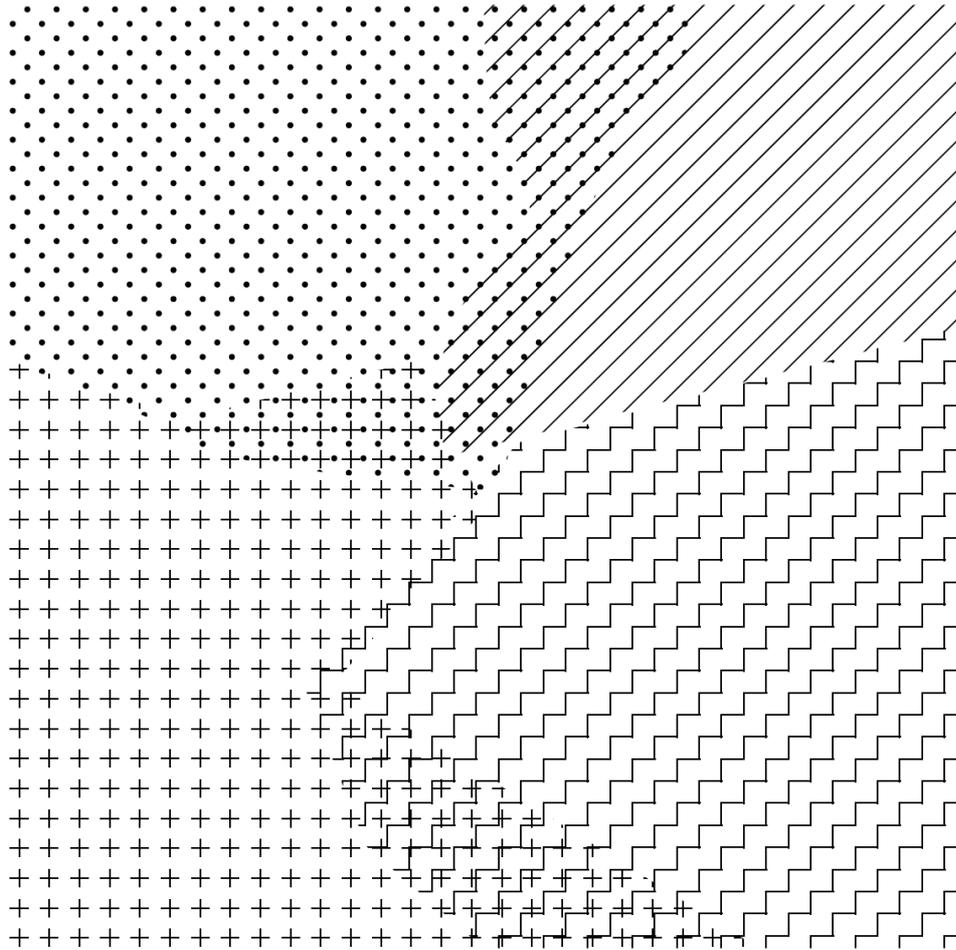


W O S C A P

ENHANCING EU PEACEBUILDING CAPABILITIES



Comparative Analysis Workshop

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Colophon

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS WORKSHOP

31 January 2017

Deliverable D4.12

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Whole of Society Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding

This report provides an overview of the discussions held at the Comparative Analysis Workshop, held 18-19 January 2017 in Utrecht, The Netherlands. Its aim was to bring together the research findings in the components of the research agenda, including empirical results of country case studies, and research on cross-cutting themes, and reflections on engagement with peacebuilding practitioners. The workshop was also an occasion to look forward to planning of policy engagement and refine the consortium's outreach and dissemination activities.



