

# The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the European Parliament

## Activity report of the 7th legislature (2009-2014)

### Overview

Under the chairmanship of Gabriele Albertini (EPP) in the first half of the legislature, and Elmar Brok (EPP) in the second half, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the European Parliament (AFET) made a decisive contribution to strengthening the influence of the European Parliament in the field of EU foreign policy and used the important powers gained through the Lisbon Treaty to pursue the EP objectives, such as the promotion of democracy and the rule of law throughout the world.

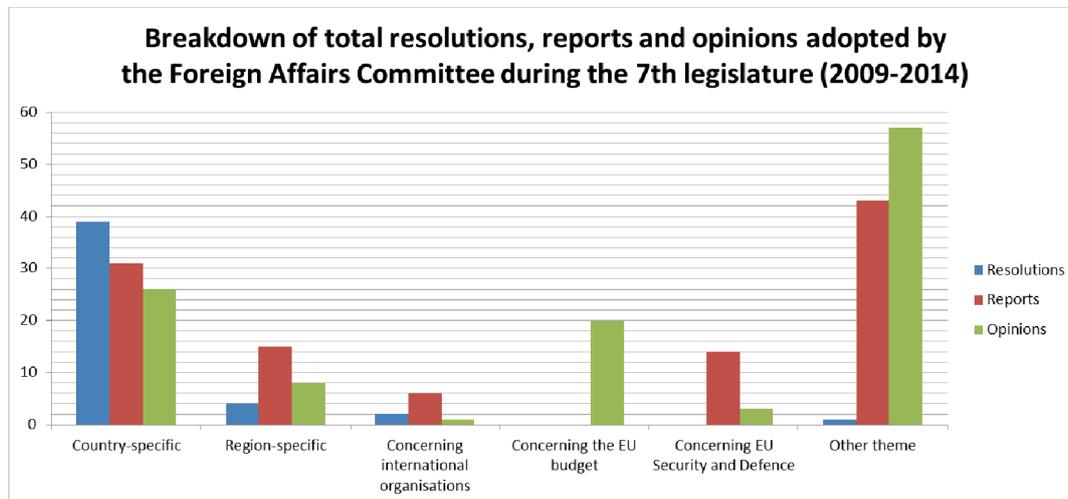
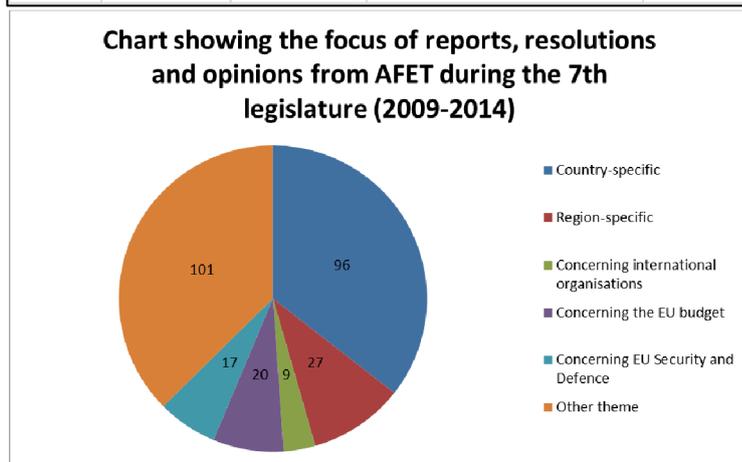
It has done so, *inter alia*, by combining several tools:

- the **adoption of relevant reports, motions for resolutions and opinions** - *see statistics below*
- its **budgetary prerogatives** used to ensure appropriate funding for the priorities of the EU policy, and follow-up to specific reports and recommendations by the Court of Auditors
- its **legislative role** in the adoption of **the external financial instruments** of the Union; the Committee was, in particular, able to see its views widely reflected in the package of external instruments (2014-2020) adopted in 2013;
- its **right to ratify international agreements**, that it used as a leverage to see some of its concerns taken into consideration, such as for example the introduction of a reporting mechanism to the EP regarding the mainstreaming of human rights in the implementation of the Turkmenistan agreement;
- the **setting up of appropriate bodies**, such as the Monitoring group on the situation in the Southern Mediterranean (set up in the wake of the “Arab Spring”) or the informal “Vilnius Group” for the Eastern partnership, and the **participation** of AFET Members in the **EU joint task forces** with Tunisia, Jordan, Egypt and Myanmar;
- actions of **parliamentary diplomacy**, such as the organisation of timely **delegations to third countries**; this has been for example the case during the two *ad hoc* delegations to Ukraine in January and February 2014, in the midst of the protest movement and political turmoil; or during the AFET delegation in Washington DC in autumn 2013, that allowed for discussions on ways of restoring trust in the transatlantic partnership after revelations of mass electronic surveillance by the NSA;
- **exchanges of views** with key stakeholders of EU and of third countries; these included
  - Heads of State such as Amadou Toumani Touré (President of the Republic of Mali), Jacob Zuma (President of South Africa) and Mikheil Saakashvili (President of Georgia) in 2010, and Michel Joseph Martelly (President of the Republic of Haïti) in 2012;

- Foreign ministers representing both EU countries, such as Carl Bildt (Sweden) in 2009, Janos Martoniy (Hungary) and Radosław Sikorski (Poland) in 2011, Laurent Fabius (France) in 2013, and third countries such as Ahmed Aboul Gheit (Egypt) in 2009, and Manouchehr Mottaki (Iran), Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi (Pakistan) and Kostyantyn Gryshchenko (Ukraine) in 2010. In June 2013 the Enlarged Bureau of AFET hosted **Ali Laarayedh, the prime minister of Tunisia, to talk on EU-Tuinisian coperation. Likewise,** April 2014 the Parliament also hosted an exchange of views with Nabil Fahmi, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, on the political situation in Egypt after the revolution.
  - Heads of prominent international organisations, including Ban Ki-moon (UN Secretary-General) and Anders Fogh Rasmussen (Secretary General of NATO) in 2010
- **hearings and high-level conferences**, such as the one on “Afghanistan and Central Asia: Prospects and Challenges after Withdrawal of NATO/ISAF Forces’ (December2013), that brought together political stakeholders, civil society and experts. Likewise, the hearing **Regional Actors as Vectors of Peace: What Role for the EU?**, co-hosted by AFET and CMI in April 2012, examined the role of regional actors in peace-building activities, and the role of the EU in peace mediation efforts. Speakers included prominent peace mediators and political figures.

Statistical tables and charts showing the thematic breakdown of the work of the Foreign Affairs Committee during the seventh legislature  
(September 2009 - April 2014)

	Country-specific	Region-specific	Concerning international organisations	Concerning the EU budget	Concerning EU Security and Defence	Other theme	Total
Resolutions	39	4	2	0	0	1	46
Reports	31	15	6	0	14	43	109
Opinions	26	8	1	20	3	57	115
Combined	Country-specific	Region-specific	Concerning international organisations	Concerning the EU budget	Concerning EU Security and Defence	Other theme	Total
	96	27	9	20	17	101	270



## **An insight into the work of the Foreign Affairs Committee during the 7<sup>th</sup> legislature**

### ***The AFET contribution to the establishment of the European External Action Service***

Following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the Committee on Foreign Affairs was, within the European Parliament, the committee responsible for the adoption of legislation establishing the diplomatic service of the European Union, called the European External Action Service (EEAS).

For further information on what EEAS is, please consult:  
[http://eeas.europa.eu/background/index\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/background/index_en.htm)

It pursued three principle goals in these negotiations:

- laying down the basis for a strong service which would be in the position to enhance the EU's role on the global scene;
- safeguarding and strengthening the "Union" identity of the service;
- guaranteeing its political and budgetary accountability towards the EP, thereby reinforcing the democratic legitimacy of overall EU foreign policy.

The Committee achieved the introduction of a number of systemic measures, in particular:

- the EEAS is to be in the lead on strategic programming of external financing instruments, while decisions in this regard continue to be taken by the College of Commissioners, under EP's oversight.
- former Council CSDP structures are to be anchored in the EEAS, under the direct authority of the HR/VP, and obliged to cooperate closely with former Commission crisis management structures.
- the Heads of EU Delegations in third countries are to exercise authority over all staff in Delegations independent of their institutional origin
- a team working on human rights issues in the EEAS headquarters and focal points for human rights is to be established in all relevant EU Delegations
- at least 60% of all EEAS staff, throughout the hierarchy, must be EU permanent officials, with long-term loyalty towards the EU institutions.

As a result of the negotiations, the budgetary control rights of the EP were strengthened, with the EEAS administrative budget subject to the same rules and controls by the Parliament as the Commission's budget. The operational budget remained the responsibility of the Commission, and the transparency of the CFSP budget was increased, including through separate budget lines for main CFSP missions.

The negotiations were a crucial opportunity to put the relationship between the head of the EEAS (the "High representative / Vice President of the Commission", further: HR/VP) and the Parliament on a new basis: as part of the package, the HR/VP agreed to define her duties vis-à-vis the Parliament in a "Declaration on Political Accountability". Whereas elements such as access to classified information and the ex-ante dialogue on mandates and strategies still remain to be provided for systematically, most of other elements of the Declaration have become a regular part of the AFET committee's work.

In addition to this decisive influence over the creation of the EEAS, the Committee has throughout the previous legislature period increased its capacity to react quickly to developments on the international stage as well as its ability to provide timely and constructive input into the shaping of EU foreign policy.

### **Relevant adopted reports:**

**Recommendation to the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission, to the Council and to the Commission on the 2013 review of the organisation and the functioning of the EEAS**, Elmar Brok & Roberto Gualtieri (EPP and S&D), adopted on 13/06/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0278)

### **Parliamentary scrutiny over the Common Foreign and Security Policy**

The Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) is the EU's collective foreign policy, developed in order to give the 28 Member States more of a single voice in the EU's external policy. The CFSP is a mechanism whereby the Member States, voting in the Council, must give unanimous consent to particular EU external policy operations, which most commonly include actions such as the concluding of international commercial agreements, funding to third countries, peacekeeping operations and election monitoring in third countries. The current form of the CFSP evolved from the Lisbon Treaty of 2009, which allowed for the creation of the EU's diplomatic service, the European External Action Service, and the position of an EU HR/VP to head the diplomatic service.

The parliamentary scrutiny of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) has been further strengthened under the previous legislature with the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty and the HR/VP's "Declaration of Political accountability" of the EEAS. It has been mainly implemented through:

- "**CFSP Joint Consultation Meetings**": composed of Members of the Bureaux of the AFET and Budget Committees, this body discusses the financial implications of decisions adopted by the Council, including civilian missions, as well as broader strategic issues. It has since the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty taken place at political level, with the Council being represented by the HR/VP's appointed permanent Chair of the Political and Security Committee<sup>1</sup>;
- **The annual CFSP resolution** prepared by the chair of AFET on the report submitted by the Council on the main aspects and basic choices of the CFSP. Parliament has consistently insisted that the report by the Council should be more forward-looking. The CFSP report has provided for a debate between the two institutions on the political priorities of the EU for the months to follow.

As a matter of example, the European Parliament's [resolution](#) of October 2013 on the Annual CFSP report urged member states to show unity, whilst addressing weak

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<sup>1</sup> The Political and Security Committee monitors the international situation in the areas covered by the Common Foreign and Security Policy, contributes to the definition of EU policies, monitors the implementation of agreed policies, and exercises, under the responsibility of the Council, political control and strategic direction of CSDP missions. This is all without prejudice to the powers of the HR/VP.

areas, regretting *inter alia* the fact that 'the EU has not yet developed a clear strategy for its relations with the rest of the world and that its activities are defined more by reaction than by action;' It demanded 'a fundamental strategic debate, which should include the Council, the Commission and Parliament;'

- The **Special Committee**: composed of the Chair of AFET plus 5 other members appointed by the Conference of Presidents, it can request access to examine confidential Council documents in the area of security and defense, according to the Inter-institutional Agreement of 20 November 2002 (2002 IIA), and meets regularly with the HR/VP.

