

Studentenforum im Tönissteiner Kreis e.V.

Seminar from May 11th to 15th, 2005 in Brussels, Belgium

Europe towards a European Diplomacy?

Questions

(I) EEAS competences vs. national sovereignties

- Which policy areas will be designated as 'common' and thus come under the future authority and responsibility of the EEAS? Which will stay with the national Foreign Ministries?
- Which will be the core tasks of the EEAS, which functions will be performed by the national Foreign Ministries?
- Where might we see overlaps between national and European policy-making that could cause institutional in-fighting and turf wars about competences and responsibilities?
- Will there be conflicts of interest between national and European foreign policy? How will the framework cope with such conflicts?
- What will be the implications of the EEAS for the national Foreign Ministries?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of the two EEAS-models that are currently being discussed – the maximum model (EEAS = fully fledged Foreign Ministry) and the minimum model (EEAS = policy unit)?

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(II) Human resources and management

- How will EEAS staff be recruited? Will there be a separate EU selection process or will national diplomats be assigned by national services and existing EU institutions?
- How will EEAS staff be posted? Could one apply the principle of post rotation?
- Who will be in charge of recruitment and human resource management within the EEAS?
- Which qualifications and competences are needed for EEAS diplomats?
- How will EEAS diplomats be trained and prepared for a common European Foreign Service? Will the EEAS have its own training program?
- How could one work in the direction of creating an institutional culture and *esprit de corps* among EEAS diplomats?
- What kind of career development for EEAS diplomats would be conceivable? Would there be scope for long-term career planning and hence an efficient personnel development?
- Could national procedures of career development be successfully applied on the European level?

(III) Constitution, timeframe, scenarios

- How would the CFSP evolve in case the Constitution will not be ratified? What would be the consequences for the Union's Minister for Foreign Affairs? Will there be an EEAS without the Constitution?
- Will the CFSP and the EEAS work smoothly even in complex, contentious, scenarios? What are possible weak spots? How could the EEAS achieve real credibility?
- Assuming the Constitution will be ratified as planned, when could we see the EEAS take up work? How are national ministries and EU institutions currently preparing for this scenario?