



The EU as a Global Non-Proliferation Actor

Special Contribution by Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

“In times of global uncertainty, the European Union has become a global point of reference for all those who believe in non-proliferation and multilateralism.

Our partners know where we stand. They know we are an honest broker, and we will always seek win-win solutions to preserve peace and security. And they know we have world-class expertise on non-proliferation – also thanks to the work of [the European Network of Independent Non-Proliferation and Disarmament think-tanks](#). Independent analyses and recommendations are an essential contribution to our policy-making, so I am glad that the Council decided to extend our support to the network, also as a contribution to the implementation of the EU Strategy against proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

This is a delicate moment for the global non-proliferation regime. The United States have decided to unilaterally re-impose sanctions on Iran, after their withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action – a multilateral agreement endorsed by the UN Security Council. Our European strategic and security interest is clearly to save the nuclear deal. So we have reacted decisively to protect both our security interests and our economic sovereignty.

This is also an incentive for Iran to continue comply with its nuclear restrictions. Any alternative could have tragic consequences – and it would make all of us less secure, both in Europe, in the United States and in the Middle East. Let us not forget: the nuclear deal with Iran has prevented a nuclear arms race in one of the most fragile regions in the world; it has ensured that Iran cannot acquire a nuclear weapon; it has brought economic benefits to the people of Iran; and it has opened new channels for diplomacy and dialogue. Preserving the deal is in everyone's interest.

Preserving the deal is also essential to the credibility of multilateral diplomacy and the global non-proliferation regime. This is even more important as talks on the North Korean nuclear programme are ongoing. We have always believed that sustainable peace requires a complete, verifiable and irreversible de-nuclearisation of the Korean peninsula. The path will not be easy and negotiations could take time. But this is the only way to achieve an agreement that can stand the test of time.

So our policy of "critical engagement" is more valid than ever. The European Union keeps standing for maximum pressure on North Korea, as we support the diplomatic track with all possible means.

Only diplomacy and dialogue can advance the cause of non-proliferation. We will continue to put our unparalleled expertise to the service of peace. From the Middle East to Asia-Pacific, from conventional to nuclear weapons, the European Union is playing its part. We owe it to our citizens and we owe it to the world.”

New Members, A Wider Mandate

In February 2018, the EU decided to extend its support for the activities of the EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium and the Network of Independent Non-Proliferation Think Tanks for another three years. As recommended by the [European Parliament](#), objectives now explicitly include contributing to disarmament in addition to non-proliferation, as reflected in the amended names of the Consortium and the Network. In line with previous years, the Consortium's mandate is not limited to issues relating to weapons of mass destruction (WMD), but also comprises conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons.

Two additional institutes joined the Consortium: the Rome-based International Affairs Institute (IAI) and the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP). The other members are la Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique (FRS), the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (HSFK/ PRIF), the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

Since 2010, the Consortium has established, promoted and coordinated the Network, which currently brings together more than 60 research entities – almost the entire European non-governmental expertise in the field. The Consortium is responsible for organizing an annual major international conference, ad hoc seminars as well as consultative meetings with representatives of EU institutions and research centres. It provides the EU with ad-hoc advice and expertise through a help desk facility and produces publications on the full range of non-proliferation and disarmament issues, drawing on expertise from across the Network. The consortium also provides e-learning courses and internships. During the new project cycle the Consortium will also organize proliferation awareness training for specialists in the natural sciences and other relevant fields and arrange annual study visits to Brussels for participants in the UN Programme of Fellowships on Disarmament.

For further information on the Consortium and the Network please visit the dedicated [website](#) or contact con@cd.org. On behalf of the Consortium, we look forward to phase III of the project!

Dr. Sibylle Bauer
Chair of the EU NPD Consortium
Giovanna Maletta
Junior Project Manager



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EU News

[Council Decision \(CFSP\) 2018/299 of 26 February 2018 promoting the European network of independent non-proliferation and disarmament think tanks in support of the implementation of the EU Strategy against proliferation of weapons of mass destruction](#)

Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Events

[Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference, April 23 – May 4 2018](#)

[Third Review Conference of the UN Programme of Action on SALW, 18-29 June 2018](#)

[The Chemical Weapons Convention Conference of the State Parties, 4th Special Session, 26 – 28 June 2018](#)

[The Third Part of the 2018 Annual Session of the Conference on Disarmament, 30 July 2018](#)

Latest Publications

[Arms Control and Disarmament: 50 Years of Experience in Nuclear Education](#), Paolo Foradori, Giampiero Giacomello, Alessandro Pascolini, Palgrave Macmillan, 2018

[No Impunity for Chemical Warfare. What Are the Options for Ending the Use of Chemical Weapons?](#), Una Becker-Jakob, PRIF, 2018

[Cooperation among Nuclear Weapon-Free Zones: History, Challenges and Recommendations](#), Harald Müller, Gaukhar Mukhatzhanova, Jargalsaikhany Enkhsaikan, Kairat Sarybay, Luiz Filipe De Macedo Soares, VCDNP Task Force Report, March 2018

[The conflict in Yemen and EU's arms export controls: Highlighting the flaws in the current regime](#), Mark Bromley, Giovanna Maletta, SIPRI, 16 March 2018

EU INSTITUTIONAL NEWS

Towards A Revised EU Strategy on SALW

In June 2018, EU High Representative Federica Mogherini and the European Commission issued a Joint Communication proposing the adoption of a comprehensive EU Strategy against illegal firearms, small arms and light weapons (SALW), and their ammunition. In recent years illegally traded firearms have played an important role in terrorist attacks in Europe, and it is estimated that almost 800 million people worldwide are affected by armed conflicts often fueled by the proliferation of illicit SALW. Countering the use of military-grade firearms by non-state actors, terrorist organizations and criminal networks is a central objective of the EU's security policies. The Joint Communication aims to increase the effectiveness of the 2005 EU Strategy on SALW by enhancing the normative framework for curbing illicit firearms and SALW while strengthening oversight and control on their whole life-cycle: from manufacturing to export, stockpiling and disposal. The Communication further emphasizes the need to improve cooperation among the judicial and law enforcement authorities of EU member states, as well as strengthening dialogue and cooperation with neighboring countries and relevant regional organizations. A revised SALW strategy will need to address key developments since 2005, including the 2016 adoption of the EU Global Strategy in 2016, the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in 2014 and EU efforts to implement the 2015 European Agenda on Security.

[Joint Communication to The European Parliament and The Council: Elements towards an EU Strategy against illicit Firearms, Small Arms & Light Weapons and their Ammunition "Securing Arms, Protecting Citizens"](#)

NETWORK NEWS

EU Call: Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Internships at European think tanks

The EU Non-proliferation and Disarmament Consortium will support 36 Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Internships between 2018 and 2021. All members of the EU NPD Network are eligible to host interns. The duration of the internship will be 3 months (13 weeks) and for each internship the host institute will be granted 3,000€. While interns are expected to cover their living and traveling costs, the EU NPD Consortium can provide limited subsidies (500€ / month) for a limited number of interns.

Host institutes must meet the following requirements:

- Membership in the European network of independent Non-Proliferation and Disarmament think tanks
- Availability of office space/working place for intern
- At least one expert specialized in non-proliferation or disarmament affairs and corresponding EU policies
- At least one expert must have teaching/tutoring experience and serve as the general supervisor

For further details, please contact Sophia Wenzel from the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF): wenzel@hsfk.de

Please note this call is not directed at students, but restricted to research institutes and think tanks.