

EUFOR RD CONGO: THE MISSION

1. What is EUFOR RD CONGO?

It is a mission from the European Union, following a UN request and in full agreement with the Congolese government in support of MONUC during the electoral process in the DRC.

The mandate to this operation is given by **Council Resolution n° 1671** of the Security Council of the United Nations. It provides the European Union with a clear mandate in accordance with international law.

The EUFOR RD CONGO will help the MONUC in securing the region during the historical elections in the Congo.

Meanwhile the EU will continue with the mission EUSEC DR CONGO (an advisory and security reform mission) and EUPOL KINSHASA (which is to help set up an Integrated Police Unit and train them to international standards).

The EUFOR RD CONGO troops may intervene in different parts of the country to help to secure the region. This will be elaborated in close coordination with MONUC and the national authorities.

2. Where will EUFOR be located?

The **Force Headquarters (FHQ)** of this mission will be located in Kinshasa at the airfield of N'Dolo. Most of the soldiers, coming from different nations, will be stationed there. A small amount of EUFOR soldiers will be stationed on the airfield of N'Djilli, in case EUFOR wants to use this airport.

The biggest part of the Force will be stationed not in RD Congo, but in the neighbouring country Gabon. This 'on call force' will stay in Libreville and are able to deploy rapidly in case they are needed.

The planning and coordinating of the whole operation takes place in Europe. In the **Operation Headquarters (OHQ)** in Potsdam (Germany), military and civilian specialists coordinate the whole operation. This OHQ is the strategic level for this operation and is subordinated to the Political and Security Committee of the European Union.

The FHQ is on the tactical level and is subordinated to the OHQ.

3. How long will the mission EUFOR RD CONGO take?

The **4 months** time of the mission will begin on the date of the first round of the presidential elections, that is the **30th July 2006**.

The deployment and the redeployment of the troops are additional to these 4 months.