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## EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

**Membership:** 27 States: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

Croatia, Turkey, and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are official candidates for EU membership.

In addition, most countries of the European Free Trade Association also participate in the European Economic Area, making them part of the EU single market. Iceland, Switzerland, and Norway, while not official members, also have special agreements with the Union.

**Background:** The European Union (EU) is the result of a process of cooperation and integration that began in 1951 between six countries (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands). Since then, there have been six waves of accessions:

1973: Denmark, Ireland, and the United Kingdom;

1981: Greece;

1986: Spain and Portugal;

1995: Austria, Finland, and Sweden;

2004: Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia;

2007: Bulgaria and Romania.

**Objectives:** The EU's mission is to organize relations between Member States and between their peoples in a coherent manner and on the basis of solidarity. Its main objectives are to promote economic and social progress; to assert the identity of the EU on the international scene (through European humanitarian aid to non-EU countries, common foreign and security policy, action in international crises, and common positions within international organizations); to introduce European citizenship (which does not replace national citizenship but complements it and confers a number of civil and political rights on European citizens); to develop an area of freedom,

security, and justice (linked to the operation of the internal market and more particularly the freedom of movement of persons); and to maintain and build on established EU law (all the legislation adopted by the European institutions, together with the founding treaties).

**Structure and Institutions:** There are five institutions involved in running the European Union: the European Parliament (elected by the peoples of the Member States), the European Council (representing the governments of the Member States), the European Commission (the executive and the body that has the right to initiate legislation), the European Court of Justice (ensuring compliance with EU law), and the Court of Auditors (responsible for auditing the overall efficiency of the EU bureaucracy). These institutions are supported by other bodies: the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions (advisory bodies that help to ensure that the positions of the EU's various economic and social categories and regions respectively are taken into account), the European Ombudsman (dealing with complaints from citizens concerning poor administration at the European level), the European Investment Bank (the EU's long-term lending institution), and the European Central Bank (responsible for monetary policy in the Euro-area).

The European Council unanimously defines the principles and general guidelines for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP). A Political Committee, consisting of Political Directors, monitors the international situation in the areas covered by the CFSP and contributes to the definition of policies by delivering opinions to the Council at the request of the Council or on its own initiative. The Political Committee also monitors the implementation of agreed policies, without prejudice to the responsibility of the Presidency and the Commission.

The Cooperation Politique (COPO) assists the Political, Economic and Security Cooperation (PESC) and the Council.

**Presidency:** The EU Presidency is determined by a pre-established six-month rotational system. Since

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2007, the Presidency is in some regards being executed in a shared manner in order to cope with the rather short six month term. Three successive presidents forming a "triple-shared presidency" work together over a 1.5 year period to accomplish a common agenda by the current president simply continuing the work of the previous "lead-president".

For 2009, the Czech Republic and Sweden are sharing the Presidency. In 2008, Slovenia and France shared the Presidency. Recent Presidencies include Germany and Portugal (2007), Austria and Finland (2006), the United Kingdom and Luxembourg (2005), Ireland and the Netherlands (2004), Greece and Italy (2003), and Spain and Denmark (2002).

### Relevant Organs:

**European Council of Ministers:** [The European Council of Ministers](#), also called the Council of Ministers or the "Council", is the European Union's chief decision-making body. The Council is comprised of ministers from Member States and endeavors to make decisions by consensus; otherwise, it takes votes by qualified majority, unless one country considers the matter under consideration to be one of national interest, in which case it can apply a veto. The Council is headquartered in Brussels, Belgium.

**Commission of the European Communities:** As of January 2009, the Commission consists of 27 commissioners, each appointed by national governments. The Commission makes decisions by a simple majority vote. However, the objective is to try to make decisions by consensus.

On 17 December 1999, the European Council adopted a Joint Action (EU JA) to cooperate with the Russian Federation in its efforts related to the non-proliferation and disarmament of weapons of mass destruction. This action, implemented by the European Commission and performed in the framework of the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy (CSFP), implements a set of objectives that had been defined in the June 1999 European Union Common Strategy for the Russian Federation. The main goal of the EU JA is to provide a legal and operational framework for an enhanced EU role in risk reduction activities in the Russian Federation through project-oriented cooperation. It promotes coordination and avoids duplication with existing programs at the Community, Member State, and international levels.

