasks derived from the renewed mandates, namely the Extension of Mali's activities to G5 Sahel with priority to Burkina Faso and Niger. The study to integrate Operation GAZELLE under the EUTM Mali, the Mission's rebasing in order to be able to receive the assets and other activities such as Real Life Support (RLS), medical support and financial support of the EUTMs have also been executed.

### COVID-19 Evolution

2020 will be globally characterized by the COVID-19 pandemic and its societal and economic impact. The pandemic restrictions imposed challenges to the HQ in Brussels, but also the duty of care to all personnel in all three mission areas. MPCC reacted and adapted in a timely and effective way by issuing direction and guidance covering all possible areas. The missions adapted and reduced temporarily their presence by redeploying their non-essential personnel to reduce the risk to EUTM personnel and the Host Nations (HN). MPCC facilitated EUTMs self-sustainability for Medical Supplies and Strategic Air Medical Evacuation in close coordination with the missions, Member States and other entities (eg. European

Air Transport Command). The Missions remained active in support of the Host Nations. Advisory activities were conducted mainly via remote means. MPCC developed "indicators" for monitoring Host Nation's situation with a view to resuming training activities when the situation permitted. The measures taken were out of an abundance of caution but the safety of EUTM personnel as well as the Host Nation's population was paramount in MPCC planning.

### COUP D'ÉTAT in Mali

In mid-August a Coup d'Etat in Mali added to the already significant challenges EUTM Mali managed on a daily basis. Based on the outcome of the EEAS Crisis Management Team and MPCC assessment, all CSDP-related activities with the Malian Armed Forces were suspended to guarantee the safety and security of the Mission's personnel. By closely monitoring the situation and taking into consideration the political progress in Bamako, Member States, through the Political and Security Committee (PSC), reaffirmed their support to Mali and hence agreed for the progressive full resumption of the mission's activities. The Director MPCC authorised EUTM Mali to implement the restoration plan, to resume CSDP activities (including advising for the Ministry of Defence and all Armed Forces levels) and to support G5 Sahel Joint Force.

### MPCC Evaluation – Participation in Exercise Integrated Resolve 2020 (IR20)

The Draft MPCC "Implementation Plan 2018" envisaged an MPCC validation Exercise to be conducted by the end of 2020. This coincided with the EU Programme of Exercises and Exercise-Related Activities identifying MPCC and the IT EU Force Headquarters (FHQ) as the Training Audience for EU "Integrated Resolve (IR) 20". IR20 is a Multilayer, complex crisis management exercise to enhance the EU's ability to coordinate and respond to external conflicts and



*MPCC in Action. EU Training missions engage in the development of the Security Sectors in Mali, RCA and Somalia.*

crises, with a focus on Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) planning processes and operational conduct in a hybrid threat environment.

EU IR 20 included a Preparation Phase (14-18 Sep), a Planning Phase (21 Sep -23 Oct) and a Conduct Phase (from 30 Nov - 04 Dec). The intent was to evaluate MPCC during all Phases of the exercise by an external Evaluation Team.

It is worth mentioning that MPCC is the first Military Strategic level Command in the EU to be evaluated. The objective was to evaluate the MPCC capability to plan and conduct one executive operation of Battle Group size and simultaneously run up to five non-executive military missions (Phase 1 of MPCC implementation).

The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a requirement to adjust how the exercise was conducted and how MPCC was evaluated. This had to be done however, to ensure that the exercise objectives and aims were met. Finally, the MPCC Evaluation took place between 14 and 18 Sep 2020 (Phase 0), focussing on the MPCC's organization, resources and procedures. The initial assessment highlighted the fact that the MPCC organisation and procedures were satisfactory, however, as always, staffing, current infrastructure and Communication and Information System (CIS) were behind the planned schedule.

MPCC participated in the planning phase of IR20 delivering the planning products, notably the military strategic level Mission Plan as expected, under the watchful eye of the evaluation team. Unfortunately, because of the deteriorating situation resultant from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Conduct Phase of the exercise was suspended until Quarter 1 of 2021.

### **MPCC-CPCC cooperation through the Joint Support Coordination Cell**

MPCC works in parallel and in a coordinated way with the Civilian Planning and conduct Capability (CPCC) most notably through a Joint Support Coordination Cell (JSCC). Its function was to bring civilian and military expertise together in key mission support areas, and to strengthen and enable effective civilian-military coordination and cooperation in the operational planning and conduct of CSDP missions.

As a measure of effectiveness, the JSCC facilitated efforts for a coordinated response and actions by civilian and military missions in the aftermath of the Mali coup d'état, and during

the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. By Sep 2020, the JSCC facilitated cooperation in three geographical areas where both civilian and military missions were present: the Horn of Africa / Somalia, Sahel region / Mali and the Central African Republic.

