

PRESS RELEASE

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Central African Republic and Common Security and Defence Policy: EU launches civilian advisory mission and extends the mandate of military training mission

The Council today adopted a decision **launching** the European Union CSDP (Common Security and Defence Policy) civilian advisory mission in the Central African Republic (**EUAM RCA**).

The mission was initially established on 9 December 2019, with Council Decision (CFSP) 2019/2110. Following the achievement of Initial Operational Capability, the **mission will now become operational on 9 August** for an initial period of **two years**.

Under the authority of the EU head of mission, Mr **Paulo Soares**, the objective of the mission will be to support the **reform of the internal security forces** to enable the local authorities to mitigate the current security challenges in the country. EU experts will support the Ministry of the Interior and the internal security forces, the police and the gendarmerie, with the aim of helping in their deployment throughout the country.

The mission coordinates closely with the UN MINUSCA mission and the international community, as well as the other CSDP mission present in the country: **EUTM RCA**.

The Council today also decided that the **mandate** of EUTM RCA will be **extended for a further two years until 19 September 2022**. The decision follows the Strategic Review of the Mission.

EUTM RCA is a military training mission launched by the EU in 2016 to provide strategic advice to the Central African Republic's political and military authorities, as well as education and training to its armed forces.

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