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Manuela Scheuermann

pp. 99–105

A Natural Partnership? EU-UN Cooperation with Regard to Peacekeeping in Africa

Parallel peacekeeping of multiple global and regional players has been the established model of peacekeeping since the mid-1990s. In 2003, a new inter-organisational relationship was created: European Union military troops directly supported United Nations peacekeepers for a limited period of time and with limited scope in their efforts in sub-Saharan Africa. After this initial phase of EU-UN cooperation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (2003, 2006) and Chad/ Central African Republic and the Sudan (2008–2009), the operative relationship came to a provisional end even though the conceptual work continued. The military support operation in Mali 2014, marked a comeback. Is this the beginning of a more institutionalized and continuing EU-UN cooperation in peacekeeping? To answer this question, the common efforts from 2003 to 2009 are evaluated and current trends in EU-UN relations discussed.

Dustin Dehez pp. 106–112

France's Special Role in Africa. French Policy in Africa between National Tradition and International Responsibility

Twenty years after the international community failed to act on the genocide in Rwanda, the crisis in Mali and the slaughter in the Central African Republic have both prompted a French intervention that was quickly followed by missions of the European and the African Union. However, whenever France chooses to intervene, suspicions as to the motive of these interventions quickly arise. Yet, over the past decades French policies have changed considerably and France is eager to utilise multilateral organisations in the pursuit of its interests. This strategy, however, is significantly curtailed by European reluctance to get involved militarily in sub-Saharan Africa, while African organisations do not necessarily want to be associated with the baggage that comes with Françafrique the special relationship former French colonies maintained with Paris. In trying to build support for its interventions, France focuses on the United Nations, while seeking co-operation with the European and African Union. In doing so, it puts Germany's foreign policy to the test.

Roderich Kiesewetter

p. 113

Comment: More German Soldiers for United Nations Peacekeeping Missions? Yes!

After the Rwandan genocide in 1994, the concept of the Responsibility to Protect was developed. Despite promises to implement this concept, Germany has not taken enough action so far. It is the fourth biggest financial contributor to UN

peacekeeping missions and its population approves the deployment of German troops in order to prevent genocide in foreign countries. But German soldiers and police officers are still by far underrepresented in UN peacekeeping missions. Germany should not only support the UN financially but also with blue helmets in a comprehensive approach.

Stefan Liebich

p. 114

Comment: More German Soldiers for United Nations Peacekeeping Missions? No!

Germany's foreign policy should not only be operated from the edge but should rather play an active role. However, that does not mean that Germany should send more soldiers in conflict regions. Securing peace must remain a core task of the UN. Germany's contribution should focus on monitoring peace agreements, establishing civilian structures that support the disarmament of conflict parties, training administrative staff and reducing arms exports to conflict regions.

"It Is Not a North-South Agenda Anymore" pp. 115–118

Interview with Amina Mohammed, Special Adviser on Post-2015 Development Planning, on the status of the negotiation process of the Post-2015 development agenda, major discussion forums, input of academia, innovative financing instruments, accountability mechanisms and Member States' ownership of the process.

Harry Hoffmann · Götz Uckert

pp. 119-124

The UN Initiative Sustainable Energy for All

History, Assessment and Prospects

Energy is the backbone for development and the functioning of modern societies. Over the past years, the United Nations launched a series of activities (international year, international decade and initiative) with focus on the global energy problem as related challenges are gaining increasing momentum in the development and climate change discussion. The three main foci of these activities are: providing universal energy access, doubling the global rate of improvements in energy efficiency increase and doubling the global share of renewable energy—all under the umbrella of >Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL). In this article the authors outline the background of the challenge in the energy sector for developed, emerging and developing countries alike and present the different tools the United Nations has at its disposal to reach this goal. Furthermore, they explain the input of the most prominent UN organisations and conclude with a critical view on the aims and parameters that determine these joint energy-related efforts within the UN system.