# Resolution on developing the Union's capabilities in conflict prevention and civil crisis management

2001/2528(RSP) - 15/03/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, topical subjects

The Parliament adopted the resolution inviting the Commission and the Council to treat conflict prevention as a priority since, in addition to the obvious human and environmental suffering involved, it is less costly to prevent conflict than to repair the damages it causes. The Parliament notes that the European Union already has a wide range of conflict prevention and crisis management tools, including diplomatic channels, fact-finding missions, humanitarian aid, a European police force and the European rapid reaction force. It also notes that the EU has at its disposal a full range of possibilities to stem the flow of arms to regions of conflict in accordance with its code of conduct on arms exports as well as in accordance with its programmes to stop the proliferation of small arms. However, the Parliament considers that it would be useful to itemise all the instruments at the disposal of the European Union and its Member States in order to identify any deficiencies. The Parliament also highlights the need to improve the EU's capacity for information-gathering. It is also considers it essential to involve the NGOs, civil society and the independent media in conflict-prevention and crisis-management policy. The House maintains that the best method of preventing conflict is to takle its root causes. Lastly, the Commission, Council and Member States are urged to take all necessary steps to coordinate action to develop conflict prevention, including establishing ground rules to enable coordinated action.