EU FOREIGN POLICY IN ACTION
10 years of EU Diplomacy around the world
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EU DELEGATIONS AND OFFICES IN THE WORLD

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The European External Action Service (EEAS) is the European Union’s diplomatic service.

Since 2011, the EEAS carries out the EU’s Common Foreign and Security Policy to promote peace, prosperity, security, and the interests of Europeans across the globe.

The EEAS works under the political guidance of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission (often referred to as HR/VP).

Josep Borrell assumed the role of HR/VP in December 2019.

The HR/VP role entails making the European Union stronger and its voice heard on the international stage, working closely with the foreign and defence ministries of the member states of the European Union, the other EU institutions, and fostering partnerships with the United Nations and other International Organisations.

As the EU’s chief diplomat, the HR/VP steers foreign and security policy on behalf of the European Union and coordinates the EU’s foreign policy tools.

He also heads the European Defence Agency.

All over the world, the European External Action Service, in coordination with other European Union institutions, addresses EU foreign policy priorities, including civilian and military planning and crisis response.
The EEAS is called a service for a reason. It is a privilege to serve the EU and its citizens and to help create a better world. To work for Europe, worldwide.

Josep Borrell
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"EU Foreign Policy in action – 10 years of EU Diplomacy around the world" is the outcome of a call for photos launched by the EEAS Strategic Communications team to all EU Delegations, Missions and Operations on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the European External Action Service.

The objective of the call was to collect photos from all 144 EU Diplomatic Representations and 17 Missions and Operations highlighting the EU's action in countries across the globe.

This publication zooms in on the diversity of the work accomplished by the EU Delegations, Missions and Operations, giving a sample of what the EU does in the field, and how EU foreign policy is put in action around the world. These images are of course only a selection and a small fraction of the breadth of our external action.

These photos were also promoted digitally on the EEAS web and social media channels as part of the #EEAS10 campaign.
This year, 2021, is a very special year for the European External Action Service as we complete our first decade.

The launching of the EEAS ten years ago was an important step in the European integration process, and international challenges ever since show us the need to further develop our European common foreign policy.

We should proudly show our achievements and at the same time reflect on what we need to do next. We have to project who we are and what we do on a daily basis to make the European Union stronger and safer, while adapting to many challenges.

This is precisely the goal of this photobook that I have the pleasure to present to you with a self-explanatory title: “EU Foreign Policy in Action”.

This book is a collection of great pictures of what we concretely do in the name of the EU everyday around the world, including some significant moments that have shaped our common European Union foreign policy.

Thanks to the work of our 144 EU Diplomatic Representations and 17 Missions and Operations on the ground, the EU plays a vital role in promoting its principles by cooperating with partners across the globe. I want to thank our EU Delegations and our Missions and Operations for their contribution to this book, and also pay tribute to their invaluable role in representing the European Union far from home.

I hope you will enjoy this book as much as I have... an experience of striking images of how we translate European foreign policy making into tangible action, on behalf of our citizens, and with our partners around the world.

Stefano SANNINO
EEAS Secretary General
On 7 December 2019, Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, and Jutta Urpilainen, European Commissioner for International Partnerships, travelled to Ethiopia. This visit was the first official visit of the new European Commission outside the EU and focused on bilateral meetings with the Ethiopian government as well as the African Union.
In the central Highlands of Angola, villagers gathered under a tree to learn about land governance and sustainable natural resource management (2019).
During the COVID-19 pandemic, Gender-Based Violence (GBV) has increased in Botswana. Throughout the year, and especially during the 16 Days of Activism from 25 November to 10 December 2020, the EU Delegation to Botswana and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) strongly engaged in the fight against GBV, by funding Non Govermental Organisations active in the field. The Head of Delegation participated in several awareness-raising cycling events while the Delegation staff participated in a 25 km Walk away from GBV.
Ce programme visait la réhabilitation des équipements industriels de 5 usines à thé du Burundi pour permettre à la filière d’exploiter pleinement son potentiel, en particulier à l’exportation (2017).
Distribution of food and hygienic articles to 500 families on the islands of Fogo, Santiago and Sao Vicente with NGO partners and the Cabo Verdean Ministry of Social Inclusion. Among the beneficiaries are families headed by women, women with disabilities, victims of gender-based violence and domestic workers, people living with HIV and prisoners (1 May 2020).
La Commissaire européenne à la coopération internationale, à l’aide humanitaire et à la réponse aux crises, Kristalina Georgieva et la coordinatrice des interventions d’urgence des Nations Unies, Valerie Amos, ont effectué une visite conjointe en République centrafricaine où elles ont exprimé leur profonde inquiétude quant au sort des personnes touchées par l’instabilité à travers le pays. Elles ont en outre appelé à une augmentation des services humanitaires (11 Juillet 2013).
Cette photo a été prise avec les collègues, devant la Délégation de l’Union européenne au Tchad, à l’occasion de sa participation, comme les années précédentes, à la Campagne “des 16 jours d’activisme contre les violences faites aux femmes” qui s’est déroulée du 25 novembre au 10 décembre 2020. La main orange était le symbole de la campagne. La campagne a été suivie par des programmes/projets financés par l’UE, tel que le programme PRAJUST 2 (Programme d’Appui à la Justice au Tchad – Phase 2).
La protection de la biodiversité avec la construction des centrales hydroélectriques permet la création de microentreprises au bénéfice des populations, en tout premier lieu les femmes et les jeunes. Sujet au cœur des débats du dialogue politique organisé à Kinshasa du 5 au 6 octobre 2020 entre La RDC et l’UE.

