



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 19 September 2012

13999/12

**PE 418
COSDP 790
PESC 1137**

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
to: Delegations

Subject: Summary record of the meeting of the **European Parliament Subcommittee on Security and Defence (SEDE)**, Brussels, 17 and 18 September 2012

The meeting was chaired by Mr Danjean (EPP, FR).

I. Chair's announcement

The chair reported on the first inter-parliamentary conference on CFSP and CSDP bringing together Members of the European and national parliaments (9-10 September 2012, Cyprus). In this context, he said that it was obvious that there was noticeable competition with national parliaments on responsibilities for defence and that the MEPs had to search for dialogue with their national colleagues.

II. Election of 1st Vice-Chair

Following Mr Mavronikolas's (S&D, CY) resignation, the S&D group had presented Mr Sophocles Sophocleous (CY) as its candidate; he was appointed by the committee by acclamation (no other candidate presented).

III. Visit of a SEDE delegation to Israel and Palestinian Territories from 15-18 July 2012 - Presentation by the chair and exchange of views

The chair reported in detail on the delegation visit (talks with Israeli authorities and Palestinians, assessment of EU missions, etc.), stressing that unfortunately not much time had been available, yet it had been an interesting visit despite the fact that the SEDE delegation had not necessarily met the expected interlocutors and that the dialogue had been at times somewhat superficial. In view of the results of the delegation visit, the chair suggested more regular contacts with the Israeli and Palestinian parliamentarians who could be invited to the Committee.

IV. Establishment of Horizon 2020 - The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) (AFET/7/09117)

- Rapporteur for the opinion: Sophocles Sophocleous (S&D)
- Responsible: ITRE – Teresa Riera Madurell (S&D)
- Consideration of draft opinion and amendments

(dealt with under item VI.)

The opinion was adopted as amended by 36 votes in favour and seven against.

V. Rules for participation in and dissemination of Horizon 2020 – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) (AFET/7/09118)

- Rapporteur for the opinion: Sophocles Sophocleous (S&D)
- Responsible: ITRE – Christian Ehler (PPE)
- Consideration of draft opinion and amendments

(dealt with under item VI.)

The opinion was adopted as amended by 37 votes in favour and five against.

VI. Specific Programme Implementing Horizon 2020 - The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020) (AFET/7/09121)

- Rapporteur for the opinion: Sophocles Sophocleous (S&D)
- Responsible: ITRE – Maria Da Graça Carvalho (PPE)
- Consideration of draft opinion and amendments

Prior to the vote, there was an exchange of views during which the rapporteur recalled that the main issue was allowing defence research in the framework of Horizon 2020 (dual use technology). He was of the view that it was a matter of political will and that the EU should be ready for the next step. Therefore, he could not agree with the Greens/EFA, GUE/NGL and Commission line as it would not permit the EU to become a global player in the area of security/defence.

Subsequent speakers taking the floor on behalf of their group confirmed the support by the EPP and ALDE of the rapporteur's approach. Speaking on behalf of the Greens/EFA, Mr Bütikofer (DE) criticised the rapporteur's position, which he said would inevitably hamper the pooling and sharing principle, as well as his working methods (no shadow rapporteurs' meeting nor any attempt to find solutions). The Commission added that it did not exclude research on dual use technology.

The opinion was adopted as amended by 34 votes in favour and seven against.

VII. Cyber Security and Defence (AFET/7/09320, 2012/2096(INI))

- Rapporteur: Tunne Kelam (EPP)
- Responsible: AFET
- Further consideration of draft report and amendments

The rapporteur reiterated that cyber security was still lacking and that cooperation had to be enhanced. He recalled several of his well known priorities (e.g. cyber security education, international cooperation, ratification of the Budapest convention by all Member States, etc.) and called for a proactive EU comprehensive approach. He was of the view that management of the cyber crisis had to be addressed and that cyber security should be mainstreamed in all EEAS actions. The rapporteur said that he wished to focus on cyber security/defence in a non-political manner. He concluded by referring to the upcoming shadow rapporteurs' meeting during which all amendments (by then translated) would be discussed.

The draft report received broad support from the shadow rapporteurs. Mr Yáñez-Barnuevo (S&D, ES) recalled that some Member States were lacking national strategies. Ms Nicolai (ALDE, RO) welcomed the rapporteur's pragmatic approach though she was unable to comment in detail on the amendments. Mr Tarand (Greens/EFA, EE) considered that the report should include clear and precise wording.

VIII. The role of the Common Security and Defence Policy in case of climate driven crises and natural disasters (AFET/7/09319, 2012/2095(INI))

- Rapporteur: Indrek Tarand (Greens/EFA)
- Responsible: AFET
- Opinions: ENVI - Decision: no opinion
- Further consideration of draft report and amendments

The rapporteur explained that another upcoming shadow rapporteur meeting would continue the ongoing discussions, on including main subjects such as the EU special envoy for climate change, mainstreaming climate security policy and the establishment of capabilities and structures/instruments within the EU framework, etc.