#### **Relevant adopted reports:**

**SEDE Implementation of the European Security Strategy and the Common Security and Defence Policy**, Arnaud Danjean (EPP), adopted on 10/03/2010 (T7-0061-2010)

**Report on the annual report from the Council to the European Parliament on the main aspects and basic choices of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) in 2008, presented to the European Parliament in application of Part II, Section G, paragraph 43 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006**, Gabriele Albertini (EPP), adopted 10/03/2010 (T7-0060-2010)

**Migration Flows arising from Instability: Scope and Role of the EU Foreign Policy**, Fiorello Provera (EFD), adopted on 05/04/2011 (P7\_TA(2011)0121)

**The annual report from the Council to the European Parliament on the main aspects and basic choices of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) in 2009, presented to the European Parliament in application of Part II, Section G, paragraph 43 of the Inter-institutional Agreement of 17 May 2006**, Gabriele Albertini (EPP), adopted on 11/05/2011 (P7\_TA(2011)0227)

**SEDE Development of the common security and defence policy following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty**, Roberto Gualtieri (S&D), adopted on 11/05/2011 (P7\_TA(2011)0228)

**DROI EU external policies in favour of Democratisation**, Veronique de Keyser (S&D), adopted on 07/07/2011 (P7\_TA(2011)0334)

**The Annual Report from the Council to the European Parliament on the Common Foreign and Security Policy**, Elmar Brok (EPP), adopted on 12/09/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0334)

**SEDE The role of the Common Security and Defence Policy in case of climate driven crises and natural disasters**, Indrek Tarand (Greens), adopted on 22/11/2012, (P7\_TA(2012)0458)

**SEDE Cyber Security and Defence**, Tunne Kelam (EPP), adopted on 22/11/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0457)

**SEDE** **The EU's mutual defence and solidarity clauses: political and operational dimensions**, José Ioan Mircea Paşcu (S&D), adopted on 22/11/2012, (P7\_TA(2012)0456)

**SEDE** **Implementation of the Common Security and Defence Policy (based on the Annual Report from the Council to the European Parliament on the Common Foreign and Security Policy)**, Arnaud Danjean (EPP), adopted on 22/11/2012, (P7\_TA(2012)0455)

**SEDE** **EU's military structures: state of play and future prospects**, Marietta Giannakou (EPP), adopted on 12/09/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0381)

**SEDE** **The Maritime Dimension of the Common Security and Defence Policy**, Ana Gomes (S&D), adopted on 12/09/2013, (P7\_TA(2013)0380)

**The Annual Report from the Council to the European Parliament on the Common Foreign and Security Policy in 2012**, Elmar Brok (EPP), adopted on 24/10/2013, (P7\_TA(2013)0453)

**SEDE** **The implementation of the Common Security and Defence Policy (based on the Annual Report from the Council to the European Parliament on the Common Foreign and Security Policy)**, Maria Eleni Koppa (S&D), adopted on 21/11/2013, (P7\_TA(2013)0513)

**An anti-missile shield for Europe and its political and strategic implications**, Sampo Terho (EFD), adopted on 12/03/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0209)

**The EU comprehensive approach and its implications for the coherence of EU external action**, Arnaud Danjean (S&D), adopted on 03/04/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0286)

## External financing instruments 2014-2020 – Negotiations and parliamentary scrutiny

The external financial instruments for the years 2014-2020 were adopted in December 2013 following 18 months of negotiations between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission. The Foreign Affairs Committee represented the EP in these negotiations for six legislative texts: the over-arching regulation on Common Implementing Rules (CIR) and the regulations establishing five of the instruments:

- **Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA II):** This instrument operates in the candidate countries and potential candidate countries of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The instrument has a financial envelope of €11.7 billion, dispersed over seven years, and this is used to enable these countries to adopt major progressive reforms to their domestic policies that will align the countries more closely with EU rules and regulations, with a view to eventual EU accession.
- **European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI):** This instrument is the main financial tool used in the European Neighbourhood Policy, and therefore benefits the countries included in the ENP: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, the Republic of Moldova, Morocco, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine. The financial envelope for this instrument is €15.4 billion over seven years, of which up to 80% can be spent on bilateral programmes, and up to 35% on multi-country programmes. The aim of the instrument is to strengthen relations between the EU and its neighbouring countries by creating greater economic integration between the EU and its neighbourhood, and encouraging the growth of sustainable democracies in beneficiary countries.
- **Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (ISP):** This instrument has a financial envelope of €2.3 billion, which can be used in any non-EU country to address a crisis situation, or for the purposes of conflict-prevention and peace-building. The instrument is intended to finance civil society organisations as well as governments and international organisations.
- **European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR):** This instrument has a financial envelope of €1.33 billion, and is used to fund activities in any non-EU country which contribute to the development of greater democracy and respect for human rights. One quarter of the budget for this instrument is allocated each year for EU election observations missions.
- **Partnership Instrument (PI):** This instrument has a budget of €954.8 million over seven years, and can be used in any non-EU country where the EU has a particular strategic interest, including prominent partners such as the United States of America, Canada, Brazil, India, China and South-Africa. The instrument is used to promote EU values in relations with the partner country, as well as promoting good relations in general and good trade relations in particular.

The overall compromise reached by the end of 2013 between the three institutions broadly reflects the negotiating mandate of the AFET Committee: it enhances the transparency, visibility, democratic oversight and coherence of the new programmes, and ensures the

mainstreaming of human rights in all instruments as well as a pronounced attention to the promotion of democracy and rule of law.

**Relevant adopted reports:**

**DROI Financing instrument for the promotion of democracy and human rights worldwide (amendment of Regulation (EC) No 1889/2006)),** Kinga Gál and Barbara Lochbihler (EPP and Greens/ALE), adopted after second reading on 03/02/2011 (T7-0031-2011)

**Establishing common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for external action,** Elmar Brok (EPP), adopted on 11/12/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0565)

**Establishing a financing instrument for the promotion of democracy and human rights worldwide,** Alexander Graf Lambsdorff (ALDE), adopted on 11/12/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0570)

**Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II),** Libor Rouček (S&D), adopted on 11/12/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0568)

**Establishing a European Neighbourhood Instrument,** Eduard Kukan (EPP), adopted on 11/12/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0567)

**Establishing a Partnership Instrument for cooperation with third countries,** Antonio López-Istúriz White (EPP), adopted on 11/12/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0569)

**Establishing an Instrument for Stability,** Reinhard Bütikofer (Greens), adopted on 11/12/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0566)

## **Human rights, promotion of democracy and election observation**

Human rights and the promotion of democracy worldwide are priorities of the Parliament which fall under the remit of AFET. While human rights are discussed in depth by its subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI), the Committee on Foreign Affairs makes a point of raising human rights concerns in debates, reports, during delegation visits, and ensuring the inclusion of human rights clause in agreements with third countries.

Every year, since 1988, the European Parliament awards the Sakharov Prize for freedom of thought, intending to honour exceptional individuals who fight for human rights and freedom of thought, combat intolerance, fanaticism and oppression. Together with the Committee for Development and the Human Rights Subcommittee, AFET is responsible to organise the debates and votes on the Sakharov Prize, which is then awarded in plenary. In 2013 the prize was awarded to the Pakistani human rights activist Malala Yousafzai.

Election observation activities carried out by the Parliament reflect the commitment to promoting democracy, human rights and rule of law. The oversight of the election observation activities lies with the Group responsible for Election Coordination, co-chaired by the Chairs of the Foreign Affairs and Development Committees. The Group identifies the priority countries for Parliamentary election observation, submits the authorisation request to the Conference of Presidents and launches the missions. The Group is consulted by the High Representative on the priority countries to be selected for the European Union Election Observation Missions (EU EOMs). Furthermore, the High Representative, after consultation with the Group, nominates an MEP as Chief Observer for the EU EOM.

Since May 2012, the Conference of Presidents expanded the mandate of the Election Coordination Group to include more activities on democracy promotion, particularly support to parliamentary democracy, management of activities related to Sakharov network, follow up to the election observation missions and mediation activities.

### **Relevant adopted reports:**

**DROI EU Policies in favour of Human Rights Defenders**, Heidi Hautala (Greens/ALE), adopted on 17/06/2010 (T7-0226-2010)

**DROI Annual Report on Human Rights in the World 2009 and the EU's policy on the matter**, Laima Liucija Andrikiienė (EPP), adopted on 16/12/2010 (T7-0489-2010)

**Draft report with a proposal for a European Parliament recommendation to the Council on the modalities for the possible establishment of a European Endowment for Democracy (EED)**, Alexander Graf Lambsdorff (ALDE), adopted on 29/03/2012, (P7\_TA(2012)0113)

**The EU Special Representative for Human Rights**, José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra (EPP), adopted on 13/06/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0250)

**DROI Review of the EU's human rights strategy**, Rui Tavares (Greens), adopted on 13/12/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0504)

**The freedom of press and media in the world**, Marietje Schaake (ALDE), adopted on 13/06/2013, (P7\_TA(2013)0274)

**DROI The impact of the financial and economic crisis on human rights**, Inese Vaidere (EPP), adopted on 18/04/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0179)

**DROI European Parliament recommendation to the Council on the draft EU Guidelines on the Promotion and Protection of Freedom of Religion or Belief**, Laima Liucija Andrikienė (EPP), adopted on 13/06/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0279)

**DROI Corruption in the public and private sectors: the impact on human rights in third countries**, Michał Tomasz Kamiński (ECR), adopted on 08/10/2013

## Relations with international organisations

Relations with the UN and other international organisations and inter-parliamentary assemblies fall among the responsibilities of AFET.

Cooperation between the EU and the *United Nations* takes place on a broad range of issues, such as development, human rights, peace building and peace keeping, humanitarian assistance, fighting corruption and crime, climate change, global health concerns, labour issues, culture. Beside policy dialogue, cooperation covers financial support for UN programmes and projects.

Within the Parliament, the EU-UN relations are under the responsibility of the AFET committee, which ensures consistent and systematic cooperation with the UN, its Agencies, Funds and Programmes. It has been the practice of the previous legislature that AFET prepares every year a recommendation to the Council on the priorities that the EU should put forward; in that respect, a Working group and an annual delegation to UN Headquarters have been decided.

- The recommendation on priorities aims at defining the EU position at the following session of the UN General Assembly opening in September, and covers both thematic priorities and relevant regional issues. It also tackles the ways and means to strengthen cooperation between EU and its Member States and cooperation between EU Member States. The 69<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly will open in September 2014.

As a matter of example, the most recent Parliamentary [recommendation](#) concerning the UN, adopted in April 2014, details, amongst others issues, the measures the EU and its Member States should take as regards the framing of the post 2015 development agenda, the further definition of the concept of "responsibility to protect", and the line to be followed on crisis in Syria and in Central African Republic. This recommendation was then put forward at the occasion of the EU-Africa Summit, by the President of the European Parliament Martin Schulz when meeting with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to discuss crises in Africa as well as the current reflections on the future of the Millennium Development Goals after 2015.



European Parliament President Martin Schulz meets with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on 3 April 2014 to discuss cooperation with the UN over crises in Africa, in the background of the EU-Africa summit.

- A specific Working Group has been established, with representation from all political groups and relevant parliamentary committees. It meets regularly and holds exchanges of views with representatives of EU institutions as well as high ranking UN officials or executives from, for instance, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, and the United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, as well as with experts and think tanks. It therefore prepared the work of AFET on all UN-related matters, including the recommendation on priorities.

- Furthermore, an annual delegation has been sent to the UN Headquarters in New York, to meet with UN officials and executives, and representatives from EU Member States, to assess the state of EU/UN cooperation and the work carried by the UN General Assembly.

The *Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)* and the *Council of Europe* are among the other international organisations that AFET has fostered relations with. During the legislature AFET has held discussions with the Secretary General of the OSCE and of Council of Europe. It has also engaged with Venice Commission of the Council of Europe, and the ODIHR of the OSCE, particularly in the context of election observation. Furthermore, in 2010 the Parliament adopted a Resolution on the OSCE.

The Parliament works with the Parliamentary Assemblies of OSCE and Council of Europe, particularly in the context of election observation in the OSCE area. Moreover, the Parliament is an observer in the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, represented by the Vice-President in charge of multilateral assemblies.

#### **Relevant adopted reports:**

**Recommendation to the Council on the 65th Session of the United Nations General Assembly**, Alexander Graf Lambsdorff (ALDE), adopted on 25/03/2010 (T7-0084-2010)

**Proposal for a European Parliament recommendation to the Council on the 66th Session of the United Nations General Assembly**, Alexander Graf Lambsdorff (ALDE), adopted on 08/06/2011

**EU Support for the ICC: Facing Challenges and Overcoming Difficulties**, Wolfgang Kreissl-Dörfler (S&D), adopted on 17/12/2012 (P7\_TA(2011)0507)

**Recommendation to the Council on the 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly**, Alexander Graf Lambsdorff (ALDE), adopted on 13/06/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0240)

**Recommendation to the Council on the UN principle of the 'Responsibility to Protect' (R2P)**, Franziska Katharina Brantner (Greens), adopted on 18/04/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0180)

**Recommendation to the Council on the 68th session of the United Nations General Assembly**, Alexander Graf Lambsdorff (ALDE), adopted on 11/06/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0234)

**Recommendation to the Council on the 69th session of the United Nations General Assembly**, Alexander Graf Lambsdorff (ALDE), adopted on 02/04/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0259)

## EU Enlargement policy

Enlargement policy continues to be widely seen as one of the most important and successful policies of the EU and is of utmost priority for the Foreign Affairs Committee.

At the beginning of the legislature the Committee appointed the **standing rapporteurs** for the enlargement countries. The Committee adopted yearly progress resolutions on each of those countries, following the presentation of the Commission's own progress reports. These are generally released in the fall, whereas Parliament's resolutions on such reports are adopted in the Committee and in plenary in the first part of the following year. The standing rapporteurs are instrumental in steering and shaping the dialogue with relevant authorities in enlargement countries and in promoting a deeper understanding about the fundamentals of such countries.

The **Working Group on the Western Balkans** was re-constituted. It includes the standing rapporteurs on Western Balkan countries, and a representative from the sub-committees on Security and Defence and on Human Rights. The Working Group proved to be an excellent forum for confidential and sincere discussion with a variety of interlocutors ranging from the Commission/EEAS and stakeholders from the Western Balkans, to researchers and think tanks.

The 7th legislature has seen the **accession of Croatia** and the launch of the accession negotiations with Montenegro and Serbia, negotiations for a Stabilisation and Association Agreement with Kosovo, as well as the positive developments in the high level dialogue between Belgrade and Pristina, and progress in Albania. It has also seen continued stalemate in the relations with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, continued and aggravated crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina, alternate phases of constructive political dialogue with Turkey in the framework of an otherwise very difficult negotiation process, and finally the interruption of the accession negotiations with Iceland due to a lack of domestic support for EU accession.



The Commissioner for Enlargement and the European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle presents the 2013 Enlargement package at the Foreign Affairs Committee meeting of October 2013.

Throughout this period the Foreign Affairs Committee has engaged in regular dialogue with the Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle, on the upcoming challenges facing candidate countries such as Bosnia, Macedonia and Albania, and on the development of EU-accession country relations.