Chocolaterie du parc des Virunga

DÉLÉGATION DE L’UNION EUROPÉENNE EN RÉPUBLIQUE Démocratique du Congo
Nettoyage des plages à Pointe-Noire, capitale économique du Congo (Septembre 2019).
La Délégation de l’Union Européenne à Djibouti a organisé un évènement culturel « Lire au parc » gratuit et ouvert à tous sous le patronage de la Maire de Djibouti et en partenariat avec l’Association La Caravane du Livre et la Librairie Victor Hugo le lundi 16 juillet 2018 à Djibouti-Ville.
Young students of the Mendefera Junior School attending a movie session during the 15th European Film Festival in Eritrea, the first one entirely dedicated to children. In one week, more than 8000 children in Eritrea had the opportunity to watch a wide selection of European movies (29 October 2019).
This photo shows the EU’s further outreach in arts and culture in Eswatini by targeting out of school youth and helping to develop their art skills, thus contributing to socio-economic development and job creation. It shows a project implemented in Eswatini in 2019 by Minerva, an Italian Non Governmental Organisation. This project was known as “EUnited Arts of Eswatini”. One of the performances during this project was a mixture of Swati and Italian artists with different musical instruments representing Europe and Eswatini (22 January 2019).
Integrated multi-sectoral approach to improve the resilience of vulnerable communities of Wag Himra Zone, Amhara National Regional State - Ethiopia. This water-point was constructed by the local Non Governmental Organisation Mekene Yesus in the framework of the EU project Resilience Building and Creation of Economic Opportunities in Ethiopia. Before the construction of the water point, the water the vulnerable communities collected came directly from the ground, and they used the same water point for their cattle. Twice a day, the girls go to the water point and fill up the yellow plastic jerry-cans which they carry on their backs. The jerry-cans can carry around 20 liters of water (2018).
“Paint my gele-gele” competition to celebrate Europe Day with talented artists of the Gambian Youth! (3 May 2019).
Together we can keep Ghana cleaner: 220 volunteers collected 5.3 tons of waste in 2020.
The EU and ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) marked the withdrawal of the (ECOWAS Mission in Guinea-Bissau) ECOMIB mission in a ceremony where the President of Guinea Bissau acknowledged the European Union for the multifaceted support given to ECOMIB.
On 28 October 2020, the Makueni Fruit Processing Plant, jointly financed with the European Union Delegation in Kenya, started processing tomatoes. The European Union Ambassador to Kenya, Mr Simon Mordue, and the Governor of Makueni County poured in the first batch (28 October 2020).
The Renewable Energy Women Empowerment Project (REWEP) aims to assist 10 women entrepreneurs in Mashai, Thaba-Tseka with solar-powered kiosks. Mashai is a remote village in the Lesotho central highlands and access to energy is limited in the area. Through the project, several more women are trained to become sales agents of renewable energy technologies (December 2018).
Poll workers starting the tallying of votes after the closing of a polling station in Monrovia during the midterm Senatorial elections and Constitutional referendum held on 8 December 2020. This photo was taken by the Head of the EU Delegation to Liberia as he participated in the EU electoral diplomatic watch deployed by the EU Delegation and Embassies of EU Member States (France, Germany, Ireland and Sweden) in Monrovia and four other counties.
Atelier de production de foyers améliorés
DÉLÉGATION DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE AUPRÈS DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE MADAGASCAR
ET DE L'UNION DES COMORES

Programme d'Appui à la filière bois énergie en Régions Itasy et Analamanga AFIBERIA (2020).
Over the past 10 years, the EU has supported forestry in Malawi, protecting over 25 million trees and planting 2 million new ones. Every year EU partners communities, schools and district councils are planting more than 2000 new trees (28 February 2020).
Le programme KEY vise à améliorer les capacités de résilience des populations les plus vulnérables à l’insécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle. Ses interventions sont concentrées sur les régions du Nord Mali dont la vulnérabilité à l’insécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle est aggravée par la fragilité du contexte politique et sécuritaire (2019).
Ce programme de formation est une composante du Projet PECOBAT financé en Mauritanie par l'Union européenne, au travers du Fonds Fiduciaire d’urgence de l’Union européenne et mis en œuvre par le Bureau International du Travail (14 mars 2018).
A local female vendor, a beneficiary of one of the projects of post-cyclone reconstruction.

DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO MOZAMBIQUE

The Savane Market, built by the beneficiaries themselves, is one of the undertakings by the Recovery Facility funded by the EU (14 October 2020).
The project “Revitalizations of indigenous languages to preserve culture” implemented by the Namibian University for Science and Technology focuses on protecting, promoting and preserving the cultural rights of Namibian indigenous groups and their languages (23 November 2019).
In commemoration of the 16 Days of Activism in 2019, EU Delegation Staff in Nigeria spoke up against Gender-Based Violence in the country.
Jean-Claude Juncker attends the Commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda on 7 April 2019. His visit is testimony of the strong and lasting European Union support to Rwanda in the rehabilitation of the country and towards the reconciliation of its society (7 April 2019).
3.600 masques « inclusifs » ont été offerts aux élèves malentendants par le projet luttant contre la migration irrégulière à travers l’appui au secteur privé et à la création d’emplois au Sénégal. Dotés d’un cadre transparent au niveau de la bouche, ces masques permettent de lire sur les lèvres (Novembre 2020).
Under the hashtag #EUStandsWithSalone, EU has stood side by side with Sierra Leone to fight COVID-19 on all fronts. Co-funded by Ireland, the “Team Europe Initiative Supporting District Level response to COVID-19” is implemented in 11 districts of Sierra Leone by a coalition of NGOs including Trócaire, Action for Advocacy and Development Sierra Leone (AAD-SL) and Kambia District Development and Rehabilitation Organisation (KADDR0) (6 October 2020).
Construction of key water source in Abore Village in Somalia. This picture shows some of the community members fetching water from the water kiosk. The water source has proved to be a lifeline for the community. This water system is used to prevent the Covid-19 pandemic and was financed by the EU (September 2019).
One of the most uplifting moments in our foreign/public diplomacy in the past decade was taking up President Ramaphosa’s challenge to publicly participate in the global Jerusalema dance craze to a track of music (the 2019 hit Jerusalema by Master KG and Nomcebo Zikode) that provided an uplifting soundtrack at a time of widespread despair/depression after the impact and cost of the first Covid-19 wave in South Africa became evident. The dance became wildly popular in South Africa (and globally - streamed more than 60m times on Spotify). The Delegation’s participation was covered on social media by the country’s Presidency (2019).
In a country with nearly no roads, #TeamEurope operated a Humanitarian Air Bridge flight to Juba South Sudan allowing important supplies for the COVID-19 response and other humanitarian needs to reach South Sudan (29 July 2020).
Josep Borell Fontelles, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission, visits Zam Zam Camp in North Darfur, Sudan. The HR/VP visited a health clinic and talked to women groups (1 March 2020).
Being climate-smart in the Dodoma Region of Tanzania means growing crops like sorghum and millet, which are drought resistant. The Global Climate Change Alliance Project funded by the European Union means farmers like James Maligana have adapted to the adverse effects of climate change by growing new crops (6 June 2018).
Utilisation d’une bonne fontaine par les riverains à Adétikopé dans la banlieue sud de Lomé (2019).
Uganda hosts the largest number of refugees in Africa, implementing policies that are among the most progressive in the world. The European Union is supporting Uganda in this effort and is funding projects to equip refugees with skills development and access to education and water, while providing parallel support to their host communities (2018).
In the framework of the European month, the EU Delegation to Zambia and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) has been organising since 2017 the EU Walk and Run open for everyone. Activities are aimed at all age groups, including a 10km run or 5km walk for adults and teenagers and a 1km Bafana Walk for children. The 2019 edition proved to be extremely successful with nearly 1000 people participating (2019).
EU Ambassador Timo Olkkonen assists in the distribution of food in Chimanimani, Zimbabwe, after the region was devastated by Cyclone Idai. The EU provided funds for a helicopter that allowed the World Food Programme to access the areas cut off by flooding and landslides and assist people in need with food and shelter (27 March 2019).
AMERICAS
2019 EU Beach Clean-up - Rio de la Plata, Vicente López, Buenos Aires-Argentina. 450 volunteers and 3 tons of waste collected (mostly plastics).
The Commonwealth Society organises an event called “Christmas in the Square” where International Organisations work with a primary school to have students, under the guidance of teachers, use their creativity in decorating Christmas trees that go on display in the Capital Bridgetown (12 December 2019).
The EU supports Bolivians to have access to potable water for their families in the most vulnerable regions of the country (2015).
EU Ambassador to Brazil Ignacio Ybáñez, planting a tree in a sustainable agriculture farm during the visit to the Amazon organised by Vice President Mourão with close partners of Brazil (4-6 November 2020).
Our future depends on protecting the Arctic. For years, the EU has been collaborating with Canada to mitigate the impact of climate change, safeguard the Arctic environment, create sustainable development opportunities and raise awareness about challenges in the region. Our partnership with the Students on Ice Foundation illustrates this collaboration.
In February 2017, the European Union provided assistance to Chile to fight the worst forest fires in 50 years. 69 firefighters from France, 52 firefighters from Portugal and 56 firefighters from Spain were deployed while Sweden and Austria provided in-kind technical equipment.
The indigenous communities from the Nariño department transmit their ancestral knowledge about the ecological restauration to the next generations (July 2019).
On 8 March, the Ambassador of the European Union Maria Antonia Calvo Puerta together with the Vice-President of the Republic Epsy Campbell and the Ambassadors of Germany, Spain, the Netherlands, France, and the Embassy of Italy, presented the European Union Gender Equality Award in Costa Rica, corresponding to its III Edition. The competition aims to recognise, at the national level and annually, a person, group of persons, entity or organisation that has distinguished itself in an outstanding manner in the defence, promotion or protection of gender equality in the social, cultural, economic or political spheres (8 March 2021).
The exhibition “Perpetuos renovados, una mirada a 28 sitios ejemplares del patrimonio cultural europeo” took place in May 2018, in Havana (Cuba), to celebrate the European Year of Cultural Heritage.
To celebrate the 30 years of shared values, fraternity and excellent relations with the European Union, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Post Stamp Institute issued a commemorative post stamp. The illustration of the stamp was chosen through a contest (8 May 2019).
The EU supports the strengthening of production and value chains of traditional products to promote sustainable, green and inclusive growth of small and medium enterprises. These projects improve the competitiveness through the introduction of innovation processes and production technology, associative marketing and training. The EU’s action also takes into account the conservation of ecosystems through environmentally friendly production, as well as to strengthen the role and leadership of women producers (March 2018).
In the framework of Human Rights Day 2017, the EU joined children in Suchitoto (Cuscatlan) for a fun day of activities that included a reading club, a child rights and human rights workshop and an evening of flying especially-themed piscuchas (kites) with messages such as Peace, Freedom and Human Rights.
Juvi Hernández, a Mayan Singer from Lake Atitlán raps messages of peace in Spanish and in Tz'utujil (Mayan language) during the Europe Day Commemoration. La Merced Museum, Guatemala City (May 2015).
The EU Delegation in Guyana is very much focused on gender equality and women’s rights, supporting those with a large number of political and cooperation actions. Symbolising that commitment, on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, in 2020, staff of the EU Delegation dressed in orange as a sign of solidarity with the fight against gender violence & for women’s rights (25 November 2020).
Réhabilitation de la Route Nationale #3 entre Port-au-Prince et la ville de Hinche qui facilite le déplacement entre les deux villes (12 février 2008).
Director-General for DEVCO (now INTPA), Mr. Manservisi, visited the community of Krausirpi, one of the nine indigenous peoples of Honduras, the Tawahka. The visit took place in the margins of the initialling of the Voluntary Partnership Agreement of Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (VPA FLEGT) between the EU and Honduras in June 2018. A VPA is a legally binding trade EU agreement with a timber-producing country (June 2018).
The roundabout was renamed “Robert Schuman” on 9 May 2013, in celebration of the EU-Jamaica partnership and the EU’s ongoing contribution to Jamaica’s national development.
The EU-Mexico Friendship Week 2015 ended with a football game between representatives of the European embassies against the SRE at the Azteca stadium (2015).
The Ambassador of the European Union in Nicaragua, Pelayo Castro Zuzuárregui, talks with primary school children during the activity “Cuéntame Europa”, an event to promote EU culture through literature, using a playful and formative format: reading of kids’ stories related to universal values promoted by the EU (peace, equality, solidarity and freedom) (20 February 2020).
With the help of 80 children from Panamanian schools, the Ambassadors of the EU and the Mayor of Panama city planted 500 trees offered by the EU Delegation to Panama to the City for its 500 years anniversary celebration (2019).
Children from an impoverished neighbourhood of Asunción are entertained and learn about the importance of caring for the environment, through a puppet show, as part of the Climate Action Week organised by the EU in Paraguay. Diverse activities which raise awareness about climate change and the environment are organised in Paraguay every year (October 2018).
Des rencontres régulières ont lieu avec les jeunes écoliers pour les sensibiliser au changement climatique et à la protection de l’environnement. Lors de ces échanges les élèves se transforment en véritables ambassadeurs pour le climat, échangeant leur idées et points de vue (Juin 2019).
Celebrating with Children on World Children’s Day 2015 – Former Chargé d’Affaires of the EU Delegation to Trinidad and Tobago, Daniela Tramacere, chats with students of the Sangre Grande Primary School during a visit to the school to mark the 25th Anniversary of the Rights of the Child (October 2015).
Young diplomats-in-training are vital to the work of the EU Delegation to the UN, and #UNGA, the United Nations General Assembly High Level Week, the largest gathering of world leaders, is the highlight of our year. Through training and mentorship, we empower young people to become the next generation of global leaders (19 September 2018).
For the first time the EU Delegation participated in the Washington DC Pride Parade to help raise awareness. Representatives from several EU Member States participated in the EU Delegation part of the Parade, while others had their own floats and sections (6 June 2019).
European Folk Festival
DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO URUGUAY

