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If you have any comments about the EPLO Conflict Prevention Newsletter or suggestions for the next issue (February 2012), please contact [Ben Moore](mailto:Ben.Moore@eplo.org).

## EU IN THE WORLD UPDATE

**Council of the EU:** The Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) met on 14 and 30 November, and 1 December in Brussels. On 14 November, EU foreign ministers prepared the EU position for the international conference on Afghanistan (5 December 2012, Bonn), exchanged views on the EU's Southern Neighbourhood, and adopted conclusions on Libya, Syria and Tunisia. They also debated the situation in the Horn of Africa and adopted conclusions on a strategic framework for the region. EU development ministers established the EU position for the Fourth High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (19 November - 1 December, Busan, South Korea), and discussed proposals on the future of EU development policy ('Agenda for Change') and a refocused approach to budget support.

During their meeting on 30 November - 1 December, EU foreign ministers had an exchange of views on the situation in the EU's Southern Neighbourhood, and adopted conclusions on Egypt, Syria and Yemen. They also took stock of the EU's response to the developments in the Southern Neighbourhood and discussed the Arab Spring, the Middle East Peace Process and the EU's relations with the Arab League with its Secretary-General, Dr Nabil El Araby. EU defence ministers discussed the state-of-play concerning the EU's military CSDP operations (see below), established the 2012 budget for the European Defence Agency (EDA), and approved a framework for co-operation between the EDA and the Federal Department of Defence of the Swiss Confederation.

EU trade ministers met as the FAC on 14 December in Geneva. They prepared the eighth ministerial conference of the World Trade Organisation (15-17 December, Geneva) and gave the go ahead for the European Commission to start bilateral negotiations with Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia with a view to establishing "deep and comprehensive" free trade areas.

The General Affairs Council (GAC) met on 15 November, and on 5 and 16 December in Brussels. In November, they discussed certain aspects of the proposed EU multiannual financial framework (2014-2020), examine an annotated agenda for the next European Council meeting (8-9 December, Brussels) and took stock of the follow-up to the last European Council meeting (23 October, Brussels).

In December, ministers adopted conclusions on the EU's policy with regard to its enlargement, and on the stabilisation and association process for the Western Balkans, adopted a decision approving Croatia's admission to the EU, and prepared the December meeting of the European Council (see below). They also took note of the presentation by the European Commission of its work programme for 2012.

*Click [here](#) to download the FAC conclusions and [here](#) to download the GAC conclusions.*

**European Council:** The European Council met on 8-9 December in Brussels. EU heads of state and government endorsed the Council of the EU's conclusions of 5 December on enlargement and the stabilisation and association process. They also welcomed the signing of the Accession Treaty with

Croatia and took decisions on the enlargement process regarding Serbia and Montenegro.

*Click [here](#) to download the European Council conclusions.*

**Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP):** On 1 December, the GAC discussed the state-of-play concerning the EU's military mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR Althea), the counter-piracy operation off the coast of Somalia (EUNAVFOR Atalanta) and the EU training mission for Somali forces (EUTM Somalia). They also extended the EU police mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUPM Bosnia and Herzegovina) until 30 June 2012 and took stock of the latest developments with regard to Libya.

On 12 December, the Council of the EU approved the concept for a new CSDP mission to support maritime capacity building in the Horn of Africa and Western Indian Ocean states.

*For more information about CSDP missions, please contact [Giulia Pasquinelli](mailto:Giulia.Pasquinelli@eplo.org).*

**European Union special representatives (EUSRs):** On 8 December, the Council of the EU appointed Mr Alexander Rondos (Greece) as EUSR to the Horn of Africa. Mr Rondos is currently a diplomat.

*Click [here](#) for more information about EUSRs.*

**European External Action Service (EEAS):** On 21 December, HR Ashton announced her intention to appoint Mr Aivo Orav (Estonia) as Head of the EU Delegation to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Mr Samuel Zbogar (Slovenia) as Head of the EU Office in Kosovo, and Mr John Gatt-Rutter (Malta) as EU Representative to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNWRA). Mr Orav is currently Estonian Ambassador to Turkey, the FYROM, Azerbaijan, Lebanon and Syria; Mr Zbogar is currently Foreign Minister of Slovenia; and Mr Gatt-Rutter is currently acting EU Representative to UNWRA.

