



## EU Security and Defence news

The weekly e-newsletter on EU Common Security and Defence Policy activities

### Le Conseil Affaires étrangères s'est réuni à Luxembourg le 14 juin

Les ministres des affaires étrangères de l'UE se sont réunis à Luxembourg sous la présidence de la Haute Représentante Catherine Ashton ce 14 juin afin de discuter d'un large éventail de sujets, dont les récents événements au Kirghizstan, la situation dans la bande de Gaza ainsi que le programme nucléaire iranien et le quatrième paquet de sanctions décidé par la communauté internationale. Ils ont aussi eu un échange de vues sur les Balkans occidentaux avec le procureur du Tribunal pénal international pour l'ex-Yougoslavie, Serge Brammertz. Ils ont, par ailleurs, discuté de la situation en Somalie et écouté le commandant d'EUNAVFOR, le vice-amiral Peter Hudson, dont le mandat vient de s'achever. Le Conseil a également adopté des conclusions sur la politique maritime intégrée de l'UE, ainsi que des rapports annuels de la Politique étrangère et de sécurité commune et sur la formation en matière de la PSDC. Par ailleurs, le Conseil a adopté la position commune de l'UE pour la réunion de haut niveau des Nations Unies sur les objectifs du millénaire pour le développement, qui se tiendra à New York en septembre.

[Press release - Foreign Affairs Council, 14 June 2010](#)

### EU foreign ministers discuss situation in Gaza mechanism for access

In Luxembourg, the EU foreign ministers held an exchange of views with International Quartet Envoy Tony Blair on the situation in Gaza following the Israeli operation in international waters against the Flotilla. They reiterated the EU's call for an immediate, full and impartial inquiry into the events and the circumstances surrounding them.

The ministers also said that the EU was ready to contribute to the implementation of a mechanism based on the 2005 Agreement on Movement and Access that would permit the reconstruction of Gaza and the revival of its economy. To this end, full and regular access via land crossings, and possibly by sea, on the basis of a list of prohibited goods, should be the prime aim, while at the same time providing strict control over the destination of imported merchandise. To achieve progress on the ground, High Representative Ashton will continue to engage with the Government of Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Quartet members and other appropriate parties as a matter of urgency and present EU options with a view to the next Foreign Affairs Council.

[Read the Council conclusions on Gaza](#)

### L'opération navale EUNAVFOR est prolongée jusqu'en décembre 2012

Réunis au Luxembourg, les ministres des affaires étrangères de l'UE ont décidé ce 14 juin de prolonger de deux ans, jusqu'en décembre 2012, le mandat de l'opération navale de l'UE déployée pour lutter contre



la piraterie maritime au large des côtes somaliennes. Une discussion stratégique sur EUNAVFOR aura lieu cet automne. Les ministres ont aussi décidé d'étendre, vers le sud et vers l'est, la zone d'opération d'EUNAVFOR, afin de faire face à l'accroissement du rayon d'action des pirates.

[www.consilium.europa.eu/eunavfor-somalia](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/eunavfor-somalia)

### Major General Buster Howes takes the command of EUNAVFOR

On 14 June 2010, Rear Admiral Peter Hudson handed over the responsibility of Operation Commander of the EUNAVFOR to Major General Buster Howes (UK). Howes has extensive operational experience within the United Kingdom Amphibious Force. He served with the US Marine Corps in the First Gulf War and with the Rapid Reaction Force Operations staff of UNPROFOR in Bosnia. In 2007, he served as Chief Joint Coordination and Effects in HQ ISAF X in Kabul. His staff experience has been gained exclusively within the Joint and Naval Staffs, where he held the appointment of 1-Star Director of the Naval Staff.



*Major General Buster Howes, the new Operation Commander of EUNAVFOR*

### EUFOR Althea: Mines risk education instructors awarded

On 11 June, 37 Bosnian Mines Risk Education (MRE) Instructors were awarded certificates at an official ceremony for completing their 5 day training course at Camp Butmir, Sarajevo. The new instructors are now fully qualified to visit schools and community organizations in order to explain how to stay safe from the menace of mines and unexploded munitions.