Ongoing EU JA projects include the financing of chemical weapons destruction facilities in the Russian Federation in cooperation with the Russian Ammunitions Agency (RAA) and in accordance with

Russian commitments under the [Chemical Weapons Convention \(CWC\)](#). In the nuclear field, the EU JA cooperates closely with the Ministry for Atomic Energy of the Russian Federation (MINATOM) and provides funding for the conversion of excess weapons-grade plutonium into MOX fuel. All EU JA projects are discussed and negotiated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (MID), and are implemented through existing bilateral agreements between the Russian Federation and EU Member States.

**Directorate General for Energy and Transport (DG TREN):** This Directorate General has been in operation since 1 January 2000, as a result of the merge between the Directorate General for Transport and the Directorate General for Energy. In June 2002 the EURATOM Safeguards Office became part of the DG TREN. The DG TREN, based in Brussels, reports to Andris Piebalgs, the Energy Commissioner of the EU.

The DG TREN is responsible for developing and implementing European policies in the energy and transport field. The subject of nuclear energy is of the utmost importance within the EU, since the nuclear industry currently supplies one-third of the EU's electricity.

### Developments:

**2009:** On 3 March, Deputy Representative Ivan Pintir of the Czech Republic gave a [speech](#) at the Conference on Disarmament on behalf of the European Union calling for the immediate negotiation of a fissile materials cutoff treaty (FMCT). In the absence of a treaty, the EU called on all states concerned to "declare and uphold an immediate moratorium on the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices."

On 5 April, following a North Korean missile test, the European Union and the United States issued a [joint statement](#). The statement condemned the launch, saying it "defies UN Security Council resolutions and harms peace and stability in northeast Asia." The EU stated that such action "demands a response by the international community," and called on the DPRK to "honor its commitment to abandon all nuclear weapons programs, to abide by recognized norms of international relations, and to work to promote peace and stability in northeast Asia."

On 17 April, the European Commission adopted the 2009-2011 program to combat terrorism and WMD .

The program lays out the first set of global counter-terrorism measures, focusing on Pakistan, Afghanistan, and the Sahel region of Africa.

On 27 April, the European Council issued a [statement](#) saying that it “warmly supports the new direction of U.S. policy towards Iran” and “reaffirms its full and unequivocal support for efforts to find a negotiated long-term solution to the Iranian nuclear issue.” Nonetheless, the Council also asserted that Iran’s “nuclear programme remains a matter of grave concern for the international community.” Further, “Iran must restore confidence in an exclusively peaceful nature of its nuclear activities” and “comply with its international obligations.”

On 18-19 June, the European Council met in Brussels. It issued a series of [Presidential Conclusions](#) on a wide range of subjects. Addressing the North Korean file (p. 29), the statement “condemns firmly the most recent nuclear test and the launches using ballistic missile technology carried out by the DPRK.” The Council expressed support for [UNSC Resolution 1874](#), which tightened sanctions against the DPRK, and insisted on the “importance of a swift and efficient implementation of all these measures, including those aimed at cargoes inspections bound for, and/or out of the DPRK.”

In the same document, the Council issued a “Declaration on Iran” (p. 30) in response to the 12 June Iranian elections and their aftermath. The declaration stated that “questions over the conduct of the elections were issues that the Iranian authorities should investigate,” and condemned the Iranian government’s crackdown on protestors and journalists. In addition, it “stressed the importance of Iran engaging with the international community on all issues of concern, in particular over the issue of Iran’s nuclear programme, in the spirit of mutual respect and full recognition of Iran’s international obligations.”

On 24 June, the European Commission adopted a proposed [policy package](#) on chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) security. The CBRN Action Plan has the aim “that CBRN materials are well protected and the potential for them being lost or stolen is limited,” intends to strengthen “the exchange of information between Member States on CBRN security issues,” and strives to improve “the use of detection systems across the EU.” Following discussion by Member States during the second half of 2009, implementation of the Action Plan will begin in 2010 if it is approved by the Council.

**2008:** On 10 March, the European Council noted that the adoption of UNSC resolution 1803 regarding Iran (adopted on 3 March 2008) was a clear signal of the international community’s unity. The Council also adopted an [updated version](#) of the [common list of military equipment](#) covered by the [EU code of conduct on arms exports](#).

On 29 April, the Council underlined its commitment to work with Pakistan on nonproliferation and disarmament issues. The Council stressed that support from Pakistan for the beginning of negotiations on an FMCT at the CD would be a strong signal in that respect and underlined the importance of Pakistan’s cooperation with the IAEA regarding Iran.

