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From:	European External Action Service (EEAS)
To:	Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management (CIVCOM)
Subject:	Implementing the Civilian CSDP Compact: Suggestions for common master messages

Delegations will find attached, for information, the document “Implementing the Civilian CSDP Compact: Suggestions for common master messages”, in line with Joint Action Plan Implementing the Civilian CSDP Compact.

This paper is to suggest common master messages on civilian CSDP that the Member States as well as the EEAS can use in their communication on civilian CSDP. Should you require any additional information, please contact Civilian Planning and Conduct Capabilities Directorate, Mr. Mikko HARJULEHTO (Mikko.HARJULEHTO@eeas.europa.eu).

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**Implementing the Civilian CSDP Compact:
Suggestions for common master messages**

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In the Joint Action Plan Implementing the Civilian CSDP Compact, the European External Action Service committed to “provide Member States with an input paper containing common master messages in support of their national communication efforts.”

As such, the aim of this paper is to suggest common master messages on civilian CSDP that the Member States as well as the EEAS can use in their communication on civilian CSDP.

These messages are meant for a public that is as broad as possible – hence including non-initiated audiences. They may of course need to be adapted to the respective audiences, taking into account different historic, cultural, linguistic and political sensitivities.

This paper is intended as an internal working document.

1. The need for security

The security environment around the European Union has worsened in recent years. The world has become more complex and more contested. Power politics have made a return to the global scene.

The world is also increasingly interconnected. What happens beyond the EU’s borders often has a direct impact on the security of European citizens. Recent events have only underlined this further. Europe needs to speak with a clear voice on the global scene. At the same time, our partners around the world are expecting Europe to play a bigger role as a global security provider.

A purely military approach is not sufficient to address the crises of our times. The signature strength of the EU and its Member States in managing and preventing crises lies in their ability to develop both civilian and military capabilities and deploy civilian and military assets, drawing on Member States’ capacities.

In fact, the EU has a wide array of policies and instruments at its disposal, spanning the diplomatic, security, defence, financial, trade, development cooperation and humanitarian aid fields.

Sustainable security requires diplomatic engagement, as well as the capacity to strengthen or rebuild state institutions. Sustainable peace must be rooted in local realities and where appropriate supported by an adequate multilateral framework.

The EU believes in multilateralism and will always seek cooperation with partners whenever this is possible. The EU also believes in empowering our partners to provide for their own security, which should ultimately help to stabilise our wider neighbourhood.

There is a specific European approach to peace and security: the Integrated Approach. The EU’s broad range of tools are combined in a way that is tailored to the needs of each situation.

2. The EU's civilian CSDP missions

Some 2,000 dedicated women and men serve in the EU civilian CSDP missions. They are a tangible sign of Europe's engagement for security beyond our borders.

The overall aim of EU's civilian CSDP missions is to promote stability after a crisis by helping our partners provide for their own security and rule of law institutions.

The staff of EU civilian CSDP missions are mostly seconded by the EU's Member States and serve jointly under the EU flag. All civilian missions are led by the Brussels based Civilian Operations Commander i with the support of the Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC) of the European External Action Service (EEAS) in Brussels. Each mission has its own head of mission.

The EU's civilian CSDP missions make an essential contribution to the EU's capacity to act as a global security provider as part of the Integrated Approach, in particular in the arc of instability on the EU's doorstep. By acting abroad, CSDP missions are providing security at home.

Civilian CSDP staff

There are currently 11 EU civilian CSDP missions deployed. They are present on the ground in Africa, the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe, and the Middle East.

Some 1,350 European police officers, judges, prosecutors, monitors, policy advisers, legal experts and other civilian security specialists are deployed as appropriate in the framework of these missions. They work to support our partner countries and build their capacities so that they can provide for their own security. In addition, some 650 local employees also contribute to this effort.

The missions' mandates are tailored individually to address the situation on the ground and cover a broad range of tasks, including border management, confidence-building, combatting organised crime and smuggling, reforming national security sectors or monitoring the judicial system and the rule of law.

3. The work of civilian CSDP in numbers: some examples

In 2020 alone, EU civilian CSDP missions conducted training events for approximately 13,000 people on topics such as combating the trafficking of weapons, drugs and human beings; criminal investigations; policing; combating corruption; identifying document fraud; integrated border management; maritime security; human rights and gender.

