

Basic Concepts of European Security and Defence Policy

CFSP and ESDP

CFSP is the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy in the second pillar of the Union. The European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) is an integral part of the CFSP.

Petersberg tasks

The *Petersberg tasks*, which constitute the EU military missions, are defined in the Treaty as 'humanitarian and rescue tasks, peacekeeping tasks and tasks of combat forces in crisis management, including peacemaking.'

Politico-military structures

At the Nice Summit in December 2000, the EU decided to set up bodies to plan for, organize and supervise military operations. The EU set up a *Political and Security Committee (PSC)* as well as a *European Military Committee (EUMC)* supported by a 135 strong *European Military Staff (EUMS)*, for early warning, situation assessment and strategic planning

Helsinki Headline Goal

At the Helsinki Summit in December 1999 the Heads of State and Government adopted the *Helsinki Headline Goal*, which stated that member states should be able, by 2003, to deploy within 60 days, and sustain for at least a year, military forces of up to 50,000-60,000 personnel, with additional air and naval elements as necessary. A list of the capabilities needed was drawn up in the *Helsinki Headline Goal Catalogue (HHC)*; national contributions forming the EU's reservoir of forces were pledged at the *Capabilities Commitment Conference* (November 2000), and summarized in a *Helsinki Force Catalogue (HFC)*.

‘Berlin-plus’

At the NATO Summit in Washington in April 1999, NATO decided to give the EU access to NATO planning capabilities, as well as to NATO capabilities and common assets. The modalities were agreed with the adoption of the EU-NATO Declaration in December 2002, and the final decision concerning the nature of this relationship came into effect on February 17th 2003. The modalities are known as *Berlin-plus*. The name refers to the NATO ministerial meeting in Berlin 1996, where it was agreed to build an effective European pillar in NATO.

When the EU undertakes an operation, it will choose whether or not to have recourse to NATO assets and capabilities using the Berlin-plus arrangements. The EU made use of Berlin-plus in its operation in Macedonia, and it will also be the case with the take-over of NATO’s SFOR in Bosnia by the end of 2004.