



This project has received funding from the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation HORIZON 2020 under grant agreement no 653371

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The first Work Package (WP1) of the project Improving the Effectiveness of Capabilities in EU Conflict Prevention Capabilities (IECEU) has been completed.

The IECEU-project is set to analyse and evaluate best practices and lessons learned with a view to enhance the civilian conflict prevention and peacebuilding capabilities of the European Union (EU). The IECEU seeks to find out how to increase the interoperability of resources in the crisis management and peacebuilding in order to discover the potential for pooling and sharing of EU capabilities. The project started on 1 May 2015 and it consists of nine working packages (WPs) which all have different objectives. The project will last for 33 months. The first working package of the project has been successfully completed in December 2015. The objective of the WP1 was twofold. Firstly, it provided the IECEU consortium with an up-to-date understanding of the EU external action service (EEAS) framework, civilian and military crisis management activities as well as of existing practices in terms of pooling and sharing of their respective capabilities. The WP1 deliverables are based on extensive literature review, expert discussions and interviews as well as online discussions and online surveys. Secondly, WP1 defined factors and set indicators for measuring effectiveness of the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) operations constructing the IECEU conceptual framework and methodology to analyse effectiveness of the selected EU CSDP missions during the upcoming case studies (the Balkans, Africa, Middle East and Asia).

The WP1 consists of five deliverables:

1. Review: from short-term stabilisation to long-term peace building
2. Analysis of current preventive activities of the EU
3. Review: civil- military synergies in CSDP
4. Identifying Success Factors
5. Methodology

1. **“Review: from short-term stabilisation to long-term peace building”** acts as the first step in implementation of the IECEU-project by reviewing and analysing current EU policy priorities, instruments and capabilities in conflict prevention and preventive activities. Furthermore, it describes the evolution of EU policy priorities in crisis management. The deliverable focuses on the potentials for supporting long-term conflict prevention instead of short-term stabilisation and creates a joint





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terminology and reference list to be utilized in the course of the project.

2. **"Analysis of current preventive activities of the EU"** complements the first deliverable and presents current activities of the EU in conflict prevention, namely the preventive activities which the EU deploys as a part of its response to international conflicts and crises. In addition, in relation to improving the utilisation of EU conflict prevention capabilities and activities, the report introduces and analyses the concept of pooling and sharing within the EU.

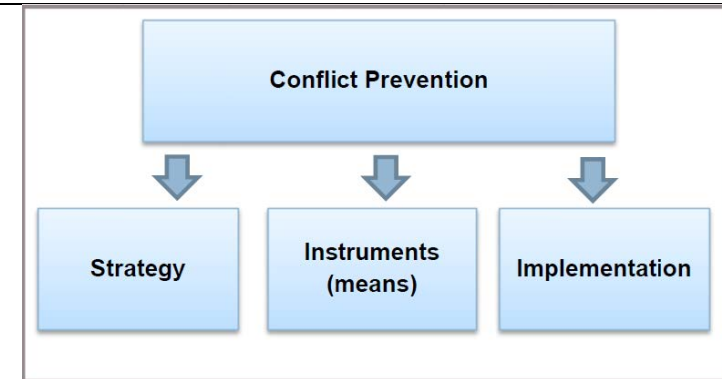


Figure: IECEU conflict prevention concept

3. **"Review: civil- military synergies in CSDP"** assesses the existing concepts relevant to civil-military relations within CSDP. The deliverable examines the intra-institutional cooperation and coordination practises within EU's crisis management structures. It outlines the CSDP's lessons learned process and identification of good practises related to cooperation and coordination between civilian and military crisis management capabilities. The underlying hypothesis for this assessment is that efficient conflict prevention requires parallel deployment of military and civilian instruments that are operating, if not integrated, in a cooperative and coordinative manner.

4. **"Identifying Success Factors"** provides an analytical guide for the IECEU partners and end-users seeking a deeper understanding of concrete factors related to effectiveness and impact of EU CSDP missions and operations. The analytical guide facilitates identification of key issues such as coordination and cooperation between actors that can successfully enhance efficiency and effectiveness of crisis management through improved resource allocation and mandate fulfilment.

