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**LIMITE**

**EUMC 61**  
**CSDP/PSDC 135**

**COVER NOTE**

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From:	European External Action Service (EEAS)
To:	European Union Military Committee (EUMC)
Subject:	Plan for EUMC contribution to the Dialogue Phase of the Strategic Compass

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Delegations will find attached the Plan for EUMC contribution to the Dialogue Phase of the Strategic Compass, as agreed by the EUMC on 24 March 2021.

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Encl.: EEAS(2021) 230 REV5

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EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE



European Union Military Staff

**Working document of the European External Action Service**

**of 24/03/2021**

<b>EEAS Reference</b>	<b>EEAS(2021)230 REV5</b>
<b>Classification</b>	<b>LIMITÉ</b>
<b>From To</b>	<b>European Union Military Committee (EUMC) European Union Military Committee (EUMC) <i>CSDP/PSDC; EUMC</i></b>
<b>Title / Subject</b>	<b>Plan for EUMC contribution to the Dialogue Phase of the Strategic Compass</b>
<b>[Ref. prev. doc.]</b>	<b>EEAS(2021)230 REV4</b>

Delegations will find attached the "Plan for EUMC contribution to the Dialogue Phase of the Strategic Compass" as agreed by the EUMC by silence procedure ending on 24 March 2021.

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## PLAN FOR EUMC

### CONTRIBUTION TO THE DIALOGUE PHASE OF THE STRATEGIC COMPASS

#### References:

- A. Scoping Paper Strategic Compass (ST0598/21, dated 08 Feb 2021).
- B. Initial EUMC input to the discussion on the Strategic Compass (ST5427/21, dated 25 Jan 2021).
- C. Outcome of Proceedings from the EUMC meeting on 24 February 2021.

#### A. INTRODUCTION

1. Following briefings on the Strategic Compass at the CHOD's meeting in July 2020, CHODs "*underlined the importance of an active military engagement throughout the process*" and expressed the expectations that the Strategic Compass "*should provide clear strategic guidance for both operational and capability matters*". The EUMC then provided, as a first contribution, an initial input (Ref B) to the discussion on the Strategic Compass, in order to shape the Strategic Compass Scoping Paper. The aim of this contribution was to *provide concrete subjects and guiding questions that the military-strategic level considers essential to be addressed by the SC and on which the military contribution will be especially relevant*.
2. The next step should be the military contribution in the Dialogue Phase of the Strategic Compass process, as reflected in the Scoping Paper (Ref A). To that end, the EUMC decided on 24 February 2021 (Ref. C) *to develop an engagement plan with a related matrix, listing the key elements where the Military Community should provide an input*.

#### B. AIM

3. The aim of this plan is to design the EUMC participation into the Dialogue Phase of the Strategic Compass and provide to the discussions an EUMC approved contribution.

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### C. COURSE OF ACTION/STRATEGY

4. It is crucial that the voice of the EUMC is adequately taken into account during the Strategic Dialogue Phase of the Strategic Compass. The key for success is a timely, focused, coherent EUMC input (coordinated with the PSC and EEAS), reflected in a realistic plan which will remain flexible throughout the process, to adapt to circumstances.
5. To this respect, the EUMC contributions will be structured and/or processed in the following three lines of effort (see Annex):
  - a) EU meetings (such as FAC, PSC);
  - b) Informal meetings (such as workshops, seminars);
  - c) Formal documents on specific topics<sup>1</sup>.
6. During the entire process, it is particularly important to question whether the existing planning framework and the EU military Level of Ambition (LoA) can fully guide the future military requirements for both the internal and external aspects of EU's security and defence.
7. To ensure that the questions included in the EUMC initial input to the discussion on the SC are adequately taken into account, the EUMC will contribute to all four baskets.

### D. ACTIONS

See Annexes.

