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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Council Conclusions on EU priorities at the United Nations during the 81st session of the United Nations General Assembly, September 2026 – September 2027

Delegations will find attached Council Conclusions on EU priorities at the United Nations during the 81st session of the United Nations General Assembly, September 2026 – September 2027, approved by the Council at its 4191st meeting held on 13 July 2026

**Council Conclusions on EU priorities at the United Nations during the 81st session of the
United Nations General Assembly, September 2026 – September 2027**

1. The European Union and its Member States firmly believe that it is in the collective and individual interest of all to ensure respect for international law and the sovereign equality and territorial integrity of all States, to commit to the peaceful settlement of disputes and to invest in international cooperation.
2. In the face of geopolitical pressures, marked by growing fragmentation, contestation and grave violations of universal norms and international law, the EU remains steadfast in its commitment to a multilateral system, based on international law, including international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law (IHRL), and true to the universal purposes and principles of the UN Charter and the rules-based international order, with the UN at its core, to ensure peace and security, respect for human rights and sustainable development for all.
3. The EU will remain a predictable and credible partner and will continue to cooperate with partners who share our determination to defend and uphold international law, including the sovereign equality and territorial integrity of all States, and who are committed to finding global solutions to common challenges, including through the implementation of the Pact for the Future and its annexes.

4. Multilateralism grounded in international law, including the UN Charter and the universal respect for human rights, must prevail to avoid a world of power politics and the law of the strongest. It constitutes an important collective endeavour that enables shared solutions that are jointly built, owned and implemented. Delivering a positive and measurable impact on people's lives must remain the primary benchmark of effective multilateral action. By fostering dialogue, trust, solidarity, and collective action, multilateralism helps mitigate the risk of conflict and address global, regional and national challenges and the interdependencies between them. A world with dynamic multilateral institutions and effective and reinforced multilateralism is safer and more prosperous than one without them.
5. The EU underlines the critical and central role the UN plays in addressing major global challenges, particularly threats to peace and security and the consequences of crises and conflicts on global food and water security, energy, financial systems and supply chains, especially for the most vulnerable.
6. In a changing world, the multilateral system must continue to evolve. It therefore remains a key priority for the EU and its Member States to develop, reform and strengthen the multilateral system, with the UN at its core, and to enhance its effectiveness and inclusivity, while deepening cooperation across regions and reinforcing partnerships with countries and regional organisations to ensure that the multilateral system is more representative of and delivers effectively for all.
7. The EU will continue to engage with partners in driving forward UN reform, notably through the "UN80 initiative" and beyond, and in line with the aspirations agreed in the Pact for the Future. These efforts should build a principled, more effective, cost-efficient and responsive UN, capable of delivering efficiently across the three interlinked pillars of peace and security, human rights and sustainable development.

8. Upholding the universal statutory purposes and principles of the UN Charter together with comprehensive reforms of the UN system is the only means to peacefully solve crises, combat poverty and inequalities, including gender inequality and multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, promote respect for the rule of law, democracy and human rights, advance sustainable development for all, undertake effective climate action, address emerging challenges and counter threats to our security as well as our prosperity and continued sustainable development.
9. The EU and its Member States continue to invest politically in and demonstrate a resolute and consistent commitment to the functioning of the UN, remaining collectively its largest and most reliable political and financial contributors. The EU does not only see this as an obligation, but also as a sign of a trusting cooperation that comes with responsibilities for all Member States and should result in balanced appointments and elections to key senior positions within the UN system, for which the EU will continue to support and promote qualified candidates.
10. We are deeply concerned by the Organisation's ongoing liquidity constraints, which carry serious operational implications. Sustainable and predictable financing of the UN across the pillars is indispensable for delivering on its mandate. We remain fully committed to engaging constructively, pragmatically, and in a spirit of consensus to identify lasting solutions to this crisis and uphold the core functions of the UN system. The EU and its Member States therefore reiterate, that the payment of assessed contributions is not optional. It is a legal obligation under the Charter. The EU Member States remain committed to pay their obligatory financial contributions in full and on time.