On 16 June, the Council approved the last [progress report](#) on the implementation of the [EU nonproliferation strategy](#) and an [updated list of priorities](#) for its implementation in the future. The Council also approved a progress report on the implementation of EU’s strategy to combat the illicit accumulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW). Finally, the Council took note of an inventory of EU instruments relevant for addressing CBRN risks ([The CBRN Inventory](#)), outlining the instruments that can be used to prevent, prepare for and respond to CBRN risks and enable the Council to take stock of the EU’s CBRN prevention capabilities and help towards proposing policy measures in 2009.

On 13 October, the Council noted the 10<sup>th</sup> annual report on the EU Code of Conduct on arms exports on the implementation of the Code and recommended improvements.

On 10 November, the Council noted that the EU Satellite Centre was soon to benefit from government-source satellite images enhancing the Union’s analysis capability and the conduct of ESDP crisis management operations and missions. The Council also recalled the need to secure the EU’s future space observation capability and noted the European Space Agency’s program and work to strengthen Europe’s surveillance capability.

On 11 November, the Council amended its Common Position on Iran concerning restrictive measures, with a view to the implementation of UNSC resolutions. The amended Common Position provided that Member States shall exercise vigilance over the activities of financial institutions within their jurisdiction with all banks domiciled in Iran and their branches and subsidiaries in order to avoid such activities contri-

buting to proliferation sensitive nuclear activities or to the development of nuclear weapons delivery systems. The Council identified the banks, branches, and subsidiaries to which the provisions apply and modified the annexes to the Common Position accordingly. Finally, the Council amended EU Regulations concerning restrictive measures against Iran to ensure the implementation of the measures contained in the Common Position in the Community legislation and its uniform application by economic operators within the Union.

Also on 11 November, the Council adopted a Joint Action in support of the BWC within the framework of the EU Nonproliferation Strategy.

On 8 December, the Council approved the progress report on the implementation of the EU Nonproliferation Strategy and endorsed the [“New Lines for Action by the EU in Combating the Proliferation of WMD and their Delivery Systems,”](#) that underlined, among other measures, increased awareness, intensified cooperation with third parties, the provision of technical assistance to third countries, measures to combat intangible transfers of knowledge, and intensifying efforts to combat proliferation financing.

At the same meeting on 8 December, the Council also decided to express its [support for the establishment of a nuclear fuel bank](#) under the control of the IAEA and underlined the intention of the EU to contribute up to 25 million Euro (\$33 million) to this project, once the conditions and modalities for the bank have been approved by the Board of Governors of the IAEA, and manifested its intention towards the elaboration of a Council Joint Action establishing the political, financing, and security framework for the bank.

Also on 8 December, the Council approved the [progress report](#) on the implementation of EU’s strategy to combat the illicit accumulation or and trafficking in small arms, light weapons, and ammunition and agreed upon a [common text](#) to be used in future SALW negotiations. The Council also replaced a Code of Conduct with a [Common Position governing the control of exports of military technology and equipment](#), obliging each Member State to assess, on a case-by-case basis, export license applications made to it for items on the EU Common Military List, in accordance with a list of established criteria. Finally, the Council adopted a [set of conclusions](#) on the draft Code of Conduct for outer space activities.

On 9 December, the High Representative Javier Solana presented his [“Report on the Implementation of the European Security Strategy – Providing Security in a Changing World.”](#) Solana stressed that five years after the adoption of the Strategy, dangers have not gone away but “some have become more significant, and all more complex. Moreover, globalization is accelerating shifts in power and is exposing differences in values.” Solana stressed that the Strategy remained a work in progress and the Europeans needed to be “still more capable, more coherent and more active.”

**2007:** On 12 February, the European Council reached an agreement on a draft common position on deterring Iranian nuclear ambitions in accordance with UNSCR 1737 (adopted on 23 December 2006). The document called for restrictive measures including a ban on goods, technology, and financial support that could be used for nuclear proliferation, visa bans for persons associated with the Iranian nuclear program, and steps to prevent teaching and training of Iranian nationals in matters associated with nuclear proliferation.

Several important nonproliferation issues were discussed during the 23 April European Council meeting in Luxembourg. The Council agreed to hold a conference with the EU Institute of Security Studies on the topic of universalization and compliance with the International Code of Conduct (ICOC) against ballistic missile proliferation. The Council also discussed ways of implementing UNSC Resolutions 1737 and 1747 (adopted on 24 March 2007), both of which concerned the Iranian nuclear program. Specifically, the Council approved an additional list of targets subject to economic sanctions not mentioned in the UNSC list.

The Council also approved several conclusions for the 2007 NPT PrepCom meeting. The conclusions expressed support for the NPT, calling it the “cornerstone of the non-proliferation regime.” Support was also expressed for nuclear disarmament in accordance with Article VI and peaceful nuclear energy under Article IV.