Folk festival for EU Member States communities (2016).
More than 4000 people gathered in Caracas for the 3rd edition of the EU Race in Venezuela against violence towards women in 2019. This Public Diplomacy activity, coordinated by the EU Delegation, is an example of joint work with Member States, involving local authorities, civil society and citizens to raise awareness and a united voice against gender violence.
ASIA & PACIFIC
Farmers are provided with field training in Baghlan province of Afghanistan (18 May 2007).
The EU joined the ASEAN 50th Anniversary Parade on 27 August 2017 in Jakarta. The EU team was comprised of 120 parade participants, including staff and family members of the EU Mission to ASEAN, the EU Delegation to Indonesia and Embassies of EU Member States; as well as Erasmus alumni. The year 2017 was a special year for both the EU and ASEAN as it marked the 60th Anniversary of the EU, the 50th Anniversary of ASEAN and the 40th Anniversary of the EU-ASEAN Dialogue Relations.
EU Ambassador, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations Deputy Director General and Head of ECHO (European Civil protection and Humanitarian Aid Civil Operations) Office in Bangladesh met with teachers in one of the education centers in the camps financed with the European Union’s help (2 February 2020).
Representatives of the European Union and the United Nations met in Phnom Penh on 28 January 2021, to discuss how to work together more effectively in Cambodia, accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and create even better impact in the lives of all of Cambodia’s people, to build back better after the Covid-19 pandemic.
On 31 August 2010, Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission, visited a primary school in Guizhou Province and played ping pong with a student in the margins of the EU-China Strategic Dialogue.
Villagers on Fiji’s Beqa Island now have the skills of building and sailing healthier and environmentally friendly marine transportation, with the support of the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership Programme funded by the European Union and Government of Sweden (22 January 2021).
On 8 February 2017, the European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macao opened the European Union Film Festival with a live concert of iconic scores from European films. The performances were matched with scenes from each film projected on screen.
S. Jaishankar, Indian External Minister with Josep Borrell Fontelles, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission. Under their leadership, not only has the relationship widened and deepened, but the two sides have stepped up their joint efforts for post-Corona economic recovery, and on other regional and global issues (2012).
In October 2015, the EU Delegation to Indonesia adopted Eropa – a newborn Sumatran elephant from the Tangkahan Conservation Response Unit in the Leuser Ecosystem – to strengthen conservation efforts. The naming and adoption of the baby elephant Eropa highlights the EU’s long-term commitment to the unique Leuser Ecosystem and contribution of over €50 million to protect and sustainably manage Aceh and North Sumatra’s forests.
Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission, went to Japan where she notably inaugurated the new Europa House building housing the EU Delegation to Japan. She then went to the devastated town of Higashimatsushima in the Miyagi Prefecture, one of the areas hit hardest by the earthquake and tsunami on 11 March 2011. The EU was among the first to offer both material and financial aid to Japan to support early recovery for the victims affected by the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear incident of Fukushima.
The Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Korea staff celebrated 9 October, Hangeul Day, a national Korean commemorative day marking the invention and the proclamation of Hangeul, the alphabet of the Korean language by the 15th-century Korean monarch Sejong the Great. The staff of the EU Delegation to the RoK hold sign reading “I love Hangeul” in front of the statute of Sejong the Great in Gwanghwamun Square, central Seoul (9 October 2020).
A villager participating in Siamese crocodile preservation efforts in Xe Champhone Wetland Complex, as part of an EU-supported biodiversity conservation initiative implemented by the Wildlife Conservation Society (2020).
Forests are incredibly important for the community livelihoods in the Malaysian state of Sabah, where the majority of inhabitants live in rural areas and are predominantly dependent on farming and the forests. The EU-funded programme Tackling Climate Change through Sustainable Forest Management and Community Development aims to improve sources of livelihoods, particularly for women, through maintaining forests. The Sabah EU-REDD+ project aimed to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (2018).
Children in Myanmar joined the school thanks to an EU-funded project, which over the last two years has strived to bring education services to Myanmar’s conflict-affected areas where access to schools is either insufficient, or inexisten. (2018).
Being part of the SWITCH-Asia STeP Ecolab Project project was a turning point for herder Urnaa’s family, as well as for neighbouring herders who were able to greatly improve the quality of their breed and cashmere (23 September 2020).
Responsible mountaineering can be a means to empower women and to design locally owned paths towards a green and sustainable development. The EU stands with Himalayan communities and indigenous people to address climate change, governance, education, gender and environmental issues and create local success stories together (5 May 2018).
The Dutch Ambassador embodies the Team Europe spirit at the “Enjoy It’s from Europe” stand. The EU Delegation to New Zealand promoted Geographical Indications at the New Zealand FieldDays, the largest agri-expo in Australasia. The wider context is the ongoing EU-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations where Geographical Indications are an EU interest. (June 2019).
To commemorate the International Day of the Girl Child, the Ministry of Human Rights under the European Union-funded Huqooq-e-Pakistan Programme launched an awareness campaign on the Rights of the Girl Child using truck art as a tool to reach out to people in rural areas in particular. On this occasion twenty trucks – as mobile billboards – were painted with positive messages on rights of the Girl Child to spread the message across Pakistan (11 October 2019).
