European Union Institute for Security Studies

ANNUAL REPORT

2021

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THE EUISS IN 2021

The EUISS continued to adapt its operations in 2021 in response to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. As in the previous year, travel was curtailed, affecting opportunities for field research and in-person events. On the other hand, the Institute leveraged its enhanced IT infrastructure to organise a greater number of online activities - including conferences, seminars and expert workshops. Examples of flagship events held in 2021 include the '2021 What's to Come' event featuring EUISS analysts' overviews for the year, the second annual conference on 'Climate and Defence' - co-organised with the European External Action Service (EEAS) - and the conference on 'Finding Direction with a Strategic Compass: Reflections on EU Security and Defence' co-organised with the Portuguese EU Presidency.

Throughout the year, the EUISS also proactively supported the Strategic Compass process. Of the 50+ dedicated EU Member State workshops organised during the Strategic Dialogue phase, the Institute was responsible for co-organising 12 workshops together with 9 different EU Member States and the EEAS. In addition, the Institute engaged in six other Compass workshops through the moderation of panels or speaking engagements. These activities were complemented by direct substantive input to the Compass drafting phase – including through the publication of a *Chaillot Paper* and two policy briefs on the Strategic Compass.

In 2021 the Institute's analytic team was reinforced with the recruitment of four new colleagues. Collectively, they strengthened EUISS coverage of areas such as transnational challenges, energy security, transatlantic relations, and conflict studies. Over the year, the Institute released nine *Chaillot Papers*, 25 Briefs, two reports, and one book – resulting in over 35 publications of varying formats. These were complemented by three new podcast series composed of a total of nine episodes.



BUDGET

As to the distribution of 2021 costs per different cost categories, EUR 3,731,251 or 78% of total expenditures in 2021 were related to staff costs, EUR 155,162 or 3% to operational activities and EUR 883,921 or 19% to administrative costs.

Actual expenditures per Budget Chapters (2019-2021)

		2021		2020		2019	
Budget Chapter		EUR	%	EUR	%	EUR	%
Chapter 1							
Staff Costs		3,731,251	78	3,921,869	77	3,796,784	77
Chapter 2							
Operational Costs		155,162	3	160,886	3	299,731	6
Chapter 3							
Administrative Costs		883,921	19	1,024,362	20	840,062	17
	Total	4,770,334	100	5,107,117	100	4,936,577	100



PUBLICATIONS

In 2021 the Institute published 37 publications. Overall, the breakdown of EUISS publications was as follows:

1 BOOK

Yearbook of European Security 2021, by Daniel Fiott with Marco Zeiss (October)

The 2021 Yearbook of European Security provided an overview of events in 2020 that were significant for European security and charted major developments in the EU's external action and security and defence policy.

9 CHAILLOT PAPERS

In 2021 the Institute published 9 *Chaillot Papers* altogether:

- > CP 163, 'What if ... not? The cost of inaction', edited by Florence Gaub (January)
- > CP 164, 'African Futures 2030: Free trade, peace and prosperity', edited by Giovanni Faleg (February)
- > CP 165, 'A Wicked Problem: How to cooperate with collusive states?', by Roderick Parkes and Mark McQuay (March)
- > CP 166, 'The EU's Arms Control Challenge: Bridging nuclear divides', by Clara Portela (April)
- > CP 167, 'The Future of Conflict Prevention: Preparing for a hotter, increasingly

- digital and fragmented 2030', by Katariina Mustasilta (May)
- > CP 168, 'Fire and Ice: The Russian-Turkish partnership', by Stanislav Secrieru, Sinikukka Saari and Dimitar Bechev (June)
- > CP 169, 'European Sovereignty: Strategy and interdependence', by Daniel Fiott (July)
- > CP 170, 'Arab Climate Futures: Of risk and readiness', by Florence Gaub and Clémentine Lienard (October)
- > CP 171, 'Strategic Compass: New bearings for EU security and defence', by Daniel Fiott and Gustav Lindstrom (December)

25 EUISS BRIEFS

In total, the Institute published 25 Briefs over the course of 2021 – contributing also to the Conflict, Foresight, Geopolitical and 'Imagine Africa' series. They covered a wide spectrum of issues ranging from Armenia's relationship with Russia in the aftermath of the Nagorno-Karabakh war to the impact of Brexit on EU and UK foreign policy to countering the extraterritorial effects of US sanctions.

2 REPORTS

- > International Cyber Capacity Building: Global trends and scenarios, by Robert Collett, Nayia Barmpaliou and Patryk Pawlak
- SESPAS Global Trends Mid-Term Report, by Florence Gaub

January	
Chaillot Paper	'What ifnot? The cost of inaction'
Brief-Foresight Series	'How Russia does foresight: Where is the world going?'
February	
Brief	'Appeasement and autonomy: Armenian-Russian relations from revolution to war'
Brief-Conflict Series	'Pivoting to African conflict prevention? An analysis of continental and regional early warning systems'
Brief-Conflict Series	'Digital technologies and civil conflicts: Insights for peacemakers'
Chaillot Paper	'African Futures 2030: Free trade, peace and prosperity'
March	
Brief-Foresight Series	'Strategic foresight in China: The other missing dimension'
Brief-Conflict Series	'Curse or blessing? How cheap oil influences conflict dynamics'
Brief-Foresight Series	'How the US does foresight: The United States' difficulty in accepting multipolarity'
Chaillot Paper	'A wicked problem: How to cooperate with collusive states?'
April	
Brief-Conflict Series	'In Russia's hands: Nagorno-Karabakh after the ceasefire agreement'
Brief	'Securing the heavens: How can space support the EU's Strategic Compass?'
Brief	'How the Islamic State sees the future: Why the end of times does not mean the end'
Chaillot Paper	'The EU's arms control challenge: Bridging nuclear divides'
May	
Brief-Conflict Series	'Implementing the peace agreement in Colombia: Challenges for peacebuilding and reconciliation'
Chaillot Paper	'The future of conflict prevention: Preparing for a hotter, increasingly digital and fragmented 2030'
June	
Brief-Conflict Series	'Salafi-Jihadism in Africa: A winning strategy'
Brief	'Fog in Channel? The impact of Brexit on EU and UK foreign affairs'
Chaillot Paper	'Fire and Ice: The Russian-Turkish partnership'
July	
Brief-Imagine Africa Series	'The future Africans want - When optimism is power'
Brief	'China's blockchain and cryptocurrency ambitions'
Chaillot Paper	'European Sovereignty: Strategy and interdependence'
Brief	'Naval gazing? The Strategic Compass and the EU's maritime presence'
September	
Brief	'The impact of Covid-19 on CSDP: Forging opportunity out of crisis?'

Drinf	'Cross digital diplomacy Time for the EU to load'	
Brief	'Green digital diplomacy: Time for the EU to lead'	
Brief	'Melting ice, frozen heart: Russia's posture on climate change and decarbonisation'	
Report	'International cyber capacity building: global trends and scenarios'	
Brief	'Arab youth futures: No lost generation'	
October		
Chaillot Paper	'Arab climate futures: Of risk and readiness'	
Brief	'China's data strategy: Creating a state-led market'	
Book	Yearbook of European Security 2021	
Brief	'Creativity wanted: Countering the extraterritorial effects of US sanctions'	
Brief	'Compliant or complicit? Security implications of the art market'	
November		
Report	ESPAS Global Trends Mid-Term Report	
Brief	'The comeback kid: Russia in Latin America'	
December		
Brief-Imagine Africa Series	'Reaping Africa's demographic dividend - Two scenarios for Africa's youth'	
Chaillot Paper	'Strategic Compass: New bearings for EU security and defence?'	

