

ESDP Operations

Historical purview and aim of the research

Title: Comparative framework about military operation, civilian and police missions promoted by the European Union under the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP)

With the 1992 Maastricht Treaty, the integration process achieves the institutionalization of the European foreign policy by creating the pillar of Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP). The ambition of bestowing an international dimension to the European Union foreign policy is though strongly restrained by the difficulty in harmonizing the national foreign policies of the single Member States. Following the inclusion in the Amsterdam Treaty (1992) of the "Petersberg Missions", inherited from the Western European Union (WEU), the operative scenario of the CFSP becomes more distinct. At the end of the bilateral French-British meeting at Saint-Malo in 1998 it was taken cognizance of the unpostponable necessity of giving the European Union an effective "capacity of undertaking autonomous actions, supported by credible military forces" with the goal of coping with international crisis.

In 1999 the European Council of Cologne sets out within CFSP the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) in order to give the European Union a military and civil operative capacity in international crisis contexts and situations; the WEU experience was thus definitely filed away. The aim of ESDP is that of guaranteeing the peace-keeping, to prevent conflicts and strengthen international security in accordance to the principles of the United Nations Chart. Although the concrete results have been clearly below the initial expectations, CFSP and ESDP have contributed in promoting the European Union role as a world actor, in giving it a first real political significance in managing international business and in buttressing European awareness.

The Constitution of 2004, rejected by France and Holland, contemplated an enhanced codification of ESDP, meant to create an ever greater level of convergence to the action of the Member States, to enter their purposes within the UN Chart, to regulate the relations with NATO (former *Berlin Plus*) and, finally, to reach the gradual definition of a common Union defence policy.

With the late Lisbon Treaty signed in December 2007 common principles are established for the Union external action (democracy, Constitutional State, universality and indivisibility of human rights and of the fundamental liberties, respect for human dignity and for the principles of equality and solidarity) thus paving the way to a better definition and singling out of the possible action ambits and goals to be reached. Furthermore, the Treaty provides for the double role of the High CFSP Representative who, together with representing the Union foreign policy, will be in charge of the vice-presidency of the Commission; this in order to render the EU external action more closely-knit and coherent.

Nowadays, through the ESDP, for the first time was reached a more precise strategy for the security, phrased together by the Union Member States' representatives. There although still exist heavy limitations to the potentials that EU could express in areas of foreign policy and security. The obstacle represented by the unanimous vote, the incapability of the EU in always taking a common position on foreign policy decisions and the absence of a single Union army, virtually obstruct the passage from intergovernmental cooperation to a federal integration. Through CFSP and ESDP, Europe has succeeded in signifying the weight of its own civil powers, preferably using diplomacy, counselling and assistance to third party countries, monitoring, peace-keeping and peace-building in war zones and, finally, resorting to force always in accordance with international laws.

At present the EU is engaged on the international scene with 10 civil and police missions, plus 4 military assignments. The former are: EUPM, police mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina with assistance and educational duties (start of operations in 2003); AMIS II, assistance of civil and military members to the African Union in Darfur (Sudan) (2005); EU JUST LEX, mission aimed at the reconstruction of a constitutional state in Iraq (2005); EU BAM RAFAH, monitoring the frontiers between Egypt and the Gaza strip (2005); EUPOL COPPS, police mission in Palestinian territories (assistance and coaching) (2006); EUSEC RDC, civil mission aimed to reform the army and the security department of the Democratic Republic of Congo (2005); EUPT Kosovo, civil operation for the transition of the UN (UNMIK) mission to the UE mission for the crisis management in the Balkan region (2006); EUPL RDC, mission in closed relation to the abovementioned EUSEC RDC for the reform of the Congolese police (2007); EUPOL Afghanistan, civil mission aiming to create a civil police department in the Asian country (2007); EU SSR Guinea-Bissau, support operation for the reforms in the security sector (army, police and judicial fields) of the African country (2008); EULEX Kosovo, police task and creation of the Constitutional State (2008). The army undertakings of the ESDP in force are instead the following: ALTHEA, operation aiming to create a safe and secure environment in Bosnia-Herzegovina (2004); AMIS II Support, assistance to the African Union mission in Darfur (Sudan)

(2005); EUFOR TCHAD/RCA, an undertaking in support of the UN mission MINURCAT (2008); EU NAVFOR Somalia, the first EU naval mission .

Research Programme

This research aims to give the necessary data for a comparative analysis of the military, civil and police manoeuvres promoted by the EU within the ESDP as from 2003. For each of the 19 UE completed and running operations, the following aspects will be both considered and analyzed:

- Political and historical context of the operation
- Reasons for EU intervention
- Ways of resolution
- Legal basis
- Possible relations with UN and NATO missions
- Purposes
- Length of Operations
- Costs and funding
- Engagement rules and chain of command
- Employed personnel
- Overall operation's evaluation.

The research endeavours to collect documents and original sources in relation to the examined operations. The paper and on-line materials thus gathered up will provide each mission with a dossier describing its complete story from the origins through its developments to its conclusion.

Aim Of The Research

The scope of the research is to cast light on the results so far achieved by the ESDP, through the study and the deepening of the practical aspects linked to the clinched and still-running military and civil operations undertaken by the EU on the world scene. It aims to offer an ample picture of the functional capacities of the ESDP, of its real size as well as the real commitment of the Union toward international political issues.

In particular, once spotted the objectives of the CFSP and the means at its disposal to achieve them, the research intends to evaluate, through the analysis of the operations at issue, the real adequacy of such means for the purposes the EU intends to pursue on the international panorama.

In the specific of the EU military, police and civil operations analysis, the aim is therefore to verify:

- The level of integration reached by the EU in the areas of CFSP and ESDP
- The adequacy of such level of integration
- The further prospective potentials of the EU within the international panorama in the case the level of integration within CFSP-ESDP were increased from the grade on intergovernmental cooperation to that of a reinforced integration in a federal import.
- The procedures to be activated toward the reinforcement of the integration in the defence area

The process of European integration is going through an slack period, while the evolution of the international relations demands for an ever more active and positive presence of the EU on the world stage. The institutional structure of the EU foreign policy is nowadays totally inadequate to the international role that EU should hold. This research aims to verify whether the defence area may serve as a thrust toward the revival of the integration process and to bring the EU in the direction of a federal conclusion of its integration process.