



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office





Working with Europe and the EU

– A New Context

Practitioner Level Training Course
organised by the European Institute of Public Administration
(EIPA), Maastricht on behalf of
the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)

London, 3-5 November 2025



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3.4

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Interactive exercise: Identifying your interlocutors - who is in charge of what in the EU's system of external action

(Open) strategic autonomy
Case study



Foreign, Commonwealth
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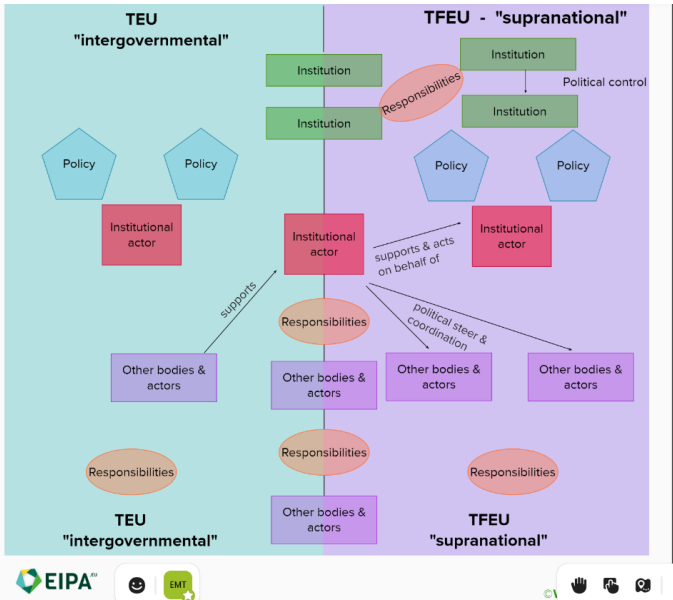
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Group exercise: who does what in EU external action



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The actors: who speaks for the EU?



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Who speaks for the EU?



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Who speaks for the EU?



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Who speaks for the EU?





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The European External Action Service (EEAS)



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The European External Action Service (EEAS)



... the High Representative shall be assisted by a European External Action Service. This service shall work in **cooperation with the diplomatic services of the Member States** and shall comprise officials from the relevant departments of the General Secretariat of the Council and of the Commission as well as **staff seconded from the diplomatic services of the Member States**.

(TEU Art. 27.3 + Declaration on Art. 27)

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The result...

L 201/30 EN Official Journal of the European Union 3.8.2010

DECISIONS

COUNCIL DECISION of 26 July 2010

establishing the organisation and functioning of the European External
(2010/427/EU)



THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 27(3) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (the High Representative),

Representative in his/her capacity as Vice-President of the Commission, in respect of his/her responsibilities within the Commission for responsibilities incumbent on it in external relations, and in coordinating other aspects of the Union's external action, without prejudice to the normal tasks of the Commission services.

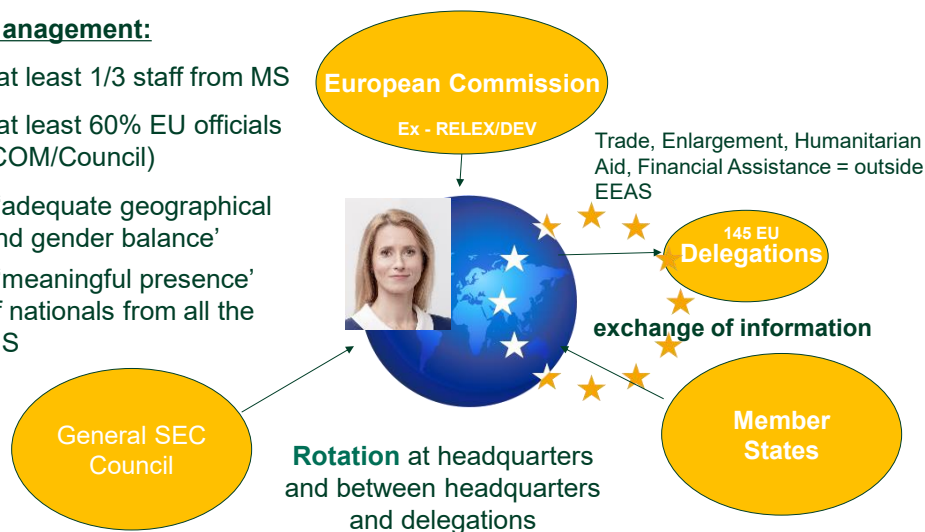


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The European External Action Service (EEAS)

Management:

- at least 1/3 staff from MS
- at least 60% EU officials (COM/Council)
- 'adequate geographical and gender balance'
- 'meaningful presence' of nationals from all the MS



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The EEAS and the EU Delegations



Delegation of the European Union in Erevan, Armenia. 05.09.2018. [Shutterstock/Alexander Chizhenok]



The EEAS and the EU Delegations

Implementation of
'operational credits' in third
country
(sub-delegation by COM)