*To watch the plenary debate of 22 October 2013 with Commissioner Füle on the position of the European Parliament on the 2012 progress reports, please click [here](#).*

### Relevant adopted reports:

**Motion for a resolution on the 2009 progress report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**, Zoran Thaler (S&D), adopted on 10/02/2010 (PROV(2010)0024)

**Motion for a resolution on Croatia's progress report 2009**, Hannes Swoboda (S&D), adopted on 10/02/2010 (PROV(2010)0023)

**Motion for a resolution on Turkey's progress report 2009**, Ria Oomen-Ruijten (EPP), adopted on 10/02/2010 (PROV(2010)0025)

**Motion for a resolution on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina**, Doris Pack (EPP), adopted on 17/06/2010 (PROV(2010)0238)

**Motion for a resolution on the European integration process of Albania**, Nikolaos Chountis (GUE/NGL), adopted on 08/07/2010 (PROV(2010)0282)

**Motion for a resolution on the European integration process of Kosovo**, Ulrike Lunacek (Greens), adopted on 08/07/2010 (PROV(2010)0281)

**Motion for resolution on Iceland's application for membership of the European Union**, Cristian Dan Preda (EPP), adopted on 07/07/2010 (PROV(2010)0278)

**Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the EC and Serbia**, Jelko Kacin (ALDE), adopted on 19/01/2011 (T7-0014/2011)

**Motion for a resolution on the 2010 progress report on Croatia**, Hannes Swoboda (S&D), adopted on 16/02/2011 (PROV(2011)0059)

**Motion for a resolution on the European integration process of Montenegro**, Charles Tannock (ECR), adopted on 09/03/2011 (PROV(2011)0091)

**Motion for a resolution on Turkey's progress report 2010**, Ria Oomen-Ruijten (PPE), adopted on 09/03/2011 (PROV(2011)0090)

**Motion for a resolution on the 2010 progress report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**, Mário David (PPE), adopted on 07/04/2011 (P7\_TA(2011)0151)

**Motion for a resolution on the 2010 progress report on Iceland**, Marek Siwiec (S & D), adopted on 07/04/2011 (P7\_TA(2011)0150)

**The application of Croatia to become a member of the European Union**, Hannes Swoboda (S&D), adopted on 01/12/2011, (P7\_TA(2011)0539)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2011 progress report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**, Richard Howitt (S&D), adopted on 14/03/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0083)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2011 progress report on Iceland**, Cristian Dan Preda (PPE), adopted on 14/03/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0084)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2011 progress report on Bosnia and Herzegovina**, Doris Pack (PPE), adopted on 14/03/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0085)

**European Parliament resolution on the European integration process of Kosovo**, Ulrike Lunacek (Verts/ALE), adopted on 29/03/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0115)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2011 progress report on Montenegro**, Charles Tannock (ECR), adopted on 29/03/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0117)

**European Parliament resolution on the European integration process of Serbia**, Jelko Kacin (ALDE), adopted on 29/03/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0114)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2011 Progress Report on Turkey**, Ria Oomen-Ruijten (PPE), adopted on 29/03/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0116)

**Enlargement: policies, criteria and the EU's strategic interests**, Maria Eleni Koppa (S&D), adopted on 22/11/2012, (P7\_TA(2012)0453)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2012 Progress Report on Albania**, Nikolaos Chountis (GUE/NGL), adopted on 13/12/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0508)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2012 progress report on Montenegro**, Charles Tannock (ECR), adopted on 18/04/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0185)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2012 progress report on Serbia**, Jelko Kacin (ALDE), adopted on 18/04/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0186)

**European Parliament resolution on the European Integration Process of Kosovo**, Ulrike Lunacek (Verts), adopted on 18/04/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0187)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2012 Comprehensive Monitoring Report on Croatia**, Libor Rouček (S&D), adopted on 18/04/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0183)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2012 progress report on Bosnia and Herzegovina**, Doris Pack (PPE) adopted on 23/05/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0225)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2012 Progress Report on Turkey**, Ria Oomen-Ruijten (PPE) adopted on 18/04/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0184)

**Motion for a resolution on the 2012 progress report on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**, Richard Howitt (S&D) adopted on 23/05/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0226)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2013 progress report on Albania**, Pier Antonio Panzeri (S&D) adopted on 12/12/2013 (P7\_TA(2013)0596)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2013 progress report on Serbia**, Jelko Kacin (ALDE) adopted on 16/01/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0039)

**European Integration Process of Kosovo**, Ulrike Lunacek (Verts) adopted on 16/01/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0040)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2012 Progress Report on Iceland and the post-election perspectives**, Cristian Dan Preda (PPE), adopted on 16/01/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0041)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2013 progress report on Bosnia and Herzegovina**, Doris Pack (PPE) adopted on 06/02/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0102)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2013 progress report on Montenegro**, Charles Tannock (ECR), adopted on 06/02/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0104)

**European Parliament resolution on the 2013 progress report on fYRoM**, Richard Howitt (S&D) adopted on 06/02/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0103)

## European Neighbourhood Policy

Launched in parallel to the 2004 enlargement with the objective to avoid the creation of new dividing lines between the EU and its neighbours, the ENP was revised in 2011 in order to draw the lessons of the “Arab spring”, inter alia by stepping up the support to countries seriously striving to undertake democratic reforms, as well as the partnership with societies of the neighbouring countries.

The ENP has been a major focus of the AFET work throughout the past legislature. AFET has, inter alia, developed the practice of inviting the Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy to present the annual country reports, and of preparing resolutions related to either the ENP as a whole, and/or to its Southern and Eastern components separately.

*See for example the [resolution](#) of 23 October 2013 on the European Neighbourhood Policy: towards a strengthening of the partnership.*

In the course of the negotiations on the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI), the AFET Committee ensured that the allocation of additional funds according to the “more for more” principle would mostly depend on progress achieved in building and deepening democracy.

### Relevant adopted reports:

**The review of the European Neighbourhood Policy**, Mário David & Marek Siwiec (EPP and S&D), adopted on 14/12/2011, (P7\_TA(2011)0576)

#### *1) Eastern Partnership*

The relations with the Eastern Partnership countries are among the top priorities for the Foreign Affairs Committee. Members have engaged in a number of activities in this area including the drafting of reports and resolutions, hearings and delegations, responding and contributing to the increasingly dynamic policy, focusing now both on bilateral relations with the Eastern neighbours, as well as multilateral cooperation. The informal "Vilnius Group" was established as a forum where representatives of each political group could engage on a regular and confidential debate on the most recent developments in the Eastern partnership region. The Group has served as a useful forum for information exchange and discussion of the most prominent issues, in view of the Vilnius Summit and beyond.

AFET increasingly followed the Eastern partnership Summits, particularly as the resultant crisis in Ukraine began to develop and to dominate EU relations with the Eastern Neighbourhood. The preparation and the follow up of the November 2013 Vilnius Summit were specifically monitored by AFET. The trade pressures exerted by Russia to attempt to influence the choices of Eastern partners, and the subsequent withdrawal of Armenia and Ukraine from the proposed Association Agreements, were publicly disclosed and condemned in a hearing and in a [resolution](#) which was adopted in the plenary session of December 2013.

A sustained attention was dedicated to *Ukraine* throughout the legislature, in particular to the negotiations of the Association Agreement and the issue of selective justice. During the crisis months in Ukraine at the beginning of 2014, the European Parliament sent two ad hoc

delegations to Kiev (28-30 January and 22-24 February). The first delegation visited Ukraine when President Viktor Yanukovich and the Azarov government were still in power, and held exchanges with Ukrainian politicians including leaders of the opposition and members of the Verkhovna Rada. The situation perceived by the delegation was one of escalating tension, in which the existing regime was unwilling to work with the opposition, and in which the Ukrainian protests became more focused on economic grievances and personal and civic freedoms. At the occasion of its second mission, the delegation witnessed the fall of President Yanukovich and the transfer of power to the acting President Turchynov. The delegation met with all the opposition leaders, including incoming Prime Minister Yatseniuk, with prominent MPs, and leaders of the EuroMaidan protest movement. A specific emphasis was put on the need for a swift response from the EU to help Ukraine, in the very short term with financial assistance and in a longer run for the signing of the Association Agreement.



MEPs demonstrating in favour of Ukraine during the plenary session of December 2013 in Strasbourg.

The Parliament also decided to send an Electoral Observation Mission. This delegation, together with parliamentary delegations from the Council of Europe, the OSCE and NATO, was deployed on the ground to observe the presidential elections that took place on 25 May.

As regards **Belarus**, AFET adopted a [recommendation](#) to the Council on an EU strategy to help break the deadlocks in our relations with this country

AFET also stressed the importance of EU support for **Moldova** and **Georgia** in view of the signature of the respective Association Agreements, and taking into consideration potential pressure from Russia. Furthermore the Members highlighted the need to engage with both **Armenia** and **Azerbaijan**, despite the former's withdrawal from the signing of the Association Agreement in favour of closer ties with Russia. Finally, AFET supported increased EU engagement in finding a peaceful solution to the frozen conflicts in the region and was very vocal in supporting the re-establishment of the post of EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus after it had initially been abolished at the beginning of 2010. In April 2012 the Parliament adopted recommendations to the Council, Commission and EEAS on the Association Agreements with [Azerbaijan](#) and [Armenia](#), emphasising amongst other things the necessity of incorporating peace-building measures in the Nagorno-Karabakh region.

#### **Relevant adopted reports:**

**The need for an EU strategy for the South Caucasus**, Evgeni Kirilov (S&D), adopted on 20/05/2010 (T7-0193-2010)

**Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the EC and Moldova**, Graham Watson (ALDE), adopted on 24/11/2010 (T7-0428-2010)

**An EU Strategy for the Black Sea**, Traian Ungureanu (EPP), adopted 20/01/2011 (T7-0025-2011)

**Recommendation to the Council and Commission concerning the negotiations of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement**, Graham Watson (ALDE), adopted on 15/09/2011 (P7\_TA(2011)0385)

**Recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the EEAS on the negotiations of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement**, Krzysztof Lisek (EPP), adopted 17/09/2011, (P7\_TA(2011)0514)

**Recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the EEAS on the negotiations on the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement**, Ryszard Antoni Legutko (ECR), adopted on 01/12/2011, (P7\_TA(2011)0545)

**Recommendation to the Council, Commission and the EEAS on the negotiations of the EU-Azerbaijan Association Agreement**, Anneli Jäätteenmäki (ALDE), adopted on 18/04/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0127)

**Recommendation to the Council, Commission and the EEAS on the negotiations of the EU-Armenia Association Agreement**, Tomasz Piotr Poręba (ECR), adopted on 18/04/2012, (P7\_TA(2012)0128)

**Recommendation to the Council, the Commission and the EEAS on the EU policy towards Belarus**, Justas Vincas Paleckis (S&D), adopted on 12/09/2013, (P7\_TA(2013)0382)

**Framework Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Armenia on the general principles for the participation of the Republic of Armenia in Union programmes**, Tomasz Piotr Poręba (ECR), adopted on 11/12/2013, (P7\_TA(2013)0555)

**Assessing and setting priorities for EU relations with the Eastern partnership countries**, Kowal (ECR), adopted on 12/03/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0229)

## ***II) Southern Neighbourhood***

With regard to Arab countries in transition following the Arab Spring, Parliament built further on its responsibilities of democratic dialogue and democratic scrutiny. Members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs participated in the EU joint Task forces with **Tunisia**, **Jordan** and **Egypt**, chaired by the HRVP and her local counterpart, which sought to define a basic framework for cooperation on the reform process, economic reform and the respect of fundamental freedoms in these countries. Parliament played a particularly relevant role in stressing the centrality of human rights for any truly democratic transition and thereby reinforced the message of the European Union on the key pillars of the reform process. A "Monitoring Group on the situation in the Southern Mediterranean" was created under the leadership of the AFET committee and comprised all the relevant stakeholders from other EP committees (budget, civil liberties, etc.), to monitor the democratic transition in Tunisia, Libya and Egypt, the EU's support and to provide political guidance to the European External Action Service.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs also proved an important forum for promoting an understanding of the complexities of the *Syrian conflict* and in underlining the need for support measures for neighbouring countries, with particular reference to Jordan and Lebanon. From the very early stages of the Syria conflict, the Committee on Foreign Affairs provided on renewed occasions a platform for dialogue with the representatives of the leading democratic groups in the Syrian opposition.

The most recent example of this was a dialogue held with Ahmad Al-Jarba, the President of the National Coalition for Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces, in March 2014 at the Foreign Affairs Committee, in which the debate centred on the issues of extremist groups within the Opposition and the dangers of an increasingly factionalised political situation. *To watch the debate, click [here](#).*



Exchange of views on 18 March 2014 in the Foreign Affairs Committee with Ahmad Al-Jarba, the President of the National Coalition for Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces.

The Foreign Affairs Committee also held regular dialogue with the Commission and the EEAS on how to secure adequate funds for humanitarian aid in Syria and explored with relevant interlocutors the feasibility of humanitarian corridors, both in terms of International Law and in practical terms. This followed on from the [parliamentary resolution](#) adopted in the plenary session in October 2013, which addressed the issue of Syrian refugees and encouraged neighbouring Arab countries to keep their borders open to refugees and for EU member states to ensure adequate asylum provision for refugees.

Jointly with the Committee on Development, the Committee on Foreign Affairs organised in December 2013 a high level dialogue with the Commissioner for International cooperation, Humanitarian aid and Crisis response as well as with the Principals of the leading humanitarian international organisations (UNHCR - UNICEF - UNRWA - OCHA - World Food Program) to discuss renewed ways of providing effective immediate relief to the Syrian refugees both in Syria and in neighbouring countries. This would act both as a method of provide refugees with basic humanitarian needs as well as of defusing the social and economic tensions arising from the refugees' presence in neighbouring countries. The debate sought at the same time to promote a reflection on the foundations for an effective strategy of long-term assistance.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs also stressed the importance of combining financial and economic support with support for democratic reforms and inclusive social and economic structures in the discussions on macro-financial assistance to *Jordan* and *Tunisia*. A [parliamentary resolution](#) providing for up to €180 million in macro-financial assistance to Jordan was adopted at the plenary session of November 2013, as a means of attempting to stabilise the southern neighbourhood and encourage the democratic reform processes in place in Jordan. The Committee on Foreign Affairs also proposed giving consent to the participation of Jordan to EU programmes as a further element of support for Jordan's political and economic structures.

