



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 17 July 2012

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**CIVCOM 292
COPS 270
CSDP/PSDC 455
COHOM 180
DEVGEN 206**

COVER NOTE

From: European External Action Service
To: Delegations

Subject: Information Note on the CSDP Lessons and Best Practices Portal

Delegations will find attached an Information Note on the CSDP Lessons and Best Practices Portal, EEAS document with reference 01301/12.

Encl.: EEAS document 01301/12

EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE



**Crisis Management and
Planning Directorate (CMPD)**

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THE CSDP LESSONS & BEST PRACTICES PORTAL

On 18 November 2011, the Political and Security Committee (PSC) approved the implementation of a 'shared civilian-military CSDP lessons database' in the framework of the workplan for promoting synergies between EU civil and military capability development.

The principle decision to develop this capability was taken on 08 March 2011 by the PSC, when the need for enhanced civilian-military synergies in the lessons area was identified by experts in EU crisis management, from the Crisis Management and Planning Directorate (CMPD), the EU Military Staff (EUMS) and the Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC).

The development and introduction of the 'shared civilian-military CSDP lessons database' in such a short time-frame was testament to the successful collaborative efforts of the development team, which was composed of a broad range of experts from the European External Action Service, the Council General Secretariat and commercial actors. Additionally, experts from Member States were invited to participate to the project to share best practices and lessons learned in order to maximize the project's success.

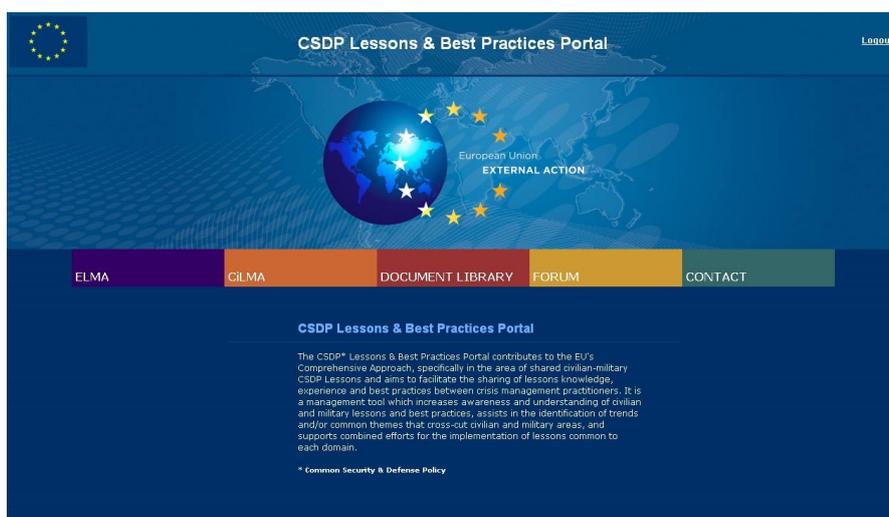
Access to the 'shared database' will be gained via a central web portal; the "CSDP Lessons and Best Practices portal".

In effect, the "CSDP Lessons and Best practices portal" will function as a gateway to the "shared database". The "CSDP lessons & Best Practices portal" contributes to the EU's comprehensive approach, specifically in the area of shared civilian-military CSDP lessons and aims to facilitate the sharing of lessons knowledge, experience and best practices between crisis management practitioners.

It is also a management tool which increases awareness and understanding of civilian and military lessons and best practices, assists in the identification of trends and/or common themes that cross-cut civil and military areas, and supports combined efforts for the implementation of lessons common to each domain.

The "CSDP lessons & Best Practices portal" will also feature a document library and a forum for discussion to facilitate the sharing and dissemination of lessons and best practices-related information from across the EU (including non-CSDP) and from a variety of actors from outside the EU, among the users community.

The "CSDP Lessons & Best Practices portal" is an application only available through the classified EU OPSWAN (European Union Operations Wide Area Network).



Access on SOLAN: <https://cds.eow.consilium.europa.eu/elma>

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