11. The 81st session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) marks a period of transition for the UN leadership. We pay tribute to the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, for his relentless efforts for a better and more equitable world, through promoting peace, upholding human rights, advancing sustainable development, and combating climate change. The selection of a new Secretary-General will be pivotal in shaping and determining the direction and priorities of the UN for the years ahead. The EU and its Member States will remain actively engaged in the selection process and stand ready to work with the new Secretary-General from the outset. At this critical juncture, the UN needs a Secretary-General firmly committed to the UN Charter to help prevent and resolve conflicts, rebuild trust, bridge divides, mobilise collective action, accelerate UN reforms, and deliver tangible results that improve people's lives, especially those most in need.

12. Taking the above into account, the following priorities will guide EU action at the UN over the coming year:

I. Defend and develop an efficient, effective and inclusive multilateral system firmly rooted in the UN Charter and international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law

II. Advance reforms towards an effective, cost-efficient and responsive UN in all three pillars through partnerships and coalitions

III. Strengthen the UN peace and security architecture based on prevention and sustaining peace

IV. Advance prosperity and sustainable development towards 2030 and beyond

I. Defend and develop an efficient, effective and inclusive multilateral system firmly rooted in the UN Charter and international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law

13. The EU and its Member States will continue to support effective multilateralism and the **rules-based international order** with the UN at its core and oppose efforts to undermine it. We will promote, respect, and defend **international law**, including IHL and IHRL, which is key to safeguarding peace and security, while continuing to emphasise the need for accountability for breaches of international law. The universal principles enshrined in the UN Charter, including those of sovereign equality and territorial integrity, political independence and self-determination, are not negotiable, cannot be compromised, and should be implemented in a consistent manner. We will continue to contribute to the development of international law and its effective implementation.

14. The EU reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the **universal** respect, protection and fulfilment of **human rights, democracy and the rule of law**. Human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent, and interrelated, be they civil, cultural, economic, political or social. Moreover, peace and prosperity, as well as the achievement of the SDGs, go hand in hand with respect for democracy, the rule of law, and all human rights. The EU will base its actions and input/positions on the **2026 Council Conclusions on EU Priorities in UN human rights fora**. The EU recalls its principled position against the death penalty in all cases and all circumstances and strongly supports the relevant UN resolutions. The EU will promote the **equality agenda** and emphasise the importance of non-discrimination through all multilateral fora, including for gender equality, the advancement and full enjoyment of all human rights by all women and girls, and their empowerment and full, equal and meaningful participation in all domains, including in leadership positions, in line with its international commitments. The EU will reaffirm its strong commitment to respect, protect and fulfil the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights by LGBTI persons. The EU will remain vigilant regarding attempts to remove, alter or misconstrue language related to gender equality, women's and girls' full enjoyment of human rights and their empowerment, and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The EU will continue to champion the rights of the child, prioritising the protection of children from all forms of violence, including in the digital environment, and the promotion of universal access to quality, inclusive and safe education, reduction of child poverty and inequalities among children. It will also continue to work to enhance the protection and enjoyment of human rights by older persons and their well-being. The EU supports an ambitious and transformative approach to address the root causes and risk factors of gender inequality, discrimination and all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, including technology-facilitated gender-based violence. The EU reaffirms its commitment to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance worldwide.

15. The EU remains committed to the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights and to the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the outcomes of their review conferences and remains committed to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), in this context. Having that in mind, the EU reaffirms its commitment to the promotion, protection and fulfilment of the right of every individual to have full control over, and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality and sexual and reproductive health, free from discrimination, coercion and violence. The EU further stresses the need for universal access to quality and affordable comprehensive sexual and reproductive health information, education, including comprehensive sexuality education, and health-care services.
16. The EU remains a staunch supporter of the robust and effective **UN human rights system**, including the critical work and activities across all mandated thematic and country-specific issues by both the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and treaty bodies, as well as UNESCO as regards inter alia protection of freedom of expression, including independent media, access to information, the safety of journalists and media workers. The EU underlines the importance of systematic human rights mainstreaming across all UN pillars, agendas and structures. In that context, the EU supports the Secretary-General's recently established **Human Rights Group** to promote system-wide coordination and ensure that human rights are firmly integrated into all UN policies and activities.
17. The EU will maintain particular attention to an adequate, predictable, increased and sustainable funding of the **human rights pillar**, mindful that it is already structurally underfunded, and particularly affected by the liquidity crisis. The EU emphasises the importance of maintaining **a strong and independent system of both thematic and country-specific mandates**. The ongoing reform process presents an opportunity to strengthen the focus, effectiveness and impact of the human rights mandates and treaty bodies as well as to reduce overlaps between them.

