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Progress and Achievements

Supporting African Capacities

Photo: Belgian MoD



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Progress and Achievements

Lt. Gen. Jean-Paul Perruche,
Director General, EU Military Staff.

By early 2004 ESDP was starting to gather momentum. Two EU military missions had been completed, ARTEMIS and CONCORDIA both in 2003; but the larger scale missions such as ALTHEA and EUFOR DR Congo had yet to be undertaken. Most of the EU civilian missions had also not happened at this stage. The European Security Strategy had just been adopted, and a new Headline Goal with a target date of 2010 was being set to succeed that of 2003. The development of EU Rapid Response (and specifically the Battlegroup concept) was in its infancy. The establishment of the Civ-Mil Cell was not officially proposed until December 2004, and cooperation with partners such as the UN, NATO, Mediterranean Partners and Third States had not been fully developed.

This article gives some background and intends to show how ESDP, from a specifically EUMS point of view, has evolved since then. It looks at the following areas:

1. Operations
2. Capability Development
3. Civil-Military Co-ordination;
4. ESDP Training and exercises;
5. Co-operation with Partners;
6. The Way Ahead.

1 OPERATIONS

In the last few years, the spectrum of tasks to address conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict situations within the ESDP has widened considerably. The missions that may be assigned under the ESDP are described in article 17.2 of the Treaty on European Union: "(and) include humanitarian and rescue tasks, peacekeeping tasks and tasks of combat forces in crisis management, including peacemaking".

To make Europe **more capable** in the management of crises, the European Security Strategy widened the spectrum

of missions to include ones such as **joint disarmament operations**, support for third countries in **combating terrorism** and **security sector reform**. The last of these would be part of broader institution building.

The EU has undertaken 16 missions on 3 continents

Within the last few years, operational activity in the field of crisis management has expanded exponentially. The EU is now conducting its fourth military operation, among sixteen missions in total, on three continents, with tasks ranging from peace-keeping and monitoring implementation of a peace process to advice and assistance in military, police, border monitoring and rule of law sectors. Further missions are under active preparation. EUMS has been involved in the preparation of many of these missions. A sum-

mary of ESDP missions is contained in pages 12 to 15.

With regard to the **Lebanon** crisis, EUMS collected information on the use of Member States' military assets, and monitored Member States' offers to the enhanced UNIFIL operation, sharing this information with all Member States.

2 DEVELOPMENT OF MILITARY CAPABILITIES

Europe is becoming a global player (See Box 1). The development of

European Military capabilities is a work in progress.

It relies on a strong common political will to make Europe more autonomous and better prepared.



Javier Solana, EU Council HR/SG with General Jean-Paul Perruche, Director General of the EUMS.

GLOBAL AMBITION

BOX 1

In the Presidency conclusions of the Cologne European Council (3 and 4 June 1999), EU leaders stated their determination that *"the European Union shall play its full role on the international stage. To that end, we intend to give the European Union the necessary means and capabilities to assume its responsibilities regarding common European policy on security and defence. ... the Union must have the capacity for autonomous action, backed by credible military forces, the means to decide to use them, and the readiness to do so, in order to respond to international crises without prejudice to actions by NATO"*.

FIVE ILLUSTRATIVE SCENARIOS

BOX 2

- Separation of Parties by Force
- Stabilisation, Reconstruction and Military Advice to Third Countries
- Conflict Prevention
- Evacuation Operations (in a non-permissive environment)
- Assistance to Humanitarian Operations

Headline Goal 2003

In December 1999, at the Helsinki European Council, the EU set a military target known as the **Helsinki Headline Goal**. The Member States agreed to put at the Union's disposal, on a voluntary basis, forces capable of carrying out the tasks as set out in Article 17.2 of the Treaty on European Union, by 2003, in operations up to army corps level (50/60,000 troops) with the necessary command, control and intelligence capabilities, logistics, other combat support services and additionally, as appropriate, air and naval elements. This force should be able to deploy in full at this level within 60 days and be sustainable for a year.

A Progress Catalogue is due by the end of 2007

Headline Goal 2010

Following the adoption of the EU Security Strategy (ESS) in December 2003, the EU decided to set a new Headline Goal 2010 in 2004. Based on the Headline Goal 2003, it envisions that MS "be able by 2010 to respond with rapid and decisive action applying a fully coherent approach to the whole spectrum of crisis management operations covered by the TEU"². The Headline Goal 2010 plan was endorsed by the June 2004 European Council summit meeting.

The process of developing EU Military Capabilities towards the Headline Goal of 2010 has been deliberate and thorough. The first step was to identify Strategic Planning Assumptions. **Five Illustrative**



The EUMS receives taskings from the EU Military Committee (shown here meeting in Chiefs of Defence Staff format). Photo Council of the European Union.

Scenarios were prepared, which encompassed a wide spectrum of military operations. (See Box 2).

Building Capabilities

Focused Military Options were developed, as to how best to deal with the relevant crises. These Options led to a **Planning Framework** from which was deduced a Detailed List of **Required Capabilities** that the EU would need.

Generic Force Packages were compiled which identified the type of force groupings that the EU would require and these resulted in a **List of Reference Units**. This information was fed into a **Requirements Catalogue** which listed in detail the actual types of units, resources and assets that were required.

It was the task of the EU to ask the Member States to what extent they could offer assets and resources to fill the **Total Force Requirement**, which is listed in the Requirements Catalogue. This was done by means of the **Headline Goal Questionnaire** that invited them to make their "bids" or offers.

As these offers were received, Member States' Contributions were compiled into the **Force Catalogue**.

Additionally a Scrutinising Methodology was developed and the **Scrutinising Handbook** established. It enabled Member States to conduct the necessary **Self Assessment** of their contribu-

tions and depicted the way towards the Force Catalogue via the clarification dialogue.

The Force Catalogue provides a view of the military capabilities available by 2010. It will also be the basis for **EU Shortfall Identification**. The identified shortfalls and the possible operational risks because of these shortfalls will be reflected in **Progress Catalogue**, which will be due by the end of 2007. The remaining tasks for the achievement of the Headline Goal 2010 will be to solve the identified shortfalls, while maintaining a credible EU operational capability.

Throughout the whole process, the EUMS has cooperated and will continue to cooperate with the **EDA** in many areas, particularly in the Integrated Development Teams (IDTs) and the Project Teams (PTs), which are intended to support and enhance Member States' efforts in solving the identified shortfalls. In addition, the EUMS will supply all necessary support to the EDA in order to continue the progress towards the objective of shaping the EU's Long Term Vision, and the follow-on work involved.

Synergy of Efforts

With regard to **Rapid Response**, during the last Battlegroup co-ordination conference, Member States have committed the required number of **Battlegroup** packages for 2007, 2008 and 2009. Indications have been given that the first half of

CIV/MIL CELL AT THE FOREFRONT

BOX 3

The Civ/Mil Cell is composed of civilian and military components. It performs the following tasks and roles:

- Undertakes Strategic Contingency Planning at the initiative of the SG/HR or PSC; provides assistance to crisis response strategic planning for military, civilian or joint civilian/military operations;
- Contributes to the development of a body of doctrine/concepts, learning lessons from civilian/military operations and exercises;
- Temporarily reinforce national HQ designated to conduct an EU autonomous operation;
- Assists, when requested, in planning and support of civilian operations carried out under the responsibility of DGE;
- Generates the capacity to plan and run an autonomous EU-led operation.