#### **Relevant adopted reports:**

**Union for the Mediterranean**, Vincent Peillon (S&D), adopted on 20/05/2010 (T7-0192-2010)

**Negotiations on EU-Libya Framework Agreement**, Ana Gomes (S&D), adopted on 20/01/2011 (T7-0020/2011)

**Participation of Morocco in Union programmes**, Annemie Neyts-Uyttebroeck (ALDE), adopted on 14/02/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0035)

**Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean EC-Jordan Association Agreement on an EU-Jordan Framework Agreement on general principles for the participation of Jordan in Union programmes**, Annemie Neyts-Uyttebroeck (ALDE), adopted on 10/10/2013, (P7\_TA(2013)0415)

## Russia

AFET has been very active on all issues related to the bilateral agenda of relations between Russia and the EU throughout the previous legislature. It **monitored the negotiations on a new EU-Russia agreement until their suspension in early 2014**, and followed closely the internal developments in Russia as well as its foreign policy, especially in the EU Eastern Neighbourhood. AFET Members went for the first time in 2012 to Moscow, upon invitation by the Committee for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Duma; the invitation was reciprocated in April 2013.

Strong criticism was voiced of the role of Russia in the crisis that erupted in Ukraine at the time of the Vilnius Summit (end of November 2013) and after, especially in Kiev (EuroMaidan) ,in Crimea and in the Eastern regions of Ukraine. On Crimea, the Parliament took a very strong stance and condemned the "military aggression and invasion" by Russia, calling for a major reshaping of EU-Russia relations.

AFET also very clearly **condemned all abuses and violations of human rights** and the rule of law in Russia, including through two recommendations to the Council, [one in October 2012](#), and [another in April 2014](#), requesting the immediate adoption of sanctions (visa ban and freezing of assets) for officials involved in the Magnitsky case.

### Relevant adopted reports:

**Recommendation to the Council on establishing common visa restrictions for Russian officials involved in the Sergei Magnitsky case**, Kristiina Ojuland (ALDE), adopted on 23/10/2012, (P7\_TA(2012)0369)

**Recommendation to the Council and Commission on the new EU-Russia agreement**, Hannes Swoboda (S&D), adopted on 13/12/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0505)

**Recommendation on establishing common visa restrictions for Russian officials involved in the Sergei Magnitsky case**, Kristiina Ojuland (ALDE), adopted on 02/04/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0258)

## Transatlantic relations

During the parliamentary term 2009-2014, AFET was closely involved in shaping the transatlantic partnership and playing its role as the parliamentary committee responsible for providing broad oversight over this relationship which is one of the cornerstones of the external activities of the Union. Among its most notable activities, an [initiative report](#), "The role of the EU in promoting a broader transatlantic partnership", was adopted by the Committee in May 2013 with the intention of promoting a new, broader strategic approach to relations with the countries bordering the Atlantic Ocean, first and foremost the United States. The report was followed up by the inclusion of a Preparatory Action in the 2014 EU budget that provides dedicated funds for activities related to achieving this goal.

With regard to the negotiations for a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, AFET appointed a monitoring rapporteur who followed the negotiations closely and exercised parliamentary oversight by participating in numerous debriefings held by the Commission before and after each negotiating round.

The AFET chair in his position as Co-Chair of the Transatlantic Legislators Dialogue's steering committee contributed further to the coherence of Parliament's external activities with regard to the US by ensuring that the activities of the Delegation for Relations with the United States coincided with Parliament's wider priorities.

AFET participated in the LIBE inquiry on Electronic Mass Surveillance of EU Citizens, covering its foreign policy aspects and also drafting parts of the final inquiry report. While AFET stressed the vital importance of transatlantic security and counter-terror cooperation, it also insisted on the need to limit surveillance to cases of reasonable suspicion, and to eliminate discrimination of EU citizens by strengthening their data privacy rights, including judicial redress rights in US courts. A committee delegation chaired by Elmar Brok visited Washington DC in October 2013 to urge American political representation to undertake the necessary steps to restore trust in the EU-US relationship. To this end, the delegation met with chairs and ranking members of key Congressional committees, senior representatives of the Administration (including key advisors of President Obama) and General Keith Alexander, head of the NSA.

### Relevant adopted reports:

**The Role of the EU in Promoting a Broader Transatlantic Partnership**, Francisco José Millán Mon (EPP), adopted on 13/06/2013, (P7\_TA(2013)0280)

## **European Free Trade Association and European Economic Area**

The European Free Trade Association (EFTA) is a free trade organisation between four European countries (Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) that operates in parallel with – and is linked to – the European Union (EU). The European Economic Area (EEA) comprises three member states of EFTA and 27 member states of the European Union (EU), excluding Croatia which is set to join once its accession agreement is ratified by all EEA countries. It allows the EFTA-EEA states to participate in the EU's Internal Market without being members of the EU.

At the Committee level, the Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) closely followed developments in European Free Trade Association countries and held frequent debates on the main features of EU's relations with these countries, such as the talks with Switzerland on an institutional framework agreement, the consequences of the popular vote held in Switzerland on the issue of "mass migration" and its possible consequences not only for EU-Switzerland relations but also in the broader context of the EEA. It also sent a delegation to Iceland (in September 2011) with the purpose of analysing the country's accession process.

## Africa

The Strategic Partnership established in 2007 in Lisbon has moved the Africa-EU relationship to a new level. Both sides agreed to pursue common interests and strategic objectives together, beyond the focus of traditional development policy. With the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty during the 7th legislature, the HR/VP and the new EEAS developed a new comprehensive approach for the Union's foreign policy that is defined by bringing together individual foreign policy instruments (including diplomacy, security, economic, development, trade and Common Security and Defence Policy) behind common and coordinated EU strategies.

This innovation in EU Foreign Policy has led to a new political and security dimension to the EU's traditional development cooperation relationship with Africa. The first examples of this new comprehensive approach could be seen in the EU Strategic Framework for the Horn of Africa and the EU security and Development Strategy for the Sahel.

The AFET Committee has encouraged the development of such a comprehensive approach (see the [report](#) on an EU comprehensive approach and its implications for the coherence of EU external action) and regional political security strategies for the Horn of Africa (see the 2013 [report](#) on the EU Strategy for the Horn of Africa) and Sahel. The enhancement of AFET's political and security relations with Africa has also been reflected in a high profile AFET delegation to the African Union in September 2011 and in regular meetings with African Foreign Ministers in particularly those coming from the Horn of Africa and Mali. AFET has also reinforced its cooperation with the Committee on Development in holding joint meetings, including when receiving former President Mbeki on his work in the High level panel on illicit financial flows from Africa on 11 February 2014.

*To watch the discussion with President Mbeki, click [here](#).*

Due to security concerns in a number of regions in Africa, AFET has also followed closely the development of EU crisis management (CSDP) missions in this region, in particular the counter-piracy naval mission EUFOR Atalanta and the Military Training missions for **Somalia and Mali**. It has also followed closely the events in the **Central African Republic** (CAR), where the staggered implementation of previous peace agreements, combined with chronic under-development and the country's long experience of political instability, led to the outbreak of a new conflict in December 2012, and in **South Sudan**, the world's newest state, where fighting erupted in the capital, Juba, in December 2013, following a political power struggle between President Salva Kiir and his ex-deputy Riek Machar. These conflicts have also been part of its regular dialogue with the HR/VP's Permanent Chair of the Political and Security Committee (PSC) and as part of AFET's responsibilities in preparation for the adoption of the annual CFSP budget.

### **Relevant adopted reports:**

**EU Strategy for the Horn of Africa**, Charles Tannock (ECR), adopted on 15/01/2013, (P7\_TA(2013)0006)

**The situation of human rights in the Sahel region**, Charles Tannock (ECR), adopted on 22/10/2013, (P7\_TA(2013)0431)

## Middle East: Middle East peace process, Iraq, Iran, Gulf States

The Committee on Foreign Affairs followed very closely developments related to the ***Palestinian-Israeli peace process*** and provided a platform for several relevant interlocutors from both sides, but also for US or European facilitators for dialogue between the two parties or relevant interlocutors for adequate support to the socio-economic structures of a Palestinian State in the framework of a sustainable two State solution. In this last regard, meetings were held, in particular with the Foreign Minister of Switzerland, the Foreign Minister of Norway and the Commissioner General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for the support of Palestinian refugees. Dialogue on the peace process between Israelis and Palestinians was also promoted through the Working Group on Middle East which was created by decision of Parliament's Conference of Presidents, with a mandate limited to the previous legislature, to monitor closely the Israeli-Palestinian conflict under the chairmanship of former European Parliament President and Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Hans-Gert Pöttering. The Secretariat of the Committee on Foreign Affairs provided support to the Members of the Working Group in pursuing their activities.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs ensured continuous dialogue with relevant interlocutors on the situation in ***Iraq***, including through the organisation, in the committee, of hearings on the situation of women or other minorities. **Dialogue with Iraqi counterparts** was construed on the rationale of supporting the federal structure of Iraq as the central element for the process of national reconciliation and the process of effective democratic and socio-economic rebuilding in the country for the benefit of all ethnic and religious components in Iraq. The Members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs held, in particular, several exchanges of views with the Head of EU Delegation in Baghdad, the UN Special Representative for Iraq, the Chair of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Iraqi Council of Representatives and the President of the Kurdistan Regional Government. The Committee on Foreign Affairs was also at the centre of the process which saw Parliament giving its consent to the first ever **Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and Iraq**, adopted in the plenary session of January 2013, which will provide Iraq with financial and technical assistance - with particular reference to the provision of a coherent legal framework on contract law in line with international standards - and support to the process of democratisation in Iraq and clear references for the promotion of human rights in the country. A Parliamentary Cooperation Committee comprising Members of the European Parliament and Members of the Iraqi Council of Representatives will be established under the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement to reinforce dialogue on the reform process in Iraq.

Increased attention was dedicated to the ***Gulf States*** following the adoption in March 2011 of a [resolution](#) prepared by AFET on the relations between the EU and the Gulf Cooperation Council, detailing concrete proposals for an upgrade of these relations. These proposals included the concluding of a free-trade agreement between the EU and the GCC, the opening of new EU diplomatic missions in the GCC countries, and the holding of periodic summit meetings between the relevant members of the government on both sides. The second part of the legislature was marked by a **number of exchanges of views with Parliament speakers and ministers from the region**. These included Abdul Latif Bin Rashid Al Zayani, Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council, and Hamad bin Jassim bin Jabor Al Thani, Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister of Qatar. Particular attention was devoted to the situation in Bahrain as well as in Saudi Arabia, with a report prepared by AFET on Saudi Arabia, its relations with the EU and its role in the Middle East and North Africa, adopted as

a [resolution](#) in plenary in March 2014. Also, the situation of migrant workers in Qatar was the focus of an ad-hoc delegation conducted jointly by AFET and the sub-committee on human rights in March 2014, as a follow-up to a human rights resolution adopted on the topic in November 2013.

On *Iran*, the committee organised regular *in camera* debriefings of the nuclear talks conducted by the HR/VP and prepared two resolutions focusing on relations between the EU and Iran. The [latest resolution](#), adopted at the plenary session of April 2014, was drawn up in the context of the interim Geneva agreement on Iran's nuclear programme which was agreed between the foreign ministers of Iran and the EU3+3 countries in November 2013. The Committee formulated concrete recommendations on how the EU could develop a more independent policy towards Iran, inter alia by the setting up of a permanent EU delegation in Tehran, and the development of cooperation in a number of areas including the fight against the narcotics trade or environmental protection, whilst at the same time highlighting the continuous human rights issues in Iran, especially relating to the high number of executions and the treatment of minorities.

**Relevant adopted reports:**

**The EU's approach towards Iran**, Bastiaan Belder (EFD), adopted on 10/03/2011 (T7-0096-2011)

**Relations of the European Union with the Gulf Cooperation Council**, Dominique Baudis (EPP), adopted on 24/03/2011 (P7\_TA(2011)0109)

**Saudi Arabia, its relations with the EU and its role in the Middle East and North Africa**, Ana Gomes (S&D), adopted on 11/03/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0207)

**EU strategy towards Iran**, María Muñoz De Urquiza (S&D), adopted on 03/04/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0339)

## **Latin America**

The engagement of AFET with Latin America has been constantly developing over the years, with debates in the Committee laying out the guidelines and proposals for enhancing bilateral and multilateral relations. AFET continuously influenced the EU's Latin America policy through the adoption of recommendations during the negotiations and the consent procedure on the Associations Agreements, in which it highlighted that the Association Agreements with Central America was 'the first comprehensive partnership between regions' and that it 'marks a decisive step forward in the integration of CA and goes far beyond mere questions of free trade'. AFET also adopted recommendations on the Strategic Partnerships and also influenced the negotiations through the EU budget. It also sent a delegation of 6 Members to Brazil in April 2013 and to Mexico in March 2014, reflecting the importance it attaches to the region. Finally, the Committee on Foreign Affairs also coordinates within the EP the work of relevant joint parliamentary committees as well as that of the inter-parliamentary delegations for relations with Latin America.

### **Relevant Adopted reports:**

#### **EU strategy for relations with Latin America**

José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra (EPP), adopted on 05/05/2010 (T7-0141-2010)

**Agreement establishing an Association between the EU and its Member States, on the one hand, and Central America on the other**, José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra (EPP), adopted on 22/12/2012, (P7\_TA(2012)0479)

## Asia

### Central Asia

The formal bilateral relations are based on Partnership and Cooperation Agreements (PCAs). The PCAs with Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and Uzbekistan came into force in 1999 and with Tajikistan in 2010. A PCA agreement was signed with Turkmenistan in 1998, but is not ratified yet. Since 2011, the EU has been negotiating with Kazakhstan on a new enhanced agreement replacing the current PCA.

