

IMPETUS



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Former DG EUMS Lt Gen
Wolfgang Wosolsobe (RIP)
1955-2018 †



EU MILITARY STAFF CONTRIBUTING TO EU GLOBAL STRATEGY

**THE ROMANIAN
PRESIDENCY OF THE EU**
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**Sectoral Qualification
Framework for Military
Officers (SQF- MILOF)**
P 10

**EU Contingency
'Intervention, Stabilisation,
Prevention'**
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Dear Readers,

We hope that you find IMPETUS 26 useful in increasing your situational awareness of what the EU Military Staff are doing, including 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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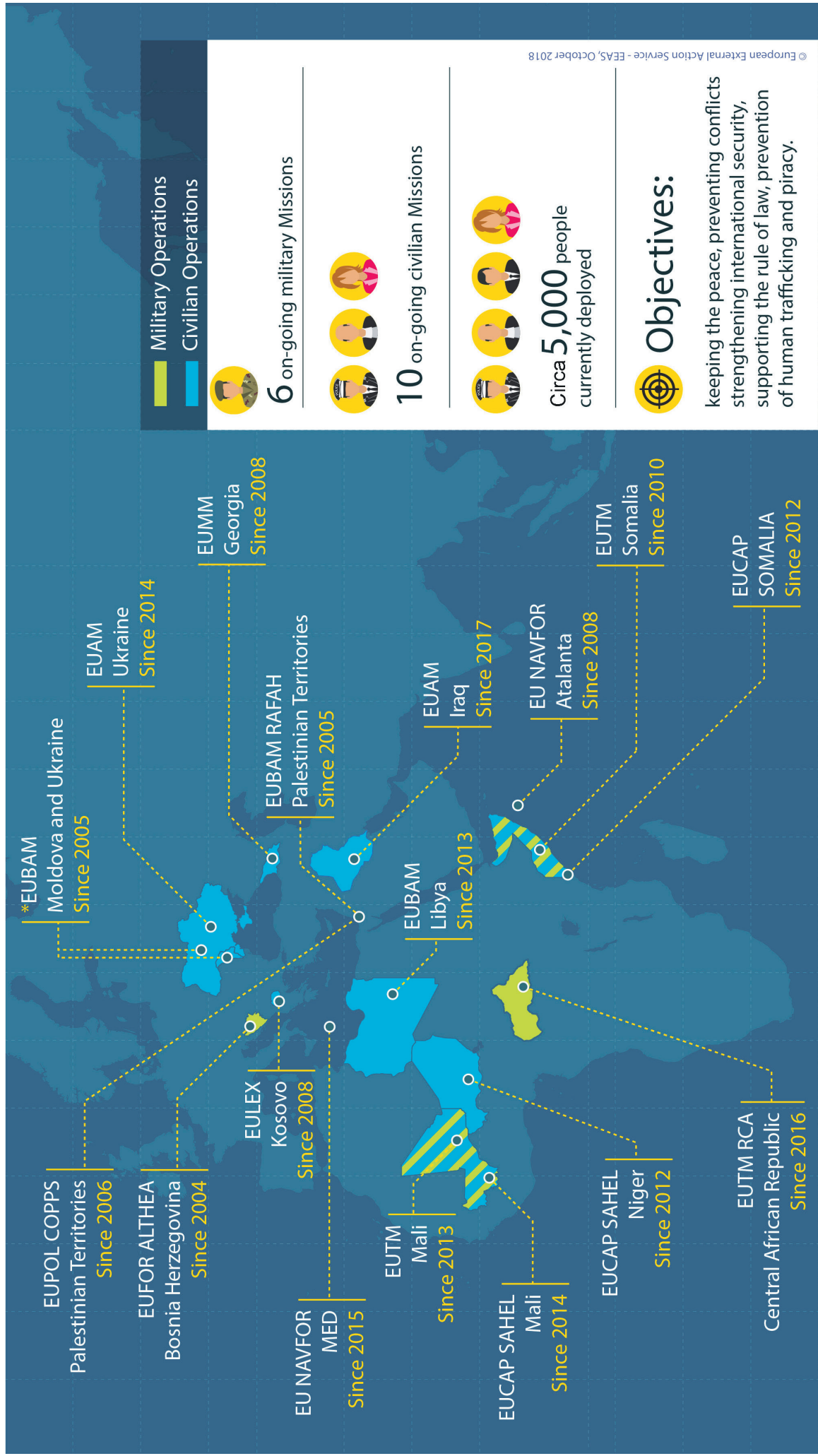
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EUROPEAN UNION CSDP OPERATIONS AND MISSIONS



*This Mission is not managed within CSDP structures and hence is strictly speaking not a "CSDP Mission". However its objectives are very similar to the other CSDP Missions and so we include it here.

The Romanian Presidency of the EU (01 Jan - 30 Jun 2019)

Common Security and Defence Policy Priorities

BY MR.CALIN STOICA, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ROMANIA TO THE PSC

Informal meeting of
EU Defense Ministers
Vienna, Aug 2018
(Photo: www.morh.hr)



The Romanian Presidency of the EU Council, the first since its accession to the EU on 1 January 2007, will promote, under the motto "Cohesion - a European common value", the EU's commitments to project stability and security from its closest borders to the global stage. Recent years have witnessed the emergence of conflicts and crises around the European Union as well as continuous instability and threats at the nexus between internal and external security. In response, there is a strong drive to deliver on the priorities of the EU Global Strategy (EUGS), in line with the level of ambition to build a more credible and effective European defence, to which we are fully committed.

We will strive to ensure recent achievements are further advanced in order for the EU to be better prepared to respond to crises and conflicts, protect the EU and its citizens and provide the necessary capacities to those partners whose security is closely linked to that of Europe. A consolidated Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), with new tools and mechanisms at its disposal, will be more effective in its contribution to global peace and security. Romania will attach particular attention to the special partnership between the EU and NATO and promote their common level of ambition based on coherence and complementarity, as reflected in the recent Joint Declarations of their respective leaders. Enhanced cooperation with NATO must rely on dialogue, greater transparency, development of common projects and increased cooperation at political and staff level, including

in those regions of the world where the two organisations are present and active on the ground.

During the first semester of 2019 our priority is to advance the progress made so far and facilitate the implementation of recent decisions aimed at improving the functional profile of CSDP, advancing the EU's operational engagement in the Neighbourhood and beyond, as well as enhancing the partnership and cooperation agenda. Building on the experience of CSDP so far, we will strive for an enhanced coordination between the civilian and military dimensions, an Integrated Approach to conflicts and crises and better synergies at the internal-external security nexus. The process of capability development, underpinned by recent initiatives such as the Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD), Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) and European Defence Fund (EDF) in the military field, and the Civilian Capability Development Plan (CCDP) and the (forthcoming) CSDP Compact in the civilian pillar should provide the necessary means for addressing the current and future security needs of the EU.

Effective and more capable CSDP action requires enhanced coordination and coherence between the civilian and military dimensions, an Integrated Approach to conflicts and crises and the ability to respond throughout the whole conflict cycle. In the field of security and defence, our pragmatic and results-oriented approach will translate into:

Further developing and consolidating CSDP in a changing Union and World

The implementation of the agreed priorities of the EUGS will be supported, along the coordinates of the internal-external security nexus, as well as making best use of the reflective process regarding the future of Europe in the security and defence domains.

At the same time, Romania will contribute to and try to advance the negotiations between the Member States and EU institutions, geared to achieving an agreement on the EDF Regulation and on the new EU Space Policy Programme.

Assistance in the implementation of actions and projects in the field of defence capability development, emphasising coherence amongst the CARD, PESCO and EDF initiatives, and in line with the EU agreed priorities identified in the revised Capability Development Plan (CDP) and the new Civilian CDP, will be provided in a coherent, integrated and synergetic manner.

Processes aimed at promoting collaborative defence research and enhancing defence related industrial cooperation, including from the future Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and EDF perspective, will also be encouraged and supported accordingly. This would encompass efforts in fostering cross-border integration of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and facilitating SMEs and Middle Capitalisation Companies (Mid-Caps) access to the European Defence Equipment Market (EDEM) and strengthening the European Defence Technological and Industrial Base (EDTIB), as well as enhancing cooperation among research entities in the context of the Preparatory Action on Defence Research (PADR) and European Defence Industrial Development Programme (EDIDP) implementation.

Last but not least, Romania will seek to support Military Mobility related actions in order to enhance the EU's crisis response capacity in coordination and complementarity with our transatlantic and other strategic partners as well as in conjunction with our closest neighbours.

Increasing effectiveness of the Union's operational engagements

As one of the leading contributors to civilian CSDP missions, Romania will make use of the existing national expertise in ensuring a balanced and coherent development of the civilian and military dimensions of CSDP, with a view to effectively manage the current and emerging security challenges, including those related to the resilience of states and societies and those along the internal-external security. We will actively contribute to the implementation of the new framework on the EU's Integrated Approach throughout the entire conflict cycle to ensure a comprehensive and flexible response within the civilian CSDP dimension. In our view, the civilian dimension should continue to be a flagship element in the overall CSDP toolbox and an essential instrument in bolstering the EU's role as a global actor in crisis management. Romania is looking forward to boosting the



EU leaders at the launch of the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), in Brussels, Belgium, December 14, 2017.
Photo: REUTERS/Yves Herman

implementation of the renewed strategic approach with the help of the Civilian CSDP Compact and the new Civilian Capability Development Plan.

With the Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC) review currently under way, Romania will contribute to the implementation of the upcoming recommendations aimed at making the MPCC operational and a recognised, strong actor at EU military strategic level.

Deepening the CSDP partnership and cooperation agenda

Partnerships play an essential part in CSDP from both the political and operational perspectives. Partners contribute significantly to missions and operations, increase the international legitimacy of the EU as a security provider and thus play an active part in improving the overall security of the EU. We will support a more ambitious and strategic approach to partners aimed at extending areas of cooperation and supporting partners to increase their resilience when faced with a large array of threats, including hybrid ones.

In the framework of the EU-NATO strategic partnership, which has gained strong momentum in the light of the 2016 and 2018 Joint Declarations, Romania's role as a facilitator will focus on actions circumscribed to the implementation of their cooperative agenda, first and foremost in cyber defence, countering hybrid and terrorist threats, resilience, strategic communication and military mobility.

Romania will remain committed to the reinforcement of the EU-UN strategic partnership on peace operations and crisis management, part of the consistent contribution of the EU to effective multilateralism. Strengthening the cooperation between the two organisations ensures that synergies, complementarity and coordination are promoted and global peace operations are subsequently enhanced.

During its six months Presidency of the EU Council, Romania aims to support all initiatives targeted at boosting the EU's global role and its ability to address security challenges which impact on Europe as a whole, and its citizens. While fully aware that a European common defence is a long-term objective, important steps are required at this time to advance on this path, in a reinforced partnership and more balanced burden sharing with NATO.

Towards decentralisation of training in Africa

BY LT GEN ESA PULKKINEN, DG EUMS & DIRECTOR MPCC

Brig Gen Millán,
MFCdr EUTM Mali;
Lt Gen Pulkkinen,
Dir MPCC; Vice Adm
Chaperon (FR) &
Maj Gen Nilsson (SE)
Milreps to EU and
NATO in Mali Sep18



As director of the Military Planning Conduct and Capability (MPCC) I visited two EU Training Missions (EUTM); EUTM RCA (Republic of Central Africa) and EUTM Mali in late September. To the great credit of the respective Mission Force Commanders and their personnel, both missions are in the process of expanding output and delivering higher levels of effective training to the military forces of their host nations. By conducting training courses in the regional areas there is a greater capacity to build relationships with local commanders and assist the development of cohesive security efforts among the host nation forces. This decentralisation of training moves the missions into another phase and increases the capabilities of the national armed forces and therefore contributes to the provision of security for the population which will benefit wider development. As the strategic command element of the EU training missions the MPCC is in a very good position to support these training missions as several of the challenges they face are similar.

