

CV

Natalina CEA

Ms. CEA is an Italian civil servant who has worked at a senior level for more than 20 years, both in Italy – as Director of the International Cooperation and Technical Assistance Office of the Italian Customs Administration – and internationally, leading missions, programs and projects in the civilian security sector, particularly in the field of border management and related security and justice issues.

She has led the EC Mission CAM -Albania and more recently, in the framework of the EU Common Security and Defence Policy, she was at the head of EUBAM Rafah in Palestine and the Regional Coordination Cell (RCC) in the Sahel. These experiences further developed her leadership capabilities in international contexts, particularly in those affected by security crises. She has a thorough understanding of CSDP and its procedures, including planning and evaluation systems and reporting to PSC and CivCom, further enhanced by her most recent secondment to CPCC in Brussels.

While serving in Italy, she headed two regional initiatives (Mediterranean and Venice) and a significant number of projects funded by the European Union, covering the Balkans, and Middle East and North African countries, thereby increasing her knowledge and overview of security and border issues in the wider Mediterranean context, including cross-border cooperation agreements and integrated border management strategies and plans.

As a result of her work on the ground, particularly in the Balkans, Palestine, Libya and the Sahel, she has honed her ability to integrate programs, projects and funds to reinforce the coherence of EU assistance to beneficiary countries in security sector governance and reform and border management.

Ms. CEA holds a degree in Economics and has completed several post-graduate courses in negotiation and mediation, Security Sector Reform, Theory of Change and impact evaluation.

She has coordinated studies and reports on EU and international blueprints on customs and regional border management, security and defence sectors, including their presentation at international fora and conducting related training activities.