Through the JSCC, Director MPCC and Director CPCC now have a means to enhance and promote civil-military synergies. Identified areas of agreement can be implemented within the respective authority of each Director. Unfortunately, cooperation and coordination often reach their limitations when activities have a financial impact, requiring the adaptation of financial instruments to use, for example, common strategic airlift or the utilisation of logistical Warehouses.

The first JSCC "Annual Report" was delivered to EUMC on 30 Sep 2020 and reflected the achievement of the first year since its activation.

### **MPCC in 2021 and beyond**

The MPCC evaluation was linked to the MPCC review scheduled for the end of 2020. This did not happen due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, the MPCC's ability to operationally plan and conduct of all non-executive military CSDP missions and one executive military CSDP operation limited to EU Battle Group size, could not be assessed.

The Director of the Military Planning and Conduct Capability, who is the Operational commander of the MPCC also serves as Director General of the European Union Military Staff. This dual role at the strategic and operational levels coupled with his physical presence in Brussels, provides enhanced Council/PSC and HRVP political control and strategic direction. This level of coordination at the political-strategic level will enhance the MPCC standing and ensure its continued development well into the future. This will deliver increased capacity to operationally plan and deploy military CSDP missions and operations, to enhance contingency planning during the conduct phase and to develop working relations with EUMS, CPCC and other EU stakeholders through the availability of well-trained and permanent MPCC staff.

With this support, MPCC will continue to overcome challenges and obstacles and will build on the success it has achieved and experience it has gained to further develop as the EU military command and control capability at the operational level as part of the EU's integrated approach.



# EU Integrated Resolve 2020 | EU IR20

BY ROBERTA DIROSA, POLICY OFFICER, CONFLICT PREVENTION AND MEDIATION SUPPORT (ISP2)

*On 21 September, The European External Action Service launched its annual Exercise, EU integrated Resolve 2020 (EU IR20). This is a complex crisis management exercise designed to enhance the EU's ability to coordinate and respond to external conflicts and crises, with a focus on CSDP planning processes and operational conduct in a hybrid threat environment. The EU plan is to carry out the simulation to exercise and evaluate its response procedures and mechanisms, such as the EEAS Crisis Response Mechanism (CRM) and the Joint EU Consular Crisis Preparedness Framework to address a crisis with an external dimension.*

*"Crisis management is the capability to mobilise EU resources to deal with the consequences of external crises. The EUMS is continuously evolving in its ability to respond to external conflicts and crisis"*

Vice Admiral Hervé Bléjean, DG EUMS and Director MPCC

"launch" of the mission and operation. A partial evaluation of the MPCC and an observation of its CSDP planning phase was conducted by an independent evaluation team.

The EEAS Exercise Team coordinated the preparation of the exercise. This was supported by the EU Satellite Centre (Sat-Cen) who developed the Exercise maps and imagery for the scenario, the Joint Research Centre (JRC), who created a dedicated EU IR20 exercise web platform and the European Defence Agency (EDA) that adapted the Gismo-Hub geographical application to support the work of the civilian and military strategic planners.

The new set of restrictive measures resulting from the COVID19 pandemic significantly impacted the original Exercise planning especially the second phase of the Exercise that focused on the Crisis Response Phase (30Nov - 04Dec). This phase constituted the activation of different crisis response mechanisms and the operational conduct of a civilian mission and a military operation. This phase required strong inter institutional coordination, reactivity and decision-making.

The planning of this second phase of the exercise will be reviewed with the aspiration of conducting it in Quarter 2 of 2021. A parallel event on Military Mobility will proceed as planned in early 2021. This event will involve strategic partners, including NATO staff and other external actors (US, CAN, NO) and will be conducted at experts' level.

Exercise IR 20 is within the framework of the Integrated Approach, which is mobilising all relevant EU policies and instruments in its response to a Crisis Management situation. The Integrated Approach ensures a joint response throughout the full crises spectrum, bringing together EU bodies, institutions and Member States with other strategic partners. It also seeks to use appropriate instruments during all the phases of the crises, ensuring a multilateral approach and an integrated response where possible.

## Roles of the different actors

The Integrated approach for the Security and Peace Directorate (ISP2) puts all measures in place to ensure effective coordination of an EU response, which is conflict sensi-

Operational Planning briefing being conducted amid a COVID pandemic



EU IR20 does not mobilise physical assets on the ground but carries out the necessary politico-military strategic planning for a military operation and a civilian mission in a fictitious country and will simulate their operational conduct under a hybrid threat environment, in coordination with a selected EU delegation. The scope of EU Integrated Resolve 20 is an external dimension crisis not just focused on the CSDP planning of the mission and operation but in the management of a crisis affecting EU assets abroad, such as the military operation and the civilian mission deployed together with the EU delegation in the affected country.