18. The EU remains committed to ending impunity and ensuring **accountability** for all violations of international law. In this context, the EU reaffirms its support for the **international justice system**, notably to the International Court of Justice (ICJ), which in 2026 marks its 80th anniversary, recalling that the ICJ's orders and judgements are binding for the parties to the dispute. The EU also reaffirms its unwavering support to the International Criminal Court (ICC). In response to attacks and external pressure targeting the ICC, the EU reiterates its strong commitment to upholding the Rome Statute and preserving the ICC's independence and integrity. The EU will continue to condemn attacks or threats against the Court, elected officials, personnel and those cooperating with the Court, including civil society representatives. The EU will call for withdrawal of any sanctions against elected officials of the ICC.
19. The EU recalls its firm commitment to supporting the UN's role in coordinating the international **humanitarian** response to emergencies set up under UNGA Resolution 46/182 of 1991 as well as the Humanitarian – Development – Peace (HDP) nexus. The EU and its Member States, being collectively the **top humanitarian donor**, providing 40% of global humanitarian assistance in 2025, will continue to demonstrate strong commitment to the UN's financial stability as well as to the efficient, effective and principled delivery of humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable.

II. Advance reforms towards an effective, cost-efficient and responsive UN in all three pillars through partnerships and coalitions

20. The EU will continue to engage with partners in driving forward **comprehensive reforms throughout the whole UN system**, including enhancement of the coherence and complementarity between processes across the UN system, within the framework of the UN80 initiative and beyond, and in line with the aspirations agreed in the Pact for the Future. The EU welcomes the adoption of the Resolution A/RES/80/251 on Mandate creation, implementation and review for an efficient and effective United Nations, and is committed to its implementation. The EU remains committed to already agreed reforms which should be fully implemented. These efforts should build a principled, more effective, cost-efficient and responsive UN, capable of delivering efficiently across the three interlinked pillars of peace and security, human rights and sustainable development. The EU will thus encourage the next UN Secretary-General to actively engage in sustaining and advancing the reform process in an ambitious system-wide manner, with equal determination and balance across all three pillars. The EU will prioritise initiatives that deliver tangible impact on the ground, while safeguarding the normative and operational capacities of the UN system, including on gender equality.
21. In line with our commitment to the implementation of the Pact for the Future, the EU supports a comprehensive **reform of the UN Security Council (UNSC)** towards making it more effective, inclusive, transparent, democratic, and accountable, and better reflecting today's realities by strengthening the voice of underrepresented regions. The EU supports the French-Mexican initiative aimed at restricting the use of the veto in cases of mass atrocities and the ACT Group Code of Conduct regarding Security Council action against genocide, crimes against humanity, and large-scale war crimes. Additionally, the EU supports the full operationalisation of article 27.3 of the UN Charter.

22. The EU remains supportive of the **Humanitarian Reset**, to be reinforced through the UN80 initiative and under OCHA leadership, focusing on developing and implementing a sustainable, holistic and inclusive vision for a locally led, internationally protected and globally supported humanitarian ecosystem that leverages the unique values, specialized mandates and responsibilities of UN entities, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, local and international NGOs.
23. The EU remains supportive of the **UN Development System reform** process to be reinforced through the UN80 initiative, focused on achieving a more impactful and effective country-level service delivery. The EU encourages further consolidation and rationalisation of structures while maintaining critically important mandates, particularly those related to gender equality and women's empowerment.
24. A stronger, efficient and empowered **Resident Coordinator System** is a key element of reform, contributing to a more coherent and effective EU-UN cooperation at country level. Resident Coordinators need enhanced political support from UN member states to reach their full potential and deliver. Given the predominance of double and triple-hatted settings, safeguarding the independence, neutrality and impartiality of Humanitarian Coordinators and supporting coherence between UN80, the Humanitarian Reset and UN Development System reform is critical to ensure efficiency and "UN as one" delivery, especially in conflict and fragile settings. Together we will engage with partner countries and other donors to ensure a broad uptake of the One UN approach at country level from all involved.
25. The EU remains committed to strengthening the **International Financial Architecture** (IFA) including in line with the Outcome Document of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development ("Compromiso de Sevilla").