EUTM Mali has been conducting decentralised training for some time already through the deployment of combined mobile advisory and training teams (CMATT). These teams have deployed to training sites around the southern part of the country for short periods returning to their bases in Koulikoro and Bamako once the training sessions have been completed. This training has proved to be very effective but also logistically challenging to arrange, mainly due to the enormous size of the country and the poor state of the road infrastructure. It is a huge effort logistically for the missions to deploy CMATTs to other parts of the country for these short periods. The safety of personnel is paramount and the threat level needs to

be constantly assessed in both theatres. Deploying force protection, medical capabilities, command and control systems all require planning and resources in equipment and personnel. Foremost in this planning are the medical requirements for EU training personnel that deploy on the teams. It should be noted of course that EUTM Mali through the Advisory Task Force (ATF) Projects Cell has equipped the Malian Armed Forces (MaAF) with 6,000 individual Field First Aid pouches and Combat Team Medic packs. It has to date, also provided them with eight projectable Role 1 Field Medical Facilities, ambulances, GPS and medicines for operations.

EUTM presence in key locations allows for more effective networking with the local authorities and leadership of the armed forces. Advising is a long term process and requires trust and thorough understanding of the challenges at local level. By integrating and reaching out to local commanders, at all levels, our training advisors increase their ability to successfully deliver on the mission objectives. Building relationships is a key to achieving training objectives and to influencing the successful delivery of stability and security within the host nations. From a training perspective it is more beneficial to conduct training closer to the place of deployment instead of in a centralised training location. Current experience indicates strongly that the MaAF has improved its operational performance in Northern and Central Mali. As the Malian forces experience is growing so is their capability in conducting operations against the terrorist groups operating in the area. CMATT type activities can only enhance the effectiveness of training being delivered by the training missions and the operational capability of the armed forces of the host nations.

In the Central African Republic, EUTM RCA has moved into its second mandate and the area of operations has significantly increased. The new mandate provides increased flexibility for movement into an expanded Area of Responsibility (AOR). This makes it possible for EUTM RCA to commence planning for decentralised training and education. The mission has come a long way from the initial deployment to Bangui in 2014. At that time we were strictly restricted to the M'POKO airport area. The Central African Republic is not as vast a country as Mali, but still poses significant logistical challenges. The infrastructure is limited and it would require a lot of planning to make decentralisation possible.

Establishing and sustaining a permanent presence in remote locations poses significant challenges logistically and in terms of Force Protection. This is a challenge that we face in the force generation process for the missions. Success in providing for development and security is more likely using this operational model. Of course conditions have to be right and force generation is very dependent on the willingness of Member States and EU partners to contribute. Additional dedicated resources to support the decentralisation of training will ensure more benefits in the longer term.

Having now visited both Sevaré in Mali and Bouar in the Central African Republic, I am of the opinion that these locations can facilitate successful long-term training if the assessed medical and force protection needs are met. Airports would enable air transportation to and from capital cities and road transportation, despite being slow, is also possible. However the permanent presence can't be our only initiative. To be successful in providing training and advice, we must be aligned with the plans of the host nations' local authorities. The Central African Armed Forces (FACA) and Malian Armed Forces must also need to be willing to provide us with trainees in these locations and commit to the future to make it feasible for the EU to invest in filling the requirements of the permanent presence. We should also be able to increase our cooperation and integration with other key stakeholders like MINUSMA (in Mali) and MINUSCA (in CAR) in order to coordinate our comprehensive action. The UN's significant role in security sector reform in the region can contribute to the delivery of our missions when integrated. We have consistently shown that cooperation and coordination with other agencies and groups is our strongest point in increasing the ability of host nations to deliver security.

If the conditions are right we might consider decentralised training in the wider Sahel region in the future with the objective of contributing to the enhancement of development, security and stability in the Sahel. We already advise and work closely



EUTM RCA instructor demonstrates restraint techniques to FACA personnel.

with the G5 Sahel Joint Force HQ; examining the aspects of Strategic Advice would increase the overall capacities of local forces to provide regional security. Supports with training at local level sites would be a major development of our decentralised activities and would provide wide support to the respective armed forces of the G5 Sahel countries.

Thus far, decentralised training activities have yet to be conducted in Somalia. In time, if the transition plan of AMISOM advances as envisaged, it may be possible to commence decentralised activities with the Somali National Army (SNA) Sector HQ's and regional training centres in Somalia. However as yet this is not a feasible proposition.

The role of the MPCC in supporting the missions in Africa is challenging. The overall goal is to contribute to stability, development and security in the region. To assist these nations to be in position to be self-sufficient and autonomously managing themselves requires some evolution in the conduct of the missions. As Director MPCC and Director General of the EUMS I intend to present these possible evolutions here in Brussels in a way that enables Member States see the benefits. Decentralisation of training is one of these evolutions; it comes from the evidence of the highly capable and professional military personnel implementing training in theatre every day.



EUTM Mali CMATT conducts medical training for MaAF personnel, Sikasso Mar 2018

Lookback – Look forward



BY CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROPEAN UNION MILITARY COMMITTEE, GENERAL MIKHAIL KOSTARAKOS

Gen Maikhail
Kostarakos CEUMC.
Photo courtesy of
EUMC



CEUMC, Gen Mikhail
Kostarakos, Brig
Gen Herminio Maio,
MFCdr EUTM RCA,
Brig Gen Yvan
Gouriou, Director
of CEUMC's Cabinet
with EUTM RCA
personnel. Photo
courtesy of EUMC.

5 November 2018 marks the end of my three-year tenure as the Chairman of the European Union Military Committee (EUMC). During these years, the words “security” and “defence” regained their position in the European Union’s vocabulary. What has been achieved can be described as ground-breaking. The EUMC has played a key role, within the framework of its responsibilities.

In 2015, the European Union capstone document in the security and defence domain was the European Security Strategy (ESS) of 2003. Six Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) Missions and Operations were deployed, whose activities were partially funded by the Athena mechanism. The European Union (EU) and NATO were two strangers in the same city, their cooperation being substantially limited to the biannual meetings between the EU Military Staff (EUMS) and NATO International Military Staff (IMS) and the six-monthly formal EU-NATO Military Committees common meetings, dedicated to Operation ALTHEA in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The latter’s importance aside, it being conducted with recourse to NATO assets and capabilities under the Berlin Plus arrangements was regarded by many as the only reason justifying these meetings. The aforementioned more or less summarise the EU engagement in the security and defence domain.

The inadequacy of this engagement became evident, in light of the dramatic geopolitical developments in the regions adjacent to and neighbouring the EU. The Arab uprising, the wars in Libya, Syria and Iraq, the emergence of the self-proclaimed Islamic State, the terrorist attacks on European soil and the thousands of immigrants and refugees that swarmed the EU external borders, shaped a new reality that had little to nothing in common with the geopolitical situation as depicted in the ESS. Change

was not just needed; it was demanded by the European citizens, as security became the number one concern.

The launch of the EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy (EUGS) by the High Representative in June 2016 marked the beginning of the change. A vision for the EU was offered, along with the path that would lead there. With that, the EU entered a new era, an era where security and defence became its top priority. As part of an effort that unfolded in multiple strands and engaged the sum of the EU, the EUMC, being the custodian of military expertise, was invited to assist in the tenuous effort to build “[...] a Europe that protects, [...] and defends” and to restore the feeling of security to the traumatised peoples.

Almost immediately after the presentation of the EUGS, a Joint EU-NATO declaration was signed in Warsaw by the President of the European Council, Donald Tusk; the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker and Secretary General of NATO, Jens Stoltenberg. It formally inaugurated a deepened cooperation between the two leading international organisations in Europe. A common set of 42 specific actions (soon increased to 74) were identified, aimed at fleshing out this deepened cooperation and increasing the respective outputs of the missions and operations. In the same spirit but independent of the Joint Declaration and its provisions, it was decided that the number of the meetings between the respective Military Committees would be doubled, with two additional informal ones.

One of the main messages of the EUGS was about partnerships: the acknowledgement that the capabilities of any international actor have limits. No single country or organisation is strong enough to address persisting or rising security challenges on its own. The best, if not the

sole way for the international community to achieve this is through partnering and cooperating. This acknowledgement, combined with the pressing “*single set of forces*” problem faced by the EU Member-States, led the EUMC to actively promote partnering for its Missions and Operations and to attract like-minded nations to participate in them. This endeavour delivered positive results, as no less than four nations expressed their interest in joining forces.

This success can largely be attributed to the EUMC’s outward leaning policy. The visibility of the Committee was increased, through numerous appearances and speeches and lectures at high level conferences and international security-themed fora. What has to be underlined is the interest of academics and civilian universities to inform and educate their audiences on the EU security and defence activities, inviting the most relevant authority on this subject, the EUMC.

The issue of effective Command and Control of ongoing CSDP military activities was also of high importance. Certain organisational problems that had impacted on their operations had long been identified. The application of a proven and widely acceptable organisational scheme was decided. A permanent planning and conduct capability, named the “Military Planning and Conduct Capability” (MPCC), was established, assuming responsibility at the strategic level for the operational planning and conduct of the EU’s three non-executive military missions, (EUTM Mali, EUTM Somalia and EUTM RCA). The positive results from this organisational change are already apparent. As I write these lines, deliberations on the future of the MPCC and its phased development into a true OHQ are ongoing, in the context of its planned review. The November 2016 Council Conclusions serve as a guiding light for the desired end-state, calling for the development of a permanent planning and conduct capability for all military CSDP missions and operations.

Increased defence cooperation among Member-States and the optimisation of their respective efforts have also enjoyed special interest from the EU side. The EU, as a whole, lacks a number of defence-related capabilities, some of them critical, a reality that limits its capability to act autonomously and to satisfy the agreed political Level of Ambition. Studies are revealing about the huge gap between the outputs of the Member-States defence budgets, and that of the United States. In order to remedy this situation a number of initiatives have been launched. Ideas coming from the past together with fresh ones led to the creation of instruments such as Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO), the Coordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD), the European Defence Plan (EDAP), the European Defence Industry Development Programme (EDIDP), the European Defence Fund (EDF) and the European Peace Facility (EPF). Originating either from the European Council or the European Commission, they all have the same objective: to facilitate the exchange of information and the coordination of national defence planning, to maximise economies of scale, to make European defence Research and Development a favourable option and to promote joint procurements. The EUMC was engaged in the majority of these and

other defence-related initiatives by offering solid military advice during the design stages.

Worldwide, the EU Delegations play a very important role, representing the Union. The composition of their staff though, does not represent every element of its Smart power. The absence of military representatives who would inform and support the Heads of Delegations on defence-related issues is obvious. The benefits of incorporating a Military Advisor to EU Delegations were highlighted in a paper issued by the EUMC. Hopefully, the first Military Advisors will soon report for duty at selected Delegations, promoting the international image of the EU as a global actor.

The EU undoubtedly profits from its multinational character. The pluralism and diversity of cultures and traditions represented by the people working in the institutions is beyond doubt one of its main strengths. The same can be argued for the military personnel, with one observation: in the unique environment of the Armed Forces, a specific identity needs also to be present, a military identity that will act as the connecting glue. A European military identity. In that respect, the EUMC joined forces with the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) to propose and support the idea of an Advanced Modular Training course, aiming at creating the aforementioned European Military identity. Organised for the first time last year, the results of this course are more than encouraging. In the same context, military Erasmus, a programme that aims to pave the way for a European security and defence culture, has been strongly supported by the EUMC.

The three years of my tenure have been extremely full, fascinating, productive and rewarding. I witnessed the transformation of the EU to become an integrated global actor and a credible and predictable security provider. I take pride from the fact that we, the military, contributed to this transformation and that we are offered a chance to provide more for the European citizens. We will continue to do so, in accordance with the tasks set by our political leadership. We will continue to provide our best advice and recommendations, based upon our professional expertise. In the sensitive domains of security and defence, there is no place for experimentation. I therefore expect that the evolution of the MPCC to a genuine EU OHQ will continue and will be achieved in a reasonable period of time. I anticipate that the efforts in capability development will continue with the same intensity and that they will soon bear fruit. I hope that soon the EU, being as dependant on the maritime domain as it is, will enjoy the capabilities and readiness of a maritime Battlegroup. I expect that the Battlegroups’ concept will be updated to make them relevant to contemporary challenges and threats. Last but not least, I hope that the main obstacle that our mission and operations faced in the past, namely financing, will be permanently removed.