The first part of EU Integrated Resolve 2020 (EU IR20), was concluded on October 23rd with the presentation to the Political Security Committee of the civilian and military OPLANS by the Operation Commanders. This first phase of the Exercise was the delivery of a traditional multilayer type exercise with a CSDP civilian and military planning process. This incorporated the Military Planning Conduct Capability (MPCC), an IT Force Headquarters based in Capua, the Civilian Planning Conduct Capability (CPCC), all other relevant services in the Commission (DEVCO, ECHO, FPI), and Member States, from the "establishment" to the



tive and based on detailed conflict analysis. It focuses on delivering stabilisation and peace. In fact, the ISPD also coordinates the EEAS Crises Response Mechanism, aimed at streamlining the EU response to external crises. It is responsible for the political and strategic planning of CSDP civilian and military missions and operations that will be launched in response to the Exercise Crisis management Scenario.

During the first part of the exercise, this response has gone through the different phases, from early warning to political-strategic planning for crisis management. During the second phase of the exercise this coordination will, where applicable, focus on the security of EU citizens affected by the crisis in the Exercise Scenario. It will also activate the EEAS Crisis Response Mechanism (CRM) and the Joint EU Consular Crisis Preparedness Framework to address a crisis with an external dimension.

*"This exercise provided us with a welcome opportunity to test and fine tune our procedures, including our close cooperation with the military colleagues. The ongoing surge of the pandemic added a realistic element of tension to this exercise."*

Mr Francisco Esteban Perez, CPCC Commander

The civilian CSDP Missions constitute an integral part of the EU's response to the insecurity in the world. Since the first civilian CSDP Mission in 2003, the EU Police Mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the EU has by now deployed 22 civilian Missions mainly to advise and train security and rule of law organisations of countries that are experiencing turmoil. "The civilian CSDP Missions are an essential part of the EU foreign policy tool box. We will thus regularly deploy when required side-by-side with the military forces of the EU, NATO or the UN to the crisis areas of this world", explains Francisco Esteban Perez, the Commander of the currently eleven civilian CSDP Missions deployed in Africa, the Middle East and the wider European region. The Civilian Operations Commander continues: "This exercise provided us with a welcome opportunity to test and fine tune our procedures, including our close cooperation with the military colleagues. The ongoing surge of the pandemic added a realistic element of tension to this exercise. All civilian exercise goals were achieved. I am grateful to our planners for a job well done!"

MPCC assumed the responsibility of an Operational Headquarters during the EU IR20 exercise three years after its activation as a static command and control entity in Brussels. MPCC is currently responsible at the Strategic Level for the operational planning and conducting of the three EU Training Missions (EUTMs) in Africa, they include Somalia,

*"MPCC improves Crisis Management and enhances its' capability to plan and conduct simultaneously one executive operation and up to five non-executive military missions, together with CPCC as required using the JSCC construct."*

Maj Gen Hermínio Maio Deputy Director and COS MPCC



The Force Headquarter drawn from the Acqui Division based in Capua, Italy.

Central African Republic and Mali. In addition to the operational planning and conduct of these missions, MPCC was also involved in the contingency planning resultant from the COVID-19 pandemic and the Coup in Mali. However, the level of ambition for MPCC is a capability to plan and conduct simultaneously one CSDP executive operation, limited to EU Battle Group size and up to five non-executive CSDP military missions.

As an extended Multilayer Exercise, that included a Preparation and Planning Phase and a Conduct Phase, the exercise scenario of EU IR20, certainly tested MPCC's ability to act as an Operational Headquarters responsible for the strategic planning and conduct of a military mission. All this in the midst of a real-life pandemic that provided an additional but significant challenge.

*"The ISP Directorate has ensured effective coordination of an EU response throughout the different phases of the Exercise, making sure that the response was conflict sensitive and based on proper analysis."*

Mr Stefano Tomat, Director Integrated Approach for Security and Peace Directorate

Working in tandem with all other actors and strategic partners, including a Force Headquarters drawn from an IT EU Force, and based in Capua, Italy. MPCC is building on the success achieved in further developing as the EU military command and control capability at the political-strategic level as part of the EU's integrated approach.

This will deliver increased capacity to operationally plan and deploy military CSDP missions and operations, to enhance contingency planning during the conduct phase, and to develop working relations with EUMS, CPCC and other EU stakeholders.



# The European Security and Defence College celebrates its 15 year anniversary

A REFLECTION BY DIRK DUBOIS, HEAD OF THE ESDC MATURING SUCCESS

*The summer of 2020, was a difficult period and one that will always be associated with the global COVID-19 pandemic. However, here at the ESDC, the summer of 2020 will be remembered for another reason, the 15-year anniversary since the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) first opened its doors to students.*



Officially created in 2005, after a three-year period of discussions on the modalities of such an endeavour, the ESDC has gone from strength to strength. Personally, I have been involved with the College since 2007, when I was the first seconded staff member to join the ESDC Secretariat set-up in Brussels.



