

**The role of European Institutions responsible for the Common
Security and Defence Policy**

Bachelor Thesis

Created during an ERASMUS exchange
From 3rd March, 2019 to 3rd May, 2019

on the
Fachhochschul-Bachelor Programme Military Leadership
at the Theresan Military Academy
Austria

Committee in charge:
Col. Assoc. Prof. Harald GELL, PhD
Assoc. Prof. Anca DINICU, PhD

by
OCdt Vlad-Andrei Vorobeț

Student of the “Nicolae Bălcescu” Land Forces Academy
Romania

Wiener Neustadt, May 2019

Abstract and Keywords in English Language

The European Union is a one-of-a-kind organisation composed by 28 Member States. With its unique institutional set-up, it plays different roles at the international stage, being an important actor in all the domains, including security and defence. The Common Security and Defence Policy is an integral part of the EU's foreign policy and of its approach in this domain. Over 13 institutions and bodies are part of the EU's unique framework and it can be generally viewed that about all of them have roles in the CSDP in some way. In this context, the author considers relevant analysing which of them are the specific institutions with responsibilities for the CSDP.

The purpose of this thesis is to identify which roles do the European institutions responsible for CSDP have, regarding the policy. It also aims at analysing their structure and functioning, as well as their available instruments in exercising their role.

In order to reach this goal, the author realises an extensive research on the institutions of the EU in official homepages, books, research studies, and different official documents and journals related to the topic, all of them being in English language. Finally, a compilation of the most important institutions is done to reach a conclusion.

The results of research present the role of each of these institutions for the CSDP and offer a practical example for a better understanding, thus answering the main question.

Keywords: Common Security and Defence Policy, European Union, foreign policy, functioning, institutional framework, institutions, instruments, mechanisms, roles, structure.

Abstract und Schlagworte in deutscher Sprache

Die Europäische Union ist eine einzigartige Organisation, die sich aus 28 Mitgliedstaaten zusammensetzt. Mit der institutionellen Struktur spielt es auf internationaler Ebene unterschiedliche Rollen und ist ein wichtiger Akteur in allen Bereichen, einschließlich des Bereiches der Sicherheit und Verteidigung. Die Gemeinsame Sicherheits- und Verteidigungspolitik ist ein wesentlicher Bestandteil der Außenpolitik der EU und ihres Ansatzes auf diesem Gebiet. Über 13 Institutionen und Einrichtungen sind Teil dieses einzigartigen Ansatzes der EU und man kann allgemein davon ausgehen, dass alle von ihnen in gewisser Weise eine Rolle in der GSVP spielen. In diesem Zusammenhang analysiert der Autor die relevanten Institutionen welche für die GSVP verantwortlich sind.

Das Ziel dieser Arbeit ist es, herauszufinden, welche Rolle die für die GSVP zuständigen europäischen Institutionen in Bezug auf die Politik spielen. Sie zielt auch darauf ab, ihre Strukturen und Funktionsweisen sowie die verfügbaren Instrumente zur Ausübung ihrer Rolle darzustellen.

Um dieses Ziel zu erreichen, führt der Autor eine umfangreiche Recherche über die Institutionen der EU basierend auf offiziellen Homepages, Büchern, Forschungsstudien und verschiedenen offiziellen Dokumenten und Zeitschriften durch, die alle in englischer Sprache vorliegen. Abschließend erfolgt eine Zusammenstellung der wichtigsten Institutionen, um eine Schlussfolgerung zu ziehen.

Die Forschungsergebnisse stellen die Rolle jeder dieser Institutionen für die GSVP dar und bieten praktische Beispiele für ein besseres Verständnis, um die Hauptfrage zu beantworten.

Schlagworte: Außenpolitik, Europäische Union, Funktion, Gemeinsame Sicherheits- und Verteidigungspolitik, institutioneller Rahmen, Institutionen, Instrumente, Mechanismen, Rollen, Struktur.

Abstract și Cuvinte Cheie în Limba Română

Uniunea Europeană este o organizație unică, compusă din 28 de state membre. Prin structura instituțională specifică, aceasta joacă roluri diferite pe scena internațională, fiind un actor important în toate domeniile, inclusiv în cel al securității și apărării. Politica de Securitate și Apărare Comună reprezintă o parte integrantă a politicii externe a UE și a abordării sale cu privire la acest domeniu. Peste 13 instituții și organisme alcătuiesc cadrul unic al Uniunii și se poate considera că, în general, aproape toate au roluri în cadrul PSAC, într-un fel sau altul. În acest context, autorul consideră relevantă analiza cu privire la instituțiile specifice cu responsabilități pentru PSAC.

Scopul acestei lucrări este de a identifica rolurile instituțiilor europene responsabile pentru PSAC, în ceea ce privește această politică. De asemenea, urmărește să analizeze structura și funcționarea acestora, precum și instrumentele disponibile în vederea exercitării rolului avut.

Pentru atingerea obiectivelor, autorul realizează o cercetare cuprinzătoare despre instituțiile UE în pagini web oficiale, cărți, studii, diverse documente oficiale și reviste legate de acest subiect, toate în limba engleză. În cele din urmă, o compilație a celor mai importante instituții se face pentru a ajunge la o concluzie.

Rezultatele cercetării oferă răspuns întrebării principale a lucrării, prezentând rolul fiecărei instituții în cadrul PSAC și oferind un exemplu practic pentru o mai bună înțelegere.

Cuvinte cheie: cadru instituțional, funcționare, instituții, instrumente, mecanisme, Politica de Securitate și Apărare Comună, politică externă, roluri, structură, Uniunea Europeană.

1. Table of contents

1. Table of contents	1
2. Preface	4
3. Preamble	5
4. Introduction	6
4.1 The Concept of the Thesis	6
4.2 Terms and Definitions.....	7
5. Linkage to Scientific Disciplines	9
6. Current State of Research	10
6.1 The Historical Perspective of the Topic.....	10
6.2 Review of the Literature	13
7. Research Gap	15
8. Research Questions	16
9. Methodology	17
10. Research & Results of Research	19
10.1 The main European Institutions	19
10.1.1 The European Parliament	20
10.1.2 The European Council	22
10.1.3 The European Commission.....	23
10.1.4 The Council of the European Union.....	24
10.1.5 The Court of Justice of the European Union	25
10.1.6 The Court of Auditors.....	26
10.1.7 The European Central Bank.....	26
10.2 The Common Foreign and Security Policy.....	28
10.2.1 The History of CFSP	28
10.2.2 The Implementation of CFSP	29
10.3 The Common Security and Defence Policy.....	31
10.3.1 The Legal Provisions for the CSDP.....	31
10.3.2 The CSDP Capabilities	32
10.3.2.1 Civilian Capabilities	32
10.3.2.2 Military Capabilities	33

10.3.3	CSDP Missions and Operations.....	34
10.4	The Institutions responsible for the CSDP and their Functioning	36
10.4.1	Institutions and Bodies of the Council with Responsibilities in the CSDP	36
10.4.1.1	The Political and Security Committee	37
10.4.1.2	The European Union Military Committee	37
10.4.1.3	The Politico-Military Group	37
10.4.1.4	The Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management.....	38
10.4.2	The European External Action Service	38
10.4.2.1	The Crisis Management and Planning Directorate	41
10.4.2.2	The European Union Military Staff	41
10.4.2.3	The Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability	41
10.4.3	Other relevant Institutions and Agencies.....	42
10.4.3.1	European Defence Agency	42
10.4.3.2	European Security and Defence College	42
10.4.3.3	European Union Institute for Security Studies	42
10.5	The European Institutions' instruments for exercising their role in CSDP .	43
10.6	The Roles of European Institutions responsible for the CSDP.....	44
11.	Discussion of Results	47
12.	Restriction of Validity	49
13.	Benefit for Scientific Disciplines	50
14.	Prospects	51
15.	Summary	52
16.	Postface	55
17.	Annexes	56
17.1	List of Abbreviations	56
17.2	List of Figures	57
17.3	List of Literature	57
17.3.1	Books	57
17.3.2	Official Documents.....	58
17.3.3	Journals	59
17.3.4	Internet.....	59

17.3.5	Research Studies	64
18.	Affidavit	65

2. Preface¹

This Bachelor Thesis was created during a two months Erasmus+ exchange at the Theresan Military Academy in Wiener Neustadt, Austria, under the guidance of both, Austrian and Romanian tutors.

The author has mainly chosen this topic because of the importance that European Union Institutions have in all their mechanisms, including those of the security and defence domain.

Additionally, a reason for choosing this topic was that the author was one of the selected cadets from his university to participate in the 4th CSDP Olympiad. During the preparation for the event the author gathered a significant amount of information about this domain and elaborated an essay which focused on the European citizens and how much they know about CSDP. Due to factors independent from the author, his participation in the residential phase of the Olympiad did not take place. This has not affected his interest in the domain, but motivated him to continue studying it. For this thesis the author's intent is to shift the focus from the citizens to the institutions, with the objective of clarifying some important aspects regarding their role and responsibilities in the CSDP domain.

The author would like to express his very great appreciation to Col Assoc. Prof. Harald Gell, PhD and Assoc. Prof. Anca Dinicu, PhD for tutoring him in the elaboration of this thesis and for the entire help offered during the research and elaboration process.

1 Author's note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

3. Preamble²

The European Union is a global actor with interests and responsibilities in multiple domains, including security and defence. In its internal organisation a multitude of institutions are working for achieving these goals. Which are the main institutions of the Union? Which of these institutions are responsible for CSDP? What is the role of these institutions in CSDP? How these institutions exercise their roles?

This thesis covers all these questions. Moreover, details are given about the functioning of the European Union Institutions, about the Common Security and Defence Policy, about mechanisms available in actions related to the security and defence domain, and how the institutions are using them.

Understanding the role that European Institutions have in the Common Security and Defence Policy could offer tremendous possibilities for achieving a better collaboration and integration, leading to better results regarding foreign affairs and the security policy.

2 Author's note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

4. Introduction³

This chapter describes the thesis concept, which problem should be solved and which the author's intent is in doing so. Also, inside this chapter, important terms and definitions are described. For a better understanding, the author divided this chapter into two parts. The first part focuses on the thesis' concept, while the second part describes the terms and definitions.

4.1 The Concept of the Thesis

Nowadays the European Union (EU) is facing a multitude of challenges regarding security. Whether they are external or internal, managing them successfully requires close interaction between state and non-state actors. The integrated approach represents the Union's strength as it allows choosing from the large collection of instruments available. The Common Security and Defence Policy is an integral part of this approach. However, the concept has not been fully implemented yet. By implementing the EU Global Strategy, a necessary consequence was the need to review the institutions and their decision-making processes.⁴

With its unique institutional set-up, the EU plays different roles at the international stage. It is an important actor in all the domains, including security and defence.⁵ Because of the multitude of institutions, agencies, and bodies which compose the Union, it can be difficult to understand their role in the field of security through the CSDP. This is further amplified due to the large amount of roles some of these structures have in the other domains.

In this thesis, the author aims to cover all the necessary information to provide the readers a thorough understanding of the topic. It is important to analyse the institutions, their structure, and other key points in order to explain what are their roles in the CSDP.

3 Author's note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

4 Cf.: Rehr, J. (2017). Handbook on CSDP - the Common Security and Defence Policy of the European Union. Armed Forces Printing Centre, Vienna. Published by the Directorate for Security Policy of the Federal Ministry of Defence and Sports of the Republic of Austria. 3rd edition. ISBN: 978-92-95201-05-7. P. 42-43.

5 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page Institutions and bodies. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies_en. [23-3-19].

Nonetheless, the policy itself has to be analysed, along with the framework in which it functions. The author approaches all these aspects step by step in his research and through the methodology of hermeneutics compiles them into the answer to the main question.

Moreover, considering the topic of the thesis and the actuality of the information covered within, it could be useful to anyone who needs basic information about European Union Institutions and their responsibilities for the CSDP.

4.2 Terms and Definitions

For a better understanding, before starting the analysis of the thesis, it is necessary to describe the main terms and definitions:

Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP): The EU's joint foreign and security policy, with roles in resolving conflicts and supporting international understanding. It is based on diplomacy and respect of international rules.⁶

Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP): *"It is an integral part of the EU's comprehensive [sic] approach towards crisis management, drawing on civilian and military assets"*.⁷ As part of CFSP, it allows the EU to take a leading role in strengthening international security.⁸

European Institutions: Institutions comprised in the EU's framework, with the aim to promote and defend the values, objectives and interests of the Union. Each institution acts within the limits granted, contributing to the overall coherence and continuity of policies and actions.⁹

6 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page Foreign & Security Policy. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/topics/foreign-security-policy_en. [18-3-19].

7 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page The Common Security and Defence Policy. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp/431/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp_en. [18-3-19].

8 Cf.: Ibid. [18-3-19].

9 Cf.: Homepage of EUR-Lex. Page Summaries of EU Legislation. European institutions. URL: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/eu_institutions.html. [18-3-19].

