



THE EU AND CONFLICT PREVENTION

Policies and tools
September 2006





How is the EU addressing today's challenges of insecurity and violent conflict?

- Historical perspective: dealing with inter-state conflict in Europe through economic integration rather than through traditional security policy means
- End of Cold War, the Balkan and Rwanda experiences in early 90s





➤ Comprehensive approach to crisis management, and Conflict prevention

- ❖ CFSP and community instruments
- ❖ Prevention better than cure – structural stability by addressing root causes of conflict
- ❖ Conflict prevention – using the full potential of the EU instruments





Development of the CFSP/ESDP: Crisis management and conflict prevention in parallel:

- ❖ Göteborg Programme on Conflict Prevention and EC Communication 2001
- ❖ European Security Strategy, EU Consensus on Development, EU Strategy for Africa, Cotonou Agreement, European Neighbourhood Policy



The Conflict Triangle areas of conflict prevention and peace building

Promotion of dialogue
Attitudes



Structures/incompatibility

Behaviour

Promotion of structural stability

Promotion of security



What is the EU doing?

Instruments at its disposal:

- ❖ Development co-operation
- ❖ Promotion of Human rights and Democratisation
- ❖ Environment
- ❖ Trade
- ❖ Political dialogue
- ❖ Crisis management
- ❖ Demobilisation, Disarmament and Reintegration
- ❖ Promoting good governance
- ❖ Security Sector Reform
- ❖ Confidence-building measures
- ❖ Role of the Media
- ❖ Peace keeping





The EU toolbox:

Early warning and conflict assessments – Watch-list,
EC delegation reports, root causes check-list

Cross-cutting issues – SSR, diamonds, timber

Mainstreaming through policy development, training
and information sharing

Combining instruments in different policy areas

Promoting international co-operation with EU partners
(OECD, OSCE, UN, civil society, regional
organisations)

Promoting international cooperation

with EU partners:

➤ UN

- ❖ Desk-to-desk dialogue on CP and strategic partnership EC – UNDP

- ❖ Peacebuilding Commission – EC as a major donor

➤ OECD-DAC (MS, EC) work on CP and on cross-cutting issues

➤ Regional Org. – partnerships and support (AU, IGAD, ECOWAS, OSCE etc)

➤ Civil Society: NGOs and Research institutions