Since then, the College has drastically evolved in many ways, at the same time, it has however maintained its original character. The title of this article implies that the ESDC has been a success, that it has achieved something. Certainly, the figures would suggest so! Originally, the ESDC was created to organise two courses: a high-level modular course and a shorter orientation course, both on European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) (now Common Security

and Defence Policy (CSDP)). Today, our portfolio covers almost 60 different types of courses on almost every aspect of CSDP in the broader context of the Common Foreign Security Policy. Another measure of its success is the almost 6,000 course participants trained by the ESDC in the last academic year. A figure that is all the more impressive considering the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This is a significant increase from its formative years of when numbers trained by the ESDC approximated 500 course participants.



Of course, the COVID-19 pandemic brought about a unique set of challenges for the academic year 2020-21. This required improvisation and flexibility from the ESDC secretariat and the network partners but through positive cooperation with the students, the ESDC was able to reach and deliver material to its students through residential, blended and on-line learning. For example, the Advance Modular Training Course, a modular course focussing on the EU integrated approach and on political-strategic/military-strategic planning took place entirely in a virtual environment for the first time. This necessary development will no doubt enhance the mediums available to the ESDC in how delivers course material and imparts knowledge. Over the years, the ESDC was tasked with additional roles and responsibilities. One such task was 'military Erasmus' or the European initiative for the exchange of young officers. The EU Ministers of Defence entrusted the ESDC network with the implementation of this initiative in November 2008. At that time, many were sceptical that this innovative endeavour would succeed. Thanks to the hard work of a devoted team from several Member States, this initiative still thrives and produces more and more concrete results every year. Building on this success the ESDC conducted educational courses on Security Sector Reform in 2009, on the Implementation of Gender in Operations in 2010, on the Support to Civilian Missions in 2013, and on Cyber Security and Defence in 2018.

The ESDC and EUMS have a positive, long-standing and mutually beneficial relationship. EUMS is a constant contributor to ESDC courses with solid military expertise that reaches far into the political-strategic environment. The ESDC on the other hand respond promptly to the request from the EUMS to run training and education courses for new inductees into the EUMS.

### Formula for success

It would be remiss not to acknowledge the value added by the close cooperation with the Member States' training institutions, represented in the ESDC's executive academic board, without which the ESDC would not be able to achieve its impressive throughput. This strategic partnership is fully aligned with the CSDP training policy.

Another large part of the ESDC's success is due to the College's high standing resultant from the reputable and quality courses it conducts. Thanks to a mixture of academics, mostly from the Member states, and Brussels-based practitioners from the EU Institutions and agencies, the ESDC continuously manages to deliver top-level courses. The formula underpinning the quality of the courses is based on two fundamental ideas.

The first one is that everything is constantly open for improvement. The basis for constant improvement is the continuous evaluation of courses conducted, using the Kirkpatrick model. This model analyses and evaluates the results of training and educational programs. Feedback collected informs a double "plan-do-check-act" cycle. This facilitates not only short-term improvements with minor adaptations between iterations of the same course, but also long-term the bi-annual revision of each curricula.

The second idea is that quality is best achieved at a decentralised level, with the central level only determining what the end-result should be and to ensure quality control. The ESDC works on the notion that quality is then best achieved by allowing academic partners utilise their own expertise to best effect, while promoting an exchange of best practices between training providers. This idea is fully in line with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG) of 2015. The formula that brings all of this together is the support received from the EU Institutions and from the EEAS, especially through the provision of locations and guest lecturers. Utilising this support, the ESDC has at its disposal excellent facilities and subject matter experts from the EEAS, the Commission, the Parliament and the Council Secretariat to deliver the most current information on their speciality areas.

### Reflection on the future

To an extent, the ESDC is a victim of its own success. The growing demand to run an ever-increasing number of courses in Brussels and throughout the EU has considerably stretched the resources available to the ESDC that its original configuration is finding increasingly difficult to overcome. The ESDC has far exceeded its original guise that lacked the necessary resources and legal framework to act as an independent college. Fortunately, many of the legal uncertainties built in the original Joint Action of 2005 were solved by giving the college a budget in 2013, and



*ESDC online course delivery.*

by taking out the end date of the validity of the Council Decision that established the ESDC in 2020.

So far, improvements in the functioning of the college have always come in small increments with fine-tuning on its legal basis being made in successive Council Decisions or by amending existing Council decisions, as was the case for the creation of the Cyber Education, Training, Exercise and Evaluation platform.



### About the Author

Dirk Dubois graduates from the Belgian Military Academy with a master degree in social and military science in 1985. In the first part of his career he occupies several operational posts, including abroad, and positions as a staff officer. From 2007 to 2012 he is a training manager at the ESDC, before joining the Directorate-general for education of the Belgian MoD. On 01 April 2015, he is appointed as Head of the ESDC. In December 2017, the EU Member States decided to prolong his mandate by consensus until 2022.

In 2020, the ESDC launched a study to scope out the how it could develop in the future development. It is anticipated that this will highlight several potential development scenarios that should feed into a deeper political discussion by the Member States in the second half of 2021. Whatever the outcome of that discussion, there is little doubt but that there is a demand for an independent defence college and that the ESDC is well placed to meet this demand. What remains to be seen is if it will do so incrementally or by making an organisational quantum leap. Regardless of the how or the when, the college will continue to fill its current mission and maintain the characteristics that made it a success from the beginning.