The November 2012 AFET report gave Parliament's recommendations for the negotiations with *Kazakhstan*. In addition, the Parliament has adopted resolutions on human rights in Kazakhstan in March 2012 and April 2013.

On *Turkmenistan*, AFET recommended in January 2011 that the Parliament should give its consent to the partnership and cooperation agreement with Turkmenistan. It however required that prior to bringing the PCA to vote in the plenary, the HR/VP should commit to providing to the EP specific information regarding the situation of human rights in the country. Given that the Council is still to submit a post-Lisbon referral to the Parliament the consent has not been sent to the plenary yet. Therefore the required final confirmation by the HR/VP on the access to human rights information is also still missing

The 2011 AFET report on the 'state of implementation of the EU Strategy for Central Asia' reaffirmed the EU's strong interest in political and economic cooperation. However, the EU's engagement must be differentiated and conditional, depending on the measurable progress in democratisation, human rights, good governance, sustainable economic development, the rule of law and the fight against corruption. AFET delegation travelled to Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan in 2011 in preparation of the report.

### Adopted reports:

**Partnership and cooperation agreement between the EC and EAEC and Tajikistan**  
Alojz Peterle (EPP), adopted on 17/09/2009 (T7-0018-2009)

**State of implementation of the EU Strategy for Central Asia,**  
Nicole Kiil-Nielsen (Greens), adopted on 15/12/2011 (P7\_TA(2011)0588)

**Recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the EEAS on the negotiations for an EU-Kazakhstan enhanced partnership and cooperation agreement,** Liisa Jaakonsaari (S&D), adopted on 22/11/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0459)

### Afghanistan

In December 2010, AFET adopted a report on a 'new strategy for Afghanistan'. The report stresses that any long-term solution has to address internal security, civil protection and economic and social development. Efforts should be expanded to improve the efficiency and coordination of international aid, combatting corruption, support to the peace process and police training as well as in the elimination of opium cultivation through alternative

development. In 2011, as a follow up, the Parliament adopted a report on 'budgetary control of EU financial assistance to Afghanistan'.

The EU has been negotiating with Afghanistan since March 2012 on a Cooperation Agreement on Partnership and Development (CAPD). Following initial quick progress, the finalisation of the negotiations is still missing. In June 2013, the Parliament adopted a resolution on the negotiations on the new cooperation agreement on partnership and development. Once the negotiations have been concluded, AFET will draft Parliament's consent on the agreement.

In December 2013, AFET organised a **high level conference** on 'Afghanistan and Central Asia: prospects and challenges after withdrawal of NATO/ISAF forces'. The all-day conference brought together political stakeholders, civil society and experts from the region and Europe to discuss the future of Afghanistan and Central Asia. The conference had in total some 150 participants.

#### **Adopted report:**

**A new strategy for Afghanistan**, Pino Arlacchi (ALDE), adopted on 16/12/2010 (T7-0490-2010)

### **Pakistan**

In March 2014, the Parliament adopted an AFET motion for a resolution on Pakistan's regional role and political relations with the EU. It welcomed the parliamentary elections of March 2013 as they marked the first transfer of power from one elected civilian government to another in the modern history of Pakistan. The country was urged to strengthen democratic institutions, civilian control and the rule of law, as well as to promote internal and regional security. Nevertheless, this must entail deep and difficult reforms of Pakistan's political and socio-economic order. The supported the peace dialogue between the Pakistani government and the local branch of the Taliban, provided that it would pave the way for a political and lasting solution to the insurgency and a stable democratic order. The European Parliament welcomed the recent tangible progress in the dialogue between Pakistan and India. Lastly, the European Parliament expressed its concern over reports that Pakistan was considering exporting nuclear weapons to third countries.

#### **Adopted report:**

**Pakistan's regional role and political relations with the EU**, Boris Zala (S&D), adopted on 12/03/2013 (P7\_TA(2014)0208)

### **ASEAN, China, Japan, Korea**

The Parliament has advocated strong trade and economic relations with the *ASEAN* countries, such as in the 2007 AFET report. It also advocated the signing of Partnership and Cooperation Agreements (PCAs) with most of the countries of the region. PCA negotiations have since then been launched and concluded with Indonesia (AFET adopted a report and

consent on the Indonesia PCA in January 2014), the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. The PCA negotiations are still on-going with Brunei and Malaysia. AFET recommendations for the negotiations with Malaysia were adopted in September 2013. The Parliament's consent, drafted by AFET, is needed before the agreements may come into force.

AFET report the "Future of EU-ASEAN relations" was adopted by the Parliament in January 2014. The Parliament stressed that in terms of economic development and geopolitical dynamics ASEAN is at the moment the most important emerging regional organisation in the world. The report also suggested that the EU should be an active political partner for ASEAN in pursuit of non-military solutions to important security and geostrategic challenges in order to enhance peace and regional stability.

In June 2013 AFET organised public hearing on 'Foreign policy considerations in EU relations with ASEAN and Southeast Asia'. In October 2013 AFET held an exchange of views with the 1990 Sakharov Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi. AFET Members joined the EU-Myanmar Task Force in November 2013 in support of the democratic development in *Myanmar*.

In March 2013, the Parliament adopted an updated AFET report to the 2006 report on 'EU-*China* Relations'. The new report stressed that the strategic partnership with China is paramount for finding answers to global concerns, such as global and regional security, economic crisis, energy security, the promotion of democracy and human rights. The report expressed support to the almost 60 sectoral dialogues between the EU and China, however, wishing to see a strengthening of the dialogues in human rights, environment, security, energy and fight against counterfeit products. Members also called for a better definition of the strategic partnership.

In October/November 2011 an AFET delegation visited *Japan*. Following adoption of an AFET report, the Parliament adopted recommendation on EU-Japan strategic partnership negotiations in April 2014. The Parliament urged for a timely conclusion of the negotiations and asked a genuine strategic dimension for the agreement highlighting the unique aspects of EU-Japan relations. The Parliament also reaffirmed shared values, common goals and responsibilities for the promotion of global peace.

AFET recommended in early 2014 to give the consent to the EU-*Korea* Framework Agreement, which was then confirmed by the plenary in April 2014.

#### **Relevant adopted reports:**

**EU-China Relations**, Bastiaan Belder (EFD), adopted on 14/03/2013, (P7\_TA(2013)0097)

**Recommendation to the Council, the Commission and the EEAS on the negotiations for an EU-Malaysia partnership and cooperation agreement**, Emilio Menéndez del Valle (S&D), adopted on 11/09/2013, (P7\_TA(2013)0367)

**Framework Agreement on comprehensive partnership and cooperation between the European Community and the Republic of Indonesia, with the exception of matters related to readmission**, Ana Gomes (S&D), adopted on 26/02/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0142)

### **Miscellaneous adopted reports:**

**SEDE Civilian Military cooperation and the development of civilian-military capabilities**, Christian Ehler (EPP), adopted on 23/11/2010 (T7-0419-2010)

**A sustainable EU policy for the High North**, Michael Gahler (EPP), adopted on 20/01/2011 (T7-0024/2011)

**The EU as a global actor: its role in multilateral organisations**, María Muñiz De Urquiza (S&D), adopted on 11/05/2011 (P7\_TA(2011)0229)

**The impact of the financial crisis on the defence sector in the EU Member States**, Krzysztof Lisek (EPP), adopted on 14/12/2011, (P7\_TA(2011)0574)

**Draft report with a proposal for a European Parliament recommendation to the Council on a consistent policy towards regimes, against which the EU applies restrictive measures, when their leaders exercise their personal and commercial interests within EU borders**,

Sir Graham Watson (ALDE), adopted on 02/01/2012 (P7\_TA(2012)0018)

**The EU foreign policy towards the BRICS and other emerging powers: objectives and strategies**, Jacek Saryusz-Wolski (EPP), adopted on 02/01/2012, (P7\_TA(2012)0017)

**A Digital Freedom Strategy in EU Foreign Policy**, Marietje Schaake (ALDE), adopted on 11/12/2012, (P7\_TA(2012)0470)

**Eradication of torture in the world**, Véronique de Keyser (S&D), adopted on 11/03/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0206)

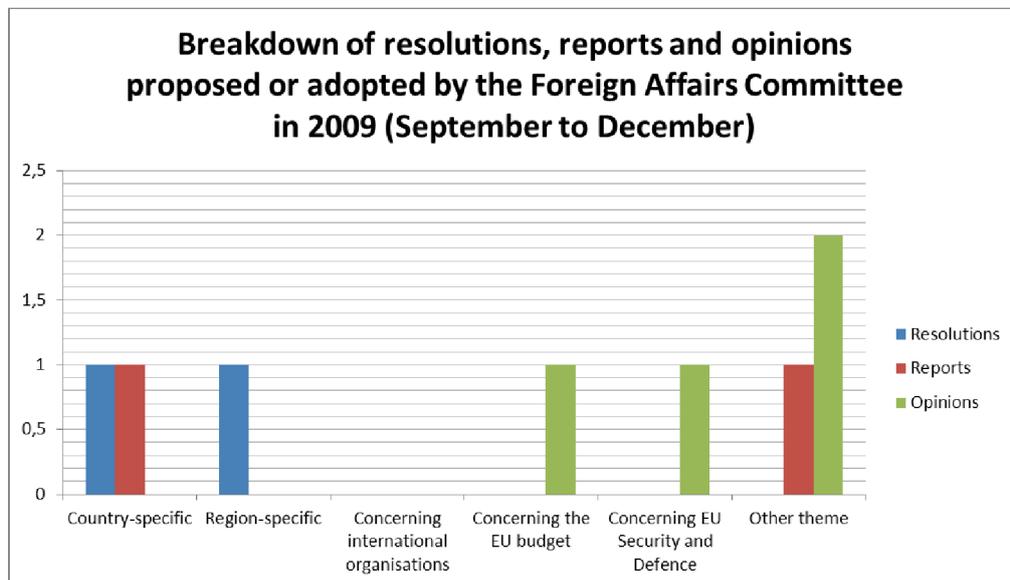
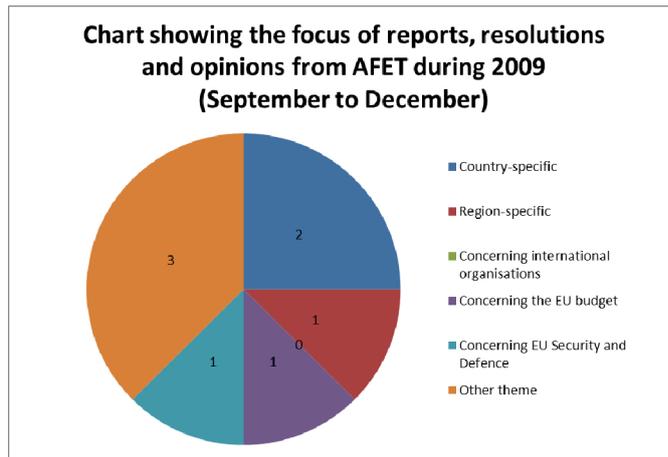
**Recommendation to the Council, the EC, the EEAS on the use of broadcasting media as a tool of EU diplomacy**, Sir Graham Watson (ALDE), adopted on 02/04/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0260)

**The EU foreign policy in a world of cultural and religious differences**, Marietta Giannakou (EPP), adopted on 17/04/2014 (P7\_TA(2014)0456)

## Annex 1: Statistics - breakdown per year

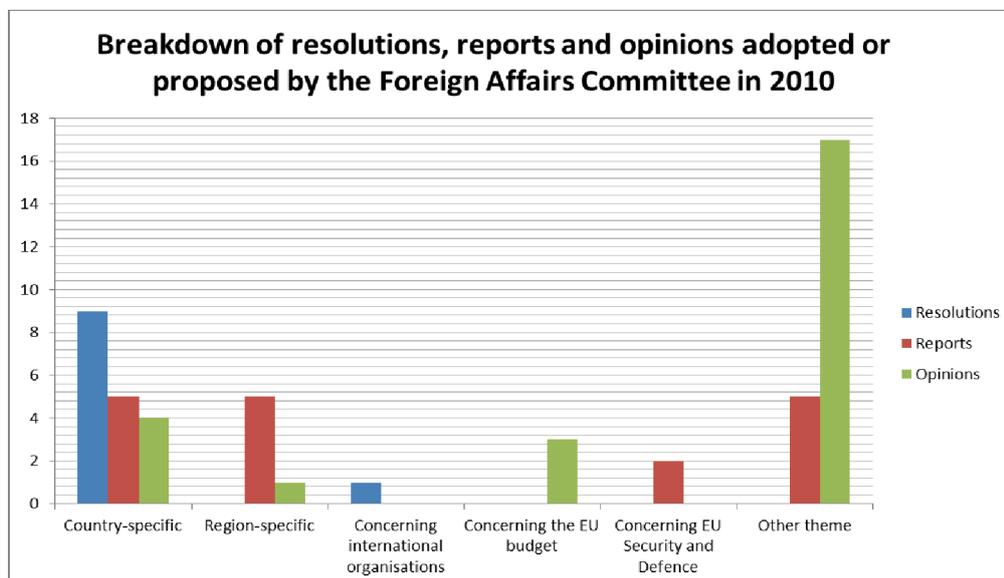
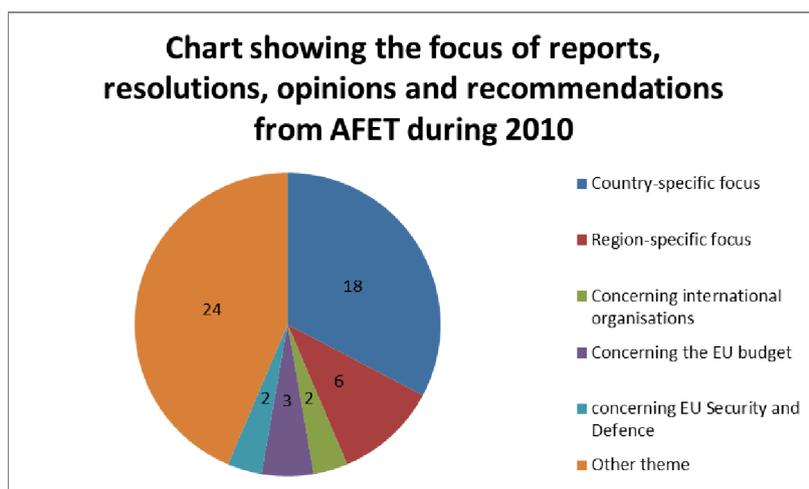
**Table showing the thematic breakdown of resolutions, reports and opinions proposed or adopted by the Foreign Affairs Committee during 2009 (September to December)**

