



EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 2 December 2010  
A 245/10

## Catherine Ashton appoints Robert Cooper as Counsellor in the EEAS

Catherine Ashton, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Commission Vice-President, today appointed Robert Cooper to the post of Counsellor in the European External Action Service (EEAS).

*"I am pleased to formalise the appointment of Robert Cooper to the post of Counsellor in the EEAS. He will undertake specific tasks that require high-level engagement at an intensive level, working with the Policy Board,"* said Catherine Ashton.

Robert Cooper was previously the Director-General for External and Politico-Military Affairs at the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union. Before moving to Brussels in 2002 he was Special Representative of the British Government on Afghanistan. He joined the British Diplomatic Service after his studies and has served in New York, Tokyo, Brussels and Bonn. His Foreign Office career was divided broadly between Asia and Europe. He has published a number of essays and articles on international affairs and, most recently, a book of essays "The Breaking of Nations".

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**P R E S S**

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