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To:	Delegations
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Subject:	Council Conclusions on Upgrading the EU-UN Strategic Partnership on Peace and Security: Joint Priorities 2025-2028

Delegations will find attached the Council Conclusions on Upgrading the EU-EU Strategic Partnership on Peace and Security: Joint Priorities 2025-2028.

**Council Conclusions on Upgrading the EU-UN Strategic Partnership
on Peace and Security: Joint Priorities 2025-2028**

1. The Council reaffirms the unwavering commitment of the European Union and its Member States to upholding the multilateral, rules-based international order, with the United Nations at its core. The Council reiterates its resolute condemnation of all violations of the UN Charter and international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights. In this regard, the Council condemns once again in the strongest terms Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and reaffirms its continued support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders. The Council also calls for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and the unconditional release of all hostages, leading to a permanent end to hostilities; deplores the dire humanitarian situation in Gaza; and remains firmly committed to a lasting and sustainable peace based on the two-State Solution.

2. In today's deteriorating global security environment, marked by conflicts, hybrid threats, disinformation, and climate-induced instability, the Council emphasises the relevance of a renewed and strengthened EU-UN Strategic Partnership on Peace and Security as a key pillar of effective multilateralism and of the EU's role as a credible global peace and security actor. This partnership should be guided by shared values, mutual trust, and a commitment to coordinated action in response to evolving global challenges.

3. The Council supports the UN's New Agenda for Peace, the Action for Peacekeeping Plus initiative, and encourages the implementation of the Pact for the Future, which underscores the importance of deepened cooperation between the UN and regional organisations on peace and security. These global orientations are closely aligned with the EU's Strategic Compass for Security and Defence, the Joint Communication on strengthening the EU's contribution to rules-based multilateralism, and complement successive Council Conclusions on EU priorities at the UN General Assembly. The Council commends the UN Peacekeeping Ministerial 2025 in Berlin, where 134 countries renewed their commitment to UN peacekeeping and pledged their continued support with concrete capabilities. UN Peacekeeping has proven to be the cornerstone of international crisis response and remains a strong symbol for global burden sharing.
4. The Council reiterates its support to the EU-UN Joint Priorities on Peace and Security for 2025-2028, agreed by the European Union and the UN Secretariat, as a forward-looking framework addressing root causes of conflict, upholding international law, and reinforcing the EU's role as a reliable, proactive multilateral partner.

5. The Council welcomes the establishment of an EU-UN Strategic Committee on Peace and Security as a forum to steer strategic planning, and a dedicated staff-to-staff coordination mechanism, which will meet regularly and report to the Strategic Committee. The Council will be informed in full transparency in the context of regular updates on peace, security and defence partnerships. It highlights intensified cooperation where CSDP missions and operations and UN peace operations are deployed in parallel. In such cases, the EU shall promote cooperation, coordination, complementarity and information sharing where appropriate, and focus on the implementation of respective mandates, including women, peace and security, the protection of civilians, human rights and international humanitarian law, supporting their respective human rights due diligence policies, as well as preventing conflict and promoting mediated solutions to conflict, protecting and promoting the rule of law and security sector support. In close coordination with the UN Strategic Force Generation and Capability Planning Cell, the EU will explore how to support UN peace operations and vice versa.
6. The Council also commends cooperation with the UN and the African Union (AU), in the roll-out of Security Council resolution 2719 (2023), which established a framework for financing AU-led peace support operations authorised by the UN Security Council through UN-assessed contributions on a case-by-case basis. Along with its support to the AU in general, the EU stresses its readiness to explore ways to continue to support sub-regional organisations, notably Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in their peace and security efforts in their respective regions. The EU also emphasises the crucial role of complementary peacebuilding instruments to ensure peace is sustained, and of the annual AU-EU-UN high-level trilateral dialogues, as a means of identifying further areas of trilateral cooperation. Furthermore, the EU welcomes the Sixth Trilateral Meeting between the EU, the AU and the UN that took place on 21 September 2025.