### E. WAY FORWARD

8. This plan will be submitted to the PSC and distributed to the EEAS in order to ensure that they are timely aware of the EUMC intentions and to facilitate further coordination.
9. The EUMS will closely follow its implementation (in close coordination with the CEUMC Cabinet, EUMCWG and EUMCWG/HTF), by liaising with all relevant stakeholders, and report to the EUMC regularly, including the

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<sup>1</sup> Related to topics of interest, although these contributions are not specifically designed as military inputs to the SC.

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proposals for adaptation of the plan as required.

10. For that purpose, the EUMS (in relation with the organising MS), will collect the reports, conclusions (including an assessment on the impact of the EUMC contribution) and lessons identified on the different actions listed in this plan, in order to assess the need for adaptation of the plan and to prepare a comprehensive report, ahead of the CHODs meeting on 19 MAY 21, for their appropriate consideration.

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**ANNEX A**

**EUMC ACTIONS DURING THE DIALOGUE PHASE OF THE STRATEGIC COMPASS**

	EU EVENT	PLACE/DATE	ACTION	REPRESENTATIVE for EUMC	WORKPLAN (referred to working days before the event)					REMARKS
					MS Contrib. D-25	FIRST DRAFT D-20	MS COMMENTS D-15	REVISED DRAFT + CoC D-13	First WG-HTF Meeting D-10	
<b>EU MEETINGS</b>										
1	PSC discussion on the Crisis Management basket	15 APR	EUMC input	CEUMC	10 MAR	EUMS 12 MAR	19 MAR 12h00	23 MAR 12h00	25 MAR	Formal or informal input and title, to be decided.
2	PSC discussion on the Resilience basket	TBD	EUMC input	CEUMC	TBD	EUMS TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Formal or informal input and title, to be decided.
3	PSC discussion on the Capabilities basket	TBD	EUMC input	CEUMC	TBD	EUMS TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Formal or informal input and title, to be decided..
4	PSC discussion on the Partnerships basket	TBD	EUMC input	CEUMC	TBD	EUMS TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Formal or informal input and title, to be decided..
5	FAC Defence meeting (Crisis Management)	06 MAY 21	CEUMC input	CEUMC		CEUMC Cab	TBD	TBD	TBD	The potential EUMC contribution will be subject to the PSC discussions on Crisis Management
6	EUMC meeting at CHOD's level	19 MAY 21	Developed EUMC reflection	N/A						
7	Informal Defence Ministers meeting (Capabilities)	28 MAY 21	CEUMC Speaking Notes	CEUMC		CEUMC Cab	TBD	TBD	TBD	The potential EUMC contribution will be subject to the PSC discussions on the matter
8	Informal Foreign Affairs Ministers meeting (Partnerships)	MAY								
9	Informal Defence Ministers meeting (Resilience)	01SEP								

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	EU EVENT	PLACE/DATE	ACTION	REPRESENTATIVE for EUMC	WORKPLAN (referred to working days before the event)					REMARKS
					MS Contrib. D-25	FIRST DRAFT D-20	MS COMMENTS D-15	REVISED DRAFT + CoC D-13	First WG-HTF Meeting D-10	
<b>INFORMAL MEETINGS</b>										
10	See List at Annex B and Annex C reporting template		Observing and potential attendance (opportunity for informal exchange)		Workshops are a source of information for the EUMC during the dialogue phase. If any input is requested to the EUMC from the organising MS, it will be derived from the EUMC approved documents. The outcome of the workshop will be reported by the EUMS Subject Matter Expert (SME) and/or organising MS to the EUMC, for further assessments.					
<b>FORMAL DOCUMENTS</b>										
11	Evolution of the EU Military C2 Structure		EUMC formal contribution		As per the EUMCWG Workplan					Way ahead to be decided at CHODs level.
12	Battlegroups		EUMC formal contribution			EUMS TBD after the EU BG coordination conference				Analyse EU BG roster shortages and identify possible incentives to encourage contributions.  TBD : WG informative presentation