BOOK

> Yearbook of European Security 2021

By Daniel Fiott and Marco Zeiss [October 2021]

The 2021 Yearbook of European Security provides an overview of 2020 events that were significant for European security. It has two major components. First, it charts major developments in the EU's external action and security and defence policy. Second, it contains region—and issue—specific sections, timelines of key events, lists of core EU documents, excerpts from relevant EUISS publications and an index.

In 2021, the Yearbook contains a specific section on the EU's multilateral efforts and response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The health crisis also features prominently in the geographical sections of the book, together with visuals illustrating the impact of the crisis in specific countries and regions.

CHAILLOT PAPERS

> WHAT IF ... NOT? The cost of inaction (N° 163)

Edited by Florence Gaub.

With contributions from Alice Ekman, Giovanni Faleg, Daniel Fiott, Gustav Lindstrom, Katariina Mustasilta, Patryk Pawlak, Clara Portela, Sinikukka Saari, Stanislav Secrieru, Simona R. Soare, Nathalie Van Raemdonck [January 2021]

The 12 scenarios presented in this Chaillot Paper draw attention to the cost of inaction in a variety of areas, ranging from Russia to Africa, from cyberspace to environmental matters. They highlight the (geo)political, economic and strategic implications of not acting at a critical juncture. Together, they apply the precautionary principle to foreign and security policy, whereby calculating the different consequences of action and inaction in the future would help policymakers take crucial decisions ahead of time.

> AFRICAN FUTURES 2030: Free trade, peace and prosperity (N° 164)

Edited by Giovanni Faleg.

With contributions from Paul M. Bisca, Edward K. Brown, Enrico Calandro, Jakkie Cilliers, Mesfin Gebremichael, Joachim Isacsson, Fergus Kell, Olivier Lavinal, Katariina Mustasilta, Luigi Narbone, Carlo Palleschi, Carlo Papa, Patryk Pawlak, Clara Portela, Melanie Robinson, Nicolò Sartori, Fabrizio Tassinari, Bernardo Venturi, Alex Vines, Sean Woolfrey

This Chaillot Paper is the outcome of a Task Force on African Futures, launched in November 2019 by the EUISS in partnership with leading African and European research institutions. The Task Force identified the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) as a key factor driving economic, technological, and societal transformations in Africa in the next decade.

The publication portrays what an integrated and prosperous African continent could look like in 2030, thanks to the full implementation of the AfCFTA. It describes the pathways, milestones and initiatives that can lead to such a desirable scenario in ten selected, cross-cutting areas. It also warns about what could happen if negative sectoral trends are not addressed, highlighting the perils and costs of inaction.

> A WICKED PROBLEM: How to cooperate with collusive states? (N° 165)

Edited by Roderick Parkes and Mark McQuay

At a time of geopolitical upheaval, a failure to resolve its 'wicked problems' risks leaving the EU paralysed on the world stage. This class of problem is characterised by contradictory political pressures, typically a clash of interests and principles. It is exemplified by the dilemma of whether to accommodate partner states that collude with criminals. This *Chaillot Paper* examines evidence that collusion can in fact promote positive outcomes, and in so doing develops a methodology which could help resolve other similarly intractable problems.

> THE EU'S ARMS CONTROL CHALLENGE Bridging nuclear divides (N° 166)

By Clara Portela

This Chaillot Paper examines how the EU can prevent the deepening of divisions in the disarmament and arms control fields. Doing so may mitigate global polarisation to promote a successful outcome of the upcoming Review Conference of the Nuclear Non- Proliferation Treaty (NPT). To this end, the EU can make use of its access to both advocates and detractors of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) to foster dialogue, acting as a bridge-builder between both camps while preparing for a new arms control system to replace the agreements that are progressively being abandoned.

> THE FUTURE OF CONFLICT PREVENTION: Preparing for a hotter, increasingly digital and fragmented 2030 (N° 167)

By Katariina Mustasilta

Looking ahead to the horizon of 2030, this *Chaillot Paper* analyses the need for a conflict prevention approach in the face of three megatrends that will have far-reaching global repercussions.

The three trends – climate change, digitalisation, and the fragmentation of authority – will not only have manifold environmental, social, and political implications, but may also have considerable impact on peace and conflict dynamics. The volume explores how each megatrend is likely to influence conflict escalatory processes in the coming decade. It also examines how investments in conflict prevention mechanisms can strengthen societal resilience and help the international community to better manage a hotter, increasingly digitalised, and decentralised world.

> FIRE AND ICE: The Russian-Turkish partnership (N° 168)

By Stanislav Secrieru, Sinikukka Saari, Dimitar Bechev

Relations between Russia and Turkey are a curious mix of fierce competition and close cooperation: their 'cooperative rivalry' is an open challenge to the EU, given the two power's embrace of authoritarianism, expansionary ambitions, and preference for unilateralism over multilateralism.

This Chaillot Paper explores the factors that cement Russian-Turkish ties despite clashing interests and increasingly contentious regional agendas. It also examines the prospects of the Russo-Turkish rapprochement, while analysing its repercussions for Europe's strategic interests and exploring how the EU should address the challenges posed by the Russian-Turkish partnership.

> EUROPEAN SOVEREIGNTY: Strategy and interdependence (N° 169)

By Daniel Fiott

With contributions from Riccardo Alcaro, Niclas Poitiers, Jana Puglierin, Pauline Weil, Guntram Wolff

The notion of European 'strategic sovereignty' is increasingly important to debates about the European Union. Several concepts have been given life because of the deteriorating international scene including 'European sovereignty', 'strategic autonomy', 'digital sovereignty', 'technological sovereignty' and 'open strategic autonomy'. However defined, there is a need to move beyond concepts and focus on the practical nature of economic and technological interdependence, multilateralism and strategic partnerships. This Chaillot Paper zooms in on each of these elements of the debate about European sovereignty with case studies that centre on semiconductors. the Iran nuclear deal and EU security and defence partnerships with the United States and United Kingdom. The volume also includes an introductory chapter that grapples with three major conceptual observations about the term 'strategic sovereignty'.

> ARAB CLIMATE FUTURES: Of risk and readiness (N° 170)

By Florence Gaub, Clémentine Lienard

Climate change in the Middle East and North Africa is a story of injustice and paradox. Injustice because while the region has contributed a mere 3 % of total global CO2 emissions over the past century and a half, it will be severely impacted by its effects. Paradoxical

because although the alarm was raised already several decades ago that the region is at risk from the fallout of climate change, public awareness and policy responses have been even slower to emerge than elsewhere. This Chaillot Paper shows that successfully tackling this phenomenon will depend on decisions taken both in the region and outside. Assisting the Arab world in meeting the challenges posed by climate change will be a matter of strategic importance for Europe: not only because unmanaged risks will produce violent conflict and waves of migration, but also because other geopolitical players are beginning to exploit the vulnerabilities of the region for their own purposes.

> STRATEGIC COMPASS: New bearings for EU security and defence? (N° 171)

By Daniel Fiott and Gustav Lindstrom

With contributions from Isabel Ferreira Nunes, Bastian Giegerich, Justyna Gotkowska, Volker Jacoby, Elena Lazarou, Alessandro Marrone, Jean-Pierre Maulny, Kristi wRaik, Teija Tiilikainen

The Strategic Compass, to be adopted in March 2022, will look to the 2025-2030 time horizon and propose strengthened security and defence measures in the areas of crisis management, resilience, capability development and partnerships. This Chaillot Paper seeks to inform the remaining months of negotiation on the Strategic Compass up to its approval in March 2022. It does so by offering numerous recommendations and policy considerations, combining the insights of eleven expert contributors and the results of an EUISS questionnaire responded to by over 70 individuals representing government-affiliated research institutions, international organisations, think tanks and universities.