European Agencies: Distinct bodies from the EU institutions, they represent legal entities created to carry out specific tasks under EU law.¹⁰

European External Action Service (EEAS): It is the diplomatic service of the Union, managing the diplomatic relations and conducting the Common Foreign and Security Policy.¹¹

High Representative/Vice-President (HR/VP): Position of the EU's chief diplomat, responsible for the foreign, security and defence policies.¹²

10 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page Agencies and other EU bodies. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/agencies_en. [18-3-19].

11 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page European External Action Service. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/eeas_en. [18-3-19].

12 Cf.: Homepage of European External Action Service. Page High Representative/Vice President. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/3598/high-representativevice-president_en. [18-3-19].

5. Linkage to Scientific Disciplines¹³

In this chapter the author points out who may benefit from this thesis. Knowing to whom the research could be useful is important before beginning reading and analysing it.

In this thesis the author covers information that may be useful to everyone interested in the topic, without considering their previous knowledge about it, or their profession.

Because the topic is connected to the EU and its institutions, this thesis could interest anyone within the field of international relations, European studies or with any connection with the EU. Personnel working within the institutions may also be interested. Additionally, people involved in the security and defence domain and CSDP may benefit from this research.

The European Initiative for the Exchange of Military Young Officers (EMILYO) organises Common Modules on CSDP on a regular basis.¹⁴ This thesis could be beneficial for the cadets attending this module, using it to enrich their knowledge of the topic. Furthermore, In 2020 the 5th CSDP Olympiad will take place in Croatia, with participants expected from all European countries. This thesis could have a great impact for the cadets and students coming from the multitude of institutions, by utilising it as a starting point for their research in different topics.¹⁵

Moreover, the author considers that this thesis could benefit the teachers for different subjects or modules related to European Institutions, international relations, CSDP, or the security and defence domain. This thesis may be used to provide details regarding the topic, in the elaboration of different presentations for the lectures, or as a material for the students to read.

Nonetheless, this thesis could interest anyone that wants to improve his knowledge in the topic.

13 Author's note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

14 Cf.: Homepage of European Initiative for the Exchange of Young Officers. Page Common Modules. URL: <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/988>. [19-3-19].

15 Cf.: Homepage of European Initiative for the Exchange of Young Officers. Page Temporary Documents. 5th CSDP Olympiad - agreed topics for essays. URL: <http://www.emilyo.eu/sites/default/files/Gell%20Temp%20Docs%20for%20Meetings/2019%2002%2020%20Proposed%20Essay%20Topics%205th%20CSDP%20Olympiad.pdf>. [19-3-19].

6. Current State of Research¹⁶

This chapter aims to describe the current state of other studies and how they are related to the topic of this thesis. The author describes which results in the domain have been achieved so far and identifies the contribution of this thesis for covering the research gap.

The EU institutions and CSDP are subjects which have intensely been approached, requiring the consideration of different sources which may be related to the thesis topic. There are multiple approaches from different angles, some being closely related to the topic. However, in order to avoid re-inventing the wheel, the author analyses the European institutions in detail which have responsibilities in CSDP and the available mechanisms to exercise their role.

Within the subchapters below, the author presents some background information from the historical perspective, continued by the review of literature concerning the topic of the thesis. The aim is to offer a better understanding of the content of the thesis and to identify the research gap.

6.1 The Historical Perspective of the Topic

The history of the CSDP can be tracked back to the creation of the EU, as the main goal in the initial development of the Union was securing lasting peace. The European Coal and Steel Community sets the premises of a united Europe, creating a supra-national authority agreed by the six founding states,¹⁷ representing the beginning of cooperation.¹⁸

As the EU started to develop, so did its security and defence architecture. The European Community started to analyse the idea of a harmonised foreign policy of its members. A key document in this process was the 1970 Davignon Report, which defined the

16 Author's note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

17 Author's note: These states are: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands. The source is mentioned below.

18 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page The history of the European Union. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/history_en. [19-3-19].

European Political Cooperation. This concept included consultation and, when applicable, common actions. Moreover, it involved some specific processes and activities, like the six-monthly meetings of the Foreign Affairs Ministers. Later on, it served as the foundation of the CFSP.¹⁹

The Treaty of Maastricht, which entered into force in 1993, represents a milestone in the creation of the EU as we know it today. It established a single institutional framework, based on three pillars.²⁰ With this treaty, the Union shifted its purpose from economy to politics, representing the creation of the security political integration.²¹

The evolution of the EU continued and in 2003 the first European Security Strategy (ESS) was presented. This strategy described the threats and challenges which Europe could face. Also this year marked the launch of the first European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) missions and operations, as it became operational.²²

Another milestone is the Lisbon Treaty, which entered into force in 2009. It produced numerous changes in the security and defence domain and has been a subject analysed by many experts. The changes - which impact the most the topic of this thesis - are the renaming of ESDP to CSDP and the creation of the post of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs (HR). The second symbolises the disappearance of the EU pillar structure.²³ In the author's opinion, this treaty is the most important milestone regarding the security and defence domain because of the changes it produced.

The year 2016 marked the appearance of the European Union Global Strategy (EUGS). With its implementation, the development of the CSDP gained new momentum, as security and defence were underlined as a priority.²⁴

This subchapter highlights the main steps of the EU's creation as it is known today, with special consideration onto the development of the CSDP. Details about the creation

19 Cf.: Rehl, J. (2017). Op. cit. P. 16.

20 Author's note: The pillars are the European Communities, the CFSP, and the Police and Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters. The source is listed below.

21 Cf.: Gell, H. & Podlipny, G. & Prammer, M. & Lampersberger, T. (2015). Crisis Management Operations. Vienna. Armed Forces Printing Centre. ISBN: 978-3-9503699-3-9. P. 17.

22 Cf.: Rehl, J. (2017). Op. cit. P. 17.

23 Cf.: Ibid. P. 18.

24 Cf.: Ibid. P. 18.

of the EU Institutions and their characteristics are given in the research chapter to create a better view onto the topic. A representation of the historical events is presented in the image below.

Year	Event
1945	End of World War II
1946	Churchill's speech at the University of Zurich calling for a United States of Europe
1947	Launching of the European Recovery Program (Marshall Plan)
1948	Signing of the Brussels Treaty
1949	Signing of the North Atlantic Treaty
1950	Unveiling of the Schuman Plan Outbreak of the Korean War
1951	Signing of the Treaty of Paris establishing the European Coal and Steel Community
1954	Failure of the European Defence Community (EDC) Signing of the Modified Brussels Treaty formally creating the WEU
1955	Establishment of the Warsaw Pact
1956	Suez Canal Crisis
1957	Signing of the Treaties of Rome
1961	Construction of the Berlin Wall
1969	The Davignon Report introduces the idea of European Political Cooperation
1975	Adoption of the Helsinki Final Act
1983	Stuttgart Declaration ('Solemn Declaration')
1986	Signing of the Single European Act
1989	Fall of the Berlin Wall
1990	Signing of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe
1992	Signing of the Treaty on European Union (in force 1993) – Maastricht
1993	Official creation of the EUROCORPS
1996	Reinforcement of ESDI within NATO at the Berlin Summit
1997	Signing of the Amsterdam Treaty (in force 1999)
1998	European Council held in Pörtlach, Austria Franco-British Joint Declaration on European Defence (Saint-Malo)
1999	Cologne and Helsinki European Council Meetings lay the foundations for ESDP
2000	Santa Maria da Feira European Council
2003	First CSDP missions and operations Adoption of the European Security Strategy Adoption of the Berlin Plus Arrangements
2004	Headline Goal 2010 / Civilian Headline Goal 2008 (updated in 2007 to CHG 2010); Establishment of the EDA
2009	Entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty on the European Union. New institutions, scope of activities, and decision-making in CFSP/CSDP
2016	Presentation of the EU Global Strategy

Figure 1: List of events of the history of EU and CSDP.²⁵

²⁵ Rehl, J. (2017). Op. cit. P. 19.

6.2 Review of the Literature

The amount of research in domains like European studies, security and defence, or international relation is extensive. The EU, its components, and CSDP are analysed from different perspectives and at different degrees. During the research for this thesis, the author consulted many sources to ensure a proper view and understanding of the topic. These sources include books, articles, official homepages, documents, and thesis.

The book “*Crisis Management Operations*”²⁶ approaches its topic in a very comprehensive manner, including vast information about the EU institutions, CSDP and the mechanisms utilised. However, this information is scattered across multiple chapters, according to their topics, as the main purpose of the book was different. For example, it is stated that “*the EU has a wide range of institutions that deal with CSDP*”,²⁷ but the book looks to this only from the crisis management approach. This leaves the research gap the author tries to cover.

Different documents, such as “*The Handbook of European Defence Policies and Armed Forces*”,²⁸ present how CSDP influenced the security and defence domain, including the mechanisms used and the missions and operations under its aegis. But the involved EU Institutions are only mentioned, not described. The author identified this gap also in the article “*The times are changing: resetting CSDP and European Defence*”,²⁹ where the term “*institutional puzzle*”³⁰ is used, though clarifications are not provided.

One of the most exclusive books in the domain of this thesis is “*The EU Common Security and Defence Policy*”.³¹ It comprises the CSDP and the European institutions with responsibilities for it in detail. Still, six years have passed since its publication, and the appearance of the EUGS in 2016 may have influenced the actions and mechanisms

26 Gell, H. & Podlipny, G. & Prammer, M. & Lampersberger, T. (2015). Op. cit.

27 Ibid. Chapter 5. P. 213.

28 Meijer, H & Wyss, M. (2018). *The Handbook of European Defence Policies and Armed Forces*. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-19-879050-1.

29 de Borja Lasheras, F. (2014). *The times are changing: resetting CSDP and European Defence*. Bilbao. Deusto Journal of European Studies. No. 50/2014. ISSN: 1130-8354.

30 Ibid. P. 78.

31 Koutrakos, P. (2013). *The EU Common Security and Defence Policy*. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-19-969272-9.

of some of the institutions. Further details are provided in this thesis, as the author considers that there are yet some gaps in the research.

The “*Handbook on CSDP – the Common Security and Defence Policy of the European Union*”³² is – in terms of comprehensiveness – along with the abovementioned book. In its second chapter it describes the institutions involved and how they function, but it does not provide details and clarifications about the used mechanisms.

Some theses or studies relate to the topic, depending on their content. Anthony Shand provides in his thesis, “*The EU-NATO relationship and the development of CSDP*”³³ information about the EU institutions involved in the CSDP as well as Ionut Enache in “*The European Union’s Global Strategy and its Connections to the Romanian Security Strategy, taking into Consideration the Security Risks, Threats and Vulnerabilities with their Effect onto Romanian Missions and Operations managed by CSDP Institutions*”.³⁴ Due to the different topics of their studies, the information is not detailed and complete. Also, a case study financed by the European Commission, “*Case study: Common Security and Defence Policy*”,³⁵ analyses the role of some institutions. But not all the institutions responsible for the CSDP are part of it and its main focus is onto human rights.

Official homepages, like the one of the EU³⁶ and those of its institutions, offer almost all the necessary information. However, it can only be found separately and there is a lack of connection regarding the topic of this thesis. The author brought it together as one of the purposes of this thesis. Further details are given in the following chapters.

32 Rehl, J. (2017). Op. cit.

33 Shand, A. (2016). *The EU-NATO relationship and the development of CSDP*. University of Twente. Bachelor Thesis.

34 Enache, I. (2017). *The European Union’s Global Strategy and its Connections to the Romanian Security Strategy, taking into Consideration the Security Risks, Threats and Vulnerabilities with their Effect onto Romanian Missions and Operations managed by CSDP Institutions*. Theresan Military Academy. Bachelor Thesis.

35 Carrasco, C. & Muguruza, C. & Sanchez, R. (2016). *Case study: The Common Security and Defence Policy*. University of Seville. Case Study.

36 Homepage of the European Union. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/index_en. [22-3-19].

7. Research Gap³⁷

In this chapter the author describes, based on the research previously made, if there is any topic or question that has not been analysed before, or approached from this perspective. It states the importance of the topic in closing the gap.

“EU foreign policy is not a solo performance: it is an orchestra which plays from the same score.”³⁸

“A responsive CSDP also requires streamlining our institutional structure.”³⁹

Not only the member states, but also the institutions have a role in the CSDP, as members of the abovementioned orchestra. The author considers that besides the characteristics of those institutions or the history of the CSDP, other elements should also be covered.

The domain of European studies and that of security and defence have been approached from multiple perspectives. As described in the previous chapter, there are multiple books and studies which are related to the topic of this thesis. They contain a vast amount of information and it can be further augmented with the ones which are available on the official homepages. However, as the information can be found separately, nobody yet approached the subject from this angle, compiling and contrasting it as in this thesis.

So far, based on the author’s research, nobody has made a study on the role of EU Institutions responsible for the CSDP. This is exactly what the author would like to cover with the present thesis.

37 Author’s note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

38 EU. (2016). Global Strategy for the European Union’s Foreign and Security Policy–Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe. Brussels. P. 47.

39 Ibid. P. 47.

8. Research Questions⁴⁰

This chapter presents the main question of the research. This will represent the guideline through the whole thesis and all the efforts need to be linked to the question. Thus, the research question must not be answered with yes or no and if it can be answered, the research gap is closed.

