
Chapter 31 Screening

Foreign, Security and Defence Policy,
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**ACP-EC Partnership Agreement (Cotonou): Political
dialogue, peace and security**

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Introduction to the ACP-EC Partnership (Cotonou) Agreement

- The Cotonou Agreement was signed in 2000 for a duration of 20 years, to be revised every 5 years.
- 25 EU + 78 ACP (Africa, Caribbean and Pacific) States
- Mixed Agreement (EC and Member States' competences)
- The first revision took place in 2005 and is provisionally in force (until full ratification by all EU Member States and 2/3 of the ACP States)
- Objectives:
 - promote development and a
 - contribute to peace and security
 - Promote a stable and democratic political environment

- Emphasis on partnership and participation
- Joint institutions

The political dimension of the Cotonou Agreement

- Political dialogue (Art. 8)
- Essential and fundamental elements (Art. 9)
- Consultations (Arts. 96, 97 and 11 b)
- Peace-building policies, conflict prevention and resolution (Art. 11)
- Fight against terrorism (Art. 11a)
- Migration (Art. 13)

The political dimension of the Cotonou Agreement (1): political dialogue

- ACP-EC Council (annually) leading occasionally to common positions in international fora
- Dialogues at the national level (managed by HoMs), reporting to the EU Council
- Troika dialogues with the AU, ECOWAS, SADC (bi-annual)
- Troika missions
- Guidelines for art. 8 political dialogue

The political dimension of the Cotonou Agreement (2): essential/fundamental elements

- Essential elements: human rights, the rule of law and democracy
- Fundamental element: good governance
- Areas for political dialogue and basis for consultations
- Important changes introduced in 2005 by Annex VII: intensification of political dialogue prior to consultations

The political dimension of the Cotonou Agreement (3): consultations

- Consultations can be called on the basis of violations of essential / fundamental elements (incl. provisions on non-proliferation)
- From 1995-2005, consultations were called with 12 ACP countries. Currently, consultations ongoing with Guinea, Togo, Mauritania and Zimbabwe.
- Procedure:
 - Council Decision to open consultations
 - Consultation meeting
 - Council Decision to close consultations + impose appropriate measures

The political dimension of the Cotonou Agreement (4): peace-building policies, conflict prevention and resolution

■ Africa Peace Facility

- Art. 11 – EDF can be spent in peace-building
- African ownership + solidarity (Maputo Declaration)
- 250 Million EUR fund for 2004-2007 (+ 50 MEUR)
- Support to operations (AMIS-Darfur; FOMUC-CAR)
- Capacity building component

■ Support to the International Court of Justice

■ Fight against mercenary activities

■ Fight against terrorism (Art. 11a)

■ Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (Art. 11b)

The political dimension of the Cotonou Agreement (5): migration

- Political dialogues on migration and troika missions
- Re-admission
- Training and education – Erasmus mundus
- AU-EU ministerial meeting on migration

- ACP-EC Partnership Agreement
 - (OJ L 317 of 15.12.2000)
- ACP-EC Council Decision 5/2005
 - (OJ L 287 of 28.10.2005) – Revised Agreement
- ACP-EC Council Decision of 11 December 2003 – Africa Peace Facility