BRIEFS

> How Russia does foresight: Where is the world going?

By Andrew Monaghan

Foresight plays an important role in defence planning and is an essential part of Russian military science. Despite some similarities to Western perspectives, this Brief examines the distinctive aspects that characterise Russian foresight thinking, which places particular emphasis on geopolitical and geo-economic developments.

> Appeasement and autonomy: Armenian-Russian relations from revolution to war

By Narek Sukiasyan

This Brief explores Armenia's Russia policy after the 2018 Velvet Revolution in the light of the country's defeat in the 2020 Nagorno–Karabakh war, resulting in a larger regional role for Turkey, which has exacerbated Armenia's security dilemma.

 Pivoting to African conflict prevention? An analysis of continental and regional early warning systems

By Amandine Gnanguenon

Early warning systems (EWS) are at the heart of conflict prevention strategies. This Brief argues that the gap between early warning and early action persists because of challenges in transforming early warning policy recommendations into early response.

> Digital technologies and civil conflicts: Insights for peacemakers

By Camino Kavanagh

The use of digital technologies in intra-state conflicts has become more frequent. This Brief sheds light on some of the risks associated with their use and how these can negatively impact mediation or negotiation efforts in civil conflicts, and examines how peacemakers might address them.

> Strategic foresight in China: The other missing dimension

By Paul Charon

This Brief examines how the function of strategic foresight has not been conceptualised in China to the same degree as in the West. However, the notions of disruptive 'black swan' and 'grey rhino' events have gained currency among Chinese analysts in recent years.

Curse or blessing? How cheap oil influences conflict dynamics

By Matteo Ilardo

This Brief examines the oil-conflict nexus and analyses the effects of the recent pandemic-induced oil price shock on three vulnerable, conflict-affected countries.

> How the US does foresight: The United States' difficulty in accepting multipolarity

By Mathew Burrows

This Brief analyses the role of foresight in policymaking in the United States.

> In Russia's hands: Nagorno-Karabakh after the ceasefire agreement

By András Rácz

This Brief analyses to what extent the Russian-brokered ceasefire agreement of November 2020 has created the basis for a lasting settlement in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Securing the heavens: How can space support the EU's Strategic Compass?

By Daniel Fiott

This Brief outlines the major space threats and makes concrete suggestions on how space can support the EU's Strategic Compass.

> How the Islamic State sees the future: Why the end of times does not mean the end

By Florence Gaub

Since Islamic State lost its territory in Iraq and Syria, it has adapted its future script according to its circumstances. This Brief explores how the organisation invests in and manipulates an end-of-times narrative that exerts strong appeal for its followers and will influence its next steps.

> Implementing the peace agreement in Colombia: Challenges for peacebuilding and reconciliation

By Johanna Amaya-Panche

This implementation of the peace agreement that was signed between the Colombian

government and the rebel FARC movement in 2016 faces a variety of challenges. This Brief examines the current state of play and explores how the EU can support the implementation process and reconciliation efforts in the country.

 Salafi-Jihadism in Africa: A winning strategy

By Giovanni Faleg and Katariina Mustasilta

Violent extremism has become a growing threat in Africa. This Brief analyses how Salafi-jihadism spreads across the continent and explores its potential future trajectories.

> Fog in Channel? The impact of Brexit on EU and UK foreign affairs

By Amelia Hadfield and Nicholas Wright

Economic aspects of Brexit have dominated the debate but the split has also had a profound impact on the EU and UK foreign affairs. This Brief looks at the challenges and opportunities for the EU and UK in term of reputation, responsibility, resources and relevance.

> The future Africans want - When optimism is power

By E. Gyimah-Boadi and Joseph Asunka

This Brief opens the EUISS *Imagine Africa* series and taps into Afrobarometer survey data to map Africans' aspirations for the next decade.

> China's blockchain and cryptocurrency ambitions: the first mover advantage

By Alice Ekman

This Brief explores how China is actively developing and promoting an alternative, more centralised and controlled form of blockchain, as well as testing and launching its own digital currency.

> Naval gazing? The Strategic Compass and the EU's maritime presence

By Daniel Fiott

This Brief examines how the Strategic Compass can make a tangible difference to the EU's role as a maritime security provider. > The impact of Covid-19 on CSDP: Forging opportunity out of crisis?

By Tobias Pietz

CSDP missions and operations, including the steering bodies in Brussels, were severely affected by the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. This Brief examines the impact that Covid-19 has had on the CSDP and points to some lessons which can be drawn from the experiences of dealing with the pandemic crisis so far.

> Green digital diplomacy: Time for the EU to lead

By Patryk Pawlak and Fabio Barbero

The environmental impact of digital consumption and new technologies calls for globally sustainable data practices. This Brief analyses how embracing 'green digital diplomacy' represents a strategic opportunity for the EU's foreign and security policy to exercise influence in an era of geopolitical rivalry and trade tensions.

> Melting ice, frozen heart: Russia's posture on climate change and decarbonisation

By Stanislav Secrieru and Federica Prandin

As global warming and the need for a decarbonisation strategy have risen to the top of the EU's agenda, fighting climate change has emerged as one of the prospective areas for cooperation with Russia. This Brief shows that despite the detrimental effects of climate change in Russia, Moscow continues to perceive the issue primarily in terms of power relations and money.

> Arab youth futures

By Florence Gaub

This Brief analyses the results of a survey conducted among young people in the Middle East early in 2021 that probes how this generation feels about the future.

> China's data strategy: Creating a state-led market

By Camille Boullenois

In the past two years the Chinese government, which has long pursued a security-centred approach to data, has been defining its own data governance regime. This Brief analyses China's tactics towards data governance and outlines the challenges that it presents for EU governments and companies, particularly regarding the risk of data protectionism.

> Creativity wanted: Countering the extraterritorial effects of US sanctions

By Clara Portela

The extraterritorial reach of US unilateral sanctions creates both economic and political difficulties for the EU, impinging upon European strategic autonomy. This Brief examines those challenges and explores steps that could be taken to address the situation.

> Compliant or complicit? Security implications of the art market

By Alice Munnelly

The traditionally secretive and unregulated nature of the art market makes it uniquely exposed to financial crime and the trafficking of cultural artefacts. This Brief examines how organised crime groups take advantage of the inherent opacity of the art market to fund their illicit activities.

> The comeback kid: Russia in Latin America

By Stanislav Secrieru

Russia has scaled up its presence in Latin America over the last decade. This Brief analyses Russia's posture in the region and its wider implications for Europe.

> Reaping Africa's demographic dividend – Two scenarios for Africa's youth

By John Asafu-Adjaye and Edward K. Brown

This Brief analyses Africa's biggest resource: its youth. A boom in the continent's young population is driving rapid population growth. Depending on how future trends play out, this

could result in either a demographic dividend or a demographic time-bomb.

REPORTS

International Cyber Capacity Building:
 Global Trends and Scenarios

By Robert Collett, Nayia Barmpaliou, Patryk Pawlak (September 2021)

International cyber capacity-building projects involve countries, companies and organisations helping each other across borders to develop functioning and accountable institutions that respond effectively to cybercrime and to strengthen a country's cyber resilience. Commissioned by the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments of the European Commission, this report identifies four trends in cyber capacity building and extrapolates their development to explore four potential scenarios that can inform capacity builders' strategic decision making.