Considering the topic of the thesis, which focuses on EU institutions and the sphere of security and defence through the Common Security and Defence Policy, the author created the following main question:

Which are the roles of the European Institutions responsible for the Common Security and Defence Policy?

In order to answer the main question and to provide further clarifications of the topic, the author formulated the following sub-questions:

1. Which are the main European Institutions?
2. What is the Common Foreign and Security Policy?
3. What is the Common Security and Defence Policy?
4. Which are the institutions responsible for the Common Security and Defence Policy and how do they function?
5. How the institutions exercise their role in Common Security and Defence Policy?

40 Author's note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

9. Methodology⁴¹

In this chapter the author describes his intent and the steps followed in producing the results of the research. It refers to the beginning of it, the route of research and its finish line. Inside this chapter the used scientific methodology is also included and, at the end, there is a diagram for a better understanding of the contents of this chapter.

In order to begin authoring the thesis, the author needed to understand the framework, to prepare its format, and to plan how the chapters will contain the necessary information. Having the proper topic and the main question of the research, the author had to divide it into sub-questions to provide the readers a better understanding of it.

To answer the question and to support the research and its results, the author collected information from various open source materials, thus assuring the scientific consistency of the thesis. The sources include:

- Scientific books related to the topic.
- Official homepages of different European institutions.
- Articles and research studies.
- Other scientific documents.

To ensure the relevance of the information collected, the author used key terms for the topic, such as EU institutions, CSDP institutions, their role for the CSDP, and the role of EU institutions. However, there is a risk of out-dated information when using older publications or the World Wide Web. To surmount this aspect, the author used data from official homepages of different EU institutions only, especially focusing on those with responsibilities in CSDP.

All the sources used by the author to support his research are in English, thus exculpating from mistakes which could be caused by improper translation, which increases the quality of the thesis.

41 Author's note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

Regarding the methodological approach, after the collection and selection of relevant and important information, the author applied the methodology of hermeneutics, meaning the theory of interpretation.⁴² The steps for this approach include:

- Analysis of the document related to the topic.
- Research focused on answering the research question.
- Discussion of the results.

For achieving a better understanding of the methodology which is used for this research, the author illustrates its sequence in the sketch below.

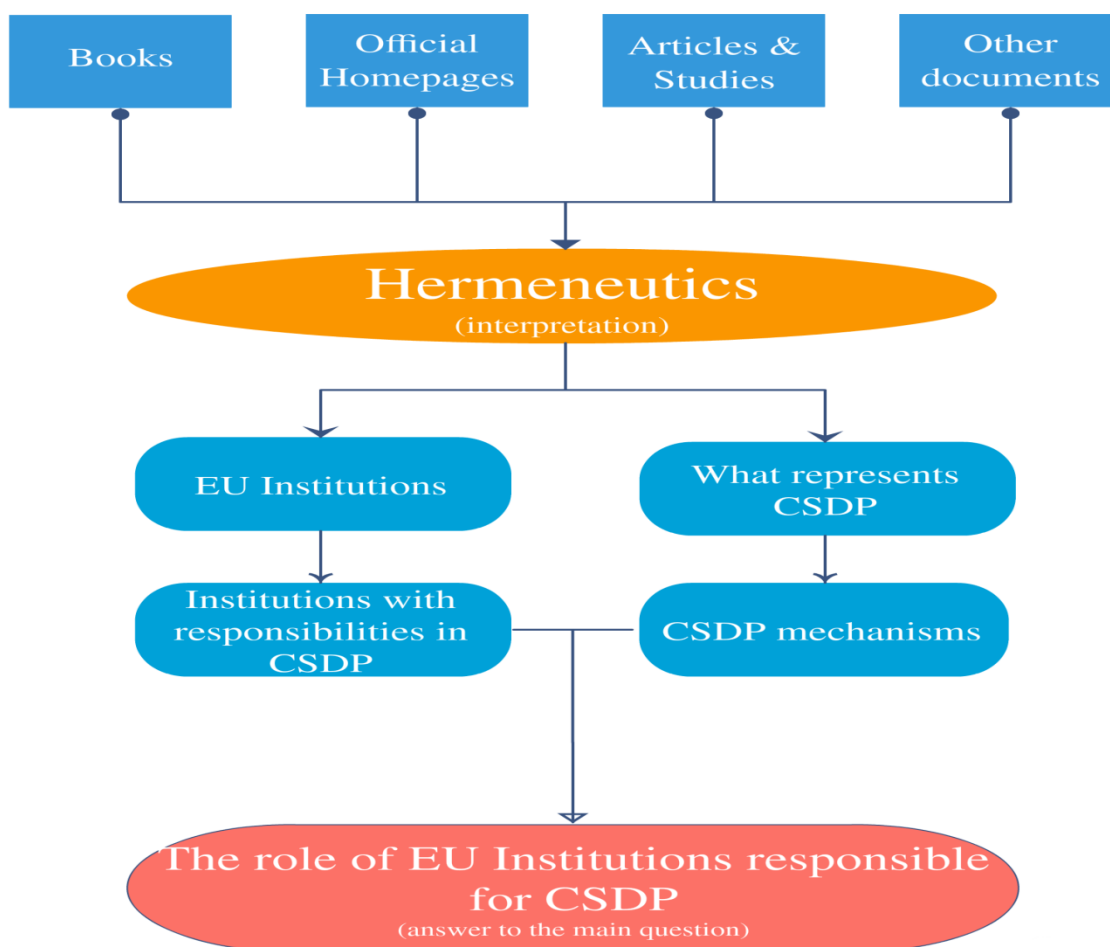


Figure 2: The methodology of the thesis.⁴³

42 Cf.: Homepage of American Heritage Dictionary. URL: <https://www.ahdictionary.com/word/search.html?q=hermeneutics>. [15-3-19].

43 Author’s note: Figure created by the author.

10. Research & Results of Research⁴⁴

This chapter represents the main body of the thesis. Within it, the main question – *Which are the roles of the European Institutions responsible for the Common Security and Defence Policy?* – is answered. In order to do so, the author answers the sub-questions mentioned in the chapter Research Questions.

10.1 The main European Institutions

The EU is a one-of-a-kind organisation composed by 28⁴⁵ Member States. Although all of them have their own interest in different domains, in order to work together efficiently and reach shared goals, they pool authority in key areas. This means that some of their decision-making power is delegated to central institutions.⁴⁶

There are over 13 institutions and bodies as part of the EU's unique framework, each with roles in different domains.⁴⁷ The powers and responsibilities of these institutions are stipulated in the treaties negotiated and ratified by the Member States. Additionally, the rules and procedures are mentioned.⁴⁸

According to the Treaty on European Union (TEU), there are seven principal decision-making institutions. These institutions are:

- The European Parliament.
- The European Council.
- The Council.
- The European Commission.
- The Court of Justice of the European Union.

44 Author's note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

45 Author's note: At the time this thesis is written the BREXIT is not finalised.

46 Cf.: European Commission. (2018). *The European Union – What it is and what it does*. Luxembourg. Publications Office of the European Union. ISBN: 978-92-79-63362-1. P. 7.

47 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page Institutions and bodies. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies_en. [24-3-19].

48 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page Institutional affairs. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/topics/institutional-affairs_en. [24-3-19].

- The Court of Auditors.
- The European Central Bank.⁴⁹

The aim of this institutional framework is to serve the interest of the Union, its citizens, and of the Member States, along with providing consistency and continuity of the policies and actions.⁵⁰

10.1.1 The European Parliament

The European Parliament (EP) is the Union's law-making body, also representing an important forum for political debate and decision-making. It is composed of members (MEPs) directly elected by EU voters every 5 years. It is an institution with legislative, supervisory, and budgetary responsibilities.⁵¹

The EP represents an example of multinational democracy at work. Its members engage in public debates and play an important role in shaping the EU's policy. They also represent people's interests and assure that other EU institutions are working democratically. The Parliament shares the legislative power with the Council, adopting and amending legislative proposals and deciding on the EU budget. It also cooperates with national parliaments of the EU states to get their input.⁵² As the only elected institution, the EP has the role of the guardian of democracy, liberty, and human rights. Its approval is required for most of the international agreements concluded by the Union. The EP has become one of the only forums which act to increase the transparency of the governance.⁵³

The current structure of the EP consists of 751 MEPs, elected in May 2014. Each country has between 6 and 96 members, based on a principle of proportionality of its

49 Cf.: Consolidated version of the Treaty on European Union. Article 13 (1).

50 Cf.: Ibid.

51 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page European Parliament. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-parliament_en#overview. [24-3-19].

52 Cf.: Homepage of the European Parliament. Page About Parliament. URL: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/about-parliament/en>. [24-3-19].

53 Cf.: European Parliament. (2016). European Parliament – the citizen's voice in the EU. Luxembourg. Publications Office of the European Union. ISBN: 978-92-823-8719-1. P. 10-11.

population. This totals 750 members to which is added the President, as the representative of the EP to other institutions. The MEPs are not grouped by country, but by political affiliation, currently existing 9 groups in the EP. The next European elections will take place from 23 to 26 May 2019.⁵⁴

The EP's work consists of two main stages, committees and plenary sessions. There are 20 committees, each with roles in a particular policy area. They examine prepare and examine legislation proposals. In the plenary sessions all the MEPs gather to vote and pass legislation. European citizens can send petitions to the Parliament in any subject which comes under the remit of the EU.⁵⁵

A plenary session of the European Parliament is shown in the image below.



Figure 3: The European Parliament working in a plenary session.⁵⁶

54 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page European Parliament. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-parliament_en#overview. [24-3-19].

55 Cf.: Ibid.

56 Homepage of European Parliament. Page News – EU Affairs. URL: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/eu-affairs/20180126STO94114/eu-elections-how-many-meps-will-each-country-get-in-2019>. [8-4-19].

10.1.2 The European Council

The European Council defines the EU's general political direction and priorities. It brings together EU leaders in summit meetings, thus representing the highest level of cooperation. Through conclusions, it sets up the EU's political agenda.⁵⁷

The creation of the European Council took place in 1974 as an informal forum and quickly developed as the body responsible for setting the Union's goals. The Maastricht Treaty conferred it a formal status, however only after the Lisbon Treaty the European Council became one of the main EU institutions.⁵⁸

The European Council has multiple roles in the EU framework. Along with setting the Union's political priorities, it decides the overall direction, considering its interests. The European Council deals with complex issues which require a solution at the highest level of intergovernmental cooperation. It is also responsible for nominating and appointing candidates to high profile EU level roles.⁵⁹

The institution is composed by the heads of state or government of the 28 EU countries, the European Council President, the European Commission President, and the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. The meetings usually take place four times per year, but the President can convene extraordinary ones. The President is elected by the European Council itself for a two-and-a-half year mandate, renewable once. The President chairs the meetings and represents the EU to the world. The European Council mostly takes decisions by consensus, but majority voting is possible in some cases.⁶⁰

57 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page European Council. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-council_en. [25-3-19].

58 Cf.: Homepage of the European Council. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/european-council/>. [25-3-19].

59 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page European Council. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-council_en. [25-3-19].

60 Cf.: Ibid.

10.1.3 The European Commission

The European Commission represents the executive of the EU. It is politically independent and promotes the Union's general interest. It is responsible for proposing new laws and for implementing the decisions of the Parliament and the Council.⁶¹

The Commission manages the Union's policies and allocates its funds. In order to do so, the Commission draws up the annual budgets and sets the spending priorities. It enforces EU law by ensuring that it is correctly applied in all the member states and proposes new laws for adoption by the Parliament. The Commission can also represent the Union in different international bodies and negotiates agreements for it.⁶²

The Commission is composed by a team of 28 Commissioners, one from each member state, also known as the College. They are led by the Commission President, who sets the policy direction. It has six vice-presidents, including the First Vice-President and the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. A new College is appointed every five years. Even though the members are from each EU country, they defend the interest of the entire EU, being individually responsible for a specific domain.⁶³

Regarding decision-making, the Commission is based on collective responsibility. All commissioners are equal in the process and equally accountable for the decisions. The Commission decides on its work by consensus or by voting, through written or oral procedure.⁶⁴

61 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page European Commission. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-commission_en. [25-3-19].

62 Cf.: Ibid.

63 Cf.: Homepage of European Commission. Page Political Leadership. URL: https://ec.europa.eu/info/about-european-commission/organisational-structure/political-leadership_en. [25-3-19].

