

Challenges and Opportunities Cooperation of ESDP with NATO, UN and OSCE

Eglantina Farruku¹

Abstract

This is a world of new dangers but also of new opportunities. The EU has the ability and capability to face the challenges, threats and contributing to realize the opportunities. EU through its active role would influence positively on a global level, in order to have a more secured environment and united world. EU with its European Security and Defense Policy (ESDP) instrument is recognized as an important actor related to international crisis management around the world. ESDP provide both military and civilian capabilities in order to respond quickly to crisis (eg. EU Battle Groups and Civilian Response Team). EU has intervened and operated in Georgia, being as a third party in helping to create a dialogue between the conflicts among parties. The EU has been present in the Horn of Africa to fight piracy in Somalia's coast in cooperation with NATO. With nearly 2000 staff, the EU played an important and successful role on its mission to Kosovo and in other countries. However, a prolong stability requires strong cooperation with other organizations. Europe considers NATO, UN, and OSCE as an important partnership and irreplaceable organizations regarding the history and responsibilities that they have. EU is open to share and respect the same values related to democracy, the rule of law, the protection of human rights, economy. When you have common interest and objectives the partnership becomes stronger and lead to great achievements and goals. Having a close relationship with partners means to coordinate the operations properly and be present whenever the world needs you!

Keywords: Europe, Cooperation, UN, OSCE, Stability

Introduction

The European Security and Defense Policy (ESDP) have reached an important role in the international area. ESDP is an important legal instrument with common foreign policy objectives. Due to its development ESDP is considered as one of the most debated policy areas under the framework of the European Union. Member states of the EU are strongly working together following political international challenges. The European Security Strategy (ESS) published in December 2003 highlights the ambition of the EU as a global actor also in the field of security. According to the report to the ESS of December 2008 states that through the implementation of ESDP, EU is contributing to international security. However EU cannot achieve everything alone. Its further objective is focused also on working and cooperating with main partners like the United Nations (UN), the Organization for Security Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and NATO. The paper will present their relationship and their response in different operations. Also it is important to analyze the challenges they have to face among each other and the perception influencing their collaboration.

¹ PhD. Candidate, University of Epoka, Albania

ESDP and United Nations

The United Nations is an important actor in the international area. The EU's initiatives related to the field of security have always been close linked to UN objectives. The cooperation between ESDP and UN is very important "in addressing movement of people, police, and judicial cooperation" (Solana, 2009, p. 13). In the other side the "implementation of existing UN instruments on crime is essential" (Solana, 2009, p. 13). In 2005 EU reached the agreement at the UN summit in order to protect human rights sharing and having the same responsibilities to protect the populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnical cleansings and crimes against humanity. EU and UN share also a major concern which has been related to Iran nuclear programme representing a serious threat for stability in the region and for the whole non-proliferation system. EU has rejected the development of a nuclear military capability because it can be a danger to EU security. This programme has been included also to different resolutions in the UN. Finally "negotiations on the Iranian nuclear programme resulted in an agreement on a Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in 14 July 2015 by the E3+3 (EU, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Russia China and the United States) with Iran". (Iran and EU, 2016). The agreement ensures the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme while providing for the comprehensive lifting of all UN Security Council sanctions as well as EU and US sanctions related to Iran's nuclear programme. As a union of 28 members EU spends billionsof euros on defense leading to the interpretation that EU should have the whole abilities to manage and control operations including both military and civilian capabilities. However, it is essential for EU to support UN as "it responds to threats to international peace and security" (Emerson, 2004, p. 103). UN Security Council has the primary responsibility to provide international peace and security. EU and UN altogether can increase the security "through confidence building and arms control regimes, making an important contribution to security and stability in their neighborhood and beyond" (Council of Europe, 2004, p. 10). There are cases where EU and UN have cooperated. EU has worked closely with UN, including Kosovo, Afghanistan, DRC Sudan, Chad, and Somalia. They both have improved institutional structures, through their collaboration based on the 2007 EU-UN Joint Declaration. In December 2008 the EU deployed its rule of law mission, EULEX under the Security Council resolution 1244 and assumed all responsibilities operations in this area of Kosovo as UMNİK POLICE and Department of Justice ceased operations. In 2-15 march 2009 when the EU bridging force in Eastern Chad and North Eastern Central Africa Republic deployed in 2008 was transitioned to UN force. This was a success for both EU and UN, which means a significant joint achievement. Chad operation, launched in 2008, is an ESDP operation working with the UN specifically safeguarding the civilian population to ensure family reunification of displaced children, protecting women and children, especially girls, from sexual exploitation, abuse and trafficking. The scope of the intervention was the development of the incorporated provisions, standards or codes of conduct for national armed forces or police forces and all other personnel deployed in EU-led crisis management operations. mentioning here the provisions of the UN's "Ten Rules: "Code of Personal Conduct for Blue Helmets", as well as the Six Core Principles established by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee in its "Plan of Action on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises" (Council of the European Union, 2003, p. 4). Furthermore cooperation in DRC included as part of the mandate of UN peacekeeping operations and is also undertaken under specific programmes