I remain confident that the current impetus that drives defence-related European efforts will remain strong and the vision of a stronger Europe will materialise, because we deserve it.

Sectoral Qualifications Framework for the Military Officer Profession

Advanced
Modular Training
2018- CSDP
Operations
Planning



A communication tool among the Member States

BY COL ALIN BODESCU, PHD
ESDC TRAINING MANAGER (MILITARY)

Introduction

On 19 July 2016, the Chairman of the European Union Military Committee (EUMC), in consideration of the recommendations of the EU Military Training Group, invited the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), supported by the EU Military Staff (EUMS), to consider the finalisation of the Sectoral Qualifications Framework for all levels of the military officer career (SQF-MILOF).

From 2009 to 2014, in the context of the European initiative for the exchange of young officers inspired by Erasmus, the ESDC developed the first stage of the SQF-MILOF, which occurs at the beginning of the military officer's career. However, a comprehensive framework should capture all critical stages of the military officer career, at both junior and senior levels.

Why the SQF-MILOF?

Concluding the Council on Security and Defence in March 2017, Federica Mogherini, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR/VP), voiced the Member States' clear interest in strengthening defence cooperation. Along the same lines, when addressing the 'Building on vision, forward to action' forum on 13 December 2017, the HR/VP highlighted how important training and education are for creating a common strategic culture, as part of ongoing defence cooperation efforts.

Although education and training are Member States' (MS) responsibility, a high level of interoperability can only be achieved with the support of a transparent and critical approach to the development of military training and education programmes and systems. The SQF-MILOF is a tool conceived to support all these cooperative ambitions by offering MS a platform for cooperation and for exchanging national perspectives on the desired level of performance that military personnel should achieve through learning.

How should an officer operate and act within the complex and multi-dimensional operating environment of the future, in which the EU will need to deploy its full range of options in the area of security and defence? What competencies do commanders expect from their officers in the event of unexpected and rapidly evolving internal and external security situations with military implications? The answers to these questions would help provide a clearer picture of the desired profile of a European officer. This, in turn, would be relevant

for the SQF-MILOF and takes account of existing initiatives within NATO and other EU agencies (e.g. European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex)).

What is the SQF-MILOF?

The SQF-MILOF seeks to provide a cross-referencing tool for military qualifications so that qualifications awarded in one MS can be compared with similar qualifications awarded in other MS.

According to the European Training Foundation¹ a **qualification framework** "is an instrument for the development and classification of qualifications, which relates and compares qualifications using a hierarchy of levels of learning outcomes, usually of increasing complexity as a learner progresses up the levels" (European Training Foundation, 2011).

The **SQF-MILOF** is a pan-European Union (transnational) qualifications framework for the military officer profession. More specifically, it is:

- **Operationally relevant.** The SQF-MILOF will be based on the competence profile of a generic European officer. The competence profile should target the skills needed in the complex and multi-dimensional future operating environment (Fig 1).
- **Learning relevant.** The SQF-MILOF will describe the learning (profile) outcomes an officer should reach at specific moments in their career. It will describe what the officer should know and be able to do, with a certain degree of responsibility and autonomy, in order to match the competence profile for the European officer.
- **European Union relevant.** The SQF-MILOF will be aligned and compliant with the European Qualification Framework (EQF) for lifelong learning and will include CSDP-specific elements. By referencing national programmes against the SQF-MILOF on the one hand and the EQF on the other, Member States will be able to compare their qualifications with similar qualifications granted by another Member State.
- **Nationally relevant.** The SQF-MILOF will be aligned and compliant with the National Qualifications Frameworks (NQFs) of the EU Member States and act as a commonly agreed tool to support the development of Member States' educational programmes and course curricula, including the CSDP Reference Curriculum for Officers.

1. European Training Foundation. (2011). Transnational Qualifications Frameworks. Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union.

The SQF-MILOF will be based on the competence profile of the military officer, already agreed during the first stage of its development. The competence profile will serve as a basis to capture the learning outcomes (knowledge, skills, autonomy and responsibility) an officer should demonstrate in eight areas, as a:

1. military servicewoman/ serviceman;
2. military technician;
3. leader and decision maker;
4. combat-ready role model;
5. communicator;
6. learner and a teacher/coach;
7. critical thinker and researcher;
8. international security/diplomacy actor.

Competence Profile SQF-MILOF

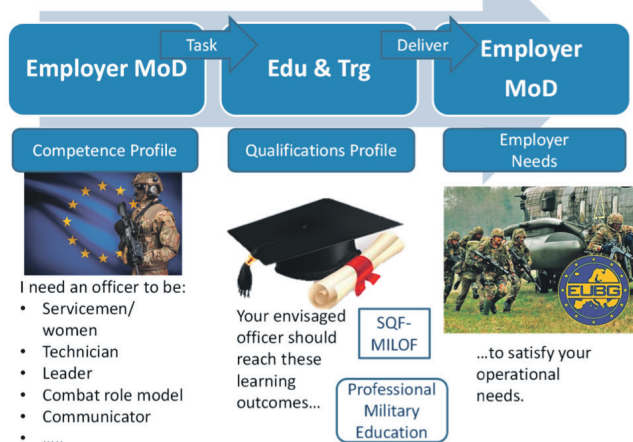


Figure 1–Competence Profile SQF-MILOF

So what? What are the benefits?

The SQF-MILOF has many benefits, such as increased transparency as regards national military training and education programmes. This will, in turn, facilitate the exchange of students and personnel at all levels of their military careers.

It will enable the harmonisation of minimum learning requirements/ outcomes for the military officer profession among the MS. It will also promote the development of educational programmes and course curricula within MS. These include the CSDP Reference Curriculum for Officers, which will be based on a common understanding of lifelong training and education requirements.

The SQF-MILOF will also provide a context within which MS can ensure that their national programmes are used for the purposes of European officer qualification. Above all, the use of shared values and competencies in the training of officers helps guarantee a high level of interoperability between the armed forces of the MS.

What are its main characteristics?

- **Common but not general.** By seeking the compromise of the lowest common denominator among Member States, the SQF-MILOF may become more general. However, this should not detract from its specific character and usefulness in the development of national SQFs and education and training programmes.
- **Inclusive and not prescriptive.** Although it covers commonalities among countries, it does not exclude the specificities of the Member States' national education and

training programmes. It does not impose how the learning outcomes should be achieved or specify content for the training programmes.

- **Joint and not service-specific.** It is inclusive, but related to the common requirements of all services. However, the SQF-MILOF will only fulfil its objectives when a complete cascading system has been implemented, to reflect its relationship with subordinate service SQFs and with Member States NQFs.
- **Voluntary and not legally binding.** All institutional architecture and decisions taken within the context of developing and implementing the SQF-MILOF at national level remain optional for the Member States.
- **Informative and not directive.** It is a tool that promotes transparency: the Member States reflect their national perspectives through the SQF-MILOF. It is a compromise between 28 countries. It is not necessarily a technical product; rather a political one. It should not impose common education and training standards and requirements on the Member States.

Who is responsible?

Development of the SQF-MILOF will be conducted by a dedicated ad-hoc working group (SQF-MILOF WG) composed of national representatives, which convenes under the auspices of the ESDC and will act in close coordination with the EUMS.

The SQF-MILOF WG convened for the first time on 11 June 2018 in Brussels to adopt its founding documents (the Charter; Rules of Procedures; Programme of work and Working Model) and elect a chairperson. The 31 participants who attended the meeting were from 12 Member States, EU institutions and agencies as well as international and non-governmental organisations. A second meeting took place on 8 October 2018, when the group discussed the main characteristics and competence profile of the future military officer.

Conclusion

The SQF-MILOF will be fully compliant with the EQF for lifelong learning. It will provide a suitable guidance on what officers should know and be able to do, under a specified degree of responsibility and autonomy, in order to match the generic profile of a European officer.

The SQF-MILOF will record, in an inclusive manner, the learning outcomes that military officers need to acquire in various MS. This will enable national authorities in a MS to better understand how their national military qualifications compare with those of other national systems. The ESDC believes that the SQF-MILOF will serve an effective purpose provided that Member States see it as a communication tool and a reference framework that they can use vis à vis their own National Qualifications Frameworks.

The SQF-MILOF is based on the competence profile defined and agreed by the employer, which at the EU level is represented by the EUMC. The armed forces of the Member States will be kept up to date – through the EUMC, as the main beneficiary of military officers – on progress on the development and implementation of the SQF-MILOF. Therefore, ESDC considers that the success of this initiative is highly dependent on the commitment and direct involvement of the MS from the outset.

The EU Military Staff's Annual Conceptual Development & Experimentation Seminar 2018

BY LT COL CHRISTOF OPOLONY – STAFF OFFICER CONCEPTS & CAPABILITIES DIRECTORATE EUMS

Dr. Patryk Pawlak, EUISS delivers his keynote speech to the EUMS CONCAP CD&E 2018 Seminar



On 25 September 2018, the European Union Military Staff (EUMS) hosted the annual Conceptual Development and Experimentation (CD&E) Seminar chaired by the Director of the EUMS Concepts and Capabilities Direc-

torate, Brigadier General Heinz Krieb. Representatives from fifteen EU Member States, NATO, UN, Finabel, Eurocorps and EDA attended this seventh iteration of this seminar making this event with 31 external participants the biggest so far.

Bringing conceptual developers together

The aim is to ensure coherence and avoid unnecessary duplication of conceptual documents as well as encouraging experimentation within EU institutions, Member States and partnering organisations. The exchange of information and knowledge amongst this community has been supported by these seminars – raising awareness, increasing efficiency and effectiveness in our common efforts. The different approaches and insights of EU Member States, NATO, EUMS, UN and Finabel have helped directly foster potential partnerships and ad hoc cooperation between the participants.

Digitisation and the need for further civilian-military integrated approaches

The keynote speech “Digitisation as a driver for major changes in military operations” by Dr. Patryk Pawlak from the EU Institute for Security Studies set the scene and highlighted the clear need for further civil-military integrated approaches to deal with the challenges to our common European Security. He also gave insights to the current struggles regarding the application of existing international law to the cyber domain, the lessons learned and the need for technology neutral solutions, given that policy can no longer keep pace with technological change. Beyond that it became clear that digitisation will have a major impact on current and future operational concepts and doctrine.

Interaction and the way ahead

In September 2019 the 8th EUMS CD&E Seminar will be hosted in Brussels where the EUMS ConCap Directorate will, amongst other contemporary topics, discuss the progress made and possibilities for further EU-NATO cooperation, especially in the area of Centres of Excellence, and how to have more experimentation when it comes to testing and proving conceptual documents.

The EUMS Concepts Branch, POC for the next CD&E Seminar is Christof.Opolony@eeas.europa.eu.

Lt Gen Wolfgang Wosolsobe (RIP)



In Memoriam Lt Gen Wolfgang Wosolsobe

It is with deep regret that the EU Military Staff (EUMS) learned

of the sad passing of its former Director General, Lt Gen Wolfgang Wosolsobe. Appointed DG EUMS following a long and distinguished career in the Austrian Armed forces and Ministry of Defence, Lt Gen Wosolsobe had responsibility for overseeing the military support to the six EU CSDP military operations and missions: namely Operations; Althea (BiH), Atalanta (EU NAVFOR Somalia) and Sophia (EUNAVFOR Med), EUTM Mali, EUTM Somalia and EUTM RCA (which had succeeded EUFOR RCA and EUMAM RCA respectively). Furthermore he with his EUMS staff in support contributed the professional military expertise and advice in the development of significant EEAS initiatives including: the 2016 EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy (EUGS), the 2017 EU – NATO Joint Declaration, the review of the EU's Defence package and the review of the EEAS's crisis management structures which culminated in the

establishment of the Military Planning Conduct Capability (MPCC) in June 2017.