64 Cf.: Ibid.

10.1.4 The Council of the European Union

The Council of the European Union is the institution which represents the governments of the member states. It is an important decision-making body of the Union, acting together with the EP through codecision.⁶⁵ Ministers from each member state meet in the Council to discuss, amend, and adopt laws. They also coordinate policies and have the authority to commit their governments to the agreed actions. The Council can be viewed as the voice of the Union's member governments.⁶⁶

The Council has multiple roles, some of them shared with other institutions. Except from negotiating and adopting laws, it is responsible for the coordination of EU states' policies and adopting the Union's annual budget. Also, the Council develops the foreign and security policy and concludes international agreements.⁶⁷

Each EU state holds the presidency of the Council by six-month rotation. During this period their representatives chair the meetings at every level, ensuring the continuity and driving forward the work. The only exception is the meetings regarding the Foreign Affairs Council, which are chaired by the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.⁶⁸

The Council is composed of 28 ministers, one from every state. There are no fixed members, which minister participates in the meetings is based on their topic. Thus, there are ten different configurations in which the Council can meet. All the discussions happen in public, with multiple voting procedures.⁶⁹

65 Author's note: The Lisbon Treaty renamed codecision to ordinary legislative procedure. It is the main procedure used for adopting EU legislation. Cf.: Homepage of Council of the European Union. Page Decision-making process. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/decision-making/ordinary-legislative-procedure/>. [25-3-19].

66 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page Council of the European Union. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/council-eu_en. [25-3-19].

67 Cf.: Homepage of Council of the European Union. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/>. [25-3-19].

68 Cf.: Ibid.

69 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page Council of the European Union. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/council-eu_en. [25-3-19].

Since 1995, the Council has its seat in the Justus Lipsius building, which is shown in the image below.



Figure 4: The Justus Lipsius building in Brussels, Belgium.⁷⁰

10.1.5 The Court of Justice of the European Union

The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) is the judicial authority of the EU, ensuring the uniformity of application and interpretation of the EU law. To do so, it cooperates with the courts and tribunals of the member states, as each one has its own language and specificities. It is a multilingual institution, as any of the official EU languages can be used, making it unique compared to any other court in the world.⁷¹

70 Cf.: Homepage of Council of the European Union. Page Council Buildings. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/contact/address/council-buildings/justus-lipsius-building/>. [8-4-19].

71 Cf.: Homepage of Court of Justice of the European Union. Page The institution. URL: https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/Jo2_6999/en/. [25-3-19].

The CJEU has its seat in Luxembourg and is divided into two courts, the Court of Justice and the General Court. They are composed of judges and advocates that are appointed for six years.⁷²

10.1.6 The Court of Auditors

The European Court of Auditors (ECA) is the EU's independent external auditor. It contributes to the improvement of the Union's financial management and is the independent overseer of the citizens' financial interests, promoting accountability and transparency. The ECA was established in 1977 and from 1993 it became a completely developed EU institution. It checks the correct implementation of the Union's budget and the legality of EU funds spent, in accordance with the financial management principles and laws.⁷³

The ECA is composed by 28 members, one from each Member State. They are appointed for renewable six-year terms by the Council, after consulting the Parliament. The institution's president is chosen by the members for a three-year term, also renewable. The ECA is divided into audit groups which prepare reports and opinions.⁷⁴

10.1.7 The European Central Bank

The European Central Bank (ECB) plans and implements EU's economic and monetary policy. It manages the euro and maintains the prices stable, thus supporting economic growth.⁷⁵

72 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page Court of Justice of the European Union. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/court-justice_en. [25-3-19].

73 Cf.: Homepage of European Court of Auditors. URL: <https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/Pages/MissionAndRole.aspx>. [28-3-19].

74 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page European Court of Auditors. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-court-auditors_en. [28-3-19].

75 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page European Central Bank. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-central-bank_en. [28-3-19].

The ECB is responsible for carrying specific tasks in banking supervision, statistics, banknotes, and also in international cooperation. It defines and implements the monetary policy, conducts foreign exchange operations, and holds and manages the foreign currency reserves. The ECB represents those 19 EU Members States which have implemented the Euro.⁷⁶

The ECB is divided in three decision-making bodies: the Governing Council, the Executive board, and the General Council. The institution is led by the ECB President, which represents it at EU and international meetings.⁷⁷

The seat of the ECB is in Frankfurt in Germany. The 185 m height building is shown in the picture below.



Figure 5: The ECB building in Frankfurt, Germany.⁷⁸

76 Cf.: Homepage of European Central Bank. URL: <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/tasks/html/index.en.html>. [28-3-19].

77 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page European Central Bank. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-central-bank_en. [28-3-19].

78 Cf.: Homepage of European Central Bank. URL: <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/html/index.en.html>. [8-4-19].

10.2 The Common Foreign and Security Policy

The CFSP represents the Union's joint foreign and security policy. Its main role is resolving conflicts and supporting international cooperation and understanding. The policy is based on diplomacy and complies with the international rules. It aims to strengthen the EU's international role and its external acting ability. Important domains which are comprised in the policy are preserving peace, capabilities' development, trade, humanitarian aid, and international cooperation. However, the policy's agenda is extensive and is mostly determined by the important events occurring in the international stage, as they may affect the EU. In order to achieve the best outcome, the CFSP has no geographical limitations and exists alongside the individual policies of the Member States, which are obliged to support it.⁷⁹

10.2.1 The History of CFSP

The EU's CFSP was officially established in 1993, however political cooperation dates back to the formation of the Union itself. The European Political Co-operation (EPC), established in 1970, is the precursor of the policy as it represented an informal process of cooperation. Due to the informal character and its framework outside of the Treaties, Member States could not be obliged to participate in the EPC. This resulted in the absence of a common voice for the EU and numerous critics for lacking proactivity.⁸⁰

The Maastricht Treaty established the CFSP in 1993, aiming to preserve peace, promote cooperation and strengthening international security. As the three-pillar structure was introduced by this treaty, CFSP represented its second one. It was based on intergovernmental actions taken by consensus, as the policy responses were framed by joint actions and common positions.⁸¹

79 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page Foreign & Security Policy. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/topics/foreign-security-policy_en. [1-4-19].

80 Cf.: Homepage of Politics.co.uk. Page Common Foreign and Security Policy. URL: <https://www.politics.co.uk/reference/common-foreign-and-security-policy>. [1-4-19].

81 Cf.: Homepage of European Parliament. Page Foreign Policy. URL: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/158/foreign-policy-aims-instruments-and-achievements>. [1-4-19].

With the Treaty of Amsterdam in 1999 a more efficient decision-making process was established for the policy, and the position of High Representative for CFSP led to improvements to its visibility and efficiency. The Treaty of Nice, which entered into force in 2003, introduced additional changes to facilitate decision-making and established the Political and Security Committee (PSC), with its role in controlling and directing crisis management operation.⁸²

The Lisbon Treaty in 2009 brought important reforms to the EU and to the CFSP. It eliminated the pillar structure, provided legal personality for the Union, and created an institution for its external service, the EEAS. Furthermore, new positions were established, including the HR/VP and the President of the European Council, both with key role in the CFSP.⁸³

In 2016, the European Council adopted the EUGS presented by the HR/VP Federica Mogherini. The strategy represents a base for efficient and sustainable foreign policy in the actual geopolitical context. It emphasises security and EU's strategic autonomy, being an important change of philosophy. The EUGS states five priorities for the CFSP:

- The security and defence of the Union.
- State and societal resilience.
- The integrated approach to conflicts.
- Regional order.
- Global governance.⁸⁴

10.2.2 The Implementation of CFSP

As the EU's foreign affairs chief, the HR/VP has the responsibility to implement the CFSP, aided by the EEAS. Their actions are guided by the international laws and the principles of the EU, including peace, democracy, and human rights.⁸⁵

82 Cf.: Ibid.

83 Cf.: Ibid.

84 Cf.: Ibid.

Regarding CFSP, the decision-making process is complex and there are various instruments regularly applied. The main responsible bodies are the European Council and the Council of the European Union. The European Council sets the strategic objectives for the policy and specifies the general guidelines that need to be followed, while the Council of the European Union is responsible for implementation. The HR/VP chairs the Foreign Affairs Council, which represents the central decision-making body of the Council for CFSP. The meetings of the European Council and the Foreign Affairs Council that reach conclusions on CFSP, which are further presented to EEAS and Member States for consultation, serve as a key instrument.⁸⁶

The EU applies sanctions and restrictive measures to influence policies which contravene to the international law, human rights, or democratic principles. Through those measures the Union pursues its political objectives. They can be applied to states governments, state enterprises, and other legal persons.⁸⁷ Other important and frequently used instruments are dialogue with non-member states and EU statements, which have significant political importance as they represent the voice of the Union.⁸⁸

The decisions concerning CFSP are taken in unanimity by EU member countries, with few exceptions that are specified in the Article 13 of the TEU. In such a case, the member state abstaining from the vote has to make a formal declaration on their reasons to do so, therefore not being obliged to apply the decision. However, they accept that the decision commits the entire Union and must not interfere with its application, while the other member states have to respect its position. This is named constructive abstention and in this situation the decision is taken by qualified majority.⁸⁹

85 Cf.: European Commission. (2018). Foreign affairs and security policy. Luxembourg. Publications Office of the European Union. ISBN: 978-92-79-83011-2. P 1.

86 Cf.: Homepage of Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of Republic of Austria. Page EU Foreign Policy. URL: <https://www.bmeia.gv.at/en/european-foreign-policy/european-policy/eu-foreign-policy/eu-foreign-policy-cfsp/>. [1-4-19].

87 Cf.: Homepage of European External Action Service. Page Common Foreign and Security Policy. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/420/common-foreign-and-security-policy-cfsp_en. [1-4-19].

88 Cf.: Homepage of Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of Republic of Austria. Page EU Foreign Policy. URL: <https://www.bmeia.gv.at/en/european-foreign-policy/european-policy/eu-foreign-policy/eu-foreign-policy-cfsp/>. [1-4-19].

89 Cf.: Consolidated version of the Treaty on European Union. Article 31.

10.3 The Common Security and Defence Policy

The CSDP is an integral part of the CFSP which sets the framework for EU's actions in security, defence, and crisis management domains. It enables the Union to involve in strengthening international security through mission and operations abroad, military and civilian ones. The CSDP is part of the EU's integrated approach, making use of all the available assets in conflict prevention, peace-keeping, and crisis management to ensure its implementation.⁹⁰

As the international security environment is dynamic and constantly changing, the CSDP has undergone important strategic changes to face the arising challenges and the demand for increased EU response.⁹¹ The author highlights the historical evolution of the policy in one of the chapters above.

In the following sub-subchapters the author presents the current state of the policy regarding its legal basis, capabilities and how they are put into practice through the missions and operations. The CSDP institutions will be treated separately in another subchapter as part of a different research question.

10.3.1 The Legal Provisions for the CSDP

The CSDP is framed by the TEU, in section 2, articles 42 to 46. The CSDP and its purpose are described, along with the roles and obligations of the EU Member States regarding the policy. Furthermore, the decision-making process in the frame of CSDP is presented, as well as the implementation process.⁹²

As a particular phase of the CFSP, decisions for the CSDP are taken by the Council of the European Union and the European Council by unanimity or qualified majority, for the stated exceptions. These exceptions are decisions relating to Permanent Structured

90 Cf.: Homepage of European External Action Service. Page The Common Security and Defence Policy. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp/431/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp_en. [2-4-19].

91 Cf.: Homepage of European Parliament. Page Common Security and Defence Policy. URL: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/159/common-security-and-defence-policy>. [2-4-19].

92 Cf.: Consolidated version of the Treaty on European Union. Section 2. Article 42-46.

Cooperation (PESCO) and European Defence Agency (EDA). The HR/VP is responsible for decision proposals. However, under the articles referring to CSDP, the treaty establishes the concept of European capabilities and armament and creates a link between the CSDP and other EU policies, as it demands the Commission to work together with the EDA in some cases.⁹³

10.3.2 The CSDP Capabilities

The security environment is becoming more complex and unpredictable. Along this, there is the need for the EU to strengthen its position as a global actor, becoming more capable and coherent. To achieve this, the Union has a unique set of instruments at its disposal. The integrated approach, which evolved from the former concept of comprehensive approach due to the EUGS, is the leading asset used in handling the challenges posed by the modern security environment. The CSDP is an integral part of it and is coherently used along political, diplomatic, and economic instruments.⁹⁴

The CSDP includes both, civilian and military capabilities.

10.3.2.1 Civilian Capabilities

At the basis of every CSDP mission are civilian capabilities. If they are adequate, they represent a necessity for successfully implementing the assigned tasks and the goals in the field. The process of generating the required civilian capabilities for CSDP missions is for a long time a strategic priority of the EU. Even though the Union provides motivation and support for the recruitment process, the training, and the deployment of civilian personnel, there are still gaps.⁹⁵

93 Cf.: Homepage of European Parliament. Page Common Security and Defence Policy. URL: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/159/common-security-and-defence-policy>. [2-4-19].

94 Cf.: Homepage of European External Action Service. Page CSDP capabilities. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp/5393/csdp-capabilities_en. [2-4-19].

95 Cf.: Ibid.

To solve the problems, in 2012 the EU established the Civilian Capability Development Plan (CCDP). This is a multiannual plan with the overall aim to help addressing the civilian capability deficit using concrete actions, while efficiently using the available resources through coherent and cost-effective development. The CCDP is a longstanding framework for the CSDP civilian capability development, as it undergoes periodic changes based on the political context, received feed-back, or changes of EU objectives. The CCDP also supports the CSDP structures to identify the requirements for the civilian CSDP missions.⁹⁶

The Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management (CIVCOM) is the main advisory body dealing with the process of sustainably developing the strategies and civilian CSDP capabilities.⁹⁷ Further details about this institution are provided in the subchapters below.

