

Evaluation of the Dutch policy with regard to the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)

Background

The Netherlands and the EU are at a crossroads with respect to the focus of their security and defence policies and are facing new strategic choices. Therefore the independent Policy and Operations Evaluations Department (IOB) of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs started an evaluation with regard to the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) covering the period from 2013-2019. The objective of this research is to map the challenges the Netherlands has faced and to derive lessons from them. The evaluation is part of an overall evaluation of section 2, 'Security and Stability', of the budget of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The evaluation will focus on three main themes:

- The role of the CSDP, in relation to NATO, in the European security architecture;
- The strengthening of military and civilian capabilities of the CSDP;
- The CSDP and the integrated approach, with a focus on cases in the Horn of Africa – EUNAVFOR Atalanta, EUTM Somalia and EUCAP Somalia.

The main research question of the evaluation is twofold:

- 1) What aims were pursued by the Netherlands in its CSDP policies, how did the Netherlands try to achieve them and to what extent has the Netherlands been successful at the EU-level?
- 2) Which lessons can be derived from the Dutch policies vis a vis CSDP to benefit future policy-making?

Interviews

Through (semi-structured) interviews a team of four researchers will collect the perspectives of the various stakeholders involved in the Dutch policy efforts regarding the CSDP and NATO in the period of 2013-2019. These researchers are: Margriet Drent, Sam Streefkerk, Anne Bakker and Aukje Postma.

For more questions, contact: Aukje Postma, policy researcher IOB, aukje.postma@minbuza.nl.

About the Policy and Operations Evaluation Department (IOB)

The objective of the Policy and Operations Evaluation Department (IOB) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands is to increase insight into the implementation and effects of Dutch foreign policy. IOB meets the need for independent evaluation of all areas of Dutch foreign policy. The evaluations aim to derive lessons for future policy-making.

For more information, see: <http://english.iob-evaluatie.nl>