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**ANNEX B**

**LIST OF INFORMAL MEETINGS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>EUMS SME</b>	<b>MS</b>
19 Feb 2021	Finding direction with a Strategic Compass? Reflections on the future of EU security and defence	PT	VTC		X
02 Mar 2021	Compared experiences in CSDP missions in Africa	PT	VTC		X
12 Mar 2021	EU's role to defend freedom of access to the strategic commons (maritime, cyber and aerospace domains)	FR	VTC		X
25/26 Mar 2021	Expert seminar with CoE for Countering hybrid threats	PT + Hybrid CoE	Lisbon		X
12 Apr 2021	Workshop on Military assistance to civilian authorities (lessons identified COVID-19)	RO supported by EEAS	tbd		X
14 Apr 2021 (am)	Early Warning, Early Action in the context of the Strategic Compass (Workshop within the existing EU EWEA Forum)	NL + DE	VTC	X	
22 Apr 2021	International Conference on Maritime Security	PT (MFA)	Lisbon	(X if VTC or Brussels)	X
26 Apr 2021 (am)	Workshop "Making the Strategic Compass work: How to embed EU ambitions in national defence planning?"	HR + EUISS	VTC	X	
26 Apr 2021 (pm)	Workshop EU-OSCE	AT	tbd		X
03 May 2021	Seminar 'Challenges in global security and the future of transatlantic relations'	PT with German Marshall Fund	Brussels	X	
06 May 2021	High-Level Symposium on "Military Mobility - Transforming Ambition into Reality"	PT + EDA	Brussels	X	
12 May 2021	Webinar on 'enhancing the relevance of situational awareness and link to EU Space programs'	ES	VTC	X	
18 May 2021	International Conference on 'Hybrid Threats in the context of European Security'	PT	Lisbon		X
24 May 2021	Seminar 'European Defence Economy'	PT (IdD Portugal Defence)	Lisbon		X
01 Jun 2021	Seminar ' Strategic Compass, the way ahead'	PT (National Defence College)	tbd	(X if VTC or Brussels)	X
07 Jun 2021 (two days in week of 7-11 June)	Workshop on 'Climate Change and Security and Defence'	AT + LUX	Vienna		X
01/02 Jul 2021	Seminar with DPD's and SPD's on 'Governance and political ownership in CSDP'	BE	Brussels		X

**Workshops/Meetings without a date (list not exhaustive):**

**APRIL**

- Workshop on 'countering hybrid threats, cyber security and new technologies' (lead: DE)

**MAY**

- Workshop on 'ensuring coherence, coordination and clear governance of EU military capability development' (DE)
- Seminar on 'Hybrid Resilience and Deterrence' (lead: FI)

**JUNE**

- Workshop on modalities for a more flexible and ambitious operational engagement in military crisis management (lead: DE)
- Event on strategic autonomy and links with art. 47.2 TEU and art. 222 TFEU (lead: CY)
- Seminar/workshop on 'the review of illustrative scenario's based on the threat analysis' (Lead: ES)

**JULY**

- Event on strategic autonomy and links with art. 47.2 TEU and art. 222 TFEU (lead: CY)

**Seminars/workshops still to be confirmed/ without concrete date:**

- EU Medical Medicine Congress (lead: ES)



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**ANNEX C**

**INFORMAL REPORTING TEMPLATE**

Date reported: *dd.mm.yyyy*

**[Nation] report on Workshop  
[FULL TITLE]  
taking place on [dd.mm.yyyy]**

Contact details reporting person: *Rank, First Name, Last Name, e-Mail, phone*

A. Introduction

1. Purpose of the workshop

*Text*

2. List of relevant questions from the Initial EUMC Input (see Reference list for the questions set)

*List*

B. Military issues that have been discussed

1. *Text*

2. *Text*

3. ...

