



UNGA80

THE EU AND THE UN: A PARTNERSHIP THAT DELIVERS

**WORKING TOGETHER TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL PEACE,
SECURITY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

September 2025

Together, the EU and the UN work to uphold the multilateral system based on universal rules and values. In multilateral fora and globally, the EU and UN address crises and challenges to pursue a peaceful, just, and sustainable world. Effective EU-UN cooperation is essential to address

today's global challenges that no country can face alone. Our strong political commitment to the UN is equally backed by predictable and reliable resources: together, the EU and its Member States are by far the largest financial contributor to the UN system, year after year.

In the spotlight this year

UN80 REFORM: MAKING THE UN FIT FOR THE FUTURE

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The UN's 80th anniversary comes amid unprecedented challenges for multilateralism: widening geopolitical divides, grave violations of the UN Charter, and systemic tests affecting the UN's ability to deliver. The EU and its Member States remain steadfast in their commitment to effective multilateralism and to the rules-based international order, with the UN at its core. A fair and functioning multilateral system is the only way to a peaceful, just and sustainable world.

The EU fully supports the Secretary-General's UN80 reform initiative as a unique opportunity to review, restructure and revitalise the UN system so that it can address global challenges and deliver effectively at country level. To make this ambition a reality, the EU will prioritise:

- **Implementing the Pact for the Future:** advancing the commitments made is a key step towards reinvigorating the UN, achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, and reforming the international financial architecture.
- **Strengthening "UN as one":** achieving the objectives of UN80 requires bold reforms and building on ongoing efforts – including the Humanitarian Reset, the UN Development System reform and the reforms of the peace and security pillar – while ensuring coherence across these tracks.
- **Working together with partners:** building consensus across the wider UN membership, while empowering civil society, women and youth, is vital to achieve a stronger and more resilient UN that delivers for all.

PEACE AND SECURITY



The UN is the EU's most important partner in promoting peace and security worldwide. As threats to international peace and security are growing, the EU remains committed to defending and restoring just and lasting peace globally.

Together with the UN, we work to prevent and resolve conflicts, protect civilians, support peace operations, and advance peacebuilding and mediation efforts in line with the UN Charter, as per the EU-UN Strategic Partnership on Peace and Security.

- The **UN Security Council** (UNSC) must remain at the heart of global peace and security. The EU supports comprehensive reform towards making it more effective, inclusive, transparent, democratic, and accountable. The UNSC should better reflect today's realities by strengthening the voice of underrepresented regions.

- **Conflict prevention and peacebuilding:** For greater impact on the ground, the world needs a UN peacebuilding system that is more coherent, resilient, better prepared and properly resourced. The 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review (PBAR) is a chance to turn political commitments into concrete action. To date, the EU and its Member States have provided over 70% of the UN Peacebuilding Fund' (PBF) since its establishment.
- The **EU remains a major contributor to peace operations**, with over **21% of the UN peacekeeping budget in 2024**. The EU is also a security provider in its own right, with 21 ongoing civilian and military missions and operations worldwide, working hand-in-hand with the UN on the ground, such as in Libya, Somalia and the Central African Republic.

THE EU AND THE UN'S COMMITMENT TO THE 2030 AGENDA



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to tackle significant global challenges, ranging from eradicating poverty and hunger to ensuring access to quality education and healthcare, addressing climate change, advancing the clean energy transition and fostering peace and justice around the world. In 2015, all 193 UN Member States signed up to them. Yet, recent crises have reversed progress, leaving many goals off track. The EU and its Member States fully support the 2023 SDG Summit's call for accelerated action.

- **Delivering on the Pact for the Future:** The EU supports its full implementation as a crucial step towards achieving the SDGs and reforming the international financial architecture.
- **Financing sustainable development:** The 2030 Agenda

provides a coherent and mutually reinforcing framework with the Compromiso de Sevilla (the Seville Commitment) on Financing for Development (FfD), the Paris Agreement, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). The EU calls for urgent action to accelerate SDG financing, including through reform of the international financial architecture, a comprehensive SDG Stimulus, and a sustainably funded Resident Coordinator system.

- **Global Gateway:** The EU's Global Gateway is a key contribution to implementing the SDGs, which are duly integrated in the Global Gateway strategy. The EU is on track to exceed its initial €300 billion target by 2027, helping to close the global sustainable financing gap.

UPHOLDING HUMAN RIGHTS



The EU and the UN work hand-in-hand to advance the realization of human rights worldwide, supporting human rights defenders, combatting discrimination and strengthening democratic institutions. The EU is guided by its Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2027.

- **Defending universal human rights and supporting accountability:** The EU is committed to defending all human rights for every individual and to upholding the UN Charter. The EU seeks to strengthen accountability for violations of human rights and humanitarian law.

- **Promoting gender equality:** The EU is stepping up action on gender equality and the elimination of sexual and gender-based violence, and champion the rights of women and girls, LGBTI persons and children.

- **Supporting participation:** The EU supports and empowers a diverse and independent civil society, championing their meaningful participation in all UN fora. We support women's and youth's equal, full, effective and meaningful participation, in all their diversity and in all spheres of public and political life.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A GREENER, SAFER AND MORE RESILIENT PLANET



The EU and the UN work together to confront the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, which threatens global stability and human security. The EU is committed to a UN system-wide approach to accelerate a global, just and inclusive green transition.

- **Climate action:** With the full package of climate and energy legislation now in force, the EU is on track to cut EU net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030 and to achieve climate neutrality by 2050. The EU has decoupled economic growth from emissions, reducing its share of global emissions to just 6%. The EU and its Member States remain the largest provider of public climate finance, supporting developing countries, including through Global Gateway.
- **Biodiversity and pollution:** The EU promotes full

implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and calls for swift conclusion of a global plastics treaty. It also welcomes the creation of the new science-policy panel on chemicals, waste and pollution.

- **Water and Ocean:** Building on the 2023 UN Water Conference, the EU advances its Water Resilience Strategy. With the Nice Ocean Action Plan and the European Ocean Pact, the EU supports ratification and implementation of the High Seas Treaty (BBNJ Agreement), backed by a €40 million Global Ocean Programme to assist developing countries.
- **Climate security:** Climate change and environmental degradation are direct threats to peace, security and defence. The EU's Joint Communication on the Climate-Security Nexus, together with the UN's Climate Security Mechanism, help address these risks while building resilience

ACTING TOGETHER FOR THOSE IN NEED



- The EU is one of the world's largest humanitarian aid donors, working hand in hand with the UN to save millions of lives in crisis situations globally.
- Yet at a time when humanitarian needs are reaching new heights, respect for International Humanitarian Law is under threat. The EU remains a credible and reliable donor, both through its financial support and its firm commitment to humanitarian principles and the values of humanity and solidarity.
- The EU and its Member States are **the world's leading humanitarian donor**. Humanitarian aid is a key pillar of

the EU's external action, with many EU-funded operations implemented through UN agencies and partners. The EU continues to allocate 10% of its humanitarian aid budget to education in emergencies, giving crisis-affected children access to learning.

- The **EU supports the UN's Humanitarian Reset Initiative**. Together with the UN, we are working to build a system that enables locally led humanitarian action, internationally protected and guided by humanitarian principles.