26. Further strengthening of the partnership with the UN in **preserving principled, needs-based and people-centred humanitarian action also remains key**. The EU supports the proposed actions in the New UN Humanitarian Compact under UN80 and encourages the UN to move swiftly with implementation. We also emphasise the importance of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. We also welcome the UN's commitment regarding the integration of global supply chains as well as the efforts to catalyse collective action on data through the Humanitarian Data Collaborative.
27. The EU will continue to actively support, promote and empower a diverse and independent **civil society**, championing meaningful participation in multilateral processes. The EU calls for strengthened efforts across the UN system to respect, protect, and promote civic space, prevent and address acts of intimidation and reprisals against individuals and groups cooperating with the UN, ensure accountability, and provide effective protection for victims and survivors. Their access to multilateral fora must be safeguarded.

III. Strengthen the UN peace and security architecture based on prevention and sustaining peace

28. Against increasing and diverse threats to international peace and security, widespread violations of the UN Charter and international law, including acts of aggression and violation of the territorial integrity and the sovereignty of States, the EU remains committed to **preventing conflicts and safeguarding and restoring just and lasting peace and stability on the basis of international law**.

29. The EU continues to condemn Russia's unjustified and illegal full-scale war of aggression against Ukraine and its attacks on the civilian population and critical infrastructure, and recognises Ukraine's inherent right to self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter. The EU remains steadfast in its **support for Ukraine's** sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders and will continue to support Ukraine for as long as it takes, including through its recovery and reconstruction, while working to ensure full accountability for international crimes and human rights violations and abuses stemming from Russia's war of aggression, including through the Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression against Ukraine and the International Claims Commission for Ukraine. In line with UNGA resolutions, the EU supports efforts towards a full, immediate and unconditional ceasefire and a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in line with the UN Charter and international law, welcomes ongoing diplomatic efforts to bring the war to an end, and continues to support Ukraine in the negotiations and efforts to secure the return of unlawfully deported or forcibly transferred Ukrainian children.
30. The EU welcomes the Memorandum of Understanding and the ensuing negotiations between the US and Iran, which provide an opportunity for pursuing regional stability. We underscore the importance of a negotiated long-term resolution to all outstanding issues, in line with international law, including the UN Charter and international humanitarian law and human rights law. The EU will continue to engage, in close coordination with partners, in diplomatic efforts and stands ready to support the implementation of the agreement. Iran must never be allowed to acquire a nuclear weapon and must resume full cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency. The EU also calls for respect for freedom of navigation and maritime security in accordance with international law and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The EU reiterates that diplomacy remains the only path towards lasting peace and stability in the Middle East.

31. The situation in **Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem** remains of grave concern. The EU reaffirms its commitment to international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, the implementation of UNSCR 2803 and to a comprehensive, just and lasting peace based on the implementation of the two-state solution, with Israel and Palestine living side by side in peace within secure and recognised borders. The EU will continue to work on the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan to End the Gaza Conflict in accordance with UNSCR 2803, and calls for the permanent disarmament of Hamas and other non-state armed groups, the full withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza and the deployment of the International Stabilisation Force in accordance with UNSCR 2803. The EU condemns terrorist attacks against Israel. The European Union will continue to support the Palestinian Authority, including in its reform agenda, so that it can securely take back effective control of Gaza. The EU urges Israel to abide by its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law. The EU continues to call for immediate and unimpeded humanitarian access to Gaza, full compliance with international law. It recalls the need to fully implement the International Court of Justice orders, which are legally binding, and takes note of its advisory opinions. The EU expresses concern about the approval of the Death Penalty Bill by the Israeli Parliament and its de facto discriminatory character, calls for its immediate repeal and calls for an end to actions that undermine the viability of the two-state solution, including settlement expansion, settler violence and threats of forcible displacement and annexation. The EU stresses the crucial role of UNRWA in the humanitarian response and the importance of Israel's constructive engagement with the UN and its agencies.

