

# **IAI** OBSERVATORY ON **EUROPEAN DEFENCE**

## **NOVEMBER 2009**

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **NEW TERMS FOR ATALANTA, EUPOL AFGHANISTAN AND GUINEA BISSAU MISSIONS**

The EU Foreign Affairs Council, in the presence of the Ministries of Defence, has decided to extend Atalanta mission until December 2010. The aim of the mission is to protect the shipping in the Somali waters, and to prevent and suppress piracy.

The Council has also allocated 17.4 million euro for the EUPOL-Afghanistan mission, enough for operations until May 2010. The mission's task is to contribute to the training of an efficient Afghan Police force.

Finally the Council has extended until May 30, 2010 the mission to support the security sector reform in Guinea Bissau.

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **EDA BUDGET PASSED**

The EU Foreign Affairs Council has approved the European Defence Agency budget, allocating 30.5 million euro, basically the same amount of 2008. The Council has also approved the guidelines for EDA's activities in 2010.

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **UPDATED RESTRICTIONS AGAINST IRAN AND BELARUS**

The EU Foreign Affairs Council has extended until October 2010 the restrictive measures against Belarus, but at the same time it has extended the suspension of travel restrictions for some Belarusian officials.

The Council has updated the list of Iranian politicians and officials affected by restrictive measures, due to changes in the composition of Iranian Government.

### **NOVEMBER 17**

#### **NEW EDA INITIATIVES**

The EDA Ministerial Steering Board has approved the Agency's work plan for 2010, according to the budget passed by EU Council.

The Steering Board has also launched the European Framework Cooperation for Security and Defence, for the purpose to synchronize the European investments in research and technology. EDA was commissioned, in coordination with the EU Commission and the European Space Agency, to prepare the detailed draft and the contents of the cooperation.

The Steering Board has also launched the European Helicopter Training Program, to increase the availability of helicopters for crisis management operations. The program will focus on individual training, interoperability and operational tactics.

Moreover, fourteen European Ministries of Defence have signed a Letter of Intent on the European Air Transport Fleet. The aim of this Lol is to develop solutions for the European deficiencies in air transport, counting on joint acquisitions, training and logistics.

Finally the Steering Board has approved a research program on Unmanned Maritime Systems, that will serve as a framework for other programs about unmanned naval systems and others, like, for example, submarine counter-mine systems.

## **NOVEMBER 19**

### **APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND OF THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND SECURITY POLICY**

The informal meeting of Heads of State and Government of European Union has appointed Herman Van Rompuy as President of the European Council, and Catherine Ashton as High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. Pierre de Boisseu has been appointed Secretary General of the Council of the European Union.

## **NOVEMBER 21**

### **NATO TRAINING MISSION IN AFGHANISTAN IS NOW ACTIVE**

The Nato Training Mission Afghanistan was set up in April 2009 with the aim of improving the training of the Afghan Army and Police. NATO mission will join with the US Combined Security Transition Command, that is already responsible for the training of the Afghan Army. General William B. Caldwell is the commander of both missions.

## **NOVEMBER 21**

### **EU CRISIS MANAGEMENT DRILL**

The annual EU Crisis Management drill has been carried out for 11 days. The drill was about the coordination procedures, with the mobilization of national and European Agencies and Institutions, under the strategic direction of the Political and Security Committee (PSC).

## **NOVEMBER 30**

### **UE ACTION PLAN ADOPTED AGAINST CBRN THREAT**

The EU Council adopted an action plan about CBRN security aimed to reduce the probability and the consequences of accidents or attacks with CBRN agents, using measures of prevention, detection, training and response. The Action Plan is based on a EU Commission's communication which follows the report of the CBRN Task Force established in February 2008.