

Beyond peace started its mission in Bangui, Central African Republic



Beyond peace started in July 2017 its **training on IHL and prevention of sexual violence for the Central African armed forces (FACA)** on behalf of EUTM, the EU training mission in CAR. In this country plagued by violence, IHL violations and conflict-related sexual violence, the armed forces are unarmed and not deployed due to past failures, while non-state armed groups control 75% of the territory.

Based in Bangui and deployed upon the request of the Transition President, the EUTM RCA is contributing to rebuilding a modernised, effective, inclusive and democratically accountable Central African Armed Forces (FACA). It provides strategic advice to the Central African Republic's Ministry of Defence and the general staff, as well as education to officers and non-commissioned officers, and training to the FACA.

Beyond peace established a partnership with the mission, with the approval of the EU External Action Service and with the support of UK Government. The objective is to integrate the training component on behaviour into all training delivered by the EUTM for the FACA over a 6-month pilot period. Our Director Cynthia Petrigh arrived in Bangui on 7 July 2017 to design and develop the programme; she will be joined by other experienced trainers.

Two months and a half in the project, 140 Officers and NCOs benefitted from the training, which includes an assessment and evaluation questionnaire and the delivery of lectures, tactical drills with IHL/PSV dilemmas as well as group work. Quote from a participant: "As young Officers, we are learning. Today I learnt something I had never suspected before: if an operation is due to fail or to result in a massive massacre, we have the option to postpone it and think how to better design it".

On 15 September, UK's Deputy Ambassador Mr Nicholas Woolley visited Camp Kasai, to underline UK's support for the training in IHL and prevention of sexual violence delivered to the FACA Officers by Beyond peace on behalf of EUTM.

Beyond peace contributed to the pre-deployment training of the 2nd batch of **UK Engineers deploying to South Sudan UNMISS**, from 28 May to 3 June in Norfolk. This excellent team is very ably led by Commander LCol Katie Hislop.



The Trenton Exercise was also graced with the visit of MGen Tyrone Urch, commanding Force Troops Command, with whom we held a dialogue over dinner as a side event to the exercise.

On June 29 Beyond peace contributed once more in the delivery of a series of training workshops on **Conflict-related sexual violence for the Intermediate Command and Staff Course –Land (ICSC-L)**, a nine month course attended by all British Army and Royal Marine officers on promotion to Major taking place at the Defence Academy of the UK in Shrivenham.

The 89th **San remo refugee law course** took place in French from June 13-19 at the Institute under the Directorate of Beyond peace Cynthia Petrih. The majority of 39 participants, a great number of whom were from Africa, were high-level personalities involved in either RSD or other aspects of asylum and migration in their country. They were very active and it was a good learning and exchange opportunity in a very pleasant atmosphere. Decades after the introduction of the refugee law course in Sanremo, the principal case study features a female refugee. We are in 2017!



The Malaysian Peacekeeping Centre (MPC) organised in partnership with the British High Commission (BHC) in Kuala Lumpur the first workshop on **Sexual Violence in Conflict and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA)** held in Malaysia. Beyond peace contributed to the design and co-facilitation of the course, which ran from 8 -11 August in Port Dickson. Some 30 officers drawn from the Malaysia Armed Forces (Army, Navy and Air Force) and selected number of foreign participants, all likely to be deployed to UN Peacekeeping Missions during their service, participated actively and exchanged on their experience and dilemmas. We look forward to continuing our cooperation with the MPC and BHC to deliver trainings on preventing sexual violence for peacekeepers from Malaysia and the region.

We designed and co-facilitated a workshop on **Gender-based issues and border management** in Beirut from 20-22 June at the request of ICMPD. Some 18 male and female participants from General Security, ranking from Major to Lieutenant discussed topics including: What is gender? Why do we need to include it in our work; migrant workers and gender dimension; gender sensitivity during identification, arrests and interviews; Best practice in gender sensitive border management; or how can we improve gender sensitivity in our work?

The Malaysian Peacekeeping Centre organised in partnership with the British High Commission **the first workshop on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Sexual and Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) to be held in Port Dickson, Malaysia**. Beyond peace contributed to the design and co-facilitation of the Course, which ran from 8 -11 August. Some 30 Officers drawn from the Malaysia Armed Forces (Army, Navy and Air Force) and selected number of foreign students, all likely to be deployed to UN Peacekeeping Missions during their service participated actively and exchanged on their experience and dilemmas. Based on this very successful first edition, we are looking forward to continuing our cooperation with the MPC and BHC in view of delivering trainings for peacekeepers from Malaysia and South East Asia.

The 40th annual round-table on IHL was held in Sanremo from September 6-9. Cynthia Petrih from Beyond peace was invited by President Pocar to present a paper on: *“Humanitarian negotiations for access to persons in need of assistance: what role for gender diversity?”* The paper, which addressed the topic of gendered humanitarian assistance in a world where access is endangered, was well received and will feature in the round-table proceedings.



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