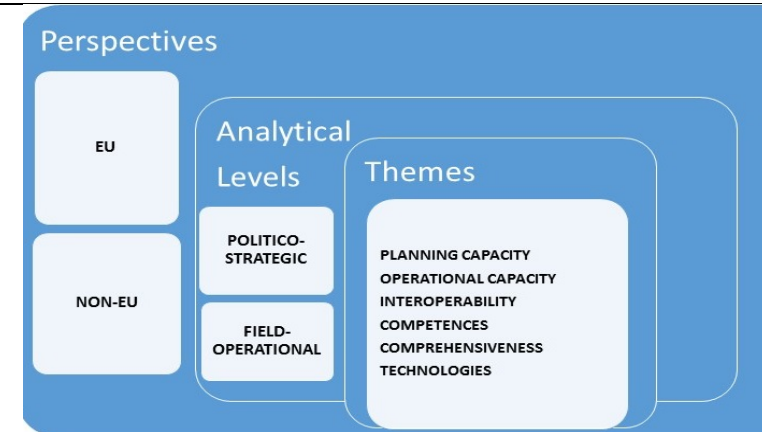




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5. **“Methodology”**, the last deliverable of WP1, provides the Conceptual Framework of the IECEU which defines the methodology used for analysing selected past and on-going missions and operations. The deliverable consists of two analytical levels (field-operational and politico-strategic) and six main themes (planning capacity, operational capacity, interoperability, competences, comprehensiveness and technologies) that can be considered through two different perspectives (EU and non-EU perspective). In sum, the conceptual framework creates 24 different modules.

WP1 deliverables are based on several online surveys, interviews as well as five workshops: one two-day internal methodological workshop of the IECEU consortium members in Finland, three internal expert panels and one panel open to public held in Slovenia.



Textbox: Methodology – IECEU Conceptual Framework

Initial WP1 findings

As described above, WP1 created the framework and methodology for the entire project. Additionally, specific deliverables include some initial IECEU findings with regard to current EU crisis management policies:

- EU has taken steps towards more coherent external actions, a number of issues preventing EU in fully exploiting its civilian and military capabilities however remain.
- There are a number of good practises on how the interoperability of the civilian and military instruments has been enhanced.
- EEAS has limited capabilities which currently decrease its abilities to extend its activities further.
- EU's CSDP missions have become an important part of its international identity.
- EU's role in crisis management is likely to grow. Diminished role would contradict EU's own principles and increase security hazards (e.g.: refugee flows and radicalization).
- Different strategic cultures of 28 EU member states create an obstacle for pooling and sharing (P&S) and hinder strategic and operational planning.

17 participants from more than 10 different countries, representatives of ministries of defence, universities, think-tanks, research institutions, EU, UN and OSCE missions, defence colleges, police academies, training institutions, etc. participated in a panel discussion held in Slovenia. The meeting addressed several issues that the EU is facing in the field of conflict prevention. Panel participants agreed that the EU instruments are being impeded mostly by political will, lack of coordination and sometimes poor information flow in terms of lessons learnt. Comprehensive approach seems not to be too effective in practice and civilian missions do not have a planning cell compared to the military operations. Pooling of the resources from Member States takes a lot of time and money, whereas competing national interests play an important role in this process. The workshop conclusion was that the EU is a





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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The current P&S is not adequate to meet the problems European Member States are facing in maintaining their crisis management capabilities. - So far, P&S is being used most effectively within the maintenance and training component where similar strategic cultures and interests make it easier for countries to cooperate. - Communications, information, transport, protection and logistics are identified as potential fields where improved P&S can enhance EU's crisis management capabilities. - EU needs to apply more consistently the comprehensive approach as a guiding principle to the EU external policy. This is a shared responsibility of the EU institutions and Member States. 	<p><i>very young organisation in terms of the researched topic; the IECEU-project therefore seems to be an important tool in creating new conceptual approaches through co-creative methods, which integrate civil, military, practitioner and academic perspectives.</i></p>
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Coming Events	<p>January 2016 Steering Committee Meeting Spring 2016: Field visits in CSDP missions and operations</p>