	Country-specific	Region-specific	Concerning international organisations	Concerning the EU budget	Concerning EU Security and Defence	Other theme	Total
Resolutions	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Reports	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Opinions	0	0	0	1	1	2	4
<b>Combined</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>



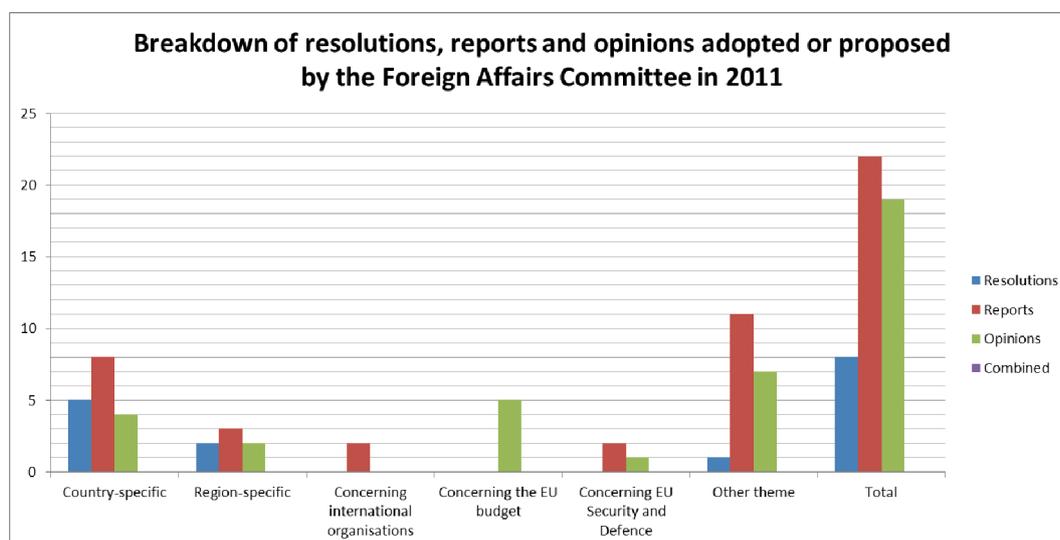
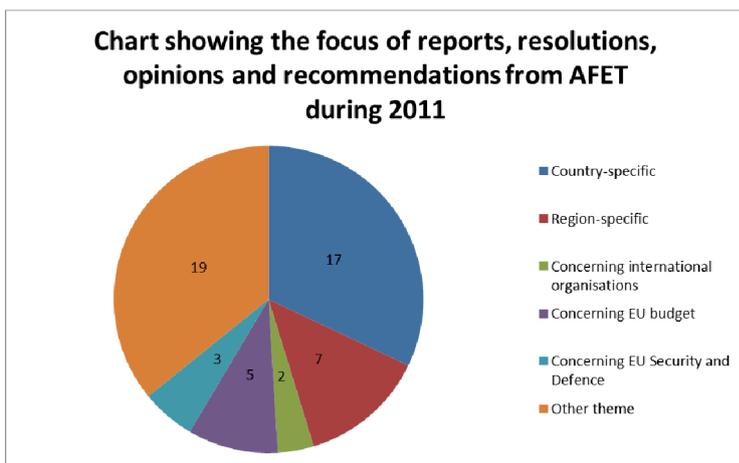
**Table showing the thematic breakdown of resolutions, reports and opinions proposed or adopted by the Foreign Affairs Committee during 2010**

	Country-specific	Region-specific	Concerning international organisations	Concerning the EU budget	Concerning EU Security and Defence	Other theme	Total
Resolutions	9	0	2	0	0	0	11
Reports	5	5	0	0	2	5	17
Opinions	4	1	0	3	0	17	22
Combined	Country-specific focus	Region-specific focus	Concerning international organisations	Concerning the EU budget	concerning EU Security and Defence	Other theme	Total
	18	6	2	3	2	24	50



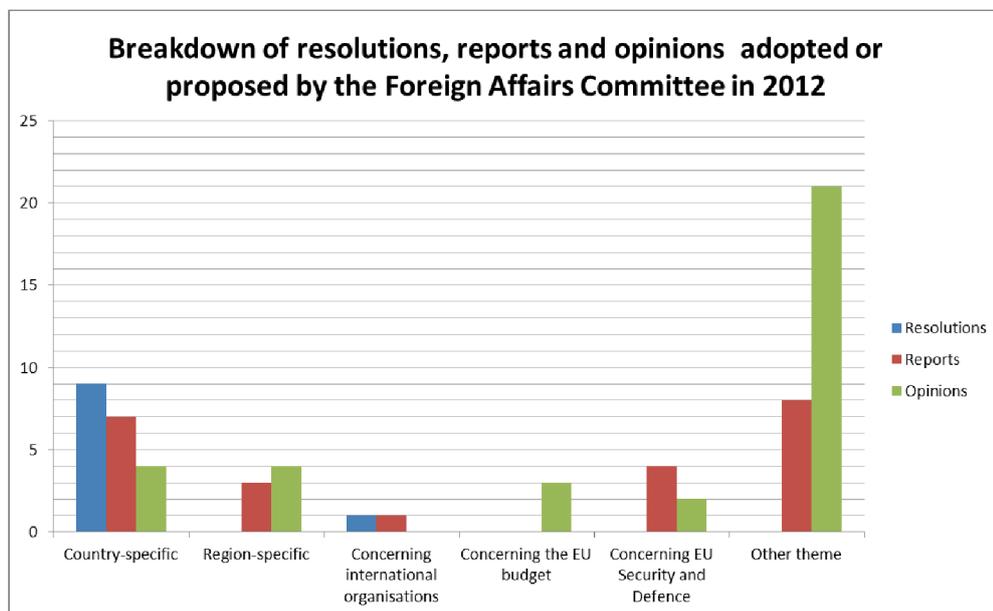
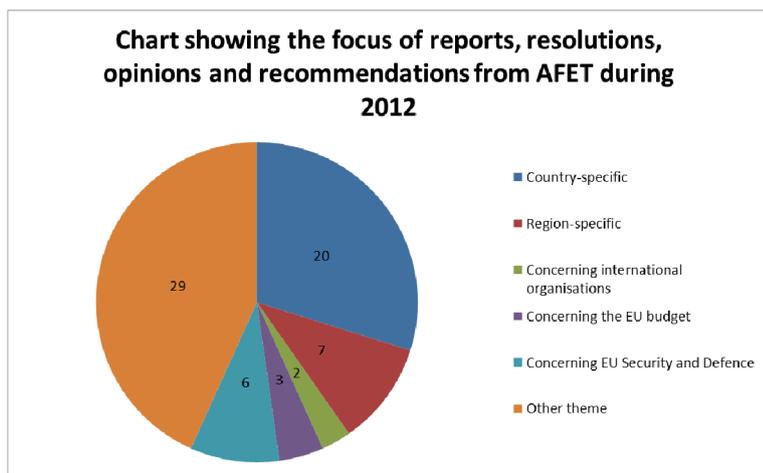
**Table showing the thematic breakdown of resolutions, reports and opinions proposed or adopted by the Foreign Affairs Committee during 2011**

	Country-specific	Region-specific	Concerning international organisations	Concerning the EU budget	Concerning EU Security and Defence	Other theme	Total
Resolutions	5	2	0	0	0	1	8
Reports	8	3	2	0	2	11	22
Opinions	4	2	0	5	1	7	19
Combined	Country-specific	Region-specific	Concerning international organisations	Concerning EU budget	Concerning EU Security and Defence	Other theme	Total
	17	7	2	5	3	19	49



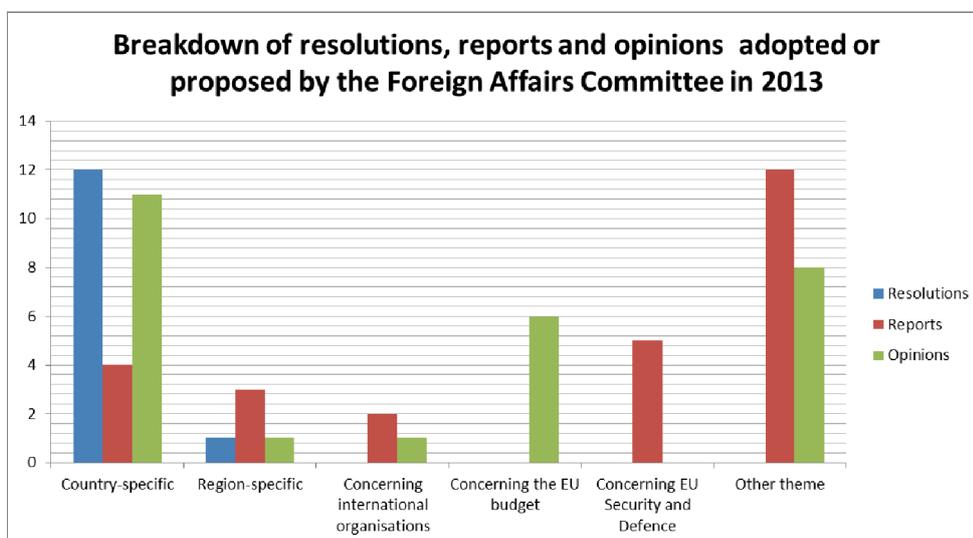
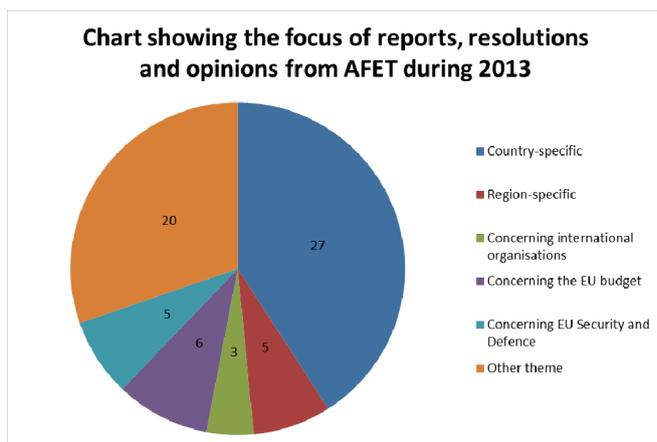
**Table showing the thematic breakdown of resolutions, reports and opinions proposed or adopted by the Foreign Affairs Committee during 2012**

	Country-specific	Region-specific	Concerning international organisations	Concerning the EU budget	Concerning EU Security and Defence	Other theme	Total
Resolutions	9	0	1	0	0	0	10
Reports	7	3	1	0	4	8	23
Opinions	4	4	0	3	2	21	34
Combined	20	7	2	3	6	29	67



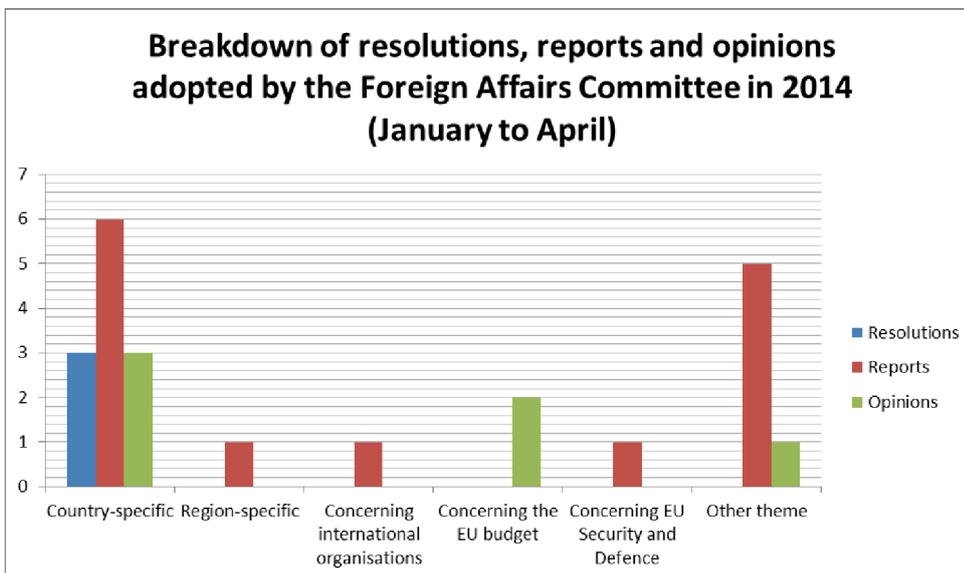
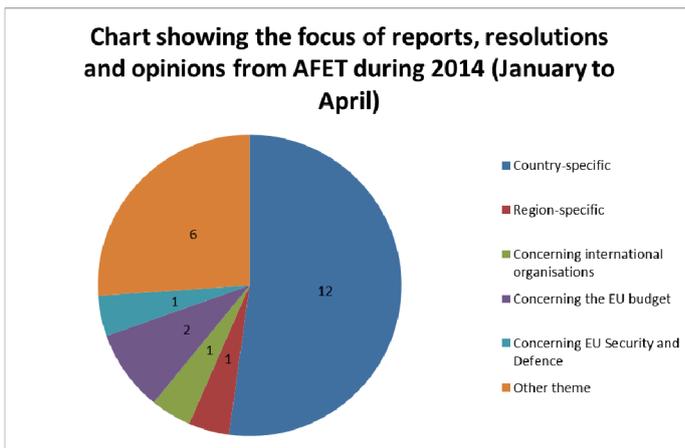
**Table showing the thematic breakdown of resolutions, reports and opinions proposed or adopted by the Foreign Affairs Committee during 2013**

