

European military officers in Brussels and the CSDP – Which shared visions and preferences?



European External Action Service

PhD Seminar/Séminaire doctoral REPI

Thursday September 18/Jedi 18 septembre 2014
12:00 – 14:00 p.m.

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Discussant/Discutant : **Pr Dr Alexander MATTELAER** – IES, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Chair/Président de séance : Barbara Delcourt

ABSTRACT

Over the last decade, the growing importance of EU civil servants with respect to the shaping of the EU's external action has been repeatedly emphasized (the construction of the EEAS, despite difficult beginnings, belongs to this trend). Following the birth of the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy, military officers have officially joined the ranks of EU civil servants, with the EU Military Staff (which is now part of the EEAS) employing around two hundred military officers. In addition, the permanent representations of EU member states also employ military officers, who represent their member states at the EU Military Committee and other institutions. In our research, we seek to examine with the tools of constructivism whether socialization mechanisms are at work between the military officers working at the EU level in Brussels and their civilian colleagues (in particular within the EEAS and the Commission), and whether these mechanisms are bringing about a transmission of ideas and beliefs between the two. In this seminar, we will present initial results from the first stage of our research, namely the identification of some of the beliefs and preferences with regards to the CSDP and the EU as an external actor which are shared - to varying degrees - by military officers working at the EUMS, the CMPD, and in the permanent representations of member states.

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Free attendance but **registration required**. Please register by sending an email to:
Participation libre, mais **inscription obligatoire** auprès de :
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