C. Reference to EUMC approved question set out of the initial EUMC input (ST 5427/21, dated 25 January 2021) and its reflection in the workshop. (see Reference list for the questions set)

*Looking for:*

*Which questions can be seen/assessed as addressed/touched upon/spoken about during the Workshops? And in which context, in which detail and what was the outcome of the discussion? Which were the main views of the participants?*

D. General conclusion(s) on the Workshop

1. *Text*

Reference list for the questions set

CRISIS MANAGEMENT

**Level of Ambition**

- 12A Which aspects is the Military expected to contribute to EU's ability to respond to external conflict and crisis?
- 12B For which type and for which area of scenarios should the Military be prepared for (peace enforcement, securing sea-lines of communication, expeditionary potential, etc.)?
- 12C Should the Lessons Learned and the Threat Analysis be integrated into the Illustrative Scenarios?
- 13 Military CSDP already contributes to this crisis prevention and management tasks. Its reinforcement is deemed necessary from the military point of view, given the conclusions of the Threat Analysis. Is the Military expected to ensure an increased role in the required freedom of movement, provide Early Warning, Surveillance and Expeditionary potential in the framework of the EU?
- 14A Given the Threat Analysis, but also the EU Regional Strategies under development, is the Military expected to play an increased role in the preservation of assured access to areas beyond national sovereignty, such as contiguous zones, exclusive economic zones, the high seas, the airspace above the former, cyberspace, and outer space in the framework of the EU?
- 14B For example, is the Military expected to assist in protecting navigational freedoms and securing global lines of communications such as energy supply routes and access to resources?
- 14C If yes, in which areas?
- 14D Is the Military expected to play an increased role in protecting areas where EU member states have sovereign rights and specific jurisdiction such as EEZ, if requested by a MS?

**Military Strategic Foresight and Analysis**

- 15A What level of timely and accurate situational awareness by the EU military intelligence elements is expected in order to support the decision making process?
- 15B Should the EUMS be enhanced in order to enable it to be more pro-active in its advanced strategic operational and capability planning and to ensure early warning?
- 16A Is the current Intelligence Support Architecture still matching the evolving EU's LoA as one of the global players or should it be re-designed?
- 16B If so, what is the expectation to achieve in that?

**Integrated Approach**

- 17A How Civ-Mil cooperation may be improved and consolidated when planning and conducting CSDP missions and operations, including their Strategic Review?
- 17B Is there a role in it for the EU mission, forces and delegations in theatre?
- 17C How can the EUMS ensure further and enhanced CivMil cooperation?
- 18A What should the Military contribution be in the EU becoming more responsive and active actor?
- 18B How can it be better linked to the other strands of external relations for EU CFSP and CSDP?

**C2 Architecture**

- 19A What C2 architecture should the EU Military have in order to enhance the EU's strategic autonomy?
- 19B What is the right balance between centralised (Brussels based) and dislocated national or multinational C2 capabilities?
- 19C Shouldn't the Berlin+ C2 arrangements evolve in the future to become inclusive for all MS (Having in mind that SHAPE is not an inclusive option and needs to be improved in an inclusive basis)?

**CSDP Evolution**

- 20A How resilient CSDP missions and operation are expected to be, e.g. against cyber or hybrid threats?
- 20B How to enhance operational effectiveness, sustainability, deployability and force generation?
- 20C How can the EU make our Missions and Operations more robust, effective and efficient?
- 21 Which implementation modalities should be envisaged to further enhance missions and operations mandates, in terms of assistance or executive tasks (for example through the EPF)?

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**Force Generation**

- 22 How to ensure that the available military resources match with EU's LoA, whilst also respecting commitments in other fora?
- 23A How could the political commitment be timely and effectively supported by a profitable rapid response mechanism and for which tasks?
- 23B Which is the required readiness for the military rapid response system to match the timings of the political decision making process, while preserving its cost-effectiveness?
- 24 How to make our crisis response capacity more flexible, which mechanisms can be developed to allow a swift launching of EU missions and operations?