2010 will be completely filled. The Member States providing Battlegroups in the first half of 2007 have decided to provide naval enablers for these Battlegroups. From January 2007 onwards the EU will have the Full Operational Capability to undertake two Battlegroup-sized rapid response operations nearly simultaneously.

A milestone in the improvement of the Strategic Airlift capabilities was achieved with the formal approval of the **Strategic Airlift Interim Solution (SALIS)** by 15 EU Member States plus Canada and Norway, thereby ensuring timely availability of an additional capability to deploy outsized cargo. It was recognised that SALIS has further growth potential and will also in the future remain open to participation by other EU Member States and NATO nations. SALIS is a good example of the fruitful co-operation in finding effective and efficient solutions to overlapping capability shortfalls of EU and NATO.

Improving Readiness

Regarding the **Global Approach on Deployability**, it was recognised that improving strategic mobility was crucial, in order to enable Headline Goal 2010, and specifically the Full Operational Capability of the EU Battlegroups in 2007, to be realised. In view of the known shortfalls in strategic lift assets (both in NATO and the EU), focussing on the more effective use of all available means for transport co-ordination was seen as the key to improving strategic transport capability.

Five tasks were identified, concerning

the co-ordination, interaction, roles and responsibilities of transportation enablers, and these tasks were undertaken by the EUMS under the auspices of the EUMC and PSC. Most of the remaining tasks within the framework of the Global Approach on Deployability have been completed.

Work has continued with regard to the **maritime dimension** in ESDP, on investigating the contribution of EU maritime forces in ESDP missions/operations and their use in a rapid response capacity.

Improving strategic mobility is crucial

In line with the "EU Military Rapid Response Concept", consideration is being given to a **"Rapid Response Air**

Initiative" for further development within the framework of the Headline Goal 2010. This initiative aims at enhancing the generation of Air Rapid Response elements and proposes a draft concept for a European Deployable Air Station.

3 CIVIL-MILITARY CO-ORDINATION

The European Council of 16-17 December 2004 endorsed detailed proposals for the implementation of a document titled "European Defence: NATO/EU consultation, planning and operations"³. This paved the way for the establishment of a **Civilian/Military Cell** (Civ/Mil Cell) within the EUMS (See Box 3) and the creation of an **EU Operation Centre** in Brussels, as a means for improving the EU's capacity to plan and run autonomous EU crisis management operations.

Building Cohesion

For 'autonomous EU military operations', the principal option will be to conduct such operations from national HQs. However, in certain circumstances, in particular where a civil/military response is required and where no national OHQ is identified, the Council may decide, upon the advice of the EU Military Committee, to draw on the collective capacity of the OPS Centre (See Box 4).



EUFOR DRC is the most recent of the 11 ongoing EU missions. (Photo EUMS).

In such a case the Civ/Mil Cell would have the responsibility for generating the capacity to plan and run the operation. This would not be a standing OHQ. Rather, it would have the capacity to rapidly set up an operations centre for leading a particular operation. The OpsCen should operate under a designated Operation Commander separately from the EUMS, which will remain at the political/military level. The Civ/Mil Cell will provide the key nucleus of the OpsCen through a small OpsCen permanent staff which would be reinforced with 'double hatted' officers from the EUMS and with other CGS structures and Member States as appropriate.

Recent Developments

The Civil-Military Cell has reached its full strength. It has contributed to the setting up of ESDP civilian and military operations in Aceh, Rafah and the DR Congo. In addition, it has also contributed to work on military support and the Security Sector Reform Concept. In order to be operational in the coming months, work on the Operations Centre was focused on manning, infrastructure including communications, training and on the development of procedures and concepts. OPS Centre facilities will be accommodated in the EUMS building, and will be operational, as of December 06.

4 ESDP TRAINING AND EXERCISES

In view of the expanding role and activity of ESDP, proper training is becoming an increasingly important element of ESDP.

The **European Security and Defence College (ESDC)** successfully continued its work on establishing a network between national institutes, and providing attendees with a comprehensive background on ESDP. The first official ESDP High Level Course was concluded in March, and the second one is underway. Nationals of Candidate States, Third States as well as representatives of International Organisations were for the first time invited to participate in three ESDP Orientation Courses.



The Civil-Military Cell has contributed to setting challenging operations. (Photo WN, Rafah).

Exercises: MILEX 05, 07, 08

The EU Military Exercise "MILEX 05" was the first exercise concentrating on the military aspects of crisis management to be organised and planned by the European Union through its Military Staff.

The exercise was pitched at the highest military levels, to facilitate the practice and verification of planning procedures for staff officers at an EU Operation Headquarters in Paris, France and an EU Force Headquarters in Ulm, Germany.

The fictitious scenario envisaged a deteriorating political, military and paramilitary situation on the imaginary island of Atlantia. The participants in the various headquarters were exercised in problems similar to many faced in the past and potentially to be dealt with in the future. In addition to the EU participants, representatives from non-EU NATO members, Canada, Russia, Ukraine, Mediterranean partners and OSCE were invited to information briefings concerning the exercise.

This was the first time that an EU Operation Headquarters was fully activated as part of such an exercise on behalf of the European Union. Some 450 "players" and supporting personnel took part in what was a major progression in the European Union's Military Staff's involvement in the planning and conduct of large-scale crisis management exercises.

MILEX 07 is being planned at present, and MILEX 08 is scheduled for the first semester of 2008.

5 CO-OPERATION WITH PARTNERS

EU-NATO

A cornerstone for ESDP in the field of crisis management is the strategic partnership between the EU and NATO. The so-called '**Berlin Plus**' arrangement allows the EU to conduct operations with recourse to NATO common assets and capabilities. This was applied for the first time in operation CONCORDIA in 2003 and thereafter in operation ALTHEA, which was launched in 2004.

The EU and NATO have moreover continued to co-operate through a joint cell in Addis Ababa to ensure effective **support to AMIS** in the Darfur.

Co-operation and transparency between EU and NATO have been further enhanced through the setting up of a permanent **EU cell at SHAPE** and a permanent **NATO liaison team at the EU Military Staff**. See the article on pages 18-19.

In the field of capability development, the **EU-NATO Capability Group** has continued to exchange information, in accordance with the Capabilities Development Mechanism, discussing inter alia EU Battle-

"I would like to congratulate and thank the EU Military Staff for their efforts so far in furthering the cause of ESDP, and I encourage you to keep up the good work into the future"

Javier Solana: Visit to EUMS, 28 June 2006

groups and the NATO Response Force as well as some specific capability areas of common interest such as Software Defined Radio and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. Work continues aiming to ensure compatibility between the EU HGQ and the NATO DPQ.

EU-UN

The EU-UN co-operation in the field of ESDP continued to develop, notably through the preparation and conduct of the EU operation in the DR Congo in support of MONUC. Coordination was also focussed on the transition from AMIS to a UN operation in Sudan/Darfur as well as on ensuring a smooth transition between UNMIK and a possible civilian ESDP mission in Kosovo. Staff-to-staff meetings, supported by the **EUMS liaison officer to the UN**, proved helpful. Representatives of the UN participated in preparation meetings for CME 06 as well as in CIVIL 06.

Meetings between representatives of both the EU and the UN continued to take place, inter alia through the consultative mechanism known as the EU-UN Steering Committee which took place in New York on 8-9 June 2006. An article about the EUMS Liaison officer to the UN is at pages 10-11.

