

To protect and to serve? EU security and defence in action

Officials meet experts

27 November 2017, Polak Room, Residence Palace, Rue de la Loi 155, Brussels

Concept note

Since June 2016, the EU has witnessed a range of security and defence initiatives that are designed to protect Europeans. Following the publication of the EU Global Strategy, the EU has agreed to establish a Military Planning and Concept Capability for some of its missions in order to improve the EU's response to crises. The EU is also developing an annual review on defence as a way to lead to the greater synchronisation of defence planning in Europe. Additionally, the European Commission has stepped forward with an European Defence Fund that is designed to support defence research and capability development. EU-NATO cooperation has also moved to a new level following a joint declaration and closer cooperation on maritime security and hybrid threats.

One final piece of the EU defence puzzle has recently been placed on the board, however, as many EU member states cement their commitment to the progressive framing of common defence by triggering Permanent Structured Cooperation (PeSCo). Referred to as the 'sleeping beauty' of European defence, PeSCo promises to lead to binding commitments on defence between willing and able member states. With PeSCo in motion, a number of questions require further reflection, including: what will be the concrete priority projects that PeSCo could embody? How could initiatives such as the coordinated annual review on defence and the defence fund relate to PeSCo? How to ensure PeSCo leads to long-term political commitment to defence cooperation?

To reflect on such questions and take stock of the progress of the EU's various security and defence initiatives since the EU Global Strategy, the EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) is bringing together key policymakers, think tankers, academics and journalists from Brussels and farther afield. Senior policymakers from relevant EU institutions and representatives from the Political and Security Committee will share their thoughts with think-tank and academic representatives and the media.

To aid the discussion, the EUISS will use the occasion to unveil a *Chaillot Paper* that it has produced on EU defence after PeSCo. The paper seeks to stimulate wider public knowledge of PeSCo by presenting the intricacies of this political and treaty rooted framework in an accessible and highly readable manner. A printed version of the *Chaillot Paper* will be available at the conference.

Agenda

08:30-09:00

Registration and welcome coffee

09:00-09:15

Welcome remarks

Antonio MISSIROLI

Director, EU Institute for Security Studies

09:15-09:45

Keynote address

Pedro SERRANO

Deputy Secretary General for CSDP and Crisis Response, European External Action Service

09:45-11:00

Panel I : The view from the institutions

Moderator

Antonio MISSIROLI

Director, EU Institute for Security Studies

Speakers

Pierre DELSAUX

Deputy Director General, DG GROW, European Commission

Rini GOOS

Deputy Chief Executive, European Defence Agency

Zoltan MARTINUSZ

Director, Enlargement, Security, Civil Protection, Foreign Affairs Council Support, General Secretariat of the Council of the EU

11:00-12:15

Panel II : Policy meets analysis

Moderator

Silvio GONZATO

Director, Strategic Communications and Parliamentary and General Affairs, European External Action Service

Speakers

Björn FÄGERSTEN

Head of Programme and Senior Research Fellow, Swedish Institute of International Affairs

Isabelle MARQUES-GROSS

Deputy Representative to the PSC, Permanent Representation of France to the EU

Chris RAMPLING

Deputy Representative to the PSC, Permanent Representation of the United Kingdom to the EU

Kristi RAIK

Senior Research Fellow, Finnish Institute of International Affairs

12:15-12:30

Closing remarks

Nathalie TOCCI

Director, Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI)