



# EU-UN: GLOBAL PARTNERS

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

The European Union and the United Nations are natural partners.

Together, we defend a **multilateral and rules-based global governance system** to respond to global crises, threats and challenges, which cannot be addressed by individual nations alone, and require **cooperation and coordination based on universal values and rules**.



## IN 2022, THE EU AND THE UN ARE WORKING TOGETHER IN MORE THAN 170 COUNTRIES:



**Preventing and overcoming crises**



**Protecting those at risk from war, disease and natural disasters**



**Supporting non-proliferation and disarmament**



**Tackling hunger and malnutrition**



**Building democratic and inclusive societies**



**Delivering essential services**



**Helping sustainable economic growth and decent jobs**



**Combatting climate change**



**Fighting the coronavirus pandemic**

## THE EU AND THE UN TOGETHER AGAINST THE FOOD CRISIS

- Russia's aggression against Ukraine is **having a catastrophic impact on food prices and food security for millions of people around the world**. Ukraine produces 12% of the world's wheat, 15% of its corn and 50% of its sunflower oil, and is the main exporter of agricultural goods for countries in North Africa and the Middle East. Russia is deliberately **blocking millions of tonnes of Ukrainian grain from reaching global markets**.
- The EU is a **lead provider of humanitarian and development assistance to food security**. Together with the UN, the EU works to eradicate hunger around the world. For example, the EU and its Member States collectively fund **40% of the World Food Programme's budget**.
- The EU supports the central role of the UN, in particular the **UN Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance**.
- With the **Team Europe response to global food insecurity**, the EU and its Member States are stepping up their action further through four strands of action: **Solidarity, Production and resilience, Trade and Multilateralism**.
- The EU will mobilise **more than €7.7 billion until 2024** to support food security and food **systems** in affected African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and for the highly exposed North Africa and the Middle East region. Further funding will come from EU Member States and European development banks. The EU is working closely together with UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes to implement these actions.
- The **EU Solidarity Lanes** together with the **UN deal to unblock some of Ukraine's Black Sea ports** are making a difference: much needed Ukrainian grain is being exported again and together they have led to a price drop on the global markets.

## EU FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE UN



The EU and its Member States are the **largest donors to the UN** system, providing almost one quarter of all financial contributions to the UN's agencies, funds and programmes. EU Member States also provide almost one fourth of the UN's regular budget.



The EU is the **largest development donor in the world**. In 2021, it provided over **€70.2 billion** in development assistance, aligned with the UN's 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.

## CONTINUED SUPPORT TO THE HEALTH CRISIS

- The EU and its Member States are **the largest donors to the WHO**. The EU promotes **global health as a public good**, namely advocating for universal health coverage and the implementation of the "One Health" approach.
- The EU, its Member States and financing institutions are at the forefront of the global response to the pandemic, mobilising over **€53.7 billion** to address the global consequences of the crisis. Team Europe is **among the largest contributors to COVAX**, providing financing of **over €5 billion**. Together, the EU actors have donated **over 480 million vaccines to date**.
- The EU and its Member States **support a robust post-pandemic recovery** by investing in health systems, local manufacturing and access to vaccines, medicines and health technologies, and future pandemic preparedness.

## ACTING TOGETHER FOR THOSE IN NEED

- The **EU-UN global Spotlight Initiative** has reached 130 million people through behaviour change campaigns, provided more than 1.6 million women and girls with gender-based violence services, and helped double perpetrator convictions to in participating countries.
- In 2022, the EU **stepped up vital support to the Afghan population**, launching projects in support of education, livelihoods, and public health worth €268.3 million channelled through the UN. In 2022, the EU has allocated more than €115 million in humanitarian support to humanitarian organisations operating in Afghanistan and the region.
- The EU and the UN work together to **support the people of Syria** and their host communities. At the sixth Brussels Conference on 9-10 May, the international community pledged **€6.4 billion** for 2022 and beyond for Syria and the neighbouring countries hosting the largest Syrian refugee population.
- The EU and its Member States contribute to about **60% of UNRWAs overall funding**. With a multiyear contribution of **€246 million** for 2022-2024, the EU will **ensure lifesaving assistance to Palestinian refugees**.

## FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE

- The EU supports the UN's "recover better" agenda for a sustainable and green recovery in line with the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement and the **European Green Deal**.
- The EU will be **climate neutral in 2050** and has **increased its emissions reduction target to at least 55% by 2030**, while legislation to implement it is being finalised. The EU Climate Law makes both targets a **legal obligation**.
- The EU will continue to encourage others to **raise their climate targets and deliver ambitious policies** to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement and other environmental agreements such as the Convention on Biodiversity.
- As an example of EU-UN cooperation, together we are developing **tools to tackle climate-fragility risks** to support **adaptation** and **mitigation** efforts in Sudan and Nepal. The EU also works together with UNHCR and IOM to provide guidance on how to best manage **climate-induced displacement**.

## UPHOLDING INTERNATIONAL LAW & STANDARDS

- The EU supports the UN Secretary General's **Call for Action** to advance the human rights of all human beings.
- Based on the EU's **Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2024**, the EU upholds the universality and indivisibility of human rights, defends the integrity and independence of the **UN human rights system**, and seeks to strengthen accountability for violations of human rights and humanitarian law.
- The EU is a staunch supporter of the **International Criminal Court** and the Rome Statute and is the Court's main financial contributor. **All EU Member States have ratified the Rome Statute**.

## MORE SECURITY FOR ALL

- The EU and the UN work together around the world to prevent conflicts, build sustainable peace and resolve crises, **cooperating closely in peace processes and in peace operations**. Together EU Member States **contribute to a quarter of the UN peacekeeping budget**.
- The joint priorities of the reinforced **EU-UN Strategic Partnership on peace operations and crisis management for 2022-20244** will focus on conflict prevention and stabilisation in the field. The climate, peace and security nexus as well as the Women, Peace and Security and Youth, Peace and Security agendas feature across all priorities.