*For more information about the EEAS, please contact [Josephine Liebl](mailto:Josephine.Liebl@eplo.org).*

**European Commission (EC):** On 7 December, the EC published a set of legislative proposals for the EU's external funding instruments for the period 2014-2020.

*Click [here](#) to download the legislative proposals.*

**European Parliament (EP):** The EP had plenary sessions on 14-17 November and 12-15 December in Strasbourg; and on 30 November - 1 December in Brussels. In November, members adopted resolutions on EU support for the International Criminal Court, banning cluster munitions and gender mainstreaming in the work of the EP.

In December, they adopted resolutions on the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy, EU counter-terrorism policy, budgetary control of EU financial assistance to Afghanistan, the EU Strategy for Central Asia and the situation of women in Afghanistan and Pakistan (see 'EU documents' on p. 4).

*For more information about events in the European Parliament, please contact [Ben Moore](mailto:Ben.Moore@eplo.org).*

## EU DOCUMENTS

### High Representative (HR) / President of the European Council / Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)

- 20 December – [Declaration](#) by HR Ashton, on behalf of the EU, on the definitive results of the presidential elections in the DRC and the continuation of the electoral process
- 19 December – [Statement](#) by HR Ashton on the failure to elect the President of the Republic of Moldova
- 18 December – [Statement](#) by HR Ashton on the situation in Egypt
- 16 December – [Statement](#) by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on the publication of the report of Sri Lanka's Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission
- 12 December – [Joint Statement](#) by HR Ashton and Commissioner Füle on Serbia
- 9 December – [Declaration](#) by HR Ashton, on behalf of the EU, on Sudan and South Sudan
- 9 December – [Declaration](#) by HR Ashton, on behalf of the EU, on the electoral process in the DRC
- 7 December – [Statement](#) by HR Ashton on the ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty by Indonesia
- 2 December – [Statement](#) by HR Ashton on the outcome of the special session of the Human Rights Council on Syria
- 1 December – [Statement](#) by the spokesperson of HR Ashton on the transfer to The Hague of Laurent Gbagbo

### Council

- 5 December – [Press Release](#): The EU will conditionally support the transition process in Madagascar and a progressive relaunch of its development cooperation with the country
- 2 December – [Press Release](#): EU facilitated dialogue: Agreement on IBM
- 1 December – [Press Release](#): Twelfth Meeting of the EU-Georgia Cooperation Council
- 28 November – [Press Release](#): EU measures for developing countries agreed
- 28 November – [Joint Statement](#): EU-US Summit
- 25 November – [Press Release](#): Twelfth Meeting of the EU-Azerbaijan Cooperation Council
- 25 November – [Press Release](#): Twelfth Meeting of the EU-Armenia Cooperation Council
- 22 November – [Press Release](#): EU facilitated dialogue: Positive resumption
- 15 November – [Press Release](#): Conclusions of the 36th Meeting of the EEA Council
- 14 November – [Press Release](#): Tenth Meeting of the EU-Uzbekistan Cooperation Council

### Commission

- 7 December – [Proposal](#) for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation
- 7 December – [Proposal](#) for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing an Instrument for Stability
- 7 December – [Proposal](#) for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a European Neighbourhood Instrument
- 7 December – [Proposal](#) for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a financing instrument for the promotion of democracy and human rights
- 7 December – [Proposal](#) for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
- 7 December – [Proposal](#) for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Partnership Instrument for cooperation with third countries
- 7 December – [Communication](#) to the European Parliament and the Council: Preparation of the multiannual financial framework regarding the financing of EU cooperation for African, Caribbean and Pacific States and Overseas Countries and Territories for the 2014-2020 period (11th European Development Fund)
- 7 December – [Joint Communication](#) to the European Parliament and the Council: Global Europe – A new approach to financing EU external action
- 7 December – [Joint Communication](#) to the European Parliament and the Council: Human rights and democracy at the heart of EU external action – Towards a more effective approach