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This project is funded by the EU's Horizon 2020
Research and Innovation Programme
Grant agreement no. 653866

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Summary

The workshop was held in M20 of the WOSCAP project with the aim of bringing together the research findings in the components of the research agenda: empirical results of country case studies (WP3), analysis of EU capabilities by clusters – multi-track diplomacy (MTD), governance reform (GOV) and SSR – and research on cross-cutting themes: local ownership, gender, civ-mil synergies, multi-stakeholder coherence and ICTs for peacebuilding, and reflections on engagement with practitioners. The workshop was also an occasion to look forward to planning of WP5 on policy recommendations and refine the consortium's outreach and dissemination activities. The workshop was attended by representatives of all Steering Group (consortium) members plus three civil society representatives from the GPPAC network from Mali, Ukraine and Georgia.

The detailed conclusions of the workshop will form the basis for the final research report and the thematic report to be delivered in M23. These will elaborate on two axes:

- 1) A refined definition of 'capabilities' in the context of the project's overall goal to enhance EU civilian capabilities for conflict prevention and peacebuilding. Following the definition highlighted in the theoretical and methodological framework paper (January 2016), the project has re-articulated Whitman and Woolf's conceptualisation of capabilities as the capability to act/react and adapt, the capability to co-ordinate and the capability to fund. Evidence of all these distinct and overlapping dimensions of EU actorness in external intervention was found in the empirical work carried out in WP3 and WP4.
- 2) Deeper conceptualisation of the Whole of Society Approach. This was proposed in outline in the project proposal and elaborated in the theoretical and methodological framework paper. Research in WP3 and WP4 provided additional insights into what this approach means; how it differs from and how it complements the EU's Comprehensive Approach; how it speaks to other current themes in scholarly and practice discourse such as societal resilience and hybrid peace; and the challenges which it may entail conceptually and operationally.

The objectives of the workshop were:

- 1) Share progress reports on cases, clusters and themes
- 2) Discuss and agree inputs to Final Research Report –
 - analysis of empirical findings across country cases, clusters and cross-cutting themes
 - identify key themes of the project: assessing and defining **EU capabilities** using a **Whole-of-Society** approach
 - develop a coherent synthesis of component parts of the research agenda
 - discuss how to translate research findings into policy recommendations
 - agree on publications and dissemination strategy
- 3) Discuss management of the consortium and financial reporting with Steering Group

Overview of Sessions

The workshop heard presentations from WP and team leaders on the synoptic findings of country case studies, on research to date and future plans for research by cluster and on key themes which have emerged from the practitioner engagement and primary research activities in WP4. There were detailed inputs from team leaders on the five cross-cutting themes, and previews by cluster teams on the trajectory of their research which will relate to specific cases in case study countries such as Ukraine. In addition to the synoptic overview of WP3, there were also interventions from each of the country teams to provide details on individual investigations of EU interventions. These are listed below:

- **Ukraine:** MTD focusses on Normandy Format. GOV cluster focuses on statebuilding and the EU's contribution to **decentralisation**; Security Sector Reform (SSR) focuses on the EU Advisory Mission (EUAM) Ukraine and on the EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (**EUBAM**).
- **Georgia:** Geneva International Dialogue (GID) and the Confidence Building Early Response Mechanism (COBERM). **SSR** focuses on the EU Monitoring Mission (**EUMM**).
- **Mali:** EU diplomacy regarding the **MTD** cluster. **GOV** focuses on a number of programmes, for example Programme for Administrative Reform in Decentralisation and Regional Economic (**PARADDER**) and the Management Agency of the Support to Civil Society Organizations Programme (**PAOSC I + II**). **SSR** focuses on the EU Training Mission in Mali (**EUTM**) and on the EU Capacity Building Mission in Mali (**EUCAP Sahel**).
- **Yemen:** the National Dialogue Conference (**NDC**).
- **Desk Study Report on Afghanistan** focuses on the EU representation of the EU Special Representative (**EUSR**); **SSR** focuses on the EU Police Mission in Afghanistan (**EUPOL**).
- **Desk Study Report on Honduras/Guatemala** focuses on The International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala (**CICIG**) and on the Programme in Support of the Security Sector (**PASS**).
- **Desk Study Report on Sri Lanka** focuses on governance and development.
- **Desk Study Report on Kosovo** regarding **GOV** focuses on the EU Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (**EULEX**)