32. The EU will continue to pay sustained attention to **conflicts and human rights violations and abuses around the world**, stressing the importance of peaceful conflict resolution, the protection of civilians, especially women, children, persons with disabilities, and persons in vulnerable situation, and objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population, respect for international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, accountability, and the preservation of humanitarian space. The EU will continue to support conflict prevention, peacebuilding, stabilisation, state-building, democratic transitions and humanitarian efforts, as well as UN-led and international and regional initiatives aimed at advancing peace, security and sustainable development. Particular attention will continue to be devoted to situations including Lebanon, Sudan, Somalia, Syria, Libya, the Sahel, the DRC, Haiti, Afghanistan and Myanmar.
33. The EU will remain fully engaged to address global peace and security challenges, with a focus on conflict prevention, mediation, peacebuilding, crisis management, and support for multilateralism in line with the UN Charter, and continue to work with the UN to this end, as per the **EU-UN Strategic Partnership on Peace and Security and its joint priorities for 2025-2028** and the recently established EU-UN Strategic Committee.
34. We recall the responsibilities of the **UN Security Council, which should remain central and indispensable within the global peace and security architecture**. While commending the work of the UNGA in matters pertinent to international peace and security, we stress the need to strengthen the UN General Assembly's role and contributions as a forum for prevention, political mobilisation and norm-setting in this area, including through more regular and structured interaction with the Security Council and the Peacebuilding Commission.

35. **UN Peace Operations** remain a critical multilateral tool for addressing threats to international peace and security. In the context of the UN Secretary-General review on the future of all forms of UN peace operations, the EU calls for action to sustain peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts, protect lives and avoid security vacuums in affected areas, including through stronger, and principled engagement with the UN Secretary-General through the UN Secretary-General's good offices, with a view to ensure mandates that are realistic and adapted to conditions on the ground. The EU firmly condemns attacks against peacekeepers and against the facilities of UN Peace Operations. The safety and security of UN peacekeepers must be guaranteed and attacks against peacekeepers must entail accountability.
36. The EU stresses the critical importance of **UN peacekeeping operations** receiving sustained political backing and adequate, sustainable and predictable funding, including through the full and timely payment of financial contributions, and through enhanced regional engagement. In this regard, the EU reiterates its support for the implementation of UNSC resolution 2719. The EU supports UNSC-mandated missions and commits to effective cooperation between EU and UN operations to advance peace efforts, ensure full human rights compliance, and generate synergies. In this spirit, all States should duly comply with their respective financial obligations.

37. The EU is determined to work with the UN on **peace building and sustaining peace**, including through the EU-UN Strategic Dialogue on Conflict Prevention and Peace Mediation and through active engagement in implementing the outcomes of the 2025 PBAR twin resolutions. It supports efforts to develop a nationally driven, bottom-up approach to **conflict prevention** as expressed in national prevention strategies. It supports the strengthening of the role and working methods of the UN **Peacebuilding Commission** including its advisory, convening and bridging role across the UN system, and the implementation of its Gender Strategy and Strategic Action Plan on Youth and Peacebuilding, as well as the adequate, predictable and sustainable funding of the UN **Peacebuilding Fund**. The EU recognises the important role of effective, accountable and inclusive security sector reform and governance. The EU reaffirms that full implementation of the **Women, Peace and Security Agenda** commitments, including on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence is as relevant as ever in the current geopolitical context and changing security environment. It reiterates its call for strengthening the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership of women and girls in conflict prevention and resolution throughout the conflict cycle.
38. The EU will work with the UN to mainstream climate security risks into relevant policies and actions and emphasises the need to address the **interlinkages** between **climate, peace and security**. It will also promote the implementation of the **Youth, Peace and Security** and the **Children and Armed Conflict agenda**.

