

The EU Multitrack approach in International Peace Mediation:

**Building capacity and strengthening cooperation
between the EU and private diplomacy actors**

February 2009

Workshop report: 26-27 January 2009, Brussels

Workshop

On the 26-27 January 2009, the mediation cluster of the Initiative for Peacebuilding organised an expert workshop to discuss the EU multitrack approach in International Peace Mediation and to strengthen the cooperation between the EU and private diplomacy actors in this particular field. The event was attended by nearly 30 officials from the European Commission, the European Council, actors from the peacebuilding/conflict resolution NGO sector. A substantial number of the participants were trained mediators.

The workshop focused on two aspects:

1. The view of non-state actors on the role and potential of the EU in International Peace Mediation and cooperation
2. The needs of the EU in International Peace Mediation

In particular, a needs analysis published by the IfP served as frame for the workshop¹.

The workshop could benefit by lively interaction and dynamic engagement of all participants on the topic. All the more, the broad scope of experience and the controversial discussion of the topics served as a basis the future debate on International Peace Mediation in the context of the European Union in the field of multi-track mediation, and how it can engaged with specialized organizations in the non-governmental sector. This meeting was followed by a consultative workshop organized by the Mediation Support Project (swisspeace/CSS) with the purpose to provide inputs for the upcoming report on mediation for the UN Security Council².

Methodology

The workshop took place on two half-days: On the afternoon and evening of Monday, 26 January 2009 and the morning of the 27 January 2009. The focus of the first half day was on the view of non-state actors. Correspondingly, the second half-day focused on the view and needs of the EU. This ensured a holistic approach on the topic. The workshop was facilitated by Antje Herrberg.

The first half day started with an introduction on the needs analysis and a framing of the issues. In a following discussion individual contributions were collected and consequently clustered which resulted in four working groups for the later afternoon. Each of the working groups presented its results.

The second half-day started with presentations from the EUSR for Moldova, Kalman Miszei, and the EUSR for the South Caucasus, Peter Semneby, on their work and especially the role of mediation and non-state actors for their missions. Representatives from the Commission presented thereafter different instruments witch deal to certain extend with mediation. This was follow consequently by working group sessions: the groups indentified the steps to enhance and achieve multitrack mediation. Each of the working groups presented its working results. A final session attempted to recap the overall general challenges brought the seminar to a close.

¹ A. Herrberg (2008). *Perceptions of International Peace Mediation in the EU: A Needs Analysis*. Initiative for Peacebuilding. Available at http://www.initiativeforpeacebuilding.eu/pdf/Needs_analysis.pdf

² The workshop report "Potential and limitations of NGO mediators" is available at www.swisspeace.ch/mediation

List of Participants

Name	Organisation
Alain Pekar-Lempereur	ESSEC - IRENE
Alex Rondos	MediatEUR
Andrew Byrne	EU - EC DG Relex
Antje Herrberg	Crisis Management Initiative
Canan Gunduz	International Alert
Cédric Pierard	EU - EC DG Relex
Daniela Dicorrado Anreone	EU - EC DG Development
Daniela Kolarova	Partners for Democratic Change International
David Bloomfield	Glencree
David Lanz	swisspeace
Emilio Cassinello Aubán	Centro Internacional de Toledo para la Paz (CITpax)
Gerrard Quille	EU – European Parliament
Guy Banim	Crisis Management Initiative
György Tatár	EU - Council Secretariat
Inger Buxton	Permanent Representation of Sweden to the European Union
Johannes Schachinger	EU - Council Secretariat
Juan Armando Diaz	CSS Project for Integrative Mediation
Kálmán Mizsei	EU - EUSR
Katia Papagianni	Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue
Marc van Bellinghen	EU - EC DG Relex
Mauro Garofalo	Sant' Egidio
Martin Waehlich	Viadrina University - Center for Peace Mediation
Matthias Siegfried	swisspeace
Michael Savolainen	Crisis Management Initiative
Michael van Walt	KREDDHA
Nicolas Rougy	Club of Madrid
Oliver Wils	Berghof Foundation for Peace Support
Peter Semneby	EU - EUSR
Ragnar Ängeby	Folke Bernadotte Academy
Steve Utterwulghe	Search for Common Ground
Sue Williams	Eastern Mennonite University