ESDP and Africa

The EU Strategy for Africa is a reference document for EU action. A joint implementation matrix has been developed with the African Union that sets out the commitments of the two sides in relation to the Cairo Plan of Action, the AU policy agenda and the EU Strategy for Africa. A comprehensive article concerning EUMS support to Africa is on pages 16-17.

EU-UN co-operation continues to develop

6 THE WAY AHEAD

Among our priorities as we look to the future are:

- The **effective implementation** of the decisions related to present and future operations and missions.
- The continuation of work on military capabilities, in particular to achieve the finalisation of the **Force Catalogue** and the preparation of the **Progress Catalogue**, on the basis of the agreed Roadmap (Headline Goal 2010).

- Rapid Response, in particular the **EU Battlegroups** initiative with a view to the full operational capability from January 2007.

- Continuing work on ESDP-aspects related to reinforcing the EU's **emergency and crisis response** capacities.

- The improvement of **civil-military co-ordination** in the planning and conduct of operations, including lessons learned and mission support.

- The continuation of work on **Security Sector Reform (SSR)**, including through region/country **specific approaches**, and the development of an EU approach to contribute to disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR).

- The development of ESDP support to **peace and security in Africa**, including the elaboration of options for the strengthening of EU support to **building African capacity** for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts through the development of cooperation with the African Union and African sub-regional organisations.

- The implementation of the EU military aspects of the **exercise programme** and the **training concept**.

- The pursuance of dialogue and co-operation with the **UN and OSCE**, and the development of the **EU/NATO strategic partnership** in crisis management, as well as the development of co-operation with partner countries including the European non-EU NATO members, Canada, Russia, Ukraine and the Mediterranean countries engaged in the Barcelona process⁴.

1- See Para 1 of European Council Declaration on Strengthening the Common European Policy on Security and Defence, Annex III to Presidency Conclusions Cologne European Council, available at http://ue.eu.int/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/ec/kolnen.htm.

2- Council of the European Union, doc. 6805/03
3- Presidency Note SN 307/03, 11 December 2003.

4- The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (Barcelona Process) is a wide framework of political, economic and social relations between the Member States of the EU and Partners of the Southern Mediterranean.

EU COMMAND OPTIONS

Today the EU has two basic Command Options for the conduct of EU-led military operations within the field of the crisis management operations (CMO). The Council makes the decision as to these Command Options.

- An autonomous operation without recourse to NATO Common Assets and Capabilities. In order to provide the necessary Command and Control (C2) capabilities for the conduct of an EU-led CMO, the EU may have recourse to a military chain of command formed from one of the five OHQs currently offered by MS, and other command elements listed in the Headline Force Catalogue (HFC), activated and augmented for that purpose.
- An operation with recourse to NATO Common Assets and Capabilities. This option is developed within the framework of a permanent agreement between EU-NATO called 'Berlin Plus'. The chain of command, including the potential role of DSACEUR, will be agreed in consultations between the PSC and the NAC on a case by case basis, taking into account EUMC's advice. DSACEUR would be the primary candidate as OpCdr with an EU OHQ established at SHAPE.
- In addition, when the EU Council decides, in particular for an operation requiring a joint civil/military response, then the EU Operations Centre (EU OpsCen) located in Brussels may be activated by a Council decision at short notice. This option will be available by the end of December 2006.

BOX 4

EUROSATORY 2006

A team from EUMS participated in the Eurosatory 2006 exhibition which took place in Paris last June. EUMS represented the EU Council, European Security and Defence Policy and also answered questions about the European Defence Agency. In addition, the DG EUMS and the Chairman of the EDA co-hosted a seminar entitled **“European Security and Defence Policy: The Way Ahead”**.

During the five days of the exhibition, EUMS officers briefed many high level visitors including the French Minister for Defence, Mme. Michele Alliot-Marie; King Abdallah II of Jordan; and high-level military delegations from many countries both within and beyond the European Union.



The EU Pavilion: (from left to right): French MoD Liaison Officer; Capt. Dowkiw (EUMS), Mr. Cramer (EDA), Nick Witney (CEO, EDA), Gen. Perruche (DG EUMS), Lt. Col. Durnin (EUMS), Mrs. Alterman (EDA), Lt. Col. de Bordelius, SSgt. Latti and Lt. Col. Eder (all EUMS), Mlle. Perrot (GICAT).

VISIT BY JAVIER SOLANA

Javier Solana, the High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy, and Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union, visited EUMS on **28 June 2006**. During his time there he received briefings from Lt. Gen Perruche and several EUMS officers on operations, on the **Civ-Mil Cell** and on the **new Operations Centre**. He addressed an assembly of EUMS personnel and both thanked and complimented them for the valued contribution they are making to the development of ESDP.



Br. Gen Brauss briefing Mr. Solana with members of the Civ-Mil Cell in attendance.



Br. Gen. Rodriguez Alonso briefing Mr. Solana with Lt. Gen. Perruche to the rear.

Handover of Chairman at the EU Military Committee

EUMC meeting at Chief of Defence (CHOD) level. (Photo EU Council, November 2005).

The European Union Military Committee (EUMC) is the **highest military** body set up within the EU Council. It is composed of the Chiefs of Defence of the Member States, who are regularly represented by their permanent military representatives.

The EUMC provides the **Political and Security Committee** (PSC) with advice and recommendations on all military matters within the EU.

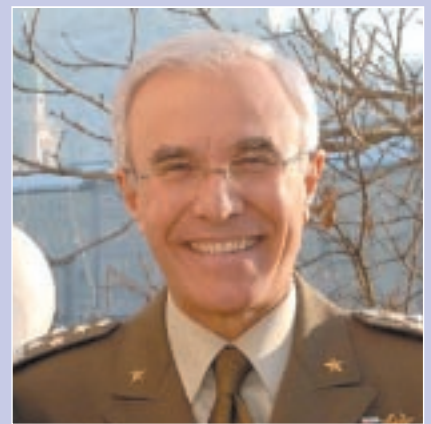
The permanent Chairman of the EUMC (CEUMC) is a Four-star flag officer on appointment, preferably a former Chief of Defence of an EU Member State. **Selected by the Chiefs of Defence** (CHODS) of the Member States and

appointed by the Council, his term of office is in principle three years.

As the Chairman, he is the spokesman of the EUMC, participates in the PSC as appropriate and attends Council meetings when decisions with defence implications are to be taken.

He performs the function of **military adviser to the SG/HR** on all military matters, in particular, to ensure consistency within the EU crisis management structure.

On 6th November 2006, the current Chairman, **General Rolando Mosca Moschini** (Italy), hands over to **General Henri Bentégeat** (France). ■



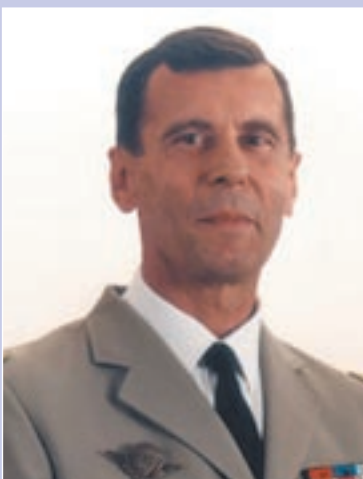
Since April 2004 to November 2006, General Rolando Mosca Moschini has been the Chairman of the EUMC.

From 9th April 2004 **General Rolando Mosca Moschini** has been the Chairman of the European Union Military Committee in Brussels.