39. Safeguarding **humanitarian** space, enabling and facilitating rapid and unimpeded, safe and consistent humanitarian access to people in need including through more effective humanitarian diplomacy and guaranteeing the protection of humanitarian personnel remains essential. The EU stresses the need to adhere to international humanitarian law in all conflicts and to ensure the protection of civilians. The EU will further strengthen the effectiveness of its humanitarian diplomacy, by leveraging humanitarian, political, economic, security or diplomatic instruments, while remaining committed to upholding the humanitarian principles of impartiality, neutrality, independence, and humanity, as well as IHL and IHRL. The EU welcomes the International Committee of the Red Cross' Global Initiative to Galvanize Political Commitment to International Humanitarian Law and encourages all Member States to join and actively participate in the Initiative with a view to securing broad political support for its outcomes.
40. The EU reaffirms its unwavering commitment to international law, including the law of the sea and the **freedom of navigation**, and supports them through various instruments strengthening maritime security, such as its CSDP missions and operations, including **Operations ASPIDES, ATALANTA and IRINI**. The UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) remains the cornerstone of the legal order governing the ocean and seas.
41. In view of broadened security threats, the EU supports international cooperation to effectively tackle **transnational organised crime** in all its forms, including drug trafficking, corruption, trafficking in human beings, migrant smuggling and illicit trafficking of firearms, crimes that affect the environment, as well as terrorism and violent extremism, putting the rights of victims at the centre.

42. In response to the growing variety of security threats, the EU will work on countering other threats stemming from **hybrid activities, cyber attacks, new and emerging technologies**, including through cooperation with the UN on strengthening resilience against disinformation and promoting respect for the rule of law and international law, including IHRL. **Information integrity is a global public good**, that should be protected. Safeguarding it, through a multi-stakeholder and inclusive global digital governance, which promotes freedom of expression and the right to access relevant, reliable and accurate information demands a global response, including efforts to counter foreign information manipulation and interference. The EU will continue to engage in a constructive, open and inclusive manner within multilateral frameworks, including the UN Global Mechanism on ICT Security, to advance responsible state behaviour in cyberspace and enhance international security.
43. The EU remains fully committed to defending and strengthening the global non-proliferation, disarmament, and arms control architecture, with the UN at its core. It will therefore continue to strengthen cooperation with the UN to reduce the human cost of weapons and ammunition. The EU remains committed to the universalisation and full implementation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as the cornerstone of the global non-proliferation architecture, the essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament, and an important element in developing nuclear energy applications for peaceful purposes. It continues to call for the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) and the immediate commencement and early conclusion of negotiations of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT). The EU supports the work of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which remains an essential supporting pillar to global non-proliferation efforts. The EU will **respond to persistent threats of proliferation** of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, and remains concerned about the expanding arsenals of nuclear weapons and delivery systems, most notably of Russia and China, the development of new weapon systems, and Russia's nuclear threats. The EU will also continue to further promote and strengthen multilateral instruments against development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, transfer or use of chemical and biological weapons.

44. The EU supports transparency, confidence-building measures and effective controls to counter illicit transfers and destabilising accumulation of conventional arms, with emphasis on preventing the diversion of Small Arms and Light Weapons, and supports implementing the action plans of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention by States Parties. The EU advocates for modernising and strengthening the UN's disarmament machinery to address current threats, including revitalising the UN Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament. Ahead of the Review Conference of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons in November 2026, the EU will continue to work towards negotiations on an instrument regarding lethal autonomous weapon systems without prejudging its nature and other possible measures within the framework of the CCW. The EU will also address the responsible use and advance confidence-building measures in the use of AI in the military domain.
45. The EU and its Member States are attached to the preservation of a safe, secure, stable and sustainable space environment. The EU and its Member States support the universalisation of and full compliance with the 1967 Outer Space Treaty, and promote the peaceful use of **outer space** on an equitable and mutually acceptable basis for all, for present and future generations. The EU and its Member States remain committed to the prevention of an arms race in outer space (PAROS) in all its aspects. The EU supports the holding of a fourth UN Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE IV) in Vienna in 2027.