> ESPAS GLOBAL TRENDS MID-TERM REPORT: The Global Future - An Update

By Florence Gaub (November 2021)

In the spring of 2019, the European Strategy and Policy Analysis System (ESPAS) issued its most recent, five-yearly Global Trends Report. Entitled 'Global Trends to 2030: Challenges and Choices for Europe', it sought to identify the major medium— and long—term trends worldwide and trace some of their potential implications for policymakers in Europe. Now, to coincide with the latest ESPAS annual conference in November 2021, the ESPAS Steering Group is issuing a mid—term update that looks at what has changed over the last two and a half years, a period that has brought unexpected developments on several fronts.



PODCASTS

Three podcast seasons were published in 2021, achieving a total of 7,080 downloads.

SEASON 1 EUISS FORESIGHT PODCAST -ASSUMPTIONS MINISERIES

> Episode 1: Why ... did we underestimate Russia's ambitions?

In our first episode, Stanislav Secrieru and Florence Gaub look at Russia: although people expected the country to be poor and weak, the 2010s witnessed Russia's geopolitical resurgence. Why did we not see this coming, what can we learn from this – and what else are we doing wrong?

> Episode 2: Why ... did we not see the rise of China coming?

In this episode, Alice Ekman explains why people commonly thought that China was going to become a democracy, or alternatively implode economically. We look at why wishful thinking, but also China's unique historical path, paved the way for surprise in the 2010s. What would we have done differently if we had seen this more clearly – and is there something else we are not seeing?

> Episode 3: Why ... did we expect democracy in the Arab world?

In this episode, Florence Gaub explains why expectations of a rapid democratisation in the Arab world in 2011 were misplaced. She explains that a profound misunderstanding of democracy and transition towards it led to exaggerated expectations which themselves paved the way for some policy errors. What should we do differently next time?

SEASON 2 EUISS FORESIGHT PODCAST-STRATEGY MINI-SERIES

> Episode 1: What is strategy?

In this first episode of our mini-series on strategy, Gustav Lindstrom explains what strategy is (and what it is not), how the EU has become more and more strategic in its thinking and actions, and what this all means for the next phase in its strategic trajectory.

> Episode 2: What is the Strategic Compass?

The second episode of our mini-series on strategy features two guests: the penholder of the Strategic Compass, Jean-Pierre van Aubel, and Daniel Fiott, the Security and Defence editor of the EUISS. They discuss whether the Strategic Compass is, or is not, a strategy, how it is being put together, and why it is important for Europe.

> Episode 3: What is strategic foresight?

In this last episode of our mini-series on strategy, Daniel Fiott and Florence Gaub discuss strategy and strategic foresight: how are they different, how do they complement each other, and how are both applied to defence matters?

SEASON 3 PODCAST MINISERIES - HOW IS FORESIGHT USEFUL FOR POLICYMAKING?

Episode 1: Star Trek, Unicorns and looking at the future: a conversation with Maroš Šefčovič

In this special edition of our 'What if' podcast, the EU's first-ever commissioner for strategic foresight, Maroš Šefčovič, explains what foresight is, how it can help policymaking, and what he thinks generally about the future.

> Episode 2: From tech to Star Trek: doing foresight in the European Defence Agency

In this episode, Jean-Francois Ripoche from the European Defence Agency talks foresight: how is it used, how is it useful, and why science fiction can help get it done.

> Episode 3: Show me the numbers: how are economic forecasts made?

In this episode, Laura Bardone explains how the European Commission conducts economic forecasts and discovers that it does not involve a big calculator.



FLAGSHIP EVENTS

The Institute organised the following four flagship events in 2021:

- > 2021 What's to Come
- > Finding direction with a Strategic Compass? Reflections on the future of EU Security and Defence (with the Portuguese EU Presidency)
- > EU-NATO cooperation and the Strategic Compass (with the Slovenian EU Presidency)
- > 2nd Annual Conference on Climate and Defence (with the EEAS)

2021- What's to Come? The year ahead in foreign policy (January 2021)



There are quite a few things we know about 2021: it will be 365 days long, include scheduled events such as elections and summits, and the tail-end of the Covid-19 pandemic. But what is it that we do not know, should expect, or brace ourselves for?

On 22 January, the EUISS live-streamed its yearly foresight event entitled '2021 – What's to come?' on YouTube to help us think through the challenges ahead, anticipate disruptions, and be better prepared for the coming year.

At the event, the EUISS launched its most recent *Chaillot Paper* 'What if...not? The cost of inaction', drawing attention to the cost of inaction in a variety of areas, ranging from Russia to Africa, from cyberspace to environmental matters.

Finding direction with a Strategic Compass? Reflections on the future of EU Security and Defence (with the Portuguese EU Presidency) (February 2021)



The EUISS and the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the EU co-organised a high-level conference on the EU Strategic Compass on Security and Defence on 19 February 2021. The Compass - to be delivered in early 2022 - offers the EU an opportunity to show greater operational clarity, enhance its resilience, develop high-tech capabilities, and work closer with partners. Joined by João Gomes Cravinho, Portugal's Minister for National Defence, Charles Fries, Deputy Secretary-General for CSDP and Crisis Response at the European External Action Service (EEAS), and Jiří Šedivý, Chief Executive of the European Defence Agency (EDA), over 200 participants tuned in for the online event.

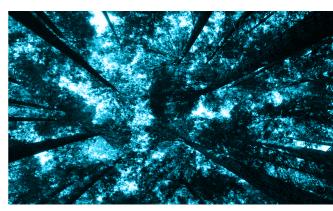
EU-NATO cooperation and the Strategic Compass (with the Slovenian EU Presidency) (October 2021)



On 14 October 2021, the EUISS and the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the EU co-organised a high-level conference on the EU Strategic Compass and EU-NATO cooperation. The conference looked at how the EU and NATO can better anticipate and prepare for threats and challenges in the years leading up to 2030, and it also focused on concrete ways to develop EU-NATO cooperation in the areas of crisis response and resilience. The conference took place in the context of the forthcoming EU-NATO Joint Declaration, the EU Strategic Compass and NATO's new Strategic Concept.

The conference attracted over 120 participants from Member States, EU institutions, NATO, third state partners and think tanks. It took place in the context of the Strategic Compass dialogue phase. The event welcomed several high-level speakers from the Dutch Ministry of Defence, the European Commission, the European Council on Foreign Relations, the European External Action Service, NATO International Staff, and the Slovenian Ministry of Defence.

2nd Annual Conference on Climate and Defence (with the EEAS) (December 2021)



On 6 December 2021, the EUISS and the EEAS co-organised the second annual conference on climate change and defence.

Whereas the first annual conference analysed the November 2020 Roadmap on Climate Change and Defence, this second edition looked at climate-informed actions and investment. In particular, the conference examined how data collection, ecological footprints, awareness raising and analysis feed into comprehensive assessments of climate-affected crises. Additionally, the conference underlined the importance of the defence sector's role in generating innovative solutions to emissions produced by armed forces.

