



About EUNPACK

EUNPACK, a project funded by the European Commission's Horizon 2020 programme, takes an integral approach to the crisis cycle. It considers the EU's intentions and use of the tools at its disposal (from financial and technical assistance to the launch of military missions); reception on the ground and perceptions in host countries. The project started in April 2016, and its first substantive research reports are now available. Fieldwork is ongoing.

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An AREU surveyor is conducting an interview in a private home in Kabul, Afghanistan, as part of EUNPACK's field work. Photo: AREU

From our field research: Libya

Chiara Loschi, Institut de Recherche sur le Maghreb Contemporain, Tunis

During the summer of 2017, work package 6 of the EUNPACK project carried out quantitative surveys among 228 respondents in Tunisia, Libya, and Italy about their perceptions of the European Union's responses to the crisis unfolding in Libya. The surveys were organised and implemented by the Institut de Recherche sur le Maghreb Contemporain in Tunis as the local partner together with the Sant' Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa.

A policy brief (Deliverable 6.4) based on the survey highlights that while the EU is the best-known international actor involved in crisis response in Libya, the impact of its initiatives is less visible, prompting a certain degree of dissatisfaction, if not outright



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ECPR

The EUNPACK consortium organised a panel at the annual conference of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) in Oslo on 7 September. The panel was chaired by Kari Osland from NUPI, and four papers from the first phase of the project were presented and discussed.

To shed light on the general issues of the project, Oliver Richmond (University of Manchester) presented the paper "The EU and Crisis Management: Conceptualizing Crises Management as an Institutional Vernacular", and Pernille Rieker (NUPI) presented the paper "Towards a Conflict Sensitive EU Crisis Response?".

To get some insight into the case countries, Jozef Batora (Comenius University) presented a paper on EU's crisis response in Serbia and Kosovo, while Francesco Strazzari (Sant' Anna School of Advanced Studies) presented a paper on the EU's crisis response in Libya and Ukraine.

The presentations were followed by a discussion led by Giulia Tercovich from the Global Governance Institute (GGI).

Coming up

Working papers on Ukraine and Libya, on Serbia and Kosovo, and on Iraq, Afghanistan and Mali.

All publications are available at <http://eunpack.eu/publications>

Libya (contd.)

scepticism. This is particularly notable among ethnic minorities living in peripheral regions. On the other hand, the EU was in particular praised for its initiatives in the fields of humanitarian assistance and capacity building, especially in targeting the most vulnerable social groups.

The profiles of the surveyed population mirror rather accurately some of the defining features of the Libyan population overall. The vast majority of the respondents are Libyan nationals (90.4%) and define themselves as Sunni Muslims (90%). (Those who are not Libyan nationals include sub-Saharan African migrants present in Libya [3% of the sample] and foreign workers involved in different ways in crisis response initiatives dealing with Libya, the majority of whom are Tunisians [1.7%] and Italians [1.7%.])

In line with the country's high social standards (by comparison with the rest of the region), 82.4% of respondents described their social status as average or above average. In terms of self-identified ethnic belonging, the surveyed individuals include 70% Arabs, 12.3% Tuaregs, 7% Amazigh/Berber, 2% Tawergha, and 0.4% Tebu. Slightly less than two thirds (62.7%) of the respondents live in Tripolitania, and considerably fewer in the other historic regions of Libya, including 11.4% in Cyrenaica and 11% in Fezzan. Moreover, 8% of the respondents live outside Libya, including 5.7% in Tunisia.

The full policy brief will be available at <http://eunpack.eu/publications>

Upcoming event: European Café, Kharkiv 21 October 2017

The first European Café Debate to be organised in the framework of the project EUNPACK will be held at Kharkiv National University on 21 October, from 3:50pm to 6pm.

On that occasion, Kateryna Pishchikova (Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa) and Kateryna Ivaschenko-Stadnik (Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine) will present initial findings from the research conducted by the joint research team "Crisis in the Neighbourhood", in particular on the encounter between EU crisis-management practices and local responses in Ukraine. The presentations will specifically revolve around a perception study carried out in selected locations across the country during the summer 2017 – namely, a survey assessing how local stakeholders consider the EU approach to crisis management and the European commitments towards local ownership and conflict sensitivity.