In reaction, the shadow rapporteurs of the groups took the floor. Mr Gahler (DE), speaking on behalf of the EPP shadow rapporteur Ms Neynsky (BG), suggested a pragmatic approach and made clear his reluctance regarding an EU climate security policy and EU special envoy. Mr Paleckis (S&D, LT) took the view that the EU should be ready for this kind of crisis and he therefore supported the rapporteur on the establishment of the related structures. Mr Watson (ALDE, UK) also welcomed the draft report and hoped that it would be groundbreaking for the future.

The Commission thanked the rapporteur for putting forward amendments which were of great help to its work.

IX. The EU's mutual defence and solidarity clauses: political and operational dimensions
(AFET/7/09829)

- Rapporteur: Ioan Mircea Paşcu (S&D)
- Responsible: AFET
- Opinions: LIBE - Simon Busuttil (EPP)
AFCO - Andrew Duff (ALDE)
- Consideration of draft report
- Deadline for tabling amendments: 20 September

The chair recalled that responsibility for this file was shared with AFCO . The rapporteur explained that the Council had to draw up a decision and therefore the Parliament should clearly define its position in advance to this. He recalled the current global political content. He emphasised the fact that he was not asking for the creation of new instruments/practices, though an assessment of existing ones should be carried out. The rapporteur stressed the importance of the relationship with NATO and considered that the High Representative should propose practical arrangements in this respect.

The AFCO rapporteur Mr Duff (ALDE, UK) said that the report was a sound draft on a sensitive issue and that courage would be needed. He underlined the primary role of NATO in this specific case and the good relationship that was consequently needed between NATO and the EU and therefore suggested regular political cooperation between the two. In this context, he noted some potential areas of conflict. He added that AFCO's approach was against the creation of any new instruments/bodies.

The shadow rapporteurs then took the floor. For the EPP, Ms Giannakou (EL) said that the Lisbon Treaty established the legal personality of the EU and that therefore there was no obstacle to a European defence policy. Regarding the comments made by Mr Duff, she recalled that AFCO had not yet voted and pointed out that the issue was a threat against Cyprus. She added that in essence she could agree with the report but disagreed with the approach of Mr Duff. Ms Cronberg (Greens/EFA, FI) expressed the view that there should be a distinction between territorial defence and CSDP and considered that other elements should be included in the report (i.e. battle groups and weapons of mass destruction). Mr Van Orden (ECR, UK) considered that two separate issues had been mixed up and argued that NATO was the only credible organisation in this respect.

He pointed out that there should be no new military structures and more encouragement to non-NATO Member States to come closer to NATO. He concluded by saying that the Cyprus issue was becoming an impediment and needed to be solved quickly (on this issue there was an animated discussion between several Members). Speaking on behalf of the GUE/NGL, Ms Lösing (DE) stressed that there were two different issues which needed to be clearly distinguished. She also said that as her group supported only peaceful settlements, it rejected the draft and would put forward a minority report.

The only individual speaker, Mr Landsbergis (EPP, LT), asked for more details concerning the type of attacks covered and considered that there should be less flexibility in order to ensure that measures were implemented.

The Commission and the EEAS welcomed the draft report and reported that they were working closely together on a proposal to be put forward before end of the year.

Mr Duff reiterated his position and was looking forward to the EPP amendments. The rapporteur concluded by saying that a lot of caution was needed and that he was against too detailed wording.

Provisional timetable:

Deadline for tabling amendments: 21 September

Consideration of report and amendments: 9 October

X. Implementation of the Common Security and Defence Policy based on the Annual Report from the Council to the European Parliament on the Common Foreign and Security Policy (AFET/7/09958, 2012/2138(INI))

- Rapporteur: Arnaud Danjean (EPP)
- Responsible: AFET
- Consideration of draft report

The rapporteur presented the draft report, which followed the model of previous annual reports, though it included in addition an assessment of the EU missions as well as of the general framework of the CSDP. He highlighted two points: the EU's strategic autonomy and full use of CSDP instruments.

The rapporteur received full support from the S&D shadow rapporteur, Mr Yáñez-Barnuevo, who also suggested tackling the issue of private security companies. The ALDE shadow rapporteur, Ms Nicolai, also expressed her general support for the report and announced that she would table amendments relating in particular to the need to review the EU's defence strategy. Ms Cronberg (Greens/EFA) welcomed the report's pragmatic approach and put forward additional ideas (e.g. strategic framework for pooling and sharing, permanent headquarters for defence planning). Ms Lösing (GUE/NGL) took the view that the report aimed at EU militarisation and therefore her group would table a minority report. Individual speakers confirmed these positions.

Provisional timetable:

Deadline for tabling amendments: 21 September

Consideration of draft report and amendments: 9 October

XI. Date and venue of the next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 27 September 2012 (a.m.) in Brussels.
