



MINISTERIO
DE DEFENSA

EMAD-CESEDEN

INSTITUTO ESPAÑOL
DE ESTUDIOS
ESTRATÉGICOS



Implementing the EU Global Strategy Year 2

The recently published report on the implementation of the Global Strategy of the European Union, after its second year of validity, is a complete review of all the cooperation initiatives, present and future, that the Union has set, or intends to put into action, in a triumphalist and to a certain degree, self-satisfied way. To do this, it highlights the successes (some of which are not attributable to European diplomacy, such as the agreement between Macedonia of the North and Greece) and the concealment of failures, remaining in many cases in the lack of definition.

Thus, cooperation with NATO appears as a fact in which has been deepened, when in fact, apart from the mutual official declarations, such cooperation is permanently hindered by the impossibility of exchanging classified information between both organizations and by

the double blockade applied respectively by Turkey and Greece / Cyprus, in the defense of their particular interests.

In the field of development aid, the impressive figures that the European Union spends on it (4,400 million euros just in the European External Investment Plan) do not seem to correspond to the limited progress seen in the recipient countries.

With regard to the Common Security and Defense Policy, the new initiatives launched (PESCO, CARD, EDF, etc.) must still demonstrate their credibility and coherence.

There is no doubt that the EU is a benefactor power in the world and that the Global Strategy is a valuable tool when it comes to focusing and coordinating the efforts that both the organization and the Member States are making, assuming a great advance in the Brussels external action. But the complicated administrative stage, together with the lack of a common strategic culture, which in turn leads to a lack of commitment on the part of the States, continues to weigh on the Union's external action. So, although we are on the right track, there is still a long way to go and it would not hurt to be more self-critical.

[Implementing the EU Global Strategy - Year 2](#)