Over 70 participants took part in the debate, and they represented a range of affiliations including civil society and international partners. The EUISS and EEAS will organise the third annual conference during 2022.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

AFRICA

> EUISS-COAFR Breakfast Meetings

The series of meetings on sub-Saharan Africa launched in 2019 by the EUISS and the European Council's Working Party on Africa (COAFR), continued in 2021. Five meetings were held in 2021:

- 1. 25 February: Climate Conflicts in the Sahel
- 2. 29 April: The future of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)
- 27 May: The new US administration's foreign policy towards Africa and opportunities for stronger EU-US cooperation (with CSIS)
- **4.** 24 June: The UK's Africa policy following Brexit and the implications for cooperation with the EU (with Chatham House)
- 5. 17 November: EU engagement with African partners in the digital and cyber domains
- > EUISS-Le Grand Continent roundtable on 'African Futures 2030'

On 15 March, the EUISS and Le Grand Continent jointly organised the public launch event of the *Chaillot Paper* 'African Futures 2030: Free trade, peace and prosperity'.

> Presentation of African Futures Chaillot Paper with EEAS-MD Africa and EU Delegations

Held on 20 May 2021, the event presented the African Futures 2030 *Chaillot Paper*, including the possibilities offered by the AfCFTA. It was co-organised with EEAS (MD Africa) and EU Delegations to Africa.

> Presentation of African Futures Chaillot Paper with DG Trade and DG INTPA

Held on 31 May 2021, this event presented the African Futures 2030 *Chaillot Paper*, highlighting the opportunities opened by the AfCFTA. It was co-organised with DG INTPA and DG Trade.

> EUISS-Le Grand Continent roundtable on 'African Futures 2030' (in Spanish)

On 23 June 2021, Le Grand Continent hosted a live virtual event in Spanish looking at how the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) can make the African continent more integrated, resilient and prosperous.

> Sahel scenarios 2040: meeting with Atlantic Council, IRSEM and OECD-SWAC

On 11 October, with a team from the Atlantic Council, the EUISS facilitated an informal discussion on demographic scenarios in the Sahel by 2040. Representatives from the OECD and IRSEM also engaged in the discussions.

ASIA

> EU - Australia Track 1.5 Strategic Dialogue - 'Geoeconomic dynamics and the future of the regional economic order'

The 2nd roundtable of the EU-Australia track 1.5 strategic dialogue was co-organised by the EUISS and the Lowy Institute on 24 March. It examined geoeconomic issues and the future of the regional economic order.

> EU - Australia Track 1.5 Strategic Dialogue - 'Contending approaches for promoting rules, norms and values in the Indo-Pacific'

On 28 April, the 3rd roundtable of the EU-Australia track 1.5 strategic dialogue was co-organised by the EUISS and the Lowy Institute. It examined issues of rules, norms, and values in the Indo-Pacific. This roundtable also provided an opportunity to exchange on the recently issued EU Indo-Pacific strategy.

EU-Australia Track 1.5 Strategic Dialogue
 'Shaping the strategic map of connectivity in third countries'

The 4th roundtable of the EU-Australia track 1.5 strategic dialogue co-organised by the EUISS and the Lowy Institute was held on 27 May. It covered strategic connectivity in third countries and the future of the regional economic order.

> EU-Korea Track 1.5 Dialogue, co-organised by EUISS and KNDA

On 17 June, a Strategic Dialogue was organised by the EUISS in cooperation with the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security of the Korean National Diplomatic Academy (KNDA).

> Roundtable discussion 'The Centenary of the CPC: Identifying China's core perceptions and policy orientations'

On 7 July, the EUISS and the EU delegation in Beijing co-organised a closed-door discussion on the centenary of the CPC. It included input from the EUISS and participation of Member States' representatives.

> China-US-Europe: EUISS-CICIR Dialogue

On 19 October, a track 2.0 dialogue was organised by the EUISS in cooperation with the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations.

RUSSIA AND THE EASTERN NEIGHBOURHOOD

> EU in the Eastern Neighbourhood: A discussion about how to become a strate-gic player

Organised by the EUISS in cooperation with the EEAS on 6 May, this webinar explored various features of the strategic environment in the Eastern neighbourhood and the EU's policy options in the region in the years to come.

Panel: '30 years after the collapse of the Soviet Union and the future of the European Union's Eastern Partnership'

Co-organised with the Institute of Central Europe in Lublin on 20 May, the panel brought experts from the region to reassess the significance of the disintegration of the Soviet Union for EaP states and the challenges they face in the present.

> Closed-door debate: 'The Eastern Partnership after the Covid-19 pandemic: Perspectives from neighbours'

Organised with the support of Romania's Permanent Representation to the EU on 21 May, this webinar provided COEST members with analysis on the impact of the Covid-19 on EaP states, reforms implemented, challenges, and threats facing EaP states.

 Presentation of Chaillot Paper on Russian Futures with European Parliament
 Secretariat and Directorate-General for External Policies of the Union (DG EXPO)

The presentation was organised in cooperation with the European Parliament General Secretariat and DG EXPO on 17 June. It brought together officials and advisers working on foreign policy – in particular on Russia and Eastern Europe.

> Eastern Partnership: Regional geopolitical challenges and the way forward

Co-organised with IAI (Rome) on 15 November, the event gathered EU officials and experts from the region to discuss geopolitical challenges in the Eastern neighbourhood and to explore ways of adapting the EaP programme to the more volatile environment in the region.

> Presentation of Chaillot Paper on the Russian-Turkish partnership

On 14 October, in cooperation with the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy ELIAMEP (Athens), this webinar presented to the wider public the key findings of the EUISS *Chaillot Paper* on the Russian-Turkish partnership.

> NATO-EU foresight seminar: Eastern neighbourhood

On October 1, the EUISS, NATO HQ, and the EEAS (Policy Planning and Strategic Foresight) held an exercise to enhance foresight skills and strengthen EU-NATO capacity to work jointly in the Eastern neighbourhood.

THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

> Arab police reform: making it work

Held on 26 March, the workshop, which was attended primarily by CSDP mission staff, looked at different ways to improve the EU's approach from the angles of Iraq, the Palestinian territories and Libya. It also served to exchange best practices between the missions.

> Track 2 Saudi Arabia

In the first session of the EU-Saudi track two dialogue held on 27 May, researchers from Europe and Saudi Arabia discussed mutual (mis)perceptions and identified key issues to be discussed in the later sessions.

CYBER

Regionalised multilateralism: EU-Africa cooperation in cyberspace

This virtual track 1.5 consultation, held on 13 April between the European Union and African partners, explored what concrete initiatives and actions the EU and Africa could develop to strengthen their cooperation in cyberspace while building better partnerships at the national, regional and multilateral levels.

> Towards a strategic EU-Africa cyber agenda

Co-organised by the EUISS and the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union on 10 May, this virtual consultation explored the link between the stability of the cyber domain and international security and considered how the EU and African partners can cooperate on a strategic security agenda fit for the digital age.

> Cyberspace: strengthening cooperation in promoting security and stability

On 17 May the EUISS, in cooperation with the External Action Service (EEAS) and the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union, co-organised a scenario-based discussion with EU Member States and international partners. The discussion, the first of its kind, focused on how to address international security challenges related to cyberspace.

> Pilot course on cyber capacity building

The EUISS Brussels Liaison Office organised a pilot training course, on 6 July, on the EU's international cooperation on cyber capacity building. Financed by the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) – and led by the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments of the European Commission – the course was designed to support colleagues in EU head-quarters and delegations improve their skills in the identification and formulation of new external cyber capacity-building projects. It was based on the 'Operational Guidance for the EU's International Cooperation on Cyber

Capacity Building' report produced by the EUISS in 2018.

> Cyberspace and EU action to 2030

On 9 July 2021, the French Permanent Representation to the European Union organised a webinar on cyberspace with the support of the EUISS.

