



# THE MILITARY PLANNING AND CONDUCT CAPABILITY (MPCC)

The Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC) was established on 8 June 2017 with the aim of enabling the EU to react in a faster, more efficient and effective manner as a security provider outside its borders. The MPCC is responsible for the operational planning and conduct of the EU's non-executive military missions. It now commands the EU Training Missions (EUTM) in Mali, Somali and the Central African Republic. On 19 November 2018, the Council has agreed to give the MPCC the additional responsibility to be ready also to plan and conduct one executive military operation of the size of an EU Battlegroup. Its permanent staff capacity will be strengthened accordingly.

## ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MPCC

The establishment of the MPCC is part of the broader ongoing work to strengthen the EU's security and defence in line with the implementation of the EU Global Strategy of 2016. The MPCC is a permanent command and control structure at the military strategic level within the EU Military Staff, which is part of the European External Action Service, in Brussels. Since June 2017, it is responsible for the operational planning and conduct of non-executive missions. It was created in the broader framework of strengthening civil/military cooperation, and hence in line with the principle of avoiding unnecessary duplication with NATO.

The MPCC enhances the capacity of the EU to react faster and more efficiently to a conflict or crisis, where EU troops are deployed in close coordination with other Common Security and Defence Policy and EU actors in the respective country or region by:



Providing unified command and direction to the different missions in the field



Enabling the mission staff in the field to concentrate on the specific activities of their mission, with higher level support provided from Brussels to their security



Working closely and on a continuous basis with civilian counterparts, most notably the Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC) through the Joint Support Coordination Cell (JSCC). This ensures maximum coordination of civilian and military synergies and sharing of expertise



Contributing to an increased coherence of different EU actions on the ground in accordance with the EU integrated approach to external conflicts and crises

### THE JOINT SUPPORT COORDINATION CELL (JSCC)

brings together civilian and military expertise at the strategic level to further strengthening civilian-military coordination and cooperation in the operational planning and conduct of CSDP missions.

### CIVILIAN PLANNING AND CONDUCT CAPABILITY (CPCC)

is the EEAS Directorate serving as the Operational Headquarters for the civilian CSDP Missions. There are currently 10 civilian CSDP Missions conducted, inter alia in Mali (EUCAP Sahel Mali) and Somalia (EUCAP Somalia).

## TAKING ANOTHER STEP FORWARD

Since its establishment in 2017, the MPCC has had a positive and visible impact in its command and control of the EU's three military training missions. Building on this success Member States have agreed to integrate the current executive tasks of the EU Operations Centre (OPSCEN) into the MPCC with the intent that by the end of 2020 the MPCC can take responsibility for:

- ✓ the operational planning and conduct of the non-executive military CSDP missions
- ✓ one executive military CSDP operation of up to EU Battlegroup-size if so decided by the Council

### THE EU OPERATION CENTRE (OPSEN)

can set up an operations centre for a specific operation, in particular where a joint civil/military response is required and where no national HQ is identified. Furthermore it can generate the capacity to plan and run an autonomous EU military operation.

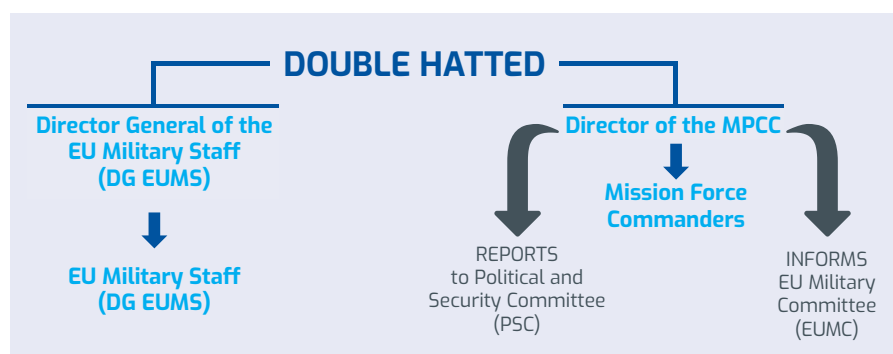
## STRUCTURE OF THE MPCC

For maximum efficiency as well as cost-effectiveness, the MPCC has been established, as a short-term measure, within the EU Military Staff.

The Director General of the EU Military Staff (DG EUMS) is double hatted as the Director of the MPCC and in that capacity has assumed operational command of all non-executive military Missions, exercising command and control over the current three training Missions and other possible future non-executive military Missions. The Mission Force Commanders of the three respective EUTMs act under the command of the Director of the MPCC and exercise military command authority in the Mission Areas.

The MPCC reports to the Political and Security Committee (PSC), and informs the EU Military Committee (EUMC).

In order to best fulfil its current and future tasks, the MPCC must be provided with the necessary human resources and infrastructure. The Council has agreed to gradually scale up the permanent staff to maximum 60 and has identified the need for 94 possible 'augmentees' who will be called upon in case the MPCC will command an executive military CSDP operation of up to EU Battlegroup-size.



### THE EU'S MILITARY MISSIONS CURRENTLY CONDUCTED UNDER THE MPCC:



#### EUTM SOMALIA

was launched in 2010 and has ever since contributed to strengthening the Transitional Federal Government and the institutions of Somalia.



#### EUTM MALI

was launched in 2013 to support the rebuilding of the Malian armed forces and to meet their operational needs.



#### EUTM RCA

was launched in 2016 and it supports the Central African Republic government in the implementation of security sector reform in the country.