From 1st April 2001 to 9th March 2004, he was **Italian Armed Forces Chief of Defence**.

Abroad, he served, for two years, within the Headquarters of the 3rd British Division (United Kingdom Mobile Force), and for three years, as Military Attaché to the Italian Embassy in London.

In 1993 General Moschini was appointed Military Advisor to the Italian Permanent Mission to the United Nations, took part in the 48th, 49th and 50th United Nations General Assemblies and was member of the Italian Delegation in the Security Council.



Last June, the Council adopted a Decision appointing General Henri Bentégeat as Chairman of the EUMC for a period of three years as from 6 November 2006.

General Henri Bentégeat served with the Marine Troops.

As a junior officer, General Bentégeat served from 1968 to 1973 in Germany, Senegal, France and Djibouti. He has assumed various operational responsibilities in Africa and France, as well as Staff appointments, particularly as the Chief of the Military Staff of the President of the Republic.

In 1990-92, he was in Washington, D.C. as the Assistant Defence Attaché.

From October 2002 to October 2006, he was the **French Chief of the Defence Staff**.

STRUCTURE OF THE EUMS



The EUMS is led by the Director General (DGEUMS, a three-star general) who is assisted by the Deputy Director General and Chief of Staff (DDG/COS, a two-star general).

The staff comprises five classic divisions (Policy & Plans, Intelligence, Operations & Exercises, Logistics & Resources, and Communications & Information Systems) as well as the above mentioned Civilian/ Military Cell. All six are led by an Assistant Chief of Staff (ACOS) at one star level.

STRUCTURE OF THE EUMS



The EUMS structure and organisation is fully multinational, as depicted on the chart which shows the flag officer and branch chief posts (at the OF5/colonel level).

The EU and the UN: Joint Vision and Common Action

**Questions to Colonel Fergus Bushell,
EUMS Liaison Officer to the UN.**



The EU has always responded positively to UN expectations. (Photo Paula Bronstein, Indonesia)

Q: What is your contribution to the mission building process?

Colonel Fergus Bushell: The Liaison Officer participates in the discussions, arranging meetings at the appropriate staff levels and maintaining an essential information flow between both staffs. Let's take the example of the EU operation in DR Congo.

Once the EU was clear as to the precise elements that such an operation might entail, the Presidency communicated to the **UN Secretary General** our willingness to support the UN during the critical electoral phase of its mission to DR Congo. Immediately **the UN Security Council** agreed a resolution setting out the parameters of the mission thus allowing the planning phase of the operation to be brought to a speedy conclusion. The latter was possible as prudent concurrent military activity had been taking place throughout the political consideration of the UN Security Council request.

As the framework of an operation began to emerge, the Liaison Officer switched focus to practical issues relating to that

operation. These included such items as the coordination with UNHQ of reconnaissance visits to the field by our planners, the arrangement of certain logistics supports for those planners and the exchange of relevant planning products.

Now as the operation is ongoing, the Liaison Officer provides a liaison between our Operation HQ and the Department for Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO). In this instance the critical issue is the agreement between both sides of the modalities for triggering an EU operation in support of MONUC. The decision making process reflects the nature of each envisaged operation, with suitable accelerated procedures available where a critical emergency exists.

Q: The EU and the UN have different cultures but do they have the same ambitions when it comes to international stability?

Colonel Fergus Bushell: I would rephrase this question: Do the EU and UN have shared goals?

In short the answer to this is yes! If one analyses our own Security Strategy in comparison with the goals set out in the UN document "In Larger Freedom", one will find many shared ideals and goals. Our member states form a bulwark of support for the UN and its institutions and it is only logical that goals shared collectively within the EU are reflected in policies put forward by our members in the UN context.

**“The EU and the UN
have common goals**

THE MISSION OF THE LIAISON OFFICER

- Establish Liaison & Coordination with Office of Military Adviser;
- Establish Contacts (Military Matters) with other offices within the UN Secretariat;
- Assess the Coordination Requirements for Military Operations;
- Establish Liaison with Services within Military Division of DPKO;
- Conduct the relevant exchange of Information;
- Participate in and coordinate any joint Lessons Learned Process;
- Carry out Additional Responsibilities as assigned by the Director General of the EU Military Staff.

Q: Could you tell more about your mission?

Colonel Fergus Bushell: From the outset it is important to understand that the duties of the Liaison Officer are strictly confined to interaction with DPKO and do not apply to the wider UN family of organisations.

In carrying out these functions it has been necessary to develop a wide range of interlocutors in various departments within both the Military, Political and Support Divisions of DPKO. This has allowed for a critical information flow to develop thereby allowing for transparency between the organisations where appropriate and facilitating early warning on issues where the UN might seek our support.

“It is logical that the UN turn to the EU in certain circumstances”

Q: What does the UN expect from the EU in the area of international security?

Colonel Fergus Bushell: It is not so much a question of expectation as that of the fact that the EU is one of the strongest supporters of the UN, with respect for the UN's position of primacy in the area of international security.

Q: What is the “contract” between the EU and the UN? I mean, in terms of available support, rules of engagement, procedures, transparency...

Colonel Fergus Bushell: There is NO contract between the UN and the EU. However, it is clear from past experience that the EU is prepared to examine each request for support from the UN on a case by case basis and have always responded positively when necessary. For practical reasons many of our procedures are different, nonetheless, we both strongly support and abide by the tenets of international law.

Q: The EU Military Staff is developing wide scope crisis management and HQ capacities. Do you think that the EU may become a leading auxiliary of the UN when regional formats are engaged?

Colonel Fergus Bushell: Lakhdar Brahimi, in his examination of Peacekeeping, recommended the UN to adopt a regional approach where appropriate to the mounting of Peace Support Operations. Therefore it is logical that the UN turn to the EU in certain circumstances. It would be, in such circumstances, an overstatement to draw any conclusions that the EU is, in some way, an auxiliary of the UN.

Q: From your position, what are the greatest challenges for the EU when working with the UN?

Colonel Fergus Bushell: Besides the many political challenges based on the need for both organisations to retain the independence of its own decision making process, there remains a number of difficulties of a military nature mostly based on issues surrounding command and control. Such challenges are minimal where the EU conducts an independent operation at the behest of the UN pending the UN's being in a position to deploy its own forces to the field. This type of operation, commonly termed "bridging" allows for a single chain of command within the EU system, thereby maintaining the political control and strategic direction of the operation.

However, the greatest challenge exists where both organisations seek to run concurrent operations within the same theatre. Albeit at the request of the UN, this modular approach is very demanding as both sides sustain parallel chains of command. Success of such operations will demand extremely precise coordination at every level from the strategic down to the soldier on the ground.

Q: Is the UN considering further EU support with new missions and operations in 2006?

Colonel Fergus Bushell: Circumstances normally dictate that the UN is not in a position to conduct pre-emptive deployments. Rather it responds to an existing crisis thereby making it difficult to predict where we may next be required to offer support and at what level. For this reason the existence within our military structures of rapidly deployable capacities is of great importance.■



The EU and the UN work together to find the best possible peaceful solutions.(Photo WN, Lebanon).

EU Missions and Operations



The EU has undertaken **16 missions and operations** since the ESDP became operational in 2003.

The distinction between **military and civilian operations** within the framework of ESDP is in many cases rather artificial. In reality many civilian missions require military support and military missions will often be followed by civilian missions or development and assistance programmes from the European Commission (EC).

The **EU is unique in its capability** to combine and co-ordinate both civilian and military instruments in a joint and comprehensive EU response.