For those who would like to read more on the history of the ESDC please see the following link: <https://esdc.europa.eu>. For more information the ESDC or courses on offer please see the following link: <https://esdc.europa.eu> <https://goalkeeper.eeas.europa.eu>

1. Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG). (2015). Brussels, Belgium.



# EUFOR BiH, Operation Althea Exercise Quick Response 2020

BY LIEUTENANT COMMANDER NICK ROBINSON, SPOKESPERSON EUFOR BIH

*Exercise and train  
and you expect to  
Operate. Exercise  
QR 20 is a robust  
training exercise.*



## Background

Bosnia-Herzegovina, one of the 6 republics that made up the former Yugoslavia, entered a period of bitter war in 1992, a war that cost the lives of over 100,000 people. Finally, in 1995, with the assistance of the International Community and NATO, the war was brought to an end with the signing, in Paris of the Dayton Accords.

Operation ALTHEA is one facet of a comprehensive and coherent European Union commitment to Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is also the largest military operation that the EU has embarked upon to date. The European Military Force, known as EUFOR, is a manifestation of the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP). From the ESDP has evolved the Common Foreign Security Policy (CFSP). The CFSP, in addition to the objective of strengthening the security of the Union in all ways, also has a prime objective of preserving peace and strengthening international security in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter.

## Testing the Mandate and proving credibility.

EUFOR has a Mandate and a series of Key Objectives to achieve under the overarching umbrella of Operation ALTHEA. Supporting the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina (AFBiH), collective and combined training and aiding their progression towards NATO standards remain a core focus of EUFOR activity. To help achieve this and continually contribute to a safe and secure environment within BiH, an annual exercise is conducted to check the readiness of contributing nations and the ability of EUFOR to quickly deploy them.

A total of 20 countries, including EU and non-EU Member States contribute troops to the EUFOR force and the bulk of the permanent Multinational Battalion are stationed within BiH which enables it to respond instantly as required to support BiH authorities. The effectiveness of this partner-

ship is proven and has consequently seen troop numbers permanently stationed within BiH steadily decline over recent years to the level we see today. EUFOR, however, retains the ability to quickly bring in over the horizon, quick-reaction forces to supplement its capabilities as required.

This year's Exercise Quick Response 2020, took place in the middle of a global pandemic, which perhaps showed more than ever that EUFOR has the capability and determination to fulfil its mandate and operate as an integrated force with its reserves whatever challenges and difficulties are thrown at it. Based on a natural disaster scenario, EUFOR's manoeuvre elements have had to execute routine tasks and deal with developing crisis situations in close coordination with Bosnia and Herzegovina security agencies.

Planning for QR2020 started early in the year, overseen by the Exercise Director Brigadier General Ernő Baráth and was immediately met with the uncertainty of international travel and the variability of international quarantine and COVID testing regulations. Initiating a full rehearsal of hundreds of quick-reaction soldiers from many nations entering BiH needed careful consideration by the Operational Commander, Lieutenant General Brice Houdet and by COM EUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak. The safety of those taking part and the safety of BiH citizens was at the top of an increasing list of concerns. In reality, no soldier entered the country without first undergoing 14 days of quarantine and providing for scrutiny, a series of negative COVID tests. This was no small undertaking and required donor nations to initiate isolation facilities to deal with large numbers of simultaneous deploying personnel to comply with their own, international, and BiH regulations governing travel and testing.

Camp Butmir on the outskirts of Sarajevo has to deal with dangerously poor air quality associated with the region, with winter pollution levels amongst the highest in the world.



1. Strict COVID-19 measures being observed throughout all Exercise Phases.  
2. Ex QR 20 maintains its robust nature despite COVID-19.  
3. Lieutenant Colonel Alfred Steingress and his team.

It is also not immune to the dangers posed by the COVID-19 virus. With hundreds of service personnel working in close proximity to each other necessitated the need for enhanced and fastidious attention to personal hygiene and large scale alteration to communal areas and dining facilities.

### Arrival

The first of the reserve forces to arrive were A Company 3 Para from the UK. One hundred COVID free soldiers who completed 14 days isolation emptied into the sunshine from the RAF Voyager aircraft at Sarajevo International Airport. Following close behind was the first of 4 deliveries from Antonov transport aircraft ferrying a fleet of Foxhound vehicles for 3 Para to use whilst deployed within BiH. 100 Austrian troops followed by road due to COVID imposed flight restrictions. Despite the late hour of their arrival, time spent in isolation and COVID free certification, all were screened as they entered Camp Butmir by EUFOR medical personnel to ensure no infection was imported. Smaller detachments of contributing nations joined the swelling ranks over the next few days orientating themselves with the task and preparing their kit for the next phase of the Exercise, the integration phase.

