DELIVERING TOGETHER
ON PEACE, SECURITY AND DEFENCE

Brussels, 28-29 May 2024

28 MAY 2024
CLOSED DOOR MINISTERIAL DINNER
Concert Noble

18:00 – 19:00
Cocktail

19:00 – 21:30
Closed Door Ministerial Dinner

Welcome words by Josep Borrell Fontelles
High Representative for the Union’s Foreign and Security Policy
Vice-President of the European Commission (HR/VP)

Discussion
In our interconnected world, geographical silos do not exist anymore. Local crises and conflicts can quickly become global, with more far-reaching and complex consequences than ever before. At the same time, security threats are increasingly multidimensional and complex, with new strategic domains and the weaponisation of non-traditional security areas coexisting with conventional threats. Geopolitical rivalries lead to shifting alliances, making the world more unpredictable and less secure. We face increasing uncertainties – what some describe as a permanent polycrisis.

Guiding questions: What are the main security challenges and opportunities in today’s volatile world? In the complex security environment, fostering partnerships is more needed than ever. When acting together, we effectively deliver on peace, security and defence matters, to the benefit of our citizens. How can we improve our collective response by strengthening our cooperation?

Master of ceremony: Steven Everts, Director, EU Institute for Security Studies
Introductory remarks: Jana Puglierin, Senior Policy Fellow, Head of Berlin Office, European Council on Foreign Relations

Exchange of views among participants

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1 A side event for think-tankers and academia will take place on 28 May in the afternoon, followed by a cocktail/dinner for think-tankers, academia and accompanying members of the official delegations.
29 MAY 2024
Schuman Security and Defence Forum
European Parliament

08:00 - 09:00  Doorstep and Welcome Coffee

09:00 - 9:20  Keynote speech by the HR/VP Josep Borrell Fontelles

09:20 - 10:50  Plenary session
Room 4Q2, Antali Building

One theatre - partnerships in a security continuum

The world today is one single theatre of operations. International security is at stake in the Indo-Pacific, in Africa and in Latin America. Threats overlap and take many shapes and traditional and hybrid warfare is waged simultaneously. While future conflicts were predicted to have predominantly economic dimensions or be fought in cyberspace, the international community still faces conventional high intensity warfare. Hence, we witness both new and old warfare, resulting in increased fragility. Responding to common challenges also offers more opportunities for partnerships.

Guiding questions: Taking into account today’s threats and security environment, how should we reassess our security and defence strategies and policies? How can enhanced partnerships and exchanges of best practices be factored into these new realities?

Moderator
Rosie Birchard, journalist, European correspondent

Speakers
Anatolie Nosatii, Minister of Defence, Moldova
Kajsa Ollongren, Minister of Defence, The Netherlands
Bjørn Arild Gram, Minister of Defence, Norway
Mohammed Badaru Abubakar, Minister of Defence, Nigeria

10:50 - 11:20  Coffee Break
11:20 - 12:50  Breakout Roundtables

Roundtable 1: Hybrid and cyber threats
The weaponisation of everything
Room 4Q2, Antall Building

Over recent years, we have been witnessing a growing array of hybrid threats, often based on the use of new technologies and marked by a high degree of deniability – from cyber-attacks to foreign interference and manipulation of information. Compounded with emerging disruptive technologies, open societies and economies are increasingly vulnerable with blurred lines between war and peace. In this light, the EU and many other actors are developing instruments to prevent, deter and respond to these threats. Cooperation and coordination among partners is key to ensure an effective collective response.

Guiding questions: How to ensure that we leverage the full-spectrum of our tools to address malign behaviour, and that their use will have the desired outcome? How to promote international cooperation in bilateral and multilateral frameworks to counter hybrid threats? What could be done to better engage with public and private sectors?

Moderator
Teija Tiilikainen, Director, European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats

Speakers
Albert Kan-Dapaah, Minister of National Security, Ghana
Žilvinas Tomkus, Vice-Minister of National Defence, Lithuania
Viktoria Vdovychenko, Director of Security and International Advocacy, Centre for Defence Strategies

Roundtable 2: Human Security explored
Integrating the Women & Youth Peace and Security Agendas
Room 2Q2, Antall Building

The intersection of human security with peace, security and defence policies spotlights the indispensable role of women and youth in fostering sustainable peace and resilience in conflict. Embedding the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agendas within the broader peace, security and defence needs a holistic approach that values their contributions and addresses their specific needs and interests. This is crucial to safeguard the protection of human rights and enhance the effectiveness of our peace and security efforts. For this, it is essential to bridge the gap between traditional
security and defence policies and the promotion of peace through inclusive security strategies that acknowledge the different needs of women and youth and their roles as equal agents of change in peace processes.

**Guiding questions:** How can the implementation of WPS and YPS agendas enhance human security, and strengthen conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding? What role do defence ministries play in advancing the participation of women in peace and security? How can women and youth be better protected in crises and conflicts? How can international partnerships enhance the implementation of gender-responsive and youth-focused approaches to crisis management? What innovative strategies can be employed to ensure women’s and youth’s involvement in security, peace and mediation processes?

