**THE WEEK AHEAD AT THE UNITED NATIONS:**

**THE EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE (46/13)**

 **16 - 31 December 2013**

A Special Issue 47/13, the last WA for 2013, will be sent on 20 December

giving an overview of the 6 months ahead.

This document is for planning purposes only and is subject to change.

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VIP Visits

* Olivier De Schutter, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food: Malaysia (till 18 Dec.).
* Peter de Clercq, UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), Deputy Special Representative, UN Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative: Brussels (16 Dec.).
* Sergey Lavrov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation: Brussels (16 Dec.).
* Salaheddine Mezouar, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Morocco: Brussels (16-17 Dec.).
* Cecilia Malmström, EU Commissioner for Home Affairs: Ankara (16 Dec.); Budva (19 Dec.).
* Hanan Ashrawi, member of the Palestine legislative Council: Brussels (17 Dec.).
* Valerie Amos, Under Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator (OCHA); Antonio Guterres, High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); Anthony Lake, Executive Director (UNICEF); Ertharin Cousin, Executive Director, World Food Programme: Brussels (18 Dec.).
* Jordan Ryan, Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator of UNDP and Director of the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery: Brussels (18 Dec.).
* Kate Gilmore, Deputy Executive Director (Programme) United Nations Population Fund: Brussels (18 Dec.).
* Anne Richard, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees and Migration: Brussels (18 Dec.).
* David Gressly, Deputy Special Representative, UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA): Brussels (20 Dec.).
* Andris Piebalgs, EU Commissioner for Development: Central African Republic (20-21 Dec.).

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**Monday 16 December**

Year-end **press conference** by the UN Secretary-General.

**Launch** of the humanitarian strategies and requirements for 2014 (previously known as the CAP – Consolidated Appeals Process).

**Launch** of the report entitled “Women and Natural Resources: Unlocking the Peacebuilding Potential”.

**Ankara**: Signature of the EU-Turkey readmission agreement and the launch of the EU-Turkey visa liberalisation dialogue.

**Brussels**: -Agriculture and Fisheries EU Council (till 17 Dec.).

-EU Foreign Affairs Council. Regarding Syria, the Council will examine the latest developments in particular the destruction of Syria's chemical weapons, the humanitarian situation and the preparation for a peace conference scheduled for 22 January.

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/140079.pdf>

- EU- Morocco Association Council.

-European Parliament - Committee meetings. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/pdfs/news/expert/agenda_week_by_day/52-2013/52-2013_en.pdf>

-European Parliament - Hearing on the UN Arms Trade Treaty. Organizers: Committee on International Trade jointly with Security and Defence Subcommittee. The aim is to analyse all aspects related to the implementation of the Treaty, ranging from custom codes, export licences, internal transfer, private sectors responsibility, ATT secretariat setting up and links with existing European regulation.

**Geneva**:, Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of people to self-determination (till 20 Dec.).

**New York:** Security Council – briefing and consultations on the Middle East (including Syria and UNDOF).

-Special meeting on “Response to Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines”.

**Vienna**: Social Economy Conference (till 17 Dec.). <http://www.samaritan-international.eu/event/solidar-konferenz-in-wien/>

**Tuesday, 17 December**

**Brussels**: - EU General Affairs Council. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/EN/genaff/140084.pdf>

- [8th European Forum on the Rights of the Child](http://europa.eu/newsroom/calendar/event/462063/8th-european-forum-on-the-rights-of-the-child) (till 18 Dec.).

<http://ec.europa.eu/justice/events/child-forum-2013/index_en.htm>

**-**European Parliament - High Level Conference on "Afghanistan and Central Asia: Prospects and Challenges after withdrawal of NATO/ISAF Forces"

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/document/activities/cont/201312/20131205ATT75584/20131205ATT75584EN.pdf>

**Geneva:** - 26th Round of the Geneva International Discussions (till 18 Dec.).

- OCHA Humanitarian situation in Haiti and response plan 2014..

**New York**: Security Council - debate on the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA); Vote on a Resolution regarding the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED); Briefing and Consultations on the UN Office for West Africa (UNOWA).

**Wednesday, 18 December**

International Migrants **Day** <http://www.un.org/en/events/migrantsday/>

Global **launch** of World Economic Situation and Prospects 2014.

**Brussels:** - Syria Principals' meeting.

-**European Parliament: - High Level Conference on "Afghanistan and Central Asia: Prospects and Challenges after withdrawal of NATO/ISAF Forces".**

# -European Parliament: High-Level debate on the conflict in Syria and the humanitarian impact on the region. , Exchange of views in the presence of the Commissioner Kristalina Georgieva and the representatives of international humanitarian organizations. 15.00-18.30 <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/deve/all-announcements.html>

Webstreaming: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/ep-live/en/committees/video?event=20131218-1500-COMMITTEE-DEVE>

- The European Commission will officially handover the European Green Capital title. The winning cities to date include: Stockholm 2010, Hamburg 2011, Vitoria-Gasteiz 2012, currently Nantes 2013, Copenhagen 2014 and Bristol 2015. - <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/europeangreencapital/news/events/egca-handover-2013/>

# - European Commission Information Day 2013: Smart, Green and Integrated Transport <http://europa.eu/newsroom/calendar/event/463118/information-day-2013-smart-green-and-integrated-transport>

**New York**: Security Council – Resolutions on ICTY and UNDOF; Briefing on Peace and Security in Africa: Drug trafficking in Sahel and West Africa.

**Thursday, 19 December**

**Brussels:** - European Council (till 20 Dec.). <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/13/st15/st15651.en13.pdf>

**Budva**: The EU-Western Balkans Ministerial Forum.

**Friday, 20 December**

International Human Solidarity **Day**

<http://undesadspd.org/InternationalDays/InternationalHumanSolidarityDay.aspx>

**Paris**: Security in 2020: Meeting the Challenge (till 21 Dec.). <http://en.milipol.com/Show-features/European-Commission>

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**UN Campaigns, Competitions, Apps and Games**

**Many Languages, One World - Student Essay Contest** <http://www.unric.org/en/competitions>

Part of the UN Academic Impact's commitment to multilingual education, ELS Educational services and the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) have launched a global essay contest for university and college students on global citizenship and understanding

Submit an essay (2000 words or less) exploring how multilingual ability advances global citizenship and understanding. Your essay should reflect your academic, cultural, and national context.

The submission deadline is 21 February, 2014

**23rd International Children's Painting Competition** <http://www.unric.org/en/competitions>

The International Children's Painting Competition on the Environment is organized every year by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Japan-based Foundation for Global Peace and Environment (FGPE), Bayer and Nikon Corporation. It has been held since 1991 and has received more than 3 million entries from children in over 150 countries.

The submission deadline is 15 March, 2014

**UPU - 2014 International letter-writing competition for young people** <http://www.unric.org/en/competitions>

The theme selected for the 2014 competition is: "Write a letter describing how music can touch lives."

The communication supports include a poster and a flyer, which are being updated to reflect the 2014 theme. They will be made available to member countries shortly.

The best letter from each country must be submitted to the International Bureau no later than 30 April 2014.

The submission deadline is 30 April, 2014

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