### Parliament

- 15 December – [Resolution](#) on the situation of women in Afghanistan and Pakistan
- 15 December – [Resolution](#) on the EU Strategy for Central Asia
- 15 December – [Resolution](#) on budgetary control of EU financial assistance to Afghanistan
- 14 December – [Resolution](#) on EU counter-terrorism policy
- 14 December – [Resolution](#) on the European Neighbourhood Policy
- 17 November – [Resolution](#) on gender mainstreaming in the work of the European Parliament
- 17 November – [Resolution](#) on banning cluster munitions
- 17 November – [Resolution](#) on EU support for the International Criminal Court

## EU AGENDA

**Council of the EU:** The next meetings of the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) and General Affairs Council (GAC) will take place on 30 January and 27 February 2012 in Brussels. The following Council committees and working parties will also meet in January and February:

- **Political and Security Committee:** 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 25 and 31 January; and 3, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 22, 24, 27 and 28 February
- **Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management:** 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25 and 30 January; and 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 and 29 February
- **Development Co-operation:** 12, 16, 19, 23, 26 and 30 January; and 2, 6 and 9 February
- **Africa:** 11, 12, 13, 18 and 25 January; 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 February
- **Human Rights:** 17, 24 and 25 January; and 14 and 15 February

**European Parliament:** The next European Parliament plenary sessions will take place 16-19 January and 13-16 February 2012 in Strasbourg and 1-2 February 2012 in Brussels. The following European parliamentary (sub-)committees will also meet in January and February 2012:

- **Foreign Affairs:** 12, 23-24 and 31 January; and 2 and 29 February
- **Development:** 23 and 24-25 January; and 9 and 29 February
- **Security and Defence:** 25 January; and 9 and 28 February
- **Human Rights:** 25 January; and 9 and 28 February
- **Women's Rights and Gender Equality:** 25-26 January
- **International Trade:** 23 and 25-26 January; and 29 February
- **Budgets:** 25-26 January; and 6 and 27-28 February
- **Budgetary Control:** 12, 23-24 and 26 January; and 28-29 February

## NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS FROM EPLO'S MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

### Job Vacancies

**Crisis Management Initiative:** [Head - Finance and Administration](#)  
**HD Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue:** [Accounting Manager](#), Geneva (Deadline: 15 January 2012)  
**International Alert:** [Regional Finance and Operations Manager - Africa Programme](#), London (Deadline: 8 January 2012); [Administrative Assistant / Receptionist](#), London (Deadline: 20 January 2012)  
**International Center for Transitional Justice:** [Senior Associate - Gender Justice Program](#) (Deadline: 13 January 2012); [Administrative and Finance Assistant](#), Brussels (Deadline: 20 January 2012)  
**International Crisis Group:** [Analyst - Ethiopia and Eritrea](#), Nairobi; [Analyst - Nepal](#) (Deadline: 5 January 2012); [Analyst - Somalia](#); [IT Officer](#), Brussels (Deadline: 8 January 2012); [Senior Analyst - Libya](#), Libya or Egypt  
**Interpeace:** [Middle East and North Africa Expert Analyst](#), Geneva and MENA region  
**Nonviolent Peaceforce:** [Administrative Officer](#), Brussels (Deadline: 9 January 2012); (Deadline: 31 December 2011); [International Civilian Protection Monitor](#), Cotabato, Philippines (Deadline: 13 January 2012)  
**Oxfam International:** [Finance Officer](#), Oxford, UK (Deadline: 13 January 2012); [Humanitarian Officer](#), Oxford, UK (Deadline: 16 January 2012); [Approximately 80 vacancies in Oxfam affiliates](#)  
**Quaker Council for European Affairs:** [2 Representatives / Heads of Office](#), Brussels (Deadline: 31 January 2012)  
**Saferworld:** [Fundraising Coordinator](#), London (Deadline: 8 January 2012); [Country Manager - South Sudan](#), Juba (Deadline: 15 January 2012)  
**Search for Common Ground**  
[Sahel Team Leader](#), Niamey, Niger; [Country Director - Morocco](#), Rabat; [Country Director - Indonesia](#), Jakarta; [Country Director - Lebanon](#), Beirut; [Programme Officer](#), Brussels; [Project Manager - Nigeria](#), Port Harcourt, Nigeria  
**World Vision International:** [Approximately 25 vacancies](#)