by the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and other parts of the UN system, the World Bank or other international actors.

ESDP and NATO

The relation between EU and NATO is based on a strategic cooperation and partnership. This type of cooperation is necessary to respond quickly to crisis management. EU has been present to NATO missions by giving its important contribution particularly in Balkans and in Afghanistan. Most member states of the EU and NATO are members of both organizations and therefore have interests in achieving common goals. They both share the same values and have the same security objectives. Different experiences have guided them to a better operational co-operation. Each of the 22 members both of the EU and NATO provide its military contributions to both organizations from a single pool or national forces. In the Washington Summit in April 1999, NATO proposed to EU the "Berlin Plus Agreement, NATO offering the EU the recourse to the alliances collective assets and capabilities, access to NATO planning capabilities for EU led operations. This is important because in contrast to NATO the European does not have its own military command organization and in the other side NATO as a whole cannot be involved in crisis management in the specific situation. "The European Security Strategy (ESS) of December 2003 was the first document to build corresponding guidelines for the EU" (Federal Foreign office, 2012). One of the examples is Germany that responds to the requirements of the military crisis management within the legal framework and guidelines of the EU and NATO co-operation. Germany has made important contribution to the ESDP and considers the cooperation between NATO and the EU as very important for the future. Furthermore "five nationally-provided Operation Headquarters are available for commanding military ESDP missions in Germany France United Kingdom Italy and Greece and can be staffed with personal from EU member's states" (Fischer, p. 32). NATO offers its Headquarters available for European operations by using the assets and capabilities of NATO. In the other side the EU has its own operation center that can command military operations if no national headquarters are available. EU and NATO have worked together in some operations. In Afghanistan, EU POL has provided the training of the police. The European Commission provides significant funding of non-militaries activities, such as judges, aid workers and administrators, within NATO's reconstruction team. EU and NATO have worked also altogether in Bosnia-EUFOR and in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia issues. In Kosovo NATO and EU have worked hand by hand since 1999 to provide security and the development of institutions. Other missions have been located in Abdis Ababa, EU and NATO providing airlift support to the African Union or anti-piracy operations off the coast of Somalia. Furthermore, the deployment of EUMM monitoring in Georgia was a promoting transparency in a country that is an important partner of NATO, to which it has "offered the firm perspective of ultimate membership" (Solana, European and Security and Defense Policy 1999-2009, 2009, p. 44). It is difficult to differ a major NATO operation these days in which the EU would not also be present. Each organization respects the autonomy of the decision-making and continues work on military capabilities. There exist some different perceptions related to the relationship of EU and NATO. For example "United States wants a strong European partner to help manage the new security threats, most of which emanate from beyond Europe's borders" (Larrabee, 2009, p. 45) "However, since the beginning of the ESDP Washington has not wanted to see the ESDP evolve in a way that would undermine NATO and has reacted strongly to any attempt to develop an autonomous