> Cyber Security Conference with the Slovenian Presidency of the Council.

On 3 September the EUISS hosted a panel on cooperation with the Western Balkans. The discussion focused, *inter alia*, on operational and legislative institutional mechanisms for risk assessment, information sharing, prevention, as well as means to promote responsible state behaviour in cyberspace.

> What future for international cyber capacity building?

On 23 September, the EUISS presented the main conclusions of a new EUISS report on 'International Cyber Capacity Building: Global Trends and Scenarios' in an online launch event and panel discussion. The session brought together the report authors with a panel of regional experts from the international cyber capacity-building community.

> Inclusive and resilient digital transition: a new chapter for AU-EU relations?

On 3 December 2021, the EUISS and the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union co-organised a session with African partners on the inclusive and resilient digital transition ahead of the AU-EU summit in Kigali in 2022.

> Great Expectations: defining a trans-Mediterranean cybersecurity agenda

On 8 December, the EUISS and EuroMeSCo co-organised an event on cybersecurity in the MENA region. Specifically, it examined how the EU can reconcile willingness to engage in closer cooperation and the need for a cautious approach to cybersecurity cooperation in relations with the MENA countries.

UNDER THE EU CYBER DIRECT PROJECT:

> Conferences on 'Paths for multi-stakeholder engagement in the fight against cybercrime' in cooperation with Chatham House

The EU Cyber Direct project, together with Chatham House's International Security Programme (ISP), organised a series of interactive online sessions to discuss the role of civil society organisations in the fight against cybercrime. Held on 22 March, 14 April, and 10 November.

> Informal consultation session between the EU & IBSA Forum

The EU Cyber Direct Project partners together with European University Institute (EUI) School of Transnational Governance organised an informal consultation session on 31 May between the EU and the IBSA Forum (India, Brazil, and South Africa) to address key issues on the international cyber agenda, and to identify pressing challenges and opportunities for strengthening cooperation.

> European Cyber Agora in cooperation with Microsoft and the German Marshall Fund of the United States

Held on 3-4 June, the EU Cyber Direct Project supported the implementation of the first European Cyber Agora and organised workshops on 'International Cyber Capacity Building: future scenarios and an EU redux' and 'The UN Programme of Action: can the EU drive regionalised multilateralism?'

> Forum on internet freedom in Africa 2021 (FIFAfrica) in cooperation with the Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA)

EU Cyber Direct partnered with the Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA) to host two online sessions, 28–30 September, during the eighth edition of the annual Forum on Internet Freedom in Africa (FIFAfrica): 'Africa and the Future of International

Cybercrime Cooperation' and 'Open Standards: Cooperating on Meaningful Internet Access in Africa'.

> European Cyber Diplomacy Dialogue

From 25 to 27 October 2021, the European Cyber Diplomacy Dialogue (ECDD) gathered experts from academia and policymaking for a hybrid meeting on the EU's cyber diplomacy challenges. The third edition of the event was co-organised by the EU Cyber Direct project and the School of Transnational Governance at the European University Institute.

OTHERS

> EEAS-EUISS seminar on connectivity

A joint seminar organised by the EUISS and the EEAS was held on 8 March.

> The EU's added value in Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration

The EUISS and the EEAS co-organised a closed-door seminar on Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) on 22 March, focusing on identifying the EU's added value.

> Informal seminar informing an assessment of 20 years of EU engagement in Afghanistan

The EUISS, in cooperation with the EEAS, organised an online consultation seminar on 9 December that brought together a set of senior policy practitioners and experts for an assessment of international support in Afghanistan, including the use of instruments, their leverage and timeliness of actions over the past two decades.

CONFLICT

> 2021 Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development. EUISS-FIIA panel

'Preventing the spread of violent extremism: new entry points for collective action'

The EUISS and the Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA) co-organised a roundtable on 5 May on 'Preventing Violent Extremism: New entry points for collective action' at the 2021 Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development.

STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

> The EU and multilateralism in times of multipolarity: Strategic implications and operational options

The virtual event was co-organised by the EUISS and the Strategic Planning Division of the EEAS on 8 January and brought together around 30 participants representing the EEAS and ten think tanks.

> 2021 - What's to come

On 22 January the EUISS live-streamed its yearly foresight event entitled '2021- What's to come?' on YouTube to discuss challenges ahead, anticipate disruptions, and suggest ways to prepare for the coming year.

SECURITY AND DEFENCE

 Finding direction with a Strategic Compass? Reflections on the future of EU Security and Defence

The EUISS and the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the EU co-organised a high-level conference on the EU Strategic Compass on Security and Defence on 19 February 2021.

> EU-NATO cooperation on hybrid threats

With the support of the EUISS, the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the EU organised an expert webinar for approximately 100 EU Member State representatives, EU officials and academics on 24 February 2021. The webinar focused specifically on the evolution of threats in relation to disinformation and critical infrastructure.

> Contested global commons: a multidimensional issue for the Strategic Compass

The EUISS and the French Permanent Representation to the EU co-organised a high-level conference on the global commons and the EU Strategic Compass on 12 March 2021. The conference focused on concrete ways in which the Union can strengthen its ability to uphold its freedom of access in the maritime, air, space and cyber domains.

> Achieving strategic sovereignty for the European Union

On 23 March 2021, the EUISS and the Foreign Affairs (AFET) Committee of the European Parliament jointly organised a webinar on EU strategic sovereignty. The webinar brought together over 80 members of the European Parliament and other participants for a debate on digital sovereignty, strategic partnerships and multilateralism.

> The Strategic Compass and National Defence Planning - EUISS/Croatian MOD

On 26 April 2021, the EUISS and the Croatian Ministry of Defence organised a conference on how best to embed EU defence initiatives into national defence planning processes. The conference attracted approximately 90 high-level participants and it took place in the context of the EU Strategic Compass dialogue phase.

 Compass and crisis management – EUISS/ Clingendael Institute with the support of the Dutch MFA and MOD

On 28 April 2021, the EUISS and the Clingendael Institute organised a conference on the military and operational dimensions of EU security and defence. The event fed into the dialogue phase of the EU Strategic Compass process, and it was supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defence of the Netherlands.

 Compass and the defence industry – EUISS/Real Elcano Institute with the support of the Spanish MOD

On 18 May 2021, the EUISS, the Real Elcano Institute and the Spanish Ministry of Defence organised a webinar on the implications of the Strategic Compass from the perspective of Europe's defence industry.

> The Strategic Compass: how to ensure security of supply and enhance the EU's resilience

On 4 June 2021, the EUISS and the Ministries of Defence of Finland and Latvia organised a webinar on security of supply and the Strategic Compass. The webinar attracted approximately 90 participants from EU Member States and EU institutions, and it took place in the context of the EU Strategic Compass dialogue phase.

> European Space Agency/EU Satellite Centre workshop on climate security

On 14 June 2021, the EUISS helped facilitate a workshop on climate security and earth observation that was jointly organised by the EU Satellite Centre (EU SatCen) and the European Space Agency (ESA).

> Strategic Culture: an elusive but necessary foundation for EU security and defence?

On 18 June 2021, the EUISS and the Direction générale des relations internationales et de la stratégie (DGRIS), French Ministry for the Armed Forces, organised a seminar on strategic culture and EU security and defence.

 Strategic Compass and Partnerships -Western Balkans

On 7 July 2021, the EUISS and the Slovenian Ministry of Defence co-organised a seminar focusing on the Strategic Compass and the Western Balkans.