In a changed and complex global security environment, Lt General Wosolsobe was the steady hand that directed and guided the EUMS support to the EU Military Committee (EUMC) and military contribution in the development of EU responses to evolving threats within the Hybrid, Cyber and Maritime security domains.

His personal qualities and ability to forge relations were significant factors in fostering trust and confidence amongst the myriad of civilian and military stakeholders within the global security domain.

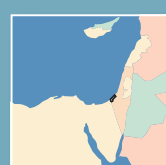

The military community has lost a most distinguished and professional officer and Europe a committed European. The EUMS wishes to convey its deepest condolences to Mrs Laurence Wosolsobe, their sons and the family and friends of Lt Gen Wosolsobe. May he rest in peace.

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 30 Apr 2018.

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 10 civilian missions).

Operations	MILITARY MISSIONS	CIVILIAN MISSIONS
MIDDLE EAST	-	<p>EUJUST LEX-Iraq (Iraq), Mar 05 - Dec 13</p> <p>EUPOL - COPPS (occupied Palestinian territories), 01 Jan 06 - 30 Mar 19</p> <p>EUBAM Rafah (occupied Palestinian territories), 25 Nov 05 - 30 Jun 19</p> <p>EUAM Iraq 16 Oct 17 - 16 Oct 18</p>
EUROPE	<p>CONCORDIA (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), Mar - Dec 03</p> <p>EUFOR ALTHEA (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Maintain Safe and Secure Environment (SASE) and conduct capacity building of AFBiH. Dec 04 - Nov 18</p> <p>EUNAVFOR MED – Operation SOPHIA. Contribute to disrupting the business model of human smuggling and trafficking networks in the Southern Central Mediterranean. Training and monitoring of the Libyan coastguard and prevention of arms smuggling, Jul 17 - Dec 18.</p>	<p>EUPM BiH Bosnia and Herzegovina, Jan 03 - Jun 12</p> <p>EUPOL Proxima (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), Dec 03 - Dec 05.</p> <p>EUPAT (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) followed EUPOL Proxima, Dec 05 - Jun 06</p> <p>EUJUST Themis (Georgia), Jul 04 - Jul 05</p> <p>EUP Kosovo, Apr 06 - Feb 08</p> <p>EULEX Kosovo, 04 Feb 08 - 14 Jun 20</p> <p>EUAM Georgia, 15 Sep 08 - 14 Dec 18</p> <p>EUAM Ukraine, 22 Jul 14 - 31 May 19</p>
ASIA	-	<p>AMM (Aceh Province, Indonesia), Sep 05 - Dec 06</p> <p>EUPOL AFGHANISTAN (Afghanistan), 12 Jun 07 - 31 Dec 16</p>
AFRICA	<p>ARTEMIS (Ituri province, Congo RDC), Jun - Sep 03</p> <p>EUFOR RD Congo (Congo RDC), Jun - Nov 06</p> <p>EUFOR TCHAD/RCA (Chad-Central African Republic), Jan 08 - Mar 09</p> <p>EUFOR RCA (Central African Republic) Apr 2014 - Mar 2015</p> <p>EUMAM RCA Mar 2015 - Jul 2016</p> <p>Operation ATALANTA (EUNAVFOR Somalia Operation to counter piracy off the coast of Somalia) Dec 08 - Dec 2020</p> <p>EUTM Somalia (Training Mission, Somalia), Apr 10 - Dec 18</p> <p>EUTM Mali (Training Mission, Mali), Feb 13 - May 20</p> <p>EUTM RCA (Central African Republic, Africa) July 16 - Sep 20</p>	<p>EUPOL Kinshasa (Congo RDC), Apr 05 - Jun 07</p> <p>EU SSR (Guinea-Bissau), Jun 08 - Sep 10</p> <p>AMIS II Support, Darfur Province (Sudan), Jul 05 - Dec 07</p> <p>EUAVSEC South Sudan, Sep 12 - Jan 14</p> <p>EUCAP SOMALIA, Horn of Africa and the Western Indian Ocean, 01 Jul 12 - 31 Dec 18</p> <p>EUPOL RD Congo (Congo RDC), 01 Jul 07 - 30 Sep 14</p> <p>EUCAP Sahel Niger 15 Jul 12 - 30 Sep 18</p> <p>EUCAP Sahel Mali 15 Jan 15 - 14 Jan 19</p> <p>EUBAM LIBYA 22 May 13 - 31 Dec 18</p>

	<p>OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES</p> <p>EU BAM RAFAH</p> 
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 2019.
COMMITMENT	The authorised strength of the Mission is 16. The budget for the period from July 2018 to June 2019 is € 2 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	Guenther FREISLEBEN (DE).

	<p>OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES</p> <p>EUPOL COPPS</p> 
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	Launched on 1 January 2006, the current Mission mandate runs until 30 June 2019.
COMMITMENT	Headquartered in Ramallah, the Mission has an authorised strength of 115 staff. Mission members include police experts, judges, and prosecutors. The budget for the period from July 2018 to June 2019 is €12.6 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	Kauko AALTO (FI).

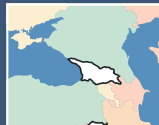

Middle East

	IRAQ EUAM IRAQ 
TYPE	EU Advisory Mission in support of 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 the Security Sector Reform in the long term in the context of future EU policy towards Iraq.
MANDATE	Launched 16 October 2017, with a mandate for one year. A planning process is ongoing to extend the mandate to 17 Oct 2019.
COMMITMENT	Authorised 52 staff. The budget October 2017 – October 2018 is €14 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	Dr. Markus Ritter (DE).



	KOSOVO EULEX KOSOVO 
TYPE	EU Rule of Law Mission.
OBJECTIVES	As the largest civilian Mission launched under the CSDP, EULEX Kosovo's objective under the new mandate is to support selected rule of law institutions in Kosovo through monitoring activities and limited executive functions - with the aim to hand over remaining tasks to other long-term EU instruments and phase 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 2020.
COMMITMENT	Headquartered in Pristina, the Mission has an authorised strength of 503 staff. A budget of €83.6 million is allocated for the budget period from June 2018 to June 2020.
HEAD OF MISSION	Alexandra Papadopoulou (EL).

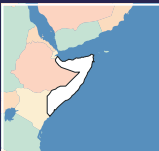

Middle East

	BOSNIA AND HERZGOVINA EUROPEAN UNION FORCE ALTHEA (EUFOR ALTHEA) 
TYPE	EU- led Military operation, (European Union Force).
OBJECTIVES	Under the authority of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2384, EUFOR supports Bosnia and Herzegovina's (BiH) efforts to maintain a safe and secure environment (SASE). Currently it also conducts capacity building and training of the Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH) but this role will be tasked to NATO at the end of 2018. Thereafter EUFOR will focus on combined training with AFBiH in order to contribute to peace and stability.
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	The Operation had been reconfigured since September 2012 to conduct capacity building and training in addition to the executive mandate. EUFOR Operation ALTHEA comprises circa 600 personnel from 13 EU-member states and 5 partner Troop Contributing Nations. 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 Martin DORFER (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. Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (DSACEUR), General Sir James EVERARD (UK), is the EU Operation Commander.



	GEORGIA EUMM GEORGIA 
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 2018.
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 2017 to December 2018 is € 19.9 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	Erik Hoeg (DK).

	UKRAINE EUAM UKRAINE 
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 2019.
COMMITMENT	Headquartered in Kyiv with regional presences in Lviv and Kharkiv as well as mobile outreach to other regions. The Mission has an authorised strength of 323 staff. A budget of €33.8 million is allocated for the period from December 2017 to May 2019.
HEAD OF MISSION	Kestutis Lanciskas (LT).

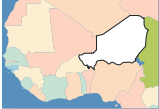

 CENTRAL SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN EUNAVFOR MED 	
TYPE	EUNAVFOR Med Operation SOPHIA (ENFM) is a military crisis management operation that is contributing to improving maritime security in the Central Mediterranean and supporting the return of stability and security in Libya.
OBJECTIVES	ENFM is a multifaceted naval operation instrumental in returning stability to the Central Mediterranean (following the 2015 migration crisis) through contributing to disrupting human trafficking activities, implementing the UN arms embargo on the high seas off the coast of Libya, gathering information in relation to illegal trafficking including oil smuggling, as well as training and monitoring of the Libyan Coast Guard and Navy (LCG&N). ENFM's contribution to the exchange of information with EU, UN, international and national agencies and organisations, including NGO, and other CSDP missions and operations remain a key enabler for the Operation. The operation is but one element of the EU's wider comprehensive approach to migration and Libya complementing wider EU actions in the region.
MANDATE	ENFM is operating in accordance with the political, strategic and politico-military objectives set out in order to contribute disrupt the business model of human smuggling and trafficking networks in the Southern Central Mediterranean. The current mandate expires on 31 Dec 2018 however planning is currently ongoing to extend the mandate for another 2 years.
COMMITMENT	The flagship is the Italian Ship "San Marco", with an average of 5 surface units and 6 air assets deployed, subject to change in accordance with Member States contributions. The mission has a total of around 1000 personnel with 800 in force elements and 26 participating Member States. The expected common budget from Jul 17 to Dec 18 is EURO 6.0 million. Additional support is provided by EU, international and NGO organisations including FRONTEX, EASO, UNSMIL, UNHCR, IOM, CISOM and the RAVA IT foundation.
HEAD OF MISSION	The EU Operation Headquarters is located in Rome (Italy), Rear Admiral (UH) Enrico CREDEBINO (IT Navy) is the Operation Commander with Rear Admiral (LH) Stefano TURCHETTO (IT Navy) as the Force Commander at sea.



 HORN OF AFRICA AND THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN EU NAVFOR ATALANTA 	
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 2020.
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 with a current strength of 800 personnel from 19 EU contributing states and 2 non-EU states.
HEAD OF MISSION	Currently the EU Operation Headquarters is located at Northwood (UK). Major General Charlie STICKLAND OBE (UK) is the EU Operation Commander. Rear Admiral Rapese (IT) is the Force Commander. This will change with effect from 29 Mar 2019 when Vice admiral Antonio Matorelli Lacave (ES) will assume command and the OHQ will transfer to Rota, (ES)

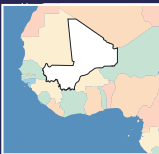

 LIBYA EUBAM LIBYA 	
TYPE	EU Integrated Border Management Assistance Mission in Libya
OBJECTIVES	EUBAM Libya assists in the comprehensive civilian security sector reform (SSR) planning process, with the tasks of: informing EU planning for a possible civilian capacity building and assistance crisis management mission in the field of SSR; co-operating closely with, and contributing to, UNSMIL efforts; liaising with the legitimate Libyan authorities and other relevant security interlocutors.
MANDATE	The Mission was launched on 22 May 2013 and has a mandate until 31 December 2018.
COMMITMENT	The Mission operates from its Headquarters in Tunis with a light presence in Tripoli. The current authorised staff level is 38. The budget for the period from August 2017 to December 2018 is €31.2 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	Vincenzo Tagliaferri (IT).

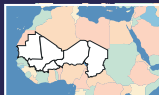

 SOMALIA EUCAP SOMALIA 	
TYPE	Capacity Building Mission.
OBJECTIVES	The Mission aims to strengthen the maritime security capacity of host countries to effectively govern their territorial waters and to ensure maritime security. The Mission's efforts in Somalia concentrate on mentoring and advising Somali partners. This strategic level advice and mentoring is supported by the coordination and facilitation of specialised training to support capacity building efforts. The Mission is complementary to EUNAVFOR ATALANTA and EUTM Somalia.
MANDATE	Launched in July 2012, the current mandate runs until 31 December 2018.
COMMITMENT	The mission has its headquarters in Mogadishu with an administrative back office in Nairobi and field offices in Somaliland (Hargeisa) and Puntland (Garowe). Authorised strength is 165. The budget allocated for the period from March 2018 to December 2018 is €27 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	Maria-Cristina Stepanescu (RO).