7. The Council welcomes the continuation of the yearly EU-UN strategic dialogue on conflict prevention, stabilisation and peace mediation. It commends the focus of these exchanges on key areas like early warning and early action to preserve peace and prevent conflicts, the strategic use of data and gender-responsive conflict analysis, the support to national prevention strategies, alongside strong political and financial commitment to conflict prevention and related agendas, and the exchange of knowledge and lessons learned based on peace mediation and inclusive dialogue efforts. The EU supports enhanced cooperation with the UN regarding peacebuilding efforts, tools and methodologies to assess the risks of electoral violence and determine the most suitable and impactful preventive actions, as well as to strengthen women's and youth's full, equal and meaningful participation in peace processes and the engagement of women mediators. It also supports stronger engagement between Special Representatives and Envoys of the UN Secretary-General and EU Special Representatives, Special Envoys and EU Heads of Delegation, as well as through the annual informal exchange between the EU PSC and the UN Security Council, as well as enhanced cooperation with the UN Liaison Office for Peace and Security (UNLOPS) in Brussels.
8. The Council recognises the benefit of deepened cooperation in security sector reform (SSR), disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR), justice and corrections reform, and weapons and ammunition management (WAM). It welcomes efforts to institutionalise collaboration between the EEAS and the DPO Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI), including regular exchanges and operational planning in priority countries. It encourages the development of joint programming and regular exchanges between thematic experts, with particular attention to gender-responsiveness and anti-corruption.

9. The Council recognises that transition and post-conflict settings require coherent exit strategies and sustained engagement to preserve peace gains, and supports joint planning and tailored follow-up assistance to ensure political, institutional, and security continuity. The Council welcomes the alignment of these efforts with the UN Peacebuilding Commission's strategic priorities.
10. The Council reaffirms the importance of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agenda, and Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC). It calls for gender mainstreaming, expertise and the implementation of the WPS and YPS commitments, including in planning, conduct, follow up, monitoring and evaluation of missions and operations, and the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership of women and youth. It further stresses the need to actively engage youth without any discrimination in efforts to build lasting peace. The Council underlines the importance of supporting and protecting women and young peacebuilders, alongside human rights defenders. Along the lines of the EU-signed UN Secretary-General's "Common Pledge for Women's Full, Equal and Meaningful Participation in Peace Processes", the Council reiterates the need for enhanced support to the coherent engagement of women mediators in peace and political processes. The Council also encourages joint training, the deployment of dedicated capacity, and enhanced mechanisms to prevent sexual and gender-based crimes, offline and online, and conflict-related sexual violence and violations, including against children, provide accountability, and address the impact these crimes have on victims and society.

11. The Council welcomes the increased engagement on climate, peace and security. It fully acknowledges the operational challenges posed by rapidly accelerating climate change and environmental degradation in missions and operations' environments and supports collaboration between EU CSDP environmental advisors and the UN Climate Security Mechanism. It expresses severe concern regarding the harm caused by armed conflicts on the climate and the environment and the fact that climate change and environmental degradation lead to increased instability and conflict. The Council underlines the importance of integrating climate, peace and security assessments into conflict analyses, and in advancing peer-to-peer learning and capacity-building on climate-responsive mission planning and encourages further EU-UN cooperation in this regard.
12. The Council stresses the need for enhanced EU-UN cooperation on digital innovation, datadriven analysis, and emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence. It supports the joint development of methodologies, capacity-building and behavioural science approaches, while underlining the importance of further developing ethical and legal standards to govern new technologies. The Council highlights the risks posed by misinformation, disinformation, hate speech and malicious cyber activities, and recognises that EU-UN cooperation on technological innovation should be directed towards peace and security, in support of mediation and conflict prevention, and consistent with humanitarian principles and international law.

13. The Council supports enhanced dialogue on counter-terrorism and countering and preventing violent extremism, including through the annual EU-UN Counter-Terrorism Dialogue. It encourages a whole-of-society, rule-of-law based, gender-responsive approach to counterterrorism, and supports coordinated capacity-building, countering the financing of terrorism, including through organised crime. The Council reiterates the importance of support and engagement of victims of terrorism. In this regard, the Council calls for enhanced cooperation on civil-military coordination, information-sharing protocols, and regional security partnerships. The Council welcomes the close cooperation of the EEAS and various UN organisations, in particular UNODC, within the framework of the Global Counterterrorism Forum.
14. The Council emphasises the value of strengthening EU-UN cooperation on non-proliferation, disarmament and arms control to strengthen international peace and security and the rule of law, to reduce human suffering and to address the threats posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the illicit trade of conventional weapons, including small arms and light weapons. The Council will continue to support UN efforts, including by reinforcing and implementing the existing architecture of treaties and other international arrangements, as appropriate, as well as through concrete capacity building in relevant areas.

15. The Council reiterates the value of strategically oriented joint training initiatives, deployment of civilian and military experts, and the further institutionalisation of partnerships between the European Security and Defence College (ESDC), including its Associate Network Partners, and relevant UN training bodies, and calls on Member States to contribute to the strengthening of shared capabilities.
 16. Finally, the Council recognises the upgraded EU-UN Strategic Partnership on Peace and Security as a flagship of principled, results-oriented multilateralism, and that reinforces the EU's role as a peace enabler, security provider and defence actor, and looks forward to the full implementation of the joint priorities for 2025-2028.
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