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20 YEARS

EU Peace Mediation: Reflections on the Implementation of the EU Concept on Peace Mediation and Way Ahead

Expert Workshop organised by the Czech Presidency of the EU Council and the EEAS, in cooperation with EUISS

Date/Time: 15 November 2022 (14:00 -16:00)

Venue: Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the EU, Rue Caroly 15, 1050 Ixelles

Format: in person

Concept: *In December 2020, The Concept on EU Peace Mediation (Concept) was adopted with the aim to further boost the EU's role as a global peace mediation, conflict prevention and peacebuilding actor. The new Concept sets an ambitious stance for the EU in global peace mediation and points out EU comparative advantages in this field. It stresses the EU's role as a value-based actor and places a key emphasis on issues such as environment and climate change, the digital space, human rights, women, peace and security, cultural heritage, or religion. Shortly after the adoption of the concept, Council Conclusions on EU Peace Mediation followed. The Council reaffirms a heightened ambition of the EU in support of peace mediation as a key tool of conflict prevention and resolution. It calls for more proactive and resolute EU engagement in this regard. The Council also recalls that the peace mediation is part of the EU's Integrated Approach to External Conflicts and Crises and that civilian CSDP missions could also play a supporting role, where relevant and according to their respective mandates. Moreover, the Council emphasises the importance of working with other mediation actors, especially with the United Nations (UN). Finally, it invites EEAS to report to the PSC on progress made on the main elements set out in the Concept.*

The past two years of implementation of these two landmark documents offer the opportunity to reflect on the next steps. Possible elements/issues to be discussed during the workshop could be:

- *An assessment of the progress in the field of EU mediation over the past two years: How successful is the EU in meeting its ambition; what are the key challenges EU has faced?*
- *How is the EU applying the integrated approach in regards to mediation and how is it coordinating with other actors?*
- *Is there a need to further develop the EU-UN cooperation in mediation?*

Objectives: *Based on the experience from the implementation of the Concept and taking into account the new geopolitical circumstances as well as increasingly complex international environment, the workshop aims to reflect on how to reinforce the EU approach in the field of*

peace mediation in the future. As an outcome, a report from the workshop summarising the main takeaways of the event would be prepared by the EU ISS.

Draft Programme:

14:00-14:15 Welcome remarks

Jitka Latal Znamenackova, CZ PSC Ambassador

Brice de Schieter, Acting Director of ISP, EEAS

Gustav Lindstrom, EUISS Director

14:15-15:00 EU Peace Mediation: Reflections on recent EU peace mediation experience

Moderation: Viola Fee Dreikhausen, EUISS Analyst

Speakers:

Guillem Riutord Sampol, Head of ISP.2, EEAS - Update on the implementation of the Concept

Robert Krenzel, Head of FPI.2, European Commission – Financing of EU mediation/dialogue support

Rory Keane, UNLOPS – Prospects on furthering the EU-UN cooperation in mediation

15:00-15:50 Discussion on the way ahead for EU mediation

Moderation: Olivia Caeymaex, Director at Conciliation Resources EU

15:50-16:00 Concluding remarks

Gustav Lindstrom, EUISS Director

16:00 – 16:30 Refreshments