**Moderator**
Sonya Reines-Djivanides, Executive Director, European Peacebuilding Liaison Office

**Speakers**
Gloria de la Fuente, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Chile
Andrew Gilmour, Executive Director, Berghof Foundation
Dr Zaid Eyadat, Director, Center for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan

12:50 - 14:20  Lunch

14:20 - 15:45  Breakout Roundtables

**Roundtable 3: Critical infrastructures**
**How to maximise resilience?**
Room 4Q2, Antali Building

Natural and man-made disruptions to critical infrastructure may have widespread impact on us due to our increased interdependencies, complex systems and networks. Furthermore, there are malicious actors willing to exploit those vulnerabilities and amplify the impact of disasters for political reasons. Building resilience against all types of hazards requires a whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach.

**Guiding questions:** What can we learn from the recent crises and incidents? What best practice could we draw from our respective approaches to the development of resilience pillar in our security and defence agendas? What kind of threats and risks can we foresee in the future? How can we reinforce our capacities and coordination on disaster preparedness and emergency response?

**Moderator**
Nada Kovalcikova, Senior Analyst, **European Institute for Security Studies**

**Speakers**
Brigadier General Ng Pak Shun, Group Chief (Policy Strategy and Defence), Ministry of Defence, **Singapore**
Sarah Tarry, Director of Defence Policy and Capabilities, **NATO**
Prof. Dr. Daniel Fiott, Head of the Defence and Statecraft Programme, **Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy, Vrije Universiteit Brussel**

**Roundtable 4: Maritime security**
**Making the sea a safer strategic domain**
Room 2Q2, Antall Building

The sea is an essential strategic domain, with multiple political, security, defence, and economic implications. It is a source of multiple challenges, from geopolitical competition, piracy and transnational organised crime to vulnerabilities for international trade and critical maritime infrastructures. The Gulf of Guinea, the Red Sea, and the Indo-Pacific are some of the key areas for global maritime security.

*Guiding questions:* Which lessons can we draw to better address challenges to maritime security and freedom of navigation? How can we strengthen collaborative maritime domain awareness, rules-based cooperation in the maritime domain and respect of international law? How to work together in support of regional maritime security architectures? How to strengthen capacity building in the area of maritime security? How to better include the private sector?

**Moderator**
Dr. Katja Jacobsen, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, **University of Copenhagen**

**Speakers**
Salah Ahmed Jama, Deputy Prime Minister, **Somalia**
Janine Lelis, Minister of State and of Defense, **Cabo Verde**
Sietje Möller, State Secretary, **Germany**
Rear Admiral Vasilios Gryparis, Operation Commander **EUNAVFOR ASPIDES**
Dr. Swasti Rao, Associate Fellow, **Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses**

**Roundtable 5: Counterterrorism**
**A holistic approach**
Room 6Q1, Antall Building

Terrorist groups pose a very serious threat to societies - not only through the violence they perpetrate, but also through pitting communities against another. As counterterrorism
encompasses preventing, detecting and prosecuting suspects, strengthening the resilience of communities is crucial. Community engagement is also essential to ensure re-integration of released convicted offenders. A holistic approach, encompassing international cooperation, internal security efforts, law and justice, as well as social cohesion measures, is the cornerstone of any successful counterterrorism strategy.

**Guiding questions:** What measures should be taken to strengthen the resilience of communities and prevent radicalisation and recruitment efforts? What can be done to address more general but fundamental questions, such as justice to victims, gender dimension, stigmatisation, acceptance of host communities and cooperation among stakeholders at all levels?

**Moderator**

Ahmed Al Qasimi, Executive Director, *Hedayah, the International Center of Excellence for Countering Extremism and Violent Extremism*

**Speakers**

Hanena Ould Sidi, Minister of National Defence, *Mauritania*

Major General Cristovão Artur Chume, Minister of National Defence, *Mozambique*

General Khaled Megawer, Assistant Defence Minister, *Egypt*

Major General Mohamed Salah Benbicha, Secretary General of the Ministry of National Defence, *Algeria*

Lilla Schumiky-Logan, Deputy Executive Director, *Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund*

15:45 - 16:00  
**Coffee Break**

16:00 - 17:15  
**Plenary**  
*Room 4Q2, Antall Building*

**Sustainable Peace Architectures – Multilateralism & Partnerships**

The United Nations Charter, multilateralism and the rules-based international order remain the key principles underpinning our security and defence engagement. There is no better alternative to respond to the shared, collective aim of achieving, preserving and protecting peace. Nevertheless, the global security architecture needs to adapt to new challenges, in order to meet the expectations for security of our populations.

**Guiding questions:** With multilateralism as the overarching framework for sustainable peace, what more can be done to protect it from the perspectives of peace, security & defence? How can we draw on distinct perspectives from national structures, international and regional organisations, and civil society to make it fit for purpose in this complex world? How can we better shape multilateral institutions to strengthen the peace-security nexus?

**Moderator**
Richard Atwood, Executive Vice President, International Crisis Group

Speakers
Helga Schmid, Secretary-General, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Abdel-Fatau Musah, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, Economic Community of West African States
Belen Martinez Carbonell, Deputy Secretary-General for Economic and Global Issues, European External Action Service

Concluding remarks by HR/VP Josep Borrell Fontelles