

UN-EU Strategic Partnership on Peace Operations and Crisis Management: Priorities 2022-2024

Mid-term update: January 2022 - June 2023 - examples of partnership activities

Priorities

- Women Peace and Security
- Transitions
- Conflict prevention in peace operations and support for political processes
- Cooperation with African peace operations
- Strategic cooperation: Field focused
- EU Member States' support to the Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) Initiative
- Policing, Security Sector Reform (SSR) and Rule of Law
- Training and capacity building

Strategic cooperation: Field focused

- On 7 November 2022, SRSG for Mali and Head of MINUSMA, El Ghassim Wane, held a range of meetings with the EEAS and EU member state representatives in Brussels as part of the consultation process for the MINUSMA strategic review.
- Head of the UN Department of Peace Operations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix and EEAS Deputy Secretary General for peace, security and defence, Charles Fries, met in Brussels on 21 November 2022 for a working session on operations. The next day, USG Lacroix had an informal meeting with the EU-PSC.
- On 17 May, in view of the negotiations for the renewal of UN Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 2292 (2016) on the authorization to inspect vessels suspected of violating the Libya arms embargo, the EEAS ISP Director briefed the UNSC on Operation Irini's activities, its effectiveness, impartiality, transparency and absolute adherence to relevant UNSC resolutions and international law.

Women, Peace and Security (WPS)

- On 10 March 2023, UNOPS provided examples from UN peace operations at an EU seminar on "Integrating a Gender Perspective into EU CSDP Missions and Operations".
- On 2 February 2023, an UN-EU online meeting on WPS/SGBV cooperation was organized to bring together UN and EU advisors and practitioners in the field to share experiences and lessons and to reflect on how best to support local efforts.
- The chief of the gender unit in the UN Department of Peace Operations held a range of meetings in Brussels on 12-13 June 2023 with EEAS and NATO gender focal points with a view to strengthening field level cooperation, with a focus on increasing the effectiveness of peace operations through an enhanced focus on WPS.

Cooperation with African peace operations

- The UN worked with the AU and the EU on the tripartite African Union Compliance and Accountability Framework (AUCF) project, officially launched in November 2022 by the EU Ambassador to the AU, the AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, and ASG for Human Rights, to ensure that AU Peace Support Operations are planned and conducted in compliance with IHR&HL, applicable standards of conduct and discipline.
- On 25 November 2022, the United Nations participated in a workshop on protection of civilians in the Sahel, organized by the secretariat for the Partnership for Security and Stability in the Sahel (P3S), with participation by the Alliance Sahel and G5 Sahel
- The UN consulted the EU as part of the assessment on "implementation of paragraph 13 of resolution 2391 (2017) Examination of alternative, detailed and operational options for support to the G5-Sahel Joint Force," which was submitted to NY HQ in September 2022.

Transitions

- On 6-7 June 2023, UNOPS and the European Commission/INTPA addressed a High-level Transitions workshop on DRC, co-organized by MONUSCO and the EU Delegation in DRC in Kinshasa.
- On 28 March 2023, SG Special Envoy for Great Lakes Region (GLR), Huang Xia, held consultations with the EU and donors at an event hosted by Belgium and linked to the UN Strategy for Peace Consolidation, Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution in the GLR, in Brussels.
- In January 2022, an UN-EU online session on transitions was organized and participants discussed the UN's engagement with the EU in the DRC.

Policing, Security Sector Reform (SSR) and rule of law

- On 6-7 October 2022, OROLSI/DPO experts met with key senior EEAS interlocutors in Brussels with a view to forging partnership and cooperation.
- EEAS/CPCC and OROLSI/DPO have taken steps to intensify the cooperation, including through a structured dialogue.
- On 12 October 2022, UN DDR Unit/OROLSI briefed EU member states committees (Politico-Military Group (PMG) and the Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management (CIVCOM) in Brussels.

Conflict prevention in peace operations and support for political processes

- On 25 April 2023, the UN participated in a Swedish EU Presidency expert seminar on climate and security in Brussels, where experts discussed how the EU can further strengthen its commitment on climate and security.
- On 2-3 March 2023, EEAS with the support of the UN (Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, UNICEF, DPO/DPET) organized a hybrid workshop on child protection and the CAAC agenda to identify concrete avenues and action points on how EU CSDP missions and operations could contribute to the implementation of the CAAC agenda.
- On 17 March 2023, EEAS and OHCHR organized a High-Level Panel on Human Rights Due Diligence in the Context of Security and Defense Support within the framework of the EU-OHCHR Strategic Dialogue on Human Rights, with the participation of Ilze Brands-Kehris, UN ASG for Human Rights, and Eamon Gilmore, EU Special Representative for Human Rights.

EU Member States' support to the Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) Initiative

- On 7-8 March 2023, USG Lacroix discussed EU Member States' support for the Action for Peacekeeping Plus (A4P+) priorities at the 1st informal meeting of EU Defence Ministers of the year in Stockholm.
- On 16-17 November 2022, DPO Military Advisor, General Diop, briefed the EU Military Committee and the NATO Military Committee on peacekeeping performance and work undertaken under A4P+.
- On 23 February 2022, the UN addressed EU Member States in the EU's UN Working Party (CONUN), with a special focus on the New Agenda for Peace and A4P.

Training and capacity building

- UNOPS has provided several training sessions on UN work and operations as part of the European Security and Defence College pre-deployment training programme for CSDP mission and operations. The EEAS and UNOPS provided opening remarks and active participation at the annual conference of the European Association of Peace Operations on 8-9 June 2023.
- On 6 July 2022, UNOPS presented the 2022-2024 UN-EU priorities on peace operations and crisis management at the pre-deployment training for CSDP missions and operations organized by the ESDC/EEAS.
- DPO/OMA has been consulted as an active observer in the EU Crisis Management Military Exercise - 2023 (MILEX 23).