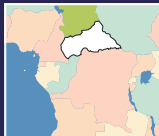

 SOMALIA EU TRAINING Mission, Somalia (EUTM Somalia) 	
TYPE	Military mission to contribute to the training, mentoring and advice of the Somali National Army Forces (SNAF)
OBJECTIVES	The Council has adopted a decision on a 6th mandate with the objective of providing political and strategic level military advice and mentoring to Somali authorities within the Defence Institutions, mainly specialised training as well as specific mentoring, advice and capacity building in the training domain, with a view to handing over training activities for tactical units once conditions are met in order to contribute to the development of Somali National Security Forces.
MANDATE	The current mandate has been extended until 31 Dec 2020. 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 8 Member States and 1 participating third state (Serbia) plus 16 local staff. The approved budget for the period 01 Jan 19 to 31 Dec 20 is €22.9 million. Since January 2014 all EUTM-Somalia activities including advisory, mentoring and training are now carried out in Mogadishu with the support of a Liaison Office in Nairobi and a Support Cell in Brussels.
HEAD OF MISSION	The Director MPCC, Lt Gen Esa PULKKINEN is the Operational Commander located in Brussels. The Mission Headquarters is situated in Mogadishu. Brigadier General Matteo SPREAFICO (IT) is the EU Mission Force Commander since 16 July 2018.

	NIGER EUCAP SAHEL 
TYPE	EU Capacity Building Mission.
OBJECTIVES	Through training and advising, the Mission aims to improve the capacities of 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 contribute to enhancing 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 and Field Office in Agadez. Authorised 202 staff. An annual budget of € 63.4 million is allocated for the period from 01 Oct 2018 to 30 September 2020.
ACTING HEAD OF MISSION	Frank VAN DER MUEREN (BE).

	MALI EUCAP SAHEL 
TYPE	EU Capacity Building Mission
OBJECTIVES	The Mission supports the restructuring of the Malian internal security forces (the Police Nationale, Gendarmerie Nationale and Garde Nationale) with a view to helping Malian authorities implement their Security Sector Reform (SSR) through a combination of training activities and the provision of strategic advice. In this, it complements the work of the EU Military Training Mission.
MANDATE	The Mission was launched on 15 January 2015 and its current mandate runs until 14 January 2019.
COMMITMENT	The headquarters of the Mission is in Bamako. The authorised strength is 194 staff. The annual budget for the period from January 2018 to January 2019 is €28.45 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	Philippe Rio (FR).

	MALI EU TRAINING MISSION, MALI (EUTM MALI) 
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 improve its military capacity, in order to allow, under civilian authority, the restoration of the country's territorial integrity. More than 12,000 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 establishment of the G5 Sahel (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger) Joint Forces.
MANDATE	Launched on 18 February 2013 the mission mandate has been extended until May 2020. EUTM Mali is not involved in combat operations or mentoring. Its actions extend up to the river Niger Loop, including Gao and Timbuktu.
COMMITMENT	The mission comprises circa 600 personnel from 21 EU contributing states + 5 non EU. The Mission Headquarters is located in Bamako and the main Training area is in Koulikoro, 60 km north-east of the capital. Common costs for the current mandate are estimated at €39 million.
HEAD OF MISSION	The Director MPCC, Lt Gen Esa PULKKINEN is the Operational Commander located in Brussels. Brigadier General Enrique MILLÁN (ESP) is the EU Mission Force Commander, since February 2018.

	G5 SAHEL Regional Coordinating Cell (RCC) 
TYPE	CSDP scoping and planning regional activity. (Please note, that this is not a CSDP mission, but a CSDP action, embedded within EUCAP Sahel Mali, but with a wider geographical area of responsibility and a more encompassing mandate.)
OBJECTIVES	This CSDP action is intended to primarily support cross-border cooperation. To this end it examines possible enhancements of regional cooperation structures and proposes possible CSDP support to cross-border cooperation capacities amongst the five members of the G5 Sahel (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, and Mauritania).
MANDATE	Launched 20 June 2017, currently until 14 January 2019.
COMMITMENT	Authorised 15 staff. The regionalisation's expenditures are covered under EUCAP Sahel Mali's budget.
HEAD OF MISSION	Natalina Cea (IT)

	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC EUTM RCA (MILITARY TRAINING MISSION) 
TYPE	EU CSDP Military Training Mission
OBJECTIVES	EUTM RCA is part of the EU's integrated approach in the Central African Republic. This approach aims to contribute 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, its mandate has been extended until 19 Sep 2020.
COMMITMENT	In order to contribute to the Defence Sector Reform in CAR within the Central African Security Sector Reform process coordinated by MINUSCA, and working 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 the President's cabinet, and provides advice on civil-military cooperation, including to the Ministry of the Interior and the gendarmerie. Additionally EUTM RCA provides education to the FACA's commissioned and non-commissioned officers and specialists, and operational training to the FACA. At the end of its first mandate, the mission has advised, educated and trained over 3,000 FACA soldiers (men and women). It also coordinates closely with the EU Delegation in Bangui.
HEAD OF MISSION	The Director MPCC, Lt Gen Esa PULKKINEN is the Operational Commander located in Brussels. The EU Mission Headquarters is located in Bangui. The EU Mission Force Commander is Brig Gen Herminio Teodoro MAIO (PT)

The contribution of the Republic of Serbia to the European Union Common Security and Defence Policy

BY CDR VLADAN STANIC, LNO – REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

The Republic of Serbia is one of the European Union partner states that have been actively participating in activities within the EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) since 2011. The legal framework for this cooperation has been established by the 'Agreement between the Republic of Serbia and the European Union on Security Procedures for Exchanging and Protecting Classified Information' together with the 'Agreement between the Republic of Serbia and the European Union on Establishing a Framework for the Participation of the Republic of Serbia in European Union Crisis Management Operations.' The conclusion of the said agreements established a strong partnership which has been affirmed over the past seven years through the active participation of the Republic of Serbia in EU military missions and operations, EU military exercises (MILEX and MULTILAYER), as well as contributing to the EU Force Catalogue Supplement, joining the EU Battle Group Concept, and through continued and intensive cooperation with the Union's key institutions.

The Republic of Serbia is currently participating in four EU CSDP military missions and operations; EUNAVFOR Somalia - Operation ATALANTA (since 2011), EUTM Somalia (since 2012), EUTM Mali (since 2014), and EUTM RCA in the Central African Republic (since 2016). Serbia also previously participated in two missions/operations in the Central African Republic - EUFOR RCA (2014) and EUMAM RCA (2015-2016). Over the past several years, Serbia has gradually and continually increased its participation in the EU military missions and operations and has so far deployed around 250 personnel of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and the Serbian Armed Forces (SAF) - staff officers and members of six autonomous vessel protection detachments (AVPD), and 29 medical teams. It is important to emphasise that Serbia is the only non-EU state participating in EUTM Somalia, as well as being the first partner state to deploy an AVPD to Operation ATALANTA in 2013.

With its long and distinguished tradition in military medicine, Serbian military medical capabilities have been deployed to practically all EU military missions and operations in which Serbia has participated. Medical advisors/chief medical officers (MEDAD/JMED) and medical teams within Role 1 medical facilities have participated in EUTM Somalia, EUFOR RCA, EUMAM RCA and EUTM RCA. Furthermore a mobile medical team has been deployed within the German Role 2 medical facility in EUTM Mali. By participating in EUTM RCA (Role 1) and MINUSCA (Role 2)¹, Serbian military medical personnel represent a link between the two missions and are one of the most obvious examples of a successful strategic partnership and synergy between the EU and the UN in the field.

In addition to the participation in the EU military missions and operations, since 2014, Serbia has declared a motorised infantry company, a military police platoon, a CBRN platoon, two medical teams and an autonomous vessel protection detachment (AVPD) that have been included in the European Union Force Catalogue Supplement. Furthermore, since September 2017, Serbia has been a full member of the EU Battle Group HELBROC consisting

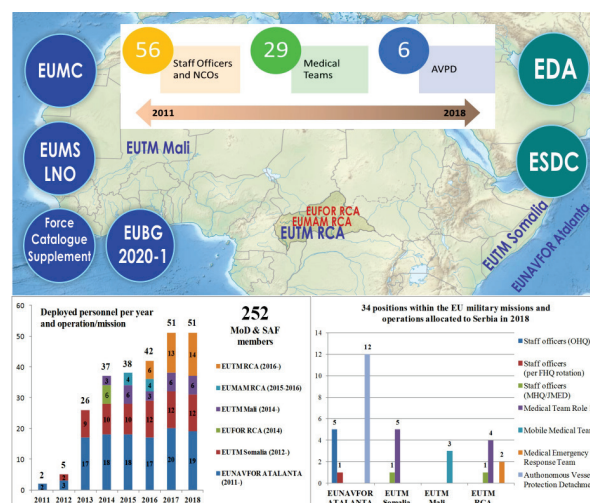
of Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, Cyprus and Ukraine. The active participation of the Serbian Armed Forces in HELBROC with up to five staff officers, a military police platoon, a CIMIC team and a national support element is to commence with standby position of this battle group in the first half of 2020.

With a view to developing the defence capabilities of the Republic of Serbia and enhancing its interoperability with EU Member States, the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia concluded the Administrative Arrangement on Cooperation with the European Defence Agency (EDA) in December 2013 which provides a framework that allows its potential participation in initiatives, projects and programmes of the Agency. In addition, for training and education purposes in the CSDP domain, diplomats, military and police personnel, as well as civil servants from different institutions of the Republic of Serbia participate in some of the training organised by the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) thus ensuring the requisite level of knowledge of those employed in the institutions of the Republic of Serbia to efficiently perform CSDP related activities.

In the coming years, Serbia will continue to provide an active and continuous contribution to the EU military missions and operations, to carry out the preparations for its participation in the EU HELBROC battle group, partake in European Defence Agency programmes and projects, as well as to create the conditions for active participation in EU civilian missions.

Through its active involvement in the field of EU CSDP, Serbia has become a reliable and trustworthy partner of the EU. The nation's foreign policy position has been improved, particularly in terms of mutual relations with the EU institutions and Member States as well as with other international organisations, thus producing a positive effect on its overall EU integration process and on the Republic of Serbia's status in the field of international security, both regionally and globally.

Since obtaining the status of a European Union candidate country in March 2012, full EU membership has been one of the top priorities and most important strategic goals of the Republic of Serbia. With this end in view, the continued contribution to EU missions and operations, the building of mutual confidence and strengthening military cooperation with the Union's Member States in the area of CSDP remain the priorities of the Ministry of Defence and the Serbian Armed Forces in the period to come.



¹ Both the EU Training Mission (EUTM) RCA and the UN mission MINUSCA are currently deployed in the Central African Republic.

EU BATTLEGROUP (EUBG)

EU CONTINGENCY: 'INTERVENTION, STABILISATION, PREVENTION'

BY MAJ CHRIS SMITH RM AND MAJ KATHY DICKINSON, NORTHWOOD OHQ, UK.

MILEX 17 OHQ
Planning team
including
augmentees.

Photo Northwood, UK OHQ



Global security is vital to ensuring prosperity and peaceful environments to allow for growth and development. The ability to be a positive influence in ensuring stability, to prevent or intervene in deteriorating circumstances has long been recognised by the European Union. The European Union's ability to develop contingencies to deal with uncertainty ranges across political, economic and even military means; necessitating an integrated approach. One particular instrument available is the EU Battle Group (EUBG).

