



ISP

Integrated Approach for Security and Peace Directorate

KEY MESSAGE

The Integrated approach for Security and Peace (ISP) Directorate ensures effective coordination of an EU response throughout the different phases of the conflict, from early warning and horizon scanning to political-strategic planning for crisis management and stabilisation, as well as on the security of EU citizens in crisis zones as appropriate. ISP ensures that the EU response is conflict sensitive and based on a proper analysis with a focus on delivering stabilisation and peace.

ISP: ensuring an integrated response to crises

The [EU Global Strategy](#) refers to the **Integrated Approach** to external conflicts and crises as one of its key priorities. The EU Member States' reflected their active support and commitment in the Council Conclusions¹ of 22 January 2018.

The Integrated Approach draws on all relevant EU policies and instruments – the EU's toolbox for security and peace – in view of ensuring a joint EU response throughout the full conflict spectrum, from prevention to peacebuilding, including crisis response, stabilisation, political and/or strategic planning for crisis management and longer-term recovery, in order to contribute to a sustainable peace.

The Integrated Approach brings together EU institutions and Member States with other partners, and seeks to use the appropriate instruments during all the phases of the conflict, ensuring a multilateral approach where possible. It aims at combining security and defence activities with development and diplomatic actions in order to achieve joint political and security objectives.

Preventing violent conflicts or effectively responding to crises requires a collective effort. The **ISP Directorate (ISPD)** was established to ensure such an integrated response. As the 'Guardian' of the EU

¹ [Council Conclusions on the Integrated Approach to External Conflicts and Crises](#)

Integrated Approach to external conflicts and crises, it aims at ensuring that the EU's responses to situations of fragility are conflict sensitive, youth and gender-responsive and in line with the effective protection of human rights.

EU conflict prevention and crises response tools

The EU conflict prevention and crisis response tools constitute a comprehensive toolbox allowing for short and long-term measures.

With regard to **Conflict Prevention**, ISP aims at addressing structural risks of violent conflicts through the use of all relevant policies, tools and instruments in a timely and sequenced manner. In addition to carrying out **conflict analysis**, specific tools such as the **EU conflict Early Warning System** and the **Horizon Scanning**, are used to identify countries at risk of a violent conflict.

European citizens and global partners expect the EU to react responsibly and decisively to crises. Among its tasks the ISPD coordinates the **EEAS Crisis Response Mechanism**, aimed at streamlining the EU response to external crises and emergencies. It is responsible for the political and strategic planning of **CSDP civilian and military missions and operations** and/or **stabilisation actions** under Art 28 of the TEU which can be deployed rapidly and respond to complex challenges in fragile situations.

The ISPD provides expertise with regard to **mediation and mediation support activities**, **Responsibility to Protect and atrocity prevention**, **Security Sector Reform (SSR)**, **Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR)**. It also gives conceptual and operational support to **Recovery and Peace Building Assessments (RPBA)**, the **prevention of electoral violence**, **Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC)**, the **Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict** and the **Protection of Cultural Heritage**.

The ISPD furthermore promotes **knowledge management** among the relevant EU actors with regard to the different CFSP/CSDP tools including through training, exercises and analysis. The Directorate also plays a crucial role in the cooperation and coordination among the EEAS, EU Delegations and the Member States in the **consular field**.

Focusing on **peacebuilding and resilience**, ISP works closely with international, regional and local partners in adopting an **inclusive approach** that helps safeguard local communities and states from drifting towards violence.

ISP organigramme

ISP.1 Integrated approach, methodology and implementation

Responsible for overseeing the Integrated Approach and the effective coordination of an EU response throughout the conflict cycle.

ISP.1 helps coordinate the EEAS strategic guidance on crisis response instruments and ensures coordination during the active phase of crisis through the Crisis Response Mechanism.

ISP.2 Conflict Prevention and Mediation Support

Responsible for ensuring a coordinated and integrated approach to conflict prevention, mediation and peacebuilding. The division helps identify countries at risk of instability (EU conflict

Early Warning System); it conducts conflict analysis of countries facing instability or violence, advises on conflict sensitivity in fragile contexts and provides support to mediation, dialogue and prevention activities.

ISP.3 Integrated Strategic Planning for CSDP and Stabilisation

ISP.3 is the EU integrated strategic planning division for CSDP military and civilian missions and operations as well as Article 28 actions. The division designs and evaluates the mandates of CSDP missions, operations and Article 28 actions at the political-strategic level through the development of Crisis Management Concepts/ Art 28 concept papers and Strategic Reviews. ISP.3 provides support and advice on security, defence, crisis management issues and stabilisation. ISP.3 is the custodian of the EU Crisis Management Procedures and the mandates of the CSDP Missions and Operations established by the Council.

ISP.4 Consular Affairs

Responsible for coordination in the consular field between the EEAS, EU Delegations and Member States crises centres. ISP.4 ensures the implementation of EU citizens' rights of non-discriminatory access to consular protection in a third country and supports the measures (i.e. sharing security mapping information on EU citizens in crisis zones 'consular hotspots') to facilitate the consular protection of unrepresented citizens of the EU in third countries.