capability not closely linked to NATO” (Fischer, p. 37). U.S has doubted if ESDP is a partner of NATO or a competitor. AsleToje states that “It seems assurance that a stronger EU defense policy will complement rather than compete (Toje, 2008, p. 14). However, the skeptic perception of U.S has changed positively related to some reasons. ESDP in terms of missions can operate even by using limited military capabilities or civilian missions while the United States or NATO is not interested to be involved. Also EU will remain limited its military capabilities in the upcoming years, thus there is no reason to consider EU as competitor to NATO. U.S. Ambassador to NATO Victoria Nuland during a speech to the Paris Press Club in February 2008 stated that “Europe needs, the United States needs, NATO needs, the democratic world needs – a stronger more capable European defense capacity” (Fischer, p. 38). It is important to underline that military means cannot always save the world. It would inappropriate to make a distinction and recognize NATO exclusively for military capabilities and to employ EU and ESDP for civilian missions. EU and NATO should support each other rather than duplicate. They will respect the independence of their institutions and will not have identical functions.

ESDP and OSCE

“The EU especially has grown from a largely economic and internally-oriented project to a fully-fledged international actor guided by its own European Security Strategy” (Biscop, 2005). EU and NATO consider themselves as global actors in terms of security operations. Meanwhile OSCE has been left behind and has never been considered as a major topic or part of any debate or policy making. EU seems to avoid the profile of OSCE, by focusing only in improving its own policies and capabilities and launch missions in areas where the OSCE has been present and active for a long time. EU is recognized as an important player referring the policy making of the political future of the Balkans, while the role of OSCE in the field is often neglected. If you have a look to the European Security Strategy, the OSCE is mentioned shortly, on a part with the Council of Europe: “For the European Union, the strength and effectiveness of the OSCE and the Council of Europe has a particular significance” (European Union Committee, 2004, p. 21). It is true the fact that OSCE has contributed in certain fields where other actors can now act more easily and positively. I cannot say that there is totally no cooperation between EU and OSCE but the problem is that there is a lack of effective coordination at the strategic level, referring to long-term goals to be realized. OSCE as it has a long-term presence and experience could thus help the EU in building strategic objectives and standards and in negotiating the consensual Action Plans. In order to have a developed cooperation and a strategic partnership between the EU and the OSCE it is necessary to expand the staff-to-staff contacts and ad hoc cooperation on specific countries. It should be specified their general approaches, the scale level of integration, the programmes and actions in all fields covered by the Action Plans. There is also a link that can make the two organizations cooperate with each other. Under European Security and Defense Policy (ESDP) the EU is integrating internationally its civil and military capabilities: “a joint Situation Centre has been established and a Civil-Military Cell and Operations Centre will be capable of running integrated civil-military missions” (Biscop, 2005). Moreover EU is compound of civilian experts in the fields of police, rule of law, civil administration, civil protection, human rights, political affairs, gender, and security sector reform. Meanwhile the OSCE has designed the mechanism of Rapid Expert Assistance and Cooperation Teams (REACT) which form a pool of skilled resources available for rapid deployment to upcoming and future missions. So, both

organizations have available civilian experts which lead to have a mutual scope for cooperation in training them effectively. Anytime that it will be necessary to launch civil missions the EU Member States could perhaps coordinate their contribution of national experts to OSCE missions via the EU pool, with the EU acting as a clearing house. The OSCE plays, however, an important role to the EU: “it codifies many of the fundamental principles on which the EU is based (democracy, rule of law, human rights); it provides a unique platform for pan-European discussion on European security; and it can offer expertise on areas of major interest to the EU, whether in the Balkans, Caucasus or Central Asia” (Eurussia Center, 2009, p. 3).

Conclusion

EU can face the challenges with responsibility in concern with the others. No nation can operate and meet the difficulties of each situation alone. Thus, it is impossible for EU to work alone or in isolation. Other international actors such as the UN, the OSCE and NATO have important experience on which to follow. Collaboration with these international actors in sharing information and exchanging experience are very important in promoting and developing standards for the solution of future events for different related issues. The EU itself is compounded of values in terms of a wide range of instruments for security, stability, democracy and the protection of human rights. Thus, in order to achieve these important and valuable goals dialogue with partners is always indispensable. Having similar views leads to close working and the fulfillment of achievements in the benefit of the whole world.

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