At the 17-18 June meeting of the European Council, a conclusion was adopted expressing European Union support for a legally binding international Arms Trade Treaty. This action was taken in response to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s January 2007 request for UN member states to express their views on such a treaty.

At the 15-16 October meeting, the Council underlined its continuous commitment to the comprehensive package proposed to Iran in June 2006, reaffirmed its support for the resolutions of the UN Security Council, and regretted the fact that Iran had failed to comply with the call of the international community to suspend all enrichment related activities.

On 19 November, the Council welcomed the progress made towards the denuclearization of the DPRK, in particular through the shutdown of nuclear facilities, and adopted a joint action on financial support as an extra-budgetary contribution for monitoring and verification activities by the IAEA in the DPRK.

On 10 December, the Council endorsed a [progress report](#) of the High Representative and the Commission on the implementation of the EU nonproliferation strategy. The Council also welcomed the report of the UN Secretary General towards an Arms Trade Treaty and underlined the importance of the work of the UN-appointed Group of Governmental Experts.

**2006:** The European Council of Ministers, on 27 February, adopted the European Union's "joint action" for the [Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention](#). This will provide "immediate and direct" application to a number of the components pertaining to the 2003 European Strategy. The Council also adopted the biological and toxin weapons action plan which supports the previously mentioned joint action. However, this action plan will be executed by member states in the case of biological or chemical weapon violation within the EU. Finally, on 16 November, the European Parliament adopted a resolution calling for stronger Union commitments in order to strengthen the convention.

On 20 March, the Council adopted a [common position](#) relating to the 2006 review conference of the BTWC. The document states that the EU considers the BTWC a key component of the nonproliferation regime and that more effective verification and compliance measures are needed to strengthen the convention. The common position was approved in light of the BTWC preparatory committee (26-28 April) and review conference (20 November-8 December).

The Council also confirmed its support for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. Specifically, the Union encouraged the improvement of the verification systems, fulfilling the obligations of signatory members, and finally, augmenting the benefits of treaty participation.

On 6 June, the European Council of Ministers approved a [joint action](#) on support for IAEA activities for nuclear security and implementation. The document specifically mentions the need to work toward universalization of nonproliferation security instruments such as the comprehensive safeguards agreement and the Additional Protocol, the need to provide regulatory and legislative assistance for safeguards, and the need to prevent illicit trafficking of sensitive nuclear material.

The European Council of Ministers, on [11 December](#), adopted a concept paper pertaining to the monitoring and improvement of implementation for the EU's WMD and nonproliferation strategy. Ultimately, the Council worked to create a cooperative working method within the Union to improve implementation.

**2005:** Following the conclusion of the 2005 NPT Review Conference, the EU released a Council Common Position document related to the conference. The EU stressed that it continues to regard the NPT as "the cornerstone of the global nuclear nonproliferation regime." The document noted the need to work toward the universal accession of the NPT and achieve the full compliance of all States Parties. The importance of a commitment to both nonproliferation and disarmament was highlighted, as was the importance of developing effective export controls and adopting the Additional Protocol as the standard of verification.

On 8 June 2005, the EU released the Progress Report on the implementation of Chapter III of the EU Strategy against the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction. The report highlighted the efforts the EU would undertake to promote nonproliferation and nuclear safety. Among the initiatives mentioned was the importance of the NPT's three pillars and global effort toward its universalization. The EU also emphasized the importance of the universalization of the Additional Protocol. The EU noted that all its member states had ratified the CPPNM and encouraged widening the scope of the convention. The document also placed a heavy emphasis on developing export controls on WMD. It was noted that the EC 2005 budget included EUR 3 million for the investigation of measures to combat the proliferation and illicit trafficking on WMD and light weapons.

The Brussels European Council occurred on 16-17 June. The meeting emphasized several issues, including the importance of the fight against terrorism. The Council noted the need to develop strategies to stop

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the financing of terrorists and encourage international review and dialogue concerning ways to combat terrorism. The Council also supported the [Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism](#) and called on all UN members to sign the convention. The Council also noted its support for the NPT and its disappointment in the 2005 Review Conference's failure to achieve a final document by consensus. On the issue of Iran, the European Council welcomed negotiations for trade and cooperation, but pointed out that the total suspension of all enrichment-related and reprocessing activities would have to be maintained in order for dialogue to continue.