Following a severe “El Nino” episode, the European Union allocated funds to provide support to affected communities in many parts of the world. Papua New Guinea was the recipient of a total of EUR 3 millions. In the island of Kiriwina in the Trobriands group of the Milne Bay Province, vulnerable communities were supported with a project designed to strengthen food production capacity and the resilience to drought. Mr Adrien Mourgues, Team Leader of Planet and Prosperity at the EU Delegation joins the youth group that was part of the welcoming ceremony (2019).
Children from the capital city of the Philippines, Manila, created their art installation “Plastic Monster” during the summit “Children: Partners in the Fight Against Climate Change” held in 2019 by the EU Delegation to the Philippines in partnership with the Museo Pambata (Children’s Museum).
A landmark agreement deepening EU-Singapore economic and trade ties. The EUSFTA – the first bilateral FTA in South-East Asia – entered into force on 21 November 2019. The benefits of this trade deal range from tariff elimination to reduced technical barriers to trade and better access to the EU and Singapore services and procurement markets.
A 7.7 EUR million project, implemented by ACTED Sri Lanka, supported job creation and improved the incomes of people most affected by Sri Lanka’s 26-year ethnic conflict. The EU’s humanitarian and post-conflict reconstruction assistance has provided safety and support in the former conflict zones (11 February 2013).
In an effort to raise public awareness on how marine waste is harming lives under the sea, participants used collected waste to form the shape of a sea turtle at the 2019 EU-Taiwan Beach Cleanup in Bali, New Taipei City, Taiwan.
As a result of EU dialogues on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU) as well as labour issues, Thailand became the first country in Asia to ratify the International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions on work in fisheries and forced labour. This means improved working conditions for the workers, many of whom are migrants, as well as a more sustainable fishing sector (23 February 2018).
Ambassador of the EU to Timor-Leste Andrew Jacobs, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and former President and Prime Minister of Timor-Leste Dr José Ramos Horta, US Ambassador Kathleen Fitzpatrick, UNDP Resident Representative Munkhtuya Altangerel, and Director of PixelAsia Lena Lenzen bang the traditional Timorese drum babadok to launch officially the EU-supported International Film Festival 2020, one of the most important cultural events in Dili (1 October 2020).
The island commune of Nhon Chau in the central Binh Binh province of Vietnam can now access to the national electricity grid by submarine power cables thanks to an EU-funded project. The submarine cables expanding the national grid to Nhon Chau Island is a success story of the cooperation among the EU, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Electricity of Vietnam and local authorities (September 2020).
More than 200,000 Albanians lost their homes because of the November 2019 earthquake. EU Ambassador Soreca met many of them – here at a temporary camp in Vora. The EU supported search and rescue operations, delivery of assistance material and donated 115 million euros to rebuild 58 schools and rehabilitate cultural sites.
The medical team from ISAR Germany and Caritas Germany arrived in Armenia in July 2020 to support the country during the COVID-19 crisis. The efforts of the team were supported by the EU ECHO (European Civil protection and Humanitarian Aid Civil Operations) civil protection Mechanism, World Health Organisation, Robert Koch Institute, Federal Ministry of Health and German Air Force.
A student harvests grapes in the Ismayilli district of Azerbaijan as part of an extensive Vocational Education Training program (5 September 2019).
In the fall of 2020, as the people of Belarus continued to demand a free and fair election, release of political prisoners, and prosecution of those responsible for police brutality and repressions, the diplomatic community showed its solidarity by marking the International Day of Non-Violence.
The Head of the EU Delegation and EU Special Representative in BiH Ambassador Johann Sattler and the Chair of the BiH Presidency Šefik Džaferović welcome a plane at Sarajevo International Airport, bringing over ventilators arriving to tackle the COVID-19 outbreak in April 2020. The flight costs were covered by the European Union.
Celebrating Europe’s Day, a band played the Ode to Joy in front of the building of the EU Delegation to the Council of Europe (9 May 2016).
The Europe Day celebrations in Tbilisi organised by the EU Delegation are one of the largest public events in the City, with an estimated 30,000 visitors over the course of the day. In 2019 the President, Prime Minister and Mayor of Tbilisi each gave opening remarks, passing a strong message of EU support (9 May 2019).
The EU Delegation to Iceland regularly joins forces with local Non Governmental Organisations, students and Embassies of the Member States to demonstrate the EU’s concern for environmental affairs in action. This picture was taken in the South of Iceland during a Beach Clean-Up, which made the news for the amount of waste removed (27 June 2019).
The children’s drawing contest was organised by the EU Delegation to Kazakhstan together with partners from UNICEF, Embassies of Belgium and Switzerland to mark the 30th Anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The best art works received awards and prizes and were displayed at one of Nur-Sultan’s entertaining malls (7 December 2019).
Opening of Morina integrated border management point, Kosovo-Albania border (July 2018).
First students successfully completed the training course on programming organised as part of the EU funded project for youth with special needs “Programming Without Barriers” (January 2019).
In a small ceremony at the Vatican, the Secretary of State, His Eminence Cardinal Pietro Parolin, presented a commemorative stamp to H.E. Alexandra Valkenburg, Head of the EU Delegation to the Holy See., and H.E. Michael Hans Werner Koch, representing Germany, the country holding the European Union Presidency in the Council at the time. The stamp commemorates the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Holy See and the European Union (10 November 2020).
EU supports Moldova to purchase new locomotives