### Internships

**Fractal**, Belgrade  
**Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation**, Glencree, Ireland  
**Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict**, The Hague (Deadline: 2 January 2012)  
**HD Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue**, Geneva  
**International Center for Transitional Justice**, New York  
**International Crisis Group**, Beijing, Bogotá, Brussels, Istanbul, Nairobi, New York and Washington DC  
**Life & Peace Institute**, Uppsala, Sweden (Deadlines: 15 February 2012 and 30 April 2012); Nairobi and Bukavu, Democratic Republic of Congo  
**Nonviolent Peaceforce**, Minneapolis  
**Search for Common Ground**, Washington DC  
**swisspeace**, Bern  
**World Vision International**, USA (various locations)

### Publications

**Berghof Conflict Research:** [Anti-terrorism Legislation: Impediments to Conflict Transformation](#) – Berghof Policy Brief 2 (November 2011)  
**Civil Society Conflict Prevention Network (KATU):** [Human Security – Perspectives and Practical Examples](#) (April 2011)  
**Conciliation Resources:** [The Lord's Resistance Army](#) – People's Peacemaking Perspective's Project Policy Brief: (October 2011)  
**Crisis Management Initiative:** [The European Partnership for the Peaceful Settlement of the Conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh: Progress and Prospects](#) (October 2011)  
**Fractal:** [Fairer, Cleaner, Safer: Towards a more sustainable, people-centered approach to energy development in South East Europe](#) (August 2011)  
**HD Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue:** [Preventing Election Related Violence](#) (December 2011)  
**International Alert:** [Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights](#) (November 2011)  
**International Center for Transitional Justice:** [Indonesia's Obligations to Provide Reparations for Victims of Gross Human Rights Violations](#) – Policy Briefing (December 2011)  
**International Crisis Group:** [Sri Lanka: Women's Insecurity in the North and East](#) – Asia Report No. 217 (December 2011) [CrisisWatch](#) No. 101 (1 December 2011)  
**Interpeace:** [Our Process](#) (December 2011)  
**Kosovar Center for Security Studies:** [Drawing Boundaries in the Western Balkans: A people's perspective](#) (October 2011)  
**Life & Peace Institute:** [African soil for sale: Large-scale land acquisitions](#) – New Routes Volume 15 No. 4; [When peacebuilding becomes illegal](#) (June 2011); [Horn of Africa Bulletin](#) (October/November 2011)  
**Nansen Dialogue Network:** [Dialogue: More than a tool, less than a magic fix](#) – NDN Dialogue Paper (September 2011)  
**Oxfam International:** [Investing in agriculture in Burundi: Improving food insecurity and conditions for women farmers](#) (December 2011)  
**Pax Christi International:** [Sudan's 'New South': The War in Southern Kordofan and the Prospects for Peace](#) – CPA Alert No. 4 (October 2011); [Newsletter](#) No. 215 (December 2011)  
**Saferworld:** [Public protest and visions for change - Yemen: People's Peacemaking Perspectives](#) (December 2011); [South Sudan Monitor](#) (December 2011)  
**Search for Common Ground:** [A Guide for Professional Journalism in Conflict Zones](#) (October 2011); [Common Ground News Service](#)  
**swisspeace:** [Ballots or Bullets: Potentials and Limitations of Elections in Conflict Contexts](#) (August 2011); [KOFF Newsletter](#) No. 103 (1 December 2011)  
**Toledo International Centre for Peace (CITpax):** [International Observatory on the DDR Process and the Justice and Peace Law - Fourth Report \(Executive Summary\)](#) (September 2011)  
**World Vision International:** [Citizens' participation at the centre of the aid agenda](#) (October 2011); [eNews](#) (December 2011)

### Training Courses

[Academy for Conflict Transformation \(forumZFD\)](#)  
[Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution](#)  
[International Peace and Development Training Centre \(PATRIR\)](#)

## INITIATIVE FOR PEACEBUILDING – EARLY WARNING

INITIATIVE FOR PEACEBUILDING  
 EARLY WARNING

The Initiative for Peacebuilding – Early Warning (IfP-EW) is a consortium led by International Alert and funded by the European Commission. It draws on the expertise of 10 members comprising civil society organisations, networks and universities and three associates with offices across the EU and in conflict-affected countries.