On 20 June the EU and the United States discussed a Joint Programme on the Work on the Nonproliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction. Agreement was reached on a number of initiatives, which included building global support for nonproliferation, reinforcing the NPT, recognizing the importance of biological threats, promoting full implementation of UNSCR 1540, establishing a dialogue on compliance and verification, strengthening the IAEA, advancing the [Proliferation Security Initiative](#), reaffirming their commitment to the Global Partnership, and enhancing nuclear security.

The EU and the United States also released on 20 June the Declaration on Enhancing Cooperation in the Field of Nonproliferation and the Fight Against Terrorism. The document noted the growing threat of terrorism using weapons of mass destruction and pledged to cooperate in efforts to combat terrorism on a global scale with the goal of adopting the Comprehensive Convention Against Terrorism.

On 18 July, the 2674<sup>th</sup> General Affairs Council Meeting released a statement announcing the adoption of a Joint Action initiative on support for nuclear security and verification efforts by the IAEA. The EU allocated nearly EUR 4 million for support in four areas:

- Strengthening protection of nuclear materials in use, storage, and transport;
- Strengthening security of radioactive materials in non-nuclear applications;
- Strengthening capabilities for detection and response to illicit trafficking;
- Drafting legislation for the implementation of states' obligations under agreements with the IAEA.

**2004:** On 26 February, the European Parliament issued a Resolution on Nuclear Disarmament. The resolution, which was an EU preparation for the Third NPT PrepCom 2004, called upon Member States to

form a common front and attach special importance to new initiatives on nuclear disarmament and the revitalization of the UN Conference on Disarmament. On 17 May, the Council of the European Union adopted the "Council Joint Action on support for IAEA activities under its Nuclear Security Programme and in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction." According to paragraph 1 of Article 1 of the Joint Action, the EU shall support the IAEA activities under the Nuclear Security Plan for the purposes of giving immediate and practical implementation to some elements of the EU Strategy against the Proliferation of WMD. Paragraph 2 states that the projects of the IAEA, corresponding to measures of the EU Strategy, are projects that aim at strengthening:

- the physical protection of nuclear materials and other radioactive materials in use, storage and transport, and of nuclear facilities;
- the security of radioactive materials in non-nuclear applications;
- the states' capabilities for detection and response to illicit trafficking.

These projects (for which the Council allocated a budget of EUR 3,329,000) will be carried out in countries needing assistance in the area of nuclear security. For their implementation, the EU Commission would conclude a financial agreement with the IAEA on the conditions for the use of the EU contribution. The IAEA would ensure visibility of the EU contribution. The Annex to the Joint Action contains a detailed description of the projects to be carried out.

On 26 June, the EU and the United States agreed to expand their cooperation to prevent, contain, and reverse the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems. Their commitments built on their agreement at the 2003 U.S.-EU summit and furthered President Bush's February 11 proposals to heighten international action against WMD proliferation and the G-8 Action Plan on Nonproliferation adopted at the Sea Island Summit.

On 13 December, the General Affairs and External Relations Council reviewed the progress of the Action Plan against Proliferation of WMD established by the European Council in Thessaloniki in 2003. The Council encouraged strengthening the efficiency of the EU export control system for the control of dual use goods.

**2003:** On 20 and 21 March, the Council of the European Union met in Brussels to discuss issues concerning nonproliferation and the war against terrorism. At this meeting, the Council acknowledged the role that defense- and security-related research and development could play in encouraging cutting-edge technologies to help stimulate innovation and competitiveness. In addition, it specifically noted the role of the UN Security Council and its ability to help prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). With respect to the situation in Iraq, the EU Council committed itself to the territorial integrity, sovereignty, political stability, and the full and effective disarmament of Iraq. In terms of North Korea, the Union expressed deep concern and called on the DPRK to abstain from any action that could aggravate the current situation. It also reaffirmed that North Korea's non-compliance with its international obligations in the field of nuclear weapons was a serious concern for the entire international community and was detrimental to its own interest. In the international field, the EU strongly emphasized its commitment to the fundamental role of the United Nations in the international system. The Union expressed its support for the Security Council with respect to the maintenance of international peace and stability. In addition, the EU stated that it would continue to assist the further strengthening of the international coalition against terrorism. It committed itself to intensifying work for a comprehensive, coherent, and effective multilateral policy of the international community to prevent the proliferation of WMD.