EU Ambassador Peter Michalko, at the handover ceremony of 12 locomotives acquired with support from the European Union, the European Investment Bank (EIB) and our partners from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), to make the Republic of Moldova’s railway system greener, safer and more sustainable (14 July 2020).
The club of Young European Ambassadors was established in Montenegro in 2019 with the aim to empower young people to take an active role in society and promote European values in their communities.
The European Union, represented by Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the Union Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission, and Commissioner Hahn, have strongly supported the historic agreement signed by Prime Ministers Tsipras and Zaev, following negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations (UN). It took political courage, leadership and responsibility on all sides to resolve one of the most entrenched disputes in the region (17 June 2018).
EU Ambassador to Norway Helen Campbell and EU/EEA Minister Vidar Helgesen observing the civil protection exercise HarbourEx15 in the Oslo-fjord, simulating a complex accident escalating slowly into a massive disaster, conducted by the Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection (DSB) as a part of a European Civil Protection Exercise Programme (28-29 April 2015).
On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), President of the European Council Charles Michel meets the OECD Secretary General, Mr. Angel Gurría and the Director General of UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), Ms. Audrey Azoulay. Nothing replaces a “mask to mask” meeting (14 December 2020).
The restoration was done under the EU-funded project “Disappearing masterpieces” in 2010 – 2012.
High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission, Josep Borrell, visits SatCen: geospatial intelligence at the service of EU common foreign and security policy. A success story on how Satcen analyses can provide concrete benefits for CFSP (24 February 2020).
Serbia was hit by catastrophic floods in 2014. The European Union supported the efforts to mitigate the effects, to heal communities and to improve infrastructure so this disaster doesn’t happen again.
To mark the 16 days of activism against Gender based violence, EUDEL Tajikistan launched the 1st Mini World football cup for boys and girls in Tajikistan. The Orange Ball Cup was co-organised together with the Tajik MFA and Football Federation, as well as with 16 sponsoring embassies. During the Cup, 150 girls from Tajikistan’s rural areas were also given the once in a life time experience to train with the female national football team, receive professional football- and sport coaching from the country’s most famous sport stars, discuss self-empowerment and gender issues, as well as the opportunity to visit the cultural sites of the capital Dushanbe (November 2019).
A medical worker assembles a custom made prosthetic leg at the EU-funded Relief International Prosthetic Centre in Reyhanli, Turkey (2019).
The EU-funded project provided field training sessions to equip local fruit producers with the knowledge and skills to understand and implement new farming and cultivation techniques. The objective is to increase productivity and the lifespan of the new fruit tree varieties (February 2019).
On 22 September 2020, Josep Borrell Fontelles, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission travelled to Kyiv, Ukraine. He participated in commemoration ceremonies at the Ministry of Defence Memorial, Maidan Monument and the Wall of Remembrance of the Fallen Defenders of Ukraine.
This photo was taken during one of practical exercises conducted as part of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defence – Sustained Field Operational Capability (CoESCD SFOC) course in November 2020. The rescuers were practicing transporting a casualty across a mountain river. CoESCD rescuers practicing transporting a casualty across a mountain river. The exercise was conducted in Varzob, Tajikistan as part of a 4-week SFOC course held in November 2020.
The EU Ambassador to the UK, João Vale de Almeida, greets the EU chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier and members of the UK Task Force as they arrive in St. Pancras, London, to engage in negotiations on the Trade and Cooperation Agreement with the UK side (July 2020).
EU Ambassador to Uzbekistan Eduards Stiprais said: “Today we are involved in an active dialogue that covers all aspects of our relationship, including political and financial support for ongoing reforms both domestically and in relations with our closest neighbors. And we hope to strengthen our relations by actively discussing the updated Partnership and Cooperation Agreement” (10 May 2019).
To celebrate Europe Day, the European Union Delegation in Geneva organised a special concert performed by the Orchestre des Nations on Thursday 2 May, gathering diplomatic representatives and UN organisations from more than 90 countries, as well as inhabitants of Geneva (2019).
For the second time, Geneva’s landmark, the Jet d’eau, lit up in blue on the occasion of Europe Day 2014.
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
La musique touarègue à l’honneur au Festival européen
DÉLÉGATION DE L’UNION EUROPÉENNE EN ALGÉRIE

