## Extent

5 folders, approximately 387 pages

## Summary

This collection contains non-electronic records related to European Security and Defense Policy (ESDP). European Security and Defense Policy is now–currently March 2022–called Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) and is a function of the European Union (EU). ESDP is a defensive alliance of European states.

## Scope and Content Note

The materials in FOIA 2020-0290-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. This FOIA request was for textual records related to European Security and Defense Policy (ESDP). European Security and Defense Policy is now–March of 2022–called Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) and is a function of the European Union (EU). ESDP is a defensive alliance of European states. It began in 1948 with ten member states and was modified in 1954. At that time, it was called the Western European Union (WEU). The primary goal of the WEU was for member states to provide a common defense of Europe from external aggression. The WEU was expanded in 1954, 1988, and 1995. In 1991, the WEU created Observer Status and in 1994 created Associate Status, effectively expanding membership. The United States is not a member, observer, or associate of the WEU, ESDP, or CSDP. Member states within the ESDP have, however, participated in NATO actions and joint military operations with the United States. Through the early twenty-first century, the member states and partners of the EU further ratified and agreed to a common defense system. By June of 2011 the WEU was effectively incorporated into the governance and agreements of the EU and the organization was closed on June 30, 2011. Records in this collection date primarily to 2000 though there are some records from late 1999. The records include staff and office files of Antony Blinken as

well as discussions related to NATO expansion and the former Soviet states. A significant number of records in this collection remain closed as national security information.

**Record Type**

Textual

**System of Arrangement**

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files and Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management Systems. Staff and Office files were maintained at the folder level by staff members within their individual offices and document all levels of administration activity.

**Access**

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. Chapter 22, as amended) and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552, as amended) and therefore records may be restricted in whole or in part in accordance with legal exemptions.

**Copyright**

Documents in this collection that were prepared by officials of the United States government as part of their official duties are in the public domain. Researchers are advised to consult the copyright law of the United States (17 U.S.C. Chapter 1) which governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

**Provenance**

Official records of William Jefferson Clinton’s presidency are housed at the Clinton Presidential Library and administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

**Processed by**

Staff Archivist, 2022. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

**Last Modified Date**

2022-08-03

**Container List**

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2020-0290-F:
Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
National Security Council
Defense Policy and Arms Control
Binnendijk, Hans
ESDI [European Security and Defense Identity] 2000 [OA/ID 3484]
Witkowsky, Anne
ESDI/ESDP [European Security and Defense Identity/European Security
and
Defense Policy] [OA/ID 2825]
European Affairs
Blinken, Antony
ESDP Meeting, June 13, 2000 [OA/ID 3403]
NATO/ESDP Participation [European Security and Defense Policy]
[OA/ID 3403]
Clinton Presidential Records: NSC Cable, Email, and Records Management System
NSC Records Management System
[European Security and Defense Policy]

9600121 [OA/ID 1080]