From July to October 2003, the Council of the European Union and the General Affairs and External Relations Council met several times to discuss issues related to the nonproliferation of WMD and security in the region. Some of the most highly debated topics throughout these meetings included the EU/UN Cooperation in Crisis Management and the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

In late September, the Council announced a joint declaration by the EU and the UN on Cooperation in Crisis Management. The aim of the declaration was to increase effectiveness of support provided by the EU under the European Security and Defense Policy (ESDP). The declaration concluded months of discussion on the development of EU civilian and military crisis management capabilities, with the goal of ensuring that UN action may effectively benefit from an EU contribution.

With regard to the non-proliferation of WMD, the Council agreed in late September to implement an

Action Plan against the Proliferation of WMD. The plan was intended to be a follow-up to the Basic Principles for an EU Strategy Against Proliferation of WMD.

The Council also adopted a decision on the implementation of a joint action with respect to the EU's contribution to combating the accumulation and spread of SALW in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Decision provided financial support for projects aimed at training law enforcement instructors, improving control of the legal firearms trade, combating illicit trafficking, and facilitating the destruction of surplus weapons and improvements of stockpile management. The Council made a financial agreement with the UN and the Department for Disarmament Affairs in New York for the allocation of resources for this project.

On 12-13 December 2003, a European Council of Heads of State and Government was held. During this summit, an "EU Strategy against the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction" was formally adopted.

The Strategy, which has been periodically updated since then, created an integrated framework for EU action in the field of nonproliferation. Furthermore, it makes nonproliferation a stated priority for the EU. The cornerstone of the EU strategy for combating proliferation of WMD is effective multilateralism. The instruments available for curbing WMD proliferation range from multilateral treaties and verification mechanisms; export controls; political and economic levers including trade and development policies; Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR); and interdiction of illegal procurement activities to, as a last resort, coercive measures in accordance with the UN Charter.

On 22 December 2003, the Council adopted Directive 2003/122/EURATOM on the control of high-activity sealed radioactive sources and orphan sources within the EU. The strengthening of the control of high-activity radioactive sources in all third countries, in accordance with the G-8 statement and Action Plan on securing radioactive sources, remained an important objective to be pursued by the Council.

**2002:** On 15 April, the Council of the EU adopted conclusions on a list of concrete measures with regard to the implications of the terrorist threat on the nonproliferation, disarmament, and arms control policies of the EU. Those measures concern multilateral

instruments, export controls, international cooperation, and political dialogue. As regards multilateral instruments, the Council adopted the following concrete measures: 1) support all activities related to the universalization of existing multilateral instruments (e.g., CWC, BWC, Geneva Protocol, NPT, CTBT, CCWC, and Ottawa Convention); 2) work for the effective implementation of the international instruments as well as political commitments worldwide; 3) support the work of the international organizations (e.g., OPCW, CTBTO, IAEA) in their endeavors; and 4) reinforce, where needed, the multilateral instruments.

On 21 May, the EU Internal Market Council approved Euro 645,000 in funding for the EU Cooperation Program for Non-Proliferation in the Russian Federation for the period 2002-03. The money will pay for one expert and secretary in Moscow, and a team of three experts plus a Head of Section based in Brussels. The program was launched by a Council Joint Action in December 1999.

On 24 May, the EU warmly welcomed the signing of [SORT](#), also known as the Treaty of Moscow, describing the landmark deal as a step forward for the international community. At the same time, the EU expressed its hope that this treaty would be followed by other initiatives to strengthen international security and stability.

In July, the Council of the European Union, which makes the decisions necessary for defining and implementing CFSP on the basis of general guidelines established by the European Council, agreed on measures to take external action against terrorism. Those measures included implementing and developing the targeted initiatives within the field of nonproliferation, disarmament, and arms control adopted by the European Council on 15 April 2002. Another measure was to develop a common evaluation of terrorist threat against the Member States or the forces deployed under European Security and Defence Policy outside the Union in crisis management operations, including the threat posed by terrorist use of weapons of mass destruction (WMD).

On 27 September, the EU welcomed Cuba's decision to adhere to the NPT. It issued a statement that "the European Union calls upon those states not yet members to accede to the NPT as non-nuclear weapons states," adding that "the Union attaches special importance to achieving universal adherence to the NPT."

On 30 September, in the general debate at the First Committee of the 57<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assem-

bly, the EU reiterated its support for the International Code of Conduct against the proliferation of ballistic missiles (ICOC). The EU urged all States to attend the ICOC launching conference at the Hague on 25-26 November 2002 and join the Code.