Students of Assiut University in Upper Egypt held a conference in which they simulated the work of EU institutions. They presented the views of their respective countries and debated and drafted resolutions. Head of the EU Delegation, Ambassador Christian Berger, participated in the conference, along with representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (12 October 2020).
To ensure the safe return home of internally displaced people after Da’esh has been expelled from their home regions, de-contaminating efforts are more critical than ever. Many life-saving demining activities in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq are funded by the EU, through the Trust Fund Madad and implemented by MAG and Handicap International (2018).
President of the European Council Charles Michel, President of the European Commission Ursula Von der Leyen and President of the European Parliament David Sassoli lay a wreath in memory of the victims of the Holocaust at the January 2020 Fifth World Holocaust Forum, held at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem (23 January 2020).
His Majesty King Abdullah II, accompanied by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II, bestows Order of Al Istiqal of the First Degree on former EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs Federica Mogherini in appreciation for her efforts to bolster Jordan-EU ties (7 October 2019).
The first EU-Heads of Missions (HOMS) meeting to be held at the EU residence in Kuwait hosting H.E. Ambassador Walid Al Khubaizi, Kuwait’s Assistant Foreign Minister for European Affairs. The discussion was about raising the EU profile in the region and about Kuwait’s role as a mediator in the Gulf rift and in regional stability (27 January 2021).
Following the tragic explosion that shook the city of Beirut, the European Union organised three humanitarian air bridges to respond to the most urgent needs of the Lebanese people. One of the planes carried ambulances and medical equipment donated to the Lebanese Civil Defence and Red Cross (2020).
Promoting equal opportunities for women and men is an important element of EU development assistance. In Libya, the European Union works with entrepreneurs, business start-ups and NGOs to increase women participation in the labour market and strengthen their economic independence. Entering a traditionally male dominated sector, a group of aspiring female entrepreneurs from Benghazi participated in an intensive boot camp to learn how to code and programme (November 2019).
Le taux d’abandon scolaire est sensiblement réduit quand les enfants commencent leur éducation dès le préscolaire. Une petite fille dessine sur une ardoise dans la classe de préscolaire de la commune rurale Aliane dans la région du Rif au nord du Maroc (octobre 2018).
Eight young prominent TikTok influencers have promoted #TheRealChallenge in Saudi Arabia. They have conveyed the message that children's rights are universal and cannot be taken for granted. The free campaign has gained a total of 1,569,500 views (2019).
Nine-year-old Ali knows the struggle all too well. Ali has a disability that affects his ability to walk, sit comfortably and generally move around independently. But it didn't stop him from going to school in Homs, Syria, where he grew up. He especially loves mathematics. When his family fled their home in Syria more than four years ago, they had no idea what the future would hold. Where would they end up? How would they earn a living to support their large family? Would Ali cope without the additional support he needs? They just knew they had to leave if they wanted to survive (29 February 2016).
Le 28 septembre 2018, la Tunisie a vécu au rythme des villes européennes pour célébrer la recherche scientifique à travers un évènement d’envergure et original, fruit de la coopération entre la Tunisie et l’Union européenne. Il s’agit de “Lila Jamila” en Tunisie et “EuResearchers’night” en Europe.
In celebration of Europe Day on 9 May 2020, the EU flag is draped over Burj Khalifa, the world’s tallest building, conveying a message of partnership and cooperation and making the EU visible in spite of the restrictions imposed due to the pandemic.
Palestinian girls and boys looking at the Damascus gate after a long day of cleaning East Jerusalem neighbourhoods as part of the “My Green Jerusalem” EU initiative (19 September 2019).
In July 2020, the EU launched the largest humanitarian air bridge to date. More than 220 tons of medical materials and relief were flown into Aden and Sana’a to continue providing emergency assistance. The EU has also stepped up its fight against the Covid-19 pandemic by supporting the Yemeni health infrastructure and preventing it from collapsing.
MISSIONS & OPERATIONS
EUAM Iraq works closely with the Female Training Institute of the Ministry of Interior (MoI). The purpose of the cooperation is to support the Institute in building its capacity in the field of gender and human rights as well as increasing the annual graduation rate of women in the Iraqi police force (28 August 2019).
Established in December 2019, the EU Advisory Mission advises the Central-African government on the reform of its civilian security sector. The Mission is the newest of the 11 civilian CSDP Missions currently in operation (2020).
EUAM advisers with their Ukrainian counterpart from the National Police of Ukraine during Europe Day in Kyiv (17 May 2017).
Since 2013, the EU Border Assistance Mission supports the development of Libyan capacities for border management, law enforcement and criminal justice. A Train-the-Trainer course for the Libyan Judiciary is one of many support and advisory activities of this civilian CSDP Mission (November 2017).
As part of the EU’s commitment to a negotiated two-state settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, EU Border Assistance Mission Rafah supports the Palestinian General Administration for Borders and Crossings to build capacity. A new, EU-funded Command and Control Centre helps strengthen the ability of the General Administration for Borders and Crossings’ (GABC) to monitor and control the movement of people and goods (11 December 2019).
Since 2019, the EU capacity-building mission EUCAP Sahel Niger also provides assistance to other countries in the Sahel in order to fight transnational crime in the Sub region. In June 2019, the Mission conducted a first training in support of the Gendarmerie Forces in Burkina Faso as part of the G5 Sahel Police Component. The picture shows an exercise in forensics and securing of evidences.
This picture was taken during an exercise conducted in 2019 by the Nigerien Internal Security to detect document fraud in Niger. EUCAP Sahel Niger has previously trained border police and provided equipment to border police stations. During the exercise, the Mission experts accompanied the Nigerien Security Forces and supported the implementation where necessary.
Pre-deployment training at General Kahiye Police Academy in Mogadishu
EU CAPACITY BUILDING (EUCAP) SOMALIA

