



PRESS

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## Iraq: Council agrees on a future CSDP mission to support security sector reform

The Council adopted a crisis management concept for a new civilian CSDP mission in Iraq.

The mission will focus on assisting the Iraqi authorities in the implementation of the civilian aspects of the Iraqi security strategy. EU experts will provide advice and assistance in priority work areas responding to the needs of the relevant authorities.

The national security strategy aims at building state institutions capable of consolidating security, peace and preventing conflicts under the rule of law, and outlines a number of threats to national security, including terrorism, corruption, political instability and ethnic and sectarian polarisation.

In response to a request from the Iraqi authorities for support in the civilian security sector reform area, and in line with the Council conclusions on Iraq of 19 June, the EU agreed to prepare a civilian CSDP mission in Baghdad. The adoption of a crisis management concept is the first step to launch a new CSDP mission, after which preparations to deploy begin.

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