



**Assembly of Western European Union
The Interparliamentary European Security and Defence Assembly**

Presentation of the Assembly :

Who are we ?

What do we do ?



Our topics for discussion today :

- 1. Who are we?**
- 2. What is our legal basis?**
- 3. What are our objectives?**
- 4. What have we achieved?**
- 5. What are our means of action?**
- 6. How do we work?**
- 7. What do we do?**
- 8. How do we interact with the European Union?**
- 9. How do we fit in with other international organisations?**
- 10. What does the future hold for us?**



1. Who are we?

Interparliamentary European Security and Defence Assembly

Full Members		Affiliate Members		Permanent Observers		Affiliate Associate Partners	
Belgium		Bulgaria		Austria		Croatia	
France		Czech Republic		Denmark		The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	
Germany		Estonia		Finland		Permanent Guests	
Greece		Hungary		Ireland		Russian Federation	
Italy		Latvia		Sweden		Ukraine	
Luxembourg		Lithuania		Affiliate Permanent Observers		Special Guests	
Netherlands		Poland		Cyprus		Albania	
Portugal		Romania		Malta		Bosnia and Herzegovina	
Spain		Slovakia		Associate Members		Moldova	
United Kingdom		Slovenia		Iceland		Montenegro	
				Norway		Serbia	
				Turkey			





2. Legal basis:

1948 Brussels Treaty

1954 Modified Brussels Treaty

Main articles of the modified Brussels Treaty:

Preamble

Article IV

Article V

Article VIII

Article IX



3. Our objectives

Initial objectives

Current objectives

4. Our achievements

The Petersberg tasks

The Satellite Centre

The Institute for Security Studies

The European Defence Agency

EU/NATO relations



5. What instruments does the Assembly use to take action?

Recommendations

Written questions

Plenary sessions

Response to the Annual Report

Seminars

6. Overview of activities



7. How do we work?

Presidential Committee

Defence Committee

Political committee

Technological and Aerospace Committee

Committee for Parliamentary and Public Relations

8. Relations between WEU and the EU



The ESDP is an “intergovernmental” policy

European Parliament

EU Council

WEU Assembly

**Secretary-General
of the Council
High Representative
for the CFSP
Secretary-General of WEU**

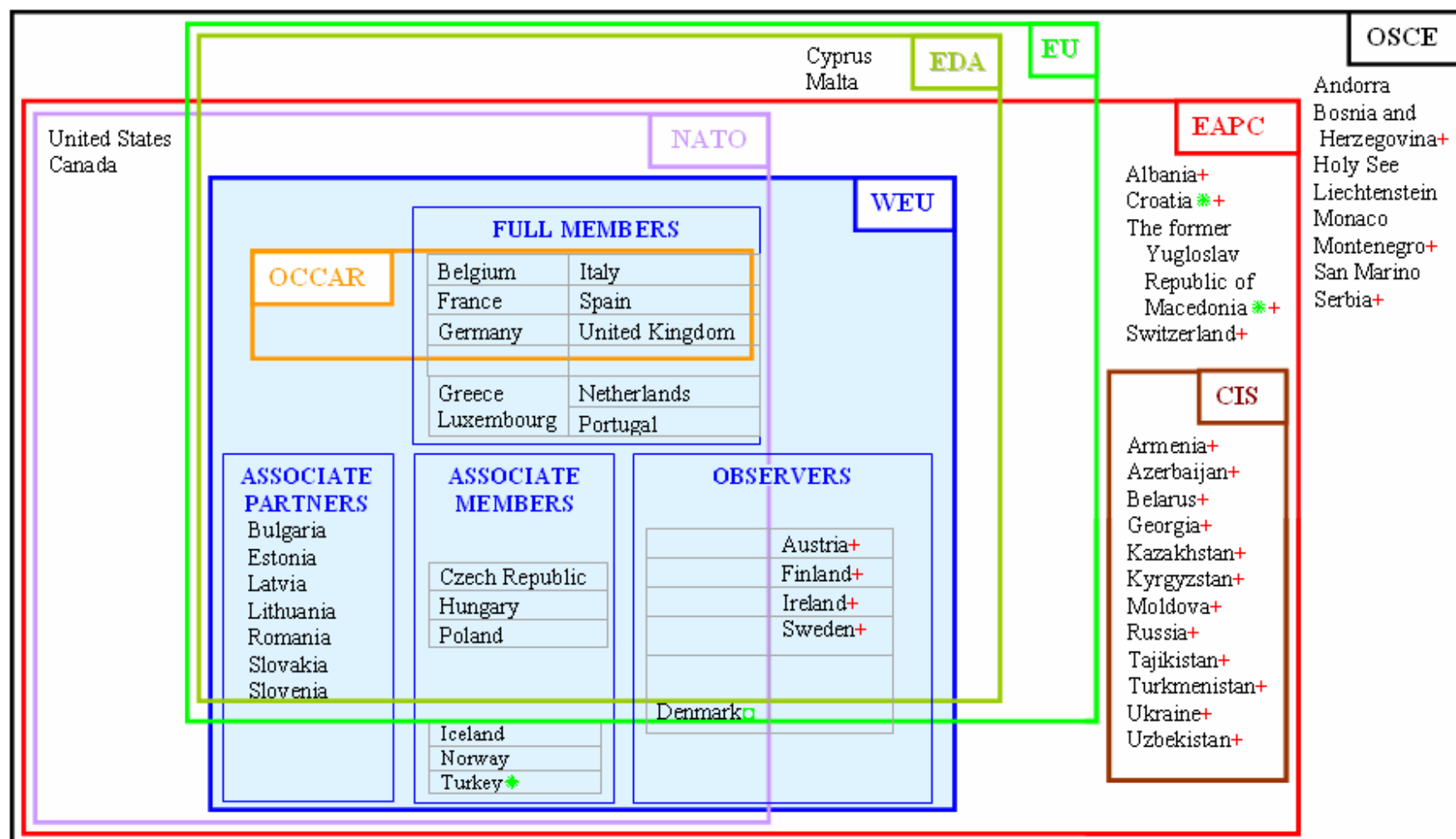
**EU Political and Security Committee
WEU Permanent Council**