They supported the drafting of over 90 laws, by-laws and legislative initiatives:

- In Georgia, our civilian monitoring mission handled in 2020 over 2,800 calls through a dedicated Hotline to reduce tensions around the crossing points to Abkhazia and South Ossetia.
- In Kosovo the EU Rule of Law Mission EULEX monitored in 2020 277 trials at any level. Its Formed Police Unit carried out 650 reconnaissance patrols to monitor the situation on the ground, with a focus on the north of Kosovo. The Mission handled 1569 information requests enabling thus an efficient information exchange between the Kosovo Police, Interpol, Europol and the Serbian Ministry of Interior.
- Since its launch in 2012, the EU Capacity Building Mission in Niger has delivered over 1,000 training events to over 13,000 mid- and high-level Nigerien security forces personnel and the justice sector, including on forensic science and intelligence gathering. Supported by the advice and equipment donated by the EU Capacity Building Mission, the Nigerian Technical and Scientific Police has by 2019 become a regional centre of excellence.

In addition they supplied over EUR 7 million worth of equipment to local partners and local non-governmental organisations (NGOs), ranging from vehicles to criminal investigation equipment, drug identification kits, IT and geolocation equipment, radio equipment, electrical generators, and more.

EU civilian missions have continued to stand by our partners through the COVID-19 pandemic. They took the necessary health measures to ensure the safety of our staff and of local populations in the context of delivering their mandates. At the same time, the missions continued their work for security and the implementation of their mandate. Where possible, the missions have also supported local authorities with donations of material and equipment to tackle the pandemic. For example, protective equipment against the pandemic was donated by EU civilian missions in Ukraine, Somalia, Iraq, Libya, Niger and in the Palestinian Territories.

4. The Civilian CSDP Compact

In November 2018, EU Member States agreed on the need to further strengthen civilian crisis management through the Civilian CSDP “Compact”, a set of commitments by the EU and Member States, which enables a qualitative and quantitative leap forward for existing and future civilian missions.

The adoption of the Civilian CSDP Compact represents a milestone in Civilian CSDP. Through a set of 22 concrete commitments, EU Member States intend to make civilian CSDP more capable, more effective, responsible and flexible, and more joined up with other EU instruments and partners. For example, in the future civilian missions shall be even better equipped, have more personnel, including a higher number of female staff, and be able to deploy within a maximum of 30 days.

The Civilian CSDP Compact is also the outcome of reflections on how to address security challenges beyond those earlier priorities of strengthening police, rule of law and civil administration. Security challenges include those linked to irregular migration, hybrid threats, cyber security, terrorism and radicalisation, organised crime, border management and maritime security, preventing and countering violent extremism, as well as preserving and protecting cultural heritage.

In addition, CSDP and Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) cooperation should be increased, such as with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol), the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) and the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation, (Eurojust), on the basis of their respective mandates. This implies considering where appropriate new lines of operations or pilot projects in new or ongoing CSDP missions, also building on targeted mini-concepts, in response to local needs and in cooperation with the relevant Commission services and Justice and Home Affairs actors. In the same vein, cooperation between CSDP and Member States’ Justice and Home Affairs institutions should also be increased as our actions abroad provide security at home.

Mini-concepts aim to frame possible areas for increased civilian CSDP efforts, and to provide a conceptual basis for strategic and operational planners to identify possibilities in the context of designing or reviewing mission mandates, including strategic and operational lines of activity.

5. Progress in the implementation of the civilian CSDP Compact

An increase of secondments from Member States of more than 11 % since the agreement on the civilian CSDP Compact in November 2018.

The first civilian CSDP mission launched under the Compact - the EU Advisory Mission in the Central African Republic (EUAM RCA) - has included key elements of the Compact such as a modular and scalable mandate, where the mission's activities can be more easily adapted to respond to temporary needs or a changing security environment, as well as a specific focus on hybrid threats, one of the new priority challenges.

Stronger links have been developed between CSDP and JHA actors, including through the conceptual work on how to increase synergies. Some of this work has already been presented to relevant Council working groups.

All Member States have finalised their National Implementation Plans, a process that has helped strengthen inter-ministry and inter-institutional coordination and communication.

The National Implementation Plans will allow Member States to better develop the required capabilities for civilian CSDP in order to provide civilian CSDP missions with more and better qualified staff, including more women, in less time.

On the initiative of Germany, a Centre of Excellence on Civilian Crisis Management has been established in Berlin, with the aim to support its members and EU Institutions, particularly the European External Action Service (EEAS), in implementing their commitments under the Civilian CSDP Compact. More generally, the CoE helps enhance civilian capacities to strengthen EU crisis management. It officially opened on 17 September 2020.

Annual Review Conferences, to take stock of progress made and define priorities for the way ahead, were organised in November 2019 and December 2020.

A more structured process for Member States to share their lessons learned and good practices among each other has been agreed, notably through the organisation of thematic working groups referred to as clusters.