10.3.2.2 Military Capabilities

In 1999, the European Council agreed that the EU needs the capacity to act autonomously, supported by credible military forces. These forces have to be ready to deploy whenever the Union decides to use them. The overall purpose of this is the ability to respond to international crises without creating any prejudice to NATO actions.⁹⁸

Nowadays, the EU is able to conduct the full spectrum of military operations within the framework of the CSDP and the parameters of the Strategic Planning Assumptions. However, various operational risks arise from different shortfalls. Some shortfalls are viewed as critical, relating to the capacity to transport forces to the theatres, to deploy them, to assure their protection, and to achieve informational superiority. High risk may appear at the top of the spectrum, particularly in conducting concurrent operations. The

96 Cf.: Ibid.

97 Cf.: Homepage of Council of the European Union. Page Preparatory Bodies. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/preparatory-bodies/committee-civilian-aspects-crisis-management/>. [2-4-19].

98 Cf.: Homepage of European External Action Service. Page CSDP capabilities. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp/5393/csdp-capabilities_en. [2-4-19].

EDA and the EU's military bodies cooperate in further developing the military capabilities in order to overpass these shortfalls.⁹⁹

10.3.3 CSDP Missions and Operations

The CSDP missions and operations allow rapidly direct action in complex, less permissive environments. They are a unique tool used to manage and resolve a crisis or conflict. The decision to deploy a CSDP mission or operation considers the Union's interests and the international laws. Each EU mission and operation is customised to the local situation and to the objectives set, working in the framework of the integrated approach. Their primary aim is to respond to external crises and conflicts and improve the partners' capabilities in order to assure the protection of the EU.¹⁰⁰

For a better understanding, it is necessary to mention the difference between a mission and an operation. In EU terminology, every civilian CSDP intervention is a mission, no matter of the type of mandate it has. However, in the case of military interventions they can be either missions or operations, depending on their mandate. An executive mandate is associated with an operation, while a non-executive one with a mission.¹⁰¹

As part of the CSDP, using civilian and military instruments, the EU has conducted many overseas missions and operations in different countries in Europe, Asia, and Africa. In 2003, the first CSDP mission launched was the EUPM in Bosnia and Herzegovina, along with the operation CONCORDIA in Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in the same year. Since then, 34 CSDP missions and operations have been launched and run by the Union, 22 being civilian, eleven military, and one mixed. At

99 Cf.: Ibid.

100 Cf.: Homepage of European External Action Service. Page EU Mission and Operations. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/35509/eu-missions-and-operations-part-eu%E2%80%99s-common-security-and-defence-policy-factsheet_en. [3-4-19].

101 Cf.: Rehr, J. (2015). Handbook on CSDP Missions and Operations. Vienna. Armed Forces Printing Centre. Published by the Directorate for Security Policy of the Federal Ministry of Defence and Sports of the Republic of Austria. ISBN: 978-3-902275-42-4. P. 169.

this time, the EU has 16 on-going CSDP missions and operations, out of which there are ten civilian and six military ones.¹⁰²

For a better understanding, the current EU missions and operations are shown in the figure below.

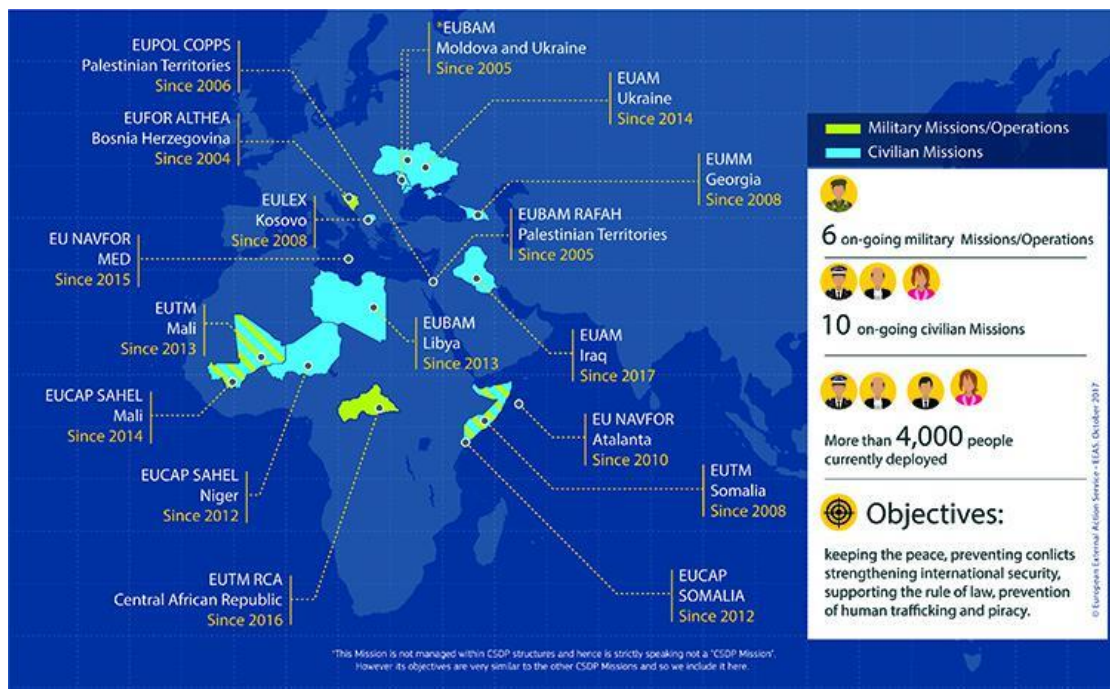


Figure 6: EU's on-going missions and operations.¹⁰³

102 Cf.: Homepage of European External Action Service. Page EU Mission and Operations. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/35509/eu-missions-and-operations-part-eu%E2%80%99s-common-security-and-defence-policy-factsheet_en. [3-4-19].

103 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page Military and civilian missions and operations. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/430/military-and-civilian-missions-and-operations_en. [3-4-19].

10.4 The Institutions responsible for the CSDP and their Functioning

The main EU institutions have a key role in the functioning of the Union. They are by different means responsible for the EU's decisions, actions, policies, etc. This also implies the responsibility for the CSDP as it is an integral part of the Union's approach in the security and defence domain. However, from all the EU institutions only a few have a determining, specific role in the CSDP. These institutions are:

- the European Council,
- the Council of the EU,
- the European Commission, and
- the European Parliament.

Additionally to them, the European External Action Service must be mentioned as it was established specifically for foreign policy.¹⁰⁴

The characteristics and functioning of the aforementioned main EU institutions has already been presented in a specific subchapter above. In the current subchapter, the author focuses on the institutions and bodies under the responsibility of the Council, with roles they have for the CSDP, on the European External Action Service with its tasks and structures, and on other relevant agencies and bodies.

10.4.1 Institutions and Bodies of the Council with Responsibilities in the CSDP

In its work, the Council is assisted by the Committee of Permanent Representatives of the Governments of the Member States (Coreper) which conducts preparations and carries specific tasks assigned to it. Along with the Coreper, there are more than 150 preparatory bodies.¹⁰⁵ Below, the author presents the most important structures with responsibilities for the CSDP.

104 Author's note: Conclusion of the author based on the research so far.

105 Cf.: Homepage of Council of the European Union. Page Preparatory Bodies. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/preparatory-bodies/?Page=3>. [4-4-19].

10.4.1.1 The Political and Security Committee

The Political and Security Committee (PSC) has a central role in the CFSP, and subsequently in the CSDP. Its composition and responsibilities are stated in article 38 of the TEU. It meets at ambassadorial level and is chaired by representatives from the EEAS. The PSC is responsible for monitoring the international situation, making strategic recommendations to the Council, and ensuring control and direction of crisis response.¹⁰⁶

10.4.1.2 The European Union Military Committee

The European Union Military Committee (EUMC) is the highest military body within the Council. Its role is to direct all military activities, particularly the planning and execution of military missions and operations under the aegis of CSDP. Also, it directs the development of the military capabilities and advises the PSC on military matters. The EUMC is composed of the chiefs of defence of the EU's Member States and has a permanent chairman which is the primary military advisor to the HR/VP. In its work, the EUMC is supported and assisted by the EUMC Working Group.¹⁰⁷

10.4.1.3 The Politico-Military Group

The Politico-Military Group (PMG) conducts preparatory work regarding the CSDP for the PSC. This includes political aspects of the Union's civil-military issues, like concepts, capabilities, missions, and operations. The PMG offers recommendations for the PSC, prepares Council conclusions, contributing to the development of the policy and facilitating the exchange of information. It also has responsibility regarding EU's

106 Cf.: Homepage of Council of the European Union. Page Political and Security Committee. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/preparatory-bodies/political-security-committee/>. [4-4-19].

107 Cf.: Rehr, J. (2017). Op. cit. P. 53.

partnerships. The PMG is composed of delegates from the Member States and is chaired by a representative of the HR/VP.¹⁰⁸

10.4.1.4 The Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management

Known as the CIVCOM, it advises the PSC on crisis management regarding civilian aspects. It is the counterpart of the EUMC and works in parallel with it. The CIVCOM offers advice and recommendations, prepares documents for new missions, and manages the development of the strategies for civilian capabilities and civilian crisis management. It is composed of delegates from the Member States and is chaired by a representative of the HR/VP.¹⁰⁹

10.4.2 The European External Action Service

The European External Action Service represents the diplomatic service of the EU. It manages the Union's diplomatic relations and conducts the foreign and security policy. By making the policy coherent and effective, the EEAS aims to increase the EU's global influence.¹¹⁰

The EEAS was established in 2011, after its creation was stipulated in the Treaty of Lisbon in 2009. It is composed of different desks dealing with thematic areas and of expert staff transferred from other EU institutions. It also comprises the worldwide Union Delegations which have roles similarly to that of an embassy. The EEAS is led by the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President.¹¹¹

The tasks of the EEAS are rather complex. In general, they include the preparation of policy proposals, their implementation, and ensuring the coordination and consistency

108 Cf.: Homepage of European External Action Service. Page CSDP structure, instruments, and agencies. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp/5392/csdp-structure-instruments-and-agencies_en. [4-4-19].

109 Cf.: Rehr, J. (2017). Op. cit. P. 54.

110 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page European External Action Service. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/eeas_en. [4-4-19].

111 Cf.: Ibid.

of the EU's external action¹¹². Viewing specifically, the EEAS is responsible for the following:

- Supporting the HR/VP in conducting the CFSP.
- Managing the diplomatic relations and partnerships of the EU.
- Working with national diplomatic services of the Member States.
- Ensuring security through the CSDP.
- Dealing with human rights and climate change issues.¹¹³

In order to assure the capacity of fulfilling the tasks regarding the CSDP, the EEAS comprises specific structures under the authority of the Deputy Secretary General for CSDP and crisis response.¹¹⁴ These structures are shown in the sketch below and presented afterwards.

112 Cf.: Rehl, J. (2017). Op. cit. P. 67.

113 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page European External Action Service. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/eeas_en. [4-4-19].

