

Building a resilient and prepared EU: key points from SOC/812

European Economic and Social Committee opinion
SOC/812 “Crises and crisis phenomena in modern Europe and civil society”

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Context and EESC work

- **Niinistö** report – October **all-hazards; whole-of-society, whole-of-government**
- Appointment Commissioners **Lahbib, Kubilius, Brunner**
- **Polish EU Presidency** – EESC exploratory opinions
- **Joint White Paper for European Defence Readiness 2030 (19/3)** – EESC REX/603
- **Union Preparedness Union Strategy (26/3)** – EESC SUBCTEE
- **Internal Security Strategy (1/4)** – EESC TBD



Background SOC/812

- **EESC exploratory opinion** - adopted March 26
- **Request from Polish EU Presidency** - formally presented June
- Focus on **organised civil society**
- Focus on **civil preparedness**



Key points: a culture of preparedness

- Need a **mindset shift** for a **culture of preparedness** – **takes time**
- Aims to **preserve and foster peace**, and protect a functioning society
- **Solidarity, active citizenship and empowerment** at core of civil society action
- **Must proactively address root causes** of conflict and social unrest
- Must extend **beyond EU borders**



Diversity – but shared values

Roles and contributions

- Building **trust** and social **cohesion**
- Building **resilience** and **purpose**
- Raising **awareness** and sharing **information**
- Early **warning** and risk identification
- **Empowering** vulnerable groups
- **Mobilising** volunteers and resources
- Providing **humanitarian assistance** and crisis support
- Assisting in **recovery** and **reconciliation**
- **Safeguarding rights** and freedoms



Supporting civil society as key partner

- **Invest in preparedness and civil society before a crisis**
 - Ensure adequate resources for meaningful engagement
 - Advance dialogue structures at all levels
 - Guarantee adequate funding
- **Protect civil society space**
 - Embrace diversity
 - Value civil society models and specificities
- **Fully integrate civil society on equal footing**
 - Include in decision and policy-making
 - Include in training and exercises
 - Improve coordination and coordination
 - Strengthen cross-border cooperation
- **Plan for vulnerabilities**
 - Develop crisis preparedness plans
 - Tailor support for vulnerable groups
 - Risk acceptance with clear mandates
 - Fight disinformation and propaganda



Looking ahead – EESC work on key initiatives

White Paper for European Defence Readiness 2030

1. Making Europe Ready by 2030
2. Rebuilding begins with Ukraine
3. Spending better, together and European
4. A strong and innovative European Defence Industry
5. Deterrence through disruptive innovation
6. Simplifying current legislation
7. Preparing for worst-case

EU Preparedness Union Strategy

1. Foresight and anticipation
2. Resilience of vital societal functions
3. Population preparedness
4. Public-private cooperation
5. Civil-military cooperation
6. Crisis response coordination
7. Resilience through external partnerships

Internal Security Strategy

(Preliminary content)

1. Better anticipating and handling threats
2. Hybrid threats
3. Tackle serious and organised crime and terrorism
4. Strengthen security capabilities
5. EU to be a strong global player on security

Thank you for your attention!

Għandkom xi mistoqsijiet?

Spørsmål?

Имате ли въпроси?

Avez-vous des questions à poser?

Domande?

Kysymyksiä?

Kas on veel küsimusi?

Vannak-e kerdések?

An bhfuil aon cheist agat?

Frågor?

Perguntas?

Máte dotazy?

¿Alguna pregunta?

Haben Sie noch Fragen?

Intrebări?

Czy mają Państwo jakieś pytania?

Frågor?

Ima li pitanja?

Otázky?

Vprašanja?

Vragen?

Ar turite klausimų?

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