The EU’s Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) and its relevance in Asia

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Overview

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2. **Structures and capabilities**
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Background: Why CSDP?

- Europe’s experience with Yugoslavia/Balkans in early 1990
- Need for EU crisis management capacity (not territorial defence)

“*The common security and defence policy shall be an integral part of the common foreign and security policy. It shall provide the Union with an operational capacity drawing on civilian and military assets.*”

(article 42 – TEU)

26 August 1992: A block of flats burns after a bombing attack in Sarajevo
Background: Why CSDP?

“The Union’s action on the international scene shall be guided by the principles which have inspired its own creation, development and enlargement, and which it seeks to advance in the wider world: democracy, the rule of law, the universality and indivisibility of human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for human dignity, the principles of equality and solidarity, and respect for the principles of the UN Charter and international law. The Union shall seek to develop relations and build partnerships with third countries, and international, regional or global organisations which share the principles referred to in the first subparagraph. It shall promote multilateral solutions to common problems, in particular in the framework of the UN”

(article 21,1 – TEU)

Includes: “Joint disarmament operations, humanitarian and rescue tasks, military advice and assistance tasks, conflict prevention and peace-keeping tasks, tasks of combat forces in crisis management, including peace-making and post-conflict stabilization. All tasks may contribute to the fight against terrorism (...)

(article 43 – TEU)
Background: Why CSDP?

Strategic framework: European Security Strategy 2003/2008: “A secure Europe in a better world”:

- EU as a global player – should be ready to share in the responsibility for global security and in building a better world
- Shared vision of global challenges and threats
- EU more active, more capable, more coherent and working with partners
Structures and capabilities: Decision-making

HR/VP Ashton

CSDP decision-making procedure
Structures and capabilities: How does CSDP work?

Decision making:

- Council, chaired by HR/VP (Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Defence and Development)
- PSC – Political and Security Committee – Ambassadors
- EU MC – EU Military Committee – CHODS and Military Reps – advice
- CivCom – Civilian Committee – advice
- Geographical working groups – advice
- All permanent Chairs
Structures and capabilities: EEAS structure

EEAS structure (as of May 2012)
Structures and capabilities: How does CSDP work?

Structures and chains of command:

- HR chairs Council, is VP in Commission and head of EEAS
- EEAS includes: EU MS – EU Military Staff, CMPD – civilian/military strategic planning, CPCC – Civilian OHQ/Civilian Ops Cdr, INTCEN, Crisis Response, Geographical departments
- Chains of command:
  - Civilian - HoM/Civ Ops Cdr/HR-VP
  - Military – Force Cdr/Ops Cdr: NATO (“Berlin +”) or EU OHQ (in five Member States) or Brussels based EU OHQ/HR-VP

Capabilities:

- Military and civilian (police, rule of law, monitors etc.)
Characteristics of CSDP

- New EU policy area since 1999/2003 – collective effort/consensus
- Classic peace keeping as well as state building and stabilization
- CSDP part of EU comprehensive approach – EU toolbox
- Based on UNSCRs
- Close cooperation with international organisations: UN, NATO, AU etc. (before/after/alongside)
- Third States participation: e.g. NO, CH, but also US – and SIN
- Political significance
Since 2003:

- 28 operations and missions
- 80,000 personnel
- Three continents (Europe, Africa, Asia)
- Both civilian and military

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http://www.csdpmap.eu/mission-chart
Operations and missions: Partner countries


**Background:** tsunami, agreement Government and GAM in Helsinki, Finland 2005

**Tasks:** monitor implementation of MoU (DDD/reintegration/re-deployment), civilian monitoring mission, but also military personnel


**Personnel:** 125 from 12 EU MS + NO + CH + 93 from 5 ASEAN MS, HoM (civilian from EU), Deputy HoM (military from Thailand)

**Cooperation:** five Asian countries participated (incl. Singapore), first Asian participation in a CSDP mission

**Successful mission:** end state achieved – transition from conflict to peace in Aceh
Case study: EUNAVFOR ATALANTA (since 2008)

**Background:** piracy off the coast of Somalia (90% of EU external trade on ships)

**Tasks:** first EU naval operation, protection of WFP vessels + AMISOM + shipping

**Comprehensive approach:** part of comprehensive EU strategy towards Horn of Africa, which includes EU Special Representative, Training of Somali security forces (EUTM), Regional Maritime capacity in coastal states (EUCAP NESTOR), state building in Somalia, prosecution in other countries, and more

Case study: EUNAVFOR ATALANTA (since 2008)

**Chain of Command:** HR/VP – EU OHQ, Northwood, UK, British OpCdr/Force Cdr

**Personnel:** 1,200 personnel, 4-7 surface combat vessels, 2-4 maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircrafts.

**Cooperation:** with CMF/TF 151 and NATO as well as individual navies from China, India, Japan, etc.

**Area of operation:** 1 ½ times size of mainland Europe, also Somali coastal territory and internal waters; ROEs

**Successful mission:** piracy diminished drastically off the Coast of Somalia
CSDP and its relevance in Asia

- Aceh, Afghanistan and ATALANTA
- EU’s strategic partners in Asia: China, India, Japan and Korea
- Individual countries – political dialogue/PCAs
- ASEM – Asia-Europe Meeting – since 1996

EU-ASEAN: 35 years of cooperation:
- ARF (ASEAN Regional Forum): EU founding member, 1994
- EU accession to TAC (Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in South East Asia), 2012
- EU-ASEAN 5 year action plan (2013-2018)
CSDP and its relevance in Asia

EU-ASEAN 5 year action plan (2013-2018), 2012:

- Includes security cooperation – promote regional cooperation to maintain peace, security, and stability by strengthening ASEAN’s “centrality” in the evolving “security architecture”, enhancement of political dialogue and of cooperation in mediation and reconciliation; cooperation in crisis response; maritime security; humanitarian assistance and disaster relief; peacekeeping operations; military medicine; counter terrorism; disarmament and non-proliferation; fighting trans-national crime, etc.
Conclusions

✓ CSDP integral part of EU policy
✓ EU not “hard power”, but “smart power”
✓ CSDP in other parts of the world, relevant in Asia
✓ Asia learn from EU experience; EU learn from Asian experience
✓ CSDP with Asian partners and/or CSDP in Asia – more to come?
For more information...

- For more information on CSDP, please consult: www.consilium.europa.eu/eeas/security-defence?lang=en

- For more information on EU’s role in the world, please consult: www.eeas.europa.eu

- For more information on the EU in general, please consult: www.europa.eu

Thank you for your attention!

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Recent developments


"Declaration by the High Representative Catherine Ashton, on behalf of the European Union on recent developments in the East Asia's maritime areas", issued in Brussels on 25 September 2012 – public:

"With its significant interests in the region, the EU is following with concern developments in East Asia's maritime areas. The EU urges all parties concerned to seek peaceful and cooperative solutions in accordance with international law, in particular the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and to clarify the basis for their claims. The EU calls on all parties to take steps to calm the situation."