

Civil Society Dialogue Network

Member State Meeting Spain

EU Common Foreign and Security Policy as a Peacebuilding Tool

Concept Note and Agenda

Madrid, 13 March 2012

*European Union Representation in Spain
(Paseo de la Castellana 46, Madrid)*



Working languages: Spanish and English
Simultaneous interpretation will be available

Concept Note

This is an activity to facilitate dialogue between the EU and the Spanish think-tank community on the practice of peacebuilding and conflict prevention and it aims to advance in the development of a more coherent and more effective EU action in these areas. The meeting will be structured in three working sessions. The first session will provide a brief overview of the Lisbon Treaty and the changes it introduced in the EU Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) – including its Defence Policy (CSDP). This session will also assess the performance of the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and of the functioning of the European External Action Service (EEAS). The second session will present the European Union’s specific civil and military capabilities for conflict prevention, crisis management and peacebuilding and will analyse some of its CSDP missions (both civilian and military) in some African, Asian, European and/or Mediterranean countries. Finally, the third session will present Spain’s priorities at the EU in the areas of crisis management and peacebuilding with a particular focus on the capabilities Spain contributes with to the EU.

This is as a high profile exercise to which high-level experts from the Spanish think-tank community and research institutes on European affairs, representatives from European Institutions, including European Commission, the European Parliament, the European External Action Service, and members of the EU military staff as well as the Spanish Armed Forces with experience in CSDP missions will be invited.

The Civil Society Dialogue Network (CSDN) is a three-year project funded by the European Commission aimed at facilitating dialogue on peacebuilding issues between civil society and the EU Institutions. For more information about the CSDN, please visit the [EPLO website](#).

Agenda

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09.30 – 09:45	Registration of participants
09:45 – 10:00	Welcome and opening remarks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Francisco Fonseca, Head of the European Commission Representation in Spain. • Emilio Cassinello, Director General, CITpax. • Catherine Woollard, Executive Director, EPLO.
10:00 – 11:30	Panel 1: The European Union and Peacebuilding after Lisbon: state of play, capabilities and challenges in a context of crisis.
	<p>Chair: Cristina Manzano, FRIDE</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Byrne, European External Action Service (EEAS), Division for Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Mediation. • Alicia Cebada, Carlos III University / London School of Economics <p>Comments: Catherine Woollard, EPLO.</p> <p>Debate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the most important changes the Lisbon Treaty introduced in CFSP and CSDP? • Has the Lisbon Treaty strengthen EU's leverage as an actor in international politics? • With the new Treaty, who is more relevant for peacebuilding, the EU or its member states? • What importance gives the Lisbon Treaty to conflict resolution tools such as mediation, arbitration and negotiation? Are these tools sufficiently emphasised? • Is the High Representative of Foreign Affairs the voice of the EU in the world? How well does the EEAS work? • What impact does the current financial crisis have in the EU's peacebuilding and conflict prevention policies and in its ambitions as a peace actor?
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break

12:00 – 13:30	<p>Panel 2: Towards a more coherent CFSP: lessons from CSDP missions</p>
	<p>Chair: Tom Morgan, European Parliament Representation in Spain</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter Hedling, EEAS, Lessons Learned Unit, Crisis Management and Policy Planning Directorate (CMPD), • Cdr. Pedro Sánchez Arancón, EEAS, European Union Military Staff (EUMS). <p>Comments: Alain Deletroz, International Crisis Group</p> <p>Debate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does EU's comprehensive approach to crisis management and conflict prevention work in practice? How has it worked so far? How can it be strengthened? • What are the challenges to coordinating and cooperating with other actors, including international agencies (UN, NATO) and NGOs on the ground? How can they be overcome? • Is the EU's model of civil-military integration the right one? • Will pooling and sharing of military capabilities make the EU more effective? • How does the EU articulate its cooperation with the civil sector for conflict prevention, crisis management and peacebuilding? How does civil-military cooperation work in practice in these areas in the European Union? • Do European civil society organizations have a role to play alongside the EU in crisis management and peacebuilding? What role? To what extent can they be involved in crisis management projects? What's their added value? Are there any experiences?
13:30 – 15:00	Lunch
15:00 – 16:30	<p>Panel 3: Spain's Peacebuilding Priorities at the EU</p>
	<p>Chair: Andreu Bassols, Director General, European Institute for Mediterranean Studies (IEMED)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elena Gómez Castro, Deputy Director of Security Affairs and Peacekeeping Missions, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. • T.Col Alberto de Blas Pombo, European Union Unit, SubDG of Plans and International Relations, DG of Defence Policy.

	<p>Comments: Sophie Haspeslagh, Policy Analyst at Conciliation Resources and Chair of the EPLO Steering Committee</p> <p>Debate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does the new Spanish Security Strategy, approved by the Spanish government in 2011, match the EU's CFSP and CSDP in the Lisbon Treaty?• How does Spain interpret the 'Solidarity Clause' of the Lisbon Treaty?• How does the Spanish Diplomatic Service perceive the EEAS?• What role does Spain want to play in peacebuilding in the framework of the EU's CFSP and CSDP?• How does Spain assess its participation in EU peacebuilding policies and crisis management missions?• How can Spain contribute to make EU peace action more coherent? What concrete capacities does it have to do this?
16:30 – 17:00	Closing remarks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Catherine Woollard, EPLO• Emilio Cassinello, CITpax

Javier Olivares is the coordinator of this meeting. Please do not hesitate to contact him if you have any question. Email: jolivares@toledopax.org; Tel. +34 917 010 955