



The Lisbon Treaty one year on: what progress for European Union foreign policy?

The implications for the EU and for the Mediterranean



London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), International Relations Department and Centre for International Studies, London, UK,
and
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Venue: LSE, London

Date: 4-5 November 2010

The Lisbon Treaty, which entered into force on 1 December 2009, contains a number of novelties for European foreign policy in terms of cooperation structures and instruments such as the External Action Service, a stronger parliamentary participation in the foreign, security and defence policy and new provisions on a large array of issues, including civil protection, humanitarian aid, environment and public health. The expectation is that the long overdue Lisbon Treaty will strengthen European Union foreign policy as well as help accelerate existing bilateral and multilateral relations with southern Mediterranean countries. However, in its first months the Lisbon Treaty has generated substantial criticism and scepticism.

The seminar will therefore look at what has happened with European Union foreign, security and defence policy as a consequence of the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty. The objective is to evaluate the implementation process and identify trends which will have a future bearing on the EU's relations with third countries.

Part of the seminar will be dedicated to the topic of the intra-EU implications of the new institutional framework for cooperation on foreign, security and defence policy. Has there been a qualitative leap forward, or do we see more continuity from the period before the Lisbon Treaty entered into force? What might be the consequences of the new External Action Service for EU foreign policy making and implementation? The second part of the seminar will look at the implications of the Lisbon Treaty for the EU's relations with neighbouring countries, especially Mediterranean partners. High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission (HRVP), Catherine Ashton, has noted that "our wider international credibility depends on getting our neighbourhood right." What prospects does the Lisbon Treaty offer for the Union to live up to its ambition to be decisive in actions beyond its borders, especially in those areas that are geographically close like the Mediterranean? How will the EU's new institutional set-up and mechanisms improve prospects for cooperation in the framework of the Union for the Mediterranean and in the Middle East?

4th November 2010

14.00 – 14.15 Inauguration

John Kent LSE/CIS and Amb. Senén Florensa (IEMed)

14.15 – 16.00 Panel 1 – The Lisbon Treaty and the Common Security and Defence Policy

What CSDP novelties have been introduced as a consequence of the Lisbon Treaty? What opportunities and challenges lie ahead for European security and defence policy as a consequence of the reforms?

Chair: Federica Bicchì, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

Karen E. Smith, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

Bastian Giegerich, Bundeswehr Institute of Social Sciences, Germany

Eva Gross, Institute for European Studies, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

Debate

16.00 – 16.30 coffee break

16.30 – 18.30 Roundtable – The Lisbon Treaty and the Common Foreign and Security Policy

What are the implications of the Lisbon Treaty provisions for EU foreign and security policy in a current and/or historical perspective? Has there been a qualitative leap forward in European integration in this area or has the reform been more inconclusive in nature?

Chair: Robert Falkner, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

Christopher Hill, University of Cambridge, UK

Zaki Laidi, Sciences Po, France

Spyros Economides, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

Richard Whitman, University of Bath, UK

Debate

5th November 2010

09.30 – 11.00 Panel 2 – The Lisbon Treaty, the EU and the governance of the EU's external relations in the Mediterranean

What prospects, if any, does the Lisbon Treaty offer in order to enhance bilateral and multilateral relations like the European Neighbourhood Policy and the Union for the Mediterranean? How can the EU's internal governance be made compatible with the institutional set-up of the UfM (co-presidency/EU representation in UfM bodies)? Where is the Union for Mediterranean heading? Can it be revitalized?

Chair: Senén Florensa, IEMed, Spain

Richard Gillespie, University of Liverpool, UK

Elisabeth Johansson-Nogués, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

José Luis Pardo, EU SubDG General and Economic Affairs Coordination, Secretary of State for the EU, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Spain

Debate

11.00 – 11.15 coffee break

11.15 – 12.45 Panel 3 – The Lisbon Treaty and the EU's actorness in the Middle East

Will the Lisbon Treaty help the Union to live up to its ambition to be more decisive in the Middle East conflict? Will the reforms help foment more cohesion and common action among the EU member states on this issue? What added value will the External Action Service/HRVP Ashton bring?

Chair: Karen E. Smith, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

Rosemary Hollis, City University London, UK

Federica Bicchi, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

Clara Marina O'Donnell, Centre for European Reform, UK

Debate