This is exemplified by the fact that the EUMS works in close co-operation with the two civilian directorates dealing with crisis management within the **EU Council**:

DG-E VIII (Defence Aspects) and DG-E IX (Civilian Crisis Management).

In particular, the **Civil-Military Cell** within the EUMS, established in May 2005, has coordinated civilian and military aspects of planning and the conduct of fact-finding missions, including, as it does, civilian and military planners, including two representatives from the EU Commission.

CAPACITY BUILDING MISSION

MILITARY MISSION

RULE OF LAW MISSION

MONITORING MISSION

Missions Operations	EUROPE	AFRICA	MIDDLE-EAST	ASIA
Military	CONCORDIA Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) March-December 2003 EUFOR ALTHEA /Bosnia i Herzegovina	ARTEMIS /Ituri province (Congo RDC) June-September 2003 AMIS II Support /Darfur province (Sudan) EUROR DR Congo /Congo RDC		
Capacity-Building	EUPOL Proxima / Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) December 2003 to December 2005 EUPAT / Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) Follows EUPOL Proxima EUPM /Bosnia i Herzegovina	EUSEC DR Congo /Congo RDC EUPOL Kinshasa /Congo RDC	EUPOL-COPPS /Palestinian Territories	
Rule of Law	EUJUST Themis /Georgia July 2004-July 2005		EUJUST LEX /Iraq	
Monitoring	EU BAM /Moldova-Ukraine		EU BAM Rafah /Palestinian Territories	AMM /Aceh province (Indonesia)
Under Preparation	EUPT /Kosovo			

EUROPE

Bosnia i Hercegovina

EUPM

Type:	Police mission. Capacity-Building.
Objective:	Support the reform and modernization of police forces. Provide assistance in the fight against organized crime and corruption.
Mandate:	Initiated in January 2003. No executive mandate. No operational duty. Since January 2006, a new mission focuses on the fight against organised crime and police reform.
Commitment:	Approximately 200 international officers and contracted staff from 32 countries (25 EU and 7 non-EU).
Senior Officer:	Brigadier-General Vincenzo Coppola (I) is Head of Mission. Christian Schwarz-Schilling (G) the EU SR in BiH.

Bosnia i Hercegovina



EUFOR ALTHEA

Type:	Military EU-led operation. The largest operation launched by the EU, to date.
Objective:	Ensure compliance with the 1995 Dayton Peace Agreement. Enhance security and public safety.
Mandate:	In December 2004, ALTHEA took over from SFOR, a NATO-led mission.
Commitment:	6,000 troops from 34 countries, including 22 EU Member States. Overall costs of the operation are € 71.7 million .
Command:	General Sir John Reith (UK) , NATO Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (D-SACEUR) is the EU Operation Commander. Major General Marco Chiarini (I) is the EU Force Commander.

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)



EUPAT - THE EU POLICE ADVISORY TEAM

Type:	Police mission. Capacity-Building.
Objective:	Develop an efficient and professional police service based on European standards of policing .
Commitment:	In line with EU mission PROXIMA: 120 international police officers and 30 international civilians.
Mandate:	Followed the EU Police Mission PROXIMA for a 6-month mandate, running until June 2006. Closed down last June.
Senior Officer:	The Team was under the guidance of the EUSR Erwan Fouere (IR) . Brigadier General Jürgen Scholz (G) was the Head of Mission.

Moldova-Ukraine

EU BAM - Border Mission for Moldova-Ukraine

Type:	Border assistance mission. Monitoring.
Objective:	Contribute to the monitoring of the common border (including the Transnistrian segment). Facilitate cross-border cooperation . Provide support to prevent and combat illegal activities. Provide advice and training in customs controls and border surveillance.
Commitments:	175 personnel including 101 high level customs, police and border experts seconded by EU member states and 74 local support staff. Headquarters in Odessa with 7 field offices and a logistic base in Illichevsk. The total budget for a two-year operation is €20.2 million .
Mandate:	Launched on 30 November 2005 for a two-year initial mandate .
Senior Officer:	Under the guidance of the EU Commission . General Ferenc Banfi (H) is Head of Mission. Adriaan Jacobovits de Szeged (NL) is the EU SR for Moldova.



Kosovo



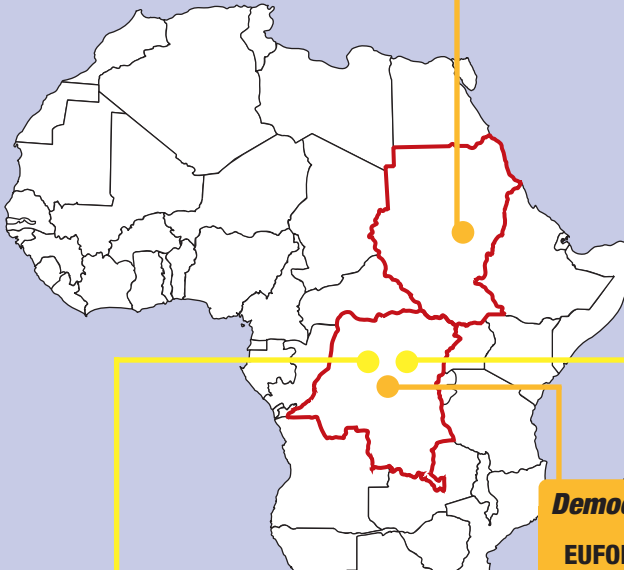
EUPT KOSOVO

Type:	Mission planning.
Objective:	The EU Planning Team prepares the EU response for all aspects of a possible crisis management operation in the field of rule of law and other areas that might be initiated in the context of the future Kosovo status process.
Commitment:	25 personnel structured in 4 teams : Head of EUPT Kosovo, Police, Justice and Administration. The headquarters is located in Pristina .
Mandate:	The Planning Team is operational since May 2006 . By 31 October 2006 the EU Council shall evaluate whether the EUPT Kosovo should be continued after 31 December 2006 .
Senior Officer:	Casper Klynge is Head of the Planning Team.

AFRICA



Capacity-Building Mission:
EUPOL Kinshasa in DR Congo. (Photo MONUC/Kevin Jordan).

**Democratic Republic of Congo****EUPOL Kinshasa**

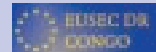
- Type:** Police mission. Capacity-Building.
- Objective:** Provide assistance and guidance to the Congolese Integrated Police Unit (IPU), in support of the transition process in DRC. The IPU is fully operational since March 2005.
- Commitment:** 25 police officers and 5 civilian staff, augmented by 29 extra police officers from 30 June to 30 Nov 2006. **7 EU Member states and 5 Third States** contribute personnel.
- Mandate:** Officially launched in April 2005 and expected to finish by **December 2006** but may be extended.
- Commander:** **Superintendent Aldo Custodio (P)** leads the mission. **Aldo Ajello (I)** is the EU Special Envoy for the African Great Lakes Region.

**Darfur (Sudan)****EU Support to AMIS II**

- Type:** **Civilian-military supporting action.** Capacity-Building.
- Objective:** Support to the African Union's effort to bring stability to the region. The EU provides Military experts, Civilian Police, logistics, training, and transport resources, including troops airlift.
- Commitment:** 16 EU police officers, 19 EU operational and logistic planners, 11 military observers. **€212 million** have been pledged by the **EU's African Peace Facility**. The AU has been granted another €30 million until end 2006. Member States "bilateral contributions are in excess of **€30 million**."
- Mandate:** Request of the African Union. The EU Joint Action was on 18 July 05. Launched in January 2004.
- Senior Officer:** **Pekka Haavisto (FL)** is the EU Special Representative for Sudan.

**Democratic Republic of Congo****EUSEC Congo**

- Type:** **Support mission.**
Capacity-Building Security Sector Reform.
- Objective:** Provide advice and assistance for the reform of the **security sector**. Assistance to the successful integration of former rebels in the Congolese army. Special programme to improve the chain of payment of the new Brigades.
- Commitment:** Initially a dozen military experts, augmented by approximately **35 military and civilian** experts in particular in the financial field.
- Mandate:** Launched in June 2005, **extended till June 2007**.
- Commander:** **General Pierre Michel Joana (F)** leads the mission. **Aldo Ajello (I)** is the EU Special Envoy for the African Great Lakes Region.

**Democratic Republic of Congo****EUFOR DR CONGO**

- Type:** **Military Mission on UN request.**
- Objective:** **Support the MONUC (UN Mission in DRC)** to stabilise a situation, in case MONUC faces serious difficulties in fulfilling its mandate within its existing capabilities. Contribute to the **protection of civilians** in the areas of its deployment, and without prejudice to the responsibility of the Government of the DRC. Contribute to **airport protection** in Kinshasa.
- Commitment:** EUFOR DR Congo includes: the deployment of an element in Kinshasa of **more than 1,000 military personnel**; the availability of a **battalion-size "on-call" force** over the horizon outside the country in Gabon, but quickly deployable if necessary.
- Mandate:** Council Joint Action of 27 April 2006 following a **UN Security Council Resolution 1671 (2006)** adopted unanimously on 25 April. EUFOR DR Congo is deployed in the DRC for a period of **up to 4 months** after the date of the first round of the presidential and parliamentary elections, 30 July 2006.
- Commander:** The EU Operational Headquarters is located in Potsdam (G). **Lt. Gen. Karlheinz Viereck (G)** is EU Operation Commander. **Maj. Gen. Christian Damay (F)** is EU Force Commander.



MIDDLE-EAST/ASIA

Palestinian Territories



EU BAM Rafah

- Type:** **Border Control Assistance mission.** Monitoring and Capacity-Building.
- Objectives:** Provide border assistance at the Rafah Crossing Point at the **Gaza-Egypt border**, in order to support the "Agreement on Movement and Access" reached between Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA).
- Commitments:** Approximately 70 personnel mainly seconded from EU Member States.
- Mandate:** Operational phase of EU BAM Rafah was launched on 25 November 2005 with duration of **12 months**. Anticipated to be extended by 6 months from November 2006.
- Senior Officer:** **Major-General Pietro Pistolese (I)** is Head of Mission. **Marc Otte (B)** is the EU SR for the Middle East Peace Process.

Palestinian Territories



EUPOL-COPPS

- Type:** **Police mission.** Capacity-Building.
- Objective:** Provide support to the Palestinian Authority in establishing sustainable and effective policing arrangements. Co-ordinate and facilitate EU Member State assistance, and - where requested - international assistance. Advise on police-related Criminal Justice elements.
- Commitments:** Approximately **11 unarmed personnel** mainly seconded from EU Member States and invited nations. The reference budget intended to cover the expenditure until the end of 2006 will be **€6.1 million** (common costs).
- Mandate:** Began on 1 January 2006 for an initial duration of **3 years**.
- Senior Officer:** **Marc Otte (B)** is the EU SR for the Middle East Peace Process. **Jonathan McIvor (UK)** is the Head of Mission.



Rule of Law Mission: EUJUST LEX in Iraq.

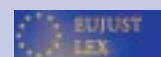
Indonesia



The Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM)

- Type:** **Monitoring mission.**
- Objectives:** Monitor the implementation of the peace agreement between the Government of Indonesia (GOI) and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM).
- Commitment:** **36 unarmed personnel.** The mission brings together the EU, 5 ASEAN countries as well as Norway and Switzerland. Budget under EU's CFSP line: **€10.8 million**. Contributions of participating countries: **€6 million**. Following completion of decommissioning (March 2006) AMM has been **downsized** from its initial strength of 226 unarmed monitors to 85 (current).
- Mandate:** Launched in September 2005. The present mandate runs **until 15 Dec 2006** and no further extension is expected.
- Senior Officer:** **Pieter Feith (NL)** is the Head of mission.

Iraq



EUJUST LEX

- Type:** **Integrated Rule of Law Mission.** Capacity-Building.
- Objective:** Provide assistance to **political transition**. Strengthen democratic institutions with a comprehensive training of judges, magistrates, police and prison officials in the fields of management and criminal investigation.
- Commitments:** **€10 million** from the EU budget for the first year.
- Mandate:** Launched in February 2005. Operational by 1 July 2005 for an initial period of 12 months and now **extended to 31 Dec 2007**.
- Senior Officer:** **Stephen White (UK)** is Head of mission.

Supporting African Military Capacity Development

Col. Dennis Gyllensporre,
EU Military Staff.

It is in the interest of the EU that Africa develops into a stable and prosperous continent. Therefore the commitment to support peace and security extends beyond missions and support to operations led by other organizations. It also involves dedicated long term efforts to strengthen African capabilities so that continental solutions could be increasingly found to African security challenges.

Africa is Taking Increased Responsibility

Within the African Union (AU) States have come to realisation that the way towards a peaceful and secure continent has to include more enhanced capabilities for crisis management and increased cooperation between member states. This sentiment was crystallized by the South African president, and at the time chairman of the African Union, Thabo Mbeki: "[We] can and must continue to solve our own problems, relying in the main on our efforts, determination and resources, however meagre these resources may be."

A centrepiece in the African blueprint for conflict prevention, management and resolution is the establishment of an **African Standby Force (ASF)**. In 2004 Ministers for Defence agreed on a policy framework and later the same year the AU Heads of State and government formally adopted a common defence and security policy for the Continent.

The ASF will be empowered to intervene in serious conflicts around the continent and deploy under the auspices of the AU to intervene in a broad set of missions. The force will consist of five regionally multidisciplinary standby contingents including civilian and military capabilities, using a brigade system as the regional organizational structure. While some units are



EU HR/SG Javier Solana welcomes President Alpha Oumar Konare, the AU Commission Chairman. (Photo EU Council, T. Monasse, October 2005).

already on standby, it is envisaged that the ASF by 2010 could be employed in the following scenarios:

- Observer and monitor missions;
- Intervention in the affairs of a member state during grave circumstances e.g. Genocide situations;
- Preventive deployment;
- Peace Building operations, including post conflict disarmament and demobilization;
- Provision of humanitarian assistance to alleviate the suffering of people in conflict and disaster areas;
- Other types of peacekeeping missions;
- Other functions the Peace and Security Council or the AU mandates.

The EU is a Key Partner

The EU has been a key partner for the African Union and its sub-regional organisations for capacities related to peace and security for a long time, in particular through the EU development co-operation agreements. The bulk of the EU funds have been provided through the **African Peace Facility (APF)**, to provide more effective support to support the emerging new African structures established to work

for peace and security on the continent. It emphasises African ownership and solidarity to create the necessary conditions for development. The APF has allocated a total of €300 Million in the field of peace and security, of which some €35 Million has been dedicated to capacity building for the AU and its sub-regional organisations.

