



FACTSHEET EUTM-RCA
European Training Mission in Central African Republic

COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

European Union Training Mission in Central African Republic (EUTM-RCA)

Updated: 01 October 2020

MISSION BACKGROUND

After an extended period of unrest, the instability in Central African Republic (CAR) peaked in 2013 in the near collapse of the Central African state. The ineffectiveness of state institutions and the return to an economy of subsistence due to internal conflict resulted in a very complex situation that required an urgent response of the international community.

On 20 January 2014, the EU Foreign Affairs Ministers Council approved a Task Force led by the European Union in Central African Republic. European Union Force in the Central African Republic (EUFOR - RCA) was established on the legal basis of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2134 (2014). EUFOR RCA contributed to the achievement of a safe and secure environment in the Bangui area, as part of the international efforts to protect the populations, and to create the conditions for providing humanitarian aid.

On 16 January 2015, the CAR transitional Head of State sent a letter inviting the European Union to deploy a consulting military mission. The European Union Military Advisory Mission (EUMAM) in Central African Republic was launched on 16 March 2015, under the European Union Council decision. Its purpose was to support the Central African Defence Sector Reform (DSR) process.

European Union Training Mission in Central African Republic (EUTM- RCA) was launched on 16 July 2016 for a period of two years, after a Central African Government request.

MANDATE AND OBJECTIVES

After a first extending from 2018 to 2020, the European Union Council extended the mandate (3th Mandate) of the mission for two years, until 19 September 2022.

The 3rd Mandate is a natural evolution of the 2nd one. The objectives (political, strategic and operational) are essentially the same as before, except that the Internal Security Forces development will be supported and advised by the new European Union Advisory Mission (EUAM), with which EUTM has a close coordination and cooperation relationship.

The 3rd Mandate foresees the enlargement of the Mission Area in order to allow EUTM RCA to provide military assistance (including non-executive accompaniment) in garrisons where and when required by the Central African Armed Forces (FACA) for the implementation of the National Defence Plan (NDP). In this framework, EUTM personnel will be regularly detached to the garrison areas of BOUAR, N'DELE and BANGASSOU in order to accompany FACA and act as advisors to the Etat-Major de Zone de Defence (EMZD).

The main objective of the mission that is supporting the build-up of a modernized, effective, credible, ethnically balanced and democratically accountable FACA, remains the same as in the previous 2nd mandate. The mission will contribute to a reform of the defence sector within the framework of a wider Security Sector Reform (SSR), in close coordination with other International Support Missions (especially EU Delegation, the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) and the European Union Advisory Mission (EUAM)). The mission support the Central African authorities and is engaged in three domains: strategic advice, operational training and education.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- Mission Area: The Mission Area has been expanded and now comprises the Bangui city, Bouar, N'Dele and Bangassou.
- Headquarters: Camp M'Poko-Moana in Bangui.
- Mandate Started: 20 September 2020.
- Mandate Expires: 20 September 2022.
- Mission Force commander: OF-6 Paulo Neves de Abreu.
- Mission Strength: First Phase (3th Mandate) 305; Second Phase (3th Mandate) 365.
- Troop contributing Nations: Bosnia Herzegovina; Brazil; France; Georgia; Italy; Lithuania; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Serbia; Spain and Sweden.
- Mission Budget from 20 September 2020 to 20 September 2022: 36.959.496 €.

POLITICAL CONTROL AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Political and Security Committee (PSC) exercises the political control and strategic direction of EUTM RCA, under the responsibility of the European Union Council.

MILITARY DIRECTION

It is exercised by the Director of MPCC, located in Brussels. At operational level, the Mission Force Commander (MFCdr) exercises command in Bangui (RCA).

THE EU'S INTEGRATED APPROACH

As an integral part of the EU's integrated approach that encompasses political, security, humanitarian, and development actions, EUTM RCA was born from the achievements of EUFOR RCA and EUMAM RCA. It provides strategic advice to CAR MoD and the General Staff, education to vetted NCOs and Officers, as well as operational training to vetted FACA units and specialists; EUTM RCA works towards a modernised, effective, ethnically balanced and democratically accountable FACA.