> Strategic Compass and capability development: Towards greater coherence?

On 28 September 2021, the EUISS and the Hungarian Ministry of Defence organised a webinar to address EU capability development within the context of the Strategic Compass process. Among other issues, the event addressed what steps could be taken to streamline EU capability development processes and a number of concrete ideas and suggestions were presented.

> The importance of space for EU security, defence and resilience

On 4 October 2021, the French Permanent Representation to the EU and the EUISS co-organised an online workshop to address space and security and defence within the context of the Strategic Compass process.

> EU-NATO cooperation and hybrid threats: The Western Balkans and EU-NATO cooperation – how to counter foreign interference and disinformation?

On 7 October 2021, the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the EU, the Slovenian Ministry of Defence and the EUISS co-organised an online conference to address disinformation and foreign interferences in the Western Balkans region.

> EU-NATO cooperation and the Strategic Compass

On 14 October 2021, the Slovenian Ministry of Defence and the EUISS co-organised an online high-level conference on EU-NATO cooperation and the Strategic Compass.

> European security in 2022: the 'year of defence'?

On 23 November 2021, the EUISS and the Direction générale des relations internationales et de la stratégie (DGRIS), French Ministry of the Armed Forces, organised an online seminar to discuss the way forward for EU security and defence in 2022.

> Second annual conference on climate and defence with the EEAS

On 6 December 2021, the EUISS and the EEAS co-organised the second annual conference on climate change and defence.

CIVILIAN CSDP COMPACT

> How can Civilian CSDP better address hybrid threats?

Jointly organised by the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union and the EUISS on 2 February, this brainstorming workshop discussed the way in which civilian CSDP missions can be better protected against hybrid threats. The results of the discussions served as input for an EUISS reflection paper.

> EUISS present at the High-Level Course on CSDP

From 7-11 June 2021, the EUISS co-organised module 4 of the 16th High-Level Course on the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).

> EU-UN workshop on joint priorities 2022-2024

On 18 June 2021, the EUISS and the International Peace Institute hosted a virtual workshop on the 2022–2024 priorities for the UN-EU Strategic Partnership on peace operations and crisis management.

> EUISS-HWP meeting on 'Civilian CSDP and hybrid threats'

On 21 June, the EUISS and the EU Council's Horizontal Working Party on Enhancing Resilience and Countering Hybrid Threat co-organised a session to present a discuss the EUISS reflection paper on 'Civilian CSDP and Hybrid Threats'.

> 2021 roundtable on CSDP partnerships

Held on 25 October, this roundtable assessed two key areas which are becoming more and more prominent for CSDP Partnerships: first, the EU as a security actor in the Indo Pacific; and second, the Strategic Compass. It was co-organised by the EUISS and the EEAS.

TASK FORCES

> African Futures 2030 Task Force

From November 2019 to December 2020, the EUISS ran an 'African Futures 2030 Task Force'. The Task Force was composed of leading research institutions from Africa and Europe and focused on scenarios for continental free trade and economic integration. Its main objective was to explore trends affecting the future of Africa, emphasising challenges and opportunities for policymaking. The Task Force resulted in the publication of the *Chaillot Paper* 'African Futures 2030: Free trade, peace and prosperity' in March 2021. As a follow-up

from the Task Force, the EUISS also launched in July 2021 the 'Imagine Africa' series of Policy Briefs. The series explores potential futures for Africa using strategic foresight scenarios authored by African experts. Briefs published in 2021 include:

- 1. 'The future Africans want: when optimism is power' (7 July 2021)
- 'Reaping Africa's demographic dividend: two scenarios for African youth' (2
 December 2021)

NETWORKS

The Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific (CSCAP), established in 1992-1993 and consisting today of 21 full members, is a non-governmental (second track) process for dialogue on security issues in the Asia Pacific. CSCAP provides an informal mechanism for scholars, officials and others in their private capacities to discuss political and security issues and challenges facing the region. It also provides policy recommendations to various inter-governmental bodies, convenes regional and international meetings, and establishes linkages with institutions and organisations in other parts of the world to exchange information, insights and experiences around regional political-security cooperation. The CSCAP Steering Committee meets twice a year.

CSCAP EU, under the leadership of the EUISS, was admitted as a new member committee of CSCAP in 2013. Its role is to actively contribute to CSCAP activities by providing the best European expertise on key regional security issues.

In its capacity as the coordinator of CSCAP EU, the EUISS ensured the participation of EU experts in various CSCAP Study Groups, such as the group on International Law and Cyberspace, provided European perspectives on the annual publication of CSCAP (the CSCAP Regional Outlook) as well as organised the annual thematic seminar gathering European experts on Asia. The CSCAP EU Committee convened its seventh annual thematic seminar online, focusing on US-China tensions and the impact of Covid-19 in the region.

Detailed information about CSCAP EU can be found at:

www.iss.europa.eu/ complimentary-category/cscap-eu

The EU Cyber Direct project – through the funding from the Partnership Instrument – EU Cyber Direct supports EU cyber diplomacy efforts and consequently contributes to the development of a secure, stable, and rights-based international order in cyber-space through extensive dialogues with strategic partners from Brazil, China, India, Japan,

South Korea and the United States, as well as regions of Latin America and the Asia-Pacific.

Throughout 2020, the project organised several events in bringing together governments and non-governmental actors to explore the main issues surrounding international law in cyberspace, norms of responsible state behaviour and confidence-building measures.

From September 2021, EU Cyber Direct continued under a new round of funding as EU Cyber Diplomacy Initiative – EU Cyber Direct, with a global geographical scope, and four thematic clusters:

- conflict prevention and advancing responsible behaviour in cyberspace through international law, norms, and confidence-building measures (CBMs);
- 4. cyber resilience and critical infrastructure protection;
- 5. cybercrime and criminal justice in cyberspace; and
- **6.** new and emerging technologies with a potential disruptive effect.

Detailed information about project activities and research can be found on the project website: www.eucyberdirect.eu

European Security and Defence College (ESDC): During 2021, EUISS analysts contributed to three high-level course sessions. Additionally, the EUISS contributed to the organisation of the fourth module of the 16th high-level course on the common security and defence policy, organised remotely in 2021. The EUISS worked alongside the European Security and Defence College, the Hellenic National Ministry of Defence and Defence College and the Austrian National Defence Academy to provide quality training to senior officials from the EU, EU member states and partners.

In addition to the high-level course, EUISS analysts contributed to eight CSDP orientation courses, eight CSDP pre-deployment courses

and one specialised course on countering hybrid threats. EUISS analysts also contributed to the ESDC's online learning modules on capability development, space, hybrid threats and more. The learning videos are currently on the ESDC's training platforms. Finally, throughout the year the EUISS actively participated in the ESDC's executive academic board.

ONLINE PRESENCE AND OUTREACH

Over the course of 2021, the EUISS continued to develop its online presence via the website and its social media channels.

The EUISS website had 354,474 visitors over the course of 2021, representing an increase of 6 % from the previous year – with 80 % of those originating in Europe. Some 61,339 unique downloads were made through the website (+18 %), the most popular being Chaillot Paper no. 161, 'Conflicts to come' (1,869 unique downloads), followed by Chaillot Paper no. 169, 'European Sovereignty – Strategy and interdependence' (1,593 unique downloads) and the Yearbook of European Security 2021 (1,527 unique downloads).