114 Cf.: Rehl, J. (2017). Op. cit. P. 69.

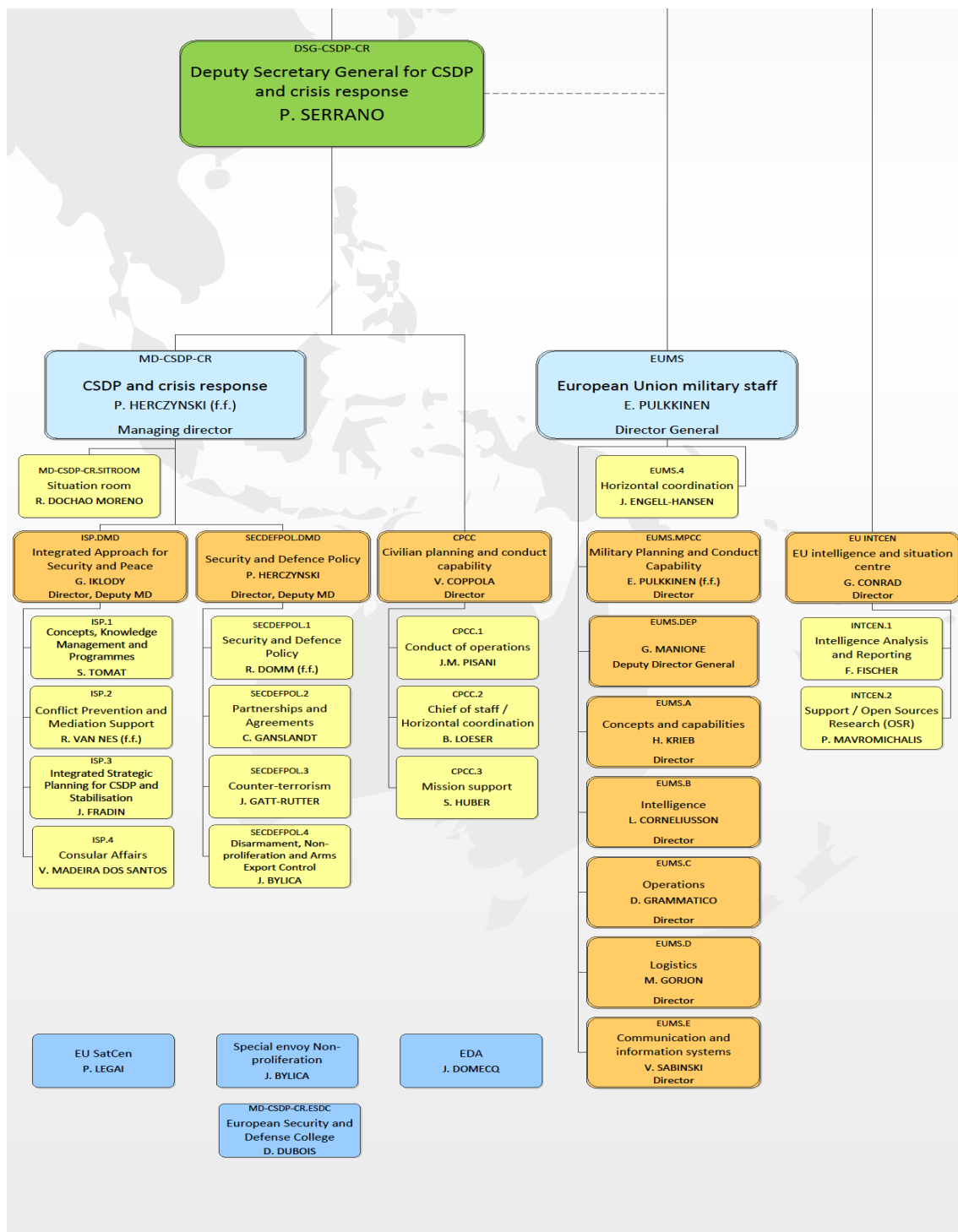


Figure 7: Organisation chart of the EEAS structures under the authority of Deputy Secretary General for CSDP and crisis response.¹¹⁵

115 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page Organisation chart of the EEAS. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/3602/organisation-chart-eeas_en. [8-4-19].

10.4.2.1 The Crisis Management and Planning Directorate

The Crisis Management and Planning Directorate (CMPD) has the task of planning politically and strategically the CSDP missions and operations, ensuring their coherence and effectiveness as part of the EU's integrated approach. It also develops partnerships, policies, capabilities, and concepts. The CMPD offers advice to the HR/VP and closely collaborates with other EU institutions and bodies with roles in CSDP and crisis management. It is composed of four divisions, each with a specific role.¹¹⁶

10.4.2.2 The European Union Military Staff

The European Union Military Staff (EUMS) represents the source of multi-disciplinary military expertise in the EEAS. As part of the integrated approach, the EUMS has the responsibility to coordinate the military instruments, particularly focusing on operations and the missions that require military support. It is also responsible for the creation of military capabilities and running the EU Operations Centre. Some of the activities of the EUMS include: early warning, situation assessment, strategic planning, training, education, concept development, and support of partnerships. The EUMS works under the overall authority of the HR/VP and under the direction of the EUMC.¹¹⁷

10.4.2.3 The Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability

The Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC) is a permanent structure which conducts autonomous operational civilian CSDP missions. It is responsible for the effective planning and conducting of civilian CSDP missions and the implementation of mission-related tasks. The CPCC is also involved in the development of doctrines and concepts and provides guidance and support for missions. It is under the overall authority of the HR/VP and under political control and direction of the PSC. The CPCC has three divisions in its composition and is led by the Director of the CPCC.¹¹⁸

116 Cf.: Ibid. P. 70.

117 Cf.: Homepage of European External Action Service. Page CSDP structure, instruments, and agencies. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp/5392/csdp-structure-instruments-and-agencies_en. [4-4-19].

118 Cf.: Rehrl, J. (2017). Op. cit. P. 71.

10.4.3 Other relevant Institutions and Agencies

Along with the above-mentioned institutions and bodies, there are other structures which have roles and responsibilities in the field of CSDP. They are presented below.

10.4.3.1 European Defence Agency

In 2004, the European Defence Agency (EDA) was established to support the development of defence capabilities and EU military cooperation. Some of its missions are promoting research and development in defence, fostering armaments cooperation, planning and prioritisation for capabilities in Europe, and creating a competitive market for defence equipment. The EDA is headed by the HR/VP and its steering board is composed by the defence ministers of the Member States.¹¹⁹

10.4.3.2 European Security and Defence College

In 2005, the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) was established with the purpose of providing training and education for the field of CSDP. It is a network college which incorporates national educational and research institutions in Europe. The college audience includes diplomats, civil servants, police, and military personnel from EU institutions with involvements in the CSDP and Member States. Also, other international partners of the Union are invited to participate in most of the courses. The ESDC is the main provider of training and education in CSDP.¹²⁰

10.4.3.3 European Union Institute for Security Studies

In 2002, the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) was established as an independent agency to promote a common security culture for the Union. It analyses foreign and security issues and supports the elaboration of the EU's policies. The

119 Cf.: Homepage of European External Action Service. Page CSDP structure, instruments, and agencies. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp/5392/csdp-structure-instruments-and-agencies_en. [4-4-19].

120 Cf.: Fiott, D. & Bund, J. (2018). YES 2018 – EUISS Yearbook of European Security. Luxembourg. Imprimerie Centrale. Published by the European Union Institute for Security Studies. ISBN: 978-92-9198-749-8. P. 142-143.

EUISS organises conferences, bringing together national experts, officials, academics, media, and representatives of the civil society from the EU and outside of it. These conferences aim to facilitate common approaches and enhance the analytical capacity.¹²¹

10.5 The European Institutions' instruments for exercising their role in CSDP

To fulfil their tasks and achieve the expected outcomes, the EU institutions possess different legal instruments. These instruments are stated in the article 288 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) as regulations, directives, decisions, recommendations, and opinions.¹²²

A regulation is a legislative act which has general application and is binding in its entirety and directly applicable for all Member States. Due to its nature, it applies to the institutions, Member States, and individuals to whom it is addressed. However, a regulation is not subject to measures for inclusion in states' national law and provides rights and obligations without the need of a national implementation measure.¹²³

A directive is a legislative act which lays out an objective that all EU countries have to achieve. Directives consist of two acts, the directive proper, which is emitted by the EU institutions, and the national measures for implementation, which are issued by each state. As a result, the directives have a flexible character regarding their application process.¹²⁴

A decision can have general application or a precise destination. It is binding and directly applicable for those to whom it addresses. Decisions are taken by the EU

121 Cf.: Ibid. P. 141.

122 Cf.: Consolidated version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. Article 288.

123 Cf.: Buse, M. (2012). Instruments of the CFSP. Bucharest. Bulletin of "Carol I" National Defence University. No. 4/2012. P. 2.

124 Cf.: Ibid. P. 3.

institutions based on treaty provisions and can have one or more recipients. The institutions can issue decisions which do not indicate any specific recipient.¹²⁵

Recommendations allow the EU institutions to express their view and to offer suggestions on courses of action. They are not binding, so they do not impose any legal obligation. When an EU institution issues a recommendation on a subject it does not involve any legal consequences.¹²⁶

Opinions represent an instrument which allows EU institutions to make statements without imposing legal obligations. They are not binding on those to whom they are addressed. Opinions are mostly issued by the Commission, the Council, and the Parliament, but other institutions issue them as well.¹²⁷

Besides the aforementioned main instruments, the EU also has other secondary tools at its disposal. These tools include: common positions, common strategies, joint actions, and public statements.¹²⁸ By reason of their secondary role, these instruments are not further detailed in this thesis.

10.6 The Roles of European Institutions responsible for the CSDP

With the CSDP as an integral part of the EU's foreign policy and of its approach in the domain of security and defence, it can be generally viewed that about all institutions of the Union have roles in the CSDP in some way. However, while analysing the topic in detail, the author concluded that there are specific institutions with responsibilities in the CSDP which have a key role in it. This subchapter presents the role of these institutions, thus answering the main question of the research.

The European Council: As the institution which sets the EU's political direction, it identifies the objectives and interest related to the CSDP, as well as in other domains.

125 Cf.: Ibid. P. 2.

126 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page Regulations, directives and other acts. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/eu-law/legal-acts_en. [5-4-19].

127 Cf.: Ibid.

128 Cf.: Buse, M. (2012). Op. cit. P. 3.

Furthermore, the European Council defines general guidelines and adopts decisions in matters which imply security and defence.¹²⁹

The Council of the European Union: Through its preparatory bodies and the Foreign Affairs Council, it elaborates the EU's external action, including the CSDP, and ensures its consistency. The Council can adopt the necessary measures to implement the policy and has the capacity to launch crisis management operations under CSDP aegis.¹³⁰

The European Parliament: As the institution directly representing the EU citizens, it has multiple roles in CSDP concerns. The Parliament has the authority over the policy's budget, can scrutinize it and can address the Council and the HR/VP on it. The Parliament also holds debates on the CSDP implementation progress twice a year and adopts reports.¹³¹

The European Commission: Compared to most of the other Union's policy areas, it has a secondary role in CSDP. Still, the European Commission represents an essential institution in reaching the CSDP objectives through the multitude of actions it handles at EU level. It has a direct role in the policy by managing the budget and an indirect one by ensuring coordination with other non-CSDP instruments.¹³²

The European External Action Service: As the institution responsible for conducting the EU's foreign policy, the EEAS has to ensure its coherence and organisation to increase the Union's global influence.¹³³ Through its structures it supports the HR/VP and has a role in the management of CSDP missions and operations.

The EUISS and ESDC: These institutions have an important role at the educational level, as they promote the CSDP and support its development through their activities.

To give an example of the role of some of these institutions for the CSDP, the author uses the following sketch:

129 Cf.: Consolidated version of the Treaty on European Union. Article 26.

130 Cf.: Rehl, J. (2017). Op. cit. P. 52.

131 Cf.: Homepage of the European Parliament. Page Common Security and Defence Policy. URL: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/159/common-security-and-defence-policy>. [6-4-19].

132 Cf.: Rehl, J. (2017). Op. cit. P. 56.

133 Cf.: Homepage of European Union. Page European External Action Service. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/eeas_en. [6-4-19].

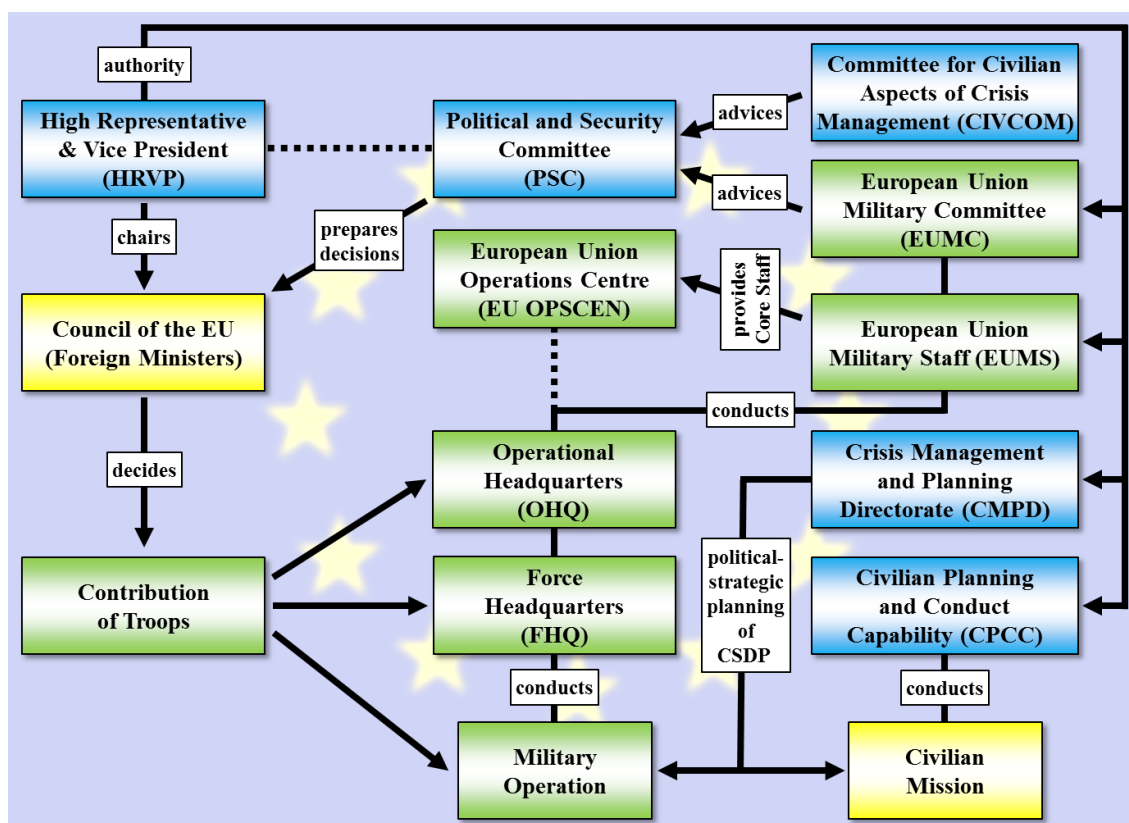


Figure 8: EU decision structures for crisis management.¹³⁴

This sketch comprises the HR/VP, the Council with its bodies, and the EEAS with its structures in a general CSDP crisis management situation. Furthermore, there are shown the relationships between them, as well as their roles. The blue colour represents permanent civilian EU bodies, green is used for the military ones, and yellow for Member States' personnel. To provide a better understanding of the contents of this chapter, the view can be extended by adding the role of the other institutions presented. As the European Council designated an objective for the CSDP, a crisis management operation may be part of it and needs to be launched and conducted. The European Parliament as the representative of the EU citizens may inquiry about this operation and can examine and debate the objectives' implementation. Furthermore, the European Commission manages the budget for this and also ensures the cooperation with non-CSDP institutions which may be involved.

