

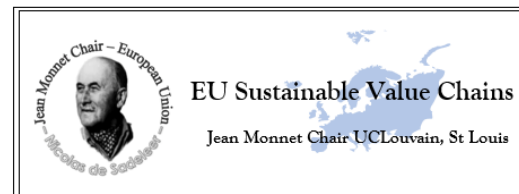
Principles and Objectives of the Union's External Action

Trade-Off between Trade and Fundamental Values?

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*The EU and the Indo-Pacific Region.
Challenges and opportunities*



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



Common foreign and security policy (CFSP)

- **Intergovernmental character** >< **communitarized policy fields** (trade, internal market, agriculture, transport, humanitarian aid, etc.)
- Because of its highly specific institutional nature, CFSP cannot be placed on an equal footing with other external policies, such as the CCP
- CFSP has a **much less legal character** than the communitarized policy areas
- The CFSP **exists alongside the MSt' foreign policies**, which are, nonetheless, obliged to support the CFSP and refrain from any action which is contrary to its interests (Article 24 of the TEU)

CFSP Objectives (Article 21 TEU) and Scope

- safeguarding **EU values**, fundamental interests, **security, independence and integrity**;
- consolidating and supporting **democracy**, the **rule of law** and **human rights**;
- preserving **peace**, preventing conflicts and strengthening international security;
- promoting an international system based on stronger **multilateral cooperation** and good global governance.

CFSP encompasses all areas of foreign and security policy

- There is no limit to the scope of the CFSP's action.
- Any measure or agreement relating to foreign and security policy, including defence, is therefore likely to fall within the remit of the CFSP.

Decision-making Process (Article 26 TEU)

- **European Council** (chief of States) sets the **overall political direction** and establishes **priorities**
- **Foreign Affairs Council** (FAC) is composed by Foreign Affairs Ministers and chaired by the High Representative. It **defines and implements** those priorities. Decisions relating to the CFSP and CSDP are taken by the FAC by unanimity (abstention to avoid blocking the decision-making process)
- **European Parliament** (EP) must be informed of and consulted on CFSP issues (Articles 27 and 36 TEU) + final decision-making power over the EU budget.
- **European Commission** participates in the meetings of the Council and its preparatory administrative bodies. The Directorate-General for External Relations is also responsible for strengthening and deepening relationships with NATO, the OSCE, and the Council of Europe.

The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy (HR/VP)

- conducts the EU's CFSP and CSDP
- presides over the FAC
- is one of the Vice-Presidents of the Commission
- responsible for ensuring the coherence and effectiveness of the EU's external action: development aid, trade, humanitarian aid and crisis response
- expresses the EU's position in international organizations and conferences



European External Action Service (EEAS)



- EU's diplomatic service
- The EEAS assists the HR/VP in preparing the EU's external action and in ensuring its coherence and coordination.



Committees and preparatory bodies supporting the work of the FAC

- Political and Security Committee (PSC)
- Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management (CivCom)
- Military Committee

Political and Security Committee (PSC)

composed of Member States' ambassadors based in Brussels

- monitors the international situation in the areas covered by the CFSP
- delivers opinions to the Council of Ministers
- provides guidance to the Military Committee, the Politico-Military Group and the Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management
- ensures political control and strategic direction of crisis management operations

Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management (CivCom)

It is composed of representatives of EU Member States

- . deals with the development of strategies for civilian crisis management and for civilian capabilities
- . makes recommendations to the PSC

Common Security and
Defence Policy (CSDP)
(Articles 42–46 TEU)



Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)

(Articles 42–46 TEU)

- An **integral part** of the EU's CFSP (Articles 42(1) TEU). '**Progressive framing**' of a common Union defence policy' (Article 42(2) TEU)
- **Mutual defence clause** (MSt victim of armed aggression, other MSt' obligation of 'aid and assistance')
> Article 51 UN Charter.
- Enhancing EU's military capacities and deploying missions outside the EU for **peace-keeping, conflict prevention** in third countries (National civilian missions and military operations (Article 42(3) TEU)).

➤ **Military operations:** The Horn of Africa and West Africa, with the EUNAVFOR ATALANTA, EUTM-Somalia and EUTM-Mali operations and missions.

➤ **Civilian missions:** EUCAP Sahel Mali, EUCAP Sahel Niger and EUAM Ukraine operations stand out

Strengthening international security in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter.

Permanent Structured Cooperation in Defence (PESC) = enhanced cooperation to improve coordination and increase defence investments for defence capability development (Article 42(6) TEU)

European Peace Facility

- Off-budget EU financing instrument set up in March 2021, aiming towards the delivering of military aid to partner countries and funding the deployment of EU military missions abroad under the CFSP.