	Country-specific	Region-specific	Concerning international organisations	Concerning the EU budget	Concerning EU Security and Defence	Other theme	Total
Resolutions	12	1	0	0	0	0	13
Reports	4	3	2	0	5	12	26
Opinions	11	1	1	6	0	8	27
Combined	Country-specific	Region-specific	Concerning international organisations	Concerning the EU budget	Concerning EU Security and Defence	Other theme	Total
	27	5	3	6	5	20	64



**Table showing the thematic breakdown of resolutions, reports and opinions proposed or adopted by the Foreign Affairs Committee during 2014 (January to April)**

	Country-specific	Region-specific	Concerning international organisations	Concerning the EU budget	Concerning EU Security and Defence	Other theme	Total
Resolutions	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Reports	6	1	1	0	1	5	14
Opinions	3	0	0	2	0	1	6
Combined	Country-specific	Region-specific	Concerning international organisations	Concerning the EU budget	Concerning EU Security and Defence	Other theme	Total
	12	1	1	2	1	6	23



## Annex 2 - Hearings and workshops in the AFET Committee (2009 - 2014)

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
<b>2009</b>		
<b><u>02.12.2009</u></b> <b><u>15h00-</u></b> <b><u>16h30</u></b>	<b>Mr Ivan Martín</b> , Director of Research at the <i>Instituto Complutense de Estudios Internacionales</i> (ICEI)	<i>Strengthening relations with neighbourhood countries: lessons learnt from Morocco's advanced status</i>
	<b>Mr Eneko Landaburu</b> , Head of the European Commission Delegation in the Kingdom of Morocco	
	<b>Mr Youssef Amrani</b> , Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco	
<b>2010</b>		
<b><u>27.01.2010</u></b> <b><u>15h00-17h00</u></b>	<b>Dr. Sabine FREIZER GUNES</b> , Director of Europe Program, International Crisis Group	<i>Public Hearing on the role of the EU in frozen conflicts (focused on South Caucasus and Transnistria)</i>
	<b>Dr. Sabine FISCHER</b> , Research Fellow, EUISS	
	<b>Dr. Jonathan COHEN</b> , Director of Programmes, Conciliation Resources	
<b><u>23.02.2010</u></b> <b><u>15h00-16h30</u></b>	- <b>Richard WEBER</b> - Deputy Director-General - EuropeAid Cooperation Office	<i>Public hearing on the Union for the Mediterranean - assessment and prospects"</i>
	- <b>Philippe de FONTAINE VIVE CURTAZ</b> - Vice President of the European Investment Bank	

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
	- Representative of the copresidency.	
<b><u>17.03.2010</u></b> <b><u>11h30-12h30</u></b>	<b>Professor Firouzeh NAHAVANDI</b> , director of Centre d'Etudes de la Coopération Internationale et du Développement (CECID), Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB)	<b><i>Public hearing on the situation in Iran</i></b>
	<b>Dr Rouzbeh PARSI</b> , research fellow at the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) in Paris	
<b><u>22.06.2010</u></b> <b><u>15h00-17h00</u></b>	<b>Dr Walter POSCH</b> , research fellow at the Stiftung Wissenschaft and Politik (SWP) in Berlin <b>Prof. Stefano SILVESTRI</b> , President of Institute of International Affairs	<b>Joint AFET/SEDE public hearing on "a new Euro-Atlantic Security Architecture?" (on the OSCE and the European Security Architecture)</b>
	<b>Prof. Dan HAMILTON</b> , Director of the Center for Transatlantic Relations, EU Center of Excellence, Washington DC	
	Ambassador <b>Mara MARINAKI</b> , Permanent Representative of Greece to the OSCE	
	<b>Prof. Nadia ARBATOVA</b> , Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO), Russia	
<b><u>2 September 2010</u></b>	<b>Prof. Willy Østregg</b> , Director Ocean Futures, Oslo	<b>Public Hearing on A Sustainable EU Policy for the High North</b>

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
	<b>Prof. Valur Ingimundarson, Reykjavík</b>	
<b><u>16 September 2010</u></b>	<b>Dr. Ognyan MINCHEV</b> , Institute for Regional and International Studies <b>Dr. Laure DELCOUR</b> , Institut de Relations Internationales et Stratégiques <b>Mr. Mark CUNNINGHAM</b> , Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation, German Marshall Fund	<b>Public hearing "An EU Strategy for the Black Sea"</b>
<b><u>26 October 2010</u></b>	<b>Dr. Christian Koch:</b> Director of International Studies, Gulf Research Center  <b>Roger-Philippe Bertozzi</b> , International consultant expert on the GCC-EU relations	<b>EU - Gulf Cooperation Council relations</b>  with the association of Committee on International Trade Delegation for the relations with the Arab Peninsula
<b><u>27 October 2010</u></b>	<b>Prof. Slagjana Taseva</b> , Board Member Transparency International - Zero Corruption Macedonia  <b>Vanja Calovic</b> , MANS Montenegro  <b>Lutfi Dervishi</b> , Executive Director, Transparency International Albania  Remarks by <b>Vassilis Maragos</b> , DG Enlargement, European Commission	<b>Workshop - Fighting Corruption in the Western Balkans : overview of the region and case studies</b>  Committee on Foreign Affairs Delegation for relations with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo Delegation to the EU-Croatia Joint Parliamentary Committee Delegation to the EU-former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Joint Parliamentary Committee

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
<b><u>2 December 2010</u></b>	<p><b>Robertus Rozenburg</b>, Head of Unit, European Commission - DG-DEV</p> <p><b>Bernard Brunet</b>, Deputy Head of Unit, European Commission - DG-RELEX</p> <p><b>Paola Pace</b>, Acting Head of the International Migration Law Unit, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Geneva</p> <p><b>Enrique Mora Benavente</b>, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain, Director of the Policy Planning Department</p> <p><i>Prof. Philippe De Bruycker</i> <i>- could not attend due to severe weather conditions</i></p>	<p><b>Public Hearing on Migration Flows arising from Instability: Scope and Role of the EU Foreign Policy</b></p> <p><i>in association with the Committee on Development</i></p>
<b>2011</b>		
<b><u>13 January</u></b>	<p><b>Baldur Thorhallsson</b>, Jean Monnet Professor of Political Science and Chair of the Institute of International Affairs and the Centre for Small-State Studies, University of Iceland (Reykjavik)</p> <p><b>Alyson Bailes</b>, Visiting Professor at the University of Iceland (Reykjavik), former Director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)</p> <p><b>David Carey</b>, OECD</p>	<p><b>Workshop on "Iceland in the EU: Challenges and Prospects"</b></p>

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
	<p>Economics Department (Paris)</p> <p><b>Alexandra Cas Granje</b>, Director, DG Enlargement, European Commission</p> <p><b>Nikulás Hannigan</b>, Deputy Head of the Icelandic</p> <p><b>Graham Avery</b>, Senior Adviser, European Policy Centre (Brussels) Honorary Director General of the European Commission Mission to the European Union</p>	
<b><u>20 April 2011</u></b>	<p><b>Farid Tukhbatullin</b>, Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights Editor of the “Chronicles of Turkmenistan” Website</p> <p><b>Vyacheslav Mamedov</b>, Turkmen Civil Democratic Union</p> <p><b>Veronika Szente Goldston</b>, Advocacy director for Europe and Central Asia, Human Rights Watch</p>	<b>Human Rights situation in Turkmenistan</b>
<b><u>25 May 2011</u></b>	<p><b>Ms Shirouk Abaychi</b>, Head of Iraqiyat Centre for studies and Development</p> <p><b>Ms Salma Jabbo</b>, Development Training Widows Centre</p> <p><b>Mr Ibrahim Al-Bagdadi</b>, Iraqi Business Association</p> <p><b>Ms Daniela Viglione</b>,</p>	<b>social, economic and political challenges in Iraq</b>

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
	President of AGI (Agenzia Giornalistica Italia)	
<u>26 May 2011</u>	<p><b>Neil Melvin</b>, Director, Armed Conflict and Conflict Management Programme, <b>Stockholm International Peace Research Institute</b></p> <p>Ambassador <b>Márton Krasznai</b>, Senior Regional Adviser of the Executive Secretary, <b>United Nations Economic Commission for Europe</b></p> <p><b>Paul Quinn-Judge</b>, Central Asia Project Director, <b>International Crisis Group</b></p>	<b>EU Strategy towards Central Asia</b>
<u>14 June 2011</u>	<p><b>Knut FLECKENSTEIN</b>, Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Russia Parliamentary Cooperation Committee</p> <p><b>Lilia SHIBANOVA</b>, Executive Director, Golos</p> <p><b>Mikhail KASYANOV</b>, Co-leader, Peoples Freedom Party</p> <p><b>Fraser CAMERON</b>, Director, EU-Russia Centre</p>	<b>"Upcoming Elections in the Russian Federation"</b>
<u>15 June 2011</u>	<p>Ambassador <b>Robert Bradke</b>, US Co-Chair of the OSCE Minsk Group</p> <p>Ambassador <b>Bernard Fassier</b>, France Co-Chair of the OSCE Minsk Group</p> <p>Ambassador <b>Andrzej Kasprzyk</b>, Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on the</p>	<b>Situation in Nagorno-Karabakh</b>

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
	<p>conflict dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference</p> <p>Mr <b>Peter Semneby</b>, Former EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus (tbc)</p> <p><b>Miroslav Lajčak</b>, Managing Director for Europe and Central Asia, EEAS</p>	
<b><u>12 July 2011</u></b>	<p><b>Alfredo Valladão</b>, Institut d'études politiques - Paris, Chair Mercosur</p> <p><b>Andrew Small</b>, The German Marshall Fund of the United States, Transatlantic Fellow</p> <p><b>Enrique Mora Benavente</b>, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Spain, Director of the Policy Planning Department</p> <p><b>Cyrill Nunn</b> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany, Managing Director for Asian Affairs</p> <p><b>Viorel Isticioaia-Budura</b>, European External Action Service, Managing Director for Asia</p>	<b>The EU Foreign Policy towards the BRICS and other Emerging powers: objectives and strategies</b>
<b><u>8 December 2011</u></b>	<b>Ulad Vialichka</b> , Executive Director of Public Association 'Education Center POST', Minsk, Belarus	<b>The Modalities for the Possible Establishment of a European Endowment for Democracy</b>
	<b>2012</b>	

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
<b><u>8 February 2012</u></b>	<p><b>Vladimir CHIZHOV</b>, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the EU</p> <p><b>Andrei BUZIN</b>, GOLOS organisation</p> <p><b>Ilya YASHIN</b>, Member of the Solidarnost Movement</p> <p><b>Mikhail KASYANOV</b>, Co-chair of People's Freedom Party</p> <p><b>Michael PULCH</b>, Head of Division for Russia of the EEAS</p>	<i>"The outcome of the elections to the Russian Duma and the upcoming presidential elections"</i>
<b><u>21 March 2012</u></b>	<p><b>Pierre Vimont</b>, Executive Secretary General of the European External Action Service</p> <p><b>David O'Sullivan</b>, Chief Operating Officer of the European External Action Service</p> <p><b>Maroš Šefčovič</b>, Vice-President of the European Commission (tbc)</p> <p><b>Karel Pinxten</b>, Member of the Court of Auditors</p> <p><b>Stephan Keukeleire</b>, University of Leuven / College of Europe</p>	<i>"One year on: the role of EEAS in the impulse and coordination of the Union's foreign policy"</i>
<b><u>11 April 2012</u></b>	<p><b>Stefano SANNINO</b>, Director-General, DG Enlargement, European Commission</p> <p><b>Karel PINXTEN</b>, Member,</p>	<i>The Future Financing of Enlargement: The New Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA-2)</i>

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
	<p>European Court of Auditors, Dean of Chamber III (External Actions)</p> <p><b>Dubravka FLINTA</b>, Head of Division, National Fund, Ministry of Finance, Croatia</p> <p><b>Lidia DIMOVA</b>, Executive Director, Macedonian Centre for European Training, Skopje</p>	
<b><u>31 May 2012</u></b>	<p><b>Hansjörg Haber</b> as the <b>Commander of EU Civilian Operations (TBC)</b></p> <p><b>Xavier Bout de Marnhac</b>, Head of EULEX Kosovo</p> <p><b>Fernando Gentilini</b>, EEAS, Director for Western Europe, the Western Balkans and Turkey</p> <p><b>Engjellushe Morina</b>, former director of the Kosovo Stability Initiative</p> <p><b>Comment by General Walter Huhn, Senior Military Adviser, on behalf of CMPD Director Stevens</b></p>	<i><b>EULEX Kosovo - Current State of Play and Strategic Review</b></i>
<b><u>19 September 2012</u></b>	<p>Mr. <b>Paolo Bartolozzi</b>, Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Kazakhstan, EU-Kyrgyzstan and EU-Uzbekistan Parliamentary Cooperation Committees, and for relations</p>	<i><b>The challenges of the EU-Kazakhstan partnership</b></i>