European Café (contd.)

The presentation of the findings will be followed by a debate, to which representatives of the local media, NGOs, associations as well as institutions have been invited to take part. The workshop will be chaired by Roman Petrov, who coordinates the Kiev-based research team of EUNPACK and is also the president of the Ukrainian European Studies Association (UESA).

The European Café Debate will take place at the end of the first day of the Annual UESA Congress, whose 11th annual meeting is devoted to the topic of "Conflict Transformation and Promotion of European Common Values in Ukraine and Eastern Partnership".



Workshop at ARGA in Bamako, Mali, ahead of the launch of fieldwork for the EUNPACK perception study (July 2017).
Photo: ARGA

Past event: Research Meets Policy Seminar, Brussels**11 September 2017****Improving EU capabilities for peacebuilding**

EUNPACK participated in a Research Meets Policy Seminar organised by the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) in Brussels on behalf of the EU-CIVCAP project, a Horizon 2020 partner project. The event was by invitation only, and the more than 20 participants spoke off the record to allow frank and open discussion.

The seminar focused on the first year of implementation of the EU Global Strategy, especially one of its main deliverables: the strategic approach to resilience in the EU's external action. There was a general agreement in the meeting on the importance of a bottom up approach – local ownership of resilience, especially in its civilian dimension, which means building resilience among individuals, communities and societies.

Jozef Bátora, professor at the Comenius University in Bratislava and part of the EUNPACK Kosovo team, presented some of the findings from EUNPACK Kosovo, which showed great dissatisfaction with EU crisis response among the Serbian population living in Kosovo. This underscored the importance of local ownership. Bátora also pointed out that DG DEVCO and DG ECHO should try to map local capabilities

before engaging. While this is limited by resource constraints, one of the seminar participants said that the EU was in the process of testing single country assessments before engaging, which could help prevent such local-level dissatisfaction with the EU.

A second session of the seminar discussed the gender dimension of the EU's Global Strategy and of its civilian and military missions.

Past event: Peacebuilding Forum, Brussels

11 September 2017

In reform we trust: improved EU-UN cooperation in preventing and responding to conflicts?

Also as part of the EU-CIVCAP project and organised by CEPS, a public panel debate took stock of recent developments in EU-UN cooperation on conflict prevention and peacebuilding.



Panelists at the EU-CIVCAP Peacebuilding Forum on 11 September discussed the promise of cooperation between the EU and the UN in conflict prevention and peacebuilding. Photo: CEPS

The panel included representatives from the European Commission, the UN, CEPS, the Istituto Affari Internazionali, the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office. Jozef Bátora presented ongoing EUNPACK research that received good feedback from the panel, with panelists conceding that a broader understanding of local dynamics was missing on the part of both the UN and the EU.

Graduate Course, Berlin

Summer semester 2017

EU foreign policy in action: EU ambitions and practice of conflict and crisis management

In the summer semester 2017, a graduate course building on the EUNPACK project was offered at Freie Universität Berlin under the heading “EU foreign policy in action: EU ambitions and practice of conflict and crisis management”, taught by Dr. Ingo Peters (head of EUNPACK Work Package 7) and Enver Ferhatovic (senior researcher in WP 7). After sessions introducing the research design of the EUNPACK project and establishing the scope for graduate course work, the first part of the graduate course presented basic features of EU foreign policy in general and its conflict and crisis management policy, and theoretical and methodological issues were elaborated. The second part focused on student presentations of their case studies. The seminar attracted some 24 graduate students from different study programmes and nationalities with a variety of expertise. The students were extraordinarily committed and their draft case studies, presented in class, hold promise for the seminar papers which are still pending. Due to the excellent experience with this research-based seminar, we will repeat this in the winter semester 2017/18.

Consortium

The consortium consists of researchers with a special competence on the EU and specialists on peace and conflict studies within different sectors and/or regions. More specifically, it will consist of the following key institutions.



NUPI
Norway



UoM
UK



ATASP
Germany



CEPS
Belgium



Comenius
Slovakia



Sant' Anna
Italy



BCSP
Serbia



KCSS
Kosovo



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ARGA
Mali



AREU
Afghanistan



MERI
Iraq