Each set of presentations was followed by a plenary discussion and analytical brainstorming to identify significant patterns across the components of the research agenda, as well as any gaps in knowledge. This format also allowed for full participation by all the consortium members in shaping the final analysis of the project. The workshop used a SWOD (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and difficulties) analysis as a heuristic tool to clarify and synthesise the research findings. On the first day this SWOD was done within groups delineated according to cluster, case and themes. On day 2 it was done across the consortium with members dividing into pairs or small groups to extract key insights from the totality of the research.

Preliminary observations

It is not the purpose of this report to state conclusions from the discussions as these will be analysed further by partners and form part of the Final Research Report. Below are some indications of the discussion and how the research findings can be used.

- Very different types of effort of the EU became visible within the three clusters as well as overlap between the clusters. Further, operational challenges of the EU came up. In many cases the critique is confirmed that the EU is not capable to play a meaningful role or to act coherently. However, it is important to keep in mind that the assessment of the capacity of the EU in general is difficult to be generalised.
- Furthermore, we found that **MTD** is mostly applied in conflict management and also that it mainly is not really multi-track. It is very much traditional way, through diplomatic channels. Regarding **GOV** we found that a very broad range of projects and programmes can be identified and that thus drawing comparisons is very difficult. In many cases the EU has lower than expected visibility.
- Possible angles for **synopsis** are drawing comparisons regarding the application of the EU's comprehensive approach or defining clusters differently. Another option would be starting from the cross-cutting themes and define strengths and weaknesses through this lens. In terms of comprehensiveness, tensions between objectives are also noted. Overall, one could say that the EU is spreading too thin, has too many objectives and thus is not able to implement these.
- Regarding **local ownership**, tension between cooperation and reform and their legitimacy is conveyed. Further, involvement of non-state actors is an issue and the limited involvement of civil society in EU policies.

One observation which emerged in the discussion is that it was frequently problematic to identify a finding clearly as either positive – 'a strength' – or negative – 'a weakness' in reflecting on EU capabilities. There was an ambiguous quality to much of the assessment in each of the research components. Equally where opportunities could be identified they were also accompanied by difficulties or challenges. This suggested a cautious approach to translating research findings into definitive conclusions and policy recommendations. The brainstorming also enabled an initial classification of key findings into different aspects of capability such as actorness, coordination and funding.

Next Steps

In the session on previewing WP5 and policy recommendations, a multi-level approach was discussed. The consortium will use policy dialogues in case study countries and EU capitals to discuss different types of policy recommendation from the specific, tailored to individual EU interventions to the general such as EU peacebuilding capabilities post-Brexit (in the case of the planned dialogue meeting in London).

In order to impact the EU Policy, a legislative timetable will be drawn up and policy engagement will include

- Geographical meetings at the EEAS and DEVCO
- Discussion of new instruments
- A policy paper with policy recommendations that can be discussed during the roundtables.
 - It will be important to identify key stakeholders and CSO levels and to support the adoption of recommendations at EU level.

A session on outreach and dissemination included discussion on the final products of the project, such as the research report, potential for an edited volume, a journal special issue and individual articles. The development of the online community of practice is problematic in terms of limited resource and reach and this may be discussed further in conjunction with other research consortia to identify appropriate platforms to host this online space. A final conference to present the results of the project was also discussed.

