



# REINFORCING THE EU-UN STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP ON CRISIS MANAGEMENT

The European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN) have a successful track record of close cooperation in crisis management around the world, dating back to the beginning of EU CSDP missions and operations. It is no coincidence that in 2003, when the EU deployed its first civilian and military operation, a Joint Declaration on EU-UN-Cooperation in Crisis Management was issued. Since then, many steps have been taken to reinforce the strategic partnership. Most recently in December 2021, the EU and UN renewed a set of forward-looking priorities for cooperation on peace operations and crisis management in 2022-2024.

## WHY A STRONGER EU-UN PARTNERSHIP IS NEEDED ON SECURITY AND DEFENCE

The proliferation of violent and complex conflicts and crises around the world has increased the need for partnerships that promote a rules-based global order and multilateral solutions to pressing global challenges. Together, the EU and the UN are engaged in these endeavours.

Close cooperation based on mutual benefit, reciprocity and shared ownership increases coherence between and effectiveness of EU and UN missions and operations that are often deployed in the same country. This is essential to ensure positive and sustainable impact on the ground. While contributing to security outside Europe, these efforts also enhance the safety and security of EU citizens. Furthermore, partnering with the UN and supporting effective multilateralism is key for the EU to play its role as an established actor in global peace and security.

### The EU-UN Partnership on Crisis Management



Unique and long-standing EU-UN partnership in crisis management and civilian, police and military peacekeeping, based on shared values and commitments.



Working together horizontally and on the ground, in Mali and with the G5 Sahel Joint Force, the Central African Republic, Somalia, Kosovo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Libya and Iraq.



Regular high-level dialogues – EU-UN Steering Committee on Crisis Management twice per year, and continuous working level interactions between missions and operations, and from headquarter to headquarter.

### Milestones of EU-UN partnership on security and defence

#### 2003

Joint UN-EU Declaration on UN-EU Cooperation in crisis management

#### 2007

Joint Statement on UN-EU cooperation in crisis management

#### 2012-2014

Joint Action Plan to enhance EU CSDP support to UN peacekeeping

#### 2015-2018

Priorities to strengthen UN-EU strategic partnership on peacekeeping and crisis management

#### 2018

Council Conclusions on UN-EU strategic partnership on peace operations and crisis management priorities for 2019-2021

#### 2018

Joint UN-EU Press Statement on reinforcing the UN-EU strategic partnership on peace operations and crisis management

#### 2019-2021

Priorities to reinforce the UN-EU strategic partnership on peace operations and crisis management

#### 2020

EU-UN Framework Agreement on Mutual Support

#### 2022

Council Conclusions on taking the UN-EU strategic partnership on peace operations and crisis management to the next level: Priorities 2022-2024



## EU-UN STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP PRIORITIES FOR PEACE OPERATIONS AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT IN 2021-2024

Building on previous EU-UN achievements, the Council adopted conclusions on 24 January 2022, endorsing the eight jointly identified priorities of the EU-UN Strategic Partnership on peace operations and crisis management for the period 2022-2024. These are to:

- 1. Women, Peace and Security.**
- 2. Strengthen cooperation in the field.**
- 3. Transitions.**
- 4. Facilitate EU Member States' contributions and support** to UN peace operations and the UN Secretary-General's Action for Peacekeeping ([A4P Initiative](#)).
- 5. Conflict prevention** in peace operations and support to **political processes and solutions.**
6. Cooperation on Policing, Security Sector Reform (**SSR**), **rule of law** as well as relevant aspects of Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration of former combatants (**DDR**) as well as weapons and ammunition management (**WAM**).
7. Cooperation with and support to **African peace operations.**
- 8. Training and capacity building.**

Across all the priority areas, upholding human rights and fundamental freedoms, international humanitarian law and the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda are key. Climate change and security aspects are included among the various priorities. The priority areas complement other EU-UN partnerships to prevent and overcome crises, including on conflict prevention or counter-terrorism.

On 29 September 2020, the EU and the UN signed the **Framework Agreement on Mutual Support in the context of their respective missions and operations in the field**. It will facilitate concrete cooperation between EU and UN missions and operations in the area of logistic, medical and security support.

### Ongoing parallel deployed EU and UN missions