For more information about the Initiative for Peacebuilding – Early Warning (IfP-EW), please contact [Heria Eckerl](#) from International Alert or visit the [web-site](#).

### Recent Publications

- [Practice Note: Conflict-sensitive Responses to Climate Change in South Asia](#) (October 2011)
- [Evaluating the EU's Role and Challenges in Sudan and South Sudan](#) (September 2011)

## EPLO MEMBERS

Berghof Conflict Research  
 Civil Society Conflict Prevention Network (KATU)  
 Conciliation Resources  
 Crisis Management Initiative  
 Dialogue Advisory Group  
 ESSEC IRÉNE  
 European Network for Civil Peace Services  
 Fractal  
 Glenree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation  
 Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict  
 HD Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue  
 International Alert  
 International Center for Transitional Justice  
 International Crisis Group  
 Interpeace  
 Kosovar Center for Security Studies  
 Kvinna till Kvinna  
 Life and Peace Institute  
 Nansen Dialogue Network  
 NGO Support Centre  
 Nonviolent Peaceforce  
 Oxfam International  
 Partners for Democratic Change International  
 Pax Christi International  
 Quaker Council for European Affairs  
 Saferworld  
 Search for Common Ground  
 swisspeace  
 Toledo International Centre for Peace (CITpax)  
 World Vision International

EPLO welcomes applications from peacebuilding organisations.

The next deadline for membership applications will be in **April/May 2012**.

Click [here](#) to download an application form.

## CIVIL SOCIETY DIALOGUE NETWORK

### Civil Society Dialogue Network

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. It will contribute to strengthening international and regional capacity for conflict prevention and post-conflict co-operation.

For more information about the Civil Society Dialogue Network, please visit the [EPLO website](#).

### Next Meeting

The next Civil Society Dialogue Network meetings will take place in spring 2012.

### Previous Meetings

**Funding Instruments Meeting: Instrument for Stability Annual Action Programme 2012**  
 Thursday 8 December 2011, Brussels

For more information about this meeting, please contact [Ben Moore](#)

**Member State Meeting in France: Assessing the peacebuilding potential of CFSP and CSDP after the Lisbon Treaty**

Monday 7 November 2011, Paris

For more information about this meeting, please contact [Josephine Liebl](#)

**Geographic Meeting: Middle East and North Africa: The Role of Civil Society in Institutional Reform**  
 Thursday 1 December 2011, Brussels

For more information about this meeting, please contact [Florian Kadletz](#)

For more information about these and other Civil Society Dialogue Network meetings, please visit the [EPLO website](#).



EPLO is the platform of European NGOs, networks of NGOs and think tanks active in the field of peacebuilding, who share an interest in promoting sustainable peacebuilding policies among decision-makers in the European Union.

EPLO aims to influence the EU so it promotes and implements measures that lead to sustainable peace between states and within states and peoples, and that transform and resolve conflicts non-violently. EPLO wants the EU to recognise the crucial connection between peacebuilding, the eradication of poverty, and sustainable development worldwide and the crucial role NGOs have to play in sustainable EU efforts for peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and crisis management.

EPLO advances the interests of its members through common policy positions and consequently advocating for those common positions. EPLO disseminates information and promotes understanding of EU policies of concern to its members. The Office also builds solidarity and co-operation amongst its members and with other relevant NGO networks.

Finally, EPLO raises awareness about the contribution the EU should make to peacebuilding and the need to hold the EU accountable to its own political commitments of helping secure peace within and outside its borders.

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## RECENT EPLO PUBLICATIONS

- [Follow-up to 10 Points on 10 Years UNSCR 1325 in Europe](#) (November 2011)
- [Power Analysis: The EU and Peacebuilding after Lisbon](#) (November 2011)
- [The EIB and conflict sensitivity](#) (October 2011)

For older EPLO publications, please visit the [EPLO website](#).