EUFOR MRE instructors provided MRE training to more than 7300 people in 2009 making them the largest contributor to mines awareness in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## EULEX transfers executive functions of the Financial Intelligence Center to the Kosovo institutions

In the presence of Prime Minister Thaci, the Head of EULEX, Yves de Kermabon and the Minister of Economy and Finance, Ahmet Shala, signed Tuesday a memorandum of understanding which marks the beginning of a process of transferring the executive functions of the Financial Intelligence Center (FIC) from EULEX over to the Kosovo institutions.

“The beginning of this process is a good sign of what the main principle is for EULEX: local ownership and accountability” said the Head of Mission. The Prime Minister thanked EULEX and Minister Shala for having worked hard on the initiation of this process.

The FIC is an independent unit in charge to collect and analyse data and information for the prevention of money laundering and terrorism financing. It keeps databases of all the Cash Transaction Reports and Suspicious Activity Reports and all the data gathered whilst performing the analysis of such reports. The FIC also disseminates to law enforcement agencies of Kosovo and international bodies in Kosovo (EULEX, KFOR, IJPC, etc.) and abroad intelligence data and information related to the matters under its competence.

[Read the full article](#)

## EUPM prison reform study trip to Finland

In an effort to increase capacities within the authorities responsible for the prison reform across Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), the EU Police Mission (EUPM) helped organise a study trip to Finland for officials of the BiH prison service from 6 to 12 June 2010. The trip was financed by the European Union's TAIX programme, EUPM and the Finnish Training Institute for Prison and Probation Services.

## Upcoming activities

### 18 June

HR Ashton meets Egyptian Foreign Minister About Gheit.

### 21-25 June

HR Ashton will visit India.

## EUJUST LEX Iraq is extended for two years

The EU's integrated rule of law mission in Iraq (EUJUST LEX Iraq) will be extended from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2012. During this additional period, the mission will progressively shift its activities and relevant structures to Iraq, focusing on specialised training, while maintaining out-of-country activities. Taking into account further developments in the security conditions in Iraq and the outcome of the mission's activities in Iraq, the Council will examine the results of the new mandate and decide on the future of the mission after 30 June 2012.

On 15 June, the Civilian Operations Commander, Kees Klompenhouwer, and the Head of EUJUST LEX Iraq, Francisco Díaz Alcantud, briefed the press on the achievements of the mission and the new priorities for the next two years.

[Watch the press briefing](#)

## German experts and EUPOL COPPS support Criminal Investigation training for the Palestinian Civil Police

Last week, experts of the German Federal Office for Criminal Investigations (BKA) in cooperation with trainers of the Palestinian Civil Police (PCP) completed a two-week course on criminal investigation issues for 31 officers of the PCP in the Jericho Police Training School.



The participants were trained in crime scene management, lifting, collecting and analysing of fingerprints, foot-prints and forensic marks, photographing of evidences as well as providing investigation of suspects and detention.

Cooperation in the field of criminal investigations between the BKA and the PCP started already in 2008. Some 450 officers of the Palestinian Police have since been trained on the basis of a “Train-the-Trainer” concept. Germany will continue this cooperation in the future. Its contribution to the PCP is implemented in close cooperation and coordination with EUPOL COPPS. The development of Palestinian Security Forces is an indispensable requirement for a functioning Palestinian State.

© European Union 2010

[www.esdp10years.eu](http://www.esdp10years.eu)

[ESDP Newsletter - ESDP@10](mailto:ESDP_Newsletter_-_ESDP@10)

[EU Security and Defence on YouTube](#)

PRESS - EU Council Secretariat Tel: +32 (0)2 281 7640 / 6319 - [presse.psd@consilium.europa.eu](mailto:presse.psd@consilium.europa.eu)

TV Newsroom - [www.consilium.europa.eu/csdp](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/csdp) - [www.consilium.europa.eu/psdc](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/psdc)

EU external action web site: [eeas.europa.eu](http://eeas.europa.eu) - For information on the EU CSDP agencies, click [here](#)

*Les avis exprimés ne peuvent en aucun cas être considérés comme une position officielle du Conseil de l'Union européenne.*

*The views expressed are not to be taken in any way to represent the official position of the Council of the European Union.*