The ‘securitisation’ of EU development policy

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Module: EU Foreign and Security Policy

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Context of this presentation

This presentation was given as part of a module for a master’s programme of European Studies at Maastricht University.

In this context the presentation was designed for presenter-student interaction and meant to cover the topics of the EU’s security-development nexus by illustrating it with current examples. It covers the topic’s basics as well as more in-depth details.

The views expressed are those of the presenter only and should not be attributed to any other person or institution.
Klaus signs, Lisbon Treaty due Dec. 1

03/11/09 20:09 CET

Source: Euronews of 3 November 2009
EU aid chief: merger with foreign policy 'over my dead body'

Source: EU observer of 18 February 2011
Structure

1. Development vs. security aims (quiz)
2. EU interests vs. values
3. Development policy pre-Lisbon vs. post-Lisbon: responsibilities and trends
4. What tools for EU external action?
5. Two “integrated strategies” coined by the EEAS: (1) Strategy for Security and Development in the Sahel (2) A Strategic Framework for the Horn of Africa
6. Litmus test: Programming the EU’s next development budget
7. Time for questions/discussion
Policy Quiz: Development vs. Security aims

Poverty reduction

Conflict prevention

Rule of law

Fight terrorism

Reduce security threats

EU visibility as a global actor

Good governance

Prevent instability

Security Sector Reform

Respect Human Rights

Human security

Arms control and non-proliferation
EU interests vs. values

Fight against terrorism and organised crime
Controlled migration
Trade

Human rights
Democracy
Rule of law
Peace
Solidarity
Third variable

Needs, values and interests of partner countries?
Development policy: Pre-Lisbon responsibilities and trends

- Responsibility for development lies with the Commissioner for External Relations
- EC’s DG AIDCO is responsible for the implementation of all development policies
- EC’s DG DEV is responsible for the strategic planning of development policies for
  (1) ACP-countries and
  (2) thematic programmes (people, natural resources, civil society, food security, migration)
- EC’s DG RELEX is responsible for strategic planning for non-ACP developing countries

Trend: poverty reduction
Development Policy: Post-Lisbon responsibilities and trends

- New kids on the block: The HR/VP, the EEAS
- Responsibility for development lies with the Commissioner for Development and the HR/VP
- EC’s DG DEVCO is responsible for implementation of all development policies
- The EEAS leads on jointly planning development strategies for non-ACP dev. countries and ACP-countries with the EC’s DG DEVCO
- DG DEVCO responsible for the strategic planning of thematic programmes (climate change, energy, human development, food security, migration)
EU aid chief: merger with foreign policy 'over my dead body'
Brainstorming: What tools does EU external action have at its disposal?

Some examples
- Diplomacy
- Foreign aid (capacity building etc.)
- Trade
- Sanctions
- Confidence-building
- Resolutions
- Investments
- Cooperation agreements (culture, science, migration etc.)
- Military support/force
Break
Two “integrated strategies” coined by the EEAS in 2011

(1) Strategy for Security and Development in the Sahel

(2) A Strategic Framework for the Horn of Africa
Situation at the outset: Sahel region

- Desertification and land degradation
- Food and water shortages
- Other effects of climate change
- More than half the population involved in agriculture
- High rural poverty rate, migration flows
- Prone to violent conflict (armed groups)
- Politically instable, non-participatory
- Culture of impunity and distrust
- Organised crime (arms and drugs trafficking, piracy, human trafficking)
- Radicalized armed Islamist groups (AQMI)
Now You: What would your response strategy look like?

Picture source: SOS Sahel UK under Creative Commons License
The EU’s response as outlined in the “Strategy for Security and Development in the Sahel”

1. Development and security are mutually dependent
2. Support closer regional cooperation to achieve security and development
3. Support capacity building in security and development cooperation
4. Help region to achieve a more secure environment and protect the interests of EU citizens
5. Sahel = Mauritania, Mali and Niger (parts of Burkina Faso, Chad) (players to involve: Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria)
Sahel Strategy: Development aspects

- Support economic and social development
- Support transparent accountable governance
- Support education capacities
- Build transport infrastructure
- Build social infrastructure
- Mitigate effects of climate change
- Humanitarian assistance (food crisis, IDPs)
Sahel Strategy: Security aspects

- Tackle cross-border security threats
- Combatting illicit trafficking of cocaine
- Ensure law enforcement to fight and handle terrorism and organised crime
- Fight against violent extremism and radicalisation
- Enhance the resilience of societies to counter terrorism
- Civilian CSDP mission to the Sahel by end of summer 2012 (operational focus Niger) to fight terrorism and organised crime
Situation at the outset: Horn of Africa

- State collapse of Somalia
- Violent conflict (UN intervention 1992-95)
- Militant Islamic group → attention after 9/11
- Lack of agreement on political system
- Claims to power of rival groups (clan structures)
- Primarily (agro-)pastoral communities (famines)
- Piracy: Important maritime trade route
- Geographical variation (Somaliland, Puntland, South Central)
- African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)
- EU naval force ‘Operation Atalanta’ since 2008
- Involvement of Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya
Now You: What would your response strategy look like?
The EU’s response as outlined in “A Strategic Framework for the Horn of Africa”

1. Assist building robust, accountable political structures
2. Work with region and IOs to resolve current and prevent future conflicts
3. Ensure insecurity of the region does not threaten the security of others beyond its borders
4. Promote economic growth to reduce poverty
5. Support political and economic regional cooperation
6. Horn of Africa = IGAD countries (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda)
Horn of Africa Strategy: Development aspects

- Dialogue on constitutional norms
- Electoral Observation Missions
- Combat corruption
- Support to civil society
- Tackle underlying causes of conflict
- AU border programme
- Promoting reconciliation
- Combat impunity
- Support maritime capacity building
- Support to job creation, education
- Support measures to food security
Horn of Africa Strategy: Security aspects

- Activation of EU Operations Centre in support of the CSDP missions
- Operation Atalanta extended to include Somali costal areas and internal waters
- EUTM Somalia
- Operational planning for a civilian mission to strengthen maritime capacities in the region
- Monitoring arms smuggling, arms control
- Promote UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy
- Develop link between internal and external aspects of the EU’s security
Securitisation of Development?

- Dangers emanating from these regions are EU priorities
- Sahel strategy has a relatively narrow focus on security and the EU’s interests
- Framework for the Horn is slightly more comprehensive
- Yet more security focused shift in the EU’s approach towards the Horn of Africa compared to 2006
- Will security focus undermine progress towards development goals?
- Legitimate question: whose security?
- Developmentalisation of Security?
Next litmus test: Programming the EU’s new development budget

- Joint programming responsibility EEAS/DEVCO for the 2014-2020 budget
- Programming stage to be finalised by the end of 2012
- At the same time European Parliament and Council of the EU discuss frameworks proposed for the new budget by the EC
Questions?
Thank you
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