EU-CIVCAP
Preventing and Responding to Conflict:
Developing EU Civilian Capabilities for a Sustainable Peace

The goals of preventing the outbreak of conflict and promoting sustainable peace remain a fundamental challenge to policymakers and analysts alike. The European Union (EU) and its member states require an adequate set of capabilities if they are to address this challenge in a timely and effective manner.

**Improving EU capabilities for peacebuilding and conflict prevention**

EU-CIVCAP’s objectives are as follows:

- Assess EU civilian capabilities for external conflict prevention and peacebuilding.
- Record lessons identified and best practices in EU conflict prevention and peacebuilding.
- Enhance future policy practice and research on EU conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

EU-CIVCAP focuses on two key dimensions. First, the project analyses the EU’s peacebuilding activities through the entire conflict cycle in order to provide a holistic assessment of exiting capabilities; from early warning and conflict analysis to early response, the execution of EU civilian and military missions and support for local capacity-building. Second, the project analyses four cross-cutting issues: filling the early warning-response gap; combining short term vs long term approaches to conflict prevention and peacebuilding; enhancing civil-military coordination in conflict prevention and peacebuilding; and ensuring local ownership.

In terms of methodology, the EU-CIVCAP project uses a comparative approach. It evaluates the EU’s record to date and compare it to that of other international actors (UN, OSCE). It also examines the EU’s engagement in two key regions: the Western Balkans and the Horn of Africa.
The project will gather, synthesise, further develop and disseminate knowledge and learning on civilian conflict prevention and peacebuilding. This will be done through, inter alia, the development of a catalogue of lessons learned and best practices reports, the creation of an expert network, engagement through social media, and the organisation of dissemination events in different formats in this area.

EXPECTED RESULTS:
EU-CIVCAP will identify the best civilian means to enhance the EU’s peacebuilding capabilities. In particular, expected results include:
1. the optimisation of existing capabilities, policies and procedures in the area of conflict prevention and peacebuilding.
2. policy advice on the exploitation of civilian-military synergies.
3. tailor-made support to policy knowledge needs on peacebuilding.
4. the optimisation of public spending on prevention and peacebuilding capabilities.

Partners:

EU-CIVCAP is led out of the University of Bristol’s Global Insecurities Centre (GIC), which is housed within the School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies. The University of Bristol leads a consortium of twelve institutions across eight different countries in Europe.

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