Background to the EUBG

The deployment of an EU force to the Democratic Republic of Congo in 2003 founded the concept of an EU Rapid Reaction force and, since that time, the EU has developed the concept of the EUBG. EU Member States now provide, on a rotational basis, a standby force of approximately 1500 personnel able to deploy up to 6000km from Brussels within 10 days of a Council decision to launch. Should the EUBG be required to deploy, the deployed Force Commander will then report to an EU

Operational Commander and Headquarters based in one of five nominated Operation Headquarters (OHQs) on activation¹. The range of tasks that an EUBG could undertake includes, but is not limited to: conflict prevention, initial stabilisation, humanitarian intervention, crisis management or peacekeeping.

Current EUBG readiness and planning

The current EUBG consists of troops from Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg and its nominated OHQ is provided by the UK and is located in Northwood, where a dedicated core team works alongside the Operation Atalanta staff; this will continue until the end of 2018 when the next rotation of troops and OHQ comes into effect.

The nominated OHQ is tasked with conducting the Military Strategic planning in support of the EU Military Committee's strategic direction, and the OHQ will then provide direction for the Force Commander to carry out the mission. In order to ensure the OHQ is prepared for any possible EUBG deployments, it conducts training exercises to prove readiness and practice the planning process.

OHQ Exercises

In recent months, two strategic-level exercises have been undertaken: the first was a communications exercise to ensure connectivity between the OHQ and the Force Headquarters. The second was a planning exercise rehearsing the OHQ's ability to respond to an emerging crisis.

1. The five nominated Operation Headquarters (OHQs) are located in France, Germany, Greece, Italy and the UK.

BENELUX
EUBG 2018
Deployed HQ

Photo BE LCC





The first exercise took place in the Netherlands, near Eindhoven, and tested the ability to deploy and use the communications and information systems (CIS) that are necessary to support both satellite and fixed line internet/intranet communications between the Northwood based OHQ and the deployed Force HQ. To use the jargon of the communications experts, this 'plug-up' managed to prove the connections between computers and telecommunications equipment, and just as importantly, it proved the ability of the technical staff from both HQs to undertake the assigned tasks.

The exercise used systems already proven over nearly 10 years of deployed operations with EU NAVFOR Somalia, Operation Atalanta², which provide a rapidly deployable secret system that will enable communications direct from the theatre of operations to the political-strategic audiences in Brussels.

The second exercise, conducted at the OHQ's Northwood base, tested the ability to recall key nucleus staff at short notice, and to conduct a rapid planning process based on an exercise scenario supporting existing EU training missions in West Africa using real-time information. The resultant analysis was briefed to the Operation Commander, Major General Charlie Stickland, from the Northwood Headquarters whilst he was on other business in Norway. This in itself replicated the reality of the OHQ Commander continuing with the leadership and management of one operation whilst preparing to command a second and concurrent operation, during the early parts of the planning process.

The planning exercise provided a great opportunity to test and practice the EU Comprehensive Operations Planning Process (COPP); deepen collective understanding of the composition and strategic lift requirements of the EUBG; research and better appreciate the complexities in a geographical area of interest; and forge closer links within the core staff that would comprise the OHQ.

Conclusions

The ongoing rehearsal and practising of procedures and techniques is vital to ensure that staff remain trained and ready at short notice. Preparation, integration and practice remain the key to ensuring the OHQ is able to identify options and courses of action in a timely manner, should the EU seek to deploy the EUBG.

Sidebar 1:

The EUBG planning process has been tested previously at the Northwood HQ. A two-week military crisis planning exercise based on the EU NAVFOR Operational Headquarters (OHQ) command team took place in Northwood from 3-16th November 2017. 44 staff from 11 EU Member States formed a strategic military planning team and worked with a secondary Force Headquarters in Burgos, Spain to develop a robust and effective concept of operations.

Sidebar 2:

The EU currently has six ongoing military operations and missions and another 10 civilian missions all with peacekeeping and conflict prevention objectives. Operation Atalanta has been ongoing since December 2008 and has maintained a commitment to deter, prevent and repress piracy and also to protect World Food Programme vessels and other vulnerable shipping. Atalanta continues to evolve to meet the mission objectives and is now more than just ships; it is an interconnected network of maritime capability encouraging cooperation and coordination from multiple maritime stakeholders.

2. The OHQ in Northwood, UK currently serves as the OHQ for EU NAVFOR Somalia, Operation Atalanta, an EU Naval anti-piracy operation in the Gulf of Aden and the Western Indian Ocean while double hatting as the OHQ for the BENELUX EUBG 2018.

CIS INTEROPERABILITY

EUROPEAN UNION MILITARY STAFF AND EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE PARTICIPATION IN NATO CWIX 2018

BY CAPT IT (N) CARLO LORUSSO ACTION OFFICER AND THE CWIX LEAD IN THE CIS DIRECTORATE OF THE EUMS

CWIX 2018
VIP DAY
JFTC DEP CMDR
BGEN JUNG and
DSACT ADM
NIELSON



Finally, after ‘visiting’ in 2015 and ‘observing’ in 2016 and 2017, this year the European Union Military Staff (EUMS), with the support of colleagues from the European External Action Service (EEAS), became active ‘participants’ in the NATO CWIX event in June 2018. CWIX–Coalition Warrior Interoperability eXploration, eXperimentation, eXamination Exercise—is an annual program of communications and information systems (CIS) interoperability testing which is managed by NATO Allied Command Transformation (ACT), based in Virginia, USA, and culminates in an annual execution event. The event was held at the NATO Joint Force Training Centre (JFTC) premises in Bydgoszcz, Poland from 11th to 27th June. There were 29 participants including EURO-CORPS and representatives from 19 EU Member States (MS): Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Following a great deal of planning effort over several months, led by the EUMS CIS Directorate, authorisation for the EUMS and EEAS to participate in the event was received from the EU Military Committee (EUMC) and the North Atlantic Council (NAC). Consequently, Action Officers from the EUMS CIS Directorate formed a joint team with EEAS BA.SI.3 – Secure Communications Division representatives and their small technical support team.

This is NATO’s premier interoperability event, operationally driven and technically supported, which provides a controlled environment to test, identify and fix interoper-

ability issues. The Command & Control (C2) capabilities present in CWIX span the complete range of CIS enabling technologies and represent the current, near-term, future and experimental capabilities of NATO and its Partner Nations/Organisations. Among the CWIX main objectives there is also the key task to explore the options of defending coalition networks and systems against cyber-attacks. In addition, CWIX puts an emphasis on systems that are foreseen to contribute to the evolution of ‘Federated Mission Networking’ (FMN) baselines and will likely deploy with NATO/Coalition-led operations. FMN is a huge military Information Technology program that aims to implement network architectures to enable improved information sharing in a coalition environment.

CWIX emphasises the importance of interoperability (people, processes and technology) to improve the exchange of information and situational awareness so as to enhance decision making. Improving interoperability is critically important and provides significant operational and cost benefits as the participants’ pool and share their resources, enhance readiness and deterrence while saving money and lives. CWIX provides the opportunity for nations and organisations to collaborate and develop processes that build mutual trust and confidence in the people, processes and technical interoperability that has been achieved. The risk of CIS failure whilst deployed on an exercise or coalition mission is unacceptable; CWIX reduces the risk of failure prior to deployments through a program of testing activities that allow nations to “Try; Fail; Fix; Try again”.

Participation in CWIX is organised by Focus Areas (FA). A Focus Area is a Community of Interest of Capability Configuration Leads and other personnel that share a common purpose. Currently activated FAs include:

- Air
- Communications
- Cyber
- FFT (Friendly Force Tracking)
- FMN (Federated Mission Networking) Core Services
- FMN Future Core Services
- FMN Exercise
- GeoMetOC (Geographic–Meteorological & Oceanographic)

- JISR (Joint Information Surveillance Reconnaissance)
- Land
- LOG/M&T/MED (Logistic/Movement & Transport/ Medics)
- Maritime
- MIP (Multilateral Interoperability Program)
- Modelling & Simulation
- Operational CMD
- Data Centric Security
- Tactical Data Links

At CWIX 2018, the major achievement for the EU team was the successful connection of the EUMS Command and Control Information System (EUCCIS) to a NATO Secret network for the first time, albeit in an exercise context. The Joint EUMS/EEAS team was given approval to access the CWIX main ‘playground’, the Combined Federated Battle Laboratories Network (CFBLNet). This simulated environment then enabled the team to undertake over 200 interoperability test cases, ranging from formatted messages and tactical objects exchange, to the reception and visualisation of geographical, meteorological and oceanographic charts and products. Each EUCCIS system function or service that was tested for the exercise was submitted to detailed procedures, technically defined test cases, during which, for each input inserted by the operators, the EUCCIS software was expected to provide specific output in the corresponding partner’s system, and vice versa. In particular, the following EUCCIS system functionalities were tested:

- **Multilateral Interoperability Programme (MIP).** MIP is a multinational program intended to support Situational Awareness and improve interoperability between deployed land-based CIS for Joint operations. MIP is recognised as one of the primary solutions in terms of providing a Joint Common Operational Picture (JCOP). The JCOP is the digitalized representation, over a geographical map, of tactical objects (land bases, ships, aircraft, etc.); a comprehensive and updated JCOP is crucial for Commanders Situational Awareness. On the other hand, a clear and robust Situational Awareness is a fundamental prerequisite for the following decision making process. The MIP Baseline 3.1 DEM, used as the JCOP reference within the CWIX MIP Focus Area, was installed and tested within EUCCIS.
- **The Geographic Meteorological and Oceanographic (GeoMetOc).** The GeoMetOc functionality in EUCCIS was tested with similar products and data sets used by other participants. These included Geo data (maps, charts, imagery, elevation and vector data) and MetOc data (climatology, observations, and forecasts). By focusing on the dissemination of GeoMetOc information using standardised web services, EUMS/EEAS were able to assess the interoperability of the standards used in EUCCIS.
- **Formatted Messages.** During CWIX 18, several test cases were carried out in order to feed the EUCCIS JCOP with digital messages originated by other participants. Messages were received by EUCCIS, converted into local tracks (synthetic representations of tactical objects) and displayed by the EUCCIS JCOP Viewer. Tests were also run in reverse with EUCCIS as the source and different types of formatted messages were also able to be exchanged.



CWIX 2018 - EU-NATO member state National Team carrying out Test Cases

- **CHAT Services.** CHAT Services, via XMPP6, enabling rapid, real-time exchange of information were tested.

The Test Cases performed successfully in CWIX 2018 demonstrated that the EUMS C2 system is interoperable – within the specified parameters – with NATO C2 systems and certain other similar C2 systems operated by EU MS. Based on the experience of CWIX 18, participation in future CWIX editions have the potential to bring significant benefits to the EUMS as part of the EU MSs CIS community and to EU-NATO cooperation; in particular:

- The outcomes provided by the interoperability tests will enable EUMS/EEAS to improve EUCCIS, in line with the emerging operational requirements and with the expectation that EUCCIS would have enhanced interoperability with similar EU MS National and NATO C2 systems;
- The improved situational awareness made available by EUCCIS has the potential to increase EUMS capabilities, and the ability of the EEAS Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC), to monitor – and even control and direct – EU military Missions and Operations.

CWIX 18 has also opened the door for EUMS/EEAS to undertake further activities in the area of CIS and cyber interoperability. In particular CWIX provides an excellent opportunity to verify and validate other EUMS capabilities, such as the enhancement of the design and prototyping phase of the updated EU Operational Wide Area Network (EU OPS WAN) – the EU classified strategic permanent link, dedicated to consultation, data management, planning, preparation, conduct and reach back of CSDP missions and operations to central Brussels. Moreover, CWIX represents the best venue to verify the progressive compliance of EU OPS WAN with FMN standards, exploiting the exercise and simulated environment provided by the CFBLNet. EUMS is currently approved by the NAC to be an “Observer” in the FMN Program but becoming an “Affiliate” will enable procedural and technical impediments that today limit EUMS interoperability (and contribute to its isolation) to be addressed.