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
	<p>with Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Mongolia</p> <p>Ms <b>Marlène Laruelle</b>, EUCAM Researcher, Director of Central Asia Programme at the George Washington University</p> <p>Mr <b>Yevgeniy Zhovtis</b>, Chairman of the Council of the Kazakhstan International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law</p> <p>Dr <b>Andrea Schmitz</b>, Deputy Head of Research Division, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP)</p> <p>Mr <b>Tobias Baumann</b>, Head of Russia, Eastern and Southeastern Europe, Turkey, Central Asia, DIHK – Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry</p> <p>Mr <b>Jaap Wienen</b>, Deputy Director General, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)</p>	
<b><u>27 November 2012</u></b>	<p><b>Prof. Philomena Murray</b>, Associate Professor, School of Social and Political Sciences, <b>University of Melbourne</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Yeo Lay Hwee</b>, Director, <b>EU Centre in Singapore</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Jonathan Holslag</b>, Research Fellow, <b>Brussels Institute of Contemporary China</b></p>	<i>Challenges and opportunities in EU-Asia relations</i>

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
	<b>Studies</b> (BICCS / VUB)	
<b><u>6 December 2012</u></b>	<p><b>Dr. Senem Aydın DÜZGİT</b> - Assistant Professor, Department of International Relations at İstanbul Bilgi University - <i>The Foreign Policy of Turkey: Direction, Challenges and Aspirations</i></p> <p><b>Nigar GÖKSEL</b> - Senior Analyst, European Stability Initiative - <i>The Turkish Model as a driver of Turkey's relevance in the Middle East</i></p> <p><b>Günter SEUFERT</b> - German Institute for International and Security Affairs - <i>The Political dimension of the Foreign Policy Choices of Turkey: the societal basis of strategy shift in Turkey</i></p> <p><b>Jean Maurice RIPERT</b> - Head of the Delegation of the EU to Turkey - <i>Dialogue and Cooperation between Turkey and the European Union on foreign policy issues: A Perspective from the Delegation of the European Union to Turkey</i></p>	<i>The foreign policy of Turkey: challenges, perspectives and cooperation with the European Union</i>
<b>2013</b>		
<b><u>23 May 2013</u></b>	<p><b>Ms Lesya OROBETS</b>, Member of the Batkivschyna faction in the Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada</p> <p><b>Mr Rostyslav PAVLENKO</b>, Member of the UDAR faction in the Ukrainian</p>	<i>Hearing on recent political developments and implementation of reforms in Ukraine</i>

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
	<p><b>Verkhovna Rada</b></p> <p><b>Mr Thomas MARKERT, Director, Secretary of the Venice Commission</b></p> <p><b>Mr Mikael LYNGBO, Danish Helsinki Committee on Human Rights</b></p>	
<b><u>18 June 2013</u></b>	<p><b>H.E. Nyan Lynn, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Political Security Community</b></p> <p><b>Mr Karsten Warnecke, Deputy Executive Director, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), Singapore</b></p> <p><b>Mr Jonathan Holslag, Research fellow, Brussels Institute of Contemporary China Studies (BICCS)</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Clara Portela, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Singapore Management University</b></p> <p><b>Prof Jürgen Rüland, Southeast Asian Studies, University of Freiburg</b></p>	<i>Foreign policy considerations in EU relations with ASEAN and Southeast Asia</i>
<b><u>9 July 2013</u></b>	<p><b>Dr. Matthew LEVITT, Senior Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Washington, DC, United States of America</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Florence GAUB, Senior Analyst at the EU Institute for Security Studies, Paris, France</b></p>	<b>on the blacklisting of the HEZBOLLAH</b>

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
	<p><b>Dr. Eitan AZANI, Deputy Director of the Institute for Counter Terrorism, IDC Herzliya, Herzliya, Israel</b></p> <p><b>Hans-Joachim GIESSMANN, Executive Director at the Berghof Foundation and Deputy-Chair of the Global Agenda Council on Terrorism at the World Economic Forum, Berlin, Germany</b></p>	
<p><b><u>17 September 2013</u></b></p>	<p><b>Lukasz Adamski - a historian and political scientist, currently working for the Centre of the Polish-Russian Dialogue and Understanding</b></p> <p><b>Pekka Sutela- Visiting Distinguished Professor at the Paris School of International Affairs, previously a senior associate in the Carnegie Endowment on Russia and Eurasia Program and the principal adviser for monetary policy and research at the Bank of Finland</b></p> <p><b>Susan Stewart, Deputy Director of Eastern European Division at SWP Berlin-German Institute for International and Security Affairs</b></p> <p><b>Igor Lyubashenko- lecturer and blogger. His latest research is focused on the problem of “connectivity” and usage of new media in post-soviet countries</b></p>	<p><i>'The Eastern Partnership and its multilateral platforms`</i></p>

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
<b>2014</b>		
<b><u>21 January 2014</u></b>	<p>Mr Walter Posch, senior associate at SWP, Germany's leading think tank in security and foreign affairs</p> <p>Mr Rouzbeh Parsi, Senior Lecturer at the Section for Human Rights Studies, Department of History, Lund University (Sweden)</p>	<b><i>EU STRATEGY TOWARDS IRAN AFTER GENEVA</i></b>
<b><u>17 March 2014</u></b>	<p>Dr Katarzyna Wolczuk (University of Birmingham);</p> <p>Dr Tom Casier (Brussels School of International Studies and Kent University)</p> <p>Gunnar Wiegand (Director Russia, Eastern Partnership, Central Asia, Regional Cooperation and OSCE, European External Action Service);</p> <p>Peter Balas (Deputy Director-General, DG Trade, European Commission)</p>	<b>The EU's response to Russian foreign and trade policies towards the countries of the Eastern Partnership</b>
<b><u>1 April 2014</u></b>	<p>Mr Heliodoro TEMPRANO ARROYO, Head of Unit - Neighbouring Countries and Macro-Financial Assistance, Directorate</p>	<b>Political and economic situation in Belarus</b>

<i>Meeting date</i>	<i>Visiting Speakers</i>	<i>Topic</i>
	<p><b>General for Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission</b></p> <p><b>Mr Arkady MOSHES, Programme Director "The EU's Eastern Neighbourhood and Russia research programme", Finnish Institute for International Affairs</b></p> <p><b>Mr Aliaksandr MILINKEVICH, 2006 Sakharov Prize Laureate</b></p>	

**Annex 3 -AFET delegations during the 7th legislature**

Dates	Country		Participants
<b>2009</b>			
<b>September 6-7, 2009</b>	<b>Visby, Gotland (Sweden)</b>	Conference of Foreign Affairs Committee Chairs (COFACC)	Gabriele Albertini, Chair
<b>27-28 October 2009</b>	<b>Information visit to Madrid</b>	Presidency-in-Office of the Council (January - June 2010)	- Mr Gabriele ALBERTINI - Ms Elena BĂSESCU - Mr José Ignacio SALAFRANCA SÁNCHEZ-NEYRA - Mr Francisco José MILLÁN MON - Mr Alejo VIDAL-QUADRAS - Mr Kristian VIGENIN - Mr Pier Antonio PANZERI - Ms Frieda BREPOELS
<b>15-17 November 2009</b>	<b>NEW YORK, USA</b>	<b>Delegation of the Committee on Foreign Affairs to the 64<sup>th</sup> United Nations General Assembly</b>	- Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, - José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra - Mario Mauro - María Paloma Muñiz De Urquiza - Konrad Szymański - Helmut Scholz
<b>2010</b>			
<b>17-19 Feb 2010</b>	<b>Skopje FYROM</b>		- Alojz Peterle - Georgios Koumoutsakos - Zoran Thaler - Norica Nicolai - Marije Cornelissen - Charles Tannock
<b>24 – 26 February 2010</b>	<b>Madrid, Spain</b>	<b>Committee on Foreign Affairs'</b>	Fiorello Provera, Vice–Chair

		<b>delegation to the Conference of Foreign Affairs Committee Chairs (COFACC)</b>	
<b>24-27 May 2010</b>	<b>Israel/Palestine</b>	<b>Joint delegation AFET/DEVE/BUDG</b>	- Véronique De Keyser - Wolfgang Kreissl-Dörfler - Pier Antonio Panzeri - Marielle De Sarnez - Nicole Kiil-Nielsen
<b>11-12 October 2010</b>	<b>Moldova</b>		- Cristian Dan Preda - Monica Luisa Macovei - Graham Watson - Adam Bielan
<b>14-16 Nov 2010</b>	<b>New York</b>	<b>65 UNGA</b>	- Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, <i>Chair</i> - José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra - Mario Mauro - Francisco José Millán Mon - Krzysztof Lisek - María Muñiz De Urquiza - Maria Eleni Koppa - Barbara Lochbihler - Helmut Scholz
<b>2011</b>			
<b>7-10 January 2011</b>	<b>Kosovo</b>		- Ulrike Lunacek - Jutta Steinruck
<b>14-15 March 2011</b>	<b>Croatia</b>		- Hannes Swoboda, <i>Chair</i> - Elena Băsescu - Charalampos Angourakis
<b>25-29 April 2011</b>	<b>Uzbekistan &amp; Turkmenistan</b>		- Ms Ana GOMES - Ms Elisabeth JEGGLE - Ms Teresa RIERA

			MADURELL - Ms Anneli JÄÄTTEENMÄKI - Ms Nicole KIIL- NIELSEN
<b>1-2 September 2011</b>	<b>Addis Ababa</b>		- Michael Gahler - Charles Tannock - Fiorello Provera
<b>4-6 September 2011</b>	<b>Warsaw</b>	<b>(COFACC)</b>	Fiorello Provera
<b>8-9 September 2011</b>	<b>Iceland</b>		- Cristian Dan Preda, <i>Chair</i> - Laima Liucija Andrikienė - Judith Sargentini - Sir Robert Atkins
<b>31 October - 2 November 2011</b>	<b>Japan</b>		- Ioan Mircea Paşcu - Elmar Brok - Tanja Fajon - Ryszard Legutko
<b>10-11 November 2011</b>	<b>Ankara</b>		- Ria OOMEN- RUIJTEN - Michael GAHLER - Krzysztof LISEK - Raimon OBIOLS I GERMA - Pino ARLACCHI - Emine BOZKURT - Marietje SCHAAKE - Andreas MÖLZER
<b>28-29 November 2011</b>	<b>UNGA</b>		- Mr Alexander Graf Lambsdorff - Mr Francisco José Millán Mon - Mrs Tokia Saïfi - Mrs María Muñiz De Urquiza - Mrs Véronique De Keyser - Mrs Anneli Jäätteenmäki - Mr Indrek Tarand - Mr Helmut Scholz

2012			
19-22 February	<i>Armenia/ Azerbaijan</i>		- Andrey Kovatchev (Chair) - Monica Luisa Macovei - Evgeni Kirilov - Jo Leinen - Ulrike Lunacek
2-5 April	<i>Tunisia</i>	<i>Joint AFET/BUDG/DMAG</i>	- M. Michael <b>GAHLER</b> - M. Mario <b>MAURO</b> - Mme Eleni <b>KOPPA</b>
28-31 October 2012	<i>Serbia and Kosovo</i>		- Inese Vaidere - Kristian Vigenin - Pier Antonio Panzeri - Jelko Kacin - Ulrike Lunacek
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> October to Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	<i>New York</i>	<i>Annual Visit of the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs to the United Nations</i>	- Mr. Alexander Graf Lambsdorff, Chair, ALDE (DE) - Mr. José Ignacio Salafranca, EPP (ES) - Mr. Mario Mauro, EPP (IT) - Mr. Andrey Kovatchev, EPP (BG) - Mr. Francisco José Millán Mon, EPP (ES) - Ms. Laima Liucija Andrikiene, EPP (LT) - Ms. María Muñiz De Urquiza, S&D (ES) - Ms. Marietje Schaake, ALDE (NL) - Mr. Helmut Scholz GUE/NGL (DE)
18-21 December 2012	<i>Russia (Moscow)</i>		Elmar Brok (Chair AFET)Knut Fleckenstein (Chair PCC-RU) Kristian Vigenin Kristiina Ojuland

			Werner Schulz Pawel Kowal
<b>2013</b>			
<b>24-26 March</b>	<b>Dublin</b>	<b><i>IPC CFSP-CSDP</i></b>	Mr Elmar Brok Mr Arnaud Danjean Ms Ana Gomes Mr Michael Gahler Ms Anna Ibrisagic Ms Maria Eleni Koppa Ms Sabine Lösing Mr Miguel Martinez Ms Annemie Neyts-Uyttebroeck Ms Kristiina Ojuland Mr Ioan Pascu Mr Hubert Pirker Mr José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra Ms Tatjana Zdanoka
<b>2-5 April</b>	<b>Brazil</b>	<b><i>AFET Delegation</i></b>	Elmar Brok José Ignacio Salafranca Francisco Millán Mon Ana Gomes Jelko Kacin Robert Kowal
<b>27-30 October 2013</b>	<b>Washington DC</b>	<b>Delegation of the Committee on Foreign Affairs to Washington DC</b>	Elmar BROK (Chair AFET); José Ignacio SALAFRANCA SÁNCHEZ-NEYRA; Francisco José MILLÁN MON; Maria Eleni KOPPA; Ana GOMES; Jelko KACIN; Tarja CRONBERG
<b>30 October - 1 November 2013</b>	<b>New York, USA</b>	<b><i>Joint delegation of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Subcommittee on</i></b>	From AFET: José Ignacio Salafranca; Francisco José Millán Mon;

		<i>Human Rights to the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly</i>	Laima Liucija Andrikienė; Jörg Leichtfried; Mark Demesmaecker; Susy De Martini; Helmut Scholz
<b>2014</b>			
<b>24-25 March</b>	<b>Mexico</b>	<i>AFET Delegation</i>	Elmar BROK (Chair); José Ignacio SALAFRANCA SÁNCHEZ-NEYRA; Laima Liucija ANDRIKIENE; Davor STIER; Ricardo CORTES LASTRA