134 Gell, H. & Podlipny, G. & Prammer, M. & Lampersberger, T. (2015). Op. cit. P. 81.

11. Discussion of Results¹³⁵

In this chapter the author criticises his work, giving positive and negative aspects, and justifies whether or not the research question is answered.

The aim of this bachelor thesis is to analyse and to pinpoint “*what are the roles of European Institutions responsible for the CSDP*”. The authoring process started after understanding the framework and formatting each chapter, so that the author could have an overall perspective of the contents. This prevented deviation from the main topic, thus leading to an answer to the main question.

In analysing the roles of EU institutions responsible for the CSDP, the author mostly quoted open-source documents and materials. Moreover, all these documents are official, as they come from the official homepages of different institutions. Along with them, the author also used scientific books related to the topic and official publications of some institutions. To enrich the perspective of the topic, different research studies were also consulted. In total, in his research the author consulted over 50 homepages, ten books, five research studies, and different official documents and journals related to the topic, all in English language. For that reason, the results of the research come out from compiling the contents and ideas from the aforementioned literature. Therefore, they are valid from every point of view, as any different approach to the topic would have the same results due to the clear provisions in the documents. However, a negative aspect in the author’s opinion is that this topic could not lead to any scientific argument because of this.

In order to have updated information in the thesis, the author used the official homepages and the official documents as primary sources, while the books were used for guidance. Finding the information on the internet was facile, as it was clearly described and fully available at the different homepages of the EU and its institutions. As a result, the information contained in this thesis is up to date.

The main question – “*Which are the roles of the European Institutions responsible for the Common Security and Defence Policy?*” – was answered step by step through five subchapters. These subchapters answered the previously created sub-questions and led

135 Author’s note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

to a concluding sixth one. They explained which the main EU institutions are, what are the CFSP and CSDP, which of the institutions have extended responsibilities in the CSDP, and how the available mechanisms are functioning to exercise their role. During the research, certain conclusions were reached and they are presented in the sixth subchapter, representing the answer to the main question. It states the role of the European Council, the Council of the EU, the European Parliament, the European Commission, the EEAS, and the EUISS and ESDC, as well as analysing a practical example based on a crisis management operation.

12. Restriction of Validity¹³⁶

This chapter presents the validity of the research. It clarifies what is valid or not in the research, and why.

There are over 880,000 documents related to the CSDP on the internet and over 150,000 of them are closely related to the topic of this thesis, being beyond the bounds of possibility to read all of them. The author only concentrates on the information available on the official homepages of the EU and its institutions, thus ensuring its accuracy and novelty. Furthermore, the treaties contain plenty of provisions regarding the EU institutions and the CSDP, assuring the long-term validity and continuity of the information. Therefore, the research is valid from all the points of view, for anyone interested in the EU, no matter of their previous knowledge about the topic.

However, the most significant factor that may affect the validity of the research is the BREXIT, which at the moment of writing this thesis has not happened. It will definitely bring changes to the EU institutional framework, also for the European Parliament having already prepared a new structure.¹³⁷ Additionally, it will also impact the CSDP and its decision making processes. In recent years, the progress in this area was slow because of British complaints and veto, but once BREXIT finalises, a lot of high impact projects and changes could appear.¹³⁸

136 Author's note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

137 Cf.: Homepage of European Parliament. Page News – Press room. URL: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20180607IPR05241/number-of-meps-to-be-reduced-after-eu-elections-in-2019>. [9-4-19].

138 Cf.: Santopinto, F. (2018). CSDP after Brexit: the way forward. European Parliament's Sub-Committee on Security and Defence. Belgium. Study. ISBN: 978-92-846-2961-9. P. 4.

13. Benefit for Scientific Disciplines¹³⁹

In this chapter the author presents the importance which the research may have to the scientific community and who may benefit from its results.

This thesis covers information about the EU, its institutions and their functioning, as well as about the CFSP and CSDP. All the information comes from official or checked sources, ensuring its validity. Due to its topic, the thesis may benefit a large scientific community. Anyone from the domain of European studies or international relations may be interested, as well as people from security studies and European law.

The results of the research could benefit students in the aforementioned domains and anyone working or interested in them, including personnel working within the EU institutions. In this research all the necessary information to understand CSDP is provided and it may benefit anyone interested in the topic regardless of their previous knowledge.

This thesis could benefit students who participate in the CSDP Common Modules organised by EMILYO, as well as those participating in the future CSDP Olympiad in Croatia in 2020. The results of the research may be used to enrich their knowledge in the topic, or as a starting point for their research in the domain.

The author considers that this thesis could be beneficial for the teachers at different institutions, who are teaching subjects related to the EU, CSDP, or security and defence. The research could be used as reading material for the students or help in the elaboration of different presentations.

Due to the nature of the CSDP missions and operations and the personnel they involve, this thesis may also benefit anyone from the military and law enforcement, as well as from the foreign affairs domain.

139 Author's note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

14. Prospects¹⁴⁰

In this chapter the author offers recommendations for future researches.

The main purpose of this thesis is to provide the necessary information in order to understand the roles of European institutions responsible for the CSDP. Due to the limitations of a bachelor thesis and the need to focus on the main topic, the author only referred in his research to the main institutions of the EU and a few of the other ones.

Nevertheless, the CSDP domain is wide-ranging and offers various possibilities for different researches. Some may focus on the historical perspective, others on the national point of view on the policy, on its financing, etc. Taking this into consideration, as well as his research for this thesis, the author suggests the following questions for further research:

- Which are the roles of national institutions in the CSDP?
- How EU Member States view their role in the CSDP?
- Which are the institutions responsible for CSDP financing and how they exercise their roles?
- Which is the role of CSDP in cyber security and which are the institutions responsible?
- What are the bounds between CSDP and space security?
- How is the BREXIT influencing the CSDP?

140 Author's note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

15. Summary¹⁴¹

This chapter contains a short description of the most important parts of the thesis. It presents the main points in a succinct way, without introducing new arguments.

This bachelor thesis describes the role of European institutions responsible for the CSDP, detailing their structure and functioning, as well as the mechanisms they use. Additionally, details about the CFSP and CSDP are given.

Inside the preface the author describes his motivation for writing the present thesis. The author has chosen this topic because of his half-done intent to participate in the 4th CSDP Olympiad which led to the ambition of further researching in the field of the CSDP. The author acknowledges the help and guidance of the tutors in this research.

The next two chapters introduce the reader in the concept of the thesis and present the author's intent in solving the problem. In order to familiarise the reader with the topic and to ensure a better understanding of the other chapters, some terms and definitions are also described. They are continued by a chapter in which the author points out who may benefit from this thesis, as it may be important when analysing it.

The current state of research aims to describe what has been studied so far and how these studies relate to the present thesis. As the EU institutions and CSDP are subjects which have intensely been approached from different angles, the author presents a review of the literature in order to identify a research gap and avoid re-inventing the wheel. To offer a better understanding of the content of the thesis, the author presents some background information from the historical perspective, highlighting the main steps of the EU's creation as it is known today, with special consideration onto the development of the CSDP.

The research gap chapter describes, based on the research previously made, if there is any topic or question that has not been analysed before, or approached from this perspective. It was concluded that nobody has made a study on the role of EU Institutions responsible for the CSDP. This represents what the author would like to cover with the present thesis.

141 Author's note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

The research questions represent the guideline through the whole thesis. The author created the main question – “*Which are the roles of the European Institutions responsible for the Common Security and Defence Policy?*” – which all the efforts need to be linked to, and five sub-questions.

The next chapter describes the methodology used to achieve the results of the research. In order to begin authoring the thesis, it was needed to understand the framework, to prepare its format, and to plan how the chapters will contain the necessary information. Having the proper topic and the main question of the research, the author had to divide it into sub-questions to provide the readers a better understanding of it. The author collected information from various open source materials to answer the questions and to support the research and its results. All of these sources were in English. After the collection and selection of relevant and important information, the author applied the methodology of hermeneutics.

The tenth chapter represents the main body of the thesis, containing the research and its results. It is divided in different subchapters which contain answers to each sub-question, and the last of them compiles all the information and answers the main question. The author included in this chapter information about the main European Institutions, the CFSP, and the CSDP, as well as detailing the roles of some other institutions, and the instruments available.

There are over 13 central institutions in the EU’s framework, from which seven of them are considered as being the most important ones and which are clearly mentioned in the treaties. The author provides details about them in the first subchapter, including the general role, the structure, and the organisation. Another subchapter analyses the instruments at their disposal in order to exercise their roles and responsibilities.

The author analyses in two subchapters the CFSP and CSDP to reach the essence of the topic. The CFSP is the EU’s joint foreign and security policy. It is based on diplomacy and aims to strengthen the international role of the Union, as well as its external action ability. The main role of the CFSP is to resolve conflicts and support international cooperation. An integral part of it is the CSDP, which sets the framework for actions in the security and defence domain. Consequently, it enables the EU to involve in strengthening international security through missions and operations abroad. The CSDP includes both, civilian and military capabilities. The missions and operations are a

unique tool to manage and resolve crises and conflicts as they allow action in complex environments.

Even if all the EU institutions may have a role in CSDP through their actions and responsibilities in the general functioning of the Union, the author identified and further analysed the institutions with specific roles in the CSDP. These institutions are: the European Council, the Council of the EU, the European Commission, the European Parliament, and the European External Action Service. Additionally, here could also be mentioned the European Security and Defence College and the European Institute for Security Studies. For further detailing the topic, the author analysed the bodies of the Council and of the EEAS with different roles for the CSDP and crisis management, as well as other relevant institutions and bodies. The last subchapter concludes the research and presents the role of the European institutions responsible for the CSDP.

In the discussion of the results the author criticises his work, giving positive and negative aspects, and justifies whether or not the research question is answered. This chapter is followed by a chapter which presents the validity of the research. There are over 150,000 documents on the internet closely related to the topic of this thesis, being beyond the bounds of possibility to read all of them. The author only concentrates on the information available on official documents, official homepages of the EU and its institutions, and on acknowledged books, all in English language. This ensures the research is valid from all the points of view. However, the BREXIT may affect the validity of the research after it is finalised.

In the next chapter the author presents what importance the research may have to the scientific community and who may benefit from its results. The thesis could be read by anyone interested in the topic, regardless of their previous knowledge.

In the prospects, the author offers recommendations for future researches based on what exceeded the topic of this thesis or what the author considers helpful in closing the gaps in the domain.

The thesis ends with the postface, in which the author brings some personal statements and acknowledgements to share with the reader.

16. Postface¹⁴²

The author's first contact with the CSDP was during his first year of studying at his home institution. However, the invitation to participate in the 4th CSDP Olympiad started his interest in the topic as the author gained a lot of knowledge regarding this. Due to factors independent from him, the author's participation in the residential phase of the Olympiad did not take place. This has not affected his interest in the domain, but motivated him to continue studying it and to elaborate this thesis.

Firstly, the author would like to express his very great appreciation to Col Assoc. Prof. Harald Gell, PhD and Assoc. Prof. Anca Dinicu, PhD for tutoring him and for the entire help offered during the research and elaboration process.

Secondly, the author takes the opportunity to express gratitude to the International Offices of both, home and receiving institutions for facilitating the exchange and offering him the possibility to write this bachelor thesis in Austria.

Lastly, the author would like to thank his family and friends who supported him during his stay.