IV. Advance prosperity and sustainable development towards 2030 and beyond

46. The EU and its Member States fully support the **accelerated action to achieve the 2030 Agenda** and the SDGs as a whole towards and beyond 2030 in a comprehensive and inclusive way and in line with the Pact for the Future. To address the SDG financing gap the implementation of the 2025 Sevilla Commitment adopted at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development in June 2025, building on the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda remains essential. The EU recognises the universal, integrated and indivisible nature of the SDGs, as well as the importance of SDGs localisation. The EU acknowledges the importance of addressing multidimensional vulnerabilities and inequalities, and stands ready to consider using complementary measures of progress that go beyond gross domestic product as a complement to existing policies and practices. The EU will continue to apply a human rights-based approach to sustainable development, including through transformative approaches that tackle the root causes of poverty and inequalities and reiterates that non-discrimination, inclusiveness and the full realisation of all human rights is a fundamental principle of the 2030 Agenda in line with the commitment of leaving no one behind. The EU will continue promoting gender-responsive and inclusive financing approaches. In its cooperation, the EU emphasises inclusive development models that empower local communities and ensure that the benefits of growth are equitably distributed. The EU will promote the narrative that underscores the linkages between humanitarian, peace and development efforts as well as human rights and should oppose siloed approaches to development.
47. As the world's largest provider of **Official Development Assistance (ODA)** with an increased global share of close to 50% of total ODA in 2025, the EU and its Member States underline their key role in contributing to the financing of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

48. The EU and its Member States call for the development of innovative mechanisms to help bridge the global investment gap and advance the financing of the 2030 Agenda. This includes public-private partnerships and close cooperation with the private sector to support the Sustainable Development Goals, in line with Global Gateway's objective of catalysing private sector investment and fostering equal and mutually beneficial partnerships, namely with International Financial Institutions and Multilateral Development Banks. Through initiatives such as **Global Gateway**, the EU contributes to boosting sustainable development; Global Gateway also enables the EU to respond more coherently to global challenges through transformative investments in sustainable, resilient and high-quality infrastructure, implemented in a Team Europe approach and in line with the mutual interests of the EU and partner countries. Global Gateway aims to build smart, clean and secure connections in the digital, climate and energy, and transport sectors, and strengthen health, education and research systems across the world through a comprehensive 360-degree approach based on shared priorities. Efforts to mobilise private investment should remain aligned with nationally identified sustainable development priorities and contribute to reducing inequalities and strengthening social cohesion.
49. The EU is committed to contributing to the full, timely and effective implementation of the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS) as well as to the Awaza Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries through strengthened partnerships and calls for the integration of ABAS / Awaza Programme implementation into the strategic and work plans of the different UN entities, in accordance with their mandates. The EU will engage actively in the midterm review process of the Doha Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2022-2031.

50. The EU is strongly committed to advancing universal, accessible, inclusive and meaningful **digital transformation globally**, rooted in a human-centric and human rights-based approach and will ensure a timely and ambitious implementation of both the UN Global Digital Compact and the outcome document of the WSIS+20 Review, working to bridge all digital divides through an effective multilateral system. We are staunch supporters of the Independent International Scientific Panel on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Global Dialogue on AI governance as they can facilitate broad-based multi-stakeholder global discussions about AI and AI governance moving forward. It is essential to guarantee the independence of the Panel and the multi-stakeholder nature of the Global Dialogue on AI governance to ensure the maximum impact.
51. **Promoting global food and nutrition security** through sustainable and resilient food systems that ensure nutritious and affordable food for all remains key. The global food system faces significant challenges, including conflict, climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation. The EU promotes a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder strategy with an integrated and coherent approach based on strong cooperation with partners, open, predictable, transparent and fair trade, in line with WTO rules and with a humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach in prevention and response. The EU and its Member States reaffirm their strong support for the work of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in promoting regional cooperation, sustainable development and rules-based economic integration, including through its legal instruments and standards.

52. The EU remains a reliable, predictable and committed partner for **global health**, working with other actors at national, regional and multilateral level to strengthen collective health resilience and advance universal health coverage in order to ensure equitable access to essential health services. Building on its experience in health system strengthening and crisis coordination, the EU supports the transition to health sovereignty with stronger country ownership, stronger prevention, preparedness and response capacities, and more connected and coordinated regional and global health networks, with the WHO at the core, while avoiding duplication and fragmentation. The EU supports the WHO-hosted process on global health architecture reform and in parallel will continue working to finalise the negotiations on the PABS Annex by the next WHA, which will, in turn, enable the opening of the Pandemic Agreement for signature and ratification.
53. As to **social development**, and the eradication of poverty, the EU is committed to implementing the Doha Declaration adopted at the World Social Summit in November 2025. This Political Declaration, underpinned by the Sevilla Commitment, can form the basis of a renewed global social contract, grounded in solidarity, in international cooperation, in human and labour rights. The EU supports the Global Coalition for Social Justice to ensure effective follow-up, and to engage with social partners and civil society to accomplish its four pillars. The EU reaffirms the importance of inclusive social policies, universal social protection systems and investment in social cohesion as essential drivers for sustainable development, poverty eradication and inequality reduction. In this regard, the EU supports strengthened investment in social protection and social services, including efforts to progressively meet internationally agreed social development targets.