### Integration Phase

All the troops joining for the Exercise are of course fully trained professional soldiers in their own right. They include highly skilled specialists such as medics, engineers, clerks, aviators and infantry but all of these disparate skills need to be coalesced to ensure every component could harmonise their procedures and integrate to become a homogeneous fighting unit under EUFOR Command. This, by any stretch of imagination is a tough task, especially as the EUFOR Training Teams were constrained to only one week to implement the integration package. This package is to ensure that the combined troops could operate safely and effectively.

The standard of individual skill and level of group cooperation was continually monitored by the Multinational Battalion trainers under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel Alfred Steingress. Once happy with the skills demonstrated, Lieutenant Colonel Steingress presented the combined troops to Major General Reinhard Trischak to take Command at the opening ceremony.

Again, this element of the exercise was adjusted to account for stringent COVID-19 protection measures. All soldiers paraded at 2m intervals, to ensure social distancing and all wore masks. The Operational Commanders address was delivered by video link and the traditional reception for Ministers and other Dignitaries was unusually light.

### Deployment Phase

Departing Camp Butmir immediately after the Opening Ceremony, the entire Multinational Battalion left for their forward operating bases right across the country. Although this phase of the proceedings is easily recognisable as the 'exercise proper', it must not be forgotten that mobilising, receiving and integrating a multinational force on permanent standby is a huge part of the rehearsal; especially in 2020.

Awaiting the troops for the next week was a series of unalerted drills and scenarios to test their capabilities under the critical eyes of experienced exercise moderators. Key infrastructure protection, bomb disposal, riot control and air medical evacuation were just some of the scenario tasks completed, ably assisted by the Armed Forces of BiH and key specialist teams of the Civilian Law Enforcement agencies. Cooperation is the key phrase here; none of this is possible without cooperation between civilian and military authorities and between EUFOR and the decision makers within BiH at every level.

### Recovery and demonstration Phase

Bringing all the integration training and exercise scenarios together, saw elements of EUFOR's Multinational Battalion, Armed Forces BiH and BiH's State Investigation and Protection Agency put together a dynamic and kinetic demonstration. Watched by BiH Ministers, Ambassadors and Defence Attachés, EUFOR's whole force came together to showcase the Exercise Quick Response 2020's core tenets. Quick Response 2020 officially ended with an internal closing ceremony the next day after which the redeployment of reserve forces started. Once more, Quick Response has shown the commitment of troop contributors to reinforce EUFOR Althea if and when necessary, even during the COVID pandemic. The European Union remains committed to BiH through its visible and credible presence represented by the European Union Forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### Conclusion

As is suggested above, planning and executing a meaningful operational rehearsal and incorporating the safety requirements imposed by a global pandemic should not be underestimated. This annual exercise is designed to test how multinational troops get ready for, deploy and operate within BiH under EUFOR Command, but what is probably more pertinent about Exercise Quick Response 2020 is that it went ahead at all. EUFOR showed commitment to discharge its responsibilities to the EU and the people of BiH. EUFOR showed it is dedicated to its Mandate in meeting the Key Objectives and EUFOR showed unequivocally that whatever the challenge, EUFOR has the capability and capacity to deal with it head on.



## A Force for Europe

BY LIEUTENANT GENERAL LAURENT KOŁODZIEJ,  
EUROCORPS COMMANDING GENERAL

*Even before COVID-19 pandemic, European nations had begun to realize that military security forms an essential basis for the political and economic success of Europe. In the 27 years since the creation of EUROCORPS, the global security situation has grown more complex: Hybrid warfare, religious fundamentalism, ethnic conflicts as well as climate changes and the related refugee flows are challenging decision makers at all levels. This highlights the need for greater resilience and solidarity when discussing matters of European security and defence.*

This reasoning is not new, as French President François Mitterrand and German Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl had vigorously pursued intensified integration between France and Germany with 1992's "La Rochelle Report", the founding act of EUROCORPS. The terms of the report designed and structured EUROCORPS for the defence of Europe without allocating it to a specific nation or organisation in the conventional sense. EUROCORPS thus became Europe's first operational element.

"The experience, flexibility and ability to 'think outside the box' stem from unique in-mission experiences which are of use across all NATO, EU, and UN-mandated operations. No other military unit to date can offer such experiential complementarity."

EUROCORPS Commanding General, Lieutenant General Laurent Kołodziej



Since then, EUROCORPS has been placed by its Framework Nations in charge of major NATO operations, beginning with the mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SFOR 1998), the Kosovo mission (KFOR 2000) as well as the mission in Afghanistan (ISAF 2004), and has thrice assumed command and control of the NATO Response Force (NRF), including its current 2020 role.

Since 2015, EUROCORPS personnel have provided the command and control for a rotation in Mali and for three rotations in the Central African Republic. In addition, due to the lack of a military command staff at the EU level, all planning and preparation efforts were completed by EURO-



CORPS Headquarters. This added value in that the personnel employed in the planning process were also on hand for its implementation. This role is now carried out by Military Plans and Conduct Capability, with whom EUROCORPS enjoys a very close professional working relationship.