RESILIENCE

- 25A Which aspects is the Military expected to contribute to the efforts of protecting the EU and its citizens and interests, in light of the ambition to take greater responsibility for our own security and defence?
- 25B What is urgently needed in the field of defence?
- 25C What is the expectation for the military contribution in ensuring the integrity and defence of the EU MS territory and maritime zones (in particular those not members of NATO)?
- 26 Some strategic maritime regions require the enhancement of the EU's military engagement in the maritime area, especially with military means and capabilities, while other regions don't. How can these regional aspects be taken into account accordingly?
- 27A Is the Military expected to support border management tasks, security of supply or security of critical infrastructure?
- 27B What should be the delineation between MS and EU responsibilities in relation to these tasks?
- 28 What contribution should the Military make when dealing with hybrid and cyber threats and to what extent should the Military be involved in related resilience measures?
- 29A Which expectations for the Military may derive out of a common understanding of the implementation of Art. 42.7 TEU or Art. 222 TFEU and how does it relate to NATO's article 5, given that not all EU MS are NATO Members?
- 29B How could the EU use the full potential of the TEU in terms of defence of all EU MS?
- 30A Which aspects is the Military expected to contribute to the EU's ability to respond to crises and emergencies (e.g. in armed aggression, terror attack, massive irregular migration, pandemic scenarios or natural and man-made disasters) affecting MS?
- 30B What frameworks should be in place to encompass military contributions to EU common medical response such as in case of new pandemic phenomena?
- 30C Could prudent planning performance help in crisis and emergencies as above?

CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT

- 31A How to develop and procure capabilities that are able to fulfil the current and future military LoA?
- 31B Is it necessary to enhance the EU's capability development framework in terms of processes and governance?
- 31C What kind of incentives can we introduce to improve the implementation of the HICG in MS' defence planning?
- 31D How can the Capability Development better support NATO-EU co-operation?
- 31E How to avoid unnecessary duplication to face present threats and challenges?
- 32A Will there be a change in the Illustrative Scenarios and if yes, will this affect the Strategic Assumptions for the HLGP?
- 32B In that vein, does the Headline Goal still reflect the military LoA and the necessary military capabilities for EU crisis management and resilience or does it have to be reviewed?
- 33A Taking into account the CARD2020 recommendations and the PESCO more binding commitments, what else can be done in regard to operational collaborative opportunities to increase MS cooperation?
- 34 Is military expertise sufficiently relayed in the capability development process in the EU context?
- 35 How, within the framework of the revision of requirements can the lessons learned from CSDP operations and Member States operations be better taken into account at the strategic level and become a real driver for capability development?
- 36 Should the Military be expected to further develop/acquire (and to what extent) the C2 architecture and systems in order to achieve the EU's military strategic autonomy?
- 37A Regarding the Threat Analysis, what is the expected contribution of the Military in strengthening the EU's capacity to detect, increase resilience against and counter cyber threats?
- 37B To what extent are military capabilities for Cyber Operations expected to be in place?
- 37C And how far is the EU expected to develop its own military capabilities in the cyber domain?
- 38 Should the Military be expected to further develop capabilities in the space domain taking into account the overall coordination at EU level?
- 39A How will the new challenges inter alia related to climate change, hybrid threats, AI, Emerging Disruptive Technologies ...

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impact military capability development?

39B In what spirit and to what extent will the European Green deal impact military capabilities?

**PARTNERSHIPS**

40 What role are the Military expected to play in regards to the strategic partnerships, taking into account that these partnerships should take place in an inclusive way for all EU MS?

**Multilateral**

41 Taking into consideration the complicated relations between one member of the NATO Alliance and the EU, how should the implementation of the political guidance for closer EU-NATO co-operation be further progressed?

42 How should the military cooperation between NATO and the EU be enhanced?

43 What can we do to develop and streamline cooperation and synergies between the EU and other International Organisations like UN, AU etc.?

**Bilateral**

44 How can we build closer and more attractive bilateral partnerships based on shared security ambitions and interests with other partners, in particular from EU's Eastern and Southern neighbourhoods and from the Indo-Pacific?

45 How can we shape a strong defence cooperation with the UK, as a former EU Member State?

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