54. The **triple planetary crisis of climate change**, biodiversity loss and pollution is a global threat to humanity, requiring global action. The EU stands firmly by its commitment to the Multilateral Environmental Agreements, including the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, SDGs and the 2030 Agenda, and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, and calls upon all partners to do likewise. In this, the EU will also continue to support and cooperate with all relevant non-governmental stakeholders, such as local communities, women, Indigenous Peoples and environmental human rights defenders.
55. The EU reiterates the importance of a shared understanding that **climate change and environmental degradation**, including pollution and biodiversity loss are an existential threat, aggravating security concerns by leading to increased instability and conflicts, fueling organized crime including crimes that affect the environment, and affecting public health, food and water security in particular for the most vulnerable. Addressing the security nexus in connection to the environment, climate, water and the ocean-biodiversity-climate nexus remains essential. The EU will actively engage in discussions on advancing the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. In line with GA Resolution 43/53 on the Protection of the Global Climate for Present and Future Generations of Mankind, the EU attributes high importance to the first GA Declaration on Sea-Level Rise.

56. The EU underlines the importance of advancing global climate action through effective implementation of the **UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement. with the aim of keeping 1.5 degrees within reach.** In that regard, the EU notes with concern that many Parties to the Paris Agreement have not submitted a new Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) yet and encourages them to do so as a matter of urgency. The multilateral climate process should reflect the views and interests of all Parties and stakeholders, including future generations and the most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. Scientific integrity, transparency, and reliable data and information are essential for informing credible and effective climate action and preparedness, and any politicisation of climate science should be avoided. The EU is committed to the delivery of the agreed ambition expressed in the first global stocktake (GST) outcome. The EU will particularly promote the implementation of the global goals of halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030, triple renewable energy and double energy efficiency improvements by 2030, accelerate zero- and low-emission technologies as well as transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems to achieve net zero by 2050. The EU supports the development, by COP 31, of credible and inclusive roadmaps on forests and the transition away from fossil fuels in energy systems. In this context, the EU underlines the importance of the clean transition including its role in reducing exposure to energy market shocks.
57. **Climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution** as well as land, water and ocean degradation are interconnected. The EU is committed to addressing them in line with the SDGs and a One Health approach. The EU supports the Global Framework on Chemicals and will work to avoid delay in concluding the negotiations on an **international legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution, covering the whole life cycle of plastics.** A year after the adoption of the Nice Ocean Action Plan, the EU stresses the importance of strengthening international **ocean governance**, encouraging the ratification and effective implementation of the Agreement under UNCLOS on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ).

58. **Water resilience** and a stable global water cycle are crucial for sustainable development, for the realisation of human rights and for peace and security. The EU reaffirms the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation as essential for human dignity, health, sustainable development and the fulfilment of all human rights. The EU will continue ensuring that water, sanitation and hygiene are adequately addressed in key multilateral processes and relevant agreements. The EU advocates for an ambitious follow-up of the 2023 UN Water Conference, including the implementation of the Water Action Agenda and the UN Strategy for Water and Sanitation and underlines the importance of the UN Special Envoy on Water to accelerate progress. The EU also welcomes the Water Forward initiative and works towards an action-oriented, inclusive and cross-sectoral UN Water Conference in 2026 and 2028 and beyond. The EU calls for enhanced water governance and a regular intergovernmental process on water within the UN and encourages the implementation of the UN System Wide Strategy on Water and Sanitation, as well as considering water as a cross-cutting issue in the UN80 initiative and strengthening the global water agenda in the post-2030 period. The EU supports further accession to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (the Water Convention).