



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

DEVELOPMENT AND/OR SECURITY: WHICH COMES FIRST?

Time: 6th of September 2017

Location: Tallinn, Estonia

Organiser: NGO Mondo

The extent of on-going wars and conflicts, failed states and natural as well as man-made disasters is alarming. We as human beings have the obligation to help those in need, but how to do this in the most effective way is a continuous challenge. Is a stable and secure environment a precondition for successful development cooperation, or is the secure environment shaped through development cooperation?

Is it possible to create mutual understanding, coordinated response and shared agendas between the two so-called parallel worlds – the practitioners of humanitarian and development cooperation, and those directly contributing to security and stability? We are in a situation where states and international organisations have limited financial resources and cannot afford overlapping, uncoordinated or competing efforts. But is it right to use Official Development Assistance (ODA) for security interventions? In May 2017 the EU development policy cornerstone, the new European Consensus of Development was adopted. CONCORD, the European Confederation of Development NGOs, has already voiced its concern about the overall direction of European development cooperation and it being progressively instrumentalised in favour of securitisation, migration control and the private sector. Tanya Cox, member of CONCORD's Steering Group on Sustainable Development, commented: "The Consensus is unrealistic: development cooperation cannot pretend to lead to sustainable development if it is, at the same time, used to serve Europe's economic, commercial, migration and security interests."

German Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel, who visited Estonia this spring, stated: "I do not think that in today's world it is possible to ensure security only through defence expenditure. Most of the problems linked to wars and refugees cannot be solved by increasing funds for weapons. We need to protect people from hunger, poverty and war". He brought an example from the crisis in North Africa, where using solely military means will not be sufficient to solve the complex situation. But how to successfully support development in insecure contexts?

This conference will investigate the challenges as well as collaboration opportunities between military interventions and development cooperation. The answers sought in these panels are of utmost importance from the perspective of the people who are suffering in crisis situations and are expecting practical assistance, not theoretical and legal deadlocks.

The working language of the conference is English.

AGENDA

6.09.2017
SWISSÔTEL TALLINN, ESTONIA

10.30 – 11.00	Registration, coffee
11.00 – 11.25	Introduction
11.20 – 11.45	Conclusions from yesterday's roundtable "Development Cooperation in Afghanistan: Lessons Learned and the Way Forward"
11.45 – 13.30	Panel I: Lessons learned from civil-military coordination

What are the positive and negative experiences from past civil-military coordination in different contexts? Are the humanitarian and development projects and interventions contributing to security competing or complementary?

Tiina Intelmann, *Head of the EU Delegation to Liberia*
Brig. Gen. Alois A. Hirschmugl, *Humanitarian Affairs Advisor to the Austrian Chief of Defence Staff*

Mark Bowden, *former United Nations Deputy Special Representative to Afghanistan*

Maria Mekri, *Executive Director of the peace and security think tank SaferGlobe*

Moderator: **Hannes Hanso**, *Chairman of the Estonian Parliamentary Defence Committee*

13.30 – 14.00	Coffee
14.00 – 15.45	Panel II: Future prospects

What are the potential channels and platforms that could encourage and facilitate further collaboration between the different stakeholders in humanitarian aid, development and security? What are the implications of widening the ODA definition to include also security related activities?

Josef Reiterer, *Chief of the Civil-Military Coordination Section (CMCS), UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Geneva*

Jonatan Vseviov (TBC), *Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Defence*

Dr. Kaupo Känd (TBC), *Head of Analytical Reporting and Outreach Department of the EU Monitoring Mission to Georgia*

Marek Štys, *Head of Emergency Programs of NGO People in Need*

Moderator:

15.45 – 16.00 Conclusions: **Mati Raidma**, Estonian Rescue Board

16.00 – 18.00 Light buffet, networking

PARTICIPANTS

More than 100 politicians, scholars, experts, military personnel, diplomats and NGO representatives from Estonia and partner countries will be invited. A closed roundtable on EU-13 interventions in Afghanistan will be held between 30-40 officials and experts (by invitation only) on the previous day (5th September).

Experts from NGO Mondo's partner organisations in Sweden (Swedish Committee for Afghanistan), Czech Republic (People in Need), Slovakia (PMVRO), UK (British and Irish Agencies Afghanistan Group BAAG), Finland (Vikes), Latvia (Green Liberty), Lithuania (House of Europe) will contribute to the discussions.

CONFERENCE BACKGROUND

The conference is part of the European project 'Media for Development' that is implemented by NGO Mondo (Estonia), Green Liberty (Latvia), Estonian Public Broadcasting Company (Estonia), People in Need (Czech Republic), Slovak NDGO Platform (Slovakia), House of Europe (Lithuania), VIKES (Finland) and BAAG (UK/Ireland). It aims to raise the awareness of the general public about global interdependencies and challenges through media.

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The event does not necessarily represent the views of the European Commission.



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