(From left to right) Maida Yusuf Abdullahi, Hodan Mohamud Hassan, Fadimo Abdi Mohamed, Halima Abdiweli Dahir, from a Darwish Unit of the Somali Police Force (SPF) pose for a group photo during pre-deployment training at General Kahiye Police Academy in Mogadishu, February 2020. The four female police officers said they joined the Darwish and the SPF to fight for peace and security in their country.
In 2014 Bosnia and Herzegovina was hit by the heaviest rainfall in 120 years, cutting off wide areas of the country. EUFOR joined lifesaving air evacuation efforts and later on reclassified its annual operational rehearsal into a disaster relief exercise assisting authorities with troops on the ground.
Members of EULEX’s Formed Police Unit carry out a reconnaissance patrol in Kosovo. EULEX’s Formed Police Unit is Kosovo’s second security responder in what is a three-layer security response mechanism where the Kosovo Police is the first security responder, EULEX is the second one, and NATO KFOR is the third (27 May 2018).
A monitor from EUMM Field Office Gori during a wintry patrol. EUMM monitors patrol 24/7, in line with the Mission mandate (27 December 2018).
The EU NAVFOR Spanish warship ‘Navarra’, the flagship of EU NAVFOR ATALANTA to fight piracy in the Indian Ocean, detains an alleged pirate skiff on suspicion of having hijacked a Yemeni fishing boat for four days and attacking two other ships. Latest reported piracy incident in the AOO (April 2019).
Operation EUNAVFOR MED Irini boarded, inspected and diverted to a European port, the Merchant Vessel Royal Diamond 7 for suspected violation of the UN arms embargo on Libya in international waters, 150 km north of the Libyan city of Derna (Cyrenaica). MV Royal Diamond 7 was carrying a cargo of Jet fuel, likely to be used for military purposes (10 September 2020).
The EU’s role in supporting the development of civilian police forces in the West Bank is widely recognised. EUPOL COPPS places particular importance on training, including contributing to the basic curriculum for all new police officers. Here, a graduating class of future police officers marches forward (April 2018).
The photo was taken during an extraction exercise. The situation given is that one EUTM member requires immediate evacuation from a possible hostile area. When the extraction team arrives to the extract point they have to be sure that they take a real EUTM member. For the personnel to be transported, they must comply with some rules to avoid being taken as a possible threat to the extraction team (7 August 2020).
Ceremony END CT2 administration (22 December 2020).
Creating a safety frame in support of EUTM Somalia CIMIC (Civil-Military Co-operation) team activity (28 February 2021).
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9A Rond Point Schuman
1046 Brussels
Belgium

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Project team: Amador Sanchez Rico, Luca Eszter Kadar, Isabelle Willet, Sarah Asmanis De Schacht, Juanmi Rodas, Ulrika Westholm.

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