

**Security Council Open Debate on the Maintenance of International Peace and Security:
Interdependence Between Security and Development**
11th February 2011, Security Council Chamber (GA-TSC-01)

Statement by H.E. Mr. Pedro Serrano, Acting Head of the delegation of the European Union to the United Nations.

Let me start by thanking Brazil for organizing today's debate on the interdependence between security and development. I would also like to thank the Secretary-General for his statement and Ms. Sarah Cliffe of the World Bank for her remarks on the World Development Report, which we look forward to. I also thank all of the speakers who have addressed the Council today.

The candidate countries of Turkey, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and the European Free Trade Association country of Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia and Georgia, align themselves with this declaration.

I would like to approach the complex interrelationship between security and development from three angles: first, security as a precondition for development; secondly, development as a precondition for security; and, finally, respect for human rights as a precondition for both security and development.

In the short run, security is a precondition for development. In more than half of the post-conflict countries conflict flares up again within five years after a peace agreement and destroys any hope of development. Peacekeeping missions can help keep violence at bay, especially if they are multidimensional and join forces with other United Nations actors through an integrated strategic framework while taking into account the need to ensure the impartiality, neutrality and independence of the humanitarian entities.

The European Union remains committed to further improving the performance of these missions, both from New York and in the field. In New York, we remain a staunch supporter of, and an active contributor to, the Peacebuilding Commission, which can provide peacebuilding counsel to the Security Council — for example, on how to tie the activities of its missions into the wider peacebuilding effort in a country. In addition, the European Union looks forward to a strategy for critical early peacebuilding tasks undertaken by peacekeepers that features joint United Nations planning and a clear United Nations division of labour based on competence, track records and ability to deliver. Also here in New York, we look forward to a results-oriented Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations that makes headway with an effective strategic framework for the protection of civilians and with the constructive dialogue on a robust approach to peacekeeping, among other things.

In the field, aside from our own 13 political, civilian and military missions, we make financial resources available for projects to buttress United Nations peacekeeping missions. This has, for example, helped the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti with the development of justice and police manuals; the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur with the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants; the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad with the training of police in Chad; and the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste with capacity-building in the security sector. All those are crucial steps towards making those countries safe for development.

In the long run, development is a precondition for security. Many of the poorest countries are also the most fragile ones, and each percentage point more growth means a percentage point less of a risk of civil war. We need to work on long-term solutions, mainstreaming conflict prevention into our development policies. We need to work on sustainable development, food security and on addressing all the root causes of conflict. That is what the European Union is doing.

Poverty eradication is at the heart of the Treaty of Lisbon. More than 50 per cent of the money spent to help developing countries comes from the European Union and its member States, making it the world's biggest aid donor. The Millennium Development Goals serve as one beacon of our aid policy, and national ownership serves as another. Of course, national actors can only take charge if they have the capacity to manage the myriad relationships with the international community. That is why the European Union has decided to help

the Peacebuilding Support Office put together a special database, which can serve as the basis for developing national aid-information management systems.

Human rights is the third pillar of our world Organization. Both in the short and in the long run, respect for all human rights and for the rule of law, apart from an end in itself, is also a precondition for both security and development. Security without respect for human rights and the rule of law is not security. There can be no human development without human rights. As the United Nations Development Group's most recent report on human rights mainstreaming argued, respect for human rights helps reduce inequality and discrimination, which often underlie development problems.

The European Union strongly backs the mainstreaming of human rights, including gender equality, in the work of the United Nations — for example, through the recently established mainstreaming mechanism of the Development Group. More frequent presentations by the High Commissioner for Human Rights at the Security Council would be a good way to further mainstream human rights in its work. The European Union supports the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in its efforts to integrate human rights into all components of United Nations peacekeeping operations.

Let me conclude by saluting the adoption of today's presidential statement (S/PRST/2011/4), which builds on an already important doctrine on this issue, including the 2005 World Summit Outcome and the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development. The European Union looks forward to further following up such declarations on the interdependence between security, development and human rights, translating them into international action.