**Military Committee
European Union Military Staff**

Council agencies:
- **European Defence Agency**
- **Satellite Centre**
- **Institute for Security Studies**



9. How does WEU fit in with other international organisations with competences for security issues?



Notes: * = EU candidates

□ = Denmark does not participate in the EDA

+ = Partnership for Peace (PfP) Members

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10. The future of the Assembly and the ESDP

Period of reflection on the future of Europe

Establishing an interparliamentary forum

Europe as a power

<http://www.assembly-weu.eu>



Kosovo, Afghanistan, the Mediterranean, the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa will be among Portugal's top security and defence priorities when it takes over the WEU/EU presidency on 1 July, according to Manuel Lobo Antunes, Portugal's State Secretary for European Affairs.



If we want security and defence to take on more importance in the eyes of the public we need to conduct a debate at home, in each and every European country and society. As our citizens elected representatives, we national parliamentarians have special responsibility for generating that debate.

President Masseret recalls the need for an inter-parliamentary forum on European security and defence.



European defence policy has "made substantial progress" in the past six months, but more must be done to step up EU strategic planning capabilities, according to Christian Schmidt, Parliamentary State Secretary at Germany's Ministry of Defence.

Giving a rundown on defence activities during Germany's six months of WEU/EU presidency, he told the Assembly that the presidency had concentrated on four areas: operations, developing capabilities, rapid reaction to crises and partnerships.





Petersberg missions

- humanitarian missions**
- rescue tasks**
- peace-keeping tasks**
- tasks of combat forces in crisis management, including peace-making**



Saint-Malo (December 1998)

- the EU must have the capacity for autonomous action, backed up by credible military forces**
- a capacity for analysis of situations**
- sources of intelligence**
- a capability for strategic planning**
- European capabilities pre-designated within NATO's European pillar, or national or multinational European means outside the NATO framework**

Helsinki (December 1999)



Headline Goal 2003

- “an autonomous capacity to take decisions and, where NATO as a whole is not engaged, to launch and conduct EU-led military operations”
- be able by 2003 to deploy within 60 days and sustain for at least 1 year military forces of up to 50 000/60 000 persons
- transparency between the EU and NATO
- arrangements to allow non-EU European members to contribute to EU military crisis management
- a non-military crisis management mechanism

Brussels (June 2004)



Headline Goal 2010

- **EU Rapid Response elements including high readiness joint force packages (“battlegroups”) of around 1500 troops, as a response to a crisis either as a stand-alone force or as part of a larger operation enabling follow-on phases; Relevant air and naval capabilities to be included.**
- **Decision to launch an operation within 5 days and deployment of troops within 10 days to an external theatre of operations; The EU should be able to undertake two Battlegroups-size operations for a period of up to 120 days simultaneously.**
- **The battlegroups have been fully operational since 1 January 2007. Most of the Battlegroups are multinational. Around 15 Battlegroups have been set up and are scheduled to participate in the duty rota for the next three years.**

European Union Military Staff



Peacetime

- **military opinions on EU defence policy**
- **generic strategic planning**
- **forces identification**
- **collective military capability and forces development**
- **exercices and procedures (NATO)**

Crisis (operational)

- **situation assessment**
- **early warning and monitoring**
- **strategic options**
- **forces identification**

200 officers

