

Expert Seminar

**THE LISBON TREATY AND ESDP:
TRANSFORMATION AND INTEGRATION**

*Egmont Palace, Place du Petit Sablon 8, 1000 Brussels
28-29 April 2008*

In the few years since its inception following the 1998 Franco-British Saint-Malo Summit, the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) has progressed enormously, certainly when compared with the preceding fifty years. A whole new politico-military dimension has been added to the EU. ESDP is not just a paper exercise, as a dozen ongoing operations involving more than 8,000 troops and 500 civilians demonstrate. If other operations in which EU Member States participate are counted as well (national, NATO, UN and ad hoc coalitions) the number of Member States' armed forces that is constantly deployed stands at 70 to 80,000.

Yet these impressive figures also represent more or less the maximum effort that Member States can make today, in spite of the fact that together the twenty-seven number nearly 2 million men and women in uniform. Europe's armed forces thus still face an enormous problem of efficiency and effectiveness. Ten years since the beginning of ESDP is a short time to judge its impact, yet the question must be asked whether the existing mechanisms, those of NATO included, are really sufficient to achieve the required transformation.

The Lisbon Treaty and its clauses on ESDP (to be renamed CSDP) offers an occasion to bring together practitioners and academics from a wide range of Member States and institutions in order to assess Europe's defence effort, including in the NATO context, and explore the Treaty's potential to realize a quantum leap. The seminar will in particular address the question whether a shift could and should be made from the current national focus of Member States and bottom-up nature of ESDP to a truly integrative approach?

- Panel 1 will ask the question that should guide Europe's defence effort: what is the military level of ambition? If the *European Security Strategy* states that 'Europe should be ready to share in the responsibility for global security', this ambitious political objective has yet to be translated into a (civil-)military strategy or white paper that would define our level of ambition. Regardless of whether we act through NATO, ESDP or the UN, what could and should be the order of magnitude of "Europe's" military effort?

- Panel 2 will look at the ways of implementing Permanent Structured Cooperation, the framework introduced by the Lisbon Treaty. Which added value can it bring to defence transformation, notably by setting relevant criteria for participation and by promoting pooling of capabilities? Which role can the European Defence Agency play in this regard?
- Panel 3 will put Permanent Structured Cooperation in the broader context of defence planning by the EU and NATO. Both face the same challenge: how to effectively influence national defence planning? A specific question is what the potential is of the new Capabilities Development Plan elaborated by the EDA and how can it be linked to Permanent Structured Cooperation.
- Panel 4 will assess the need for permanent command & control arrangements, both at the strategic (OHQ) and tactical (FHQ) level, and that for NATO, ESDP as well as UN operations, in order to avoid time-consuming and less efficient ad hoc solutions. Can Permanent Structured Cooperation also be of use in this regard? Which role for common funding?

The seminar is co-organized by the Austrian Institute for European Security Policy (ÖIES) and Egmont – The Royal Institute for International Relations.

*The language of the seminar will be English.
Participation is by invitation only. The Chatham House Rule will apply.*

PROGRAMME

Monday 28 April

13.30–14.00 *Registration*

14.00–14.30 **Welcome and Introduction**

- Prof. Dr. Sven BISCOP, Egmont & College of Europe
- Dr. Werner FASSLABEND, former Minister of Defence & Chairman, ÖIES

14.30–16.00 **Panel 1: Europe's Military Ambition**

Chair: Dr. Werner FASSLABEND, former Minister of Defence & Chairman, ÖIES

- Dr. Yves BOYER, Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique, Paris
- Dr. Thomas HAJNOCZI, Director, Security Policy Dept., Austrian Foreign Affairs
- Gen. Jo COELMONT, Belgian Defence

16.00–16.30 *Coffee*

16.30–18.00 **Panel 2: Added Value through Permanent Structured Cooperation**

Chair: Nick WITNEY, European Council on Foreign Relations

- Dr. Bastian GIEGERICH, International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), London
- Gen. Pierre HOUGARDY, National Capability and Armaments Director, Belgian Defence
- Dr. Franco ALGIERI, ÖIES

Tuesday 29 April

09.30–11.00 **Panel 3: The Future of Defence Planning**

- Chair: Pol DE WITTE, Director for European Security, Belgian Foreign Affairs
- Jonathan MULLIN, Capabilities Director, European Defence Agency
 - Gen. Heinrich BRAUSS, Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Policy and Planning, Defence Policy and Planning Division, NATO HQ
 - Gen. Wolfgang WOSOLSOBE, Austrian Military Representative to the EU

11.00–11.30 *Coffee*

11.30–13.00 **Panel 4: Permanent Command & Control**

- Chair: Gen. Jo COELMONT, Belgian Defence
- Gen. (ret.) Jean-Paul PERRUCHE, former Director, EU Military Staff
 - Ambassador Erich HOCHLEITNER, ÖIES
 - Michel VERSAILLES, UN Directorate, Belgian Foreign Affairs

13.00 *End of Seminar*