142 Author's note: This chapter is based on the ideas of the author unless otherwise marked.

17. Annexes

17.1 List of Abbreviations

BREXIT	the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union
CCDP	Civilian Capability Development Plan
CFSP	Common Foreign and Security Policy
CIVCOM	Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management
CJEU	Court of Justice of the European Union
CMPD	Crisis Management and Planning Directorate
CPCC	Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability
CSDP	Common Security and Defence Policy
ECA	European Court of Auditors
ECB	European Central Bank
EDA	European Defence Agency
EEAS	European External Action Service
EMILYO	European Initiative for the Exchange of Military Young Officers
EP	European Parliament
EPC	European Political Co-operation
ESDC	European Security and Defence College
ESDP	European Security and Defence Policy
ESS	European Security Strategy
EU	European Union
EUGS	European Union Global Strategy
EUISS	European Union Institute for Security Studies
EUMC	European Union Military Committee
EUMS	European Union Military Staff
HR/VP	High Representative/Vice-President
MEPs	Members of the European Parliament
PESCO	Permanent Structured Cooperation
PMG	Politico-Military Group
PSC	Political and Security Committee
TEU	Treaty on European Union
TFEU	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union

17.2 List of Figures

Figure number	Description	Page
1	List of events of the history of EU and CSDP	11
2	The methodology of the thesis	17
3	The European Parliament working in a plenary session	20
4	The Justus Lipsius building in Brussels, Belgium	24
5	The ECB building in Frankfurt, Germany	26
6	EU's on-going missions and operations	34
7	Organisation chart of the EEAS structures under the authority of Deputy Secretary General for CSDP and crisis response	39
8	EU decision structures for crisis management	45

17.3 List of Literature

17.3.1 Books

- 1 European Commission. (2018). Foreign affairs and security policy. Luxembourg. Publications Office of the European Union. ISBN: 978-92-79-83011-2.
- 2 European Commission. (2018). The European Union – What it is and what it does. Luxembourg. Publications Office of the European Union. ISBN: 978-92-79-63362-1.
- 3 European Parliament. (2016). European Parliament – the citizen's voice in the EU. Luxembourg. Publications Office of the European Union. ISBN: 978-92-823-8719-1.
- 4 Fiott, D. & Bund, J. (2018). YES 2018 – EUISS Yearbook of European Security. Luxembourg. Imprimerie Centrale. Published by the European Union Institute for Security Studies. ISBN: 978-92-9198-749-8.

- 5 Gell, H. & Podlipny, G. & Prammer, M. & Lampersberger, T. (2015). *Crisis Management Operations*. Vienna. Armed Forces Printing Centre. ISBN: 978-3-9503699-3-9.
- 6 Koutrakos, P. (2013). *The EU Common Security and Defence Policy*. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-19-969272-9.
- 7 Meijer, H & Wyss, M. (2018). *The Handbook of European Defence Policies and Armed Forces*. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-19-879050-1.
- 8 Rehr, J. (2015). *Handbook on CSDP Missions and Operations*. Vienna. Armed Forces Printing Centre. Published by the Directorate for Security Policy of the Federal Ministry of Defence and Sports of the Republic of Austria. ISBN: 978-3-902275-42-4.
- 9 Rehr, J. (2017). *Handbook on CSDP - the Common Security and Defence Policy of the European Union*. Vienna. Armed Forces Printing Centre. Published by the Directorate for Security Policy of the Federal Ministry of Defence and Sports of the Republic of Austria. 3rd edition. ISBN: 978-92-95201-05-7.
- 10 Wessel, R. & Blockmans, S. (2012). *Between Autonomy and Dependence: The EU Legal Order under the Influence of International Organisations*. The Hague. Asser Press. ISBN: 978-90-6704-902-3.

17.3.2 Official Documents

- 1 Consolidated version of the Treaty on European Union.
- 2 Consolidated version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.
- 3 EU. (2016). *Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy–Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe*. Brussels.

17.3.3 Journals

- 1 de Borja Lasheras, F. (2014). The times are changing: resetting CSDP and European Defence. Bilbao. Deusto Journal of European Studies. No. 50/2014. ISSN: 1130-8354.
- 2 Buse, M. (2012). Instruments of the CFSP. Bucharest. Bulletin of "Carol I" National Defence University. No. 4/2012.

17.3.4 Internet

- 1 Homepage of American Heritage Dictionary. URL: <https://www.ahdictionary.com/word/search.html?q=hermeneutics>. [15-3-19].
- 2 Homepage of Council of the European Union. Page Committee for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/preparatory-bodies/committee-civilian-aspects-crisis-management/>. [2-4-19].
- 3 Homepage of Council of the European Union. Page Council Buildings. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/contact/address/council-buildings/justus-lipsius-building/>. [8-4-19].
- 4 Homepage of Council of the European Union. Page Decision-making process. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/decision-making/ordinary-legislative-procedure/>. [25-3-19].
- 5 Homepage of Council of the European Union. Page Political and Security Committee. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/preparatory-bodies/political-security-committee/>. [4-4-19].
- 6 Homepage of Council of the European Union. Page Preparatory Bodies. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/preparatory-bodies/?Page=3>. [4-4-19].
- 7 Homepage of Council of the European Union. URL: <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/council-eu/>. [25-3-19].

- 8 Homepage of Court of Justice of the European Union. Page The institution. URL: https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/Jo2_6999/en/. [25-3-19].
- 9 Homepage of EU NAVFOR Somalia. Page About Us. URL: <https://eunavfor.eu/mission/>. [3-4-19].
- 10 Homepage of EUAM Ukraine. Page Our Mission. URL: <http://www.euam-ukraine.eu/our-mission/about-us/>. [3-4-19].
- 11 Homepage of EUCAP Somalia. Page About Us. URL: <https://www.eucap-som.eu/about-us/>. [3-4-19].
- 12 Homepage of EULEX. Page About EULEX. URL: <http://www.eulex-kosovo.eu/?page=2,60>. [3-4-19].
- 13 Homepage of EUMM. Page About Us. URL: https://eumm.eu/en/about_eumm/mandate. [3-4-19].
- 14 Homepage of EUPOL COPPS. Page About Us. URL: <http://eupolcopps.eu/en/content/what-eupol-copps>. [3-4-19].
- 15 Homepage of EUR-Lex. Page Summaries of EU Legislation. European institutions. URL: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/glossary/eu_institutions.html. [18-3-19].
- 16 Homepage of European Central Bank. URL: <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/ecb/tasks/html/index.en.html>. [28-3-19].
- 17 Homepage of European Commission. Page Political Leadership. URL: https://ec.europa.eu/info/about-european-commission/organisational-structure/political-leadership_en. [25-3-19].
- 18 Homepage of European Court of Auditors. URL: <https://www.eca.europa.eu/en/Pages/MissionAndRole.aspx>. [28-3-19].
- 19 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page CSDP structure, instruments, and agencies. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp/5392/csdp-structure-instruments-and-agencies_en. [4-4-19].

- 20 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/eubam-libya/3859/about-eu-border-assistance-mission-libya-eubam_en. [3-4-19].
- 21 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page EU Mission and Operations. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/35509/eu-missions-and-operations-part-eu%E2%80%99s-common-security-and-defence-policy-factsheet_en. [3-4-19].
- 22 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page EUCAP Sahel Mali. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/eucap-sahel-mali/3900/about-eucap-sahel-mali_en. [3-4-19].
- 23 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page EUCAP Sahel Niger. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/eucap-sahel-niger/3875/about-eucap-sahel-niger_en. [3-4-19].
- 24 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page EUTM RCA. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/csdp-missions-operations/eutm-rca/3907/about-military-training-mission-central-african-republic-eutm-rca_en. [3-4-19].
- 25 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page High Representative/Vice President. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/3598/high-representativevice-president_en. [18-3-19].
- 26 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page Military and civilian missions and operations. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/430/military-and-civilian-missions-and-operations_en. [3-4-19].
- 27 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page Organisation chart of the EEAS. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/3602/organisation-chart-eeas_en. [8-4-19].
- 28 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page The Common Foreign and Security Policy. URL: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/420/common-foreign-and-security-policy-cfsp_en. [1-4-19].
- 29 Homepage of European External Action Service. Page The Common Security and Defence Policy. URL: <https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/common-security-and->

- defence-policy-csdp/431/common-security-and-defence-policy-csdp_en. [18-3-19].
- 30 Homepage of European Initiative for the Exchange of Young Officers. Page Common Modules. URL: <http://www.emilyo.eu/node/988>. [19-3-19].
- 31 Homepage of European Initiative for the Exchange of Young Officers. Page Temporary Documents. 5th CSDP Olympiad - agreed topics for essays. URL: <http://www.emilyo.eu/sites/default/files/Gell%20Temp%20Docs%20for%20Meetings/2019%2002%2020%20Proposed%20Essay%20Topics%205th%20CSDP%20Olympiad.pdf>. [19-3-19].
- 32 Homepage of European Parliament. Page About Parliament. URL: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/about-parliament/en>. [24-3-19].
- 33 Homepage of European Parliament. Page Common Security and Defence Policy. URL: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/159/common-security-and-defence-policy>. [2-4-19].
- 34 Homepage of European Parliament. Page Foreign Policy. URL: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/158/foreign-policy-aims-instruments-and-achievements>. [1-4-19].
- 35 Homepage of European Parliament. Page News – EU Affairs. URL: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/eu-affairs/20180126STO94114/eu-elections-how-many-meps-will-each-country-get-in-2019>. [8-4-19].
- 36 Homepage of European Parliament. Page News – Press room. URL: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20180607IPR05241/number-of-meps-to-be-reduced-after-eu-elections-in-2019>. [9-4-19].
- 37 Homepage of European Union Border Assistance Mission in Rafah. Page About Us. URL: <https://www.eubam-rafah.eu/en/node/5048>. [3-4-19].
- 38 Homepage of European Union Force in BiH Operation ALTHEA. Page About EUFOR. URL: <http://www.euforbih.org/eufor/index.php/about-eufor>. [3-4-19].
- 39 Homepage of European Union. Page Agencies and other EU bodies. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/agencies_en. [18-3-19].

- 40 Homepage of European Union. Page Council of the European Union. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/council-eu_en. [25-3-19].
- 41 Homepage of European Union. Page European Central Bank. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-central-bank_en. [28-3-19].
- 42 Homepage of European Union. Page European Commission. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-commission_en. [25-3-19].
- 43 Homepage of European Union. Page European Council. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-council_en. [25-3-19].
- 44 Homepage of European Union. Page European Court of Auditors. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-court-auditors_en. [28-3-19].
- 45 Homepage of European Union. Page European External Action Service. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/eeas_en. [18-3-19].
- 46 Homepage of European Union. Page European Parliament. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies/european-parliament_en#overview. [24-3-19].
- 47 Homepage of European Union. Page Foreign & Security Policy. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/topics/foreign-security-policy_en. [1-4-19].
- 48 Homepage of European Union. Page Institutional affairs. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/topics/institutional-affairs_en. [24-3-19].
- 49 Homepage of European Union. Page Institutions and bodies. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/institutions-bodies_en. [23-3-19].
- 50 Homepage of European Union. Page Regulations, directives and other acts. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/eu-law/legal-acts_en. [5-4-19].
- 51 Homepage of European Union. Page The history of the European Union. URL: https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/history_en. [19-3-19].

- 52 Homepage of EUTM-SOMALIA. Page About Us. URL: <https://www.eutm-somalia.eu/about-us/>. [3-4-19].
- 53 Homepage of Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of Republic of Austria. Page EU Foreign Policy. URL: <https://www.bmeia.gv.at/en/european-foreign-policy/european-policy/eu-foreign-policy/eu-foreign-policy-cfsp/>. [1-4-19].
- 54 Homepage of Politics.co.uk. Page Common Foreign and Security Policy. URL: <https://www.politics.co.uk/reference/common-foreign-and-security-policy>. [1-4-19].

17.3.5 Research Studies

- 1 Carrasco, C. & Muguruza, C. & Sanchez, R. (2016). Case study: The Common Security and Defence Policy. University of Seville. Case Study.
- 2 Enache, I. (2017). The European Union's Global Strategy and its Connections to the Romanian Security Strategy, taking into Consideration the Security Risks, Threats and Vulnerabilities with their Effect onto Romanian Missions and Operations managed by CSDP Institutions. Theresan Military Academy. Bachelor Thesis.
- 3 Leeuw, M. (2016). Institutional Overlap in European Security: profound cooperation or rhetoric in civilian missions? The case of NATO and the EU. University of Twente. Bachelor Thesis.
- 4 Santopinto, F. (2018). CSDP after Brexit: the way forward. European Parliament's Sub-Committee on Security and Defence. Belgium. Study. ISBN: 978-92-846-2961-9.
- 5 Shand, A. (2016). The EU-NATO relationship and the development of CSDP. University of Twente. Bachelor Thesis.

18. Affidavit

I herewith declare that I have written the present thesis independently and on my own. I have clearly marked any language or ideas borrowed from other sources as not my own and documented their sources. The thesis does not contain any work that I have handed in or have had graded as a previous scientific paper earlier on.

I am aware that any failure to do so constitutes plagiarism. Plagiarism is the presentation of another person's thoughts or words as if they were my own – even if I summarise, paraphrase, condense, cut, rearrange, or otherwise alter them.

I am aware of the consequences and sanctions plagiarism entails. Among others, consequences may include nullification of the thesis, exclusion from the awarding of a degree, and legal consequences for lying under oath. These consequences also apply retrospectively, i.e. if plagiarism is discovered after the thesis has been accepted and graded. I am fully aware of the scope of these consequences.

.....

(OCdt Vlad-Andrei Vorobet)

Wiener Neustadt, Austria in May 2019