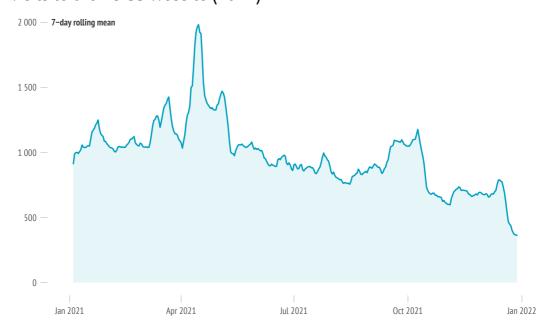
With regard to social media, the EUISS ended 2021 with:

- > 25,000 followers on LinkedIn
- > 30,000 followers on Twitter
- > 23,000 followers on Facebook

As Covid-19 continued to make the organisation of physical events and meetings difficult, the Institute relied mainly on social media for the promotion of its events, publications and podcasts. Efforts were made to increase the Institute's visibility on LinkedIn, as the network is a key platform to reach out to a community of professionals interested in EU foreign, security and defence policy. Through a series of concentrated promotion efforts, the number of followers increased by 66 % in 2021.

In addition, the Institute diversified its content on all social media platforms with a more systematic use of videos, new animated content, and different types of visuals. In addition to promoting the Institute's publications and events, the aim was to propose a new way of 'consuming' our research and further position the Institute as a leading source of analysis in the defence and security domain.

Visits to the EUISS Website (2021)





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> Seconded from the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (until January 2021)

TRAINEES

January-September 2021:

September-December 2021:



ANNEX: OVERVIEW OF EUISS ACTIVITIES IN 2021

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

January	
8 Jan	EU and multilateralism in times of multipolarity: Strategic implications and operational options
22 Jan	EUISS Conference: '2021: What's to come?'
February	
02 Feb	How can Civilian CSDP better address hybrid threats?
19 Feb	Finding direction with a strategic compass? Reflections on the future of EU Security and Defence
22 Feb	The cybercrime landscape: definitions and approaches. (In cooperation with Chatham House)
24 Feb	EU-NATO cooperation on hybrid threats
25 Feb	10th EUISS-COAFR meeting on 'Sahel Climate Conflicts'
March	
8 Mar	EEAS-EUISS seminar on connectivity
12 Mar	Contested global commons: a multidimensional issue for the Strategic Compass
15 Mar	EUISS-Le Grand Continent roundtable on 'African Futures 2030'
22 Mar	International cooperation against cybercrime: existing cybercrime responses and paths forward (in cooperation with Chatham House)
22 Mar	The EU's added value in Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration
23 Mar	Achieving strategic sovereignty for the European Union
24 Mar	Australia – European Union Track 1.5 Strategic Dialogue – 'Geoeconomic dynamics and the future of the regional economic order'
26 Mar	Arab police reform: making it work
April	
13 Apr	Regionalised multilateralism: EU-Africa cooperation in cyberspace

14 Apr	Conference on 'Paths for multi-stakeholder engagement in the fight against cybercrime' (in cooperation with Chatham House)
26 Apr	Compass and national defence planning – EUISS/Croatian MOD
28 Apr	Compass and crisis management - EUISS/Clingendael Institute with the support of the Dutch MFA and MOD
28 Apr	EU-Australia track 1.5 seminar co-organised with Lowy: 'Contending approaches for promoting rules, norms and values in the Indo-Pacific'
29 Apr	11th EUISS-COAFR meeting on the future of the AfCFTA
May	
5 May	2021 Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development. EUISS-FIIA panel 'Preventing the spread of violent extremism: new entry points for collective action'
6 May	EU in the Eastern Neighbourhood: A discussion about how to become a strategic player (w/EEAS)
10 May	Towards a strategic EU-Africa cyber agenda
17 May	Cyberspace: strengthening cooperation in promoting security and stability
18 May	The Strategic Compass and the Defence Industry - EUISS/Real Elcano Institute with the support of the Spanish MOD
20 May	Panel: 30 years after the collapse of the Soviet Union and the future of the European Union's Eastern Partnership (w/Institute of Central Europe in Lublin)
20 May	Presentation of African Futures Chaillot Paper with EEAS-MD Africa and EU Delegations
21 May	Closed-door debate: The Eastern Partnership after the Covid-19 pandemic: Perspectives from neighbours (w/Perm Rep of Romania to the EU)
27 May	EU-Australia track 1.5 event co-organised with Lowy: 'Shaping the strategic map of connectivity in third countries' $$
27 May	Track 2 Saudi Arabia
27 May	12th EUISS-COAFR meeting on US foreign policy towards Africa
31 May	Informal consultation session between the EU & IBSA Forum
31 May	Presentation of African Futures Chaillot Paper with DG Trade and DG INTPA
June	
3-4 Jun	European Cyber Agora in cooperation with Microsoft and the German Marshall Fund of the United States
4 Jun	The Strategic Compass: how to ensure security of supply and enhance the EU's resilience
7-11 Jun	EUISS present at the High-Level Course on CSDP
14 Jun	European Space Agency workshop on climate security
17 Jun	Presentation of the Chaillot Paper on Russian Futures
17 Juli	

18 Jun	Strategic Culture: an elusive but necessary foundation for EU security and defence?
18 Jun	EU-UN workshop on joint priorities 2022-2024
21 Jun	EUISS-HWP meeting on 'Civilian CSDP and hybrid threats'
23 Jun	EUISS-Le Grand Continent roundtable on 'African Futures 2030' (in Spanish)
24 Jun	13th EUISS-COAFR meeting on Brexit and Africa
July	
6 Jul	Pilot course on cyber capacity building
7 Jul	Strategic Compass and Partnerships - Western Balkans
7 Jul	Roundtable discussion 'The Centenary of the CPC: Identifying China's core perceptions and policy orientations'
9 Jul	Cyberspace and EU action to 2030
September	
3Sep	Cyber Security Conference with the Slovenian Presidency of the Council: The EUISS hosted a session on cooperation with the Western Balkans
23Sep	What future for international cyber capacity building?
28-30 Sep	Forum on Internet Freedom in Africa 2021 (FIFAfrica) in co-operation with the Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA)
28 Sep	Strategic Compass and capability development: Towards greater coherence?
October	
1 Oct	NATO-EU foresight seminar: Eastern Neighbourhood
4 Oct	The importance of space for EU security, defence, and resilience
7 Oct	EU-NATO cooperation and hybrid threats: The Western Balkans and EU-NATO cooperation: how to counter foreign interference and disinformation?
11 Oct	Sahel scenarios 2040: meeting with Atlantic Council, IRSEM and OECD-SWAC
14 Oct	Presentation of Chaillot Paper on the Russian-Turkish partnership
14 Oct	EU-NATO cooperation and the Strategic Compass
19 Oct	China-US-Europe: EUISS-CICIR Dialogue
25 Oct	European Cyber Diplomacy Dialogue
25 Oct	2021 roundtable on CSDP partnerships
November	
10 Nov	Strengthening inclusive cybercrime policymaking: Europe regional consultation, in cooperation with Chatham House
15 Nov	EaP: Regional geopolitical challenges and the way forward
17 Nov	14th EUISS-COAFR meeting on 'Cyber and digital transition: an African way?'

23 Nov	European security in 2022: the 'year of defence'?
December	
3 Dec	Inclusive and resilient digital transition: A new chapter For AU-EU relations?
6 Dec	Second annual conference on climate and defence with the EEAS
8 Dec	'Great Expectations: defining a trans-Mediterranean cybersecurity agenda'
9 Dec	Informal seminar informing an assessment of 20 years of EU engagement in Afghanista