Alternating between EU and NATO as well as between operational scenarios such as stabilisation operations, high-intensity combat and training missions in Africa has provided EUROCORPS servicepersons with a unique array of experience, an edge that is of prime importance to EUROCORPS.

This ability to adapt to not only different Command Structures, but also to diverse operational requirements is a hallmark of EUROCORPS personnel. EUROCORPS has been characterised by this flexibility since its inception due to the multinational composition of its Units and Headquarters.

An ethos of multinational cooperation on equal terms permeates throughout EUROCORPS. It is evident in its strategic leadership, steered by a multinational committee composed of military and political executive personnel, through to its servicepersons, live this ethos when deployed in overseas operations.

To illustrate this cooperation; during the preparation phase, which segued into the "hot phase" in October, important complementary executive personnel were invited to attend key training events to ensure a uniform level of information, as well as to integrate the maximum number of personnel into the team before the mission gets underway. And EUROCORPS will benefit from this integration. The 28 nations involved in the European Training Mission represent a near-mirror image of Europe, underlining the broad support provided. This translates to teams have organically assumed operational command and control on site, that external personnel can easily augment, for its upcoming missions to Mali and the Central African Republic.

Current events including the COVID-19 outbreak clearly highlight the requirement for European nations acting collectively and collaboratively, with an international intertwinement of the political, economic and military sectors. Militarily, EUROCORPS is testament to how European nations can act multilaterally and how the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. EUROCORPS' ability to integrate NATO and EU forces makes it a harbinger of future joint European efforts. That is why EUROCORPS is a genuine Force for Europe!

Multi-national cooperation is a defining characteristic of EUROCORPS





# Ulm Command Expands its EU Expertise



BY LIEUTENANT (NAVY) ALEXANDER SCHILLING, PIO MULTINATIONAL JOINT HEADQUARTERS; ULM

*As part of its reorientation toward the EU, the Multinational Joint Headquarters Ulm (MN JHQ Ulm) is going to enter into a preliminary transitional working structure in early January of 2021. The key aspect is to not only maintain the command's EU expertise in the future, but to actually consolidate it in its role as a military-strategic headquarters. The plan is to finally arrive at the target structure thus anticipated in the second half of 2021. Nations are invited to keep contributing personnel and capabilities.*

Over the course of H2/2020, several information events were conducted to notify the Ulm Command's contracting nations about changes on the horizon as well as the reorientation process and future contribution opportunities. At the Plenary Committee Meeting in early December 2020, participating nations – some of whom have been committed partners for years – re-affirmed their contribution to and integration into the Ulm Command. In addition, they pledged to send more personnel and decided to bid on numerous multinational posts. Austria, for example, is going to provide the future Deputy Commander of the MN JHQ Ulm.

## New priorities for the Ulm Command

Having stood ready as a headquarters for EU military operations since 2005, the MN JHQ ULM will continue its role as a key German contribution to Europe's Common Security and Defense Policy. On the one hand, the Ulm Command is assigned as the EU Operation Headquarters (OHQ) provided by Germany. On the other hand, the MN JHQ ULM is going to assist and support the Brussels-based EU Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC) by contributing its expertise and capabilities.

With its modular "planning capability package," the Ulm Command will make an essential and immediately available contribution to developing the EU's military planning and command and control capability. This is key to quickly establishing military dominance in the early stages of a mission. This can also specifically promote the integrated approach and cooperation with the Civilian Planning and Concepts Capability (CPCC).

In addition to its OHQ task, the Ulm Command will also continue to provide the integrated core staff of a Joint Logistic Support Group Headquarters (JLSG HQ), which is operating at the tactical level.

## Train and augment for operations

Serving as a framework nation of the MN JHQ Ulm, Germany continues to provide a national agency whose inherent structure includes both multinational and national billets from all the military branches. There are currently 16 participating nations to the Ulm Command. Multinational cooperation is governed by detailed "Technical Arrangements" and uses English as a common working

language to reflect the Command's focus on operations.

In the future, multinational soldiers as well as civilian employees from EU and partner nations are going to account for 27 posts at the MN JHQ Ulm. They will have the opportunity to contribute to the command group as well as the "EU HQ Directorate," which features positions in integration and training, resources, reconnaissance, operations, planning, logistics and finance.

Right now, the Command is developing an augmentation concept of its own in order to provide optimum training and preparation to its augmentees. This also includes an offer to participate in regular practice-related training and exercising where soldiers from all EU member states learn how to perform their tasks at the military strategic level. This will serve to strengthen shared understanding, thinking, planning, and acting.