**2001:** On 15 February, Sweden's Ambassador Henrik Salander spoke to the UN Conference on Disarmament on behalf of the EU and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe associated with the EU, laying down expectations and hopes for 2001. The EU pledged to contribute to the full implementation of the Final Document of the NPT, stressing the two agreed practical steps with regard to the CD (FMCT negotiations and a subsidiary body to deal with nuclear disarmament). Salander stated that an immediate launch of FMCT negotiations with engagement in both nuclear disarmament and PAROS under the auspices of subsidiary bodies constituted the basis for an agreement to begin work in the CD. He further noted that the Amorim proposal contained aspects necessary for agreement if the Conference viewed it pragmatically.

On February 26, EU ministers signed the Treaty of Nice (the fourth version of the Union's founding charter since the mid-1980s). It provides for the enlargement of the 20-member European Commission to 27 and lets countries opt out of common policies they do not like. This treaty also alters the voting rights of the existing 15 Member states, paves the way for additional EU membership, and sets the EU on the path toward another round of treaty reforms to be completed by 2004. The Treaty of Nice must be ratified by the 15 EU legislatures and the European Parliament to take effect.

The EU hosted a conference on progress in Non-Proliferation and Disarmament in Brussels on 8-9 March. The aim was to reinforce coordination among programs with a focus on science, technology, and expertise on nonproliferation. The main actions focus on projects like plutonium and spent fuel storage; monitoring of storage safety, environment, and human security at nuclear sites; preparation of decontamination, and re-conversion of production facilities.

The EU participated actively in the United Nations Convention against Transnational Crime, adopted by the UN General Assembly on 31 May 2001.

On 21 June, the EU made a joint declaration with Canada on nonproliferation, arms control, and disarmament. *Inter alia*, they underlined the importance of continued reductions in all types of nuclear weapons, and looked for reduction to be accompanied by effective mechanisms of transparency and irreversibility.

They welcomed the decision to hold a conference on the facilitation of the entry into force of the CTBT in New York in September 2001, and they agreed on the need for active follow-up to promote ratification, especially by the remaining 13 Annex 2 States necessary for the treaty's entry into force. They noted that the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) is crucial to the strengthening of the global nuclear nonproliferation regime.

The two sides announced their full support for efforts to strengthen the effectiveness and improve the efficiency of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards and welcomed the adoption by the Agency of a Model Protocol supplementing existing safeguard agreements. They also announced their deep disappointment that the Conference on Disarmament (CD) had not yet fulfilled its 1995 mandate to negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material (FMCT) for nuclear weapons and urged all CD members to reach an agreement to allow for the opening of FMCT negotiations during the current CD session. They also supported the creation of committees on nuclear disarmament and on the prevention of an arms race in outer space (PAROS).

They reaffirmed their concerns on the proliferation of the means of delivery of WMD and determined to seek new ways to augment multilateral action to limit such proliferation. They supported efforts to promote an international code of conduct on missile activities open to all States and they welcomed work to strengthen the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR).

At the 18-24 July UN Conference on the Illicit Trade of Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, the EU put forward proposals in key areas in pursuit of a politically binding program of action. These areas included export controls and criteria, marking and tracing, brokering, stockpile management, surplus and destruction, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants, assistance for implementation of concrete measures, and follow-up.

On 25 July, legislation for establishing the EU Institute for Security Studies was issued, incorporating features of existing Western European Union structures.

On 27 July, the Council of Ministers issued a Common Position on the Fight Against Ballistic Missile Proliferation.

On 6 September, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on measures to promote a commitment by non-State actors to a total ban on anti-personal landmines.

**2000:** On 1 January, Greece joined the Euro zone.

On 2 March, the Political and Security Committee (COPS) was launched. Its aim is to equip the EU to respond effectively to international crises using all the tools at its disposal: diplomacy, economic measures, humanitarian assistance and, ultimately, the use of military force. The goals of these measures are to set the EU apart and allow it to play an international role consistent with its responsibilities and the expectations of its citizens.

Jaime Gama (State Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Portugal) delivered the EU statement at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, on 24 April.

The EU "Common Position" noted its intention to help build consensus on substantive issues in the 2000 NPT Review Conference, taking into account the preparations in the three sessions of the Preparatory Committee and bearing in mind the fundamental importance of the decisions and resolution adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference.

The EU strongly supported the early entry into force of the CTBT through ratification without delay and without conditions, in particular by the 44 States whose ratification is required for the Treaty to enter into force. Members of the EU have already signed and ratified the Treaty, and the EU was actively involved in promoting universal adherence to it. The EU planned to continue its efforts until the mechanisms established by the Treaty become fully operational. It welcomed the announcement by the Russian Federation that the State Duma had approved the Treaty for ratification.

