



**COUNCIL OF
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**Javier SOLANA,
EU High Representative for the CFSP,
welcomes the extension of the
EU Integrated Rule of Law Mission for Iraq
(EUJUST LEX)**

Javier SOLANA, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), made the following comments today welcoming the extension of the EU Integrated Rule of Law Mission for Iraq (EUJUST LEX). The mission, which trains and mentors senior officials in the Iraqi criminal justice system, enters its fifth year tomorrow and at the same time expands its scope to offer pilot activities on Iraqi territory. Mr SOLANA said:

"I congratulate the EUJUST LEX Mission on its success over the past four years in providing training and mentoring in EU Member States for judges, prosecutors and senior police officers in criminal investigation and management and I welcome its extension for another year.

The mission has built up an impressive record since its launch in 2005 and has now trained 2 500 senior members of the Iraqi judiciary, police and prison services on more than 100 courses in 25 EU Member States. I am delighted that the Mission is being extended, with effect from tomorrow, for a fifth year, and is at the same time expanding to offer pilot training schemes in Iraq itself. This is a major step forward in helping consolidate the rule of law in Iraq.

The EUJUST LEX Mission reflects the EU's strong commitment to Iraq and is playing a vital role in helping to stabilise the country and the wider region."

Annex: factsheet on EUJUST LEX.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:
Spokesperson of the Secretary General, High Representative for CFSP
+32 (0)2 281 6467 / 5150 / 5151 +32 (0)2 281 5694
internet: <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/solana>
e-mail: presse.cabinet@consilium.europa.eu



EUROPEAN UNION
EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

EU Rule of Law Mission for Iraq (EUJUST LEX)

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Iraq/12

Mission background

EUJUST LEX is a civilian crisis management operation conducted under the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP).

The EU started planning the operation following consultations with the Iraqi interim authorities and on the basis of a report by a team of experts, as part of the implementation of the EU programme of action for Iraq presented in November 2004.

The operational phase of the EUJUST LEX mission started on 1 July 2005 following an invitation to the EU by the Prime Minister of the elected Iraqi Interim Government, Ibrahim al-Jaafari, to commence training activities for Iraqi rule of law professionals. During a meeting with the Head of Mission on 18 June 2006, the current Iraqi Prime Minister, Nouri al-Maliki, also extended his welcome to and support for the Mission and its activities. The Prime Minister met the High Representative Javier Solana on 16 April 2008 and again requested continued support through the activities of EUJUST LEX.



Head of Mission, Stephen White, with Iraqi Prime Minister AL-MALIKI in Baghdad

MISSION FACTS AND FIGURES

Theatre: EU Member States
Headquarters: Brussels
Starting Date: 1 July 2005
Head of Mission: Stephen White
Mission strength: 37 EU staff
Mission budget: Estimated total EUR 30 m
Contributing states: EU Member States



www.consilium.europa.eu/eujust-lex

Stephen White was appointed Head of Mission of EUJUST LEX in March 2005.

From the outset, the Head of Mission set three guiding principles for all staff to adhere to.

These are:

- Security is paramount
- Iraqi involvement at every stage
- Flexibility and responsiveness to Iraqi needs

Most of the EUJUST LEX team is based in the coordination office in Brussels. The Mission also has a small but vitally important liaison team in Baghdad.

EUJUST LEX is the EU's first integrated rule of law mission. Following its first and second extensions in 2006 and 2007, the Mission was mandated to continue its programme of operations until the end of June 2009. The Political and Security Committee of the Council of the EU decided on 26 March 2009 that the EUJUST LEX mission would be extended until 30 June 2010, including a pilot phase for activities in Iraq.



High Representative Javier Solana with the Head of Mission

Mandate and objectives

EUJUST LEX was established to strengthen the rule of law and promote a culture of respect for human rights in Iraq and it provides professional development opportunities for senior Iraqi officials from the criminal justice system. The core aim is to foster confidence, mutual respect and operational cooperation between the different branches of the Iraqi criminal justice system (police, judiciary and penitentiary).

Courses and work experience secondments are being held at present in EU Member States. They offer learning opportunities and demonstrate best practice in the rule of law. In addition, the Mission's activities facilitate an exchange of views between the EU trainers and the Iraqi participants. During the next extension period after July 2009 the Mission will carry out pilot projects in Iraq, as and where conditions allow, to follow up on the results achieved so far and make them more sustainable. The details of the extension are currently being discussed.

"The European Council agreed that the EU could usefully contribute to the reconstruction and the emergence of a stable, secure and democratic Iraq through an integrated mission, which could *inter alia* promote closer collaboration between the different actors across the criminal justice system and strengthen the management capacity of senior and high-potential officials from the police, judiciary and penitentiary and improve skills and procedures in criminal investigation in full respect for the rule of law and human rights."

COUNCIL JOINT ACTION 2005/190/CFSP of 7 March 2005
on the European Union Integrated Rule of Law Mission for Iraq, EUJUST LEX

Mission achievements

The Mission is meeting its objectives beyond expectations: by early June 2009, 2446 Iraqi judges, investigating magistrates, senior police and penitentiary officers in senior management positions had participated in 101 integrated and specialist courses and 18 practical work experience secondments. Training takes place in EU Member States and is carried out on the basis of common curricula developed to continue meeting the specific needs of the Iraqi criminal justice system while maintaining a focus on human rights.

An amount of EUR 21.3 million from the EU budget covered the common costs of the Mission until 2007 and approximately EUR 8 million in addition have been allocated for the period until the end of June 2009. Following the last General Conference called by the Mission in January 2009, the Mission expects to deliver approximately 15 additional training activities in EU Member States before the end of 2009. In addition, the Mission will conduct initial activities in Iraq itself.



The European Union's **European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP)** includes the gradual framing of a common defence policy which might in time lead to a common defence. The ESDP allows the Union to develop its civilian and military capacities for crisis management and conflict prevention at international level, thus helping to maintain peace and international security, in accordance with the United Nations Charter. The ESDP includes a strong conflict prevention component.

Based in Brussels, the **Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC)** is the permanent structure responsible for an autonomous operational conduct of civilian ESDP operations. Under the political control and strategic direction of the Political and Security Committee and the overall authority of the High Representative, the CPCC ensures the effective planning and conduct of civilian ESDP crisis management operations, as well as the proper implementation of all mission-related tasks.

More information and background documents available on: www.consilium.europa.eu/esdp