With the conceptual development of the ASF the EUMS and other EU bodies have played an increasing role in assisting with expertise, as a complement to the financial support. The initial conceptual development included five functional areas (Doctrine, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Training, Command, Control and Communication and Information Systems (C3IS), and Logistics) in which the EU assumed the lead-partner role in two (Doctrine and SOPs).

In two other areas (Training and Logistics) EU Member States (France and UK) took on lead-partner responsibilities. In particular EU expertise has assisted the AU in the development of a comprehensive approach to operations including civilian and military efforts. In line with its thesis the support has been multidisciplinary with representation from EUMS and DG E IX (Civilian Crisis Management).

In Addis Ababa the EU liaison officer to AU plays a key role in coordination of partner efforts related the ASF. In addition, the EU continues to be involved in ongoing conceptual work including legal, financial and medical aspects and further development of the civilian dimension.

The Long Term Needs Assessment

Of the €35 Million dedicated for EU support to capacity building only €6 Million has been allocated to strengthen AU institutions and some €21 Million remain to be allocated in programmes towards long term capacity needs. In addition, some €7.7 Million is ring-fenced for conflict prevention.

To continue to support capacity building, an evaluation of the APF concluded that an "... *important recommendation is that a longer term and more systematic view is taken of the capacity building needs in the African continent peace and security architecture*".

Against this backdrop an AU-led study on long term needs assessment was initiated in July. It focuses on identifying and mobilising the technical capacity needed to enable AU and sub-regional organisations to engage more effectively in conflict prevention, management and resolution. The study will result in the production of comprehensive and coherent indicative capacity building requirements of the AU and sub-regional organisations and recommend programming of available funds. Particular emphasis is paid to the development of the ASF.

The assessment team initially included three AU consultants and an EUMS representative commissioned to engage with the AU Commission, sub-regional organisations and other African institutions to identify and prioritize the capacity needs. To this end a comprehensive field trip was conducted in the August-September time-frame. It included visits to the following African organisations:

- ECOWAS Secretariat, Abuja, Nigeria;
- Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Centre, Accra, Ghana;
- West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), Accra, Ghana;

- CEWS field station, Monrovia, Liberia;
- ECOWAS zonal office in Monrovia, Liberia;
- UN mission in Liberia (UNMIL);
- EASBRIG PLANELM, Karen, Kenya;
- Kenya Peacekeeping Centre, Karen, Kenya;
- EAC Secretariat, Arusha, Tanzania;
- COMESA Secretariat, Lusaka, Zambia;
- Pan-African Parliament, Johannesburg, South Africa;
- Institute of Strategic Studies, Pretoria, South Africa;
- SADC Secretariat, Gaborone, Botswana;
- ECCAS Secretariat, Libreville, Gabon;
- CEN-SAD Secretariat, Tripoli, Libya.

The EU dedicates efforts to strengthening African capabilities

While the assessment is not yet finalised there are some general observations that have already emerged. The relationship between the AU and its sub-regional organisations is complex. Regional institutions have evolved in different ways, reflecting their unique preconditions. An appreciation of the capacity needs and the continental dynamics require an in-depth knowledge of the different sub-regional preconditions.

In the area of conflict prevention the establishment of a Continental Early Warning System (CEWS) represents a critical function to tailored and timely responses. This will require early warning systems developed by sub-regional organisations to be interoperable and closely integrated to assist the AU at the continental level.

While the regional ASF brigades have achieved substantial progress there are significant challenges to tackle. The planning elements (PLANELM) have established initial capacity, but they need to be strengthened by additional staff, including CIVPOL experts, and effective means for communication.

The needs for training and exercises must be identified, taking into account the capabilities provided by the pledged units.



PROFILE

Colonel Dennis Gyllensporre (Swedish Army) has been Head of the Doctrine and Concepts Branch since July 2005. His overseas assignments

include Vice Chairman and Chief Operations Officer of the Joint Military Commission in the Nuba Mountains Sudan, and Staff Officer at the Nordic-Polish Brigade in Bosnia-Herzegovina (SFOR).

The multinational and multidisciplinary composition of the ASF put emphasis on interoperability and effective Command and Control. Capacity for transportation to and within mission areas is a critical sector.

Conclusion

The EU views security as a precondition for development, and recognises that assisting the AU and its sub-regional organisations in their aspirations towards a stable and prosperous continent requires significant efforts in the field of peace and security. To achieve structural changes and enduring progress, actions to address immediate threats to peace and security must be complemented with long term efforts to enhance African capabilities.

To be effective, assistance must consist of a mix of funding and expert support. The EU has acknowledged the need to step up its efforts to assist the AU and the sub-regional organisations to become more capable in Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution. Recently the PSC noted a support concept, developed jointly by the Council Secretariat and the Commission, to take this effort forward in close cooperation with Member States. In this concept the development of the ASF represents one of the critical area for success.

It is clear that the EUMS will continue its efforts in addressing the strategic interest of the EU to contribute to long-term and self-sustainable improvements of the situation in Africa. ■

EU-NATO Cooperation: First Things First

Questions to Colonel Christian Platzer, EUMS Liaison Officer to NATO SHAPE and Colonel Gabor Horvath, NATO Liaison Officer to the EUMS.

Q: *The establishment of the two liaison cells was decided almost a year ago. From your point of view, what is the state of play in the implementation of the liaison arrangements?*

Colonel Gabor Horvath: The NATO Permanent Liaison Team (NPLT), which is the successor of the former SHAPE Liaison Team to the EU Military Staff, completed the handover for its second rotation this summer. The team has been well established in the EUMS and successfully maintained fruitful contacts and has continued to improve its relationship. I would assess that all conditions are set - from the personnel and the administrative-logistics side - for the good functioning of the team under its Terms of Reference.

Col. Christian Platzer: The EU Cell at SHAPE is now three officers strong and one NCO, from Austria, Ireland and Sweden, out of an establishment of six persons. In terms of staff work, Chief EUCS deals with the Command Group level in both the EUMS and SHAPE. In the host organisation, the interlocutors are NATO, DSACEUR and DCOS/ACOS level officers and in the EU, the DG and DDG/COS along with ACOSs and the Executive Office. One Action Officer, whose specialist area is strategic planning, deals with what can be broadly described as the Operations side of the house, and the other, a logistician, deals with the Support functions and training matters. Projects which cut across boundaries, or which do not fit neatly into the above mentioned areas, are dealt with on an individual basis. So, as we military people very often say, we have achieved Interim Operational Capability, the Full Operational Capability will be achieved with our full complement of officers.

Q: *From your perspective, how is your cell contributing to an improvement of the relationship between the two organisations? How do you find the complexities involved in harmonising relationships between NATO and the EU?*



PROFILE

Colonel Gábor Horváth (Hungarian Army) has a postgraduate education in Hungary and in France. He has a NATO international troops and staffs experience. He has been working with the EU military organizations since 2003 and was appointed Head of the NATO Permanent Liaison Team (NPLT) to the EUMS in 2006.

“We speak a similar language”

Colonel Gabor Horvath

Col. Christian Platzer: The role of EUCS is two-fold. The primary task of the Cell is to provide support to DSACEUR in his role as Operations Commander of potential EU Missions. The original division of labour reflects that task. The secondary task, however is that which is conducted on a day to day basis. Each of the officers has a liaison role in a particular functional area, as stated above. In effect we convey information (that can be shared) between the organisations. Inherent in this task is the need to assist staffs in SHAPE and the EUMS in making contact with each other. We are also the human face, as it were, of EUMS to the divisions and branches at SHAPE. So, in fact I think we do already contribute to the improvement of the relationship in very

practical ways, mainly on the “working level”. In relation to harmonising relationships between NATO and EUMS, we are conscious of the fact that the two organisations are very different in genesis and organisation. SHAPE is a strategic level military HQ, in a security-political organisation. Its focus reflects that genesis. The EUMS, about 200 strong, can be seen to be a military add-on to a civilian organisation of some 30,000 civil servants.