As a result of the achievements from participation in NATO CWIX 2018, the EUMS has already submitted a request to the NATO authorities for the Joint EUMS/EEAS Team to continue their participation in CWIX 2019. Next year’s final event will, again, take place at the NATO JFTC Bydgoszcz over the period 10th to 27th June 2019.

EUNAVFOR MED Operation Sophia - a dynamic Maritime Security provider in the Central Mediterranean

BY CAPTAIN IT NAVY ANTONELLO DE RENZIS SONNINO, SPOKESPERSON AND CHIEF OF MEDIA CELL

Since its launch on 22 June 2015, the EU's Military naval crisis management operation in the Mediterranean, EUNAVFOR MED Operation Sophia (ENFM), has contributed to the disruption of the business model of human smuggling and trafficking networks in the Southern Central Mediterranean.

2018 has seen a continued reduction in migratory flows along the Central Mediterranean Route and consolidation of the Operation as a maritime security provider in this area. With the end of the current mandate approaching, it is useful to take stock of results achieved and look forward.

Main results and developments

Established in a crisis management context in 2015, Operation Sophia has since transitioned to a relevant tool of a more structured EU comprehensive approach to irregular migration and returning stability to Libya.

Since mid-2017, there has been a significant decrease in the number of arrivals via the Central Mediterranean Route. This proves that through an integrated approach, the Smugglers' Business Model is not an unbeatable phenomenon, but one that must and can be disrupted.

At the moment, 26 EU Member States (MS) participate in the operation (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom) with around 1.000 personnel and several naval, air and submarine assets committed affirming the highest commitment of MS to CSDP activities.

So far, Operation Sophia has disposed of 551 vessels, preventing them from being re-used by smugglers, and transferred over 151 suspected smugglers and/or traffickers to Italian law enforcement authorities. Although Search and Rescue (SAR) is not part of Op SOPHIA's mandate, the Operations has since the very beginning, rescued more than 44.900 people in distress at sea (around 9% of the total numbers of migrants rescued at sea in the area of operation in the same period), in total compliance with the International law of the sea and moral obligations, always following direction under the coordinating authority of the relevant Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (M.R.C.C.).

Additionally, since October 2016, ENFM is fully involved in the training of the Libyan Coastguard and Navy (LCG&N) in the implementation of the United Nations (UN) authorised arms embargo off the coast of Libya in accordance with UNSCR 2292 (2016), recently extended to 11 June 2019 following UNSCR 2420 (2018).

The aim of the training is to improve the LCG&Ns' ability to perform their institutional tasks in the Libyan territorial waters and SAR region, combat illicit activities and save lives at sea. The training packages will enhance LCG&Ns' capabilities to disrupt smuggling and trafficking from/to Libyan shores. Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law are integral elements of the training modules.

To date, the Operation has coordinated the training of 238 members of the LCG&N on board Task Force' units at sea or in Member States' training centres. Alongside training, monitoring remains an essential element of the capacity-building program. In February 2018, the Operation shared its first Monitoring Report with Member States.

ENFM Op Sophia team checking the bona fides of a vessel.





Delegates to the ENFM SHADE 2018 conference in Rome.

The LCG&N have assumed a more proactive role in disrupting the smugglers' business model at sea and in performing search and rescue operations. This has been enabled by the effective combination of training and equipment provided bilaterally by Italy.

Moreover, the supporting task of countering illegal arms trafficking contributes to situational awareness and to maritime security in the Central Mediterranean. Operation Sophia continues to be the only international actor among maritime partners to implement the UN arms embargo on the high seas off the coast of Libya. The UN Security Council has recognised the deterrent effect achieved in the high seas by ENFM and that the implementation of the arms embargo contributes to the stabilisation of Libya. At sea, since the task was assigned, Task Force units have hailed more than 2.160 merchant vessels and carried out 138 friendly approaches and 3 inspections, while in two boardings arms and weapons were seized.

In 2017, the mandate of the Operation was adapted to include the gathering information on oil smuggling. On 31 May 2018, the Operation shared its first oil smuggling report with Member States. The gathering of information has positively enhanced maritime situational awareness and understanding of patterns of life at sea, including by identifying the main areas of interest for oil smuggling.

The importance of outreach and information exchange

Operation Sophia is part of the EU response to policy challenges that continues to attract public interest at all levels. Enhancing the levels of ENFM's engagement and outreach with both internal and external stakeholders has been paramount to informing all those with an interest in what we do and exploring areas for collaboration.

Our wider engagement with the UN, EU, AU, NATO, national and international organisations, including NGOs and third party countries, has continued through our bi-annual Shared Awareness and De-confliction in the Mediterranean (SHADE Med) forum, a timely opportunity which brings both military and civilian stakeholders to the table to enhance mutual understanding and interaction. Engagement with the shipping industry has deepened with several workshops on enhancing maritime situational awareness.

The Operation Commander continues to advocate for a policy of engagement that facilitates discussions and

helps foster productive exchanges. This result of which is twofold; ensuring an open and honest dialogue and the reciprocal exchange of information to assist operational understanding and delivery. In this regard, several agreements have been signed since the beginning of the Operations which foster cooperation with the relevant stakeholders

Exchanges of information with law enforcement agencies continue to be at the heart of the Operation in carrying out its' core and supporting tasks.

By the end of June 2018, the first "European Observatory on Migrant Smuggling and Human Trafficking" report had been issued. The Observatory is a joint project launched by Operation Sophia in cooperation with the anti-mafia and anti-terrorism Italian National Directorate, and is open to third parties, to systematically collect, analyse and report on data regarding irregular migrant smuggling and human trafficking.

To further enhance information exchanges and cooperation between CSDP actors, EU JHA (Justice and Home Affairs) agencies and EU Member States, a pilot project for a Crime Information Cell was launched on board the flagship on 5 July 2018. The cell, comprising representatives from Europol, Frontex and ENFM is delivering interesting and promising results.

Future beyond 2018

ENFM's mandate expires at the end of this year and MS are currently assessing the EEAS's strategic review of the EU's engagement in Libya, including the future of Operation Sophia.

Despite the progress achieved by the LCG&N, it is clear that Libya remains very fragile. UNHCR and IOM report that there are more than 600.000 persons of concern in Libya and the number of migrants in Libya's overcrowded detention centres shows no sign of abating. There are concerns that those people could take to the sea and the situation along the Central Mediterranean Route could potentially revert to 2015 levels.

In light of this, the continued presence of the Operation in the Central Mediterranean Region to contribute the fight against illicit activities on the high seas and build the capacities of the LCG&N through training and monitoring would be beneficial as part of the EU Comprehensive approach in the region and the stabilisation of Libya.

MILEX 2018

BY LT COL PEDRO PEREZ DUENAS – ACTION OFFICER TRAINING, ANALYSIS AND EXERCISE BRANCH, EUMS
CONCEPT AND CAPABILITY DIRECTORATE.

Spain's Defence
Minister María
Dolores DE
COSPEDAL, DG
EUMS, Lt Gen Esa
PULKINNEN, and
CEUMC, Gen Michail
KOSTARAKOS, with
diplomatic and
military delegates
from the EU and
NATO aboard
SPS Juan Carlos
1 at the MILEX18
Distinguished Visitors
Day.



“Exercising is an essential component of the EU effort to ensure a timely and coherent response to crises, and to turn the Integrated Approach into comprehensive action through the coordinated and synergic use of all available EU instruments”.¹

EU Military Exercises (MILEX) practice the activation and functioning of EU Headquarters at the military-strategic and operational levels for an envisaged EU-led crisis management operation. As planning exercises, EU MILEX includes the development of draft Concepts of Operations (CONOPS) and the Provisional Standard of Requirements.

For MILEX 18, Spain provided the EU Operation Headquarters (EU OHQ) and the EU Force Headquarters (EU FHQ), with the objective to carry out the national certification of the Spanish OHQ in CSDP procedures, prior to its offer to the EU to command and control across the whole spectrum of CSDP operations.

1. Excerpt from Exercise Policy of the EU under the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) 11 Apr 2014.



SPS “CASTILLA”

The ES EU OHQ and the EU FHQ, were based on existing national command and control structures certified for NATO operations. In particular, the Spanish Maritime Force (SPMARFOR) HQ was the basis for the EU OHQ and the Command Group-2 HQ of the Spanish (ES) fleet for the EU FHQ. Both EU HQs were based at Rota Naval Base, in Southern Spain.

The EU Operations Commander (OpCdr) was Vice Admiral Antonio MARTORELL LACAVE. The core ES EU OHQ staff was reinforced by augmentees from Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal and Sweden.

The EU Force Commander (FCdr) was Rear Admiral Ricardo Atanasio HERNÁNDEZ LÓPEZ. The EU FHQ was on board the SPS ‘CASTILLA’, the main command ship of the Spanish Navy. The EU FHQ was augmented with one officer each from Germany and Italy.

The European Union Military Staff (EUMS) in Brussels provided the Directing Staff (DISTAFF) to control and direct the exercise with some elements deployed to the ES EU OHQ and FHQ at Rota to support and monitor them.

In addition, MILEX 18 was the first such exercise to be conducted within the maritime environment. To that end, EUMS had to design a new maritime scenario based on a fictional crisis scenario using real geography and maps of a coastal region.

MILEX18 was conducted at Rota Naval Base, from 16 to 24 April 2018 and exercised the EU response to an external crisis through the planning of a Maritime Security Operation based on the experiences and lessons learned from Operations SOPHIA and ATALANTA. The mission was mainly oriented to “... deter and disrupt piracy and armed robbery, weapons, military equipment and human smuggling and trafficking”.



ES EU OHQ
Staff planning.

MILEX 18 also tested Communications and Information System (CIS) links and procedures between the EEAS, EU ES OHQ, and FHQ. One shelter of the EU CIS Deployable Package (DP) was deployed to the OHQ in order to guarantee connectivity for EU Classified Information with the DISTAFF in Brussels. The shelter was operated by EUMS CIS personnel (2/3 pax), several Spanish augmentees and one Belgian, who were appropriately trained on the deployment, use and maintenance of the system.

One of the critical steps of the exercise was the transfer of the operational planning authority from the EUMS to the EU OpCdr/OHQ. To this end, a DISTAFF team composed of two officers was deployed to the ES EU OHQ at Rota, not only to present the Initiating Military Directive but also to brief and discuss all scenario documents produced by EUMS, as well as to support the ES EU OHQ in the initial phases of its planning.

In addition, engagement with different EU bodies and interaction of the EU with International Organisations, were considered throughout the different planning documents developed to set the scenario, as well as in the injects introduced during the conduct of MILEX 18 in order to provide greater consistency and coherence to the exercise. This allowed the training audiences acquire a realistic picture of the EU Integrated Approach and consider it in their own planning.

To develop and build a wider understanding of the exercise and its objectives, an information briefing for partners and International Organisations was provided at the EUMS in Brussels on 15 March 2018; which was attended by over 40 Partner Countries and Organisations.²

Additionally an observation period for EU Partners was organised at Rota base to which representatives of

NATO, EUROCORPS, as well as Partner Countries with a Framework Partnership Agreement and a permanent Security of Information Agreement in place, were invited to observe the conduct of the exercise in the ES EU OHQ and FHQ, at Rota, from 16 to 18 April.

After conducting its planning, the ES EU OHQ organised a Distinguished Visitors Day at Rota to provide key actors with an opportunity to enhance their knowledge of the military aspects of EU crisis management. At this event, the OpCdr and FCdr presented their CONOPS/PSOR to DG EUMS and the OpCdr respectively. The CONOPS by the OpCdr represented that normally delivered to the PSC.

The Spanish Defence Minister, DG EUMS, and CEUMC, together with diplomatic and military representatives from the EU, NATO, and other Spanish authorities participated in the DVD.

Furthermore, a “PSC-EUMC Sea Day” was organised the same day by the Spanish Military Authorities to demonstrate some of the maritime capabilities that Member States have available for CSDP maritime operations to the PSC and EUMC.

