

COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

EU Integrated Rule of Law Mission for Iraq (EUJUST LEX-Iraq)

Updated: Jan 2012

Mission background

The European Union Integrated Rule of Law Mission for Iraq (EUJUST LEX-Iraq) is a civilian crisis management mission conducted under the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). EUJUST LEX-Iraq is the EU's first integrated rule of law mission. Following the third extension of its mandate, the Council of the EU agreed, on 14 June 2010, that EUJUST LEX-Iraq would be extended until 30 June 2012. Since October 2011, EUJUST LEX-Iraq Head of Mission is Brigadier General Mr. László HUSZÁR (Hungary).

The operational phase of EUJUST LEX-Iraq started on 1 July 2005 following an invitation by the Prime Minister of the Iraqi interim government, Ibrahim al-Jaafari, to the EU, calling for the start of integrated training activities for Iraqi professionals working in the criminal justice system. The current Iraqi Prime Minister, Nouri al-Maliki, extended his welcome and support for the Mission and its activities. Moreover, the Prime Minister requested continued support from the EU in addressing the needs of the Iraqi criminal justice system through the activities of EUJUST LEX-Iraq.

MISSION FACTS AND FIGURES

Theatre: Iraq and EU Member States
Headquarters: Baghdad
Starting Date: 1 July 2005
Head of Mission: László Huszár
Mission strength: 56 staff
Mission budget: EUR 27 250 000
(from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012)
Contributing states: EU MS and Norway



www.consilium.europa.eu/eujust-lex

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

Taking into account the three guiding principles, the Mission pursues the following main objectives:

- Contribute to the establishment of a professional Iraqi criminal justice system based on the rule of law;
- Assist and support the development of coordination and collaboration between the various branches of the criminal justice system through appropriate training;
- Assist, through relevant training, the Iraqi authorities to implement and develop a training strategy and modern senior management techniques;
- Advise and mentor the Iraqi authorities in selected areas according to identified needs;
- Bring EU added value to Iraq, taking into account activities of other international actors.



Head of Mission
László HUSZÁR

Locations

The headquarters of EUJUST LEX-Iraq is located in Baghdad, while there is one field office in Erbil (Kurdistan Region) and a satellite office in Basra (Southern Iraq). The Mission also includes a support office in Brussels, which since the shifting to Iraq of the majority of the Mission's activities in 2010 supports and coordinates the Mission's EU-based activities.

Mandate and objectives

EUJUST LEX-Iraq was established to strengthen the rule of law and to promote a culture of respect for human rights in Iraq by providing professional development opportunities for high and mid-level Iraqi officials from the criminal justice system. The core aim is to contribute to a consolidation of security by underpinning the system of rule of law.

Mission achievements

After a successful shift in-country, the majority of the Mission's activities are currently taking place in Iraq, either facilitated with in-house expertise, with the assistance of EU visiting experts or in cooperation with other international actors. Despite a challenging security environment, delivery can be considered satisfactory with projects involving all branches of the Iraqi criminal justice system ongoing in all three locations. Some specialised courses are also held in EU member states as are Work Experience Secondments. All activities offer learning opportunities and demonstrate rule of law best practices, as well as facilitate the exchange of views between EU trainers and Iraqi participants. EUJUST LEX-Iraq has excellent relations with both local and international counterparts and coordinates its activities – in particular with the U.S. and the UN – on a bilateral basis as well as in rule of law policy fora in Baghdad, Basra and Erbil. The Mission systematically follows-up on its alumni through evaluation workshops, to assess the applicability of its training activities and to adjust them to Iraqi needs. Furthermore, the Mission has achieved considerable progress in mainstreaming human rights and gender into its training activities with positive feedback from the Iraqi participants.



The European Union's **Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)** includes the gradual framing of a common defence policy which might in time lead to a common defence. The CSDP 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 CSDP 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 CSDP 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 CSDP 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/csdp and eeas.europa.eu