Colonel Gabor Horvath: I think that the most important contribution is that the NPLT is the standing interface for continuous dialogue between the appropriate NATO and EU military authorities at the politico-military level. However, the Team also has essential functions at the military strategic level too, which links us to the Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (DSACEUR), who is the Strategic Co-ordinator and thereby the focal point within NATO for issues related to the European Security and Defence Identity and the EU's primary Alliance military strategic interlocutor in relation to the ESDP. Other military strategic functions are performed in harmony with our counterpart, the EU Cell at SHAPE (EUCS). We have an important role in improving transparency and visibility, which also supports the harmonisation in the military area. While working toward this objective, we always have to keep in mind the politically defined framework.

Q: *EU-NATO cooperation is a constant work in progress. How have you contributed to this so far?*

Colonel Gabor Horvath: As I have mentioned earlier, the NPLT is the interface between the appropriate NATO and EU military bodies. More exactly, it provides the bulk of the links for the EU Military Staff to the NATO International Military Staff and also to the NATO Strategic Commands, Allied Command Operations (ACO) and Allied Command Transformation (ACT). In particular, given DSACEUR's specific European responsibilities, we respond to his day-to-day direction with respect to our missions and functions, and this linkage is par-

ticularly valuable, given also that he is currently undertaking the function of EU Operation Commander for Operation ALTHEA in Bosnia Herzegovina. Our major contribution is to inform our authorities on the ongoing activities, and to identify potential new partners and bring them together when it is deemed appropriate by the competent authorities.

Col. Christian Platzer: EUCS has contributed to EU-NATO co-operation in a number of ways. By our very presence in the halls of SHAPE, we have brought the EUMS to the attention of many NATO officers who otherwise might only vaguely have been aware of the EU, and in particular its military staff. We are in constant contact with most of the Divisions and Branches within SHAPE, and assist in developing relationships across the organisation's boundaries. This has been done in ways both public and private, while all the time acknowledging that they are separate organisations with their own missions and agendas and their sovereign decision-making. We intend to continue to provide liaison and appropriate information between staffs in both SHAPE and EUMS.

Q: How do you see your teams contributing to improving the efficiency of EU-NATO co-operation?

Col. Christian Platzer: As liaison officers of the EU, our mission is to keep EUMS informed, in those areas in which there is concurrent interest with SHAPE activities. All information about operations, from planning to execution are in our remit, and our role is to be aware of what is developing in both organisations, so we can analyse what may be of interest across the boundary, as it were. Because of the fact that we are a small team and each of us has to cover a large field, we have a very broad perspective on what is happening in both organisations, and this is to the benefit of them, as we can recognise trends and potential areas of co-operation.

Colonel Gabor Horvath: The NPLT is one of the main assets providing the necessary situational awareness on EU military activities to appropriate NATO authorities and vice versa, and it can be one of the tools that is used to contribute to situational awareness about NATO to EU military bodies. It is not a forum, but a very useful interface. Therefore, its contribution to overall efficiency lies in its liaison role. And this role is not only about maintaining and improving the contacts between the military members of the two organisations, but also about trying to identify the best ways to conduct routine exchanges between military leaders and experts, while respecting the standing political framework.

Q: Could you give concrete and current examples of cooperation at your level?

Colonel Gabor Horvath: The very obvious example is Operation ALTHEA, where NATO and the EU work together very closely. It is worth mentioning that during the conduct of this very important operation, cooperation is not only focused on the use of NATO common assets and capabilities, under the so-called Berlin



PROFILE

Colonel Christian Platzer (Austrian Army) is Head EU Cell at SHAPE since 1 March 2006. He has worked at the NATO PfP Staff Element in Brunssum (1998-2000), and has been Chief of Staff of the Multinational Brigade Southwest in Kosovo (2004).

Plus arrangements, but also comprises the coordination of the military activities of the two organisations within the wider context of the geographical area as well. Less visible but equally important are the exchanges at staff level, which contribute to the harmonisation of very significant doctrinal concepts. Enormous potential lies in these exchanges for the future, as both Allied and EU concepts will logically have considerable impact on the development of military forces of the NATO Nations and the EU Member States.

Col. Christian Platzer: Our levels of co-operation extend from desk officers up to the level of DGEUMS and DSACEUR. We have recently facilitated an informal meeting of DDG/COS with DSACEUR, for example. But we also have free access to SHAPE desk officers, and have provided information to our colleagues in EUMS from various sections in SHAPE. On a weekly basis, we report to EUMS on the situation in SHAPE.

Q: As liaison officers, what are your impressions when working in an environment that is different to your parent organisation?

Col. Christian Platzer: I must say that, though SHAPE is a very different organisation to EUMS, DSACEUR has made us very welcome, and put out the message very clearly that we were to receive full co-operation from SHAPE officers. This may stem

from the fact that he is double-hatted as EU Operations Commander (for Operation Althea in Bosnia i Herzegovina). Regardless, he has clearly opened doors to EUCS that might have taken a lot more effort without his assistance.

Colonel Gabor Horvath: We felt at home from the outset. The Director General of the EUMS welcomed us very warmly and has always considered us as part of the staff. In line with this, the present NPLT shift was also given the opportunity to take part in the EUMS induction days. The EU Military Staff is a very friendly environment. Many staff leaders and members have already gained important NATO experience during their previous staff or operational appointments. Therefore, we really speak a very similar professional language. Similar, I said, but not absolutely identical. It is obvious that our NATO team has to learn and respect the specificities of the EU military environment. All in all, the NATO Permanent Liaison Team has smoothly integrated into the EU Military Staff and enjoys a friendly environment based on mutual respect and transparency. ■

“We are the human face of the co-operation”

Colonel Christian Platzer



The EUMS Team:

Front row: Alberto de Blas Pombo, Wolfram Fossli;
Back row: Kenneth Raun, Jesus Penas Preckler,
Francisco "Paco" Garcia Mascarell, John Organ,
Richard Nicklin, Nick Spence.

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Early Cycle

Eight members of the EUMS participated in the **Swedish annual Vatternrundan** 300 km cycle event on 15/16 June 2006. The **300 km cycle ride** encircles the beautiful lake Vättern in Sweden and is considered to be the largest recreational bicycle ride in the world. The event first started in 1966 and in 2006 over **15,000 riders** completed the course.

As guests of the **Swedish Armed Forces**, the EUMS team were exceptionally well looked after, with accommodation, messing, and local transportation being provided in and around the town of Motola. On the Saturday morning we were woken just after midnight for breakfast at 1 a.m. in order to make our start time of 3 a.m. Being so far north lights were unnecessary! The plan was to ride together for the first 100 km but then enthusiasm and that little competitive devil inside us all took over and it was everyman for himself, after just 5 km! With water/food stops at approximately every 40 km there was time to freshen up and look for the next "peloton" to join! There were two main food stops providing hot food, bicycle maintenance and a welcome massage.

The whole team **successfully completed** the distance and after a good nights sleep returned to Brussels late Sunday. ■

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