The EU particularly called upon those nuclear weapon States (NWS) that had not done so to expedite their CTBT ratification process so as to encourage others to follow.

The EU deeply regretted the US failure to ratify the CTBT. The EU also underlined its full support for efforts to establish the Treaty's verification regime in a timely and effective manner and emphasized the need for the provision of adequate financial support to enable the CTBT international monitoring system to be established.

The EU called for the immediate commencement and early conclusion of negotiations in the CD in Geneva on a FMCT. It supported the efforts being undertaken at the CD in Geneva to restart negotiations without delay on a non-discriminatory, multilateral, and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty, on the

basis of the Shannon report and the mandate contained therein. The EU called on all States that had not yet done so to stop the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

The EU continued to encourage the determined pursuit by the NWS of systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of complete disarmament under strict and effective international control. The EU also wished to see non-strategic nuclear weapons included in the framework of arms reduction efforts. The EU reaffirmed the importance of the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, as one of the pillars of strategic stability.

**1999:** On 1 January, the Euro became the official currency of eleven Member States of the European Union, with a fixed conversion rate into their national currencies. Euro notes and coins did not appear until 1 January 2002, but the new currency was approved for use by consumers, retailers, companies, and public authorities in non-cash form.

The European Council launched a decision on EU Joint Action on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament in Russia and other Newly Independent States (NIS). This agreement was to reinforce, coordinate, and improve public awareness of the EU in this field.

The Amsterdam Treaty entered into force on 1 May. It defines the beginnings of a CFSP by increasing EU responsibilities for peacekeeping and humanitarian work, and sets out institutional reforms to precede EU enlargement. It also elucidates the role of the Western European Union (WEU) as an integral part of the development of the EU and announces that the EU will foster closer institutional relations with the WEU with a view to possibly integrating it into the EU.

As a result of the Kosovo conflict, the Cologne European Council, which was held from 3-4 June, placed the Petersberg tasks (defined as the full range of conflict prevention and crisis management tasks) at the core of the European common security and defense policy.

On 10-11 December, the Helsinki European Council built on the guidelines of the Cologne Council and agreed to specific measures to apply to all Member States in the case of military operations. The presidential conclusions of this meeting stressed that the EU would contribute to international peace and security in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter; the EU recognizes the primary responsibility of the UN Security Council for the maintenance of

international peace and security; and the EU is determined to develop an autonomous capacity to make decisions and, where NATO as a whole is not engaged, to launch and conduct EU-led military operations in response to international crises. The process will avoid unnecessary duplication and does not imply the creation of a European army.

**1998:** On 17 December, the Council adopted a Joint Action on the EU's contribution to combating the destabilizing accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons.

**1997:** On 26 June, the EU program for preventing and combating illicit trafficking in conventional arms was adopted by the General Affairs Council of the EU.

The Amsterdam Treaty was signed on 2 October.

**1995:** Full implementation of the Schengen Treaty began in July with the removal of internal border controls between six of the seven signatories.

**1993:** The single EU market was established.

The Maastricht Treaty entered into force on 1 November. Under this Treaty, the European Political Cooperation (EPC) was transformed into the "Common Foreign and Security Policy." The objectives of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) are to preserve peace and strengthen international security, in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter as well as the principles of the Helsinki Final Act and the objectives of the Paris Charter.

**1987:** The Single European Act enters into force.

**1986:** The Single European Act was passed. By this Act, each State agreed to the setting-up of a single market throughout the European Union by 1992. It also introduced a new legislative procedure, the cooperation procedure, and it created an initial legal framework for a common foreign policy among the Member States. The program involved the abolition of exchange controls, the recognition of qualifications, the abolition of restrictions on internal transport, liberalization of the market in air services, public procurement tendering, life insurance and banking services, and the abolition of frontier controls.

**1985:** The signing of the Schengen Agreement created an area of free circulation within the EU. The original signatories are Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, France, Germany, Portugal, and Spain. Its purpose is to remove all controls at internal land, sea and airport frontiers. In order to maintain internal security, a variety of measures have been taken, including coordination of visa controls at the external

borders of the Member States through a common approach to visa policies and asylum procedures.

**1969:** From 1969 until the 1993 entry into force of the Maastricht Treaty, the EPC conducted the coordination of foreign policy initiatives of the European Community Member States.

**Point of Contact:**

Commission of the European Communities  
Rue de la Loi 200,  
B-1049, Brussels,  
BELGIUM.

Tel: (32 2) 299 1111,  
FAX: (32 2) 295 0138,  
Telex: COMEU B 21877.

Website: <http://europa.eu.int/>