In summary, MILEX 18 was a fascinating exercise, as well as a demanding and challenging one. It provided the framework for exercising the EU OHQ and EU FHQ offered by Spain in a maritime environment, enabling the national certification of the Spanish EU OHQ in CSDP procedures, prior to being offered to the EU to command across the full spectrum of CSDP operations and missions.

Fair winds and following seas to the Spanish OHQ at Rota.



OpCdr, Vice Admiral
Antonio MARTORELL
LACAVE presenting his
CONOPS.

2. 21 Partner Countries, including, China, Japan, India, Canada, Israel, Brazil, Egypt and 2 International Organisations, NATO (IMS) and EUROCORPS attended. Among the participants were the Ambassador of Japan to the PSC, the Deputy

EUROPEAN UNION TRAINING MISSION IN SOMALIA “THE SOMALI NATIONAL ARMED FORCES” CREATING THE BASES, DEVELOPING THE STRUCTURE, CONSOLIDATING THE RESULTS

Keystone for the European Union Training Mission in Somalia (EUTM-S) is to provide political and strategic level military advice and mentoring to Somali authorities within the Defence Institutions and deliver designed training as well as specific mentoring, advice and capacity building in the training domain, in order to contribute to the development of Somali National Security Forces.

This keystone is firmly sustained by two pillars, the Advisory Team and the Training Team, that contribute through their daily commitment to achieving the mission objectives, supported by HQ staff personnel, security/force protection units, logistic and medical assets.

All the components contribute to making EUTM-S a homogeneous, solid but slender architecture.

I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to all EUTM-S personnel for the consistently high standards of their endeavours.

B.G. ITALIAN ARMY MATTEO SPREAFICO, EUTM-S MISSION FORCE COMMANDER.



THE ADVISORY TEAM

BY COLONEL ITALIAN ARMY STEFANO SANTORO, AT CHIEF

THE PROJECT

The Advisory Team (AT) performs an essential role in the reformation and enhancement of the capacity of Somalia's security institutions, focusing on empowering civilian/political oversight, through weekly engagements with the Minister of Defence and the Commander of the Defence Forces, and fostering strong relations with these two leaders. The first nine months of 2018 have been a challenging period, with tangible successes facing occasional difficulties, (due to complications arising from the insertion of a new

high quality doctrine inside a Somali National Armed Forces organisation still in development) mainly in the Operations and Plans and the support to the international forum Strand 2A (Strand 2A (S2A) is the forum that followed the London Conference (March 2017), at which all the International Community actors coordinated the collective unity of effort, action and standardisation in order to increase the capabilities of the Ministry of Defence and Somali National Armed Forces.)

Undeterred, the AT have maintained an upbeat and proactive approach throughout the period, building relationships and showing the SNAF and the international community what can be achieved with investment and determination.

THE MILESTONES AND THE EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE THE FUTURE OBJECTIVES

The latter part of 2017 saw heavy AT investment in the design and development of the General Staff Officers' Course and the Command Post Exercise (CPX), for the first time performed by SNAF staff. Early 2018 saw the course successfully completed by eleven students who then went on to participate in the CPX.

Both activities were widely viewed as a total success, providing essential skills and experience to the students and, just as importantly, proving the utility of competent staff to the senior SNAF command.

As a result, the Operations Room in the SNAF HQ has undergone significant staffing changes overall with five of the Staff Officers' Course posted in to key appointments including J2 (Intelligence) and J3 (Operations), marking a very positive step forward.

This is a solid milestone from which to move forward and the aim now is to build capability and increase momentum in preparation for the operationalisation of the Transition Plan.

The other big pillar of the AT effort has been the support provided to Strand 2A.

The development of the Comprehensive Approach to Security S2A initiative has enhanced cooperation amongst the International Community (IC) and the development of a coherent approach towards the delivery of security reform within the Somali defence sector. It is one of the most important activities the Mission has been involved with during this period. The forum has been revitalised with the task being approached in a new way. Of note, a key step forward has been the realisation of the need for specific working groups (WG) to tackle each line of effort. The S2A organisational WG and the budget WG were the first established, and others will follow as capacity allows.

The organisational WG aims to propose and establish the future SNAF organisational framework, and is interlinked and bound correctly by both the Transition Plan and National Security Architecture.

The challenge for the IC continues to be obtaining pre-

cise details regarding the actual SNAF organisation from the Somali Commander Initiative Group. This in turn will enable the most suitable future SNAF organisational structure to be designed.

Importantly the AT has assisted, further, with development of the Somali National Defence Act, SNAF Code of Conduct, and, in another vein, has also advised on the new structure and functions of the Ministry of Defence in order to lay the foundations for the challenging future that Somalia will face in the upcoming years.

The future stronger foundations for the SNAF are a work in progress.

Advisory Team
activities at
SNAF HQ
Mogadishu.



THE TRAINING TEAM

BY COLONEL SPANISH ARMY JOSÈ LUIS GUERRERO JIMENEZ, TT CHIEF

THE PROJECT

The Training Team (TT) develops activities whose ultimate purpose is to contribute to the creation of the Somali Owned Training System (SOTS), a system that in the near future will support the SNA units to take over the responsibility of providing security in Somalia.

These activities are divided into two types: mentoring and instruction. All of them are developed in the General Dhagabadan Training Centre in Mogadishu (GDTC).

THE FUNDAMENTALS AND A VIEW TO THE FUTURE WITH SPECIAL TOOLS

Mentoring the GDTC Commander and staff to manage and maintain the Centre is done in order to develop concepts, policies, programs and structures, including improvements related to training and force protection.

Some works completed are easily identifiable. These include the armoury and the new training area. The construction of the main gate is in the execution phase.

In the project phase, at a more or less advanced stage are other facilities such as a combat track and a shooting range, as well as improvements in the food service and sports areas.

The intention is to transform the GDTC into a Somali National Army (SNA) training centre of excellence.

OUR SPECIAL TOOLS

Training activities have two main objectives, one is to provide qualified trainers, through “Train the Trainers” (TtT) courses, and the other is to provide skilled combat units,

through Light Infantry Company (LIC) and Combat Engineer Platoon (CEP) courses.

During 2018, two courses of each type were developed and 500 recruits have been trained since September 2017.

The TtT course provides trainers with the necessary skills and expertise to carry out their tasks in the units.

The EUTM-S framework model for the training is based on infantry company tactics from squad up to company level. Trainees will become experts in the subject matters taught.

Once the trainees have mastered the skill sets they are then taught techniques on how to organise training, and the best ways to communicate.

Training technique is paramount, and these courses give the SNA organisation formidable instruments for self-development and consolidation.

The output of the LIC course is to build a cohesive, capable and disciplined unit, able to be deployed, anywhere in Somalia and in all scenarios that a light Infantry unit could potentially face. The training includes day warfare, shooting exercises, combat in urban areas, defensive and offensive, counter insurgency, fire and manoeuvre up to Company level, patrolling in urban and open areas, close quarters battle, sensitive site exploitation and check points. It also includes mission planning up to Company level.

LIC courses are giving a platform from which to continue building the SNA basic structure.

The Combat Engineer Platoon (CEP) course is intended to solve the SNA's need for basic and specialised capabilities in construction, fortification, force protection, combat support, route search, route clearance, demining, and counter IED (improvised explosive devices). **A CEP embedded in an Infantry Company, can support both manoeuvre and defence operations.**

CEP courses provide essential skills to the SNA through the sustainment of their fighting capabilities and supporting the movement and deployment of troops and deployed troops.

The immediate future of the training is to maintain the current activities, in accordance with the needs of the SNA, although the main effort should shift towards trainers' courses, considering that possible future developments will see training activities being performed by Somali instructors, mentored by EU personnel.

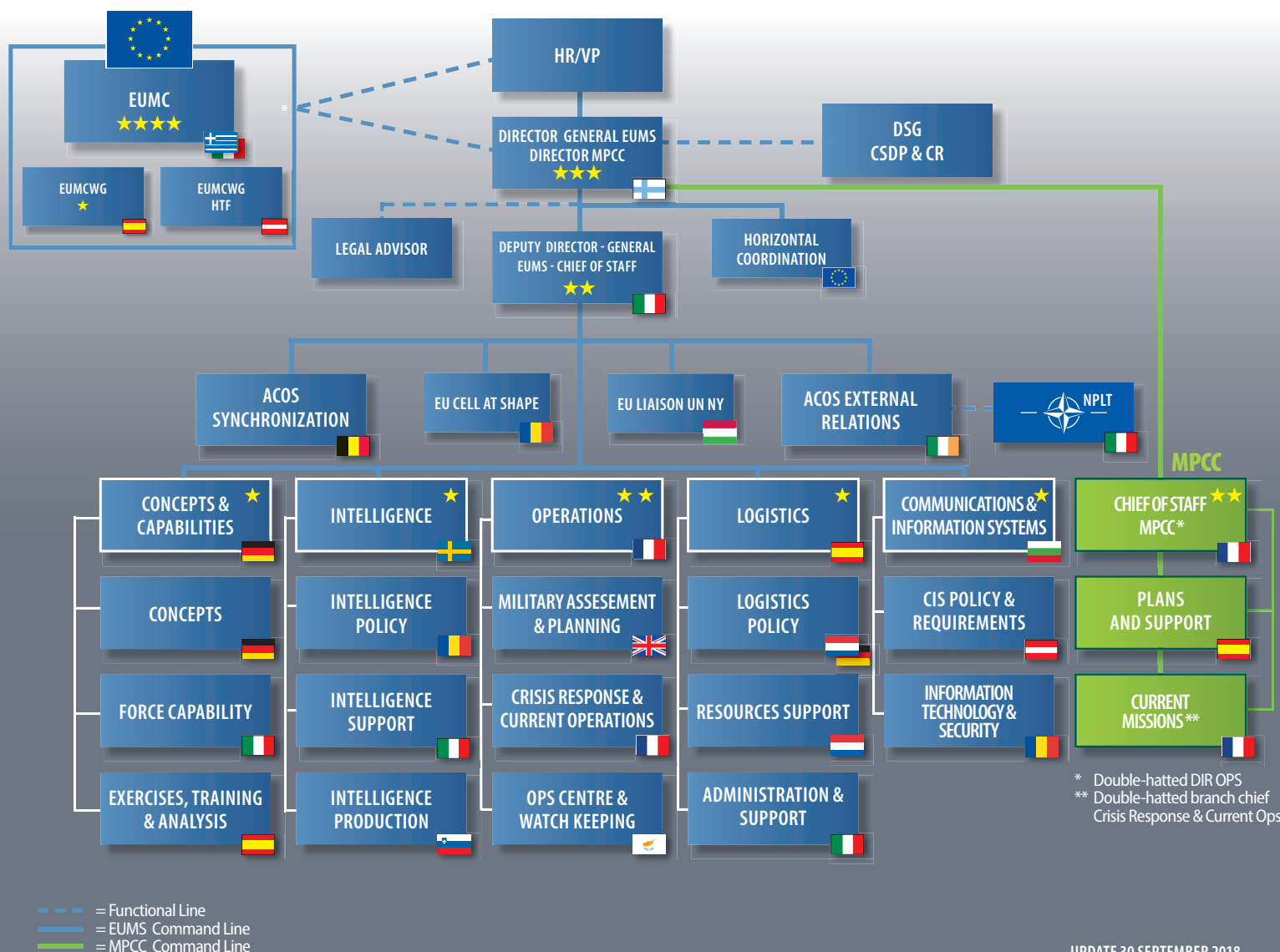
For the next term it can be ventured that the future of the TT will be characterised by the implementation of the SOTS structure, with the insertion of mentoring activities in the Training and Doctrine Command, in the Training Centres, and in the Training Branch (J7) of the SNA general staff.

We are conscious of the value of the Somali people and the courage of the Somali soldier; they are the building blocks for the rebuilding and consolidating of a future more effective Somali National Armed Forces.



An EUTM-S
instructor teaches
battle drills at GDTC.

EUROPEAN UNION MILITARY STAFF - EUMS STRUCTURE



EU Military Operations and Missions