Annex 1: Workshop Agenda

Agenda for Comparative and Synthetic Analysis Workshop:

'EU Capabilities for Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention using a 'Whole-Of-Society Approach'

Utrecht University, 18-19 January, 2017

DAY 1		
Time	Session	Leads
9.00	Coffee	NA
9.30	<p>Aims and Outputs of Workshop</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Share progress reports on cases, clusters and themes 2. Discuss and agree inputs to Final Research Report – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analysis of empirical findings across country cases, clusters and cross-cutting themes • identify key themes of the project: assessing and defining EU capabilities using a Whole-of-Society approach • brainstorm synthesis of component parts of the research agenda 3. Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preview WP5 – translating findings into policy recommendations • Agree publications and dissemination strategy 4. Steering group meeting and financial reporting 	Chair: Mary
9.45 – 11.30	<p>Inputs from WP3 and Clusters</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Summary of Synoptic Report - case studies, desk research and cluster findings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on comparison of empirical findings and analytical brainstorming 2. Presentations of key findings from additional research on clusters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MTD (10 minutes) - Berghof • Governance (10 minutes) - Berghof • SSR (10 minutes) - GPPAC/Shyamika 	<p>Chair: Mary</p> <p>Presenter: Chris</p> <p>Chair: Gabriella</p>

	• Discussion	
11.30 – 12.00	Break	
12.00 – 12.30	Inputs from WP4 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Findings from Thematic Reports 2. Discussion on key issues from thematic research for Final Research Report 	Chair: Georg Presenters: Mary & Vesna
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch and video filming	
14.00 – 15.30	Key Themes of Final Research Report <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 'SWOD' analysis [Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Difficulties] of EU Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention 2. 3 break out groups: CLUSTERS, CASES, CROSS-CUTTING THEMES (40 minutes each) 3. Discussion 4. Summary 	Chair: Chris Lead: Georg
15.30 – 15.45	Break	
15.45 – 16.30	Policy implications from Research	Chair: Mary Presenter: Linda (Skype)
16.30 – 17.00	Video Filming	

DAY 2		
Time	Session	Leads
9.00 – 9.30	Coffee	
9.30 – 10.15	Publications and Dissemination <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Journal Special Issue – LSE 2. Edited Volume – UU 3. Final Conference – GPPAC 4. Online Community of Practice - LSE 	Chair: Gabriella
10.15 – 11.15	Scholarly Articles Carousel Discussion	Leads: GPPAC and Berghof Moderator: Veronique
11.15 – 11.30	Break	
11.30 – 12.30	Steering Group Meeting	
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch	
13.30 – 15.00	Preparation of Periodic Review	GPPAC

Annex 2: Attendance List

BF	Ms.	DUDOUET	Véronique
BF	Mrs.	LUNDSTRÖM	Stina
ECP	Ms.	VILLELLAS	Ana
ESSEC IRENE	Ms.	SIMON	Julie
GPPAC	Ms.	VOGELAAR	Gabriella
GPPAC	Ms.	MILETIC	Kristina
GPPAC	Mrs	JAYASUNDARA-SMITS	Shyamika
GPPAC	Ms.	FRANK	Silvana
GPPAC	Mrs.	CARRERAS LLOVERAS	Victoria
GPPAC	Mr.	VAN BIJNEN	Maarten
GPPAC	Mr.	BETLEM	Kjell
GPPAC	Mr.	KOLSTEEG	Kees
IWP	Mr.	SOLODKYY	Sergiy
LSE	Mrs	MARTIN	Mary
LSE	Mrs	BOJICIC-DZELILOVIC	Vesna
PDF	Ms.	ESHAQ	Alia
TSU	Ms.	MACHARASHVILI	Nana
TSU	Mrs.	BASILAI	Ekatarine
UU	Mr.	FRERKS	Georg
UU	Mr.	VAN DER BORGH	Chris
UU	Mr.	DIRKX	Toon
USJPB	Mr.	DJIRE	Moussa
USJPB	Mr.	SOW	Djirbril
GPPAC Member - AMES	Mr.	BOGOMOLOV	Alexander
GPPAC Member - ICCN	Mrs.	TSIKHISTAVI-KHUTSISHVILI	Nina
GPPAC Member - WANEP-Mali	Mr.	THERA	Boubacar