*The Commander, MN JHQ Ulm, German Lieutenant General Jürgen Knappe, during the Plenary Committee Meeting.*

Photo: Bundeswehr / Seegert



*Corona-compliant VTC: Multinational coordination of the contracting parties to the MN JHQ Ulm during the Plenary Committee Meeting*

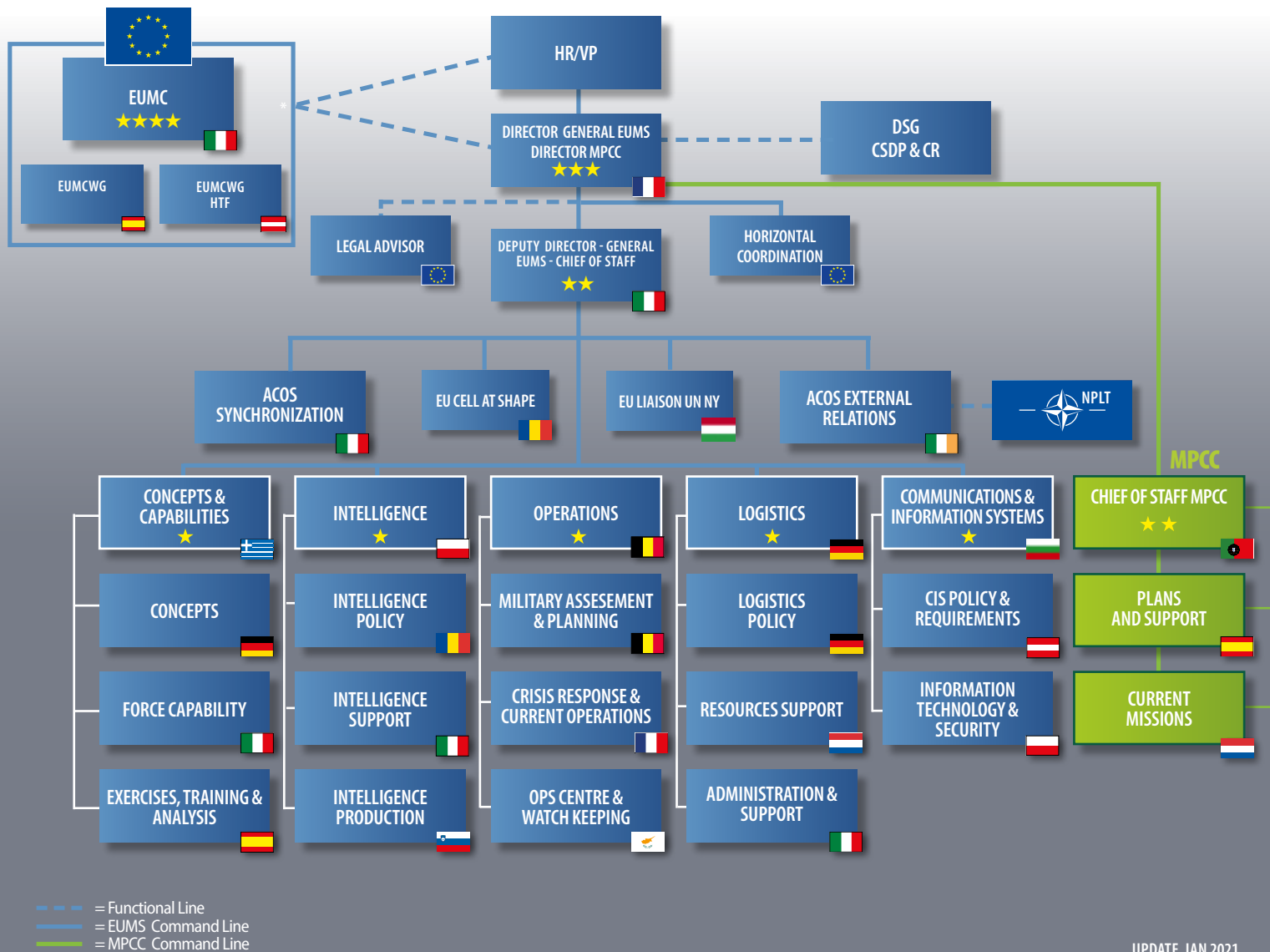
Photo: Bundeswehr / Seegert

## Long-standing experience of command and control

As before in 2012 and 2016, the Ulm Command is again on standby as the preferred military-strategic headquarters to the EUBG 2020-2, placed under German command and control. In the event of an EUBG mission, the EU OHQ will function as a military-strategic hinge tasked with translating the EU political decision-making into military action during crises. In this case, the OHQ would have to translate the decisions of the European Union Council into military instructions and tasks to be fulfilled by the subordinate Operational Force Headquarters (EU FHQ) in the theatre of operations.

In 2023, the preparations for the twelve-month standby phase for the EUBG 2025 will intensify. Then, the MN JHQ Ulm will be available to support the MPCC in Brussels, by providing it suite and range of military capabilities.

## EUROPEAN UNION MILITARY STAFF - EUMS STRUCTURE



UPDATE JAN 2021

## EU Military Operations and Missions

