

1. Name

Peter Luff

2. Organisation

House of Commons

3. Type of Organisation

Parliament

6. What subject area of the Foreign Policy Report does your evidence relate to?

Security and Defence

7. What are the comparative advantages/disadvantages of working through the EU in the area you wish to comment on, rather than the UK working independently?

Given the very differing levels of willingness to engage in military activity among member states, and the existence of NATO, there are few advantages to working through the EU mechanisms

8. In what areas of global affairs does the EU add value or deliver impact or not on behalf of the UK?

In many international negotiations, especially trade related and environmental ones

9. How effective is the EU at combining its foreign, defence, economic and civil contingency policy instruments to deliver best effect in foreign policy? What, if anything, should it do differently?

The very different histories of the member states will always make this challenging as the German position on Libya so dramatically illustrated; I strongly recommend that the EU is less ambitious in these areas and instead concentrates on those economic and environmental issues where it can add real value.

10. How effective are the EU's delivery mechanisms? Would any changes make them more effective, and if so, which ones and why?

The EDA has some utility and should be enabled to continue its work. Over time it might make possible more ambitious coordination of defence related issues

11. Would a different division of EU and Member State competence in a particular area produce more effective policies? If so, how and why?

Recognition of the primacy of NATO in defence and the abandoning of structural innovation within the EU would be beneficial

12. How might the national interest be served by action being taken in this field at a different level e.g. regional, national, UN, NATO, OECD, G20 – either in addition or as an alternative to action at EU level?

Previously answered - primacy to NATO

13. What future challenge/opportunities might we face in this area of policy and what impact might these have on the balance of competence between the UK and the EU?

The eastward tilt of the USA means Europe must pick up a greater share of its defence responsibilities, but this is best done through the existing structures and not by inventing new ones

14. Are there any general points you wish to make which are not captured above?

no